

THE BANNER.

"LIBERTY AND MY NATIVE SOIL."

CHARLES H. ALLEN, Editor.



Abbeville C. H., S. C.:

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30, 1846.

Owing to the crowded state of our advertising columns, the editorial prepared for this paper has been unavoidably deferred.

His Excellency Governor Aiken, has appointed the fifth day of November next to be observed as a day of *thanksgiving, humiliation and prayer.*

(COMMUNICATED.)

The commencement of Erskine College, came off on last Wednesday, in the order indicated in the hand-bills, with the exception, that W. A. LEE, a student at Law, at this place, and a graduate of that Institution, whose name does not appear in that account of the proceedings of the day, delivered an admirable address; as Anniversary Orator of the Euphemian Society. The entire performance of the day was creditable alike to the young men concerned, and the Institution. As the Oration of Col. JAMES L. ORR, will be published, we refrain from any remarks in regard to it, except that, it is thought, he did full justice to both himself and the occasion. The practice, however, of reading speeches, on such an occasion, we entirely disapprove, and regret that it is becoming quite common. The remarks of the President, the Rev. E. E. PRESSLY, to the graduating class, were above all praise. It would be astonishing, if any of the class hearing them, and graduating under such an instructor, should turn out badly.

It is truly gratifying to all who take interest in what ennobles and elevates the moral and intellectual character of our people, to see such institutions as this, and that at Cokesbury, springing up in our midst, and rivalling, for usefulness and distinction, others that are farther off from us, and older, and of higher pretensions. What particularly recommends them, is, their entire removal from *grog-shops, gambling-houses,* and others, which well fraternize with these nuisances:—nuisances, which have destroyed the usefulness, and blighted the hopes and prospects of many a student of institutions surrounded by them. But this is not all that recommends them. Their Professors are all gentlemen of experience in teaching, of highly cultivated minds, and of unquestionable piety. Besides, boarding and tuition, at these places, are a mere song compared with what they cost at other institutions. For these reasons, let these institutions be supported. SPECTATOR.

From the Hamburg Journal, Extra.

IMPORTANT FROM THE AMERICAN!

We hasten to lay before our readers to-day late and highly important intelligence from our army in Mexico. The news was brought by the steamer M'Kim at New Orleans, and we copy from the columns of the Picayune at that place.

From this intelligence we are led to believe that a decisive battle is near at hand.—Santa Anna's proclamation, it appears, has had the effect to arouse that people from their apathy; and we may now look for a contest of results, which will no doubt end in the triumphant success of our arms.

The steamship M'Kim arrived at New Orleans on the 22nd inst. from Brazos Santiago, with dates from Seralvo, or more properly Cerralvo, to the 7th inst. She brought, moreover, an extra of the American Flag, published at Matamoras, containing a letter dated the 8th inst., from Camargo, in which the following passage occurs, which caused a lively sensation in the city:

I hasten to inform you of the arrival, posthaste from Cerralvo, of Capt. Murray, with information that McCulloch's Rangers had come into Gen. Worth's camp at Cerralvo, and reported: that on the 4th inst., about 40 miles beyond Cerralvo, they discovered a body of Mexicans, forming the advance guard of a large force. They retreated as the Rangers came upon them, and were pursued until they fell back on a larger force, which was discovered to be from 800 to a 1000 strong. It was the gene-

ral impression that it was intended to attack Gen. Worth before reinforcements could arrive, and Capt. Murray thinks that a battle is being fought at Cerralvo to-day, the 8th. Capt. Murray met Gen. Taylor with a part of his force, some distance in advance of the main body, and within 35 miles of Cerralvo, on a forced march to his relief.

We have letters from Cerralvo quite as late as Capt. Murray would appear to have brought. The first which we subjoin, from Mr. Kendall, gives all the details of the expedition of the Rangers, and the second, dated the 7th inst., indicates that Gen. Worth was meditating an attack upon the enemy, rather than expecting one.

CERRALVO, Sept. 6, 1846.

The two companies of Texan Rangers, under Capt. McCulloch and Gillespie, returned last evening from a scouting tour in the direction of Monterey, and brought back more full information of the enemy than has been heretofore received. Capt. Meade, of the Topographical Engineers, accompanied the Rangers, having been sent out by General Worth to examine the roads.

The party started from here on Friday afternoon, without pack mules or baggage of any kind, and with only three day's provisions. Before sundown, and at the foot of the mountains, a suspicious looking Mexican was caught. He endeavored to escape by running, but on finding that his horse was unable to carry him off safely he turned at some cattle he saw by the roadside and pretended that he was a *vacara*, or cow driver, and hunting an estray. This ruse, however, did not get him off, and a great deal of information was finally extorted from him by threats. He stated that Canales was near Passa Gallos in considerable force, and there was also a body of regular cavalry under Col. Carrasco in the neighborhood. As Passa Gallos was a place they had been ordered to examine, the party hurried onward. The road was exceedingly rough, full of loose rocks, and extremely hard upon the horses; yet this did not in the least check the advance.

The small rancho of Passa Gallos, about thirty miles from this, was passed without an accident, but an old fellow at one of the *jacales* stated that two couriers or express riders, carrying news of the advance of the Texans undoubtedly, had passed a short time previous, going ahead in hot haste. A little farther on, about 1 o'clock in the morning, the advanced guard of the Rangers came suddenly upon the pickets of the enemy, and although they gave them a hard chase, the fellows succeeded in getting off by taking to the chaparral. In the pursuit, however, one of them dropped his lance—a regular cavalry—which was picked up and brought in.

It was now ascertained that the Rangers were within but a short distance of the camp of the Mexicans, and that the latter had chosen a strong position—in an arroyo or dry gully—from which to defend themselves. They outnumbered the Texans, too, in the ratio of nearly eight to one, having 500 rancheros at least under Canales, and from 2 to 300 regular cavalry under Col. Carrasco; and under these circumstances there was no other alternative left than to retire. The Texans went about two or three miles on the back track, where on finding a strong natural position they encamped for a few hours to rest their jaded horses. An attack was certainly anticipated, for the Mexican leaders must have known the force of the Rangers; yet the morning hours wore away and the sun rose without an alarm.

On first ascertaining the force of the Mexicans, from the prisoner who had been taken, McCulloch sent back a note to Gen. Worth. This officer immediately despatched six companies of regular artillery and infantry on the road, to sustain the Rangers in case they were beaten back. They were met on the return, three or four leagues from here, and all came in together.

The route taken by this scouting party was the right hand one to Monterey, passing Marin. The left hand road, which goes through Caidereyta, is thought to be the worst of the two over the mountains, and the other will probably be the one taken by the army. Whether there are any more troops on the route than those encountered near Passa Gallos is not known, but the appearance of those would indicate that Ampudia is keeping a bright look out for the advance of the American army, and perhaps with the intention of opposing its progress before it reaches Monterey.

Gen. Smith's brigade came up this morning from Punta Aguda, so that Gen. Worth now has something like 1700 men under his command. The residents here have been expecting an attack from their own leaders nightly, and hundreds have left the town for the ranchos in the neighborhood.

This place, or the name of it, has all along been spelled Seralvo. A Mexican says it is Cerralvo, and signifies a white or early morning light upon the mountains. The appearance of the neighboring mountains, between daylight and sunrise, is exceedingly magnificent. G. W. K.

CERRALVO, Sept. 7, 1846.

From what I can gather, a plan is on foot to surprise Canales and Carrasco in their strong hold near Passa Gallos. It will be a difficult matter, so wide awake and cautious are these fellows, but no harm can be done if it fails.

The prisoner taken the other night by McCulloch turns out to be a shrewd chap and of no inconsiderable importance. He admits that he was sent ahead to better himself in the way of swapping horses—that is, by leaving his own and stealing one of ours—and also to collect information in relation to the strength and position of Gen. Worth's camp. Canales will probably wait some time for his return, for he is fast enough here.

There is a rumor here—nothing but a rumor, mind you—that Santa Anna is advancing upon Monterey with 40,000 men. I might give you a column of other reports in circulation, but they are all of little moment and come from most unreliable sources—Mexican mouths.

I am fearful, after this, that the chances of sending letters to New Orleans will be few and far between. I shall snap at every opportunity however.

G. W. K.

In addition to the above, the letter from Camargo in the Flag, says that it is positively asserted that the Mexicans are determined to make a strong resistance between Cerralvo and Monterey; that Arista is co-operating with Ampudia, and that their forces are rapidly augmenting; and that the Mexicans are rallying to their standard from all quarters. This representation as to the movements of Arista differs from that of our correspondent. The following is from the same Camargo letter:

The heat has retarded somewhat, the progress of the troops which left here with Gen. Taylor, it being out of the question to march during the heat of the day. The troops were in high spirits and eager to come up with the Mexicans. Two companies of Ranger that were here, having their horses shod, started off immediately after Capt. Murray's arrival. All is quiet here. Proclamations from Santa Anna, Ampudia, and the Governor of Tamaulipas, have been received in town, and are having their effect upon the Mexicans. The proclamation of Ampudia makes the penalty very severe upon all who may furnish provisions, assist in transporting provisions, or in any wise aid the Americans. It prohibits them from holding any intercourse or carrying on any trade with us. Death and the confiscation of property are the penalties for disobeying the order. These proclamations have also been received in Mier and Reynosa.

From the N. O. Com. Times, 18th inst.

CITY OF MEXICO—VERA CRUZ—SANTA ANNA—GEN. SALAS.

By the late arrival from Havana, noticed in another column, we have received papers from Vera Cruz to the 30th ult. inclusive. From them we gather the following intelligence:

The revolution commenced in the city of Mexico, in favor of Santa Anna, on the 6th ult. had completely triumphed. The Monitor Republicano, from whose columns copious extracts are made in the Vera Cruz papers, stated on the 23d ult., that information had been received of successive *pronunciamentos* in Puebla, Vera Cruz, Oaxaca, Queretaro, Michoacan, San Louis Protosi, Tamaulipas, Durango, Zacatecas, and Aquascalientes, and that sufficient time had not elapsed to hear from the extreme points of the Republic, otherwise, they would have had to chronicle the complete and unqualified success of the cause.

On the 24th ult. Almonte, Rejon, and Goescencio Boves, the companions of Santa Anna in exile, reached the capital, when the former two were immediately invested with the offices of Ministers, *ad interim*, by the head of the Government, General Salas. Gomez Farias had already assumed the duties of Minister of Finance. General Salas had published a decree, declaring the Federal Constitution of 1824 in force, *ad interim*, that is until the meeting of Congress to be assembled in December next. He had also announced in another document, dated the 23d ult., that the Congress convoked for the 6th December next, would come together invested with plenary powers, to enact laws for the government of all branches of the public administration, and referring to the general interest. He had acted most vigorously with regard to every department of the public service, seemingly desirous

of making a *tabula rasa* before the elections took place, and reducing all things of an administrative nature to their elements. He had ordered the dissolution of the Departmental assemblies, investing the Governors with extraordinary powers, for which they were to be responsible to the supreme government alone.

A deputation appointed by General Salas, headed by Senor Pacheco, had gone from Mexico toward Vera Cruz, for the purpose of meeting Santa Anna, welcoming his arrival, and conducting him to the metropolis. They were received by the latter at his hacienda, Encerro, where a long communication was delivered to him from Salas, who entered into a detailed account of the events which had taken place since the day on which the revolution broke out. He stated that his only object was the public good, etc., etc., in the usual inflated phraseology of Mexican personages, and that the revolution had not caused a drop of blood to be shed. Only one prisoner was made, Paredes, whom it was necessary to secure, to prevent a forcible reactionary movement. His first act, after being invested with supreme power, was to dispatch to Monterey, New Mexico and California all the disposable military force of the Republic. He only waited the arrival of Santa Anna at the city of Mexico to deposit in his hands the Executive power.

Santa Anna makes a long reply to this, in which in his usual style, he vaunts his purity of purpose, the sacrifices he had made for Mexico, and declares that his mission will be ended when he has restored order to his distracted country. "My authority shall cease, when I shall have re-established the nation in their rights; when I shall see her disposing of her destinies through her representatives; and when, if Heaven grant me strength, I shall have deposited at their feet the laurels gathered on the Sabine." He declines coming to the capitol, assigning the irritation still felt in his mutilated leg, caused by his anxieties, and the fatigue he has undergone coming from Havana.

The people in the city of Mexico were quite delighted at the decrees issued by Salas regarding the re-establishment of the Constitution of 1824, and the plenary powers with which the ensuing Congress are to be invested. It is supposed that the Congress must be called together at an earlier period than the 6th of December, to which it stands convoked.

The deputation, with Senor Pacheco, left Santa Anna at Bucarro, where he still remained, at latest dates.

The utmost activity seems to have been displayed by the Government of Salas, during the interregnum between the *pronunciamento* and Santa Anna's arrival at Vera Cruz. Wealthy individuals had been particularly addressed by the Minister of Finance, adjuring them to come forward to the relief of the government and the country by donations of money, beasts of draught and burthen, or to convey stores for the army, engaged in defending the country from the invaders, who were provided with abundance of every thing, and with inexhaustible resources at their back.

Nothing appears in any of the papers we have seen relative to the receipt by the Government of Mexico of any propositions from President Polk, for the cessation of the war. The Locomotor of Vera Cruz says that the reports of reactions in favor of Paredes, or others, against the lately expressed will of the nation, are wholly unfounded; they are mere alarms invented and circulated from wanton or malevolent feeling.

FROM SANTA FE AND BENT'S FORT.—

DEPREDACTIONS OF THE INDIANS.—ARMJO UNABLE TO DEFEND SANTA FE.—The St. Louis Reville has had a conversation with S. P. Sublete, Esq., who came down on the Little Missouri. Mr. S. left Bent's Fort on the 18th of last month. A large party, composed of the warriors of six hundred lodges of the Missouri and North Fork Sioux tribes, have started on an expedition to meet the Snake Indians, who have sent them presents of tobacco, and desire for peace.

Before Mr. S. left Bent's Fort he learned that letters had been sent to Armijo, the Governor of New Mexico, by Chaves and others of the principal citizens of Santa Fe, calling upon him to defend the city and their property against the advancing forces of the Americans. He sent them back word that, if they would come in person and aid him in such an undertaking, he would fight as long as he could stand, or they desired, but, unless they did so, he should not strike a blow. The miserable show of a force which was mustered in Santa Fe, he declared unable to defend the place, even against the predatory bands of savages which surrounded them.

PEACE WITH MEXICO.—On this subject the Union says:

We do not hesitate to add, that peace is desirable to both countries; and that our administration has sufficiently manifested its disposition to promote it; but this, too, we run no risk in saying, that we can scarcely, according to the wisest policy amidst such a war, agree to any armistice, and suspend our arms, until a treaty has been made and ratified.

But we will go one step further, and say, that if Santa Anna understands the true interest of his own country, he will accept the olive branch, and spare no effort to negotiate a prompt and permanent peace with the United States. Let him decline the proposition, and he will find blow following blow, of which he has now no adequate conception. We shall be satisfied *then* more than ever, that we must put forth all the vigor of our nation, and at once, in order that we may sooner terminate the war itself, and *conquer peace!*

PETTICOATS.—The number and size of the skirts, or petticoats—grass, cloth, coffee bags, &c.—now worn by the ladies of Boston, is absolutely frightful—amounting, in some instances, as we are credibly informed to no less than *thirty-three* immense envelopes! The weight of these unnatural coverings being very great, it has been found necessary to shorten them in length, to keep them from dragging on the ground; and fashionable women now bears a striking resemblance to a common hoghead, marched off on turkey's legs. It is said that during the exhibition of fire-works, on Boston Common, on the 4th of July, a young woman, dressed in the extreme of fashion, was mistaken by some boys for a public tent, and they had actually crawled some distance under the canvas before they discovered their mistake.

NAPOLEON'S EYE AND CALCULATION.

—By long experience, joined to great natural quickness and precision of eye, he had acquired the very remarkable power of judging with extraordinary accuracy, both of the amount of the enemy's force opposed to him in the field, and the probable result of movements even the most complicated, going forward in the opposite armies. The roar of artillery, the smoke and the rattle of musketry, even falling of ball around him, were alike unable to divert his steady gaze, or disturb his accurate judgment. Never was he known to be mistaken in the estimate which he formed on the distance or approach of the fire of the enemy. Even on the farther extremity of the horizon, if his telescope could reach the hostile columns, he observed every movement, anticipated every necessity, and, from the slightest indications, drew correct conclusions as to the designs which were in contemplation.

CHANGES IN CHINA.—The Rev. Dr. Abel says:

"The China I knew a few years ago is not the China in which I am now residing. We can no longer say to the churches at home, 'Ye are straitened in us.' The fields, the villages, the junks, the shops, the crowded streets, the numerous temples, are all open to us. Hundreds of thousands are accessible. We can with difficulty escape them. If we have no leisure to visit them, they come to us. Many a time have I retired, wearied and exhausted, but their voices have rung in my ears, and I have found little or no relief."

PROFANITY.—A man of sense will never swear. The least pardonable of all vices to which the folly or cupidity of man is addicted, is that of swearing. Could he who so freely indulges in profanity and indecent language—in fine, could a profane swearer behold himself in a glass as others behold him, he would shrink from his own image as from a thing of contamination. In other vices, more or less excuse of some kind may be found—the gratification of some appetite may be pleaded as a palliation; but in this vice are no mitigating circumstances to be found—no plausible pretext for such folly.—N. Y. Sun.

GEN. TAYLOR A. L. D.—The Portsmouth (Va.) New Era says— "Since the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, Gen. Taylor has had L. L. D. attached to his name, by one of the Southern colleges."

The Baltimore Clipper copies the above and adds, "This would have been more appropriately conferred on the Mexican General—he was *Licked Like the Devil!*"