

toe and fight with short knives, until one or the other would fall, without either having moved in his tracks; and in the revolution between SANTA ANA and BUSTAMANTE, they charged up to the cannons whilst belching forth their fiery deaths, and throwing lariats over the muzzles, ran off with them whilst being discharged; this, not only once, but many times, though often parties of only thirty-five would charge, and only one or two escape with life. And what is more courageous than the manner in which the Rancheros broke the line of the Spanish army? Tying two lariats together and fastening the ends to the pommels of their saddles, thus having forty foot of hide rope between every two men, they would start, fifty or a hundred together, and drive into the Spanish lines, tripping and disordering their columns, though themselves devoted to certain death, and this voluntarily.

The physical difficulties of the country must also be taken into consideration; the great scarcity of water in many places; the difficulty of procuring provisions for an army; the fact that roads are few, and that you by necessity, are compelled to travel them, and they in many places pass through defiles most easily defended.

But I have already spun out this prosy article too long, and will only add my sincere hope, that the United States may conquer Mexico, and that right speedily; for settled by Americans, it would be the richest and most productive and delightful country the sun ever shone on.

ALDEANO.

From the Army!

The Mexicans Twice Routed!!!

From the Montgomery Journal

By the Daily Picayune, and an extra from the Mobile Advertiser of the 18th, we have news, the substance of which is contained in the following:—

There has been two engagements between Gen. Taylor and the Mexican troops, the first occurring the 8th inst., when Gen. Taylor was returning from Point Isabel to his camp, opposite Matamoros. In this the Mexicans, from 5,000 to 7,000 were repulsed, our army sleeping on the field of battle, on which next day were found 200 Mexicans dead, several pieces of artillery, stores, &c. Maj. Ringgold died subsequently from wound in this action.

Of the second battle we can only give the following particulars from the Picayune.

The U. S. steamer Col. Harney arrived this morning, just as our paper was going to press, from Brazos Santiago, having left on the 13th inst. Her news is glorious to our arms.

She brings official accounts of a second battle between the Mexican and American forces, which took place on the 9th, commencing at half past 3 o'clock, P. M., within three miles of camp Taylor. The action was upon the edge of the ravine, and one mile from the chapparal which was here about twelve miles in width.

The Mexicans commenced the action with the artillery, which was posted so as to sweep the narrow pass by which Gen. Taylor was advancing, there being a swamp on either hand, Gen. Taylor immediately ordered a charge in the teeth of the enemy's destructive fire, and the troops promptly responded, and carried the enemies guns at the point of the bayonet.

So sudden and impetuous was the attack, and so successful, that Arista had not time to save his papers, which with all his correspondence fell into the hands of Gen. Taylor.

The action lasted one hour and a half, in which time 600 Mexicans were either killed or wounded, and the Americans took three hundred prisoners and three hundred pieces of artillery. The American loss in action was but sixty-two, killed and wounded.

Among the killed were Col. McIntosh, Lieut. Cochran, Col. Brown (by the bursting of a shell,) Lieut. Eng, and one or two others, whose names are not given. Col. Payne, Lieuts. Gates, Burbank, Hooe, Luther, and others were wounded.

We regret to say that Maj. Ringgold, who was so severely wounded in the action of the 8th died on the 10th instant and was buried next day with the honors of war.

The total loss of the Mexicans in the two actions of the 8th and 9th was at least 1200. The Mexican force amounted to 6500 men, whilst that of the Americans on the ground did not exceed 1600 men.

An exchange of prisoners took place between the two armies subsequent to the action, by which Capt. Thornton and Hardee and Lieut. King have returned to the army. Lieut. Deas was not demanded, and still remains a prisoner.

Among the prisoners taken by General Taylor, was Gen. Veja. For him two American officers were offered in exchange, but it was declined to give him up, save in exchange for an American officer of equal rank, whenever one should be taken.

Gen. Veja and two Mexican Lieutenants were sent over by Gen. Taylor on the Col. Harney as prisoners of war, Gen. Veja was allowed to be accompanied by one of his aids, a Lieut. Colonel, as a friend.

The Mexican army was so confident of victory that every preparation had been made to celebrate it; but all their preparations fell into the hands of the Americans. In their flight, many of the Mexicans took the river, and were drowned in their attempts to swim it.

Gen. Taylor reached his camp the afternoon of the action. Leaving there his whole force, he started next morning for Point Isabel, and arrived there the evening of the 10th without molestation. The morning of the 11th he started back for his camp opposite Matamoros. We need not say that he and his army are in the highest spirits.

The steamer Dallas took off from this place (Montgomery) last night, the "Pintada Vanguard," numbering 70 hardy fellows; the Selma will take the "Blues" to-day, about 80; and to-morrow the "Rifles," about the same number will leave for Mobile. Montgomery will have sent a battalion when all these have got off.

We have every confidence in the authenticity of the above account, as it is too much in detail to be deemed an invention.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

The Monitor of the 25th April received at the office of the N. O. Bulletin, contains a manifesto of Paredes to the nation, amounting to a declaration of War against the United States, though it is not issued in that form.

He declares that the war he has made is only a defensive one, and to prevent the Mexican territories from invasion and attack.

Paredes exhorts the Mexicans to rally to the aid of the country; and especially invokes voluntary assistance to carry on the war, calling to remembrance, as a stimulus to action, the names of Hidalgo and Iturbide.

MANIFESTO

Of the President ad interim of the Mexican Republic, dated "National Palace of Mexico, April 23, 1846."

When at the commencement of the present year I took upon myself the grave responsibility of directing, for a short time, the destinies of our nation, I determined with resolute mind to sustain and defend its rights and prerogatives, changing the weak and pernicious policy of temporization, which had been observed towards the government of the United States of America—notwithstanding the perfidious means by which it prepared the way for the occupation of Texas—the baseness with which it violated the existing treaties that guaranteed to us inviolate the limit of this Republic, and notwithstanding the improper act by which it incorporated one of our Departments into the States of its Confederation.

The Mexican nation did not achieve her independence by the most bloody and heroic sacrifices, nor did she take her place among the civilized nations of the world, in order to be the mockery of a neighboring power, which, fomenting our quarrels, our painful disturbances, and exasperating the weakness which they produced, clothed herself with the apparel of conquest, and commenced invading our territory, consoling herself in the dream that she might one day extinguish the manly race to which we belong, and by branding our foreheads, with the marking iron of her slavery of the South, extinguish our nationality, and abandon us to the humiliating misfortune of being no longer remembered among the nations.

This magnanimous people, that, in a struggle of eleven years of blood and extermination, showed its strength and valor as well as its constancy, burned with impatience to undertake a new war, to which the most scandalous aggressions on the part of a government which called itself friendly, were constantly provoking them; and in order to degrade us, that government relied on its power and forgot to strengthen itself on the titles of justice and equity, which are respected by all nations, that strengthen the hopes of peace, and which maintain the harmony of the whole universe.

This was the reason why the Mexican nation sanctioned the movement which I commenced at San Luis Potosi, not with the view of seeking the trouble some exercise of power, but that my country should shine with the triumph of a cause which is the conservative principle of human society.

The ancient grievances, the constant insults which, since 1836, the government of the United States had heaped upon the Mexican people, were crowned by the result of sending us a minister, in order that he should be accredited by us, as if the relations between the two Republics had suffered no alteration in consummating the definitive act of the incorporation of Texas into the United States.

At the very time Mr. Slidell presented himself among us, the troops of the United States occupied our territory; its squadron menaced our ports, and they were preparing to take possession of the Peninsula of the Californias, the Oregon question with England being nothing but a prelude to such a consummation. I did not admit Mr. Slidell, because the dignity of the nation repelled this new insult.

Meanwhile the United States Army encamped at Corpus Christi, and occupied the Island of Padre Vayin; it marched next toward Point St. Isabel, and waved the Banner of the Stars and Stripes on the right bank of the Rio Bravo of the North, opposite the City of Matamoros, arrogating to itself the navigation of the river with its vessels of war. The village of Laredo was attacked and surprised by a party of the United States troops, and some of our soldiers who were there unprepared, were dispersed by the enemy. Hostilities, therefore, were commenced by the United States, who have undertaken new conquests upon the territory of demarcation of the Departments of Tamaulipas and New Leon, at the time that troops* of those United States are menacing Monterey, in upper California.

It cannot be doubted upon which of the two Republics rests the responsibility of a war which a feeling of equity and justice, and the respect which civilization accords to the rights and property of all nations, might have prevented. If Mexico had suffered with indolence the repeated advances of a power which already considered itself master and lord of the American Continent, she would not only lose the importance which her population, her resources, and her position have given her, since, she has been an independent nation, but she would also have fallen into a despicable contempt, for having, when called to the combat, allowed the integral parts of her territory to be taken. Such numerous and aggravated insults could no longer be tolerated, and I have commanded the General-in-Chief of the frontier division of the North, that he act hostilely against our enemy—that he make war upon the enemy that is warring against us, and that by invoking the God of Battles, he may stimulate the valor of our soldiers, and maintain our unquestionable right to our territory. Our General taking as a model the established usages, and regulating himself to the precise rules of our government, intimated to the Commander-in-Chief of the American forces that he must retire to the other side of the river Nueces, the previous boundary line of Texas; which intimation has been disregarded.

The nations whose interest it is that the peace of so many years should not be disturbed, and which might be prejudiced in their commercial relations with the Mexican Republic, have discovered the cruel alternative in which the usurping policy of the United States has placed it, and which would immediately have to succumb, if she were not to defend energetically the critical position of her exigences.

I solemnly announce that I do not declare war against the United States of America, because the august Congress of the Nation, and not the Executive, must decide definitely upon that reparation which so many insults calls for. Besides this, the defence of the Mexican territory, which is invaded by troops of the United States, is of paramount necessity, and my responsibility would become greater if I did not recommend that the enemy's forces should be repelled. I have done so. From this day has a defensive war commenced, and every point of our territory shall be strongly defended, whenever it is invaded or attacked.

The event which the Mexican Government had endeavored to avoid, has arrived; and finding that its title to justice have been trodden under foot, we enter into an unavoidable contest, which will gain for us the sympathy of nations, and of governments which condemn the usurpations of the mighty. We shall also be mighty by the sanction of the purposes, and because, when every thing dear to a nation is at stake, efforts will be made corresponding with the interests at issue. Meanwhile, the Mexican nation, resolved to risk every thing in order to gain all, will give a sublime example of patriotic devotion, which will serve to re-prove that glory to which those nations reached who sustained, in all ages, their independence and freedom.

I feel proud that the will of Divine Providence has destined me to be the organ through which the energetic will of the Mexican Republic should be made known. We will show in the combat that the sons of the heroes and the martyrs of the Independence will be sustained with the remembrance of its pure glory—that the valor which they inherited has not degenerated

in their noble breasts, and that they are determined, if needs be, to immolate themselves on the altar of their country.

Mexicans! I unfurl, this memorable day, the standard of Independence, on which you see inscribed the names of "Hidalgo" and "Iturbide." Unite under this sacred emblem of our freedom, leaving, for time of less danger, questions of local disagreement. I have promised you that the glory which I seek as a reward of my perilous career is not that of the ambitious man who considers power as an instrument of rapine. I have sworn to maintain the rights of the Republic during the short epoch of my government; and now that I urge you to the contest, I tell you that great sacrifices are necessary, and I promise you that I will shed my own blood in the cause, if necessary.

Mexicans! Your valiant army is going to fight, and will fight with the valor of heroes—give them your blessings in anticipation, and prepare to crown their noble heads with laurels should they conquer, or to deck their tombs with cypresses should they fall; in which event, your country will call upon you to fill their ranks.

Mexico must either conquer or exist no longer!

[Signed,] M. PAREDES Y ARRILAGA.

*We suppose the allusion is to Captain Fremont's Company.—N. O. D. It.

GENERAL ZACHARY TAYLOR COMMANDER OF THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

Recent events have thrown this gentleman so prominently before the public, we feel disposed to gratify the strong desire expressed by many, by giving some of the incidents of his life.

Gen. Taylor entered the army in 1808, immediately after the attack on the Chesapeake, and has been in the service of his country, from that time to the present. Having entered the army as a lieutenant of infantry, he had risen to the command of a company, at the beginning of the last war.

For his gallant defence of Fort Harrison on the 5th September, 1812, President Madison conferred on him the brevet rank of Major, and he is now the oldest brevet in the army.

In 1832, he became the Colonel of the 6th Infantry; with this regiment he went to Florida in 1836, where he was always foremost in danger.

On the 25th December, 1836, Col. Taylor, at the head of a detachment of about 500 men, composed of parts of the 1st, 4th and 6th regiments of U. S. Infantry and some Missouri volunteers, met about 700 Indians, under Alligator, Sam Jones and Coa-coo che, on the banks of Oke-cho-bee. This battle was sought by the Indians, for the day before the engagement, Col. Taylor received a challenge from Alligator, telling him where to find him, and bantering him to come on. Col. Taylor desiring nothing better, immediately pushed on, at a rapid march to the expected battle ground, fearful that the wily Indian might change his purpose. The Indians had a strong position in a thick swamp, covered in front by a small stream, whose quick sands rendered it almost impassable, but Col. Taylor pushed through the quicksands and swamps in the face of a deadly fire from a concealed foe, driving the Indians before him.

The action was long and severe. The Indians yielding the ground inch by inch, and then only at the point of the bayonet. After three hours of bloody contest, the Indians were routed and pursued with great slaughter, until night. This is the last stand the Indians ever made in a large body, and the only instance in which they voluntary gave battle. Though Col. Taylor won the day, it was at the expense of 139 killed and wounded—more than one-fourth of his whole force. Two Colonels (Col. Thompson of the 5th Infantry and Col. Gentry of the Missouri Volunteers,) fell Lieuts. Brooks and Carter, also fell in the engagement.

During the whole of the engagement, Col. Taylor remained on horse-back, passing from point to point, cheering his men to the conflict, and exposed to the Indian rifle at every moment.

For this battle, Mr. Poinsett, Secretary of War, rendered merited praise to all engaged, in his communication to Congress. The brevet of Brigadier General was conferred on Col. Taylor, and he was given the chief command in Florida, which he resigned in 1840, after four or five years arduous and indefatigable service in the swamps and hammocks of Florida.

After his retirement from Florida, he was assigned to the command of the 1st Department of the Army, including the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, &c., with his head quarters at Fort Jesup Louisiana.

His position gave him command of the "Army of Occupation," but the usage of the service would have justified the Government in assigning to that command, either of six general officers of the Regular Army, whose rank is higher than his.

But it may be fairly presumed that the high character, gallant services and

great experience of Gen. T., aside from his geographical position, pointed him out as the appropriate commander of an army, which was to plant our flag upon the banks of the Rio del Norte.

Gen. Taylor is about 56 years of age; is a man of much general information and an excellent and tried soldier; a prudent and skillful commander whose traits of character are, a wise precaution in providing for the hour of trial, and a fearless, reckless courage in battle.

He is a Kentuckian by birth, and all that that word implies. He is an American at heart, and stamped with all the elements of a hero, by nature.

Under his command the flag of the Union will receive no dishonor on the banks of the Rio Grande.

Nashville Orthopolit'an.

MEXICAN PREPARATION.—We are informed, from a reliable source, that within the last year and a half, or two years, the Mexican Government has been receiving, from time to time, schooners, powder, cannon and ball, from the city of New York. Within this period there have been built by our shipmasters, twelve strong schooners, of sufficient strength and capacity to act as privateers or vessels of war. These vessels were built with an eye to strength combined with swiftness of sailing. These vessels were despatched to Mexico under American colors and under the captainship of Americans, from time to time, as they were built, and were paid for by an extensive Mexican house in this city. Each of these vessels carried, likewise, from eight to ten tons of gunpowder as cargo, and likewise a number of guns, amounting to one hundred and eighty in all, which were cast in a foundry in this city, and proved by an American of skill in such matters.

At one time, it is said, the Mexican Government were indebted to this Mexican house in half a million of dollars, for these supplies. A shipmaster lately from Vera Cruz, reports that when he was there he inspected the castle of St. Juan de Ulloa, and saw a cannon of 182 pounds calibre, which, with forty or fifty Paixhan guns, are now mounted on that fortress. The beach where the French landed is likewise completely fortified.

We have the name and dates for all these facts, which we suppress for the present.

N. Y. Herald.

VOLUNTEERS—NO MORE WANTED.—

We learn from an authentic source that the requisition made by Gen. Taylor on Louisiana has been fully complied with, without a draft, and that there are even more volunteers than can be received. Several companies have been already refused, and offers are beginning to pour in from the interior which will all be rejected until further requisition from the proper authorities is made. This intelligence was brought here yesterday by Major Chase of the U. S. Army, who declined accepting the services of the gallant volunteers from Montgomery under Capt. Elmore, now quartered in this city, to the very great mortification of Capt. E. and his brave associates. We understand that so eager are they for their country's service, that a messenger has been despatched to the proper officer in New Orleans with a proposition to volunteer without pay, and a request to be received on those terms. Never was there a set of men more eager for the battle-field than these Montgomery volunteers, and it will be a sore disappointment to them should they not be permitted to mingle in the struggle now raging on the banks of the Rio Grande.

To all those who are desirous of engaging in the service of their country in the present crisis, we would recommend the exercise of a little patience. We have little doubt but a requisition will be made as soon as the war intelligence reaches Washington, which will furnish an opportunity for the gratification of all who may desire to volunteer. But for the present they must hold on.