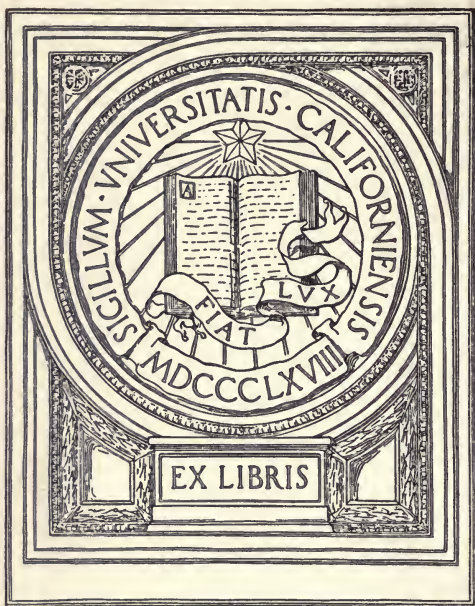


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# BATTLES OF CUBA!

CONTAINING AN AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT OF THE

## BATTLES

FOUGHT ON THAT ISLAND IN HER LATE STRUGGLE FOR

## INDEPENDENCE:

INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF THE

DREADFUL MASSACRE OF

**Fifty-Two**

AMERICAN CITIZENS,

WITH A LIST OF THEIR NAMES.

ALSO, THE CAPTURE AND

DEATH OF GEN. LOPEZ!!!

TO WHICH IS ADDED A GRAPHIC

HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN WAR!

HIGHLY ILLUSTRATED.

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED AT 123 NASSAU STREET.

1852.



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BATTLE OF PUERTO PRINCIPE.

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LAS TUNAS.

ARRE LAS POZAS.



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BATTLE OF NAJASSA.



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GENERAL LOPEZ.





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# BATTLES OF CUBA.

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## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

THIS book is not issued for the purpose of producing excitement in respect to a subject on which there is already too much. But the object of the author is to present the facts in the case as far as they are known. There are many in these States who have had friends engaged in the struggle, and feel an intense anxiety to learn as much as possible in respect to their fate, especially since the barbarous slaughter of our fellow-citizens at Havana, in cold blood.

We deprecate war in every form and on all occasions, when it can possibly be avoided. It is not for us to say whether the rising of the Cubans in different parts of the island was justifiable. They think it was, or they would not have risen; they, like our ancestors of the Revolutionary times, feel that they have long enough submitted to the iron rule of their oppressors. When the people of any country commence a revolution, and have good reasons for it, we leave it for our readers to decide whether it is right for foreign freemen to thus aid the cause of independence. Still, for ourselves, we believe that our countrymen had better stay at home than to engage in any wars, especially those on foreign shores. But as people will fight and excite revolutions, and have done it in all ages of the world, the results of such ebullitions of the people constitute matter for history.

The Cuban struggle, whether right or wrong, must be placed upon the annals of history. We must say that, in our opinion, a thirst for freedom exists among the inhabitants of that beautiful island, which will ere long burst the bands of despotism that bind them to the dust, and show their oppressors that *the people* must rule.

# THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

THE

## BATTLE OF PUERTO PRINCIPE.

FOR years there has been increasing dissatisfaction among the Cubans, with the oppressive exactions and tyranny of the Spanish government. Within a year past secret arrangements have been made for concerted action in various parts of the island. Cubans residing in this country have also acted in concert, raised funds, and induced adventurers to go from these shores and fight the battles of freedom. *Puerto Principe*, capital of the Central Department of Cuba, was wisely chosen as the place where the flag of liberty should first be unfurled.

This town is situated in the interior, a little to the east of the center of the island, and 450 miles from Havana. It is thirty-six miles from Neuvas, which is its seaport, and through which all its foreign trade passes. The town is situated between two rivulets, which unite and form the San Pedro River. The country in the neighborhood formerly produced immense quantities of cattle, and supplied the markets of Havana. The soil is exceedingly rich and productive, but much of it lies waste and uncultivated. The mountain range of Cuba flanks the city on either hand. The eastern chain, running to the point of the island at Cape Maysi, is savage and broken, some of the peaks rising to the height of 8,000 feet. These mountain valleys and defiles afforded ample shelter to the revolutionists, who could also draw their supplies from the rich agricultural region adjoining.

In addition to this advantage the distance from the seat of Government was also in their favor.

The city of Puerto Principe contains within its jurisdiction a population of one hundred thousand souls, mostly whites. An inland city, remote from all the blandishments, frivolities and foreign influences which operate upon and change the native disposition of the inhabitants of seaport towns, the Principanos are noted for their strength of character, inflexible uprightness, sturdy honesty, and conscientious adherence to right principles and abhorrence of wrong, in spite of persecution or opposition, no matter

under what circumstances. The Principanos may, in fact, be considered types of real Cuban character, and it is not too much to say that in many of their prominent characteristics they resemble the old Puritans of New England. It would naturally be expected that such a place would be the hot-bed and nursery for Liberty and Democracy; and such is the fact.

For years the desire of release from the terrible thralldom of Despotism, which has so long manacled Cuba and the Cubans, has burned in the hearts of the Principanos. Each year has the fire grown stronger and greater, and many times has the smothered volcano of popular feeling all but burst forth. But till now, by the ceaseless watching and manœuvres of Spanish despots, the application of their tortures, the use of the garrote, the sword, the dungeon, and expatriation, they have managed to prevent, up to this time, a general rising among the people, though every act of cruelty has but made the day of vengeance more certain to approach, and the revenge, when it does come, more terrible.

The late sudden arrest, confinement, and quick banishment of ten of the first and most distinguished men of Principe, for the crime of being concerned in the revolutionary movement for Liberty, created the utmost consternation among the people. The action of the government in the execution of such a high-handed act, only seemed to bring on the crisis and the open outbreak.

The Spanish garrison at Principe consisted of 2400 men, under command of Gen. Lemery. The troops were quartered in the convents of the friars, there being no fortress there, and the city being without walls. The fourth of July, the day of our national independence, it seems, was fixed upon as the time for a general rising and the issuing of a Pronunciamento by the Principanos. Accordingly, on that day a crowd assembled in the adjacent groves, under Don Joaquin Agüero y Agüero, as their leader, and raised the banner of revolt.

The Spanish troops were soon in motion under General Lemery, and fighting commenced in earnest. A party of cavalry lancers rushed forward and attacked the rebels



with great impetuosity ; but they were met with firmness, and soon routed by the Patriots, leaving about 20 Spaniards dead on the field and a large number wounded. Several Patriots were wounded, but none killed. This success encouraged the revolutionists, and others flocked to their standard. The whole disposable force of the government in that quarter were on the alert ; they were divided into columns of 800 each, and proceeded with great energy against the Patriots.

Various other towns raised the standard of revolt in the early part of July, and issued their Pronunciamentos, among which were :

*In the Vuelta de Arriba*—Puerto Principe, Villa Clara, Holguin, Trinidad, Bayamo, Manzanillo, Cienfuegos, Santo Espiritu, Las Tunas.

*In the Vuelta de Abajo*—Pinal del Rio, Mantua, Galafro, and various places nearer to Havana.

Trinidad, Cienfuegos, Villa Clara, and all the adjacent towns and villages, sent out their bands ; and on the 24th of July the banner was raised at Guinia Miranda, and proclamations issued to the citizens and to the troops.

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### BATTLE OF COSCORRO.

On the same day (July 4th) there was a sharp contest between 200 Cubans and 300 Spaniards, consisting of 100 lancers and 200 infantry, who had been dispatched previously to the 4th, to the Coscorro mountains. After much hard fighting, the government troops fled, losing their commander and 20 others, who were killed. Twelve of the Spanish soldiers went over to the Patriots.

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### BATTLE OF LAS TUNAS,

AS DESCRIBED BY ONE OF THE PATRIOTS.

We raised aloft the banner of liberty on the 4th inst. in the districts (*partidos*) of Guaymaro and Sebanico, with

the small number of 250 patriots. We remained there till the 5th, when, in concert with another band which rose in Holguin, we directed our march upon the town of Las Tunas, which was garrisoned by a company of the Regiment of Zaragosa; but circumstances growing out of the darkness of the night, led to a meeting of the two parties at 12 o'clock, before the appointed place, and our commander inquired, "Who is it?"—to whom the other, carried away by the force of habit, answered "Spain;" whereupon, alas! the order was given to fire and charge upon them, which charge lasted till they could recognize each other in the midst of the combat. The result of this unhappy affair was the loss of five from the Holguin party, and 28 wounded between the two.

However, this disaster did not discourage our brave patriots, they immediately united, and fell upon Las Tunas with the swiftness of lightning; they attacked the barracks by surprise, and after a short resistance, in which some were wounded, the company united with them in mass at the magic word of Liberty. The Lieutenant Governor of that jurisdiction was so cowardly, that he implored our mercy, and in pity we left him at liberty, taking from him only his horse, sword and pistols, and \$1000 belonging to the funds of the despotic government. Thence we marched upon the districts (partidos) of San Juan and Santa Cruz, recruiting our force, and on the 8th we were in Coscorro with 380 horse and 200 foot.

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### BATTLE OF NAJASSA.

The 8th and 9th were passed in organizing four divisions under the command of the patriots who had most distinguished themselves at Las Tunas: and on the 10th, three of them marched out, the other remaining on the mountains. The one commanded by Don Serapio Recio advanced towards Santa Cruz, and shortly before reaching the river Najassa, was informed that four companies of the regiment of Cantabria were marching in the same direc-

tion, under command of Colonel Conti; but that the river being swollen, they were occupied in making rafts to cross it.

The commander Recio immediately ordered a march towards that point; he watched the enemy's movements, and when sufficiently near without being seen, he planted his 250 men in ambuscade, and waited till they should begin the crossing on the raft. That soon took place. The commander of the enemy crossed at the head of the first company, and landed, and the raft, drawn back by the ropes, returned to the opposite bank to bring over the second; our patriots remaining meanwhile motionless and ready for the attack.

The raft began to move with the second company, and then the patriots fell upon them desperately, scattered confusion among them, took prisoners Colonel Conti, six officers and 56 soldiers. The number killed that could be counted on the banks was 36, without counting a great number of wounded, together with various materials of war, taken from the enemy. Still, in the midst of the fight, the brave Recio did not forget the raft; he ordered them to cut the ropes and to fire upon it, following it along its course. The result of this most brilliant action in which the patriots only lost one killed and ten wounded, was so complete that none were able to escape but those who kept on the opposite side of the river.

On the 10th and 11th, the other patriot corps had various skirmishes with the troops of cavalry and infantry that marched out from Puerto Principe after them. On the 13th, in the district of Guaimarillo, a corps of artillery came over to the patriots under the command of its Captain, Don Gabriel Fortun, composed of 60 men and four field howitzers. The 14th, 15th and 16th, the liberators remained inactive, recruiting men from the country; but the 17th was a day marked by Providence to make the fields of Cuba witnesses of one of the most heroic deeds of arms ever seen in the history of revolutions.

## BATTLE OF SAN MIGUEL.

At 3 in the afternoon of that day, the corps commanded by Don Augustin Aguero de Aguero, was marching towards the district of San Miguel. On the way he received information that at the distance of three leagues, were marching in the same direction, three companies of the Regiment of Isabel II., and 80 lancers of the squadron of Bourbon. Aguero immediately halted, examined the positions he could occupy, and selected a level spot bordered on the right by a pretty high hill. He selected 50 men from the corps, and directed them to advance along the road so as to draw the attention of the enemy; and the rest, consisting of 150 men, he placed in ambush at a point agreed upon.

As soon as the commander of the royalists espied the fifty Patriots, confident in his numerical superiority, he advanced at full speed upon them. They, on their side, retreated upon the hill appointed, and there stood firm, intrepidly awaiting the charge. The royalists did not keep them long waiting; they charged upon them, lance in rest. At that moment those in ambush presented themselves, and surrounded the lancers, who, attacked on all sides by the republicans, had to succumb, the result being that, of the 80 who entered into action, only 10 escaped with life, though badly wounded.

### POSITION OF THE PATRIOT FORCES.

On the 18th and 19th, nothing worthy of note occurred; but the republican ranks had gone on increasing every hour. On the 20th, all the corps being united, marched upon the mountains, which march was interrupted by three companies of the Regiment of Cantabria, who were beaten and dispersed. After the 20th, these brilliant positions were occupied by 2000 patriots, 600 horse, 4 field howitzers, and the munitions and subsistence required for two months.



### BATTLE OF THE CERRO.

On the 21st of July a band of Patriots sallied forth, and attacked the village of the Cerro, six miles from Havana, and really a part of the city. They approached with precipitancy, and surprised and killed some of the picket guard, and then returned to their fastnesses in the mountains.

After much hard fighting, the Liberators in the vicinity of Principe were driven back into the mountains, and a few captured, among whom was their brave commander Agüero. Some fled to the sea-shore and embarked for the United States, and are now among us.

It is said that the government authorities had succeeded, by inducing the mothers of the revolters to go and entreat their sons to lay down their arms and accept of the proffered pardon, in weakening the strength of the Patriots. Many yielded to the entreaties of their mothers, and this served to dispirit others. The Patriots were poorly armed and equipped, and it is a wonder that they could make any stand at all against such fearful odds.

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### LANDING OF GENERAL LOPEZ.

The news of the Cuban struggle for independence produced intense interest in this country; and several banished Cubans and others got up an expedition, with the gallant Lopez as their leader, to go and aid their oppressed brethren.

The Pampero, commanded by Capt. Lewis, after leaving the Balize, below New-Orleans, made for Key West and reached there on the 10th inst. After having anchored in the harbor some hours, she weighed anchor at 11 o'clock at night, and sailed for the Cuban coast, with Gen. Lopez, suite and about 450 men on board.

On the 12th she returned to Key West, after having landed Lopez and party at Puerto Cabanos, a place about 40 miles West of Havana.

General Pragay, the distinguished Hungarian, Adjutant General of Klapka, at Cormorn, who has been in forty-two battles, and is a most skilful and gallant officer, went with Lopez as second in command. There were also twenty Hungarian engineers in the party.

The other officers, were Col. Crittenden, late of the army, a nephew of the Attorney General, who had immediate command of an artillery company; Col. Dollman, of Georgia, who served through the Mexican war; Major J. A. Kelly, who served in Florida and Mexico; Capt. W. Scott Haynes, A. J. Dailey, and others.

The Pampero, on her return to Key West, again anchored in the harbor, but she was obliged to leave in about an hour to prevent seizure by our vigilant Government officers.

She hung around Key West, however, until the night of the 15th, and took off some 20 or 25 emigrants, when she sailed for Jacksonville, Florida, to take on board Gen. Gonzales and a party of 500 men, who were in readiness at that point for embarkation.

It appears that, close into the entrance of the harbor, Lopez fell in with a schooner, from which he took out the captain and mate, to serve him as pilots on the coast of Bahia Honda, the navigation of which is very intricate. They arrived off Bahia Honda about 9 P. M., when they immediately commenced making signals to the shore by means of rockets, &c., which probably had been previously agreed upon between the liberators and those on shore. Gen. Lopez did not effect a landing with his men until 4 A. M.; but the debarkation was done in so masterly a style, that before sunrise he had not only landed his men, with all their munitions of war, but was on his march to Las Pozas, a town a few miles distant from the coast, where he immediately commenced entrenching himself.

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## BATTLE OF LAS POZAS.

### LOPEZ' FIRST ENGAGEMENT.

After the landing of Gen. Lopez was announced at Havana, the greatest excitement prevailed.

The Pizarro, laden with troops, under the command of General Enna (who is next in command to the Captain General), and with him the Admiral, left, about 8 A. M., for Bahia Honda, one thousand men having previously been sent by the railway cars.

It must be borne in mind, that such was the state of confusion and alarm into which the government were thrown, that they had no distinct idea as to whether Bahia Honda or Mariel was the point to which the liberators had come. The following morning General Enna came up with the pirates, as they are termed by the government, and fought with them at Las Pozas, a small town about three miles from the coast. He regrets the loss of some of his men and others wounded.

In this engagement, which occurred Aug. 13, the Spaniards were commanded by Gen. Enna in person, who had his horse shot from under him; Col. Radal and seven officers and about 78 men were killed.

So unerring and deadly was the fire of the brave liberators that Gen. Enna was three times repulsed with loss. At this moment the Lieut. Governor of Mariel, Col. Guerrea, came up, with about two hundred men more, when the Colonel received a shot through his leg, and his men such a check, that Gen. Enna (as he states in his official communication to the Captain General, dated 3 o'clock on the 14th) saw the uselessness of attempting anything further against the pirates without more artillery, as it would be only exposing his men to certain death, without any favorable result; consequently he demanded further reinforcements.

Accordingly, two steamers, the Habanero and the Al-mendares, left that day with more troops, to the number of fourteen hundred; so that, according to their own account, with those who had been concentrating from the other districts, they had upwards of 8,000 men including cavalry, and had up to that time taken only three captives, whom they instantly put to death. Two of the persons were sailors belonging to the steamer Pampero, who, after landing Lopez, had gone into a tavern and got drunk; the other poor fellow was found in a hut, unable to move, from a fracture he received when landing.

## BATTLE OF BAHIA HONDA, And Dreadful Massacre of Fifty-two American Citizens at Havana!!!

Havana has been the theatre of a scene that could hardly be equalled, in demoniacal barbarity, by the wildest savages of the forest. One universal burst of indignation arose throughout this union.

It appears that the Spanish war steamer *Habanero* fell in with a party of Americans, numbering 52, in four boats, off a place called *Bahia Honda*, 40 miles West of Havana.

On the 15th it was known that the liberators, who had been joined in large numbers by the people of the country, made a move in the direction of *Diego de Nunez* and *Cabanas*, with the intention of possessing themselves of the fort at the latter place, when, unfortunately, some forty or fifty of them, who had, in the most daring manner, endeavored to get there by sea in four launches, with the intention of taking the Spaniards in the fort by surprise, were themselves, after a most desperate resistance, captured by the Spanish Admiral, who, with his steamer, and an immense number of men, succeeded in taking them, after a fight of four hours.

They were brought to Havana by the *Habanero*, on Saturday morning, at 1 A. M., (Aug. 16,) and placed on board a Spanish frigate lying in the harbor. They were executed at 11, 15 A. M. of the same morning. They were shot on the public road in Havana kneeling with their backs to the executioners. At the least calculation, there were present 20,000 spectators. The following are the names of most of the victims :

Col. W. S. Clendennen ; Capts. F. S. Sewer, Victor Kerr, T. B. Veacy ; Lieuts. James Brandt, J. O. Bryce, Thomas C. James ; Doctors John Fisher and K. A. Tournique ; Sergeants J. Whiterews and A. M. Cotchett ; Agt. R. C. Stanford ; Privates M. H. Homes, Samuel Mills, Edward Rulman, George A. Arnold, B. J. Wregy, William Wiseman, Anselmo Torres Hernandez, Patrick Dillon, Thomas Hearsey, Samuel Reed, H. T. Vinne, M. Philips, James L. Manville, G. M. Green, J. Salmon, Napoleon Collins, N. H. Fisher, Wm. Chilling, G. A. Cook, S. O. Jones, M. H. Ball, James Buxet, Robert Caldwell, C. C. Wm. Smith, A. Ross, P. Brouke John



Christdes, Wm. B. Little, Robert Cantley, John G. Lanka, Jas. Stanton, Thomas Harnott, Alex. McIlcer, John Stubbs, James Ellis, Wm. Hogan, Charles A. Robinson.

After they were shot they were dragged by the feet by negroes and then left to the mob, who commenced stripping them of their clothes and carrying them on sticks through the streets, yelling like so many demons. Many of the Cherokee's passengers, who were on the spot of execution, were pointed at with a sneer of contempt, and many stopped in the streets and insulted, telling them they were one and all of the same party—that they were Americans, and that ere long they would be in the same situation. At night it was dangerous for an American to be in the streets alone.

The American Consul was called upon three hours before the execution, and requested to ask of the Captain-General an order to visit the prisoners, that he might know what to communicate to their friends and *to whom*—but he declined this act of humanity upon the plea that it was not his *duty*. He, however, consented to write a note, which of course was unattended to, when his personal demand would have been respected.

When the news of this barbarous massacre reached this country, meetings were called in our cities and large towns, and the greatest indignation manifested at the cruelty of the Spaniards, and the heartlessness of the American consul at Havana. The feeling was so violent at New-Orleans, that when the remains of Col. Crittenden and Capt. Kerr were brought to that city, a mob was raised, who attacked the office of the Spanish paper *La Patria*, broke in the windows and doors, and threw the presses, cases, types, and furniture into the streets; in fact, they destroyed everything belonging to the office.

After demolishing the Union office, the rioters proceeded to the cigar store on the corner of St. Charles and Gravier streets, broke in the doors and windows, and destroyed all the stock and fixtures, which were very valuable. At 7 o'clock the rioters went to the office of the Spanish Consul, and destroyed desks, furniture, and property of all kinds. They also broke down the sign, which they carried in triumph to a meeting held in La Fayette Square.

Another dispatch, dated 22d, says a mob of 2000 men surrounded the city prison this morning, where the Spanish Consul had taken refuge, and threatened to demolish it unless he was delivered up to them.

Minute guns were fired from sunrise until night in honor of the murdered liberators. Three or four Spanish coffee houses were also destroyed. The military were called out.

It is said the Spanish Consul received several letters from murdered Americans, written previous to their execution, but refused to deliver them up to a Committee who called on him. Subsequently, however, he was forced to surrender them.

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### **ATTACK OF THE SPANISH STEAMER HABANERO, On the American Steamer Falcon. Insult to our Flag!**

The following account is given by a passenger on board the Falcon:

On the 16th inst., as the U. S. Mail Steamer Falcon was proceeding on her voyage from Chagres to Havana, when off that part of the coast of Cuba known as the Bahia Honda, at 10 A. M., we saw the smoke of a steamer close in shore, and shortly after she hove in sight.

We, however, held our course, and running only at our usual speed, soon left her eight or ten miles astern, notwithstanding she seemed to be doing her best. We at first took her for the Pizarro, but afterwards learned that she was the *Isabella Catholica*, formerly an English steam frigate—the *Caledonia*. After she had been in chase of us for about an hour, we saw the smoke of another steamer on our starboard bow, close in shore, hull down. She soon, however, showed herself, steering so as to head us off, in which, being a fast goer, she succeeded. She fired two guns shotted, to seaward to bring us to, as soon as she was within about four miles; but we took no notice of her until she run down close aboard of us and fired a third shot across our bows. After the third shot, the engine was run slow, when she hove to, and hailed us to “stop her,” which was then done.

As soon as they saw that we had stopped, the officers of the Spanish steamer, the Habanero, took off their caps and waved them round their heads with a hurra! This was a decided insult. An officer then boarded us and demanded what ship we were, where bound, and if we had any Spanish passengers, &c. He was answered, and he said he must go on board his vessel and report. He lost no time in doing so, and then motioned us to go ahead.

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### **SECOND GREAT BATTLE OF GEN. LOPEZ.**

General Enna, after obtaining large reinforcements, marched to the field of action, and came up with the Patriots August 17th. A terrible battle was fought. The Spaniards were determined to drive the rebels from their position; but the latter maintained their ground and fought like tigers, and finally routed the enemy. In this and the previous engagement, the Spaniards lost about 80 officers and 300 privates, either killed or wounded. Among the killed was Gen. Enna himself, whose remains were taken to Havana and buried on the 20th, with great pomp.

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### **CLOSE OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION, And Execution of Gen. Lopez at Havana.**

After struggling with almost every disadvantage, till the latter part of August, General Lopez saw with dismay that his cause was desperate. The whole power of the Spanish forces in the island was brought to bear against his few heroic adventurers. The Cubans who were favorable to liberty, did not dare to enlist, to any great extent, under the banner of the Patriots, and especially after the barbarous slaughter of 52 Americans citizens at Havana, August 16th; and those who had enlisted being offered pardon by the government if they would leave the rebels, began rapidly to desert, until finally Gen. Lopez was left entirely alone.

Those who witnessed his execution, state that he ended his life manfully.

The failure of the expedition is attributed to the separation of Col. Crittenden's command from that of Gen. Lopez.

Just previous to his capture he had but thirty remaining followers, and they finally deserted him in a wounded condition, so that he had not one remaining friend.

He wandered alone for some time, and was finally run down by bloodhounds. His last words were—"Adieu, dear Cuba!"

The Spanish accounts state that of the whole number of Patriots landed by the Pampero and from other quarters, 556 had already been killed, and 436 were in prison.

Previous to the death of Lopez, he declared that he had been greatly deceived in regard to promised aid in Cuba.

He was captured and taken to San Christoval on the 29th, and brought to the city of Havana on the 31st, where he was publicly *garroted* Sept. 1st., at 7 A. M.

A few minutes before 7, Lopez was brought forward, and ascended the platform (about 15 feet high), on which was the chair for the execution. He turned, and facing the multitude assembled, addressed them with a short speech; the conclusion of which (and his last words) was, "I die for my beloved country." He then took his seat, the machine was adjusted, and at one turn of the screw, his head dropped forward. He evinced not the slightest trembling or fear; his step was proud and firm, and his voice clear and distinct.

A few hisses and groans were heard from the crowd after the execution; save that, everything was orderly and quiet.

The unfortunate party were literally starved out. Several, it is said, died for want of food. Gen. Lopez himself, when taken, was alone, and had eaten his horse through hunger.

The insurgents were still maintaining themselves in the mountains near Puerto Principe.

The punishment of the *garrote* is described as placing the victim in an easy chair, clamping his limbs, placing a band around the neck, and gradually pressing a screw until the neck is broken.

Thus solemnly and awfully has ended, for the present, the attempt of the Cubans to achieve their independence. But the Spaniards, by their barbarous and unheard-of cruelties, will not gain many friends. We confidently aver, that the time is not far distant when the down trodden, oppressed, and enraged populace will rise in their might, and scatter, like chaff before the tempest, the minions of tyranny in that beautiful Island!



## BATTLES OF MEXICO,

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Various circumstances contributed to produce this war. In the first place the government of the U. S. had certain claims against Mexico, acknowledged by the latter, but not cancelled. Next, the people of Texas, having formed themselves into an independent government maintained that independence eight years, were desirous of being annexed to the United States. In order to accomplish this object, as Mexico was opposed to it, it was agreed between our government and that of Texas, that the former should send upon the borders of Texas, an armed force sufficient to put down any opposition from Mexico. Accordingly Zachary Taylor, Col. of the 6th Regiment of Infantry, was appointed to take command of these forces. He repaired to Fort Jessup, Louisiana, and found that post garrisoned by seven companies of the 2d regiment of Dragoons, under the command of Col. D. E. Twiggs. May 10th, 1844, eight companies of the 3d Regiment of Infantry, stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, repaired to the same place, commanded by Lieutenant Col. E. A. Hitchcock. Their encampment was called Camp Wilkins. Eight companies of the 4th Regiment from Jefferson Barracks, went, May 13, to Grand Ecore on the Red River, under the command of Colonel Vose. Z. Taylor, with the title of Brevet Brigadier General,

arrived at Fort Jessup about the middle of June. April, 1845 two companies arrived from Fort Leavenworth, making 25 companies in all of what was called the "army of observation." It having been voted by Congress (Feb. 1845), to annex Texas to the United States, and as the people of that State in convention, would meet, and probably accept the proposition of annexation in July, it was thought best for the army of observation to be prepared to move to the western frontier of Texas if necessary. Accordingly it proceeded to New Orleans in July 1845, ready to embark to any requisite point.

While at that city Col. J. H. Vose of the 4th Infantry died in a fit, which cast a gloom over his associates in arms. July 23d a part of the force set sail for Corpus Christi, (generally called Kinney's Ranch," situated on the western shore of Corpus Christi Bay) and arrived July 31. Many interesting incidents and some spirited battles have occurred at this military post, between the Mexicans and Texans, in which Santa Anna acted a prominent part; but we must not tarry to describe them here. The army now was no longer called "army of observation;" but the "army of occupation." In August the aspect of affairs began to be menacing, and it was expected that Mexico would soon declare war. General Arista, was at Monterey with a considerable Mexican force, and there was another at Matamoras. In the mean time new companies from the United States occasionally arrived.

Sept. 12th, the steamer Dayton, having on board several officers and soldiers, burst her boilers, on her way to St. Joseph's Island and eight lost their lives in a most distressing manner. In September General Worth with six companies, and Major Ringgold with his company of horse

and others, arrived at the camp. By the middle of October 1845 the army of occupation consisted of 251 officers 3671 privates, total 3922. These were on the coast, and there were about 150 in the interior.

Texas claimed the land to the River Rio Grande, and General Taylor was ordered, in Feb. 1846, to move the army to some point on that river. In March it accordingly started, having been at Corpus Christi seven months and eleven days. March 16th Col. Twiggs met the advanced guard of the enemy and was ordered to advance no further. He returned to the army and reported. Nothing however, was seen of the enemy again until our forces reached the banks of the Colorado, the passage of which was strongly disputed. The Mexican forces were drawn up on the opposite bank, and declared that they would fire upon our forces if they attempted to cross. General Taylor told them, that as soon as the bank was cut down for the train to pass, the first Mexican that he saw after our men entered the river would be shot. At this they fled. The Adjutant general, Gen. Mejia, the commanding officer at Matamoras, handed a paper to General Taylor informing him, that if he crossed they would have a fight; but no opposition appeared. The order of march as our army drew nearer Point Isabel was in four columns, the Dragoons on the right and the 3d Brigade on the left. Before arriving, however, it was ascertained that the place was deserted by the enemy and that all the buildings but one were burned. Our army were then ordered to direct their march towards Matamoras and General Worth encamped 12 miles from that place. General Taylor proceeded to point Isabel and the steamers and provisions arrived at the same time. While a deputation of fifty armed citizens of Matamoras, protesting

there against our occupying the country. The general told them that he would answer them at Matamoras. Defences were ordered to be constructed at the Point and Major Monroe appointed Commander of the port. March 25th, General Worth proceeded three miles farther, to Palo Alto and waited for General Taylor. March 28th, the army moved towards Matamoras, which is on the Rio Grande, arriving opposite the city about 11 A. M. Two of our advanced guard were taken prisoners by the Mexicans, and the horse of a boy who was a bugler; which excited our men considerably. About two hundred Mexicans were to be seen and their colours flying in various places. General Worth was ordered to answer the deputation which visited Gen. Taylor at Point Isabel. The Mexicans for some time would not send a boat across the river: but at last one came with an officer. General Worth sent him back saying that he wished to see the commanding officer. Gen. Mejia said that he would neither receive General Worth or General Taylor's communication. Mejia sent General La Vega and Worth crossed the river and the interview took place on the Mexican side. La Vega said that the Mexicans considered us as invaders. Nothing of importance was accomplished by the interview. A flag was soon raised by our army on the banks of the Rio Grande. It was thought that the Mexican force, at this post was fifteen hundred. March 26th it was feared that our forces would be attacked at night and they were ordered to sleep upon their arms. Capt. May with a squadron of the 2nd Dragoons marched to Point Isabel (27 miles) in four hours to reinforce the garrison. On the first of April Gen. Taylor demanded the release of the captured Dragoons and they were returned with their equipments. It is surprising that several of our men deserted and went over to the enemy. Some of



them were shot, who attempted to swim the river. News arrived, April 9th that Mr. Slidell, United States minister to Mexico having given up all hope of opening negotiations had left the city and returned to the U. S.

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### BATTLE OF MATAMORAS.

General Ampudia, who had superseded Arista, arrived from the South the 11th of April and ordered General Taylor to leave in 24 hours or he should consider us as having declared war against Mexico. Taylor answered that he did not wish for 24 hours but would return an answer at 10 o'clock the next day. He told Ampudia that he was sent there by his government in a peaceful attitude and he *intended to remain*, and warned Ampudia against firing the first gun. Lieutenant Porter, while out in pursuit of Col. Cross, who was supposed to be killed was attacked by some Mexicans and slain. Col. Cross was afterwards found murdered. April 26th an ambush was laid for a company of our men and 2 sergeants and 8 privates were killed in an engagement with the enemy.

There was every appearance of a general and speedy attack. General Taylor sent a requisition on the governors of Louisiana and Texas for 5000 men. April 25th General Arista arrived at the scene of action. April 28th Capt. Walker's camp was attacked by Generals Torrejon and Canales, being stationed midway between Point Isabel and Matamoras. 5 of his men were killed and 4 missing, he having gone out with some of his force on a scout. April 29th it was thought that the Point was attacked as cannon was heard in that direction, and a portion of the

army marched immediately in that direction. The report was false as there had been no attack.

May 3rd the batteries from Matamoras opened upon our camp at day-break with great energy. The battle was fierce for a while and in 30 minutes all the heavy gun batteries of the enemy were silenced by our artillery. The enemy threw many shells; but without effect.

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### BATTLE OF PALO ALTO.

Most of our forces were at Point Isabel and in that vicinity though some were opposite Matamoras. General Taylor, May 7th directed the army to march in the direction of Matamoras. It started at 3, P. M. having a valuable train of provisions and munitions of war. Six twelve-pounders were in the wagons and a battery of two eighteen pounders was drawn by oxen. The forces were under the command of Lieut. Churchill. On the morning of the 8th the enemy were observed less than a mile distant, occupying a front of about a mile and a half. The general formed his men in column of attack and permitted them to go half at a time and get water to fill their canteens, as they had marched twelve miles that day and suffered from heat and thirst. Our army moved on with firmness to meet the enemy, and when within 700 yards the enemy opened their fire from a battery on the right. The right wing of our army

was composed of the fifth Infantry on the right, Ringgold's Artillery, the 3rd Infantry, Churchill's eighteen pound battery and 4th Infantry and commanded by Col. Twiggs. The left wing composed of Duncan's Artillery and the 8th Infantry was commanded Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Belknap. Ringgold's and Duncan's batteries advanced and commenced firing. The enemy fired continually but not with much precision. Their cavalry move on the left and then three batteries placed in a line at a considerable distance from each other and bodies of infantry between, making a long line of battle. Ringgold's battery made dreadful havoc, cutting down almost whole platoons at once. The two eighteen pounders roared tremendously and the cavalry of the enemy soon began to retire, at first in a trot and then in a gallop. A movement of the enemy's flank, composed of Cavalry one thousand strong, endangered our train and was promptly met by a section of Ringgold's battery under Lieut. Ridgeway and the fifth and third Infantry. They were received by 5th in a square and twenty of them were killed from the fire of an angle. When the enemy saw the 3rd Infantry advancing in column by division, they fled with rapidity. On the left Duncan cut them down in great numbers and the shout of our men could be heard above the cannon's roar. Our left wing, particularly the 8th Infantry, suffered from the fire of the enemy, being in a column instead of being deployed in a line. In the midst of the battle the prairie took fire and enveloped the armies in smoke. The firing commenced at 3 P. M. and ceased for a time at 4 P. M. Then Ringgold's battery and the eighteen pounders were pushed round to the left flank of the enemy and the 4th Infantry and 1st Brigade moved up to their aid. the firing soon commenced

again and the enemy were obliged to change their line of battle. At this moment Duncan poured a tremendous fire into their right flank and threw it into the greatest confusion. As night approached the firing gradually ceased on both sides. The enemy had been driven from his position and forced to retire, and our army were left victors upon the battle ground. We had only nine killed, forty-four wounded and two missing. Major Ringgold, Captain Page, Lieutenants Luther, 2nd Artillery and Wallen, 4th Infantry were wounded. Major Ringgold received a shot while sitting on his horse, which carried away the flesh on his legs from his knees up and passed through the withers of his horse. The lower jaw of Capt. Page was shot off. Lieut. Wallen received a slight wound in the arm and Lieut. Luther in the calf of the leg. The Assistant Adjutant General, Capt. Bliss and Lieut. Daniels had their horses shot under them. Our wounded suffered much during the night. General Arista commanded the enemy having 6000 men and our force consisted of 2211. Thus ended the famous battle of Palo Alto.

May 9th the enemy, at day break, moved along the borders of the chaparral and it was supposed that they intended to occupy the road and prevent our farther progress. It was decided that we should attack them, and after the train was suitably guarded, our army moved forward soon after sunrise. It was found that the enemy were rapidly retreating. In going over the battle field the scene was awful. There were at least five hundred of the enemy killed and wounded. It would seem that enough had already been done to settle the difficulty between the two nations but a nation's pride is not easily satisfied. This war but the commencement of bloody scenes. Gen. Taylor ordered our men to take care of the wounded among the enemy



wherever found, as carefully as our own wounded. At 1 P.M. our army moved on.

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### BATTLE OF RESACA DE LA PALMA.

Capt. G. A. McCall was sent forward with one hundred picked men to reconnoitre. He found that the enemy had selected a favorable position and were waiting for our advance. McCall had a slight brush with them and returned. Our forces were deployed to the right and left of the road as skirmishers. Capt. McCall's command were ordered to advance and draw the fire of the enemy. The latter were on the opposite bank of a ravine concave towards us and their batteries were so arranged as to sweep the road and every approach through the chaparral. McCall received the fire of the enemy and Lieut. Ridgely, successor to Ringgold, was ordered forward with his battery. The battle commenced with fury. Frequently were bayonets crossed, they were in such close proximity, The enemy gave way slowly, but fought like tigers, for every inch of ground. The chaparral was so thick that our regiments were mixed; but fought not the less bravely. Ridgely at one time, had a body of lancers come down upon him, with tremendous force, when he had but one piece unlimbered. Sergeant Kearnes put a load of canister on the top of a shell and fired which scattered all but four. Then Ridgely charged them in person and drove them back, exhibiting the greatest bravery.

Capt. May rode back and asked the general if he should charge the enemy on the opposite side of the ravine.

The answer was "*Charge, Captain, nolens, volens!*" As May dashed on by Ridgely, the latter cried "*hold on Charley till I draw their fire!*" Down the ravine they went. Lieut. Inge soon fell and many others; but the rest drove furiously on, crossed the ravine and captured the battery. Capt. Graham's company was with May's in this charge. General La Vega stood by his battery to the last and was taken prisoner by Capt. May. The 3rd were deployed on the right of the road; but met no enemy and not being able to get through the thick, dense chaparral, were obliged to return to get into the action and arrived after the enemy were completely routed. Duncan then took the advance with his battery, the Dragoons, 3rd Infantry and Smith's command being ordered to support the artillery. We dashed on after the enemy who were in full retreat, pouring upon them a very destructive fire. Our men soon came up with the enemy's camp and found it deserted and captured by the brave Barbour, who with his company of the third Infantry had resisted a formidable charge of cavalry. Mules, packs, provisions, and other trophies were left by the enemy. Our men pursued the enemy, shouting as they went, to the river. Many of the enemy were drowned endeavoring to swim across, and were scattered in every direction. The rout was general and complete, though our force consisted of 1700 men, the others being required to guard the train. 2000 of the best of Mexico's troops came over to join in this battle of the 9th, called "*Resaca de la Palma.*" Our loss was three officers and thirty-six men killed, twelve officers and fifty-nine men wounded. The officers killed were Lieut. Z. Inge, 2nd Dragoons; Lieut. R. E. Cochrane, 4th Infantry; and Lieut. T. L. Chadbourne, 8th Infantry. The wounded

officers were Colonel M. M. Payne, 4th Artillery, acting Inspector-General; Col. J. S. Mc'Intosh, 5th Infantry; Capt. A. Hooe, 5th Infantry; Lieut. S. H. Fowler, 5th Infantry; Capt. W. R. Montgomery, Lieut. J. Selden, R. P. Maclay, C. F. Morris, C. R. Gates, J. G. Burbank and C. D. Jordan, 8th Infantry; and Lieut. S. D. Dobbins, 3rd Infantry. We captured eight pieces of artillery, 2000 stand of arms, 200 mules, one hundred and fifty thousand rounds of musket cartridges, and all the baggage and camp equipage of the army. Arista's private papers and baggage fell into our hands. One General, one Colonel, one Lieut, Colonel, four Captains and five Lieutenants, were taken prisoners. Three Captains and four Lieutenants of the enemy were buried on the field, and forty-eight officers besides were acknowledged by the Mexicans to be missing. The killed, wounded, and missing of the enemy could not have been less than 2000.

Gen Taylor was sitting upon his horse in the hottest of the battle, and the balls were rattling all around him. An officer remarked to him that he was exposing himself too much, and proposed that he should retire. The General said, "*Let us ride a little nearer, the balls will fall behind us.*"

During the bombardment of Fort Brown (opposite Matamoras), Major Brown the commanding officer was wounded by a shell May 6th and died on the 9th much lamented. The enemy fired 2700 shells at this fort killing one officer, one sergeant, and wounding thirteen privates. They were repeatedly ordered by the enemy to surrender; but would not. Major Ringgold died at Point Isabel May 11th and was buried with funeral honors on the 12th. May 17th our army were ordered to cross the Rio Grande and take possession of Matamoras. General Arista sent over



and wished for an armistice until he could hear from the Capital, but Old Rough and Ready said, "No!" Taylor was asked if he intended to take the city, "Yes," was the reply, "if he had to batter it down. Tell General Arista, said he, "that the city must capitulate, all public property, ammunition, provisions &c. must be given up, and then the army may march out and retire. Arista was ordered to give an answer by 3 P. M. In the mean time our army marched three miles up the river, where there was a suitable place for crossing. No deputation came from Arista and we crossed May 18th. By a sad accident Lieut. Stephens was drowned. It was found that the Mexican army precipitately left the city and the authorities invited General Taylor to take possession. The battlefield of Resaca de la Palma presented a sad spectacle—such vast numbers of the slain and now the hospitals were filled with the wounded! Near one poor wounded man, sat a beautiful girl of seventeen keeping off the flies. She was his wife. There the mother and her children were seated by the wounded father. Colonel Twiggs was appointed to the chief command of the city.

Colonel Garland was sent out with two companies on the 19th to follow the enemy. After he had gone 27 miles he came up with them, had a skirmish, and returned the 22d. Two of his men were wounded. He killed two, wounded two of the enemy and captured twenty men with their baggage. Barita, a small town near by, was taken May 17, by Colonel Wilson. When the Congress of the U. S. heard of the capture of Capt. Thornton and his command, that body made declaration of war May 13th, and voted to raise fifty thousand volunteers and to appropriate ten millions of dollars for the expense of the war. War was declared by Mexico, April 23rd. Our Congress ap-



pointed General Taylor Brevet Major General, after the battles of Palo Alto and Resca de la Palma.

Numerous reinforcements soon came in and the army moved forward. Monterey, Reynosa, Camargo, Mier and other towns were soon taken without resistance. When our army left Matamoras, Lieutenant Colonel Clark was appointed to the command of the city. Poor Page after suffering intensely, died July 12th.

The U. S. army proceeded up the Rio Grande as far as Mier and then left that noble river and turned to the south towards Monterey.

Sept. 14th, Capt. McCullough, with thirty-five men, had a brush with two hundred Mexicans, near Ramos. Two of the enemy were wounded, and the Capt. lost one horse. Reports seemed to be confirmed that the enemy were preparing for a hard battle at Monterey. It was expected that we should have a fight at Marin, where the enemy under General Torrejon were seen, just before our army entered the town. When we arrived the enemy had left. At this place the mountains at the foot of which Monterey stands, were distinctly visible, about twenty-five miles distant.

Sept. 17th General Taylor was addressed by the Spanish Consul at Monterey inquiring whether the property of foreigners would be respected. Taylor replied that he could not be responsible for anything if the city was taken by assault.

Sept. 19th at 9 P. M. the advance of our forces arrived within three miles of Monterey. Some heavy cannon were heard and our men pushed forward; but before they came within reach of the guns General Taylor ordered them to halt. It seems that some lancers came out of the city and endeavored to draw our men within reach of the shot. When our advance halted the enemy opened upon us it

earnest. The third shot went directly over General Taylor's staff, coming very near him. Our troops encamped three miles from the city. The city seemed to be well fortified and it was feared that our small guns would not be effectual against the large ones of the enemy. It was concluded that our men must take the big guns of the enemy and turn them against themselves. The town was thoroughly reconnoitered on all sides and our men were frequently fired upon. General Taylor decided to send General Worth to take possession of the road to Saltillo, and storm the heights at the west part of the city. This division, including Colonel Hay's regiment, and Captains McCullough's and Gillegie's rangers, moved off according to order.

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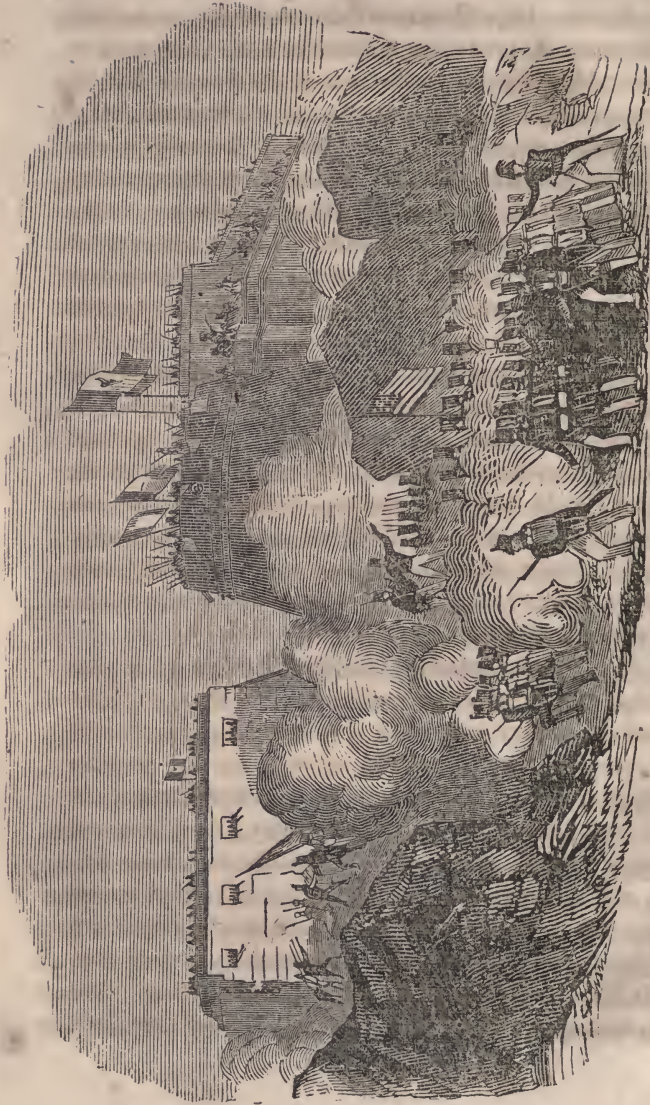
### BATTLE OF MONTEREY.

Sept. 20th, (1846), about noon. The works commanding the approaches to the city, are the Bishop's Palace and a fort on a height commanding it on the west: the citadel on the north and several detached redoubts on the east. The streets were barricaded. In the afternoon a battery was commenced for the mortar, and during the night the mortar and two twenty-four pound howitzers were established. An express from General Worth arrived the same

night, stating that he had arrived at his position, and would storm two heights southwest of the castle before storming the heights directly west of it.

Sept. 21st at 7 A. M., the first and volunteer divisions were ordered to advance towards the city. Our mortar and howitzer batteries opened; but did not have much effect. Taylor directed the first division to move to the east of the city to support Major Mansfield in reconnoitering the enemies' works. The division was under the command of Colonel Garland, 4th Infantry, and went into action with the 3rd Infantry under Major Lear, 4th Brigade under Colonel Wilson consisting of the 1st Infantry under Major Abercrombie and the Baltimore division under Colonel Watson, and Bragg's and Ridgeley's batteries. Major Mansfield was the first to commence the action. Company C., 3rd Infantry, under Lieutenant Hazlitt, was reinforced by company H., 3d Infantry, under Capt. Field. The division was formed in line of battle out of reach of the guns of the enemy, and was then ordered to advance by Lieutenant Pope and Colonel Kinney, and go into the city and storm battery No. 1, at the eastern end. The battery opened upon the division and the first shot struck in front of our line and ricoched over us. We were fired upon from the citadel. Our men in the midst of these shots, pushed rapidly onward five hundred yards and rushed into the streets. Not turning soon enough to the left an unperceived battery opened upon us a deadly fire and balls flew from house-tops, yards, and from every direction upon us. Many of our men were cut down. Major Barbour was the first officer who fell. An escopet ball passed through his heart. Our men retired into another street, under cover of some walls and houses. Lieutenant Bragg's battery now arrived and came into the street but could not effect much. Finally we





SIEGE OF MONTEREY



were directed to retire in order and make an attack from some other point. Capt. Backus of the 1st Infantry, succeeded, with fifty men, in stationing himself in a tan yard about a hundred and thirty yards in the rear of the battery No. 1, and nearer the town. There was a shed with a wall which served as a breast work for our men. Twenty yards southwest of the battery was a distillery with thick walls, on the top of which were sand bag embrasures. Capt. Backus drove the enemy from this. Two companies of the 4th Infantry (90 strong) moved forward under a terrible fire, and determined to storm a work defended by five hundred men.

Now the Mississippi and Tennessee regiments, under General Quitman, advanced and finally took possession of the battery, after great loss. This was severe fighting. Major Lear was severely wounded, Lieut. D. S. Irwin killed, Capt. G. P. Field killed by lancers, Lieutenants Hoskins and Woods were killed and Lieutenant Graham mortally wounded. Major Abercrombie and Capt. La Motte were slightly wounded. Lieut. Dillworth lost a leg and Lieut. Ferret was taken prisoner.

The division was ordered to the captured battery to support Ridgely's battery, about to advance into the city. Our men had the mortar and three twenty-four-pound howitzers playing upon the city and one of them having been taken to the captured work was firing upon Fort Diabló. A body of men, from the 3rd and 4th Infantry, of one hundred and fifty, were now ordered to enter the city and take possession of a work of the enemy, apparently a few streets distant. - They were exposed to a most destructive fire; but moved on, taking advantage of every shelter in their way. Capt. L. N. Morris, 3rd Infantry was commander. Our men crossed one street and were fully exposed to the guns

mounted in barette of a "tete de pont," commanding the passage of El Puente Purissima. We passed through several gardens and streets and finally reached a slight shelter. There was a stream before us and the enemy in force with three pieces of artillery on the opposite bank, so that we could not go any farther. All the streets seemed to be blockaded and every house fortified. Capt. Morris received a mortal wound at the bridge and Capt. W. S. Henry took the command. Lieutenant Hazlitt soon fell. At last, our cartridges being nearly exhausted, we were commanded to retire, in order to our captured works. At one time, after day-light, we were obliged to lay flat nearly an hour, the balls came so thick. Lieutenant Ridgely, with a section of his battery, advanced to the street leading to the "tete de pont," but finding his fire entirely ineffectual, retired. Lieut. Bragg put to flight, with his battery, a show of a charge of lancers. Our men had not been able to take any dinner or supper and the night was cold and rainy. We had mounted on battery No. 1, one twelve pounder, one nine, two sixes and one howitzer, in all, five pieces.

While these scenes were transpiring under the eye of General Taylor, Gen. Worth was moving towards the Saltillo road. A large body of cavalry and Infantry opposed him, and charged upon our men. They were met by the battalion of light troops under Capt. C. T. Smith and Capt. McCulloughs company of Rangers. The first squadron of the enemy were mixed in with our advance when the second came furiously rushing on. Lieut. Hays, of Duncan's battery, poured in among them round shot, which passed over the heads of our men, and the enemy were dispersed with a loss of about one hundred, and among them, one Colonel. Our men marched round nearly two miles to the west end of the town, under a heavy fire from "Indepen-

dence Hill," situated west of the palace and from "Federacion Hill," between which heights, the Saltillo road runs. Now General Worth determined to storm Federacion Hill, and Capt. C. F. Smith, 2d Artillery with three hundred men, half regulars and the rest Texans, under Major Chevalier, undertook the dangerous enterprise. Capt. Miles with the 7th Infantry marched soon after to his support. As Capt. Miles' command advanced, it was not observed by the enemy until it had reached the small stream (Arroyo Topa) south of the city, along the base of the hill on which the battery is situated. As soon as discovered, they were continually fired upon by the enemy, but without much effect. Our men crossed the river and formed on a point of rock out of reach of the enemy. Detachments were then sent forward under Lieutenants Grant, Little, and Gardner to divert the enemy from Capt. Smiths' command. Colonel Smith of the 2d brigade, came up with the 5th Infantry and ordered Capt. Miles with the 7th to assist him in an attack on Fort Soldado, a temporary breastwork a little south east of Federacion Hill. They moved on and found that Capt. Smith had already got possession of it. The 2d Brigade formed and advanced amid a shower of balls, and when within a hundred yards, made a charge at double quick step. The enemy fled in all directions. The left wing of the 7th entered the redoubt with that of the 5th. Many of the Louisiana volunteers under Capt. Blanchard, and the Texan Rangers were up with the advance, all fearlessly striving to be the first to meet the enemy. Colonel Smith appointed Capt. Smith to retain possession of the first height stormed, and Capt Miles with the 7th, the last. Capt. Scott with the 5th Infantry, was to move on the same ridge farther east. The second Brigade held their position during the afternoon and night of the 21st. The 7th In



fantry were exposed to the fire from the Bishop's Palace several hours but Lieut. Dana of the 7th infantry, with his captured gun, returned the fire with some effect.

Those who occupied battery No. 1, at the eastern extremity of the city, at day-break, (Sept. 22d,) were obliged to lie flat in the mud to shield themselves from the sharp firing from Fort Diablo. Shells, fired from the citadel, fell all around our men, though none burst in the work. Lieut. Scarrétt was laboring to put the battery and distillery in a better state of defence. Capt. Bainbridge had command of the 3rd Infantry in the morning. A portion of Colonel Davis's regiment, under General Quitman, relieved the 1st, 3rd and 4th Infantry, and the Kentucky regiment. In returning to camp, our men received a destructive fire from the batteries of the enemy, crosswise. One poor fellow, a corporal in the 4th Infantry, was cut in two. Gen. Worth's attack upon the height, commanding the Bishop's Palace, at day-break, (Sept. 22d.) was fierce and successful. The force consisted of artillery and infantry under Colonel Childs and some Texans under Colonel Hays. The party moved up the hill and at the same time Capt. Miles, with a small force, descended towards the palace and gave three cheers to divert the enemy. In return they received a shower of grape. The enemy, at the castle, being checked so that they could not aid their flying forces, the height was carried with little loss. Capt. Gillespie first entered the breastwork and fell mortally wounded. General Worth soon sent the 5th Infantry, Capt. Smith's command and Capt. Blanchard's Louisiana volunteers, to reinforce Colonel Childs. Lieut. Roland soon placed a howitzer in position and blazed away at the castle with much effect. A light corps of artillery, under Capt. Vinton, Blanchard's company and some Texans were on the left of the hill,



and fired continually. The fire was briskly returned by the enemy.

About noon, the Mexican cavalry deployed before the palace and endeavored to charge upon our skirmishers. Our men pursued them, under Vinton, with terrible effect. Many of the enemy were kept from entering the castle again, as our men rushed in through every opening, and drove the enemy before them. Lieutenant Ayers was the first to enter, pull down the Mexican flag, and raise the star spangled banner.

After the castle was taken, General Worth moved down his forces from the hill and the amunition train the ranch of the Saltillo road and remained in the castle during the night of Sept. 22nd. He, however, ordered the 5th Infantry and Blanchard's company to return to the redoubt on the hill where were stationed the 7th Infantry.

Sept. 23d, at 7 o'clock in the morning General Worth opened upon the town, from the castle, with the enemy's own guns, as he intended to do when he first approached the city. A report was raised that the enemy were endeavoring to escape and the whole command were out immediately marching towards them.

It was now expected every moment, that the city would capitulate; but they held out and fought like tigers. At the east end of the city the firing commenced briskly, the same morning at day-break. The Texan cavalry under Colonel Woods, had dismounted, and with the Mississippians, under Colonel Davis, were engaged with the enemy. The Mississippians very early took possession of Fort Diablo, without any opposition, as the enemy had abandoned it the preceding evening. This was the place from which, on the 21st and 22d, our men had received such a destructive fire. This force under General Quit

man, drove the enemy before them from house to house, shooting them wherever they saw one of their heads projecting.

Bragg's battery was now ordered into the city and the 3rd Infantry ordered to support it. They moved forward, and when they came within range of the enemy's guns of the citadel, they crossed the field of fire at full gallop and were unharmed. The 3d went under cover, in a circuitous route. On their arrival in the city they found it cleared of the enemy on a line with the cathedral, and within two squares of it. This edifice was in the main plaza, where the enemy had been concentrated. Much bravery was manifested by General's Quitman, Henderson, Lamar, and Colonels Wood and Davis. Several were wounded and a few killed. Bragg's battery was in action with them during the remainder of the day. The fighting was not so severe as it was on the 21st, except in the street running directly from the cathedral. It could not be crossed without passing through a shower of bullets. One of Bragg's pieces had little effect in this street as the weight of metal was too light. Bragg's first sergeant by the name of Weightman, was shot while pointing the gun. Our men could only cross, without great danger of being shot, excepting when our piece was pointed at the enemy. Then the Mexicans would fall behind their barricade and our men would cross in squads. As soon as our piece was fired the balls of the enemy came down the street like a shower of hickory nuts.

General Taylor was in town entirely regardless of his person in the midst of danger. This was very imprudent and wrong. He even crossed the street where so many balls were continually passing, and crossed in a walk. A commanding officer ought to look out for himself and

army better than that. Taylor was brave to the back bone, but imprudent. Capt Henry reminded him that he ought to retire to a safer position; but he said "TAKE THAT AXE AND KNOCK IN THAT DOOR." Our men commenced on the door and the occupant unlocked and opened it, and behold it was an extensive apothecary shop. The doctor (San Juan) treated his visitors to ripe limes and cool water. He said that Ampudia was in the Plaza with four thousand men, and that two thousand were in the citadel. One door was burst open and we saw five genteel looking women who were on their knees with crucifixes pleading for mercy. They were very grateful when they found that their throats were not to be cut. General Taylor expected that General Worth would commence throwing shells into the city, in the afternoon, and perceiving that the field pieces were of little use, ordered these forces to retire to camp. During the day (23rd) the enemy sent in a flag of truce, requesting a cessation of hostilities, that the women and children might be removed. Old Rough and Ready said, "No, it was too late." It was reported that some of the enemy were leaving on pack mules, and undoubtedly many others would have left, had not General Worth taken possession of the Saltillo Road. General Worth on the west side of the city, ordered a heavy gun under Capt. Chapman's company to open on the city. This firing drove the enemy from their lines bordering on the river.. About 10 A. M. the 7th Infantry left the redoubt and joined Gen. Worth, at the palace, for the purpose of entering the city. The enemy did not make so great a resistance at the west part of the town as at the east where they were in a larger body, and our men did not suffer so much in the former as in the latter position. There was some loss, however: Capt. M. Kavett, of the 8th Infantry, while marching around the base of the



hill, on the morning of the 21st, was killed. Lieut. Potter 7th Infantry, while storming the redoubt, was wounded. Lieut. Rossell was wounded in the attack upon the palace. Major Brown's company of artillery, Capt. Blanchard's company and some Texan Rangers, with a piece from McKall's battery, were ordered to march under Brown and take possession of a mill on the road to Saltillo, in order to cut off retreat. The city had been reconnoitered by Lieutenant, Meade and Capt. McCullough. They found that the city had been cleared of the enemy as far as the Plaza in which was the cemetery. Capt. Miles, with three companies was ordered to take possession of the street nearest the river. Colonel Stannford was to take possession of the next street north. Both parties, the first under the direction of Capt. Holmes, and the second, under Capt. Scriven, moved on and took possession of the cemetery, without a shot from the enemy. Loop holes had been made in the walls and they had been prepared for defence. A piece of artillery followed each of these commands. Then came Colonel Childs with the Artillery Battalion and Capt. Miles with the remainder of the 7th and a company of the 8th Infantry. The last was designed to protect the ammunition train sent round by Gen. Taylor. Major Monroe and Lieut. Lovell soon placed the mortar in position. Captains Holmes and Scriven, with their forces marched through the same streets to a square in advance of the cemetery and soon commenced with the enemy. Colonel Childs followed the street upon which was situated a large Plaza. Capt. Gatlin of the 7th was now wounded. Our troops were soon under cover of walls and were reinforced by two companies of the 5th under Capt Merrill, and finally by three more under Major Scott. The column in the next street under Colonel Smith were now shortly engaged with the enemy. Capt. Holmes



was aided by Texans under Walker, and found his way through gardens and houses until he came very near the enemy in Cathedral Plaza. Lieut. Colonel Duncan was sweeping the street with his battery. Major Brown was ordered to join the Texans in the Plaza and aid Col. Childs. They worked their way towards the enemy with pickaxes, and soon came up with them, and cracked away. Night came on and our men kept possession of the houses taken, excepting Capt. Holmes who thought best to go back a little as he was far in advance and had many wounded. Our troops in the Plaza took possession of the houses on both sides and rested till morning. Lieutenant Lovell threw shells into the city during the night with great effect, and the enemy returned the compliment from their howitzers. Lieutenant Gardner of the 7th, manifested much bravery in leading the advance with ladders and pickaxes. At one time nearly all of his men were killed or wounded.

After reveille, on the morning of Sept. 24th, Général Ampudia sent Colonel Murino into our camp with a flag of truce, and an offer to surrender the city, if General Taylor would allow him to march out with his troops and all the public property. Of course when the city was nearly in our hands, such an offer was declined. But General Taylor sent back his terms, saying that an answer would be received at General Worth's headquarters at 12 M. Murino said that he had been informed that commissioners had been appointed to negotiate for peace and that no reinforcements would be sent them, and that it would cost us two thirds of our command to take the city, if we could do it at all. The action was to commence again if terms were not agreed upon.

The commissioners on our side were Generals Worth and Henderson and Colonel Davis. On the other side they

were, Manuel M. Llano, T. Requena, and Ortega. The following are the terms :

*Terms of the Capitulation of the City of Monterey, the Capital of Nueva Leon, agreed upon by the undersigned Commissioners, to-wit: General Worth, of the United States army; General Henderson, of the Texan Volunteers; and Colonel Davis of the Mississippi Riflemen, on the part of Major-general Taylor, commanding in chief of the United States forces; and General Requena and General Ortega, of the army of Mexico, and Senor Manuel M. Llano, Governor of Nueva Leon, on the part of Senor General Don Pedro Ampudia, commanding in chief of the army of North Mexico.*

ARTICLE 1. As the legitimate result of the operations before this place, and the present position of the contending armies, it is agreed that the city, the fortifications, cannon, the munitions of war, and all other public property, with the undermentioned exceptions, be surrendered to the commanding general of the United States forces now at Monterey.

ARTICLE 2. That the Mexican forces be allowed the following arms, to-wit: The commissioned officers, their side arms; the Infantry, their arms and accoutrements; the cavalry, their artillery, one field battery, not to exceed six pieces, with twenty-one rounds of ammunition.

ARTICLE 3. That the Mexican armed forces retire within seven days from date, beyond the line formed by the pass of the Rinconada, the city of Linares, and San Fernando de Pupos.

ARTICLE 4. That the citadel of Monterey be evacuated by the Mexican and occupied by the American forces tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

ARTICLE 5. To avoid collisions, and for mutual convenience, that the troops of the United States will not occupy the city until the Mexican forces have withdrawn, except for hospital and storage purposes.

ARTICLE 6. That the force of the United States will not advance beyond the line specified in the third article before the expiration of eight week, or until the orders of the respective governments can be received.

ARTICLE 7. That the public property to be delivered shall be turned over and received by the commanding generals of the two armies.

ARTICLE 8. That all doubts as to the meaning of any of the preceding articles shall be solved by an equitable construction, and on the principles of liberality to the retiring army.

ARTICLE 9. That the Mexican flag, when struck at the citadel, may be saluted by its own battery.

W. J. WORTH,

Brigadier General United States Army.

J. PINKNEY HENDERSON,

Major-General com'g Texan Volunteers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS,

Colonel Mississippi Riflemen.

J. M. ORTEGA,

T. REQUENA,

MANUEL M. LLANO,

Approved, { PEDRO AMPUDIA,  
                  { Z. TAYLOR, Maj. Gen. S. A. com'g.

Dated at Monterey, September 24th, 1846.

Our troops were commanded during the imposing ceremony by Colonel P. F. Smith. When the Mexican flag was lowered, they fired a salute of eight guns. When our flag was raised twenty eight guns were fired from the



Bishop's Palace. Our troops marched into the city to the tune of Yankee Doodle. Thus ended one of the severest battles ever fought on the continent. The Mexicans, in all of the battles with us have fought more desperately, from the fact that our forces were so very few, compared with theirs. They were ashamed to be beaten by such an inferior force. We have believed from the first that an army of fifty thousand men could have marched to the capital of Mexico without shedding a drop of blood. How awful the idea of ushering such multitudes of immortal souls into the presence of their Maker, in such a manner! General Ampudia had about ten thousand men in action, seven thousand of whom were regulars. Our force consisted of four hundred and twenty-five officers and six thousand two hundred and twenty men. We lost twelve officers and one hundred and eight men killed; twenty-six officers, and three hundred and seven privates were wounded. The loss of the enemy was thought to have exceeded ours. Our men captured forty-two pieces of artillery and one eighteen-pounder. The munitions of war captured from the enemy were immense. The following is a list of the officers killed.

Captain Williams Topographical Engineers; 1st Infantry, Lieutenant J. C. Terrett, Lieutenant R. Dilworth; 3d Infantry, Captains L. N. Morris, G. P. Field, and Brevet Major P. N. Barbour, Lieutenants D. S. Irwin and R. Hazlitt; 4th Infantry, Lieutenant C. Hoskins, Brevet Lieutenant J. S. Wood, 2d infantry (serving with the 4th); 8th Infantry, Captain H. M'Kavett; Baltimore Battalion, Colonel Watson; 1st Ohio, Lieutenant Hett; 1st Tennessee, Captain Allen, Lieutenant Putnam; Captain Gillespie, Texan Rangers. Wounded: Major-general Butler, Major Mansfield; 1st Infantry, Major J. S. Abercrombie, Captain



J. H. Lamotte ; 3d Infantry, Major W. W. Lear, Captain H. Bainbridge ; 4th Infantry, Lieut. R. H. Graham ; 5th Infantry N. B. Rossell ; 7th Infantry, Capt. R. C. Gatlin, Lieutenant J. Potter ; 8th Infantry, Lieutenant G. Wainwright ; 1st Ohio, Colonel Mitchell, Captain George, Lieutenants Armstrong, Niles, Morter, McCarty ; 1st Tennessee, Major Alexander, Lieutenants Allen, Scudder, and Nixon ; 1st Mississippi, Lieutenant Colonel M'Clung, Captain Downing, Lieutenants Cook and Arthur.

It is astonishing that the city could be taken at all by so few. The citadel is a regular bastion work with revetments of solid masonry, with thirty-four embrasures. Inside are the remnants of an unfinished cathedral, which is itself a work of defence. Two magazines were discovered, with ammunition enough to have fired at us for a month. In nearly every street were works of defence. Barricades overlapped each other, and ditches were dug in front, and every house seemed to be a fortification. On the eastern part of the city there were barricades defending each other, and it is surprising that Worth's division who operated there, were not all cut to pieces. The Bishop's Palace has two or three heavy guns mounted, in Barbette, pointing towards the city. There were many fortifications around the city, Making it a perfect Gibraltar.

Sept. 26th, the enemy were seen in great numbers mounted on every thing that looked like a horse, from the mustang to the donkey, preparing to follow the army. Ampudia left on the 25th with two divisions. The troops of the enemy had left the city before the close of the first week in October. General Worth and his division occupied the city, and Capt. Miles was his executive officer. The Governor of the city was allowed to go on as usual, excepting that he was required to furnish supplies for our army, for

which we were to pay cash. Several deserters were observed in the ranks of the enemy, among which was Riley, who was appointed a captain in the artillery of the enemy. Immediately after the battle, the Texas troops were discharged.

When Ampudia reached Saltillo, he issued a proclamation, declaring that he had repulsed us with a loss of fifteen hundred men, on the 21st, that, being scarce of ammunition and provisions, a conference was held on the 24th and terms were agreed to, which saved their honor and they marched out with their arms. That Santa Anna was coming and then they would see who would be the conquerors.

On the 16th of August, General Santa Anna arrived at Vera Cruz, and was allowed to land, as our government thought that he would use his best exertions to bring about a peace; but the duplicity of the Mexican character must be learned by sad experience. His proclamation, on the day of his arrival, told his warlike intentions. He was immediately invested with the command of the army, while General Salas acted as President of the republic. He went to San Luis Potosi to raise an army.

Oct. 12th, Lieutenant R. H. Graham, 4th Infantry, died of his wounds received Sept. 21st.

It was said that a woman named Dos Amades, commanded a company of Mexican lancers, who fought desperately and killed many of our men.

Oct. 25th, Capt. Ridgely's horse fell with him in Monterey and so injured him that he died on the 27th, and was buried with military honors the next day. He was a fine officer and a graduate of West Point.

The troops on the Rio Grande were under General Patterson, whose head quarters were at Camargo. The fol-

lowing were the different regiments, and the mode of their distribution :

At Camargo, 2d Brigade, General Pillow commanding, composed of 2d Tennessee, Colonel Haskell; Alabama, Colonel Coffee; Ohio and Kentucky Brigade, General Marshall commanding, composed of the 2d Kentucky, Colonel McKee, 2d Ohio, Col. Morgan; Illinois, Brigade, General Shields commanding, composed of 3d Illinois, Colonel Forman, 4th Illinois, Colonel Baker, 2d Infantry, Colonel Riley.

At Reynosa, Company H. 2d Artillery and two companies of the 1st Indiana, Captain Swartwout commanding.

Matamoras, 3d Ohio, Colonel Curtis, Captains Louds, Vanness, and Norman's companies of Artillery, Colonel Clarke commanding.

Camp Belknap, Indiana Brigade, General Lane commanding; 2d Indiana, Colonel Bowles, 3d Indiana, Colonel Lane.

Mouth of the Rio Grande, 1st Indiana, Colonel Drake.

Brasos Island, Captain Porter's company of Artillery.

Point Isabel, one company of Artillery, Major Gardner commanding

Nov. 2d, 1846, orders were received from Washington, directing General Taylor to announce to the Mexican authorities that the armistice was broken up and that we were to commence hostilities with greater energy than ever. Major Graham, with a small escort was dispatched to give the information to the Mexican forces. General Patterson was ordered to Tampico with a part of our forces at Monterey. General Worth was ordered with his division excepting the 7th Infantry, a company of artillery and McKall's



Battery and Colonel Smith, to march to Saltillo on the 12th (Nov.)

Santa Anna took away the commissions and placed in confinement all the principal officers of Ampudia's army, excepting Mejia and Racina. Parades had gone to Havana. On the 8th news arrived in camp that Gen. Wool had arrived at Monclova and would not advance upon Chihuahua until further orders.

On the 10th Major Graham returned, not having gone farther than Saltillo. He learned that Santa Anna was at San Luis Potosi, with sixteen thousand men, and expected six thousand more; but he was nearly destitute of funds and the army had a scarcity of provisions and clothing.

On the 12th Mr. McLane arrived from Washington ordering our army to take all the towns between Monterey and Tampico.

On the 13th, Generals Taylor and Worth moved towards Saltillo, and took possession of the city on the 16th. It is seventy-five miles from Monterey. Capt. Harden with his Dragoons, was left in the city.

On the 24th Capt. Taylor arrived from Camargo, with two eighteen-pounders and two eight inch howitzers. Gen. Shields and Col. Harny, arrived from General Wool's command on the 24th. The former is to go to Tampico and take the command. Brevet Major Buchanan, 4th Infantry, was appointed to command the Baltimore Battalion of Volunteers. Col. Benton sailed for Tampico, from Brasos, with six companies of artillery, about the same time. Santa Anna destroyed the water tanks between Monterey and Tampico. Seven Texans had been taken prisoners at Chihua, before our army reached Monterey. General Taylor demanded their release. Santa Anna complied. They reported that Santa Anna had about 27,000 men at San



Luis Potosi. The Mexicans caused some of our men, mostly English and Germans, to desert, by giving them \$60 each, citizens clothes, a horse, guide to the army, and 50 cents to drink the health of Santa Anna. Dec. 5th General Wool was ordered to Parras, east of Satillo. On the 2nd of Dec. Brigadier General Thomas L. Hamer, of Ohio, died of dysentery, and was buried on the 4th with military honors. He was very much esteemed.

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### NAVAL BATTLES.

During this time, the navy was engaged in blockading Mexican ports. The brig Truxton, commanded by Commander Carpenter, was run aground on the 15th of August, on the bar off Tuspan, and deserted. Lieut. Hunter, with a boat's crew, reached a vessel of the squadron, and the other officers and men surrendered to the enemy. They were afterwards exchanged for General La Vega and other Mexican officers. It was impossible to save the vessel and she was burned. An attempt had been made to capture Alvarado, and failed as the vessels could not cross the bar. Oct. 15th, another attempt was made by the steamers Vixen and Mc'Lane, three gun-boats, Schooners Nonata and Forward, and steamer Mississippi, Commander, Perry. The whole commanded by Commodore Connor. There was a battery

at the mouth of the river, mounting seven guns. The first division consisting of the Reefer and Bonita, towed by the Vixen, crossed the bar and engaged with the battery. The second division consisted of the Nonata Forward and Petrel, towed by the Mc'Lane. The steamer run aground, and the others could not be towed over. Commodore Connor thought it would be useless to go forward with one division and retired. Oct. 16th. Commodore Perry sailed to attack Tobasco with the Vixen, Capt. Sands, schooners Bonita, Berham, Reefer, Sterret, Nonata, and Hazard, schooner Forward, Capt. Nones, and steamer Mc'Lane, Capt. Howard. Capt. Forest had a command of about 200 marines and sailors. He crossed the bar Oct. 23rd, and took, without resistance, Frontera, capturing two steamers, and all the vessels in port. Tobasco is seventy-four miles up the river from Frontera. Our forces reached Fort Aceachappa, commanding a difficult pass in the river, Oct. 25th, and spiked the cannon, the enemy having left the fort. The vessels were all before Tobasco on the same day, about noon. The town was summoned to surrender, but it refused. The boats soon captured five merchant vessels. The vessels fired upon the town, and Capt. Forest, with his command was ordered to advance into the city. There was a sharp engagement, and the command were ordered back at night. At the desire of the foreign merchants the town was spared. On the 26th they left with their prizes. One, under Lieut. Parker, grounded and was fired upon, but Parker defended it and got the vessel off, with one man killed and two wounded. Lieutenant Morris was wounded in carrying a message to Lieut. Parker, and died November 1st.

This expedition captured two steamers and seven vessels. Nov. 12th, Commodore Connor sailed for Tampico, with a considerable part of the squadron, and on the 14th the city

surrendered unconditionally, without opposition. Nov. 20th Lieutenant Parker with Midshipman Rodgers, and Hynson at night with a small boat, and crew of six men, rowed in under the guns of San Juan d'Ullao, and burned the bark Creole, anchored there. This was very daring and brave. Midshipman Rodgers, Doct. J. W. Wright, and J. G. Fox, went ashore to reconnoitre one of the enemies magazines, in order to destroy it. After they had gone a little distance from the boat they were surrounded by seven Mexicans. Dr. Wright escaped, but the other two were taken prisoners.

The last of August 1846, by order of the President, Brigadier General J. E. Wool concentrated an army (called the "Central Division Army of Mexico") in Texas, for the purpose of moving against Chihuahua, the capital of the state of the same name. The command was composed of the 1st Illinois, Colonel Hardin, 2nd Illinois, Col. Bissell; six companies of Arkansas mounted men, Col. Yell, a company of Kentucky volunteers under Capt. Williams; two companies of 1st dragoons, Capt. Steen; two companies 2d dragoons, Major Beall; three companies of 6th Infantry, Major Bonneville, and Capt. Washington's company of horse artillery, in all 2,829. The first column moved from San Antonio Sept. 26th, commanded by Colonel Harney, and the second column marched Oct. 14th, under Col. Churchill.

Oct. 29th, the command arrived at Monclora, and took possession without resistance. Here General Wool decided to go no farther towards Chihuahua.

The command from Monterey moved on towards San Luis Potosi. It was reported that Santa Anna was advancing upon Saltillo and a part of our forces returned, Dec. 18th, to Monterey and found that the alarm was false.

At this time Salas was president of the Mexican Congress



and had, in his message, recommended a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Dec. 31st, the rear guard of Colonel May, in passing from Labadores to Linares, was attacked by the enemy and cut off together with the baggage train.

General Quitman took possession of Victoria on the 30th, without resistance.

Just beyond San Pedro, on the way to San Luis Potosi, when our men were passing through a defile with high mountains each side, a mine was sprung and showers of stones thrown down among us while we were fired upon from the other side. The *arrieros* deserted their mules and the rear guard, consisting of eleven men, fled. Colonel May dismounted twenty men and went through the pass. Only an occasional shot was fired at them. Eleven men, twelve horses and all the baggage were lost. At Tula, one hundred and fifty miles from Victoria, towards San Luis Potosi, Generals Valencia and Urea, had concentrated, as was reported, Jan. 6th, a large force.

The order was issued January 12th, 1847, to proceed to Tampico. We set out on the 13th. As General Taylor was about starting, he received orders from General Scott to send his whole command, excepting two batteries of light artillery, and squadron of dragoons, to Tampico, where Scott would meet them about the first of February. General Taylor was ordered to return to Monterey and remain on the defensive. He left immediately, taking, in addition to the above named forces, the 1st Mississippi regiment. Thus Taylor was deprived of almost all of his regulars, which blasted all of his hopes in reference to advancing upon San Luis Potosi.

Upon parting with his old veteran soldiers, General Taylor said :



"It is with deep sensibility that the commanding general finds himself separated from the troops he so long commanded. To those corps, regular and volunteer, who have shared with him the active services of the field, he feels the attachment due such associations; while to those making their first campaign, he must express his regret that he can not participate with them in its eventful scenes. To all, both officers and men, he extends his heartfelt wishes for their continued success and happiness, confident that their achievements on another theatre will redound to the credit of their country and its arms."

General Scott reached the Brasos, Dec. 28th, 1846 and took the command of the army. Gen. Worth was ordered to move, with all the regulars, excepting Washington's, Webster's, Sherman's and Bragg's batteries, to Point Isabel.

The force that set out for Tampico, Jan. 13, arrived on the 23rd. General Taylor and his command, arrived at Monterey on his return from Victoria, the last of Jan. 1847. General Wool had established a camp at the rancho. Taylor kept possession of Saltillo and the strong passes in advance of it, and stationed his forces, at these points.

Jan. 22, a scouting party, under Major Borland and Gaines, the former of the Arkansas and the latter of the Kentucky cavalry, were surrounded by General Minon with three thousand men, and captured, sixty miles from Saltillo. Our men numbered sixty-four privates and six officers and they were immediately marched off to Mexico. This capture exhibited great carelessness in the officers. Capt Henrie, a Texan Volunteer, escaped and reached Saltillo in safety.

Jan. 27th Capt Heady with seventeen Kentucky volunteers was captured by the enemy, while on a scouting party, without any resistance.

## BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

On the 5th of February, General Taylor, having heard reports of the advancement of Santa Anna with a large force, moved his head quarters eighteen miles south of Saltillo, to Agua Nueva. By the 8th all of his army excepting Major Warren's command, which was left at Saltillo, concentrated at that point. The forces consisted of two companies of the 1st Dragoons, under Captain Steen; two companies 2d Dragoons, under Brevet Lieutenant-colonel May; Bragg's and Sherman's batteries, 3d Artillery; Washington's battery, 4th Artillery; one regiment Arkansas cavalry, under Colonel Yell; one regiment of Kentucky cavalry, under Colonel Marshall; 2d Kentucky foot under Colonel M'Kee; 1st Regiment Mississippi Rifles, under Colonel Davis; 3d Indiana, under Colonel Lane; 1st Illinois, under Colonel Hardin; 2d Illinois, under Colonel Bissell; and two companies of Texas volunteers, one commanded by Captain Conner, the other a spy company, commanded by the celebrated Captain (now Major) M'Cullough, in all amounting to three hundred and thirty-four officers, and four thousand four hundred and twenty-five men.

It was evident that there must be a terrible conflict and General Taylor selected a pass two miles in advance of Buena Vista, as his position. There was a valley about three miles broad, with irregular surface, containing occasionally hills and ravines, and was surrounded by high

mountains. The road passed by the side of a deep arroyo, which was impassable. On the right side of the road, there were great gullies which it was impossible to cross, extending to the mountains. On the left of the road were steep ascents to the tops of the spurs of the mountain and there was formed a plain, suitable for a battle field. The choice of this place showed much skill and good judgment in the General. By the 21st of Feb. our forces were stationed at this position. Col. Yell was left, with some cavalry to cover the removal of the stores and were driven in by the enemy. Our men secured most of the stores and burned the remainder. General Taylor went to Saltillo immediately, to make arrangements for its defence, leaving Gen. Wool to command the army. Our forces prepared for the advance of the enemy. Capt. Washington's battery was so placed as to command the road. The 1st and 2d Illinois regiments containing sixteen hundred strong, and the 2nd Kentucky regiment, occupied crests of ridges in the rear and to the left. Near the base of the mountain at the extreme left, stood the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry. The Indiana Brigade under General Lane, the Mississippi Riflemen, the two squadrons of dragoons, and Sherman's and Bragg's batteries were held in reserve.

On the morning of the 22nd the enemy approached, and General Taylor returned immediately to camp. Tremendous clouds of dust announced the advance of the enemy, who arrived in position, with immense masses, between 10 and 11 A. M. All was silence, waiting for the attack, when a white flag was brought into our camp, by Surgeon-general Lindenberger, with the following message from Santa Anna :

“You are surrounded by twenty thousand men, and cannot in any human probability avoid suffering a route, and

being cut to pieces with your troops; but as you deserve consideration and particular esteem, I wish to save you from a catastrophe, and for that purpose give you this notice in order that you may surrender at discretion, under the assurance that you will be treated with the consideration belonging to the Mexican character, to which end you will be granted an hour's time to make up your mind, to commence from the moment when my flag of truce arrives in your camp.

“With this view, I assure you of my particular consideration.

“God and Liberty. Camp at Encantada, February 22d, 1847.

“ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

“To Gen. Z. Taylor, comm'g the forces of the United States.”

Old Rough and Ready answered thus:

“Headquarters, Army of Occupation, }  
Near Buena Vista, Feb. 22, 1847. }

“*Sir*,—In reply to your note of this date, summoning me to surrender my force at discretion, I beg leave to say that I decline acceding to your request. With high respect, I am, sir,

“Your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR,

“Maj. Gen. U. S. Army, commanding.

“Senor Gen. D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, }  
Commander-in-chief, La Encantada.” }

Several hours passed before any attack was made. The columns of the enemy's rear could be seen moving up. There was a slight demonstration of our right and a section of Bragg's battery, supported by the 2d Kentucky foot, were detached to that point. They bivouacked for the night. Near evening, the light troops of the enemy commenced upon our left, consisting of detachments of Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry dismounted, and a battalion of Indiana



Riflemen, under Major Gorman and all commanded by Colonel Marshall. Some shells were thrown into this part of our line, by the enemy without effect. This skirmishing was continued until after dark, with slight loss on our side. Three pieces of Washington's battery under Capt. O'Brien, took position to the left. Here the troops rested during the night on their arms.

General Taylor proceeded to Saltillo with the Mississippi regiment and squadron of 2nd dragoons, and while there about fifteen hundred Mexicans under General Minon had advanced into the valley, by a pass through the mountains, and were seen in the rear of the city. They were designed to harass us and cut off our retreat. There were in the city, four companies of Illinois volunteers under Major Warren of the first regiment. There was a field-work commanding the approaches and was garrisoned by Capt. Webster's company with two twenty-four pound howitzers. Two companies of Mississippi riflemen, under Capt. Rodgers with one field-piece under Capt. Shower, defended the train.

Jan. 22nd, during the night, the enemy stationed a large force of light troops upon the side of the mountain, to outflank our left.

On the morning of the 23rd, the action was renewed at this point. Col. Marshall with his riflemen, re-enforced by three companies of Illinois volunteers, under Major Trail, stood firm and did considerable execution with their sure rifles. At 8 o'clock a large column of the enemy moved up the road and threatened our centre, but Washington's energetic battery kept them back. The enemy could do nothing on account of the nature of the ground, where they stood; but our left being on an extensive plain, Santa Anna thought that he could outflank us. Large bodies of the enemy passed up the ravines under cover of the ridges, and concentrated near our left. The 2d Indiana

and 2 Illinois regiments formed the extreme left of our line and the former supported O'Brien's three pieces of artillery. The commander on the left was Brigadier-general Lane. O'Brien was ordered to advance towards the enemy with his guns. The fight was now very severe upon the enemy; but they poured upon our men volleys of grape and canister. The action was so warm that the Indiana regiment broke, not being able to stand against such a fire, and left the artillery unprotected. Thus Capt. O'Brien was obliged to retire leaving one of his pieces, at which every man and horse was either killed or wounded. The cowardly Indiana regiment could not be rallied, though Major Dix, Paymaster U. S. Army, induced a few to return and join, together with their Colonel Bowles, the Mississippi regiment. They were very useful during the remainder of the day. Our left giving way, encouraged the enemy, and large masses of them pressed forward and forced our light troops on the side of the mountain, to retire, and many of them could not be rallied until they reached the depot at Buena Vista. The 2nd Illinois regiment, to which a section of Sherman's battery was attached, were driven before the enemy.

The Mexican Infantry and cavalry poured in so rapidly that our rear was in danger. Thus far evidently, every move went against us. But General Taylor now arrived and took a commanding position on the elevated plateau. His presence was enough to animate our troops. The Mississippi regiment, under Davis, was ordered to the left, and came in contact, immediately with large portions of the enemy, who had turned our flank.

The struggle was severe, but in favor of our troops. The 2nd Kentucky, under Col. M'Kee, with a section of artillery under Bragg, had been ordered to support our left. These with a part of the 1st Illinois under Col. Hardin

were now fiercely engaged with the enemy, and recovered to some extent, the lost ground.

The batteries of Bragg and Sherman were very effective in the columns of the enemy, and especially those who were in our rear. The Mississippi regiment exhibited great bravery, sustaining the attacks of the enemy without flinching. The 3rd Indiana, under Colonel Lane, and a piece of artillery under Colonel Kilburn, finally moved to their aid. The Mexican infantry and cavalry repeatedly advanced with the most determined impetuosity, intending to force our line, but they were received so firmly and warmly that they were glad to fall back. Our artillery made awful havoc. Brevet Lieutenant Colonel May commanded the regular cavalry, and Captain Pike's of the Arkansas cavalry. May, with the Kentucky and Arkansas cavalry, under Colonels Marshall and Yell, were directed to keep in check the masses that had gained our rear. The enemy still were determined at all hazards, to break our left. Our forces were pouring upon the enemy a terrific fire from different sections and pieces, under O'Brien, Bragg, Sherman, Thomas, Kilburn, Reynolds, French and Bryan, forming a long line. The thick columns of the enemy were made to stagger, fearful inroads were made in their ranks, and they were finally, after many desperate struggles, obliged to give way. Their success was short, and their shouts of triumph were soon at an end. Just as they began to give way a little. Lieutenant Rucker, with his squadron of 1st dragoons, was ordered to dash in among them, which was done with great effect.

It was feared that the portion of the enemy in our rear might attack the train at Buena Vista, and Col. May, with his command, and two pieces of artillery under Lieutenant Reynolds, was ordered to that place. But, before they arrived, the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry had met the ene-



my and repulsed them. They broke in two columns, one escaped by the ranch, and received a destructive fire from the fugitive forces of a part of Major Trail's and Gorman's command, whom Major Munroe had reorganized. The other column of the enemy gained the mountain, but received a terrible fire from the pieces under, Lieutenant Reynolds.

Colonel Yell was killed, in the charge, at Buena Vista, at the head of his regiment. Adjutant Vaughn, also, of the Kentucky cavalry fell in that engagement.

A part of the Arkansas and Indiana troops, and Col. May, with his command, kept in check the enemy's right. They were crowded in vast numbers in ravines, and our guns made horrid work with them. Those who had gained our rear were now in the greatest danger. Santa Anna perceived it and in his deceptive and cowardly manner, sent a white flag into our camp, and asked General Taylor "what he wanted." Taylor immediately ordered the firing to cease, and sent General Wool, with a white flag, to answer the message. No consultation could be had, as the Mexicans kept on firing. Santa Anna had gained time for his forces to reach their lines and he cared no more for the truce. This was barbarous enough in the Mexican General. While the enemy were retreating, they were severely handled by our artillery.

The cavalry under General Minon, were in the road between the battle ground and Saltillo, and it was feared that they would fall upon the city. Capt. Webster fired upon them from the redoubt, and they moved towards Buena Vista. Capt. Shover, with some volunteers and a piece of artillery, accompanied by a piece of Webster's battery, under Lieut. Donaldson, aided by Capt. Wheeler, with his Illinois volunteers, drove the enemy into the ravines, leading to the lower valley. The enemy endeavored to charge



once or twice, but were driven back every time in confusion. Firing had now nearly ceased; but one struggle more was to come. Santa Anna, being reinforced by cavalry, under cover of artillery, charged our line in a most desperate manner, by horse and foot. Great masses came rushing on, and poured among us a deadly fire. The 2nd Kentucky, 1st Illinois, and O'Brien, with two pieces, received the severest part of the attack. The infantry supporting O'Brien's piece was routed and their piece left in the hands of the enemy.

Our batteries, however, finally turned the tide. Their fire was so firm, precise and awful, that the enemy could not resist, and fell back in disorder. Harden and McKee, charged the enemy with great bravery and impetuosity. They fled, but seeing the few pursuing, turned suddenly and came up in vast numbers. There was dreadful carnage on both sides. We had but a mere handful compared with the enemy, and our men were again routed, and it seemed that we must be beaten. Brent and Whiting of Washington's battery covered their retreat.

General Taylor looked on calmly and unmoved, while the balls were flying all around him.

Bragg's battery had now reached the place of attack. Bragg told his Captain to unlimber the piece and wait till the enemy had arrived nearly to the muzzle. They rushed on certain that they should conquer us; but the battery opened and poured into their masses a plenty of grape. They staggered at the first fire, and the second opened streets through them and the third volley entirely dispersed them and they fled in dismay. Our loss was heavy in this last struggle.

In this desperate conflict, Colonels Hardin and McKee, and Lieutenant-Colonel Clay, fell at the head of their regiments. Our artillery turned the tide of battle three times

during the day. It was now ten hours that the battle had been raging. The enemy did not make another attempt to force our lines, and our troops, weary, dropped upon the battle ground to seek rest to prepare them for the morrow. among the dead and dying, without any fires to warm their benumbed limbs. The wounded were removed to Saltillo and our men prepared for an attack in the morning; but the enemy retired very early to Agua Nueva, leaving many of their dead and dying. Brigadier-general Marshall made a forced march for Rinconada to reinforce our troops there; but he was too late to participate in the action.

In the battle of Buena Vista, we had two hundred and sixty-seven killed, four hundred and fifty-six wounded, and twenty-three missing. The enemy must have lost two thousand. There were five hundred of their dead left upon the field. We had twenty-eight officers killed and forty-one wounded.

What an awful responsibility rests upon somebody for rushing so many innocent persons into the presence of their Judge!

The names of the officers killed and wounded are the following:

General Staff: killed, Captain George Lincoln, Assistant Adjutant General; wounded, H. W. Benham, 1st Lieutenant Engineers; F. S. Bryan, brevet 2d Lieutenant Topographical engineers. 1st Regiment of dragoons: wounded, Captain E. Steen. 2d regiment of dragoons: wounded, Brevet Lieutenant-colonel C. A. May. 3d Regiment Artillery: wounded, Lieutenant S. G. French. 4th Artillery: wounded, 1st Lieutenant J. P. O'Brien. Mississippi Rifles: killed, 1st Lieutenant R. L. Moore, 2d Lieut. F. M'Nulty; wounded, Colonel Davis, Captains Sharp and Stockaw, 1st Lieutenants Corwin and Posey. 1st

Regiment Illinois : killed, Colonel Hardin, Captain Zabriskie, and 1st Lieutenant Houghton. 2d Regiment Illinois ; killed, Captain Woodward, Lieutenants Rountree, Fletcher Ferguson, Robbins, Steel, Kelly, Bartleson, Atherton, and Price; wounded, Captains Coffee and Baker, Lieutenants Picket, Engleman, West, and Whiteside. Texas volunteers ; killed, 1st Lieutenant Campbell, 2d Lieutenant Leonhard ; wounded Captain Connor. Indiana volunteers : Brigade Staff ; Brigadier-general Lane. 2d Indiana : killed, Captains Kinder and Walker, and Lieutenant Parr ; wounded, Captains Sanderson and Osborn, Lieutenants Cayce, Davis, Pennington, Lewis, Moore, and Epperson. 3d Indiana : killed, Captain Taggart ; wounded, Major Gorman, Captains Sleep and Conover. 2d Kentucky foot ; killed, Colonel M'Kee, Lieutenant-Colonel Clay, and Captain Willis ; wounded, Lieutenants Barber and Napier. Arkansas Cavalry : killed, Colonel Yell, Captain Porter : wounded, Lieutenant Reader.

A large portion of officers fell showing their unconquerable bravery. It was a battle of artillery. General Taylor said,—

“The services of the light artillery, always conspicuous, were more than usually distinguished. Moving rapidly over the roughest ground, it was always in action at the right place and at the right time, and its well-directed fire dealt destruction in the masses of the enemy.”

The General was necessarily much exposed. Two balls passed through his clothes. Our forces consisted of five thousand, and but four hundred and fifty-three of them were regulars. We were not able to follow up our success for the want of more men.



On the 26th General Taylor issued the following order:

“Headquarters, Army of Occupation, }  
Buena Vista, Feb. 26, 1847. }

*Order No. 12.*

I. The commanding general has the grateful task of congratulating the troops upon the brilliant success which attended their arms in the conflict of the 22nd and 23rd. Confident in the immense superiority of numbers, and stimulated by the presence of a distinguished leader, the Mexican troops were yet repulsed in every effort to force our lines, and finally withdrew with immense loss from the field.

II. The general would express his obligations to the men and officers engaged for the cordial support which they rendered throughout the action. It will be his highest pride to bring to the notice of the government the conspicuous gallantry of particular officers and corps, whose unwavering steadiness more than once saved the fortunes of the day. He would also express his high satisfaction with the small command left at Saltillo. Though not so seriously engaged as their comrades, their services were very important, and efficiently rendered. While bestowing this just tribute to the good conduct of the troops, the general deeply regrets to say that there were not a few exceptions. He trusts that those who fled ingloriously to Buena Vista, and even to Saltillo, will seek an opportunity to retrieve their reputation, and to emulate the bravery of their comrades who bore the brunt of the battle, and sustained, against fearful odds, the honor of the flag.

III. The exultation of success is checked by the heavy sacrifice of life which it has cost, embracing many officers of high rank and rare merit. While the sympathy of a grateful country will be given to the bereaved families and



friends of those who nobly fell, their illustrious example will remain for the benefit and admiration of the army.

By order,

Major-general TAYLOR.

Signed,

W. W. S. BLISS.

Assistant Adjutant-general.

This order will be read at the head of every company.

By order:

Signed,

W. W. S. BLISS.

It was found that the enemy were retiring towards San Luis Potosi.

Our forces returned to Agua Nueva on the 27th. The road was strewn with dead and wounded Mexicans, and their army seemed to be in a perfect state of disorganization.

Had it not been for the astonishing bravery of our men, in this battle, (5000 against 21,000,) we must have been overwhelmed.

General Urea, with about 8000 cavalry, had cut off all communication between Camargo and Monterey, previous to the battle of Buena Vista. A train of waggons, escorted by thirty men, was attacked and captured Feb. 24th, at Ramos. The wagons were burned and the teamsters dreadfully mutilated and their bodies cast into the flames.

March 7th, Major Giddings, in charge of a train of one hundred and fifty waggons, was attacked near Ceralvo. After a severe struggle, the enemy was repulsed, but we lost fifteen teamsters, two privates of Ohio volunteers, and fifty wagons.

General Taylor returned to Monteréy early in March and pursued Urea, for a while and drove him over the mountaints. In April six thousand volunteers were called out by government to re-enforce the army. General

BATTLES OF MEXICO.

Taylor was to receive enough of them, to make, with what he had, about ten thousand men.

After this, nothing of much interest occurred in northern Mexico. The theatre of war was changed to another part of the country. The strong forts had been taken and the enemy conquered in every battle.

General Scott had been ordered to Mexico by the government, Nov. 23rd, 1846, in the following language :

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, *November, 23, 1847*

Sir,—The President, several days since communicated, in person to you his orders to repair to Mexico, to take command of the forces there assembled, and particularly to organize and set on foot an expedition to operate on the Gulf coast, if, on arriving at the theatre of action, you shall deem it to be practicable. It is not proposed to control your operations by definite and positive instructions, but you are left to prosecute them as your judgment, under a full view of all the circumstances, shall dictate. The work is before you, and the means provided, or to be provided, for accomplishing it, are committed to you, in the full confidence that you will use them to the best advantage.

The objects which it is desirable to obtain have been indicated, and it is hoped that you will have the requisite force to accomplish them.

Of this you must be the best judge, when preparations are made and the time for action arrived.

Very respectfully,

your obedient servant,

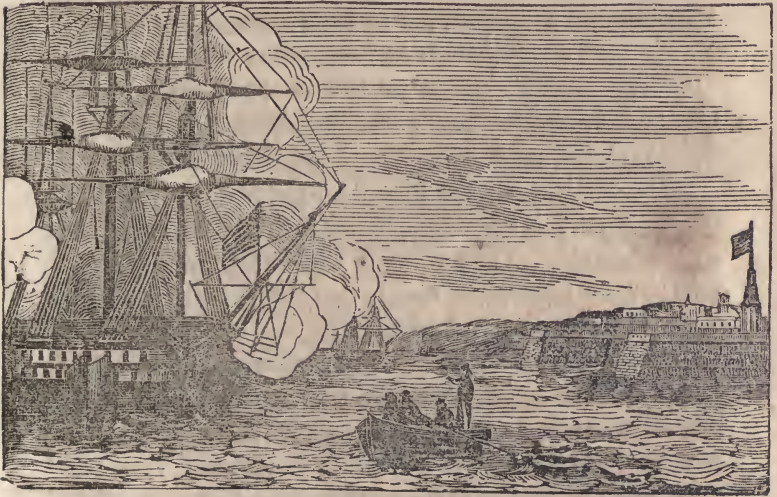
W. L. MARCY,

Secretary of War

Gen WINFIELD SCOTT.

Vera Cruz is situated in 19 degrees 11 minutes 52 seconds north latitude. One portion of its walls is washed by the Atlantic, and the shore on the opposite side is a dry and sandy plain.

General Scott sailed from New York, Nov. 30th and reached the Rio Grande Jan 1st 1847.



AMERICAN FLEET SALUTING THE CASTLE AT VERA CRUZ



## BATTLE OF VERA CRUZ.

THE new army was designated to attack the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. The naval squadron, under Commodore Conner, was to assist the land forces. The squadron landed at Anton Lizardo, March 7th. The troops, sent from General Taylor, arrived in February, and increased his army to 12,000 men.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF VERA CRUZ AND CASTLE OF SAN JUAN DE ULLOA.

“Vera Cruz is situated in  $19^{\circ} 11' 52''$  north latitude. One portion of its walls is washed by the Atlantic, and the shore on the opposite side is a dry and sandy plain.

“The city is small, but from the regularity which marks its laying out, it is beautiful. The streets are wide, straight, and well paved. The houses, of which there are one thousand and sixty-three, are mostly two stories high, and built of the Muscara stone, taken from the sea-beach.

“The fortifications of the city consist of nine towers connected together by means of a stone and mortar wall, which, however, is not very thick. The two towers named Santiago and Conception are the most important. They are situated at that portion of the walls looking toward the castle of San Juan, and are distant from each other one thousand two hundred and seventy varas. The other towers, including the one called San Fernando, are almost equal in shape, size, and strength. All of them can mount one hundred pieces of artillery of various sizes; and save those of the middle ones, their fires all cross in front of the



guard-houses, the external walls of which form part of the walls which surround the city.

“Although the port of Vera Cruz is the principal one in the Gulf of Mexico, it is very dangerous during the seasons of the northers—that which is called the bay, being, in reality, nothing more than a bad roadstead. Baron Humboldt but too faithfully described the harbor of Vera Cruz when he said, that the only shelter it affords shipping is a dangerous anchorage among shoals.

“The *castle of San Juan de Ulloa* is unquestionably the most celebrated of all American fortresses. Its construction was commenced in the year 1582, upon a bar or bank, in front of the town of Vera Cruz, at the distance of one thousand and sixty-two Castilian varas or yards, and it is entirely surrounded by water. The centre of the area occupied by this fortress is a small island, upon which Juan de Grijalva landed a year previous to the arrival of Cortes upon the Continent, and, at that period, it accidentally received the name which it retains to this present day. It seems that there was a shrine or temple erected upon it, in which human victims were sacrificed to the Indian gods; and as the Spaniards were informed that these offerings were made in accordance with the commands of the kings of Acolhua (one of the provinces of the empire), they confounded or abbreviated this name into the word Ulloa, which they affixed to the island.

“According to a report made on the 17th of January, 1775, it was the opinion of a council of war, composed of distinguished officers, that this fortress, after all its defences were completed, would require a garrison for effective service, composed of seventeen hundred infantry soldiers, three hundred artillery, two hundred and twenty-eight sailors, and a hundred supernumeraries.

“The exterior polygon, which faces Vera Cruz, extends three hundred yards in length, whilst that which defends the north channel is, at least, two hundred yards long. Besides this, there is a low battery situated in the bastion of Santiago, which doubles the fire on that channel. The southern channel is commanded also by the battery of San Miguel.

“The whole fortress is constructed of *Madrepora Astrea*, a species of soft coral, which abounds in the neighboring islands. Its walls are from four to five yards in thickness, their exterior being faced with a harder stone. It is well supplied with water, having seven cisterns within the castle, which altogether contain ninety-three thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven cubic feet of water. Its full equipment of artillery pieces is three hundred and seventy; but it contained only a hundred and seventy-seven when attacked by the French in 1838.”

A regiment of Louisiana volunteers, under Colonel Russey, were wrecked in February near the island of Lobos. They were met by a large force under General Cos and ordered to surrender. They were without arms, but Colonel Russey delayed his answer until night, presenting at the same time a bold front. He lighted up camp fires, left his baggage, and, by forced marches, reached the American quarters at Tampico.

The two commanding officers, immediately after landing at Lizardo, reconnoitred the city in the steamer Petrita, and thought best to land on the beach due west of the island of Sacrificios. At daybreak on the 9th, about 2,800 troops were transferred, in each frigate, and proportionate numbers in smaller vessels, to Sacrificios. A little after 11 A. M. the squadron moved off majestically. The day was fine, with a gentle breeze from the south east, and a smooth sea. The passage occupied between two and

Three hours, and the vessels were anchored without confusion. Gen. Scott ordered the landing to be commenced immediately, ordering the steamers Spitfire and Vixen, and five gun-boats, to form a line parallel with and near the beach, in order to cover the landing of our men in the surf-boats. As the boats, 65 in number, received the troops, they assembled in a line, abreast, between the fleet and the gun-boats and pulled for the shore, all at once, landing without resistance. General Worth commanded this first line of the army and formed his men, 4,500 strong, on the beach and neighboring heights just before sunset, and by 10 P. M. an army of 10,000 men were on shore, without any accident occurring. All but a few companies had landed. The next day the artillery, horses, provisions, and other materials were landed, and the remaining troops, making more than eleven thousand men. General Scott landed early in the morning, and preparations were immediately made to surround the city. As our men advanced, some shot and shells were fired from the town and castle, but without effect. At 2 o'clock, March 10th, a brisk fire from the enemy commenced. One of our men had his thigh broken, and two others were wounded. A small detachment was sent out under Captain Gordon to reconnoitre. He found himself, after going two or three hundred yards, near a body of men and hailed them. They answered in English, and soon answered again by a volley of bullets, which was returned by the detachment, and the Mexicans were obliged to retire into the town. At sunrise, the steamer Spitfire, Capt. Tatnall, took position in front of the city and castle, and commenced firing. She continued for an hour, and the city and castle returned the compliment. Soon after the Spitfire opened her fire, the 1st and 2d divisions moved up the beach towards the city about a mile and commenced



to invest the place. Four or five regiments of Mexican infantry and cavalry appeared in front of the city, half a mile from our men, and commenced firing upon us. One of our mountain howitzers and some rockets were placed on the hills. A few shots were fired and rockets sent; but without effect. Captain Taylor was ordered to try the six-pounder, which caused the Mexicans to retire behind the hill. One Mexican was killed.

General Worth was successful in taking his position on the right of the investment by 11 o'clock. The line, circumvallating the city, was to run along a chain of sand-hills about 3 miles from the city, ranging from 300 to 1500 feet high, entirely commanding the town and fortifications. The heavy guns from the castle could reach the right wing.

After Worth had taken his position, General Patterson's division took up its line of march, with General Pillow's brigade in advance, in order to form on the left of Worth's division. After proceeding a mile, they met the enemy in a thick chaparral. There was a smart fire for about twenty minutes. The Mexicans retreated. Gen. Pillow had great difficulty in advancing through the chaparral. He proceeded about half a mile farther by 4 P. M., and met the enemy again, in ambuscade. Their fire was heavy upon our men, and General Patterson sent the New York regiment of Shields' brigade to aid General Pillow; but only one New York company arrived, before General Pillow had routed the enemy by a charge. Only two of our men were slightly wounded. A body of the enemy were seen at a little distance, at a house known as a magazine, on the left flank of Pillow's command. A 6-pounder was directed towards them, and a few shots were enough to disperse them. Towards sun-down, Gen. Pillow reach-



ed, by great effort, one of the highest points in the rear of the city, and erected the star spangled banner. The batteries from the town and castle, kept up a continued firing till dark. One shell exploded in front of General Worth and staff.

At 7 A. M., (March 11th) General Quitman's brigade was ordered to relieve General Pillow from the place which he occupied during the night. The Mexicans, thinking that our men were deserting the heights, approached and were met by General Quitman, who advanced to the top of the hill. A smart fire was kept up for an hour.

Capt. Davis, of the Georgia regiment, with twenty riflemen, were sent as skirmishers, to move round under the hill and engage the enemy in close quarters. About 200 of the enemy advanced on him, and he held them in check until Colonel Jackson, with the balance of three companies, and Col. Dickerson and his regiment, came to his aid. The enemy were obliged to retire, with the loss of several dead and wounded. We had seven slightly wounded.

At 9 A. M., General Twiggs, with his mounted rifles in advance, moved up to take position on the left of the line. It was very difficult as the cannon had to be lifted over sand-ridges by the men, in many cases. The force all reached their destination by the sea-shore, above the town, about sun-down. Thus the city was surrounded by us, our line reaching about eight miles. General Worth occupied the right, General Twiggs the left, and General Patterson the centre.

Our men now commenced placing their heavy batteries in position to open upon the town.

By the 22d, seven ten-inch mortars were in battery,

and the others nearly ready. At two, P. M., General Scott addressed a summons to the Governor of Vera Cruz, and received an answer in two hours. The Governor supposed that Scott ordered him to surrender the town and castle (though that was not the case, as Scott was not prepared to make such a demand).

Scott now determined to open his seven mortars upon the town. The small vessels of Commodore Perry's squadron, two steamers and five schooners, came within a mile and an eighth of the city and opened a brisk fire, which continued till 9, A. M. (March 23), when the Commodore called the vessels away from so dangerous a position. By noon we had ten mortars battering the walls of the city. The ten inch mortars planted about eight hundred yards from the city, were very effective. Our men, thus far, from the time of their landing had only four or five men wounded, and one officer and one private killed. The officer was Capt. J. R. Vinton, of the U. S. 3d artillery. He was killed in the trenches, March 24th, at ten, A. M. The naval battery, No. 5, consisting of three thirty-two pounders and three eight inch Paixhans, opened a terrific fire, under Capt. Aulick. The battery was active till two, P. M. We lost four sailors killed, and Lieut. Baldwin was slightly wounded.

March 25th, battery No. 4, consisting of four twenty-four pounders, and two eight inch Paixhans, opened.

Now, batteries 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, were shaking the whole foundation of the city, by their tremendous fire.

On the evening of the 24th, the foreign consuls signed memorial, requesting General Scott to grant a truce, so that the neutrals and women and children might retire from the city. Our heavy guns made dreadful havoc, de-

stroying many women and children. General Scott replied :

First, That a truce could only be granted on the application of Governor Morales, with a view to surrender ; second, That in sending safeguards to the different consuls, beginning as far back as the 13th instant, he distinctly admonished them, particularly the French and Spanish consuls—and, of course, through the two, the other consuls—of the dangers that have followed ; third, That although, at that date, he had already refused to allow any person whatsoever to pass the line of investment either way, yet the blockade had been left open to the consuls and other neutrals to pass out to their respective ships of war up to the 22d instant ; and, fourth, he enclosed to the memorialists a copy of his summons to the governor, to show that he had fully considered the impending hardships and distresses of the place, including those of women and children, before one gun had been fired in that direction.

On the 26th, General Scott received overtures from General Landero, on whom General Morales had devolved the command, and on account of a heavy norther, he was unable to communicate with the ships until the 27th.

The American Commissioners were, Generals Worth and Pillow, Colonel Totten, and Capt. Aulick.

It was finally agreed that the city and castle should surrender to us.

The following are the terms of capitulation :

“ 1. The whole garrison, or garrisons, to be surrendered to the arms of the United States, as prisoners of war, the 29th instant, at 10 o'clock, A. M. ; the garrisons to be permitted to march out with all the honors of war, and



to lay down their arms to such officers as may be appointed by the general-in-chief of the United States' armies, and at a point to be agreed upon by the commissioners.

“2. Mexican officers shall preserve their arms and private effects, including horses and horse-furniture, and to be allowed, regular and irregular officers, as also the rank and file, five days to retire to their respective homes, on parole, as hereinafter prescribed.

“3. Coincident with the surrender, as stipulated in article 1, the Mexican flags of the various forts and stations shall be struck, saluted by their own batteries; and, immediately thereafter, Forts Santiago and Concepcion, and the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, occupied by the forces of the United States.

“4. The rank and file of the regular portion of the prisoners to be disposed of after surrender and parole, as their general-in-chief may desire, and the irregular to be permitted to return to their homes. The officers, in respect to all arms and descriptions of force, giving the usual parole, that the said rank and file, as well as themselves, shall not serve again until duly exchanged.

“5. All the *materiel* of war, and all public property of every description found in the city, the castle of San Juan de Ulloa and their dependencies, to belong to the United States; but the armament of the same (not injured or destroyed in the further prosecution of the actual war), may be considered as liable to be restored to Mexico by a definite treaty of peace.

“6. The sick and wounded Mexicans to be allowed to remain in the city, with such medical officers and attendants, and officers of the army, as may be necessary to their care and treatment.

“7. Absolute protection is solemnly guaranteed to per-



sons in the city, and property, and it is clearly understood that no private building or property is to be taken or used by the forces of the United States, without previous arrangement with the owners, and for a fair equivalent.

“8. Absolute freedom of religious worship and ceremonies is solemnly guaranteed.”

At the surrender on the 27th, our army were drawn up in two lines, facing each other, and stretching more than a mile. The enemy left the city at ten o'clock, passed between our lines, laid down their arms and colors and marched for the interior. General Worth superintended the evacuation and then entered the city. Our flag was erected over the Plaza and saluted by the guns of the city and squadron. General Worth was appointed Military Governor.

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### BATTLE OF SIERRA GORDA.

GENERAL TWIGGS' division of our army arrived, within three miles of the position of the enemy, April 11th, and General Patterson's on the 12th. On the 16th, we had six thousand men ready for action, while the enemy numbered from eight to twelve thousand. They occupied a chain of works along the road, the nearest of which was about a mile and a quarter from General Scott's headquarters. The road over which we had to pass, was barricaded and cut up in every way to impede our progress. Beyond the first fortification there are several others completely commanding the gorge, through which the road to

Jalapa runs. There were twenty-four pieces of field artillery besides about fourteen heavy cannon in position. The high and rocky ravine of the river protected their right flank and a series of abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered their left. A front attack, which the enemy expected on account of our bravery, must have been fatal to us. General Scott outwitted the *One Leg* and had a road cut to the right, so as to escape the front fire, and turn his position on the left flank. A deserter from our camp made this known to the enemy, and they sent General La Vega with a large force to aid the left flank.

General Scott, on the 17th of April, to cover his flank movements, sent General Twiggs against the fort on the steep ascent in front, and a little to the left of the Sierra. This expedition was commanded by Colonel Harney, who carried the position under a heavy fire of grape and musketry. This was an important post gained, situated in front and near the enemy's strongest fortification. By great labor, one of our large guns was placed upon the top of the fort, and blazed away at a strong fort in the rear; but with little effect.

April 18th, early in the morning, our army moved to the attack in columns. General Twiggs's division attacked the enemy's left and carried the breast works after a slight resistance, at the point of the bayonet, and completely routed the enemy at that point. Pillow's brigade, accompanied by General Shields's, passed along the Jalapa road with rapidity, and took a position to stop the retreat of the enemy. General Worth moved forward toward the left to aid Twiggs. Twiggs had steep and rough ground to pass over, was constantly exposed to

the fire of the enemy in front and to the cross-fire of the forts and batteries.

The fight was tremendous for a short time, and finally the enemy gave way on all sides. Three thousand men with field and other officers surrendered. A large amount of small arms, ordnance and batteries were taken. Six thousand of the enemy gained the rear of our army on the Jalapa road and were pursued. We lost two hundred and fifty killed and wounded, and among the latter was General Shields. The Mexican loss was about one hundred more than ours, besides those taken prisoners. We captured thirty pieces of cannon, much ammunition, and the private baggage and money chest of Santa Anna, containing twenty thousand dollars. On the 19th, Jalapa, and on the 22d, Perote, were taken without opposition.

Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed but the steepness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter, and onward rushed against a hailstorm of balls and musket-shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame at the head of his brigade, his long arm waving his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice ringing above the clash of arms and din of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and of our own men. On, on, he led the columns, whose front lines melted before the enemy's fire like snow-flakes in a torrent, and staid not their course until leaping over the rocky barriers, and bayonetting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell mell from the fort, delivering a deadly fire into their ranks, from their own guns, as they hastily retired.

General Scott, between whom and Colonel Harney there had existed some coolness, rode up to the colonel



after this achievement, and remarked to him—"Colonel Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement, but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms."

It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their General Vasquez was killed. A little after, General Worth, having, by great exertions, passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy's left, summoned a strong fort in the rear of the Sierra to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under General Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who, seeing the Sierra carried, thought prudent to surrender, which he did with all his force. General Shields was not so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by General la Vega. A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss by the gallant Illinoisians, under Baker and Bennett, supported by the New Yorkers, under Burnett. Among those who fell under this fire was the gallant general, who received a grape-shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralyzed, and at the last account was in a lingering state. On the enemy's right, General Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskell, led the column, and the other volunteer regiments followed. This column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskell's regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. General Pillow withdrew his men, and was preparing for another attack, when the operations at the other points having proved successful, the enemy concluded to surrender. Thus the victory was complete, and four generals, and about six thousand men, were taken



prisoners by our army. One of their principal generals and a large number of other officers killed. The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own."

In addition to the loss of the enemy in killed and taken they lost about thirty pieces of brass cannon, mostly of large calibre, manufactured at the royal foundry of Seville. A large quantity of fixed ammunition, of a very superior quality, together with the private baggage and money-chest of Santa Anna, containing twenty thousand dollars, was also captured.

On the same day that the battle of Sierra Gordo was fought, a portion of the American Gulf Squadron, under Commodore Perry, captured the town of Tuspan, on the Gulf.

On the 19th, the city of Jalapa was captured by a detachment under General Twiggs; and on the 22d, General Worth entered the town of Perote. Both these cities were taken without opposition; and in the latter were found immense stores of small arms, ammunition, and the large guns of the city and castle.

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## BATTLE OF CHURUBUSCO.

GENERAL SCOTT remained inactive for awhile before entering the capital, hoping to be re-enforced, his headquarters being at Puebla, while the Mexicans, notwithstanding their repulses and severe losses, were busy in collecting another army and fortifying every entrance to the city.

(For representation of this Battle, see cover.)

Aug. 8th, our army, having received a few re-enforcements, marched towards the capital, and reached Ayotla on the 12th, where there was a strong fortification called St. Pinon. It was reconnoitred and found to be very strong by nature and art. It was thought, that it would be hazardous to attack it, as was anticipated by the Mexicans. Scott here again outwitted Santa Anna, for he found a road south of Lake Charles, opening into that from Vera Cruz, below Ayotla, which would enable our army to pass around the fort; but the march was a very difficult one, for heavy rains had filled the low places so that the soldiers were often obliged to wade. The steep and rugged heights were to be crossed: and the paths and gorges were filled with immense stones, which had been rolled in by the enemy. The men became weary during the day, and the nights were dark and wet, which added to their discouragements.

On the 17th, our advance arrived at San Augustin, a small town about twelve miles south of the capital; General Worth led on his men to take possession of a hacienda near the fortification of San Antonio, for the purpose of attacking that place. They captured the village; but Capt. Thornton was killed in taking a reconnoissance, from a heavy discharge of artillery by the enemy. One or two of our men were wounded. A squadron of artillery and a battalion of infantry were near the redoubt, hoping to make an attack in the afternoon, but a rain set in, and General Scott thought best to withdraw them. Had the batteries of the enemy opened with energy upon this detachment, it would probably have been obliged to retire or been cut to pieces; but fortunately the guns were silent all night.

During the night, the divisions of Pillow and Twiggs marched towards the strong works of Contreras, to be prepared for an assault in the morning. This was a very fatiguing march. The darkness of the night, the torrents of rain pouring down upon them, the wild roaring of the winds, the ridges from rocks of lava to pass over, the denseness of the brushwood, the swollen streams to cross, presented difficulties rarely surpassed.

At eight the next morning, the batteries of the enemy opened upon the hacienda of San Antonio, where General Worth was posted. This cannonading was heavy. The air was shaken by the heavy explosions, while houses and even strong fortifications were shattered to pieces and fell in thundering ruins, beneath the showers of shot and shells. Almost all of the streets were swept by bullets and large bombs which burst in the air, and hurled slugs, shot and fragments among our ranks, making sad havoc. But the Yankees were not frightened yet. They placed themselves behind walls and buildings, and calmly, amid this scene of confusion, prepared for action. Soon the divisions of Pillow and Twiggs moved on towards Contreras, arriving about one P. M. General P. F. Smith was ordered to march up in front of the enemy's works, and Colonel Riley, to move with rapidity towards the right, gain the main road, and prevent any re-enforcements of the enemy. Smith dashed forward under a tremendous fire and secured a good position for his artillery. Every battery and gun on both sides roared away with horrible sublimity and actually shook the ground for miles around, and their reverberations rolled with grandeur along the lofty ridges of the mountains. The few guns of our advanced battery were soon silenced, and General Pierce proceeded to the relief of General Smith.

At this time, large re-enforcements of the enemy approached Contreras, and General Cadwallader hastened to re-enforce Riley. The contest was now terrific. Neither army would yield an inch of ground.

At four o'clock, General Scott passed along the lines, and was welcomed by an enthusiastic shout. Perceiving the immense strength of the enemy, he ordered General Shields to re-enforce Riley and Cadwallader, and strengthen our army in front of the enemy. Now the battle raged higher still, and hundreds fell to rise no more. This dreadful carnage was kept up for six hours, when the darkness of night closed the scene, and the cannons ceased their roar. Our men were disappointed, as they expected by that time to have been in the "Halls of the Montezumas." They were obliged to lie upon the cold, wet ground, without blankets, to rest for the night.

At eight o'clock in the evening, General Scott retired to San Augustin, and Twiggs and Pillow went at eleven.

Scott and Worth set out for Contreras early the next morning. Firing was heard, and soon a messenger came, saying that General Worth had carried the whole line of fortifications at Contreras. He planned and executed the undertaking in a skilful manner and with little loss. He took fifteen hundred of the enemy prisoners, including Generals Salas, Blanco, Garcia and Mendoza. He also captured an immense amount of ammunition and camp equipage, and fifteen pieces of artillery, among them the two taken from Capt. O'Brien at Buena Vista; seven hundred of the enemy were killed and many more wounded.

General Scott now sent General Worth to attack San Antonio, while he with a force would go in its rear. The



soldiers passed over the battle-field of the previous day, and the scene which was presented was enough to make the hardy soldier shudder and feel sick in view of the horrors of war. Hundreds lay covered with blood, stiff and cold in death, while others were uttering piteous groans and begged for water. The streams actually run with human blood. What a shocking scene! How surprising that nations will thus imbue their hands in each other's blood!

When the force reached San Pablo, another action commenced, and at the same time Worth's cannon were heard roaring away at Churubusco. The flower of both armies were now engaged in terrible combat. The rattling of the musketry, the clash of arms, and the deafening roar of the cannon and the groans of the dying, made the scene truly awful!

Scott was in the midst of danger encouraging his men, while Worth and Twiggs were cheering their soldiers on. Thus, one of the severest conflicts ever witnessed on this continent, raged with increasing power for two hours. Finally our forces gained full possession of all the works, and the enemy fled in dismay to the city. Worth followed them almost to the gates.

The next morning, a detachment of our men entered Chapultepec without opposition.

Soon after this, Santa Anna sent flags, proposing a suspension of hostilities. Negotiations took place, and the following armistice was adopted, August 20th:

### THE ARMISTICE.

The undersigned, appointed respectively, the first three by Major-general Winfield Scott, commander-in-chief of

the armies of the United States, and the last two by his Excellency D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, President of the Mexican Republic, and commander-in-chief of its armies, met with full powers, which were fully verified in the village of Tucubaya, on the 23d day of August, 1847, to enter into an armistice for the purpose of giving the Mexican government an opportunity of receiving propositions of peace from the commissioners appointed by the President of the United States, and now with the American army; when the following articles were agreed upon :

ART. 1. Hostilities shall instantly and absolutely cease between the armies of the United States of America and the United Mexican States, within thirty leagues of the capital of the latter States, to allow time to the commissioners appointed by the United States and the commissioners to be appointed by the Mexican Republic to negotiate.

2. The armistice shall continue as long as the commissioners of the two governments may be engaged on negotiations, or until the commander of either of the said armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the armistice for forty-eight hours after such notice.

3. In the mean time, neither army shall, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, commence any new fortification or military work of offence or defence, or do any thing to enlarge or strengthen any existing work or fortification of that character within the said limits.

4. Neither army shall be reinforced within the same. Any reinforcements in troops or munitions of war, other than subsistence now approaching either army, shall be stopped at the distance of twenty-eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

5. Neither army, nor any detachment from it, shall advance beyond the line it at present occupies.

6. Neither army, nor any detachment or individual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by the last article, except under a flag of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army, who may chance to straggle within the neutral limits, shall, by the opposite party, be kindly warned off, or sent back to their own armies under flags of truce.

7. The American army shall not, by violence, obstruct the passage from the open country into the city of Mexico; of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of its inhabitants, or the Mexican army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the passage of supplies from the city or country, needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining in the hands of the Mexican army, and not heretofore exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army, against a like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the existing war, and who have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective business or families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to favor the great object of peace, it is further agreed between the parties, that any courier with despatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.



11. The administration of justice between Mexicans, according to the general and state constitutions and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and places occupied by the American forces, shall not be obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the towns and places occupied by the American forces. No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor shall the services of any one be required without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered, a just price shall be paid, and trade remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place, for the purpose of being cured of their wounds, shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still remaining prisoners.

14. The Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend the wounded shall have the privilege of doing so, if their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement, two commissioners shall be appointed, one by each party, who, in case of disagreement, shall appoint a third.

16. This convention shall have no force or effect, unless approved by their excellencies, the commanders respectively of the two armies, within twenty-four hours, reckoning from the sixth hour of the 23d day of August, 1847.

A. QUITMAN, *Maj. Gen. U. S. A.*

PERSIFOR F. SMITH, *Brig. Gen.*

FRANKLIN PIERCE, *Brig. Gen. U. S. A.*

IGNACIO DE MARA Y VILLAMIL.

BENITO QUIJANO.



It is believed that the whole force of the Mexicans, in these brilliant engagements, was about thirty-two thousand men. They lost between five and six thousand, including thirteen generals and forty-five pieces of cannon. Our army consisted of seven thousand, eleven hundred of whom were killed or wounded. What a terrible slaughter!

After the armistice was agreed upon, various meetings took place between Mr. Trist, the American minister, and Mexican Commissioners, and endeavors were made to effect a treaty of peace, until September 2d, when Trist handed in his ultimatum in reference to the boundary line, and the Commissioners were to meet again on the 16th.

Some infractions of the truce were made by the enemy, in reference to our supplies from the city; but the Mexicans apologized.

It appears that as soon as the propositions of Trist were considered in a grand council of ministers and others, Santa Anna, on the 4th and 5th, without giving any notice to General Scott, commenced again fortifying the city, directly in opposition to the armistice. Scott immediately sent him a note, which was answered in a false and impudent manner.

Our arrangements were delayed more than two weeks by the armistice. It is probable that Santa Anna only entered into it for the purpose of gaining time.

## BATTLE OF MEXICO.

SEPT. 7th, General Scott began to reconnoitre the different approaches to the city within his reach. In the afternoon, a large body of the enemy were seen around the *Molinos del Rey* (Mills), about a mile and a third from Tucubaya, the head-quarters of our army. These mills were repositories of ammunition, and there was a foundry there for casting cannon. There was a formidable castle in the hands of the enemy on the heights of Chapultepec, between the mills and the gates of the capital. There were eight city gates strongly fortified. It was impossible to stop communication between the mills and the capital, without first taking the castle. Preparatory to storming it, it was thought best to capture the mills. Accordingly, on the 8th, General Worth's division, re-enforced by Cadwallader's brigade, Pillow's division, three squadrons of dragoons under Major Sumner, and some heavy guns of the siege train under Capt. Huger of the ordnance, and Capt. Drum of the 7th artillery, undertook the enterprise. They moved towards the enemy and soon met them. There was much energy manifested on both sides. The enemy several times were re-enforced, and the action becoming much more general than was expected, General Scott called to our aid from the distance of three miles, Gen. Pillow, with his remaining brigade (Pierce's), and then Riley's brigade of Twiggs' division. These forces approached with great rapidity; but the victory was won just as General Pierce reached the ground and placed his command between Worth's division and the retreating enemy. Thus again were our

forces victorious. Various daring reconnoissances now took place, of the castle and approaches to the city. The latter stands on a slight swell of ground, near the centre of an irregular basin, and is girdled with a ditch in its greater extent—a navigable canal of great breadth and depth—very difficult to bridge, in the presence of an enemy, having eight entrenches or gates, over arches—each of which was defended by a system of strong works that seemed to require nothing but some men and guns to be impregnable.

Outside and within the cross-fire of those gates, to the south, are other obstacles but little less formidable. All approaches near the city were over elevated causeways, cut in many places (to oppose us) and flanked on both sides, by ditches also of unusual dimensions. The numerous cross-roads were flanked, in like manner, having bridges at the intersections, recently broken. The meadows thus checked, were, moreover, in many spots, under water or marshy.

After close observation, it was decided, on the 11th, to move round to the south-west and west part of the capital, believing that the approaches would present less formidable obstacles. Accordingly, Scott ordered Quitman's division from Coyoacan, to join Pillow *by daylight*, before the southern gates, and that they should *by night*, proceed (two miles) to join Scott at Tucubaya, where he was quartered with Worth's division. Twiggs, with Riley's brigade and Captains Taylor's and Steptoe's field batteries—the latter 12-pounders—was left in front of those gates—to manœuvre, to threaten, or to make false attacks, in order to occupy and deceive the enemy. Twiggs' other brigade (Smith's) was left at supporting distance, in the rear, at

San Angel, till the morning of the 13th, and also to support our general depôt at Miscoaque. The stratagem against the south was admirably executed throughout the 12th, and down to the afternoon of the 13th, when it was too late for the enemy to recover from the effects of his delusion.

The first step in the new movement was to carry the Castle of Chapultepec. Besides a numerous garrison, here was the military college of the Republic with a large number of sub-lieutenants and other students. Those works were within direct gun-shot of the village of Tucubaya, and until carried, we could not approach the city on the west without making a circuit too wide and too hazardous.

During the same night (that of the 11th) heavy batteries were established. No. 1, on the right, under the command of Capt. Drum, 4th artillery (relieved late next day, for some hours, by Lieut. Andrews of the 3d), and No. 2, commanded by Lieut. Huger, ordnance—both supported by Quitman's division. Nos. 3 and 4, on the opposite side, supported by Pillow's division, were commanded, the former by Capt. Brooks and Lieut. S. S. Anderson, 2d artillery, alternately, and the latter by Lieut. Stone, ordnance.

The bombardment and cannonade, under the direction of Capt. Huger, were commenced early in the morning of the 12th, and before night a good impression had been made on the castle and its outworks.

Pillow and Quitman had been in position since early in the night of the 11th. In the morning, Worth was ordered to hold his division in reserve, near the foundry, to support Pillow; and Brigadier General Smith, of Twiggs' division, had just arrived with his brigade, from Piedad,



[2 miles] to support Quitman. Twiggs' guns, before the southern gates, again reminded us, as the day before, that he, with Riley's brigade, and Taylor's and Steptoe's batteries, was in activity, threatening the southern gates, and there holding a great part of the Mexican army on the defensive.

Worth's division furnished Pillow's attack with an assaulting party of some 250 volunteer officers and men, under Capt. McKenzie, of the 2d artillery, and Twiggs' division supplied a similar one, commanded by Captain Casey, 2d infantry, to Quitman. Each of those little columns was furnished with scaling ladders.

The signal for the attack was to be the momentary cessation of fire on the part of our heavy batteries. About 8 o'clock A. M., of the 13th, Scott sent to Pillow and Quitman, with notice that the concerted signal was about to be given.

Both columns now advanced. The batteries threw shots and shells upon the enemy over the heads of our men, with good effect.

Major General Pillow's approach, on the west side, lay through an open grove, filled with sharp shooters, who were speedily dislodged; when, being up hill with the front of the attack, and emerging into open space, at the foot of a rocky acclivity, that gallant leader was struck down by an agonizing wound.

The immediate command devolved on General Cadwalader. On a previous call of Pillow, Worth had just sent him a reinforcement, Col. Clark's brigade.

The broken declivity was still to be ascended and a strong redoubt midway to be carried, before reaching the castle on the heights. The advance of our men, though

necessarily slow, was unwavering, over rocks, chasms and mines, and under the hottest fire of cannon and musketry.

The enemy were steadily driven from shelter to shelter.—The retreat allowed not time to fire a single mine, without the certainty of blowing up friend and foe. Those, who, at a distance, attempted to apply matches to the long trains were shot down by our men.

There was death below as well as above ground. At length the ditch and wall of the main work were reached; the scaling ladders were brought up and planted by the storming parties; some of the daring spirits first in the assault were cast down—killed or wounded; but a lodgment was soon made; streams of heroes followed; all opposition was overcome, and several of our regimental colors flung out from the upper walls, amidst long-continued shouts and cheers, which sent dismay into the capital. No scene could have been more animating.

General Quitman, supported by Generals Shields and Smith, [P. F.] his other officers and men, was up with the part assigned him. Simultaneously with the movement on the west, he approached the southeast of the same works over a causeway with cuts and batteries, and defended by an army strongly posted outside, to the east of the works. Those formidable obstacles Quitman had to face, with but little shelter for his troops or space for manœuvring. Deep ditches, flanking the causeway, made it difficult to cross on either side into the adjoining meadows, and these again were intersected by other ditches. Smith and his brigade made a sweep to the right, in order to present a front against the enemy's line (outside), and to turn into intervening batteries, near the foot of Chapultepec. This movement was also intended to support

Quitman's storming parties, both on the causeway. The first of these, furnished by Twiggs' division, was commanded in succession by Capt. Casey, 2d infantry, and Capt. Paul, 7th infantry, after Casey had been severely wounded; and the second, under Major Twiggs, marine corps, killed, and then Capt. Miller, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers. The storming party, now commanded by Capt. Paul, seconded by Captain Roberts of the rifles, Lieut. Stewart, and others of the same regiment, Smith's brigade, carried the two batteries in the road, took some guns, with many prisoners, and drove the enemy posted behind in support. The New York and South Carolina volunteers (Shields' brigade) and the 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, all on the left of Quitman's line, together with portions of his storming parties, crossed the meadows in front, under a heavy fire, and entered the outer enclosure of Chapultepec, just in time to join in the final assault from the west.

Generals Pillow, Quitman, Shields, Smith, and Cadwalader, distinguished themselves in these brilliant operations. Also Colonel Andrews, Lieut. Col. Johnstone, Major Caldwell. Captains Barnard and Biddle.

These operations all occurred on the west, southeast, and heights of Chapultepec. To the north, and at the base of the mound, inaccessible on that side, the 11th infantry, under Lieut. Col. Hebert, the 14th, under Col. Trousdale, and Capt. Magruder's field battery, 1st artillery—one section advanced under Lieut. Jackson all of Pillow's division—had, at the same time, some spirited affairs against superior numbers, driving the enemy from a battery in the road, and capturing a gun. Col. Trousdale, the commander, though twice wounded, continued on duty until the heights were carried.

Early in the morning of the 13th, Scott ordered Worth to support the movement of Pillow from our left. The latter soon called for that entire division, standing momentarily in reserve, and Worth sent him Col. Clark's brigade. The enemy in the road in front of Quitman's right, was receiving reinforcements from the city—less than a mile and a half to the east—and Worth, on our opposite flank, was ordered to return to Chapultepec with his *division*, and to proceed cautiously by the road at its northern base, in order, if not met by very superior numbers, to threaten or to attack, in rear, that body of the enemy.

Worth promptly advanced with his remaining brigade—Col. Garland's—Lieut. Col. C. F. Smith's light battalion, Lieut. Col. Duncan's squadrons of dragoons, under Major Sumner.

Having turned the forest on the west, and arriving opposite to the north centre of Chapultepec, Worth came up with the troops in the road, under Col. Trousdale, and aided by a flank movement of a part of Garland's brigade in taking the one-gun breastwork, then under the fire of Lieut. Jackson's section of Captain Magruder's field battery. Continuing to advance, this division passed Chapultepec, attacking the right of the enemy's line, resting on that road, about the moment of the general retreat consequent upon the capture of the formidable castle and its outworks.

There are two routes from Chapultepec to the capital—the one on the right entering the same gate, Belen, with the road from the south, *via* Piedad; and the other obliquing to intersect the great western, or San Cosme road, in a suburb outside of the gate of San Cosme.

Each of these routes (an elevated causeway) presents



a double roadway on the sides of an aqueduct of strong masonry, and great height, resting on open arches and massive pillars, which, together, afford fine points both for attack and defence. The sideways of both aqueducts are, moreover, defended by many strong breastworks at the gates, and before reaching them.

Worth and Quitman were prompt in pursuing the retreating enemy—the former by the San Cosme aqueduct, and the latter along that of Belen. Each had now advanced some hundred yards. The enemy fled in dismay.

Scott now despatched from Chapultepec—first Clarke's brigade, and then Cadwallader's, to the support of Worth, and gave orders that the necessary heavy guns should follow. Pierce's brigade was, at the same time, sent to Quitman, and, in the course of the afternoon, some additional siege pieces were added to his train. Scott joined the advance of Worth, within the suburb, and beyond the turn at the junction of the aqueduct with the great highway from the west, to the gate of San Cosme.

At this junction of roads, we first passed one of those formidable systems of city defences spoken of above, and it had not a gun!

Within those disgarnished works our troops were engaged in a street fight against the enemy posted in gardens, at windows, and on house-tops—all flat, with parapets. Worth ordered forward the mountain howitzers of Cadwallader's brigade, preceded by skirmishers and pioneers, with pickaxes and crowbars, to force windows and doors, and burrow through walls. The assailants were soon in an equality of position fatal to the enemy. By 8 o'clock in the evening Worth had carried two batteries in this suburb. He here posted guards and sentinels, and placed

his troops under shelter for the night. There was but one more obstacle—the San Cosme gate (custom house)—between him and the great square in front of the cathedral and palace—the heart of the city; and that barrier, it was known, could not, by daylight, resist our siege guns thirty minutes.

Scott had gone back to the foot of Chapultepec, the point from which the two aqueducts begin to diverge, some hours earlier, in order to be near that new depôt, and in easy communication with Quitman and Twiggs, as well as with Worth.

General Scott ordered all detachments and stragglers to their respective corps, then in advance; sent to Quitman additional siege guns, ammunition, entrenching tools; directed Twiggs' remaining brigade (Riley's) from Piedad, to support Worth, and Captain Steptoe's field battery, also at Piedad, to rejoin Quitman's division.

Quitman, supported by Shields and Smith—Shields badly wounded at Chapultepec and refusing to retire—as well as by all the officers and men of the column—continued to press forward under flank and direct fires; carried an intermediate battery of two guns, and then the Belen or South-Western gate, before two o'clock in the afternoon, but not without severe loss, increased by his steady maintenance of that position.

Here, of the heavy battery—Capt. Drum and Lieut. Benjamin were mortally wounded, and Lieut. Porter, its third in rank, slightly. Lieuts. J. B. Moragne and Wm. Canty, of the South Carolina volunteers, also of high merit, fell on the same occasion—besides many of our bravest non-commissioned officers and men.

Quitman, within the city—adding several new defences

to the position he had won, and sheltering his corps as well as practicable—now awaited the return of daylight, under the guns of the formidable citadel yet to be subdued.

At about four o'clock next morning (Sept. 14), a deputation of the *ayuntamiento* (city council) waited on General Scott to report that the federal government and the army of Mexico had fled from the capital some three hours before, and to demand terms of capitulation in favor of the church, the citizens, and the municipal authorities. Scott promptly replied that he would sign no capitulation; that the city had been virtually in our possession from the time of the lodgments effected by Worth and Quitman the day before; that he regretted the silent escape of the Mexican army; that he should levy upon the city a moderate contribution, for special purposes; and that the American army should come under no terms, not *self-imposed*—such only as its own honor, the dignity of the United States, and the spirit of the age should, in his opinion, imperiously demand and impose.

At the termination of the interview with the city deputation, Worth and Quitman were ordered to advance slowly and cautiously (to guard against treachery) towards the heart of the city, and to occupy its stronger and more commanding points. Quitman proceeded to the great *plaza* or square, planted guards, and hoisted the colors of the United States on the national palace, containing the halls of Congress and executive apartments of federal Mexico.

Soon after we entered, and were in the act of occupying the city, a fire was opened upon us from the flat roofs of the houses, from windows and corners of streets, by

some 2,000 convicts, liberated the night before by the flying government—joined by, perhaps, as many more soldiers, who had disbanded themselves and thrown off their uniforms. This unlawful war lasted for more than twenty-four hours, in spite of the exertions of the municipal authorities, and was not put down till we had lost many men, including several officers, killed or wounded, and had punished the miscreants.

### BATTLE OF HUAMANTLA

After the brilliant achievements of the American forces in and around the city of Mexico, there was little to do excepting to clear the great thoroughfares of the multitudes of guerillas that infested them. Some sharp engagements occurred between Mexico and Vera Cruz before these bodies of robbers could be dispersed. One of these battles took place at the town of *Huamantla*.

Gen. Lane having arrived at Perote, early in October, was there joined by Capt. Walker and his command; both advanced together on the Puebla road till they reached the town of Dreyes, at which place Capt. Walker, by order of the commanding General, took up his line of march to Huamantla, by way of the town of San Francisco and Guapastla. On his arrival at Huamantla, a sanguinary engagement took place in the streets, between the force of Capt. Walker, consisting of 250 men, and that of the Mexicans numbering 1,600.

The result of this contest was the total expulsion of the enemy from the town, and its occupation by our valiant lit-



the army, which lost in the battle only six men. But the gallant Walker, after performing prodigies of valor, and feats of the most daring character, fell in single combat, pierced by the spear of an enraged father who was goaded to actual frenzy by the death of his son, whose fall by the arm of Captain Walker he had just witnessed. The father rushed forward, heedless of all danger, to revenge his child's death, and attacking the Captain with almost irresistible violence, plunged his spear into his body and slew him almost instantly. In this engagement the Mexicans lost 200 men and three pieces of artillery. The latter were thrown into a gully adjoining the town, by the victors. At the battle of Huamantla an interesting struggle occurred between the Indiana Volunteers and a detachment of the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, as to who should first reach town and plant the AMERICAN FLAG on the walls. Lieutenant Beany and Private Stebbes, of Pennsylvania, were successful.

After the achievement of their object, which was the dispersion of the enemy, for which they were despatched to Huamantla, the Americans evacuated the place and directed their course to Pinal, on the Puebla road, which they reached without any opposition. There meeting with Gen. Lane, the combined American force continued its march upon Puebla.

They found this city in a state of insurrection, and accordingly entered it in platoons—delivering at every step a constant and well-directed fire of musketry, which ceased not till the enemy retired, and order had been restored in every quarter.

Gen. Rea, of whom we heard so much, lately, fled with 400 guerillas towards Atlixco.

General Santa Anna was at Tehuacan de las Grenadas, having been deserted by all his followers, with the exception of 200.

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### BATTLE OF ATLIXCO.

Gen. Lane, with a considerable detachment, after a forced

march from Perote ten leagues distant, reached the vicinity of Atlixco on the evening of October 19th; and after fighting his way through the forces of Gen. Rea, to a summit overlooking the town, he there posted his artillery, and for three quarters of an hour threw shot and shells into the "most thickly populated parts," the bright light of the moon enabling the practised gunners to fire with terrific effect. The crash of the walls and roofs of the houses, when struck by our shot and shells, was mingled with the roar of artillery. Two hundred and nineteen Mexicans were killed, and three hundred wounded, while our own loss was only one killed and one wounded. It was thought necessary to strike these people with terror, because their city had been the refuge and headquarters of guerillas, whence many an expedition had issued against our troops.

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## EXPEDITION TO TEHUACAN,

### NARROW ESCAPE OF SANTA ANNA.

The detachment, consisting of 350 men and officers, under the command of Gen. Lane, left Mexico on the 18th of January. Maj. Polk, Col. Hays and Capt. Crittenden, accompanied it. Passing Chalco and Rio Frio, the band, took a circuitous route to Puebla, where it arrived on the 21st.

Leaving Puebla at dark the same day, the company took the road to Vera Cruz as far as Amazoque, where General Lane took a road entirely unknown to any one but himself and the guide. It was little better than a mule path over rocky hills, and after a forty mile march, the troops arrived next morning at the hacienda of Santa Clara. They were then informed that their object was to take Santa Anna, who was then at Tehuacan, distant forty miles, with 150 men. In order that the Mexican chieftain might not obtain information of the presence of our troops in this section of the country, the General ordered every Mexican in the *hacienda*,

and every one found on the road during the day, to be arrested and kept close until they left in the evening.

After leaving the hacienda at dark, they came upon a party of mounted Mexicans, with a carriage whose occupant bore a passport from General Smith to travel to Orizaba. He was permitted to pass, with his attendants.

At dawn our army were within half a mile of Tehuacan. The report of a solitary gun of the enemy, gave hope that the bird was about to be caged. Our dragoons and riflemen dashed to the right and left, closing every outlet; while the rangers, with cocked revolvers, galoped toward the Plaza to secure their prey: but their amazement and mortification may be imagined, when they learned that, two hours before, the object of their search had fled to Oajaca, with seventy-five men. With chagrin, they also learned, that the Mexican, whose coach was stopped the evening before, had despatched a messenger across the mountain, to inform Santa Anna, that the American troops were on the road, with the probable intention of making him prisoner. Had it not been for this treachery, the surprise would have been complete.

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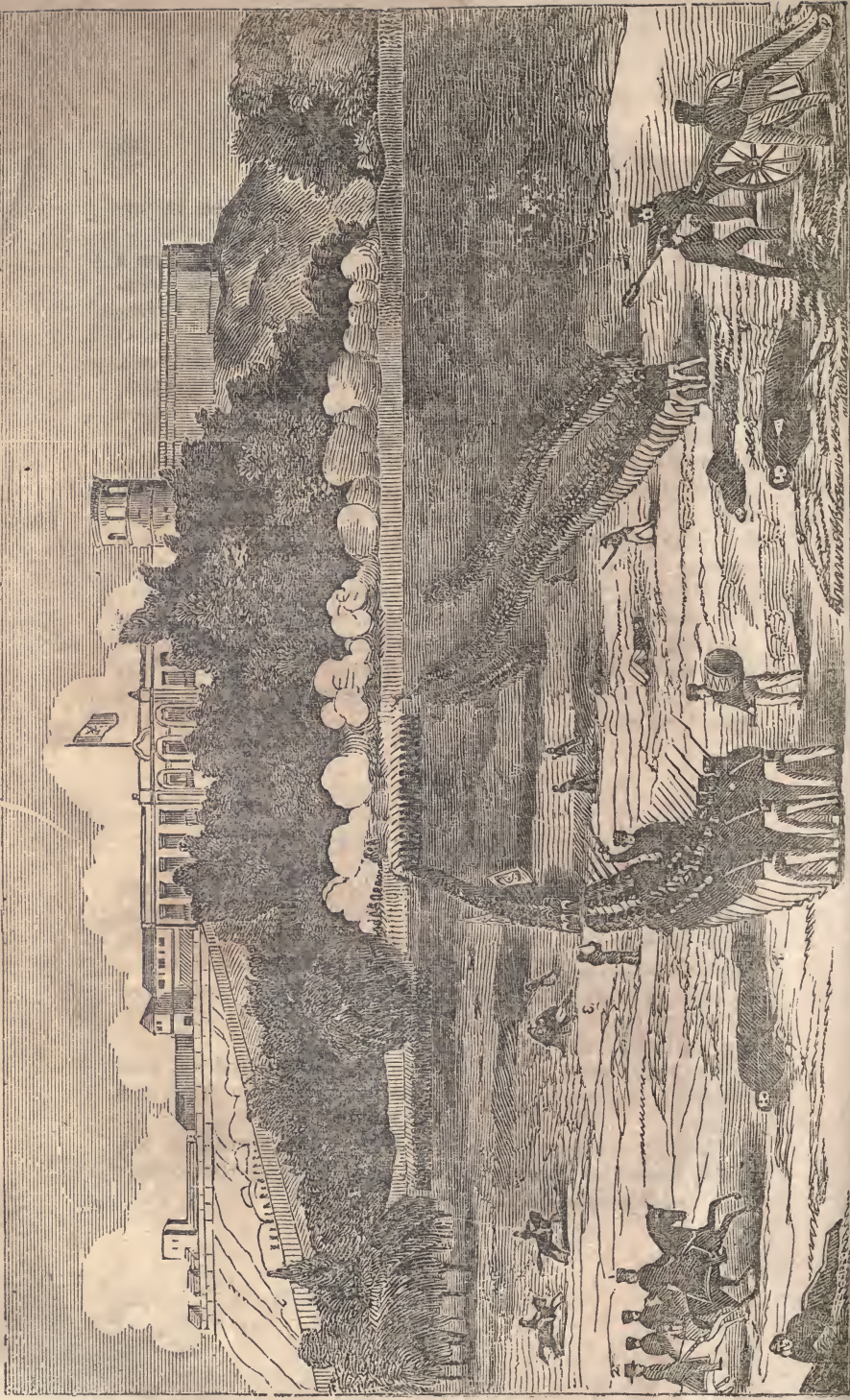
### OCCUPATION OF ORIZABA.

Leaving Tehuacan, on the 23d, the troops, after a rough march of several miles, came down, Feb. 26, 1848, into the valley of Orizaba. On arriving at the gates of the city, the authorities delivered up the keys; and on entering, they discovered a white flag, at the window of every house, and found the entire population assembled to witness their entry, with apparent satisfaction.

The inhabitants of the neighboring city of Cordova, sent a deputation requesting its occupation by the American Army.

Nothing of importance occurred afterwards, until Feb. 2d, 1848, when the Treaty of Peace was signed by the American and Mexican governments.





UNITED STATES VOLUNTEERS ADVANCING TO THE ATTACK OF THE FORTIFICATIONS AND HALLS AT CHAPULTEPEC.







CAPTURE OF THE BISHOP'S PALACE.



