

From the *N. O. Picayune*, May 20.
Gen. Scott's Proclamation.
HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Jalapa, May 11, 1847.
The *General-in-Chief* of the Armies of the
United States of America to the Mexican
Nation:

MEXICANS:—The recent events of the war, and the measures adopted in consequence by your government, make it my duty to address you—to show you truths of which you are ignorant, because they have been criminally concealed from you. I do not ask you to trust my words, (though he who has never falsified them has a right to confidence,) but to judge of these truths by facts within the view and knowledge of you all.

Whatever may have been the origin of this war, which my country saw itself forced to undertake by irremediable circumstances, which I learn are unknown to the greater part of the Mexican nation, we regard it as a necessity; such is it always to both belligerents, and reason and justice, if not forgotten on both sides, are in dispute, each believing them its own. You have proof of this truth as well as ourselves, for in Mexico, as in the United States, there have existed and do exist two opposite parties, desiring—the one peace, the other war. But Governments have sacred duties, from which they cannot depart; and often these duties impose, for national reasons, a silence and a reserve sometimes displeasing to the majority of those who, from views purely personal or individual, make opposition. To this a Government cannot pay any regard, expecting the nation to place in it the confidence merited by a magistracy of their own election.

Reasons of high policy and of continental American interest precipitated events in spite of the circumspection of the Cabinet of Washington, which, ardently desiring to terminate its differences with Mexico, spared no resource, compatible with honor, and dignity, to arrive at so desirable an end, and when it was indulging the most flattering hopes of accomplishing its aim by frank explanation and reasonings, addressed to the judgment and prudence of the virtuous and patriotic Government of D. J. Herrera, the misfortune least looked for dispelled this pleasant hope, and at the same time blocked up every avenue which could lead to an honorable settlement between the two nations. The new Government discarded the national interests, as well as those of continental America, and elected in preference foreign influencers the most opposed to those interests and the most fatal to the future of Mexican liberty and of the republican system, which the United States hold it a duty to preserve and protect. Duty, honor, and dignity itself impose upon us the necessity of not losing a season of which the monarchical party was taking violent advantage, for not a moment was to be lost, and we acted with the promptness and decision necessary in a case so urgent, to avoid thereby a complication of interests, which might render our relations more difficult and involved.

Again, in the course of civil war the Government of Paredes was overthrown. We could not but hope this would prove a fortunate event, and that whatever other Administration might represent the Government, it would be less deluded, as well as more patriotic and prudent, if it looked to the common good, weighing probabilities, its own strength and resources, and especially the general opinion as to the inevitable results of a national war. We were deceived, as perhaps you, Mexican, were also deceived in judging of the true intentions of Gen. Santa Anna, whom you recalled, and whom our Government permitted to return.

From this condition of things the Mexican nation has seen what have been the results—results lamented by all, and by us sincerely; for we appreciate as is due the valor and noble determination of the unfortunates who go to battle ill-led, worse governed and almost invariably outraged by deceit or perfidy.

We have witnessed—and we cannot be taxed with partiality for lamenting—with astonishment that the heroic deportment of the garrison of Vera Cruz, in its valiant defence, was aspersed by the general who had just been defeated and put to shameful flight by a force far inferior to that which he commanded at Buena Vista; that this general, rewarding the insurgents and promoters of civil war in Mexico, heaped outrage on those who had singularly distinguished themselves by a resistance beyond what could be expected, and of admirable decision.

Finally, the bloody event of Cerro Gordo has shown the Mexican nation what it may reasonably expect if it longer continues blind to the true situation in which it has been placed by some generals, whom it has most distinguished and in whom it has most confided.

The hardest heart would be moved to grief in contemplating the battle-fields of Mexico a moment after the last struggle. Those generals whom the nation has, without service rendered, paid for so many years, with some honorable exceptions, have in the day of need betrayed it by their bad example or unskillfulness. On that field, amongst the dead and dying, are seen no proof of military honor, for they are reduced to the sad fate of the soldier—the same on every occasion, from Palo Alto to Cerro Gordo—the dead to remain unburied and the wounded abandoned to the clemency and charity of the conqueror. Soldiers go to fight expecting such a recompense, deserve to be classed amongst the best in the world, since they are stimulated by no hope of ephemeral glory, of regret, of remembrance, or even of a grave.

Again, Mexicans of honorable pride, contemplate the lot of peaceful and laborious citizens in all classes of your society. The possessions of the church menaced and held out as an incitement to revolution and anarchy; the fortune of the rich proprietors pointed out for plunder to the ill-disposed; the merchant and the artisan, the laborer and the manufacturer, burdened with contributions, excises, monopolies, taxes upon consumption, surrounded with restrictions and charged with odious internal customs; the man of letters and the statesman, the man of liberal knowledge who dares to speak, persecuted without trial by some faction or by the rulers who abuse their power; criminals unpunished and set at liberty as were those of Perote—is this then, Mexicans, the liberty which you enjoy?

I will not believe that the Mexicans of the present day are wanting in courage to confess errors which do not dishonor them, and to adopt a system of true liberty, of peace and union with their brethren and neighbors of the North; neither will I believe that they are ignorant of the falsity of the calumnies of the press, intended to excite to hostility. No! public sentiment is not to be created or animated by falsehood. We have not profaned your temples, nor abused your women, nor seized your property, as they would have you believe. We say this with pride, and we confirm it by your own bishops and by the clergy of Tampico, Tuxpan, Matamoros, Monterey, Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and by all the authorities, civil and religious, and the inhabitants of every town that we have occupied. We adore the same God, and a large portion of our army, as well as of the population of the United States, are Catholics like yourselves. We punish crime wherever we find it, and reward merit and virtue.

The army of the United States respects, and will always respect, private property of every description and the property of the Mexican church. Wee to him who does not where we are!

MEXICANS! the past cannot now be remedied, but the future may be provided for.—Repeatedly have I shown you that the Government and people of the United States desire peace, desire your sincere friendship. Abandon then, rancorous prejudices, cease to be the sport of individual ambition, and conduct yourselves like a great American nation; leave off at once colonial habits, and learn to be truly free, truly republican, and soon you will become prosperous and happy, for you possess all the elements to be so. Remember that you are Americans, and that your happiness is not to come from Europe.

I desire, in conclusion to declare, and with equal frankness, that, if necessary, an army of 100,000 could promptly be brought, and that the United States would not terminate their differences with Mexico (if compelled to do so by force of arms) in any manner uncertain, precarious, or less dishonoring to yourselves. I should insult the intelligent of this country if I had any doubt of their acquaintance with this truth.

The order to form guerrilla parties to attack us, I assure you, can produce nothing but evil to your country, and no evil to our army which will know how to protect itself and how to proceed against them; and if, so far from conciliating, you succeed in irritating, you will impose upon us the hard task of retaliation, and then you cannot blame us for the consequences which will fall upon yourselves.

I am marching with my army upon Puebla and Mexico—I do not conceal it—from those capitals I shall again address you. I desire peace, friendship, and union—it is for you to select whether you prefer war; under any circumstances, be assured I shall not fail my word.

WINDFIELD SCOTT.

VINDICATION OF THE INDIANA REGIMENT.—The *New Orleans Delta*, of the 12th ultimo publishes a letter from Colonel Lane, refusing the charges relative to the alleged misconduct of one of the Indiana regiments, at the battle of Buena Vista, confirming the statement heretofore made by Gen. Lane, who commanded the brigade. The first Indiana regiment was posted on the Rio Grande, the second was on the extreme left of the line of battle, and the third on the extreme right. The latter, Colonel Lane's regiment never hesitated for a single instant, and at the termination of the battle, bivouacked with the most advanced portion of the army. The Colonel declares that none fought better. They were brought into action at a moment when the day seemed extremely critical, and were victorious in every engagement. In his opinion they twice saved the fortunes of the day. He also vindicates the first and second regiments from the same charges.

Capt. Lincoln was not killed while rallying the Indians, but when in the act of delivering orders from General Wool, in front of the second Illinois volunteers.

DEATH OF A ROBBER.—We find in the *Barré Patriot* the following account of the last sickness and death at Battleboro, Vt., of a celebrated English robber, who figured under the name of Thunderbolt:

"He had been a resident of that place for a number of years, and enjoyed much celebrity as a physician.—During his last illness he refused to be undressed; and when near his end he hired two men to bury him in his clothes, just as he died; a contract which was not fulfilled on their part in consequence of the neighbors, who were desirous of giving his remains a more decent and befitting burial. On removing his clothes previous to his being laid out, the cause of this eccentric desire of his was ma-

nifest—the withered leg and cork heel, the shot marks, and the scar which witnessed a previous attempt at suicide—precisely as laid down in Lightfoot's description of him—marked him as the Thunderbolt who had gained such notoriety in England and this country, as one of the most daring and successful highwaymen that ever graced the annals of crime. On his person were also found a dirk and pistol, and among his effects arms of all descriptions, together with watches, diamonds Jewelry, &c. &c. to an enormous value packed away in sawdust. He always went dressed in three suits of clothes, to make his figure more portly, and to prevent recognition, and his withered leg was found wound with clothes to make it appear of the size of the other.

THE BANNER.



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.

Wednesday, June 2 1847.

Cotton Market.

Charleston, May 29th from 9 1-2 to 12 Hamburg, May 29th, 9 to 11 1-2 cts.

Lieut. ROBERTS arrived at this place on Monday last, and we are gratified to find that his health is improving.

We have received the first number of a paper published in Charleston S. C. called the *Charleston Herald*, edited by J. C. DE GAFFARELY. Terms \$1.00 per annum. We wish the *Herald* success.

Midshipman Rodgers.

The *N. Y. Herald* says, that instructions have, in fact, been issued to Commodore Perry, directing him, in the event of Midshipman Rodgers being hanged as a spy, as was threatened, in defiance of all law, to hang La Vega to the yard arm of one of his frigates, within full view of the city of Vera Cruz.

From The Army.

We have no important news this week to lay before our readers from the army. It is said Gen. Scott will not proceed further than Puebla, but take up Summer quarters in that city until reinforced; he discharged seven regiments at Jalapa, twelve months men whose term of service had expired, which has so weakened his army that he will not proceed until reinforcements arrive.

Gen. TAYLOR was at Monterey at the latest dates, and it was thought from the unusual activity that prevailed in all the departments, that he designed to advance upon San Luis Potosi.

The Palmetto Regiment.

In another portion of to-day's paper, will be found an extract of a letter from one of our volunteers, for the use of which we are indebted to a friend. We regret to learn from this, that many of our friends in the army are upon the sick list. In another letter from the same volunteer, we are informed, that there were six of the Palmetto regiment in the castle of Perote, who had been taken prisoners. WATSON and RILEY were wrecked near Alvarado, taken prisoners and marched off to the castle of Perote, upon the approach of Gen. WORTH, the Mexicans evacuated the city, and took with them a part of the prisoners, and in the confusion, WATSON and a man by the name of BAILEY, made their escape—RILEY was taken to the city of Mexico and is imprisoned there now. The Regiment according to the latest intelligence had left Jalapa for Puebla, where it is thought the chances for a fight are pretty fair. The guerrilla system of warfare is beginning to operate and several Americans have been most cruelly butchered.

(FOR THE BANNER.)

Mr. Editor:—Would it not be desirable to remind the Post Master at Abbeville C. H. through the medium of the *Banner*, that the mail due at Due West Corner to-day was crowded with packages, not directed to this office. As a specimen of Post Master punctuality, was found in the mail bag to-day, the following packages one for Lodi, one for Calhoun's Mills, for Cherokee Heights, and for Greenwood, one for Wilmington, one for Lowndsville, and one for Ridgeville. What can be the cause of all this? Wonder if the Post Master can explain!

Mr. Editor—I send you an extract from a letter which I received from one of the Abbeville Volunteers. If you think it will interest your readers we solicit a place for it in the *Banner*.

How long will it be before we shall be delivered from the dreadful scourge of war? Notwithstanding the "glory won" and the deeds of daring performed by the victors, it must be sickening to the heart of a philanthropist to contemplate the field of carnage, the groans of the wounded and dying, the mangled forms of the dead left to be devoured by birds of prey and prowling wolves. We rejoice in the triumph of our arms, but we deprecate that thirst for military "glory," that spirit of conquest, of which no one can predict the consequences, which this protracted war has engendered in the public mind.

Cokesbury, May 24th 1847. C.
JALAPA, April 28, 1847

"Since I last wrote I have been on a long and tiresome march, rendered more so by the sight of dead bodies scattered on each side of the road for miles. I suppose that you will have heard of the battle of Cerro Gordo long before this letter will reach you. I was not in the battle, but we were making every effort to get to the battle-ground in time, but our efforts were all in vain; for Gen. SCOTT was too eager for victory to wait for us. Cerro Gordo, you know, is the battle-ground where the Mexicans gained their independence. It is one of the strongest fortified passes in the world. The cannons of the Mexicans were planted so as to command the whole pass for miles, and when I saw the positions the enemy had I was perfectly astonished that they ever gave them up. It seems to me that they might have contended successfully against the whole of our forces concentrated here. I shall not attempt to give you a description of the battle, for I was not in it; and I have heard so many different accounts of it that I do not know which to tell for the truth. I suppose, however, that you will have a full description in the newspapers. I have often thought and read of battles, but I had no idea of the description and scenes of horror until I saw the battle-ground of Cerro Gordo, a few days after the fight I went upon one hill, and I saw forty or fifty dead Mexicans in one pile. I never saw a more horrid sight in my life. Some of the men had their heads nearly shot off, and were otherwise dreadfully mangled, and the countenances of all showed that they died in the utmost pain. The road from Cerro Gordo to Jalapa is almost crowded with dead men and horses which render our march very disagreeable indeed. The road from Vera Cruz to Jalapa is paved with rock nearly all the way; and there are several of the finest bridges I ever saw. It is worth coming to Mexico to see the National Bridge. Jalapa is the most beautiful town that I have seen in Mexico. It is neat and clean, and the inhabitants approach nearer to civilization than any I have seen. It is situated something like Greenville, only nearer the mountains. Orizaba with its snow covered top can be seen very plainly from the city. The nights are very cold, and the days are pleasant. I have no doubt but that this part of Mexico is as healthy as any part of Abbeville. Gen. WORTH has taken Perote without firing a gun. We will leave here in a very few days for Perote on our way to the city of Mexico."

W. L. H.

JALAPA, May 6, 1847.

"We have been here, about twelve days, enjoying the cool breezes from the mountains; luxuriating on fruits and vegetables of all descriptions; drinking the pure cold water, as it gushes from the base of the mountain, perhaps the greatest luxury of all, as it is the first water we have tasted since leaving Mobile, that was at all palatable.

Notwithstanding this is a delightful climate, and healthy withal, fifteen of our company are in the hospital at this place: viz: J. Bots, W. Bots, N. Anderson, J. Hill, E. B. Wilson, H. Alexander, R. R. Houston, J. S. Lamb, Gillespie, Morrow, Bluford, Wilkinson and Cheatham.

Those who had the measles at Vera Cruz, recovered easily. But since we have arrived at Jalapa, it has rained nearly every day, and being poorly supplied with tents, many have taken cold, and consequently their lungs have become diseased. There are still five of our company, in Vera Cruz, viz: J. S. Anderson, L. Watson, Norroll, Sterling, and Alexander. Watson and Alexander are expected to die.

My health is good, and I think there is a general improvement, in the health of those who have escaped measles, since we left Vera Cruz."

"The Mexicans charge Santa Anna, with selling the victory of Cerro Gordo to the United States. One thing is certain, if he sold it, he left in two great haste to take with him the price of it."

"Since Lieut. Roberts resigned, there has been a regular promotion in the company. Orderly sergeant Stewart, is raised to a Lieutenantancy by brevet. I have the orderly's berth, and the remaining officers, have been regularly raised one grade."

"Since arriving here, we have lived like lords. With a small amount of cash, we can get along finely, and be altogether independent of Uncle Sam. We have an abundance of Irish potatoes, tomatoes, squashes, beans, onions, cabbages, green corn, English peas, &c. &c., to say nothing of pine apples, deserts, black-berry pies, rice puddings, lemonade, and ice creams. X

Truth, Error, Pride, etc.

Mr. Editor:—By your permission, for the amusement or reflection of your readers we will throw out a few hints upon matters in general, and upon some things in particular.

It is a common but very dangerous error, to predicate correctness of the opinions of men from their honesty, or long facedness. The difference between opinions, and mere statement of facts is a material difference, and should be kept constantly in view by all inquirers after Truth. In the latter, a good character warrants our belief; but not so in the former—when a man of good character tells me a thing is so, I am justified by his character in believing it; but yet when this same man gives me his opinion of certain matters founded upon certain data equally accessible to me, his character can be no warrant for the correctness of his opinion; and to take his opinion for granted without examining into the data myself, makes me *his slave*, or *his dupe*. It is not intended, by this, to lessen the confidence that ought to be placed in the opinions of scientific or professional men, upon scientific or professional subjects. The opinions of such men upon such subjects are, in certain cases, obliged to be taken upon credit.— But yet when these men are interested in the opinions they give—and their opinions preponderate, as is often the case, as their interest inclines them, they stand as other men in this regard, and in such cases, the difference between such men, strips even their opinions of that respect and confidence to which, otherwise, and very properly, they would be entitled.

We conclude, therefore, from all this, that it is a safe general rule, to take the opinions of no man, or set of men, for granted.

This rule applies, with peculiar force, to men in office. With such men, "To the law and to the testimony," should be the watchword; "for, whatsoever cometh of more than these cometh of evil." But infallibility, in either men or measures, will hardly be contended for, at this day, however much the conduct of some men would lead us to suppose, that they believe certain men never err.

Nor, is this rule inapplicable to men of every condition in life. The truth in every thing, is, or at least should be, the aim of us all. And in order that we may search out the truth ourselves, each man of us is endowed with certain capacities which can only be fully developed by efforts of this character. So that—even if we could find the truth second-handedly, it would be low and grovelling in us—it would not be giving full scope to our powers, to do so.

Of this same error, that is, taking things as they appear, and not as they really are, or tacking on to the individual the consequence of circumstances, is that put on superiority, or pharisaical high-headedness, which we sometimes see in people of quite humble origin, and whose natural endowments are often inferior to those of the persons in regard to whom this offensive character is assumed. There is a great truth that seems to be entirely overlooked by a large part of mankind—and that truth is this:—That *Virtue*, in the broad sense of the word, is the only true distinction between men, and the only true foundation upon which any distinction is to be based. Hence it is, that *meanness*—it has never detracted from the industry of others, or that I have been more highly favored than my neighbor! Certain!

The only proper feeling that can arise of this state of things, is, a feeling of *sibility*—*any thing*, but a feeling of *elation*. We conclude, therefore, that in whom this unreasonable and ostentatious pretension manifests itself, are to be pitied for their want of sense, or rather, using to advantage the little that they possess.

We could point out characters, but that would be invidious as