

tant points. The reports from the Departments of War and the Navy will inform you more in detail of the measures adopted in the emergency in which our country was placed, and of the gratifying results which have been accomplished.

The various columns of the army have performed their duty under great disadvantages, with the most distinguished skill and courage. The victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and of Monterey, won against greatly superior numbers, and against most decided advantages in other respects on the part of the enemy, were brilliant in their execution, and entitled our brave officers and soldiers to the grateful thanks of our country. The nation, deploring the loss of the brave officers and men, who have gallantly fallen while vindicating and defending their country's rights and honor.

It is a subject of pride and satisfaction that our volunteer citizen soldiers, who so promptly responded to their country's call, with an experience of the discipline of a camp of only a few weeks, have borne their part in the hard fought battle of Monterey with a constancy and courage equal to that of veteran troops, and worthy of the highest admiration. The privations of long marches through the enemy's country, and thro' a wilderness, had been borne without a murmur. By rapid movements the province of New Mexico, with Santa Fe, its capital, has been captured without bloodshed. The navy has co-operated with the army, and rendered important services; if not so brilliant, it is because the enemy had no force to meet them on their own element, and because of the defenses, which nature has interposed in the difficulties of the navigation on the Mexican coast. Our squadron in the Pacific, with the co operation of a gallant officer of the army, and a small force hastily collected in that distant country, have acquired bloodless possession of the Californias, and the American flag has been raised at every important point in that province.

I congratulate you on the success which has attended our military and naval operations. In less than seven months after Mexico had commenced her hostilities, at a time selected by herself, we have taken possession of many of her principal ports, driven back and pursued her invading army, and acquired military possession of the Mexican provinces of New Mexico, New Leon, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, and the Californias, a territory larger in extent than that embraced in the original thirteen States of the Union, inhabited by a considerable population, and much of it more than a thousand miles from the points at which we had to collect our forces and commence our movements. By the blockade, the import and export trade of the enemy has been cut off. Well may the American people be proud of the energy and gallantry of our regular and volunteer officers and soldiers. The events of these two months afford a gratifying proof that our country can, under any emergency, confidently rely for the maintenance of her honor, and the defence of her rights, on effective force, ready at all times voluntarily to relinquish the comforts of home for the perils and privations of the camp. And though such a force may be for the time expensive, it is in the end economical, as the ability to command it removes the necessity of employing a large standing army in time of peace, and proves that our people love their institutions, and are ever ready to defend and protect them.

As the war was in its course of vigorous and successful prosecution, being still anxious to arrest its evils, and considering that after the brilliant victories of our arms on the eighth and ninth of May last, the national honor could not be compromised by it, another overture was made to Mexico, by invitation, on the twenty-seventh of July last, to terminate hostilities by a peace just and honorable to both countries. On the thirty-first of August following, the Mexican government declined to accept this friendly overture, but deferred it to the decision of a Mexican Congress, to be assembled in the early part of the present month. I communicate to you, herewith, a copy of the letter of the Secretary of State proposing to reopen negotiation, of the answer of the Mexican government and of the reply thereto of the Secretary of State.

The war will continue to be prosecuted with vigor, as the best means of securing peace. It is hoped that the decision of the Mexican Congress, to which our last overture has been referred, may result in a speedy and honorable peace. With our experience, however, of the unreasonable course of the Mexican authorities, it is the part of wisdom not to relax in the energy of our military operations until the result is made known. In this view, it is deemed important to hold military possession of all the provinces which have been taken, until a definitive treaty of peace shall have been concluded and ratified by the countries.

The war has not been waged with a view to conquest; but having been commenced by Mexico, it has been carried into the enemy's country, and will be vigorously prosecuted there with a view to obtain an honorable peace, and thereby secure ample indemnity for the expense of the war, as well as to our much injured citizens, who hold large pecuniary demands against Mexico.

By the laws of nations a conquered territory is subject to be governed by the conqueror during his possession, and until there is either a treaty of peace or he shall voluntarily withdraw from it. The old civil government being necessarily superseded, it is the right and duty of the conqueror to secure his conquest, and to

provide for the maintenance of civil order, and the rights of the inhabitants. This right has been exercised, and this duty performed, by our military and naval commanders; by the establishment of temporary governments in the conquered provinces in Mexico, assimilating them as far as practicable to the free institutions of our country. In the provinces of New Mexico, and of the Californias, little if any further resistance is apprehended from the inhabitants to the temporary governments which have thus from the necessity of the case, and according to the laws of war, been established. It may be proper to provide for the security of these important conquests, by making an adequate appropriation for the purpose of erecting fortifications and defraying the expenses necessarily incident to the maintenance of our possession and authority over them.

I recommend that Congress should immediately provide by law for granting letters of marque and reprisal against vessels under the Mexican flag. It is true that there are but few, if any, commercial vessels of Mexico upon the high seas; and it is, therefore, not probable that many American privateers would be fitted out, in case a law should pass authorizing this mode of warfare. It is, notwithstanding, certain that such privateers may render good service to the commercial interest of the country by recapturing our merchant ships, should any be taken by armed vessels under the Mexican flag, as well as by capturing these vessels themselves. Every means within our power should be rendered available for the protection of our commerce.

Among our just causes of complaint against Mexico, arising out of her refusal to treat for peace, as well before as since the war so unjustly commenced on her part, are the extraordinary expenditures in which we have been involved. Justice to our own people will make it proper that Mexico should be held responsible for these expenditures.

In my annual message of December last, a tariff of revenue duties based upon the principles of the existing law was recommended, and I have seen no reason to change the opinion then expressed. In view of the probable beneficial effects of that law, I recommend that the policy established by it be maintained. It has but just commenced to operate; and to abandon or modify it without giving it a fair trial, would be inexpedient and unwise. Should defects in any of its details be ascertained by actual experience to exist, these may be hereafter corrected; but until such defects shall become manifest the act should be fairly tested.

With full reliance upon the wisdom and patriotism of your deliberations it will be my duty, as it will be my anxious desire to co-operate with you in every constitutional effort to promote the welfare and maintain the honor of our common country.

JAMES K. POLK.
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 8, 1846.

From the N. O. Picayune, Dec. 20.
FURTHER MEXICAN NEWS.

By the arrival of the schr. Martha Louisa, from Havana, we are placed in possession of full and regular files of the papers of that city, and our correspondence.

We learn verbally that Gen. Wool, who was for many years in the service of Mexico, and who signalized himself in Texas and on the Rio Grande frontier, recently effected a landing at Laguna, and had proceeded toward the Mexican capital. Gen. Wool is a Frenchman by birth, retired to his native country a year or two since with a fortune, and has the reputation of being a brave officer.

The chief of the Mexican difficulties arose from pecuniary embarrassments, says the Diario. Santa Anna is calling on the government for means. The clergy being called together by delegations both of the regular and secular orders, refused positively to guarantee a loan of two millions of dollars; but the government, considering the straightened circumstances of treasury and the necessities of the state—quite too urgent to be provided for by general contribution—had resolved to issue drafts for the amount of two millions of dollars upon the responsibility of the clergy; the clergy to be compelled to meet the same within two years—the government recognizing the amount as a loan to be ultimately reimbursed with interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. To render these drafts available, the government had determined to draw them for amounts varying from \$200 to \$20,000, in favor of individuals of wealth and according to their circumstances, and compel them to advance the respective sums within eight days.

The reports from Chihuahua were that the government had organized a force of 1200 regulars and 10,000 volunteers, with fifteen pieces of artillery, and that all were to march against the enemy on the 5th of November. We do not believe the half of it.

A communication had been received from Sinaloa, dated the 28th October, stating that Capt. Flores, with a few regulars and some volunteers, had routed a party of North Americans. It was added that at Los Angeles the Indians had massacred one hundred and fifty American sailors acting as soldiers.

A private letter from Mexico assures the Diario that a good understanding existed between Santa Anna and the Central Government, but that the necessities of the General were such that he was constrained to insist upon the forced loan of two millions. His army amounted to about 25,000 men, the best arm of which was cavalry. Gen. Taylor had suffered

much from desertion and sickness, but the number of his troops was variously estimated.

The Mexicans are continually apprehensive of a night attack upon San Juan de Uluoa. An attempt was made, they thought, the night of the 1st ult., but it resulted in nothing, having been early discovered. We annex our correspondent's letter:

HAYANA, Dec. 6, 1846.

Dear Pic.—The British steamer is to-day from Vera Cruz, and I send you an extra containing the news as published here. Rumor adds somewhat to these, but you can judge for yourself. Santa Anna is said to have threatened to retreat to Queretaro if they don't send him the \$2,000,000 that he asked for, which great exertions are being made to raise. Some say he will fall back whether or no, in order to be nearer the capital on the opening of Congress. Propositions had been made to the British merchants for a loan of \$20,000,000, secured by a reduction of duties on articles now prohibited. The morbid and landed interest, it is said, are quite tired of the war, and Santa Anna's retrograde movement may possibly be in order to intimidate Congress into peace measures, while he apparently sacrifices his ambition and laurels (to be earned) to the will of the people. The inflated suppose him not to be inimical to peace. At all events he won't meet the enemy—if it is done at all, some one else must do it.

Yours, &c. AMIGO.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.
Movement of Troops—Later from Monterey—Death of Gen. Hamer—Marine Disaster—Loss of Government Steamer Gopher, &c. &c.

By the arrival at half past 1 o'clock this morning of the steamship McKim, Capt. Peck, we have dates from Brozos Santiago up to the 15th inst., with accounts two days later from Monterey. Among the passengers in the McKim were Col. Walker, Major Arthur, Capt. Cooper, Drs. Chamberlain, Hoxie, and Craig, Lieut. Steward, McMahon, Roe, Murray, and Richmond, Messrs. Linn, Lemon, Tippet, Rainey, and Levinakoli, and sixty-one sick and discharged volunteers.

The report of a duel between two officers of the Quartermaster's Department, was a hoax.

The steamship Virginia, left the Brazos for Tampico on Tuesday, 15th inst., with Lieut. Col. Clarke and six companies of the Alabama regiment, numbering nearly 400 men, rank and file. The steamer Cincinnati and the U. S. propeller, James C. Cage, left on the 16th with Gen. Shields and staff, Mr. Lumsden of the Picayune and Capt. Shelly's company of Alabama volunteers—all bound for Tampico.

From the report of the McKim we learn that the U. S. steamer Gopher broke her log chains and steam connections in crossing the bar on Sunday, the 13th. She was however enabled to get outside and come to anchor in five fathoms water, but the wind blowing strong from the southwest and a heavy sea running she was literally mashed to pieces and sunk at her anchors.

BRAZOS SANTIAGO, Dec. 12.
I have a little news from Monterey, as late as 28th of November. Two regiments of Indiana volunteers, the 2d and 3d, and Lieut. Mackall's (Capt. Taylor's) battery had gone to Saltillo, to join Gen. Worth. Gen. Twigg's division is on its march to Victoria.

Brig. Gen. Hamer, one of Mr. Polk's appointments, died at Monterey a few days ago, of inflammation of bowels. His illness was of very short duration—not more, I learn than two days.
Gen. Butler will remain in command at Monterey. I spoke of this as somewhat uncertain in a former letter. Col. Taylor arrived at Matamoros two days ago, with despatches for Gen. Patterson.

PRIZE MONEY TO THE ARMY.—On motion of Mr. Benton, it has been agreed in the Senate, "to give increased pay to rank and file of regulars and volunteers, to grant three months extra pay to those who serve till the end of the war, to allow prize money in some cases to the army, as well as to the navy, and to make an adequate provision for the widows and children of those who may be killed or die in service." A project of this sort ought to be and will be adopted—both parties being in favor of it. Mr. Benton remarked that we ought to avail ourselves of the present popularity of the army to do justice to it.

"The value of public stores, munitions, &c. taken by our troops at Monterey, has been stated at half a million of dollars. There seems to be no reason why some prize money should not be paid to the troops out of these spoils."
S. Carolinian.

N.-C. VOLUNTEERS.—Gov. Graham has instructed the Colonels of the various Regiments to return the names of all volunteers, even though there be not enough to form a company, so that by uniting those from two or more contiguous Regiments, a Company might be formed by the Adjutant General.—Char. Cour.

Lieutenant F. Calhoun, an Aid-de-Camp of General Gaines, and son of the Senator, has been elected Colonel of the second Regiment of New-York Volunteers, called for by the last requisition.
Char. Cour.

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS.—John Y. Mason was on Friday unanimously confirmed as Secretary of the Navy, by the Senate of the United States.

THE BANNER:

SUMTERVILLE, S. C.

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1846.

If we are unavoidably late in our issue of this week, and we feel certain that our patrons will excuse us, when we plead the customary Christmas holidays in our behalf, the enjoyment of which, we doubt not, they will grant to printers as well as to others.

COTTON.
The Charleston market receipts of the week ending Thursday, Dec. 24, were 7,812 bales; and the sales 7,000 bales. Prices, from 8 1/4 to 10 1/4 cts. per pound; ordinary to good ordinary, 9 3/4 to 10 5/8 cts. middling to good middling, 10 1/4 to 12 1/4 cts. fair, 10 to 11 1/8; fair and fully fair, 10 3/4 to 12 1/2 cts. The late news, brought by the steamer Cambria, from Liverpool, of an advance of 3/8 of a penny per pound, has caused an improvement, in the Charleston market sales, of from 1/4 to 1/2 of a cent per lb.

CONGRESS.
The discussions on the Mexican war will continue in the House. The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Mr. Bixcnon as minister to Great Britain. The constitution of Iowa has been approved by the Senate and House, and the law, for her admission, as a new State, into the Union, needs only the signature of the President. Judge Brown, of this State, appeared in the Senate on Dec. 23d, was qualified and took his seat. The two Houses adjourned during the Christmas holidays; and many of the members left Washington on excursions of pleasure or visits to their families.

DISABLED VOLUNTEER.
One of the volunteers of the Sumter Company, whose name we are informed is Moses Giacomo, while on guard at Camp Sumner, near Statesburg, received a severe kick from a mule which broke two of his ribs, as was afterward ascertained, though it was not then supposed that he had received such an injury. The spirited old man continued his tour of duty. For some time he has been lying disabled in the Citadel Hospital in Charleston; and his grief has been that he was unable to join his brother volunteers when they were mustered into service. A liberal purse has been made up for him in Charleston to provide the means of his return home. As soon as his wound allows him, we expect to see the old volunteer again amongst us.

THE PALMETTO REGIMENT.
The Charleston papers of the 28th inst. inform us of what had previously reached us by report, the departure of the South Carolina Volunteers. On Thursday morning, the 24th, a detachment, from each Company, of one commissioned and one non-commissioned officer and ten privates, left Camp Washington at the Race Course, and proceeded, on the rail road, to locate a Camp near Horse Creek, about five miles this side of Hamburg.

On the morning of the 25th, the right wing of the Regiment, consisting of five Companies, left for the camp near Hamburg; and the left wing departed for the same place on Monday morning last.

The "Stunters" are said to be one of the companies of the right wing.
Lt. Col. Dickinson is absent from the Regiment on a visit to Camden.
The volunteers will probably remain for a few days at their new camp, as it is uncertain when they will make a final move for the seat of war, though this will doubtless soon take place.
The Palmetto Regiment claims to be the first organized under the new requisition.

LOSS OF THE U. S. BRIG SOMERS.
The N. O. Picayune of the 22d inst. gives the latest news from the squadron.
About half past nine o'clock, A. M., of the 5th inst., the U. S. Brig Somers, while endeavoring to intercept a strange vessel near Vera Cruz, was upset by a sudden squall, which careened her with great rapidity and in thirty seconds threw her on her beam ends. In less than ten minutes she sunk. The squall was more violent than the appearances of the weather gave reason to expect. The accident was mainly due to the extreme lightness of the vessel, as she had on board only fourteen barrels of provisions and about six hundred gallons of water. 39 men were saved, 37 lost. The strange vessel proved to be the Abramo bound for the squadron at Anton Lizardo near Vera Cruz. Among those saved was Lt. J. L. Parker, who succeeded not long since, in the daring feat of burning a Mexican vessel, the Creole, under the very walls of the Castle of San Juan de Uluoa. We regret the want of room to give a detailed account of this feat performed by a small number of men.

The British, French and Spanish vessels lying near the squadron gave prompt assistance and rescued many of the American seamen from a watery grave.
A few days before this accident, Middlepasser Rogers was captured while reconnoitering the Castle, with a view of ascertaining the locality of the magazine and the feasibility of an attempt to blow it up. After ascertaining that his object could be accomplished, he was unfortunately captured while returning to his boat. The party with him escaped and returned to the Somers only to witness her loss.

LIST OF ACTS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AT ITS GENERAL SESSION, FOR THE YEAR 1846.
ACTS ORIGINATING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

1. An Act, to Abolish the allowance of Tare on Bales of Cotton.
2. To confer on Arthur P. Broly, an alien, the privilege of applying for admission to practice Law.
3. To authorize a reduction of toll on single horse carriages on the State Road.
4. To incorporate the South Carolina Insurance Company.
5. To vest the title of the State, in the Real Estate of Edward Jenkins, deceased, in R. Pringle, Elizabeth Smith, Wm. Bellingier, Edmund Alston, and Julius Izard Pringle.

6. To vest the title of the State, in the Real Estate of John Reipen, in John J. Jensen.

7. To amend an Act to incorporate the American and Georgia Trading and Insurance Company.
8. To incorporate the Metropolitan Rail Road Company.
9. To Charter the Charlotte and South Carolina Rail Road Company.
10. To vest in Louisa Waters, and her heirs forever, the right, title and interest of the State, in a certain house and lot in the Village of Chester.
11. To convey to the United States, certain lands on Sullivan's Island, James Island, Skute's Folly Island.
12. To enable Mary Hodges, to receive her Annuity by Antiquary.
13. To amend an Act to authorize the formation of the Charleston, Georgetown and All Saints Rail Road Company.
14. Concerning the State Roads.
15. To amend an Act, entitled an Act to incorporate the Belvidere Manufacturing Company.
16. To amend the law in relation to the contested elections of Major Generals, and Brigadier Generals, of the Militia of the State.
17. To organize the Fire Guard of Charleston.
18. To extend the Jurisdiction of Magistrates in the Town of Hamburg.
19. Prescribing the mode of electing Tax Collectors and for other purposes.
20. To prevent the sale of Lottery tickets within this State.
21. To vest the title of the State in certain property liable to escheat, in Elizabeth Montgomery, and Margaret Montgometry.
22. To amend the law in relation to Magistrates and Constables.
23. To restore Spartanburg District to the Western Circuit.
24. To incorporate the DeKalb Manufacturing Company, and for other purposes.
25. To incorporate certain Societies and Companies, and to renew and amend certain Charters heretofore granted.
26. To raise supplies for the year commencing October, 1847.
27. To establish certain Roads, Bridges and Ferries.
28. To make appropriations for the year commencing October, 1847.

ACTS ORIGINATING IN THE SENATE.
29. To extend the duration of an Act, authorizing the formation of limited partnerships.

30. To alter and amend so much of an Act to regulate the office of Comptroller General, ratified on the 17th December 1834, as relates to contingent accounts.
31. To Charter the Wilmington and Manchester Rail Road Company.
32. To alter and amend the law concerning the custody of delinquent estates by the Ordinary.
33. To incorporate the Greenville Manufacturing Company.
34. To amend the law in relation to Sheriffs.
35. To diminish the number of Magistrates.
36. To Abolish Brigade Encampments.
37. To increase the jurisdiction of the Ordinary in the appointment of Guardians.
38. To incorporate the Charleston Gas Light Company.
39. To amend an Act to authorize the formation of the Greenville and Columbia Rail Road Company.

Col. Carolinian.

Selected for the Banner:
THE THIRTY-FIRST OF DECEMBER.
"As if an Angel spoke,
I hear the solemn sound."
Year.

Dark to the deep-toned chime of that bell—
As it breaks on the midnight air—
Seems it not tolling a funeral knell?
'Tis the knell of the parting year!
Before that bell shall have ceased its chime,
The year shall have sunk in the Ocean of Time.

Oh! May an eye, that was gleaming bright,
As this year from its slumber awakes,
Was dimmed by anguish, or sealed in night,
Ere it reached its dreary close!
And hearts, that in gladness were blooming then,
Have withered, Oh! — never to bloom again.

Yet the wind will grow calm, and the billow will sleep,
And sorrow bring by its side—
And hours of delight o'er young spirits will shower,
And the lover be bliss in his bride,
And blue eyes of beauty, unshined by a tear,
Will yet beam at thy memory, thro' happy old years.

To me, faded year, thou hast not been unkind,
Though my glimpses of sunshine were few,
I welcomed thee calmly, part from thee resigned,
Nor breathe one reproach with adieu.
No—thanks to thy speed, that my pilgrimage here,
By so much is shortened.—Then fare thee well,
Old Year.

We are authorized to announce WILLIAM G. BARRETT, Esq. as a Candidate for Tax Collector, at the ensuing Election.
Sumterville, Nov. 25, 1846.

WANTED.
An apprentice to the Blacksmith Trade.
Apply at this office.
Dec. 26, 1846.

FOR SALE.
A first rate second handed SULKY, with a good top; also a set of harness, brass mounted, nearly new. Apply at this office.
Dec. 30, 1846.