

The Abbeville Banner.

"LIBERTY AND MY NATIVE SOIL."

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From the New Orleans Delta, 6th inst. Highly Important from Mexico.

Continued triumphant progress of American Arms—Jalapa taken without a struggle,—Perote delivered up to General Worth, with all its armament, without a shot from the enemy,—Reported removal of Santa Anna from the command of the Mexican Army,—Particulars of the taking of Tuxpan—Probable junction contemplated between Scott and Taylor.

The U. S. transport steamship New Orleans, Captain Wright, from Vera Cruz, arrived last evening. She left on the evening of the 29th ult., and brought us our correspondence and the latest papers to the day of her sailing. We proceed to lay their interesting content before our readers.

We would, in the meantime, state that we have conversed with an intelligent passenger, who came over in the N. Orleans. He says that he understood Gen Taylor had succeeded in communicating with Gen. Scott, and that the object of his despatch was a formation of a mutual understanding between them, with a view of joining their forces preparatory to a descent upon the city of Mexico.

Santa Anna boasts that there is still another Thermopylae on the road between Puebla and Mexico.

Scott pushes on without stop or falter; the destructive storm of Cerro Gordo delays not a day or an hour his onward march; with a boldness, an energy, and masterly activity beyond all parallel, he has passed through the considerable town of Jalapa, traversed the dangerous and difficult road thirty miles beyond, and appears with the old vanguard army, under the gallant Worth, before the far-famed castle of Perote. This Bastille, so renowned in Mexican history as the gloomy asylum of disgraced and unfortunate Revolutionists, of the unhappy victims of anarchy and of rabble rage, but still more familiar to all Americans as the dungeon of those brave men whose cruel wrongs gave the first impulse to the spirit whence this war sprung—this strong prison-castle, with its battery of enormous guns and powerful defences, surrenders to our arms without a blow. If one stone still stands upon another of this gloomy monument of Mexican servility and imbecility, the flag of the "stars and stripes" waves over it, and American cannon and American bayonets bristles around its now invincible walls. Not here does Scott's army rest its wearied limbs. A three days' march will precipitate our victorious columns into the warlike town of the ancient Tascalans. Puebla—whence marched the valiant warriors with whose bodies, slain in hand-to-hand combat, Cortez made his famous "Bridge of Corpses"—with its 60,000 inhabitants, will yield to our little army. And then—but let us look no farther—let us await until the event will justify it, before we raise the cry of exultation, and rejoice over the last great achievement left to American valor—the capture of the city of the Montezumas!

JALAPA, Mexico, April 21, 1847.

Eds. Delta—I arrived at this lovely place this morning, and found that General Worth had hoisted the American flag in the day before. He followed the heroes of Cerro Gordo to within six miles of Jalapa, when all traces of the body disappeared, and he entered the town for the night within three miles of the castle. He entered and took possession of it early next morning.

Santa Anna did not pass through Jalapa, but, in company with Ampudia and Torrejon, turned off to the left at his hacienda, and halted for the night at the "nine mile pass," which was being fortified, but which, on consideration, it was deemed prudent to evacuate. This evacuation took place yesterday morning, and in the evening Harney's dragoons took possession of the Pass—Gen. Worth following on foot. A number of small arms were taken at the Pass, but they are of little value.

Worth, it is said, will move on to the place which many think he will

have a fight, as it is reported here that additional defences are being made.

All along the road between Perote and Puebla, the Mexicans here say we will be opposed, and contrary to general belief, it is said the Commander-in-Chief will shortly move in that direction.

The list of killed and wounded, on our side, is much larger than was first reported—it is over 350.

Col. Childs is the military Governor of Jalapa.

I send you a Mexican paper. There are two days later dates here, but this contains all the important information. CHAPARRAL.

JALAPA, April 22, 1847.

Eds. Delta.—General Worth approached last evening within four or five leagues of Perote, and entered the city to-day. We had accounts last night that it had been evacuated by the soldiery, who spiked all the guns before leaving.

I am extremely glad to hear of my power to state to you that General Shields has improved much since my last, and Lieutenant Hammond, who came from him this evening, thinks there is a probability of his recovery.

Most of the wagons here will leave for Vera Cruz in the morning, and if it is the intention to remove early, will retard it for ten or twelve days.

The number of killed and wounded, on our side, will not fall far short of 400. I have collected about two-thirds of the names, and will send you a copy when it is complete. The alteration in some of the reports plays the devil with what I have, but in two days all will be right.

CHAPARRAL.

JALAPA, April 23, 10 A. M.

Eds. Delta.—An express has just got in from Perote. General Worth reached that town yesterday, at 11 o'clock A. M. He found it completely evacuated by the soldiers of the enemy, and a Colonel Vasquez left behind to surrender it with decency. An immense number of small arms, the big guns of the castle and city, and ammunition, were taken possession of. It was unfortified, the report that the guns had been spiked in the castle; they were found in excellent order.

General Ampudia, with about 3000 cavalry, in a wretched condition, was near the town when our troops entered, when he put off.

Santa Anna had not been in Perote, since the fight at Cerro Gordo, and he is supposed to be somewhere in the mountains.

In haste, CHAPARRAL.

From the able and intelligent correspondent of the Vera Cruz Eagle, we copy the following:—

JALAPA, April 20, 1847.

Yesterday, at noon, I left the encampment near Cerro Gordo simultaneously with the thousands of Mexican prisoners who had been released on parole, and who were wending their way to their different homes, or to some place from whence they may again be forced to take up arms against us. I believe their line, extended as it was along the road, was full five miles in length. The Guardia Nacional was the only corps that maintained any order in their march—the residue trudging along as best they could and in most admirable disorder. We rode the road on which they marched with much difficulty, turning our horses' heads twenty different ways in the space of half an hour, to avoid riding them down. They were less sad than men under similar circumstances would generally be, and cracked many a joke at their own expense. This was in the early part of the march. But towards sunset, when they had measured 18 or 20 miles of their journey—most of them in their bare feet—they became quite silent and sad, and the effects of the fatigue of the day, combined with previous privations, told sensibly upon them. I felt much interested in the numerous camp women—those devoted women who follow them through good and evil—and it grieved me to see them, worn down with fatigue, moving at a snail's pace, their heavy burthens almost weighing them to the earth. The women of sixty or more years—the mother with her infant wrapped in her robes—the wife, far advanced in that state that "woman wish to be who love their lords"—the youthful Senorita frisking along with her lover's sombrero on her head; even to the prattling girl who had followed padre and madre to the wars—could all be seen at one view moving along—and baring the hardships of the tramp, unconscious of the existence of misery in this world.

These women, like the Indians, are the slaves of the men; a slavery they submit to under the all-powerful influence of affection. In addition to their bedding and wearing apparel, they pack upon their backs the food and the utensils to cook it in, and worn out as they are by the toils of the day, whilst their husbands or lovers sleep, they prepare their repast.

When the Mexicans first surrendered, it

was about their dinner hour. In one of their forts the camp kettles were taken from the fire, and the rations were being proportioned out, when the order of surrender came from the second in command—so they had to march out without their dinners. That evening, although large quantities of food had been served out to them by our commissaries, they were picking up old bones, stale pieces of bread, and every thing that could be eaten. Yesterday, on the march, they would run up to a beef, killed the day before by our advance, and cut off every piece that could be obtained, as eagerly as though they were half famished.

From the foot of Cerro Gordo to Santa Anna's hacienda, the road side was lined with dead Mexicans and horses. At and near the rancho where General Twiggs overtook the retreating enemy, they lay thick around, and a more horrid scene it would be difficult to picture. Mexicans lay dead in every direction; some resting up against trees, others with legs and arms extended, and occasionally a lancer laying with his arm upon the charger that received his death-wound from the same volley that ended the career of his rider. Some of the prisoners passing through would occasionally halt to view the features of the deceased, and then, mending their gate, regain their place by the side of those who were more fortunate in the fight.

At the place above cited was to be seen all the property, other than munitions of war, taken from the enemy. In one place, arranged in good order, were all the pack-saddles—then the pen containing mules—the provisions next, comprising rice, beans, bread, pepper, piloncillos, garlic, &c., piles of shoes, knapsacks, and all the paraphernalia of a Mexican camp. Captain Robt. Allen, A. Q. M., stopped for a moment, and gave orders as to the removal of these things.

The muskets taken from the enemy were broken on stones as I passed the spot where they were. They were of no earthly use to us, and hence the summary mode of disposing of them.

Correspondence of the New O. Picayune.

JALAPA, April 25, 1847—Afternoon.

I have borrowed three copies of the El Republicano for an hour. They are dated at the city of Mexico, April 21 and 22, and the latter gives a full account of the battle of Cerro Gordo.

The Mexican particulars of the combat, as usual, are peculiarly rich. They say that Santa Anna sustained the combat with 6000 men against 14,000, and fought valiantly to the very last. When, finally, he found himself entirely surrounded by enemies, he forced a passage through "loss Yankees" with a column of the 4th Regiment of the line! The fact, as every one knows, is that Santa Anna left early—all the cutting he did was to cut the saddle mule from his coach, and then cut and run.

The Mexicans admit that they had two generals killed, but give no name save that of Vasquez. Cols. Coslo and Calatayud are also named as among the killed. Gen. Scott's loss, on the 17th and 18th, is put down at over 400, while the loss of the Mexicans is admitted to be 2,000 men killed and wounded. They say that the Americans fought like hordes of savages, killed all that presented themselves, whether warriors, old men, or women.

General Canazizo is openly accused of bad conduct at Cerro Gordo. They say that when he should have made a charge, which would have been decisive, he withdrew with his cavalry—in plain terms that he run. Yours, &c. G. W. K.

JALAPA, April 26, 1847.

We have intelligence, this morning, to the effect that Gen. Worth has advanced one of the brigades, with a battery and a troop of dragoons, to a place called Tepe Agualca, twelve leagues beyond Perote, to enlarge his circuit of supplies. You may hear that a party of dragoons has been cut off by the enemy at the other side of Perote, but there is no truth in the rumor.

We already hear of depredations committed by the Mexicans on the roads. Even Santa Anna's son-in-law, who has the appearance of an American, was set upon, robbed, and maltreated most shamefully by his own countrymen the other night. The stage driver, who brings this news, says that all the young man's protestations that he was a true Mexican were of no effect—he had light hair, blue eyes, and must needs be a Yankee. We also have a report that a number of recruits for the army, coming up under charge of Capt. Winder, have been killed by the rancheros or guerrillas between this place and Cerro Gordo. If the alcaldes and principal men were held fully accountable and responsible for the acts of the people in the vicinity of the roads, we should soon hear an end of these outrages. Yours, &c. G. W. K.

Action of the Mexican Congress.

Immediately on the receipt of the news of Santa Anna's defeat at Cerro Gordo, the Mexican Congress held an extraordinary

session. The following account of its proceedings is translated from El Republicano of the 21st April. It comes in the shape of a preamble and eight articles, and we give it entire:

The sovereign constituent Mexican Congress, in use of the full powers with which the inhabitants of the Republic have invested it for the sacred object of saving its nationality; and as a faithful interpreter of the firm determination with which its constituents are decided to carry on the war which the United States are now making on the nation, without desisting on account of any kind of reverses; and considering that under these circumstances the first public necessity is that of preserving a centre of union to direct the national defence with all the energy that circumstances demand, and to avoid even the danger of a revolutionary power arising which might dissolve the National Union, destroy its institutions, or consent to the dismemberment of its territory, has determined to decree as follows:

Art. 1.—The Supreme Government of the Union is authorized to dictate all necessary measures for the purpose of carrying on the war, defending the nationality of the Republic, and saving the federal republican form of government under which the nation is constituted.

Art. 2.—The preceding article does not authorize the Executive to make a peace with the United States, conclude a negotiation with foreign powers, nor dispose, in whole or in part, of the territory of the Republic.

Art. 3.—Neither does it authorize him to make contracts of colonization, impose punishments, nor confer any civil or military employments others than those whose appointments are expressly entrusted to him by the constitution.

Art. 4.—Every agreement or treaty shall be null and void which may be made between the Government of the United States and any authority whatever, which, subverting the actual order of affairs should set aside or take the place of the legally established supreme powers of the Union.

Art. 5.—Every individual is declared a traitor, let him be a private person or public functionary, who, either in his private capacity or invested with any authority, incompetent or of revolutionary origin, may enter into treaties with the United States of American.

Art. 6.—In the event that the actual Congress find it impossible to continue its sessions, a permanent committee shall be immediately installed, to be composed of the oldest individuals then found present of each department.

Art. 7. This committee, in the absence of Congress, shall perform the duties of a Government Council; shall appoint, in case of vacancy, the person who is to take charge temporarily of the Republic; shall regulate the counting and taking of the votes in the election of a new President; shall give possession to the elected person, and shall call together the national representation.

Art. 8. The powers which the present decree confer on the Government shall cease as soon as the war is concluded.

Such is about the amount of the proceedings of the meeting of the Mexican Congress, held immediately after the news had reached the capital of the disastrous defeat of Cerro Gordo. The editor of El Republicano, in speaking of this extraordinary session, in his paper of the 21st April, says that "to the honor of the legislative body it ought to be observed, that yesterday more than eighty members assembled, and that no other than sentiments of patriotism were heard expressed. May the common danger thus unite all the Mexicans, and cause to disappear even the names of our sad dissensions."

Chapter of Young Men.

Alexander, of Macedon, extended his power over Greece, conquered Egypt, rebuilt Alexandria, overran all Asia, and died at 38 years of age.

Hannibal was but 26, when after the fall of his father Hamilcar, and Asdrubal, his successor, he was chosen commander-in-chief of the Carthaginian Army. At 27, he captured Saguntum from the Romans. Before he was 34, he carried his arms from Africa into Italy, conquered Publius Scipio on the banks of the Ticinus, routed Sempronius near the Trebia, defeated Flaminius on his approach to the Apennines, laid waste the whole country, defeated Fabius Maximus and Varro, marched into Capua; and at the age of 33 was thundering at the gates of Rome.

Scipio Africanus, was scarcely 16 when he took an active part in the battle of Cannae, had saved the life of his father. The wreck of the Roman cavalry chose him their leader, and he conducted them back to the capitol. Soon after he was 20, he was appointed proconsul of Spain, where he took New Carthage by storm. Soon after he defeated successively, Asdrubal, (Hannibal's brother,) Mago, and Hann,

crossed over into Africa, negotiating with Syphax, the Massasylian king, returned to Spain, quelled the insurrection there, drove the Carthaginians wholly from the peninsula, returned to Rome, devised the diversion against the Carthaginians by carrying the war into Africa, crossed thither, destroyed the army of Syphax, compelled the return of Hannibal, and defeated Asdrubal a second time.

Charlemagne was crowned king of the Franks before he was 26. At the age of 28, he had conquered Aquitana, at the age of 29 he had made himself master of the whole German and French Empires.

Charles XII. of Sweden, was declared of age by the States, and succeeded his father at the age of 15. At 18 he headed the expedition against the Danes, whom he checked; and with a fourth of their numbers, he cut to pieces the Russian army, commanded by the Czar Peter, at Narva—crossed the Dwina, gained a victory over the Saxons and carried his arms into Poland. At 21, he had conquered Poland, and dictated to them a new sovereign. At 24, he had subdued Saxony, and at 27 he was conducting his victorious troops into the heart of Russia, when a severe wound prevented his taking command in person, and resulted in his overthrow and subsequent treacherous captivity in Turkey.

Lafayette was Major General in the American army at the age of 18; was but 20 when he was wounded at Brandywine; but 22 when he raised supplies for his army, on his own credit, at Baltimore; and but 23 when raised to the office of commander-in-chief of the National Guards of France.

Napoleon Bonaparte commenced his military career as an officer of artillery at the age of 17. At 24 he successfully commanded the Artillery at a siege of Toulon. His splendid campaign in Italy was performed at the age of 27. During the next year, when he was about 28, he gained battle after battle over the Austrians in Italy, conquered Mantua, carried the war into Austria, ravaged the Tyrol, concluded an advantageous peace, took possession of Milan and the Venetian republic, revolutionized Genoa, and formed the Cisalpine Republic. At the age of 29 he received the command of the army against Egypt; scattered the clouds of Mameluke cavalry, mastered Alexandria, Aboukir, and Cairo, and wrested the land of the Pharaohs and Ptolemies from the proud descendants of the prophets. At the age of 30 he fell among the Parisians, like a thunderbolt; overthrew the directoral government; dispersed the council of five hundred and was proclaimed first consul. At the age of 31, he crossed the Alps with an army and destroyed the Austrians by a blow at Marengo. At the age of 32 he established the Code of Napoleon; in the same year he was elected consul for life by the people, and at the age of 33 he was declared emperor of the French nation.

William Pitt, the first earl of Chatham, was but 27 years of age when, as a Member of Parliament, he waged the war of a giant against the corruption of Sir Robert Walpole.

The younger Pitt was scarcely 20 years of age when, with masterly power, he grappled with the veterans of Parliament, in favor of America. At 22 he was called to the high and responsible trust of chancellor of the exchequer. It was at that age when he came forth in his might on the affairs of the East Indies. At 29, during the first insanity of George III., he rallied around the Prince of Wales.

Edmund Burke, at the age of 19, planned a refutation of the metaphysical theories of Burkeley and Hume. At 20 he was in the temple, the admiration of its inmates for the brilliancy of his genius and the variety of his acquisitions. At 26 he published his celebrated satire, entitled "A vindication of Natural Society." The same year he published his Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful—so much admired for its spirit of philosophical investigation and the elegance of its language. At 25 he was first lord of the treasury.

George Washington was only 27 years of age when he covered the retreat of the British troops at Braddock's defeat, and the same year was appointed commander-in-chief of all the Virginia forces.

General Joseph Warren was only 29 years of age, when in defiance of the British soldiers stationed at the door of the Church, he pronounced the celebrated oration which aroused the spirit of liberty and patriotism that terminated in the achievement of independence. At 34 he gloriously fell, gallantly fighting in the cause of freedom on Bunker Hill.

Alexander Hamilton was a lieutenant colonel in the army of the American Revolution and aid de-camp to Washington at the age of 20. At the age of 25, he was a member of Congress from New York. At 30, he was one of the ablest members of the Convention that formed the Constitution of the United States. At 31 he was a member of the New York Convention, and joint author of the great work entitled the "Federalist." At 32 he was Secretary