

### Interesting Letter.

The following from a letter in the National Intelligencer, gives an interesting account of the conclusion of Kearney's long and perilous march from Santa Fe.

We arrived at Warner's rancho, the first settlement on the 2nd December, and here our little command presented a pitiable condition. The men, most of whom had to walk the last five hundred miles, were nearly broken down with fatigue, and exhausted from insufficiency of food. Our animals had crossed the dreadful "Homodo," a desert of ninety miles, without water or grass, and the few who survived were scarcely able to support their pack. We received here further intelligence of the state affairs in California, all confirming what was told on the Colorado. We further learned that Andros Pedro, an active leader in the revolution, had one hundred and twenty well-mounted men in the neighborhood, stationed in the vicinity of the roads leading into San Diego; so that an encounter with this force seeming inevitable, it was determined by General Kearney to attack him.

Marching further on, we ascertained, on the night of the 5th of December, that this party was encamped ten miles beyond us, at the Indian village of San Pascual, which was on our road to San Diego. On the morning of the 6th, the enemy, having heard of our approach, were drawn up at this place, and as our party advanced and charged on them, they fired and retreated about half a mile; then rallying suddenly, they fought with their lances, surrounding the foremost of our men who were pursuing them, and did most deadly work. After a desperate and hand-to-hand fight, they were fairly driven from the field. Our loss in this action was very severe. Three officers, Captains Johnson and Moore and Lieut. Hammond, and sixteen men, were killed, and fourteen wounded, including General Kearney and seven officers. The loss on their side is not known with any certainty, though I have no doubt it was much less than our own. Our men fought at a great disadvantage, being poorly mounted on broken-down mules, while the enemy, having superb horses, and being the most skillful horsemen in the world, made deadly charges with the lance. It was with this weapon that all on our side were wounded, with one exception; Captain Johnson was shot through the head.

Gen. Kearney exposed himself very much in this action. He was wounded severely with a lance, and would no doubt have been killed but for the timely aid of Lieut. Emory of the topographical party, who rode up to the rescue, and had the satisfaction of shooting with his pistol the man who was about to make another deadly thrust at him.

The mournful duty of burying the dead and the attention required to the wounded caused such delay that our march was not resumed from the battle ground until the next day. As we were then much encumbered with the packs and the wounded men, who were carried along with much difficulty, our progress was very slow; and as the enemy was evidently watching our movements closely from the hills around us, where we would occasionally see a few of them, and were no doubt waiting for a good opportunity to take advantage of our crippled condition, we had to advance with extreme caution.

While moving slowly along, after having made but nine miles, the enemy suddenly appeared, charging to-ward us at a furious pace from the rear. We immediately drew up to receive them, when they as suddenly wheeled off and made for a rocky hill near by, with the intention of firing down into us. Gen. Kearney seeing this movement, determined to take the hill; and, although some forty or fifty of the enemy had got up among the rocks and commenced a fire upon us, they fled before a dozen of our foremost men. We took the field a second time, and, as it was getting late in the day, encamped on the spot. This was an exciting skirmish, in which none of our party were wounded, though the bullets flew thick and fast. The enemy had one or two wounded and lost several horses.

It was now evident that Pico intended to harass us, by making an attack in every pass that afforded them an advantage—they being enabled by their superior horses to occupy them before we could get up; and as our wounded men were suffering severely and required rest, and this position was a strong one, Gen. Kearney determined to hold it until he should receive a re-inforcement from Com. Stockton, to whom an express had been sent by a trusty Indian.—We remained here four days, and were so closely surrounded by their enemy, who had received an addition to their forces, and now numbered over two hundred men, that we could procure no provision, and had to subsist entirely on mule flesh. Seventy-five marines and one hundred seamen, under command of Captain Zelin, of the marine corps, came from the ships Congress and Portsmouth to our assistance; and with this efficient force we marched into Santa Diego without molestation. The distance was thirty miles, which we made in two days' easy march.

From the American Eagle, April 15th. Vera Cruz.

It is strange that the presence of the Americans in this place for ten or twelve days only, should have wrought such a change in the general aspect of affairs. The city, the day we entered its gates, was the most woe-begone looking place that could be imagined. There was nothing to eat, nothing to drink, and nothing but soldiers to talk to. Now, the streets are

lined with eatables and drinkables; and every step upon the side walk is made with in a few feet of an American. Streets that were then filled up with fragments of stone and mortar are now cleared of the rubbish, and nothing is left to tell of the destruction the city sustained, but the broken doors and windows, and a few of the houses in the vicinity of the gate of mercy. The natives themselves seem to have undergone a change also, and no doubt have, from being freed from the presence of their own army, who daily levied contributions from them; they have the protecting army of our own General, who suffers no wrong to be committed without awarding severe punishment to the offender. This is enough to change them, and our prayer is, that the difference between the two governments may become so apparent to them—the preponderance always being on our side—that emulated by our course, they may shortly establish for themselves a government upon our own liberal principles. Like those of Tamaulipas and Nueva Leon, they are better off whilst their territory is being occupied by our troops than they ever were before.—The harbor is crowded with American ships—the quay is filled with American goods, the streets with Americans—and although our possession of the place may inconvenience a few proprietors, who have lived off the poor, to the many it is a blessing, affording incalculable benefit to those of the upper two bills. With the advantages of American commerce and industry, a very few weeks will elapse before the city of Vera Cruz will be a place, and its inhabitants, who have suffered so much of late, will be in the enjoyment of all the comforts of life.

For the information of distant friends, we publish a list of the officers and companies of the 3rd regiment of U. S. Artillery at the siege of Vera Cruz, and now temporarily garrisoning the Castle of San Juan de Ullon, but whom we understand will leave here to-day:—Lieut. Col. Belton, commanding regiment; 1st Lieut. William Austine, Adjutant of the regiment; Captain Robert Anderson, company G; Captain George Taylor, commanding company A; Lieut. F. S. Thomas; Lieut. J. F. Farry, commanding company B; Lieut. G. P. Andrews.

The Palmetto Regiment, belonging to South Carolina, has removed its encampment nearly to the beach, where we presume they will be happy to see their friends while they are left in this neighborhood, which may not be long.

THE PALMETTO REGIMENT.—We make the following extract from some correspondence which appears in the Columbia Palmetto State Banner. Although of an old date, it will still interest our readers, who are anxious to be put in possession of every particular relating to the Carolina Regiment. Connected with the letters will be found a report of Col. Butler to General Quitman, detailing the incidents of the skirmish in which some of our volunteers were engaged.

ISLAND OF LOBOS, MEXICO, }  
March 1, 1847. }

My Dear ———. While setting upon the shore, waiting the last surf boat that is to convey me out to the transport, that is to take the Regiment to the point of landing, "Antonio Izardo," some 12 miles from Vera Cruz, I have opened my writing case, and following both inclination and duty, devote the time to you.

The order is to pull anchors to-morrow at 9 o'clock, and sail for the main land, and attack Vera Cruz. Depending upon winds, however, the order will be subject the will of others, not our own. There are many speculations, as to the time and place of fighting, or of the enemies meeting us.—As Doctors will differ, we must wait results. General Scott, and all the talent of his Staff are preparing for the issue.

General Worth arrived this morning. Gen. Scott has sense, experience and skill. A few days will tell. For one, I am for peace—and early—yet am will to *viva* a peace, if the occasion offers. The Regiment from our State has full credit for what I believe we deserve. We have greatly improved in drill and discipline. Some hard licks have, they think, been inflicted, but has worked well. There is one excellence we have, the men are controlled by their officers, not from fear, but from respect, love and pride, and we have, what is apparent, a fine set of young officers. I tell you Capt. Blanding is one of the best Captains I ever saw. It is delightful to look on those young fellows.

Our clothing not yet arrived—our men in good spirits, always on hand—sea-sick many of us and good for nothing—at sea. I prefer a country jail to the sea at all times. We have lost by death but few men, while other regiments have the doleful sound of the drum burying their dead, at all times. We have buried two on this Island, Winingham, of Capt. Walker's Company, and Drake, of Captain Sumter's Company; Ramsay, of Capt. Brooks' Company, at sea. Capt. Williams's Company joined two days ago—were warmly received by their countrymen and comrades.

OFF VERA CRUZ, (Mexico,) }  
March 9, 1847. }

All the Regiment present are in good health, and high expectations. We send in to the General this morning 826 for duty—some 10 or 12 sick, remains of mumps. One fine young fellow, Hall, of Captain Marshall's Company, died on the 2d of this

month, and one more, we fear, will die—Sergeant Murphy, of Capt. Sumter's Company. All others will be for duty in 3 or 4 days.

P. S.—Sergeant Murphy is some little better.

### REPORT.

BACK OF VERA CRUZ, March 14, 1847.

General.—The material facts connected with the skirmish on the sand hill on the 11th, so far as the Palmetto Regiment was a party, are:

Under your instructions to occupy the brow of the hill, near the enemy on the opposite hill, Company A, Captain Sumter, was detached from the right of the Regiment, was joined soon after by a company from the Georgia Regiment, (Capt. Davis), and both placed under the immediate command of Lieutenant Colonel Dickinson, of the South Carolina Volunteers.

Soon after, three other companies, viz: Company C, Captain Maffat; Company E, Captain Marshall; and Company I, Capt. Seerest, moved still to the right, more around the hill, under the command of Major A. H. Gladden.

A brisk and united fire was kept up by 18-pounders from the city, shell from the castle, and musketry from the infantry and cavalry on the hill; by the latter but little effect or damage, from the distance from which they fired.

During the skirmish, Lieut. Col. Dickinson, with his known ardor and gallantry, while conducting his command, received a musket ball in his right breast, which, I am pleased to learn from the medical officer, is not serious. Privates Coker and Ballard, of Captain Sumter's company, received wounds: the first in the thigh, the latter in the arm, though shattering some of the bones, yet not regarded dangerous. Private Phillips, of Capt. Kennedy's company, received a wound in the arm. One other, Private Hickey, of Captain DeSaussure's company, was tumbled over by a cannon ball, mashing his canteen, without doing other injury.

All were equally expose to the fire from the city and Castle, but Lieut. Col. Dickinson's command more so, from his being farther to the right. All behaved with a coolness not to be expected among volunteers.

Your orders were executed by all with propriety and good order.

Respectfully submitted,  
P. M. BUTLER,  
Comd'g S. C. V.

Gen. J. A. QUITMAN, Comd'g. Brigade.

Dear ———, The within is the substance of the report—it was intended to be modest—all did behave very well—the affair tested our boys—the cannon and bombs were most alarming, and fell very thick and close to our companies—in two instances, in two and four feet of Captains Marshall, Moffatt, and Walker's companies. The muskets were still more numerous and close to us all—but principally spent balls; one struck the Colonel's neck, which, he says, was like a sharp cut from a whip.

One very pretty incident:—Capt. Sumter's company had been on guard all night, and without a drop of water—the others had their canteens filled—Capt. DeSaussure's company was order to go and relieve Capt. Sumter's, and they to retire and get water. This youthful Captain formed and moved off his company amidst fires from three points, in beautiful order, and with great coolness and propriety. Truly.

The London Times, in the course of an article on the Irish famine and its consequences, thus sets forth the worst of its results:—

"The gloom of the winter has passed away, a winter that will never be forgotten by this generation! The season has come when not only the herb of the field should shoot forth and the tree should blossom, but the hopes of men also bring forth their fruits. But in Ireland, alas! the voice of nature strikes upon listless ears and sluggish hearts. In vain has spring returned to men of idle hands and nerveless purpose. In vain has the iron tongue of experience spoken its warning to men who hug their indolent misery as a treasure, far more precious than the wages of unaided industry. They have tasted of public money, and they find it pleasanter to live on alms than on labor. The alternative raises no feelings of shame or self abasement. Deep, indeed, has the canker eaten. Not into the core of a precarious and suspected root—but into the very hearts of the people, corrupting them with a fatal lethargy, and debasing them by fatuous dependence! Not the subsistence of the year alone—but the hope of many years is at stake—the honor, the industry, and the independence of a million of men!"

The Times of the 27th, comments upon the projected attack on Vera Cruz and the general aspect of the Mexican war. It thinks the Castle will be taken: praises Santa Anna for his judicious choice of a position at San Luis: does not think Taylor will be beaten:—ridicules Benton's military aspiration, and thus expresses the opinion that the capture of Vera Cruz will not expedite a peace:—

"Mexico has no more nucleus than a comet. Some little superior density may, perhaps, be visible about San Juan d'Ullon, but a colliding body may pass through the point without communicating any perceptible disturbance to the nebulous mass."

The emperor of Russia has issued an unkind declaration that Jews in the army shall be allowed to rise to the rank of Lieutenant.

## THE BANNER.



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.

Wednesday, May 5, 1847.

### Cotton Market.

Charleston April 29th from 10 3-4 to 12  
7-8 Hamburg, April 29th, from 10 to 11 1-2 cts.

☞ The Rev. D. M. TURNER, will preach in the Methodist Church in this place on Thursday (Thanksgiving Day) at 12 o'clock.

☞ Father MATHEW, the great Temperance Apostle, is to visit the United States during the coming summer.

☞ The Massachusetts House of Representatives, have rejected a Resolution of thanks to General TAYLOR and his officers, by a vote of 114 to 65.

### Cotton Caterpillar.

The Columbus (Geo.) Enquirer of Tuesday last says that the Caterpillars have made their appearance in various sections of Alabama, as well as Georgia, devouring young stalks wherever they appear.

### May Day.

The first of May was celebrated at this place by the young Ladies of the Female Academy in a very elegant style. Miss ROSA WARDLAW, was crowned Queen upon the occasion, and performed her part with much grace and dignity; in fact all who took parts in the coronation acquitted themselves handsomely. It was a most lovely sight to look upon these little creatures, dressed in white, with wreaths of flowers about their heads, and joy and gladness beaming in their faces, as they emerged in groups from the grove and march to the stand erected for the occasion, looking like silvan nymphs. Rarely have we an opportunity of seeing such a galaxy of loveliness and beauty—"earth treading stars"—and all so young, so full of life and vivacity—may life ever be to them one constant May day, and the sweet flowers of loveliness and virtue bloom perpetually around them.

We regret that we have not time to notice the proceedings of this joyous occasion more at length, and hoped that some of our young friends who were spectators would have prepared the proceedings for us.

### From the Army.

We have given on the first page of this week's paper, all the news of importance received from Mexico. It was thought that a battle had been fought on the 15th ult., at a place called Cerro Gordo, a very strong pass about forty-four miles from Vera Cruz. SANTA ANNA was reported to have taken a stand there with some 15,000 troops resolved to resist the progress of the American army into the interior. Another rumor was current at Vera Cruz, that SANTA ANNA and his Cabinet were at Jalapa, with a considerable army, prepared to decide the question of war or peace by a battle or negotiation. These rumors want confirmation, and we presume may be set down as rumors alone. General TAYLOR, was at the latest dates at Monterey: his men wounded at the battle of Buena Vista, were doing well. Some fears were entertained by many, that he would be left in rather a perilous situation when the volunteers whose time of service has nearly expired, were disbanded; but we perceive the troops under the Ten Regiment Bill are being raised rapidly, and over four thousand are now on their way to join his ranks.

### The Palmetto Regiment.

We regret to learn by letters received in this place, that a very large number of our Regiment were on the sick list, at the latest dates, with measles and diarrhoea, and that the mortality had been considerable. The Regiment with Gen. QUITMAN'S Brigade, was to have taken up the line of march for Jalapa, on the 16th ult. From the same source, we learn also, that Lieut. Roberts, Col. Tilman, Dr. Agnew, W. E. Watson, W. Middleton and J. J. Martin, have been discharged, and are on their way home, the latter was appointed a Lieutenant in one of the new regiments to be raised, and is returning to recruit; the former discharged in consequence of bad health. Isaiah Starkey of our company is dead, Richard Watson and a man by the name of Riley, who went from this place, were lost in a vessel which was blown off on the night of the 26th ult.

these are the only losses we have heard of as yet in the company.

### The Chances of Peace.

We saw a private letter say the N. O. Picayune, from a very intelligent officer at Vera Cruz, dated the 10th ult. in which he says that several of the States of the Mexican confederacy have denounced the war with the United States, and threatened to secede unless peace should be made. Many Mexicans predicted a peace within sixty days, but our correspondent puts little faith in auguries so favorable. He thinks the great difficulty in the way of a peace is the fact that SANTA ANNA is so nearly crushed that he dare not make a treaty. Nor does there appear to be any one else in Mexico strong enough to incur the great responsibility. None of the old politicians will venture upon the step. Our correspondent adds: "Some man now unknown to fame, with nothing to lose and every thing to gain, may arise and advocate a peace policy successfully. His want of ambition or the little chance of his obtaining power may prevent him from becoming obnoxious to the jealousies of parties, and gain for him adherents generally. He may succeed in making a peace which every body will be glad of; but how long before it will be used as an element of political war-fare?"

The Legislature of the State of Vera Cruz, sitting at Jalapa, was said to be deliberating at last accounts upon the propriety of making peace, independent of the General Government.

The State of Zacatecas has declared itself independent—so writes us an intelligent correspondent!

At a meeting of the Fellowship Ladies' Home Mission Society, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Rev. R. A. CHILD, be requested to deliver the anniversary address before the society on Saturday before the 3d Lord's day in May at 11 o'clock A. M., and that Rev. Messrs. J. M. CHILES, and W. P. HILL, be requested to address the audience on that occasion.

By request of the Society.  
☞ Edgefield Advertiser, will please copy.

ACHILLE MURAT.—The Tallahassee papers announce the death of Prince Charles Louis Napoleon Achille Murat, son of Joachim and Caroline Bonaparte Murat, King and Queen of Naples, and aged 46 years, two months and 25 days. His father was the celebrated Marshal of Napoleon, and his mother a sister of the late Emperor.

The Prince died on the 15th inst. at his residence in Jefferson County Florida.

Of him the Florian remarks:—"After the expulsion of his family from Italy, they resided in Austria, where Prince Murat lived until the year 1821, when he came to the United States. He has ever since, with the exception of an occasional visit to Europe, resided in this country. His life here has been quiet and uneventful.

"The deceased was a man of great eccentricity of character, was gifted with a high order of mind, which was enriched by solid literary acquirements and was withal a most interesting and agreeable companion. He was the author of some works on the subject of our institutions, which, we understand, it is said possesses considerable merit. Hereafter we hope to lay before the public an extended notice of his life and character, which, we understand, will be prepared by some friend familiar with both.

"He was buried in this city to-day. A numerous procession of friends and citizens attended his remains from the house of Col. Robert Gamble to his grave. Minute guns were fired during the morning, and he was buried in compliance with his own request, with the imposing ceremony of the Masonic Order. There was every demonstration of high respect for his memory, and his friends will be gratified to learn that there was manifested a due appreciation of his worth and interesting career. Thus has gone one born to the highest rank in European life, and fitted in mind and attainments for very distinguished honors."

Sav. Georgian.

AN INCIDENT AT BUENA VISTA.—During the most gloomy hour of the fight, Sergeant Joseph Langford, 1st Mississippi Reg't. was shot through the thigh. Unable to stand, he sat upright, and shot dead, with his pistol, a lancer as he approached him. While engaged in reloading, another lancer trotted past him and raised his lance to drive it into a wounded lieutenant, a few feet from him. Before the weapon was hurled, however, Langford threw his pistol and struck the lancer a stunning blow on the nape of the neck. This action saved the lieutenant, but proved fatal to the magnanimous Langford; for, staggering the Mexican turned and drove his lance into the forehead of the wounded man, coming out back of his ear. Just at this moment, four men, who were approaching with a horse to carry off their comrade, shot the Mexican at the moment he had disengaged his lance and he tumbled across the body of the prostrate Mississippian.

Mamoras Flag