



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.:
Wednesday, Sept. 1, 1847.

Erratum.—In the article on Geology, in the present No. of the Banner, on the 20th line from the top of the column, for "Alkalies" read *Oxides*.

In consequence of the severe indisposition of the Editor, during the past week, he has been unable to attend to his duties. This, we hope, will be a sufficient excuse for the meagre appearance of our editorial columns, and also for any inaccuracies that may occur.

By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that our citizens have jumped upon another route for a Railroad. We shall endeavor, in our next, to speak of this new project, which we think will meet with approbation.

There is a species of amusement participated in by some of the lads of our Village, every afternoon, which, in our humble opinion, had better be stopped before it is too late. We allude to the practice of shooting bats in the streets. We did think that the numerous melancholy accidents which we chronicle week after week, ought to be a sufficient warning to our citizens to have a stop put to it immediately. Where are the town authorities?

From Mexico.

We publish, this week, in another column, all that we have been able to gather of any interest whatever, from the army.

We have been anxiously waiting, for a long while, to give some glad tidings from our Abbeville boys; but as yet, we are still kept in painful suspense, in consequence of the repeated statements made in relation to the unhealthy condition of our Regiment. Our readers may rest assured, however, that the first line we get hold of shall be laid before them with the greatest despatch possible.

Chancellor Harper.—The numerous friends of this distinguished jurist will be happy to learn that he has recovered from his recent attack of illness, and that his health is now better than it has been for a long time past.

Heavy Loss.—It is estimated that the losses by plunder of the United States trains in Mexico, amount to \$5,000,000. This is certainly a large amount. From all the published accounts, we had supposed that \$2,000,000 would cover this business of the rancheros and the guerrillas.

Hon. A. P. Butler.—Our distinguished Senator, Judge Butler, says the Charleston Mercury of 26th ult., after a brief visit of one day only, left the city yesterday, on his return to his residence in Edgefield. His numerous friends in Charleston were pleased to find him in the enjoyment of excellent health and spirits, and regret that it was not convenient for him to have remained longer among them. It would have been very gratifying to his constituents in this part of the State if his engagements would have permitted him to receive a public manifestation of their approval of his public course, so universally felt by them. We trust yet to have that gratification before Congress assembles.

The Annexation of Cuba.—The New York Sun has Havana dates to the 15th ult. It says:—"The excitement in regard to the annexation of Cuba was still increasing, and was spreading over the island. Delegates will be sent on there a little previous to the meeting of the next Congress. The next vessel will probably bring us more accurate accounts."

Yankee Enterprise.—A New York letter in the Philadelphia Inquirer, says:—"A plain citizen of Gotham, I am credibly informed, has cleared a large sum of money by the manufacture of Gen. SANTA ANNA'S wooden legs, each of which is the identical one which the renowned Mexican warrior left behind him in his memorable flight from the bloody field of Cerro Gordo. The sale of these limbs is so extensive that he employs a number of journeymen, and contemplates erecting a steam engine to enable him to supply the great demand."

South Carolina Regiment.—A paragraph having appeared in the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser attributing the unusual amount of sickness in the South Carolina regiment to excess in fruit and liquor, and a want of cleanliness, a correspondent of that paper satisfactorily vindicates the regiment from the gratuitous imputation, and assigns another and much more probable cause. He says:—

"You will recollect that their regiment took the cars at Charleston, and did not march till after the capitulation of Vera Cruz, except what was done between the Georgia and Montgomery rail roads; and it seems that the result of marching a regiment under these circumstances fifty miles and back, through deep sands—under a tropical sun—supplied with bad water, and guided by an ignorant and treacherous guide, who so managed as to keep them under a constant march for five days to reach their place of destination, and then on their return to be marched at the rate of twenty-five miles a day, might have been easily predicted; it was sufficient to have killed not only 140 men, but one-half of the whole regiment without the aid of liquor. The New York regiment was not, if I am correctly informed, engaged in this march, hence the reason of their better health. These, I believe, are the facts of the case; and why do the letter writers close their eyes to them? Is it because the Commander-in-Chief had laid himself liable to be censured by the friends of the regiment in neglecting to have them transported in the shipping then under the pay of the Government, and lying idle in the harbor of Vera Cruz? Whether this is the reason or not, they must know that if he had done so, a few hours' sail would have landed them at Alvarado, without fatigue, and a few hours more would have returned them to Vera Cruz, refreshed by the trip at sea, ready, as they showed themselves by their return march from Alvarado, willing and anxious to participate in the dangers and glories of Cerro Gordo. But alas! by an ill-fated move of the Commander-in-chief, hundreds of the best blood of Carolina have been cut off in the bloom of youth and in the midst of their usefulness, while hundreds more are doomed to linger out a few more days of pain and suffering, and for all of which the letter writers can see no just cause but *fruit, liquor, and filth*."

Deficiency in Ireland.—The Philadelphia Inquirer states that a letter from London observes that the Potato crop in Ireland must prove light, inasmuch as not more than one-fourth of the usual quantity of land was this year planted with potatoes. The writer—who is an intelligent observer—argues that as a consequence, there will be a great demand for the next cheapest article of food, which is Indian Meal. Another letter states that English agents have already been sent to this country, to make heavy contracts for Pork. The object is to buy it early, and to have it cured, so as to suit the English market. This step has been taken in consequence of the famine, and the deficiency of pork in Ireland.—Farmers and Provision Dealers will govern themselves accordingly.

"NURSING HIS WRATH TO KEEP IT WARM."—The Louisville Journal of the 17th ult., alluding to a report that Colonel Benton had written to Washington, *demanding* a Court Martial for the vindication of his son-in-law, Colonel Fremont, and the punishment of his adversaries in his late troubles in California, adds:

"It is certain that Mr Benton is preparing himself a terrific attack upon the Administration next winter in the Senate Chamber. At a town in the interior of Kentucky, a few days ago, he got into a conversation upon the subject of the Mexican war, and became immensely excited, perfectly infuriated. He said that an opportunity had been passed by, of making an advantageous and honorable peace, and that he could show the fact and would show it. As for the whole management of the war, he averred that it had been utterly disgraceful. He stated that he should go to Washington, and make one speech upon the subject, only one and that it would be the greatest speech of his life, and he was willing that it should be the last. In speaking of the Administration, his language barely, if at all, fell short of downright cursing. His wrathful declamation lasted a full hour."

NEWS FOR THE GEOLOGISTS.—The Journal des Debats publishes the following letter, dated Odessa 4th July:—"The Counsellor of State, Erdman, professor of geology at the Imperial University of Dorpat, who at this moment is travelling in the South of Russia, has discovered in a property situated on the north of Odessa several skeletons of fossil animals of enormous dimensions. The skeletons are eighty-three in number, viz: six elephants, one rhinoceros, two oxen, four stags, one antelope, sixty-one bears, two hyenas, two dogs, three cats, and a ruminating animal, species unknown. These skeletons, together with the bones, were found under a thick layer of calcareous earth. The discovery made by M. Erdman is the more remarkable as hitherto there never has been any remains of the ante-diluvian animal reign discovered in Russia."

FROM MEXICO.

From the N. O. Picayune, August 20, 1847.

Arrival of the Galveston.
Seven Days Later from Puebla.
Arrival of the Picayune's Express from Puebla—General Scott's movements—Escape of Major Gaines and passed Midshipman Rogers—Encounter of a Train with the Guerrillas—Peril of the Train—Deaths of Adjutant Guio, Lieut. Hill, and Dr. Hammer—General Pierce's Arrival at Puebla, &c. &c.

The steamship Galveston, Captain Haviland, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, having touched at Tampico, Brazos and Galveston. She left Vera Cruz on the 12th instant.

By this arrival we are in possession of advices from Puebla to the 6th of August—just one week later than we had before received. Our letters were brought through from Puebla to Vera Cruz by a courier despatched exclusively for this office. The news is important.

General Scott was still at Puebla on the 6th inst., but the army was to take up the line of march the next day for the city of Mexico. General Twiggs's division leaving on the 7th, General Quitman's on the 8th, General Worth's on the 9th, and Gen. Pillow's on the 10th. Colonel Childs remains in command at Puebla.

General Pierce arrived at Puebla on the 6th inst.—not on the 2nd inst., as some of our contemporaries stated. He lost not a single man on his march, notwithstanding "another severe battle with the guerrillas."

The most agreeable news by this arrival is the escape of Major Gaines and Passed Midshipman Rogers from the city of Mexico, and their safe arrival at General Scott's headquarters. They were of course not under parole at the time they left Mexico. The particulars will be found in the letters below from Mr Kendall. His letters mention an affair between Captain Ruff, of the rifles, with his command, and a Mexican guerrilla party, in which the latter was entirely routed. Mr. K. also writes us of the death of Lieut. Hill, of the 2nd Dragoons, and Dr. Hammer, of the South Carolina Regiment. We need not refer more particularly to his letters which abound in interest.

From Vera Cruz, too, the news is important. The train which left Vera Cruz on the evening of the 6th inst., has been attacked about 24 miles from Vera Cruz; indeed, attacks commenced shortly after leaving that city. The escort to the train under command of Major Lally, of the 9th Infantry, Colonel Wilson being down with yellow fever. We have confidence that the following is a more correct report of the principal affair than that of the Sun of Anahuac. It is from an officer of intelligence, and is to the latest date:

CAMP AT BRIGADE, 24 miles from Vera Cruz, August 11, 1847.

GENTLEMEN.—The command under Maj. Lally was met by the guerrillas yesterday in force at Passo Oneja, one mile in the rear of this camp, about 3, P. M. Attacks were made in front, in rear, and upon the centre of the train, and they were repulsed at all points, and we advanced to this encampment. Our force was well distributed for the defence of the train, the force in the rear being nearly as long as in front, and a guard of two companies in the centre of the wagons, and flankers along side of the train throughout.

But our loss is severe, two officers being severely wounded. Captain James H. Caldwell, of the Voltigeurs, and Captain Arthur C. Cummins, of the 11th Infantry, the former a native of Maryland, the latter of Virginia. Ten men, non-commissioned officers and privates, are wounded. None were killed outright. One has died since, and some perhaps dangerously wounded.—Hopes are yet entertained for the recovery of the two Captains, if we can send them to Vera Cruz. I believe that the commanding officer has sent to Vera Cruz for a detachment of horse to escort ambulances to take back the wounded which may accumulate by the time we reach the National Bridge. We are 1,000 strong, with a train of seventy wagons, and the troops all raw and comparatively uninstructed. But I think we will make our way through securely; perhaps fighting our way for many days. We are about twelve miles from the National Bridge, and we move on a few miles to-day.

The sun says eight men were killed on our side, and that Captain Loyell's Georgia mounted men killed twenty-five of the enemy in a charge. Governor Wilson immediately ordered up reinforcements. Captain Fairchild's company started at once to go up, and Captain Seelefeld's of the Louisiana battalion, were also ordered up. A gentleman who came over on the Galveston, saw the latter leaving the city. Captain Besancon's company was absent on a scout when the news reached Vera Cruz of the danger of the train. When he returned, he would be ordered up, and other forces were to be sent forward. The verbal reports are that the Americans had thirty men wounded in this skirmish and as many horses killed. It is not to be concealed that serious fears are felt for the safety of this train. The Mexicans have made extensive preparations to harass it and cut it off if possible. We are informed that the number of Major Lally's command falls short of one thousand men rather than exceeds that number. The Mexicans are under the impression that the train takes up a million of dollars in specie—so says the Boletin of Jalapa of the 8th inst., which has been received at Vera Cruz. The Boletin prays

God that the guerrillas and national guard together may succeed in cutting off the train. The National Bridge is the point where the decisive action is expected.—There was a report in Vera Cruz, that the guerrillas had destroyed a part of the bridge and erected defensive works there. The latest number of the Sun of Anahuac sets down the number of the guerrillas at 4000. Led on by the hope of a rich booty, they must not be expected to desist from their attacks so long as a chance remains for them.

Two men belonging to the train lagged behind on the second day's march from Vera Cruz, and were cut off by the Mexicans. One of them was horribly mutilated, both legs being cut off below the knees.—He died immediately. The other was so severely wounded that he died shortly after he was found by Captain Besancon's men. The wounded man just had time to give a description of the murderers, three in number, and the course they had taken. They were pursued and caught and at once an example was made of them.

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.
PUEBLA, Mexico, August 3, 1847.

Intelligence has just been received that Captain Ruff, with a squadron of cavalry, has given the guerrillas a severe drubbing at San Juan de los Llanos. General P. F. Smith learning on his arrival at Ojo de Agua that a party of these gentlemen of the road had a rendezvous at the former place, despatched Captain Ruff with orders to surprise them if possible. The expedition was successful in every way—the guerrillas were surprised before they had time to reach their horses, and at once took refuge in a church and in two or three stone houses adjoining. Into these our men at once charged, the Mexicans recoiled in dismay, and after a short struggle were entirely defeated, with a loss of between 30 and 40 killed, and some 50 wounded. A priest and cure, said to have been in some way connected with the guerrillas, were taken prisoners. Such is the report of the affair at present current—I shall probably learn more of it before I close this letter.

Midshipman Rogers about whose imprisonment so much has been said, has taken the liberty of releasing himself—in plain English, he has escaped from the city of Mexico, and has arrived here in safety.—He was not on parole at the time, but at large in the capital, under a bond with a money penalty not to break his bounds.—Learning that the American officers were to be removed to Toluca, and that there was no probability of his being exchanged, he started off in the night towards Chalco lake in a boat. Arriving there, he started on horseback through the mountains with a guide, and as above stated, got through in safety. He reports that Santa Anna has not so many men as has been stated—that he has not more than 15,000 who are well armed and well organized. Perhaps he did not know that Valencia had arrived with reinforcements from San Luis. Both Rogers and Lieut. Semmes, who was sent on by Com. Perry to attend to his case, will go on to the capital whenever the army moves, and take a part in any game that may be there played. In fact, the same may be said of all who are with the army and not immediately connected with—there will be work for all of them, and their greatest safety will be in the neighborhood of balls, shells, and kindred projectiles. In relations to young Rogers, it is said he came off with the knowledge and by permission of his surety.

From the N. O. Picayune of 21st ult.
Arrival of the Alabama.

3 Days Later from Vera Cruz.
Return of General Paredes to Mexico.—His successful Escape into the Interior.

The steamship Alabama, Mapt. Windle, arrived this morning from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on the 15th inst.

Quite the most important news by this arrival is the return of Gen. Paredes to Mexico. At last accounts he was at Paris. He reached Vera Cruz on the 14th inst., in the English royal mail steamer Teviot, under an assumed name. The steamer was telegraphed about 6 o'clock in the morning from the castle. From the steamer herself a private signal was thrown out, known only to English merchants, that a distinguished personage was on board. Preparation was made for his immediate reception by his friends, but all was still as midnight. The steamer anchored and Don Martino, passenger from Havana, leaped into the first boat lying alongside, landed on the mole, and went to his friend, Pepe Zamora, borrowed forty ounces, three horses, hat, coat, and servant, and was past the gates in less than thirty minutes, with a fast horse and a clear track.

The mail from the steamer in the meantime came on shore. Among the letters were some to the Collector and others from Gen. Campbell, our Consul at Havana, disclosing the fact that Gen. Marino Paredes y Arrillaga, ex-President of Mexico, had taken passage on the steamer, and directing them to look out for him. The information came an hour too late; the bird had flown. We gather these facts from one of our correspondents, and below we give a letter from another, without having time to ponder upon his speculations as to the influence of the return of Paredes upon the war.

We are deeply pained to learn of the death of Col. Wilson, of the 12th Infantry. He was represented to us by the last arrival as convalescent, but he died the evening of the 12th inst.

Correspondence of the Picayune.
VERA CRUZ, Aug. 14.

It is with mortification and regret that I have to inform you that Gen. Paredes passed through our city this morning, about 7 o'clock, in disguise, and before it was ascertained that such was the case, he was far out of our reach on his way to the city of Mexico.

He arrived this morning on the royal mail steamer Teviot, under an assumed name, and entirely unknown to the captain of the vessel. As soon as the vessel came to anchor he immediately came to the Mole in a pilot boat, and proceeded to the heart of the city to the residence of a Mexican merchant, to whom he made himself known, and obtained from him a round-jacket, a *sambbrero* and horses for himself and servant, and "barnased the ranch" without ceremony. One hundred dollars reward was offered for his arrest as soon as information reached Col. Wilson that he was or had been in the city, and every effort was made to arrest him, but the "bird had flown" and given us a specimen of assurance and cunning that would do credit to the father of Yankee tricks.

The Mexican merchant who assisted in the escape is Pepe Zamora, and during the search for Paredes his house was surrounded. The officer entered and was assured by Mr. Zamora that Paredes was not in the house. "Has he been here," was the question asked. "Yes," replied Zamora very coolly. "What did he want," asked the American. "He introduced himself to me as Gen. Paredes, and asked me to befriend him, and I told him that I would. He then asked me to let him have a jacket, hat and horses, which I furnished him immediately, and he has been gone from here two hours. You are welcome to search, but I can assure you that you will not find him here, and what I tell you is so. There are his coat and hat, which you can take along if you like."

I forgot to mention that a letter was sent by the American Consul at Havana informing the authorities here that Gen. Paredes was on board, but it came to hand too late to do any good.

There is hardly an American here but what felt that he could crawl through a gimblet hole when the astounding news that Paredes, the sworn enemy to Santa Anna, to Americans and to peace, and the only man who at the present situation of affairs, can partially restore the confidence of the Mexican people and inspire them once more with a hope to conquer their enemies, had passed, unknown and unmolested, into and out of the gates of our city. He will no doubt make every effort to reach the city before Gen. Scott does. The consequence will no doubt be the overthrow of Santa Anna, and most likely he will take in his hands the reins of Government, crush all attempts at negotiation, and head the army in person against Gen. Scott, should he think it expedient; but if not, fall back to some place beyond the city and prepare himself for another and perhaps better occasion. At all events he is just the man that the Mexicans have been wanting over since the battle of Cerro Gordo, and now that he is with them once more, there is no telling what mighty events may be the result of his return from exile.

THE PINON PASS, NEAR THE CITY OF MEXICO.—We glean the following description of the Pinon Pass from the N. Y. Sun. It is only sixteen miles from the Capital, and it is probable that if Scott met with any resistance at all from Santa Anna, it was there offered him:

"The Pinon Pass is on the principal road from Mexico to Puebla, sixteen miles from Mexico and sixty nine miles from Puebla. It is a narrow gorge between two volcanic mountains, about sixty rods wide, and the fortifications, which are built in the form of a half circle from mountain to mountain are about eighty rods in length. The fortifications are composed of stone and earth of great strength, and are capable of mounting forty heavy cannon. Toward Puebla, the fortifications have a perfect cannon shot range for more than a mile and a half, sweeping the entire road. Near the mountain to the right, going toward Puebla, on a high eminence, Santa Anna has erected an Observatory, safe from cannon shot, from which he intends watching the expected battle. In case of defeat he has secured his retreat to the Capital by a private path. A battery of cannon has also been placed on a hill to the right of the road beyond the Pass towards Puebla. Some defences are also erected on the two mountains which form the Pass. The spot is admirably situated to defend the Capital, and in the hands of any body but Mexicans, would be impassable. Santa Anna's Observatory is nearly thirty feet higher than any of the surrounding hills. Upwards of 30,000 men were at work on the fortifications when our courier left. There is but one other road at all practicable, by which the American force could advance, the "Annunciation" to the South of the Puebla road, and this is defended by still more difficult passes. There is a road still South of this, but it is a mere mule path. The probability is that Gen. Scott's delay has forced another bloody battle upon our troops, which would have been avoided had he marched directly from Cerro Gordo upon the Capital. Ere this, the battle has been probably fought, and we wait anxiously to chronicle the history of Gen. Scott's reception at Pinon Pass."

A LESSON FOR FANATICS.—The result of the "Coolie" experiment in Jamaica is a forcible exemplification of the folly of meddling with the institution of Slavery.