

From the N. O. Delta, of the 7th inst.
The Advance to the Capital.

The veteran Twigg has already advanced on the road that leads to the capital of the Aztecs. He commands the vanguard of the army which is to realize the popular idea of revelling in the halls of the Montezumas. Our own Smith leads the division, with his gallant rifles, and a nobler corps has never marched under our banner; and a strong body of regular infantry and artillery, amounting, in all, to 2,600 strong, bring up the main body. Thirty miles from Vera Cruz, the river Antigua is scanned by a noble bridge, built of stone, with lofty arches, and guarded by a strong fort which commands the road for a long distance. This bridge is associated with some of the most gallant displays of Mexican courage and patriotism. Here it was that the brave Victoria, with a small band of peasants, kept at bay the Spanish armies, and cut off the convoy of their treasures and provisions. The post is a strong one, and if defended with skill and vigor, will give our army much trouble. It is said that La Vega commands the force at the Puerte Nacional, and is determined to justify by some brilliant deed the high expectations excited by his manly bearing at Resaca de la Palma. But it will be vain. The impetus which our military strength and confidence have received from the previous success of our army, will bear it triumphantly over all the obstacles of Mexican valor and fervor. This bridge passed, the road lies open, and unobstructed to the lovely city of Jalapa.

Here our hardy veterans, accustomed to the low marshy valley of the Rio Grande and the arid plains of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon, like the redoubtable army of Napoleon, after passing the frigid and rugged heights of San Bernard, and pitching their tents in the smiling vale of the Arno, will suddenly find themselves transported into a region of surpassing beauty, fertility and salubrity. Here they may stretch their war-worn frames on beds of roses and violets, and feast their senses on all that is rich at beautiful in nature. The cool, bracing air of the mountain mingles with the soft, health-giving breeze from the Gulf, and the combination produces an atmosphere of perpetual spring. Here will flock the poor peasants with the various produce of this rich valley, with inexhaustible supplies of lucious fruit and nutritious food. But delightful as the scene and its pleasures are, our army should not rest here longer than to refresh tired bodies and repair the damage of the hard service on the sandhills of Vera Cruz, and of the march from the sea-shore. A summer encampment would be highly detrimental to the morale of our army. The hardy nature and rough habits of our soldiers would run riot in the luxurious abundance of Jalapa. Onward, onward, must be the cry. Continual activity is the true secret of military discipline.

Soldiers are always happier, and more obedient and docile under the excitement of a march, than when in camp under the dominion of idleness and ennui. There is no reason why our army should stop for any length of time at Jalapa. The summer in this high region is mild and temperate, the road is level and beautiful, and the country through which it passes is fertile and productive. In ten days our army could march from Jalapa to the city of Mexico. Here, we think, the enemy would offer no resistance, the city not admitting of any effective defence against artillery. If the Mexicans were determined not to yield their Capital without a blow, it would be struck before our army arrived within sight of the city. But with a force of 20,000 strong, we do not apprehend any serious difficulty in taking the Capital. Once possessed of this famous El Dorado of our soldiers, this magnificent city of the noble race, who fell beneath the bloody sword of Cortez, we shall then be prepared to listen to the overtures of the enemy for peace, or if such overtures are not made with all due humility, to take possession of the whole Republic as the lawful spoils of war, and to govern it with the laws of our Republic.

From the Georgia Constitutionalist.
The Fallen Heroes of Buena Vista.

The most glorious victories are oftenest those which are purchased with the blood of the most gallant heroes. Such victims become thereby, more fondly and proudly cherished by the national heart. The gloom of sorrow throws a halo of romantic interest around the recollection, and makes deeper and holier that feeling of pride and admiration with which the gallant achievement is contemplated. Those who fall amidst the victorious shouts of their exulting companions in arms become forever identified with the noblest of national feelings. Their fate is sadly mourned, and their memories tenderly cherished by a grateful country.

Never has our nation been called on to feel more sensibly, the dear pride at which its reputation for heroic valor has been purchased, than on the occasion of the late battle. We are called upon to mourn the loss of some of the most gallant spirits of the land. Some were peculiarly objects of interest, and their fate is to be deplored from more than ordinary considerations. Two of them, Cole, Hardin of Illinois, and Vell of Arkansas, were men of high political position. When the war broke out they were in Congress distinguished members. They resigned their seats—hardly knowing that they were about to be called to the field, their respective regiments which their services contributed generally to raise. Most probably to them may be applied the words—PATRIOTIC HEROES.

The gallant Lincoln, too, in whose veins flowed the choicest blood of the revolution—a descendant of the brave General Lincoln, had already become endeared to his country, by his gallantry on another field of glory. He was already pointed to by her as one of her young heroes.

There was another whose very name awakens a thrill of emotion and enthusiasm, from one end of the Union to the other.—The name of Henry Clay is a spell that has charmed into admiration millions of American hearts. It is identified with all the great events in our country's history for the last forty years—it has shone bright among the brightest in the galaxy of great names—and it has shone undimmed by dishonors—unsuspected of want of devotion to his country. Men have differed from his opinions, but no generous mind ever doubted that his ardent nature was imbued with the soul of patriotism. His voice was often rung like a clarion through our land, in his country's cause, when foreign aggression called for rebuke. It roused up the chivalry of her sons, and prepared the hearts of the people for war, when insult and outrage were perpetrated upon our flag. That voice, still rich and musical as when it charmed a listening Senate and crowded galleries, has been recently heard to regreet, that age had so far enfeebled his arms as to prevent its being raised in this war against Mexico, "to avenge the wrongs of his country."

Many have been the offerings that he has laid upon the altar of his country—the last is that of his son. Paternal influence might, possibly, had it been exerted, have deterred him. But such were not the lessons taught beneath the rural shades of Ashland. Col. Clay inherited a spirit eager for his country's service, and worthy his illustrious sire. He was among the first of the gallant band that went forth from the great valley, to obey their country's call, and 'was alas, among the first to seal his patriotism with his life's blood. Green be the turf over the graves of the fallen heroes of that well fought field, and long be their memories cherished by a grateful people.

"There is a tear for all that die.
A mourner o'er the humblest grave.
But a nation swells their funeral cry
And Triumph weeps above the brave."

General Taylor.

Many inquiries are made as to the early history of Taylor. They show that Gen. Taylor, who achieved the four great victories in one campaign, "worked" up from the white epaulette on the left shoulder to the double epaulette of gold, and the yellow feather—from the lowest to the highest. "He comes from an ancient Virginia family, which emigrated from England, with our friends of liberty and settled in the eastern part of Virginia, near two centuries ago—a family which has since been greatly distinguished in its various branches, and which included within its various connections such names as James Madison, John Taylor, of Caroline, Judge Pendleton, Gen. Hunt, &c. General Taylor's father was one of the most daring of those enterprising pioneers who settled 'the dark and blood ground' which defines the Indian word Kentucky, and many anecdotes are told of his prowess in desperate encounters with the savages.

"He became also a man of eminence in civil life, and was a member of the Electoral Colleges which voted for Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Clay. He died on his estate near Lexington, in 1826, leaving four sons, of whom 'Old Zack' is the third, and, we believe, one or two daughters. The eldest son, Gen. James Taylor, who was a Quartermaster-General, in the army during the war of 1812, now resides at Newport, Ky., at the advanced age of eighty years.

"His more distinguished brother was born in Kentucky, two years before its admission into the Union, and is now, therefore, about fifty-six years of age. Having a stout, vigorous frame, he was early distinguished for feats of manly character, and many amusing anecdotes are told of his achievements in the sports of boyhood. The same foresight, firmness and decision which has since so attracted public admiration, are said to have characterized his whole course through all the shifting circumstances of life. Soon after the affair of the Chesapeake and Leopard, previous to the war of 1812, he, being then eighteen years of age, received from Mr. Jefferson (in 1808) the appointment of Lieutenant in the seventh infantry, and commenced that military career which has now been crowned with imperishable fame.

"His strict observance of duty, and discipline soon commended him for promotion, and at the opening of the war of 1812, we find him a Captain in his regiment. Having been entrusted with the command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, with a garrison of fifty men, he greatly distinguished himself in that year, by his successful defence of it against a formidable attack by a large body of Indians, and was rewarded by the President with the brevet rank of Major. His well known skill in Indian warfare, acquired in his brilliant career in the Northwest Territory, secured for him the command of the First Brigade of the Army of the South, and it was at the head of that division that he won the bloody battle of Lake Okechobee, during the Florida campaign of 1818, and for which achievement he was breveted Brigadier-General. After four or five years arduous service in the swamps and hammocks of Florida, he was assigned to the command of the 2nd department of Fort Jessup, where the order to Texas and the Rio Grand found him.

"By his marriage with a lady of Mary-

land, Gen. Taylor has one son and two daughters, one of whom is married to Col. Davis, of the Mississippi regiment, who was severely wounded at Buena Vista. But to pursue his military career further, in the midst of the glowing enthusiasm of the country over his brilliant achievements in Mexico, would be idle, and the receipt of the Southern mail, as we write, compels us to defer a notice of the higher qualities which commend him to the confidence and respect of his countrymen."

From the N. O. Picayune.
Later from Vera Cruz.

MARCH 29, 1847.

This has been a proud day for the American army. The garrisons of Vera Cruz, and of the much talked of and dreaded Castle of San Juan de Ulua have vacated their quarters and retired into the interior, and the stars and stripes float gracefully wherewith morning was to be seen the green, white, and red of the enemy. The spot selected for the ceremony of laying down arms was a plain extending back from the city walls, in the direction of Malibrán. Our army was drawn up in two lines facing inward, and occupying a mile in extent.—Gen. Worth appeared on the field, in full uniform, to direct the arrangements and receive the conquered troops. The morning was very clear and pleasant, and our army was in admirable condition. A detachment of sailors and marines added much to the effect. At ten o'clock precisely the well known sound (heard under similar circumstances at Monterey) of bugle, fife and drum, played as Mexicans only can play them, and as nobody else ought to do it, was heard in the direction of the great gate, and the Mexican army soon began to appear, the column passing between our lines: Women and children accompanied the troops, bearing heavy burdens. Their army halted between our lines, stacked their arms, laid down their colors and equipments, and then marched off, our troops (those detained for the purpose from Worth's division) marched into the city at the same time, with colors flying, and the bands playing natural airs. Captain Anderson's company, 3rd Artillery, and Captain Kenrick's of the 2d, entered the castle, and Lieut. Van Vleit's company of the 3d Artillery, took possession of Fort Santiago, ran up the American flag and fired a national salute. The effect of our shell upon the city was not seen; and proved to have been deplorable. Hardly a house had escaped, and a large portion of them were ruined. The shells had fallen through the roof and exploded inside, tearing every thing into pieces, bursting through the partitions, and blowing out the windows. The killed and wounded among the soldiery was very slight but the citizens suffered severely. It is said that between six and seven hundred men, women, and children were killed and wounded, more than three hundred being killed.

MARCH 30.

There were 106 pieces of artillery in position around the city, and as many more dismounted, many of the latter useless.—The enemy laid down about 4,000 stand of arms, and 1,000 more were found in the city, saying nothing of the swords, lances, and a very large store of shell, solid shot and powder. The great castle is garrisoned by the following companies:—Captain Anderson's, Captain Taylor's and Lieut. Van Vleit's, of the 3rd artillery under the command of Col. Belton. It has 160 guns mounted, several of them being 68-pounders. It is a regular bastioned work, with a demilune and covered way on the sea side. A vast quantity of ammunition was found in the work. The Mexicans left their national pets behind in the castle, and our troops suffered much annoyance from them last night; I allude, of course, to fleas and other vermin.

Santiago Fort, that spiteful little place which played so warmly upon our entrenchments, is a beautiful work, with nine guns in barbette, most of them fine English pieces. In fact most of their best ordnance is of English manufacture, though they have some fine pieces made in the United States.

Gen. Scott ordered 10,000 rations to be issued to the suffering poor at Vera Cruz, and it was an affecting scene to witness the crowd of half famished creatures as they gathered timidly around to receive their respective shares. These rations will, as Mexicans usually eat, last 5,000 people at least four days, but it is probable that only 1,000 will partake of the provisions. The city and castle were exhausted of provisions. It is a characteristic of Mexicans that they never lay in stores, but live from hand to mouth.

From the New Orleans Delta, April 10th.
The Town—Castle of San Juan de Ulua.

The expectation of the garrison of Vera Cruz was, that the city would be carried by storm, and they had made great preparations for a vigorous resistance, which would, no doubt, have caused great bloodshed and destruction. The streets were barricaded as they were at Monterey, and loopholes were arranged for the gunners, rows of pickets made, and sand-bags thrown across the barricades. On the flat tops of the houses, cannon and howitzers were so arranged as to rake the streets. Every house was a fortification. There was, too, an abundance of ammunition; and no doubt, had the city been stormed, thousands of persons would have been killed, and our army especially would have suffered disasters far more heart-rending than any which have yet occurred in this war. It was therefore a proof of the humanity, as well as of the wisdom of General Scott, that he preferred the slower but the less sanguinary mode of investment and

bombardment. To the mercenary soldiery who garrisoned Vera Cruz, and who were desirous of emulating the glory of their brethren at Monterey, by slaughtering our men from behind the safe defences of thick stone walls, and from the secure terraces of the houses, it was no doubt a disappointment that the streets of Vera Cruz were not made to run with the blood of innocent women and children, who would be slain in the inevitable confusion of the storming of so strong a place. This was the ambition of Morales; but, fortunately, the effectiveness of our shells brought the citizens to their senses, and they united, as well as the National Guard, in protesting against any further resistance. Morales saved himself from the chagrin of despotism by resigning, and General Landero, second in command, succeeded him—and he, with more wisdom and regard for the lives of the people, proffered the capitulation of the city. The damage and destruction caused by our shells, especially by those shot from the naval battery, were awful indeed. The houses in Vera Cruz are mostly built of coral rock, and yet the Paixhan shot would pass through as many of them as lay in their range: Those which struck the roofs would pass through two or three stories, and then burst, destroying every thing around, and in some instances actually throwing down the sides of the houses.

The castle was not at all injured: one man was killed by a shell. This immense fortification, covering eleven acres of ground, was well supplied with ammunition. There were more than a thousand 12-inch shells, larger than any used by our army, and two hundred of the finest guns in the world. Many of these were made at Harper's Ferry, in this country, and some of them quaint, old Spanish brass pieces, dated as far back as 1621. The strength of this famous castle has not been exaggerated. It was a just remark of an officer of the British fleet, in reply to an inquiry of Com. Perry, whether he thought it could be taken by a naval squadron, that "with a thousand British or American seamen or soldiers to man the castle, it could blow to atoms all the navies of the world, before they could make an impression on its walls." The city would have been utterly untenable without the castle. It could not have been occupied an hour under a fire from the castle. In taking possession of this fortification, many valuable Mexican documents, tending to throw some light upon the intentions of the Government, and others furnishing valuable historical information respecting the castle, and also relating the political history of the Republic, came into the possession of our officers. We look forward to their publication with no little curiosity and interest. All the valuable provisions in the castle were filched by the storekeepers and sutlers, who lived within its walls.

The Matamoras flag gives the following incident of the battle field at Buena Vista. The heroes of it are the veteran Mississippians, under Col. Jeff. Davis, and the heroic act is unequalled in the annals of warfare, and although no act could add to the reputation of this gallant regiment, it serves to show the stuff they are made of; Drs. Bennett, of Covington, Ky., and garrison, of Port Gibson, Mississippi, stood sponsors—"all of which they saw, and part of which they were."

The 1st Mississippi regiment, under command of Col. Jefferson Davis, coated itself over with immortal glory. Originally, it numbered 980 some odd, but suddenly transferred from the comforts and genial atmosphere at home, to the almost vertical sun of Brazos Island, last August, disease made frightful ravages among its men. What it lost in this way, in conjunction with the killed at Monterey, and those discharged in consequence of wounds, reduced it to considerably less than four hundred strong. With this diminished force, (weakened still more by the extraction of the Tombigby and Carroll county companies which guarded Gen. Taylor's tent,) this skeleton regiment sustained, and repelled, with immense slaughter, a charge of three times their own number of Santa Anna's best lancers. The lancers first bore down upon the Indiana regiment—we forget which one—and dispersed it. The Mississippians endeavored to rally them, but before they could do so, were in turn themselves charged. Colonel Davis contrary to all customs, instead of forming in a hollow square, stretched out his men in the form of a crotchet. The lancers came up at a rapid gallop; but so perfectly astonished was, not only the chief officer, but his men, at so strange a mode of receiving a charge of cavalry, that they involuntarily halted. For a few seconds they gazed upon the unruffled countenances of the riflemen opposed to them, but feeling there was no time to lose, the order "Advance!" [forward] was pompously given. The crotchet was filled in an instant; and just as they wheeled their horses, with lances set on both prongs, the intrepid Mississippi Colonel, standing inside the fork, called out, "Boys fire! and all at them with your knives!" Simultaneously with the sharp crack of the rifles, a deafening shout went up, and bowie-knives and revolvers flashed in the direction of the lances. Strange as it may seem, many of the lancers were actually dragged from their horses and stabbed to death. In this unusual manner this splendid body of horsemen were beaten back. Capt. Eustis, of the 1st dragoons, says the achievement is unparalleled. Whether it is owing to the native daring of the men, or the infusion into their bosoms of their Colonel's spirit, we leave every body to draw their own conclusions. It is due to the

Indiana regiment to say, that they were afterwards brought up to support the Mississippi regiment, and fought valiantly.

THE BANNER.



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.
Wednesday, April 21, 1847.

Cotton Market.
Charleston April 17th from 10 to 12
Hamburg, April 17th, from 10 to 11 1/4 cts.

On our first page will be found the full particulars of the capture of Vera Cruz; we have not given it as news, but publish it to preserve it upon our file as a record of the times. In our next we shall also publish the particulars of the battle of Buena Vista for the same purpose. These actions, have now become history, and in after years will be read with delight—they have marked an area in the history of our country, and will grow brighter with the lapse of ages.

We have received nothing from our Regiment since our last, and we learn by the latest intelligence from Vera Cruz, that no tidings had been received from the division that marched against Alvarado. It was thought that the garrison at that place would resist, and in such event the town was to have been attacked by land and water. We certainly shall know by the next mail what has been done.

To be Hung.

We understand that a negro boy belonging to Mr. WM. PRATT of this District, is now in Jail in this place, and is to be hung on the 14th of next month, for burning a stable of Mr. JOHN CLINKSCALES.

Shall we have Peace?

This question has been repeatedly asked since the brilliant battle of Buena Vista and the capture of Vera Cruz. And were we to judge from the present aspect of Mexico, we would conclude that she could not hold out much longer against our victorious arms. Strip of her arms and ammunition, the government bankrupt and her soldiery starving, it is worse than madness in her to continue the unequal contest. She might as well attempt to resist the progress of the sweeping whirlwind as to stay the advance of our troops, and unless our propositions of peace are listened to, in less than three months, the thunders of the American cannon will echo through the Palace of Montezuma, and her proud capital be added to the list of our captures. There are at present no indications of peace. We perceive by the latest news from Mexico, that SANTA ANNA had arrived at the capital and assumed the reins of government, and that he had united with GOMEZ FARIAS, declaring it his intention to carry on the war at the expense of the church. If such is the case, the war may be a protracted one yet: a short time however will develop this.

From Vera Cruz.

We learn from the N. O. Picayune, that on the 28th ult. some men belonging to the New York and Pennsylvania Regiments, and four sailors from the frigate Potomac left the camp and went some seven or eight miles into the country around Vera Cruz, when they were attacked by a body of Rancheros and the most of their number killed. The remains of five of them were found, they had been shot and horribly mutilated.

A stringent order was issued by General Scott on the 1st of April, denouncing certain outrages which had been committed by a few worthless soldiers in the army, and calling upon the mass of the troops, officers and privates, to assist in bringing to justice those who should disgrace our national name by any violation of law whatever. Soldiers are not allowed to stray from camp without a written permission, and officers are forbidden to give permissions save to the orderly and sober.

Gen. Taylor and the Presidency.
There seems to be an increasing disposition throughout the United States, to elevate General Taylor to the Presidency in 1848. Many papers in different States have already placed his name at their head and are advocating his claims with all their power. A correspondent of the Baltimore Sun writing from Washington says a letter received in this city from some gentleman in the army, says that