

FROM MEXICO.

Vera Cruz papers from the 15th February to the 9th of March, have been received at the Navy Department, from which the Union takes several extracts.

In the City of Mexico, at the latest dates, anarchy and civil war appeared to be prevailing.

The "Diario, of March 5th says.—The firing continued yesterday between the troops of the Government and the insurgents from their respective positions—It was violent between the Cathedral and La Profesa, and between San Francisco and Hospital de Terceiros.

"It is stated that yesterday a column of the Government troops respectively attacked San Diego, and another column La Profesa, and another San Domingo, and retired with small loss.

The belligerent forces, it seems, have not suffered much. The greater part of the killed and wounded were among the people passing along the streets."

A session of Congress had been summoned, but hardly more than fifty assembled, who faced the danger of the balls which were flying in all directions. It was resolved to adjourn to the National Academy of Fine Arts, where the meeting took place on the 4th ult., but there was still no quorum.

The Governor of Puebla has offered its resources and the troops belonging to it, to sustain the Government against the pronunciamento of the national guard of this capital. The same offer has been made by Senor Olaguibel, Governor of the State of Mexico, who, in addition, offers an asylum in the capital of that State, or any of its towns, to the supreme authorities of the nation.

On the 4th ult. the general-in-chief of the insurgent troops, Don Matias Pena y Baragan, published a proclamation, in which he acknowledges Gen. Santa Anna as president of the Republic, declares null and void all contracts which have been or may be made by the Government since the 27th of February, and that all who shall pay any sums to it shall be required to repeat the payment; it declares null also employments or promotions which may be granted by the Government, as likewise the penalties which it may decree against individuals in public employment, who have taken part in the insurrection.

"La Prensa" the paper published in Jalapa calls the pronunciamento which took place in Mexico on the night of the 26th ultimo, "the most scandalous event which could have occurred to heighten the scene of detestable commotion, thanks to which these fatal men of revolutions have succeeded so often in placing the country on the brink of an abyss." It says that the government is supported by the greater part of the garrison of Mexico, while the force of the former consists only of the regiments Independencia and Hidalgo, the battalion Victoria, and part of the corps of Mina, of sappers, and of Cochicomula.

On the 15th February the people and military of Oaxaca pronounced against the Government of Senor Arteaga, who had shown himself very zealous in carrying out the law relating to church property. The "pronunciamento" was successful, and the Government of Arteaga overthrown, after some little bloodshed. The people insist that the law of the 11th January against the church property shall not be executed.

The State of Puebla has passed the following decrees, viz:

- 1. The general Congress shall be petitioned to revoke the decree in relation to church property.
2. No law or regulation looking to the disposition of the church property shall be executed.
3. The State protests against raising the "extraordinary contingent" imposed upon it, in proportion to its resources.
The Indecor of the 24th of February has a paragraph to the following effect:—"Senor Suarez Iriarte has resigned his office as Minister of Finance. Having now no Minister of Finance, of Foreign Relations, or of War and Marine, it may be said we are without a Government."

Incidents at Buena Vista.

We yesterday conversed (says the Delta) with a gentleman, who was present at the battle of Buena Vista. In addition to the facts already published, he related to us much interesting memoranda.

The coolness and bravery of the Mississippi and Illinois volunteers, were, he says, beyond all praise. While fighting in line, the front rank knelt on one knee, taking deliberate aim, and doing deadly execution.

Colonel Bewles, of the 21 Indiana regiment, finding that his men faltered early in the action on the 23d, withdrew from them in disgust, and taking a rifle joined the Mississippi regiment in the thickest of the fight. It is due to the Indiana regiment, however, to say, that they subsequently rallied, and appealed to as they were by Captain Lincoln and others, and fought bravely.

The three guns which the Mexicans took, were only yielded by Lieut. O'Brien's desperate resistance. Two of them were killed—the carriage wheels were broken—and the muzzles of the guns were all, but one, shot down. Gen. Taylor complimented O'Brien on the field for his brave conduct.

Captain Washington's battery was in the most favorable position. It principal pass or approach to Buena Vista with the very best effect.

At one time during the battle, Captain Bragg expressed some apprehension to General Taylor in relation to the position of his battery, and asked what he was to do, to give them more grape, Bragg—more

grape," says old Rough and Ready, "and that will secure their safety." Bragg tried the prescription, and found it to have the best effect.

Colonel Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, is idolized by his regiment; and, as one of them said, he would lead them to hell. Believing that on the 21, there would be a fight, and being unable to walk on account of the wound in his foot, he ordered that he be carried out to their head in a waggon.

Colonel Yell, as we have already told our readers, was lanced to death. His horse became restive, his bridle broke, and he carried him into the midst of the enemy, where a lance pierced him through the head.

Colonel Harden, before being killed, captured a flag from the enemy, which, with his horse, he requested should be sent home as a last memento to his wife.

Nothing could contrast more strongly than the humanity of the American soldiers and the cowardly ferocity and roguish propensity of the Mexicans. The Americans shared their biscuit and water with the wounded Mexicans, and were often seen to lay them in a position least painful to them. The Mexicans on the contrary, cowardly killed our wounded men when they met them, as in the case of Col. Clay, they stripped and robbed several of our officers and many of their own.

Among the prisoners taken were two who were deserters from our ranks. They were brought before General Taylor who ordered the wretches to be drummed out beyond the lines. Such rascals, he said, might do for Santa Anna—they would not suit him—and it would be wasting powder and shot to shoot them. They were therefore drummed to the tune of the Rogue's March.

A bullet having passed through the breast of General Taylor's jacket, he remarked that the balls were becoming excited.

The Asiatic Cholera.

The distresses of Europe are causing us to forget the scourge of Asia. The famine in Ireland and Scotland seems to be almost at our very elbows. Men, women, and children, speaking the same language with ourselves, are dying by thousands for lack of bread. And the end is not yet. Without the merciful interposition of Providence, this work of death may go on for months. Let there be another harvest like the last and who will venture to foretell the scene of the coming year?

But let us turn for a moment to Central Asia, and watch the progress, slow but resistless, of the king of terrors in another form. Early in 1846 it was announced that the cholera had commenced its ravages in Khorasan, the eastern province of Persia. About mid-summer it reached Teheran, where it swept off ten thousand souls in a few weeks. Going out from this centre of influence and power with a divided force, as from a conquered capital, it took the great roads north, south, and west, spreading desolation and woe along its course. Soon it lays Isphahan under contribution—Bagdad is compelled to yield up seven thousand of its inhabitants; and in the whole pashalic thirty thousand fell before their relentless foe. Tabreez was spared till the 7th of October; but then it paid dearly for its reprieve. In forty days nearly seven thousand souls were hurried to the grave. Three weeks later, Oroomiah was smitten by the hand of the same fell destroyer; and two thousand persons shortly became the trophies of his power.

Here the disease was stayed in its westward progress by the mountains of Kooristan, but with the ready skill of an able general, it changed its line of march and proceeded south, scattering its deadly arrows on every side, and threatening very soon to find a practicable pass to Asia Minor and Europe. Indeed, in watching the advance of this formidable enemy, we have been constantly reminded of the tactics of war. It is careful to seize the great roads for its lines of communications. It moves forward with a solemn and measured tramp, as if in no haste, and yet sure of success. It attacks the great centres of business, as being the strong points which are in no case to be left unassailed. When it enters the walls of a populous city, it moves along, from street to street, and ward to ward, as if treading upon the rear of a slowly retreating foe. In about forty days its works is done, and it emerges once more into the open country, and pursues its appointed journey.

And whither is it tending? Will it pause upon the sultry plains of Mosul? Will it stop its career of conquest under the walls of old Byzantium? Or will it sweep over Europe, finishing the sad work which famine has begun? And for us there is another question, more interesting still. Will the broad Atlantic arrest the march of this dreadful foe? In 1832 it proved to be no barrier. Will it avail us now? These enquiries are not propounded with the view of exciting premature and groundless fears; but rather that we may look the danger in the face, ascertain its nature and extent, and do whatever true wisdom may enjoin.

Boston Traveller.

THE BANNER.



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C. Wednesday, April 14, 1847.

Cotton Market.

Charleston April the 2d from 10 to 12 1-2. Hamburg, April 2d, from 10 to 11 3-4 cts.

Mrs. WHITE will accept our thanks for the mess of Green Peas sent us, the first we have seen this season.

From Vera Cruz.

We have devoted much of our paper this week, to news from the Volunteers, which we are certain will be read with interest. It appears that the loss of the Americans in the bombardment of Vera Cruz, was only 7 killed and 58 wounded, none of our company have received a wound. The breach was made in the S. E. part of the wall in Gen. Quitman's division, by the Naval battery. Col. Harney did not attack La Vega as it was reported, but a body of 300 rancheros, which he dispersed with considerable slaughter. Gen. SCOTT will march immediately upon city of Mexico. Gen. Quitman's Brigade was to have left on the 30th ult. for Alvarado. Our regiment is in this brigade.

The Mexican loss is said to be 500 many of whom are women and children. Great injury was done to the city.

Important from Santa Fe.

The following exciting information is contained in a slip from the Independence Expositor, of the 25th ult:—

THOMAS CALDWELL, Esq., has just got in from the plains, and confirms the sad intelligence of the massacre at Taos. Gov. BENT and twenty-five Americans, are the victims of a cold blooded assassination.

Among the dead is L. I. WALDO, a citizen of our country, and brother to Capt. DAVID WALDO, of Col. DONIPHAN's regiment.

Mr. CALDWELL left El Passo on the 12th of January, and Santa Fe on the 3rd of February—he saw nothing of Captain SUBLETTE, and heard nothing of his whereabouts. He left Col. DONIPHAN in possession of El Passo waiting for the artillery to arrive, when he intended to move for Chihuahua. Nothing was known in New Mexico of the change in General Wool's position.

Mr. CALDWELL learned from a reliable source that they had declined putting Mr. MAGOFFIN on trial for treason, and that he was at large in Chihuahua.

The insurrectionists consisted of about 2,000 men, and started for Santa Fe. Col. PRICE sent out about 300 men to quell them; they met about twenty-five miles from Santa Fe, when an engagement took place—the Mexicans drew up 2,000 strong, but at the first fire from our brave Missouri boys, 36 of them fell dead, and the balance fled.

Capt. MORIN, of Platte who was in command, pursued them through the Moro valley, and burned to ashes every house, town, and rancho in his path. The inhabitants fled to the mountains, where they are bound to starve, as MORIN leaves them nothing whatever to subsist on—a just retribution for their assassination of innocent people.

As Mr. CALDWELL was passing out, he heard at a distance the sound of artillery, and learned from rumor in the edge of the settlement that the American army had whipped them worse than ever. Captain HENDLEY, of Ray county volunteers, was the only one killed on our side, and some seven slightly wounded.

The following additional items are from a letter from Independence to the St. Louis Union:—

No doubt the city of Taos is now in ashes, as our Missouri boys had caused the smoke from their burning houses to ascend from a thousand hills; the inhabitants in the Moro valley, men, women, and children, had fled to the mountains. Mr. CALDWELL left Col. DONIPHAN at El Passo on the 12th of January, waiting for the artillery companies to arrive, when he intended to march for Chihuahua. He thinks that DONIPHAN, ere this, has taken Chihuahua or has been taken himself. We may await with trembling anxiety a long time, I fear, for the result of this hazardous expedition.

From the Army.

ARMY OF OCCUPATION, VERA CRUZ, } March 29th, 1847. }

I know you are intensely anxious to hear from me, and doubtless you have thought

strange, that others should have written home before me. I assure you it has not been for the want of inattention, but amid the duties of the soldier, and the toils of the camp, I have had no time even to think of home. I hope, however, now we will have some leisure. Yesterday there was a parley between the belligerent parties, and today, the city is to make an unconditional surrender; the Castle will also surrender, some little point only prevents them. I have kept up something of a journal with a view to this letter, and I think it will be more interesting to give you a full account of all our doings around this place. We set sail on the 3d of March from the Isle of Lobos, and the sixth we anchored with our fleet off Anton Lizardo. On the 9th we moved up to Sacrificios, near the city, and immediately commenced landing. General WORTH, and his division, landed first, without opposition. He took possession of the heights, and encamped for the night. On the next day General PATTERSON's division landed (to which the Palmetto Regiment is attached,)—Our regiment advanced beyond General Worth's. On the 3d day some 12000 troops being landed, operations were commenced in earnest. The Palmetto regiment occupied the heights, some mile or mile and a half from the city, driving in the out post of the enemy. In this position our men were exposed to a severe cannonade from the city, and a sharp fire from a body of Lancers, who came to the hill opposite. In this skirmish we had some three or four men a little wounded, and amongst them Lieut. Col. DICKINSON—our company escaped without a wound. The city being completely invested, we took up quarters waiting for our batteries to begin. Up to the 22d we were exposed to an incessant cannonade from the city. By this time I had become so accustomed to the sound of cannon, and the whistling of shells, that I paid no kind of attention to them. The fire up to this time was almost ineffectual. Our army was very much impeded in its operations by a severe norther which commenced to blow shortly after our landing; about the 20th the sea became calm, and our artillery was landed rapidly from the ships. On the 22d at 2 o'clock, General SCOTT sent a white-flag into the city, demanding an immediate surrender of the town and castle. The governor sent back the laconic reply "come and take it."

General WORTH was then ordered to open his battery—I was acting a guard for Gen. PATTERSON's battery, near to Gen. WORTH when he opened on the city. He fired three shells one after the other, and he stirred up a real hornet's nest. For four hours I set it down that it rained down shells and balls all around us; I am sure a ball or shell was shot for every fifteen seconds for full four hours: most of the shells, however, were ineffectual. Captain Vinton was killed this morning; he commanded a company of regulars at Augusta for a long time. The bombardment during the night of the 22d was grand beyond all description. Five small gun boats rode up near the shore, and joined our batteries. The shells from these little boats were thrown with the greatest accuracy, and I am sure great execution must have been done. During the entire night there was hardly a second that a report might not have been heard. The wolves and panthers which inhabit the dense chapparel were frightened from their hiding places, and went howling about our camp. The next morning the fire commenced at Revillee with renewed violence and continued for the day. 24th our heavy battery, (Gen. PATTERSON's division,) commenced to fire and continued all the day, and the way brick walls and church steeples and domes were demolished was astonishing; by night one of the best batteries of the city was silenced. The firing from the city became very scattering, whilst our mortars play a way at a fine rate. On the 25th our batteries opened even heavier than ever another battery from the town became silent, and in a few hours a parley was sounded, and every thing became calm and silent. The Mexicans begged a cessation of hostilities until they could bury their dead, which I suppose was very considerable. General SCOTT told them to send their dead to him, and he would bury them. He however told them, that he was unwilling that there should be further blood shed, and that he would give them a few hours to give up the city. He give them moreover to understand, that he would not be responsible for what was done, if they refused his terms. After two days capitulation, the city has surrendered unconditional. LA VEGA, is in command of the castle, and I know not what he may do—as yet the flag floats from the castle. I suppose it will surrender: It is however, a matter of but little consequence to us; we can, after taking the town, soon bring the castle to terms.

Thus you see our first move has been a grand one, and a successful one. The bombardment of Vera Cruz will be a matter of history for generations to come. I have been much pleased with the manner in which General SCOTT has conducted affairs here; almost all his officers were for storming the city. He refused however, to expose the lives of his men until he had tried every expedient. He could have taken the city by storm, that is certain; but it would have been done at the sacrifice of at least five thousand men. General SCOTT has gained a brilliant victory, and a bloodless one. It is one of the sases in which science has triumphed over force. I am much in hopes after we settle matters here, we will soon make an end of the war so far as we are concerned, and return again to our homes.

Our regiment is quartered about a mile from town. Since we have invested the place our fare has been just as rough as it could be, and our labor as severe. We have no tents and have to sleep in the open air. WILSON and myself live together: we sleep on the same blanket—cover with the same—have our haversacks in common, and what is the property of one is common to both. I have found him one of the noblest fellows I have ever known—we are together for the balance of the campaign. Our quarters at present is in a ravine surrounded on all sides by barren sand heights: No vegetation except a little grass and a low thorn bush flourishes: it is the most dreary spot I have ever seen. The sun shines down on us without any obstruction. We can see the city from the hills: It is not so large as I expected to see; it seems to be a pretty, and a strong place; I hope to see the place very soon: I want to see what our shells did, and the castle: there it stands to the north of the city, as if keeping guard over it: It is apparently as strong as stone can make it. I long to see the Mexican colors lower, and the stars and stripes float in their place: I will see it soon if nothing happens.

The health of our regiment is remarkably good: we have lost two men since we left Mobile: JOHN HALL died on board the ship off the Isle of Lobos: He was buried there: poor fellow he has a lonely resting place; he was a gentleman and a good soldier, and his death has been much regretted. GILBERT died in the hospital here: I know but little of him: he joined us at Aiken: We have no severe cases now: my own health is good, very good: I think I could come home and pass off as a stranger: my sun burned face, all covered with hair, I think would pass me off. McGOWEN and MARTIN, are on the beach some seven miles from here: I have not seen either of them for more than two weeks. As soon as we landed I joined my company and since that time I have been taking it rough and tumble with them, and I enjoy it very much.

Evening—The stars and stripes are floating in the city: I have not heard the particulars of the capitulation; I would not close this until I learned the particulars, but I have a chance this evening to send to the beach and my letter must go.

CAMP NEAR VERA CRUZ. } March 20, 1847. }

Here we are sure enough, encamped within two miles of the famous City of the True Cross, one of the strongest fortified places in the world. We can distinctly see its steeples and towers and occasionally feel the power of its artillery.

We left the Isle of Lobos on the 3rd inst, and arrived at Anton Lizardo on the 7th, where we remained several days on board our ships, until the whole fleet bearing our troops had collected, and then sailed towards the City and anchored just out of the reach of the guns of the Castle.

The army consists of about 15,000 men and is divided into three divisions, the first under Gen. WORTH, the second under Gen. TWIGGS, and the third under Gen. PATTERSON, Gen. SCOTT commanding the whole. Our Regiment is in Gen. PATTERSON's division and we, together with the Georgia and Alabama Regiments form Gen. Quitman's Brigade.

On the 10th we commenced landing, Gen. WORTH leading off, and instead of a strong resistance as we expected, the Mexicans permitted us to land, and there lost their best opportunity of destroying us, a few guns only were fired from the Castle upon the gun boats, which protected our men whilst landing. So soon as landed we commenced surrounding the City, and taking possession of the various heights in doing which we had some sharp skirmishes with parties of cavalry, who issued at times from the City, and when defeated, would take shelter behind the walls of the City. On the 11th our Regiment was ordered