Congress, has nothing to do but to involve the country in a war, and from that moment he becomes not only irresponsible, but superior to all scrutiny. It is the cant of despots, and has been in all ages, of despots who are anxious to divert attention from their acts at home, to engage the country over which they rule, in foreign war. It is the glory of a free constitution, that it allows no act to pass unchallenged, no conduct to be superior to investigation, no character to be above the reach of censure. To stigmatize as "moral traitors" all who cannot agree with the executive, is to write a libel upon our constitution, and to put to shame that glorious doctrine "resistance to tyrants is obedience to God." For how can tyranny be ascertained, if the acts of him who is charged with it be superior to investigation, or how can a person be proved a tyrant, until his deeds are brought up in judgment against him? It was this doctrine of "moral treason" which in the hands of men who had the power as well as the will to punish, expelled Locke from the University of Cambridge, and brought Russel and Sidney to the Scaffold. If the basis on which it is founded be true, free Government is but a shadow, and the epitaph of the constitution may already be written.—*Rich Whig.*

From the Picayune, 20th inst.

Arrival Of the Galveston.

Seven Days Later from Puebla.

Arrival of the Picayune's Express from Puebla—Gen. Scott's Movements! Escape of Major Gaines and Passed Midshipman Rogers—Encounter of a Train with the Guerrillas—Peril of the Train—Deaths of Adjutant Guion, Lieut. Hill and Dr. Hamner—Gen. Pierce's Arrival at Puebla, &c. &c.

The steamship Galveston, Capt. Havilland, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, having touched at Tampico, Brazos and Galveston. She left Vera Cruz on the 13th inst.

By this arrival we are in possession of advices from Puebla to the 5th of August—just one week later than we had before received. Our letters were brought through from Puebla to Vera Cruz by a courier dispatched exclusively for this office.—The news is important.

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

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

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

From Vera Cruz, too, the news is important. The train which left Vera Cruz the evening of the 6th inst., has been attacked about 14 miles from Vera Cruz; indeed, attacks commenced shortly after leaving that city. The escort to the train was under command of Maj. Lally, of the 9th Infantry, Col. Wilson being down with yellow fever. We have confidence that the following is a more correct report of the principal affair than that of the Sun of Anahuac. It is from an officer of intelligence, and is to the latest dates.

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

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

But our loss is severe, two officers being severely wounded. Captain James H. Caswell, of the Voltigeurs, and Captain Arthur C. Cummins, of the 11th Infantry, the former a native of Maryland, and the latter of Virginia. Ten men, noncommissioned officers, and privates are wounded. None were killed outright. One has died since, and some perhaps dangerously wounded. Hopes are yet entertained for the recovery of the two captains, if we can send them to Vera Cruz. I believe that the commanding officer has sent to Vera Cruz for a detachment of horse to escort ambulances to take back the wounded which may accumulate by the time we reach the National Bridge. We are 1000 strong with a train of seventy waggons, and the troops all raw and comparatively unstructed. But I think we will make our way through securely; perhaps fighting our way for many days. We are about twelve miles from the National Bridge, and we move on a few miles to-day.

The Sun says eight men were killed on our side, and that Capt. Lovell's Georgia mounted men killed twenty five of the enemy in a charge. Governor Wilson immediately ordered up re-inforcements.—Capt. Fairchild's company started at once to go up, and Captain Seeteldi's, of the Louisiana battalion, were also ordered up. A gentleman who came over on the Galveston, saw the latter leaving the city.—Capt. Besancon's company was absent on a scout when the news reached Vera Cruz of the danger to the train. When he returned, he would be ordered up, and other forces were to be sent forward. The verbal reports are that the Americans had thirty men wounded in the skirmish and as many horses killed. It is not to be concealed that serious fears are felt for the safety of the train. The Mexicans have made extensive preparations to surround it and cut it off if possible. We are informed that the number of Major Lally's command falls short of one thousand men rather than exceeds that number. The Mexicans are under the impression that the train takes up a million of dollars in specie—so says the *Boletin* of Jalapa of the 9th inst., which has been received at Vera Cruz. The *Boletin* prays God that the guerrillas and the national guard together may succeed in cutting off the train. The National Bridge is the point where the decisive action is expected. There was a report in Vera Cruz, that the guerrillas had destroyed a part of the bridge and erected defensive works there. The latest number of the Sun of Anahuac sets down the number of the guerrillas at 4000.—Led on by the hope of a rich booty, they must not be expected to desist from their attacks so long as a chance remains for them.

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

Captain Fairchild returned from a scout on the 9th inst., after having made a circuit of about thirty miles. At a small town called Paso de Toro, he found secreted in a loft some fifteen or twenty *escopetas* and as many sabres which were destroyed.—Suspicions induced him to examine some trunks in a house, in which he found several hundreds of cartridges wrapped up in women's clothes. There were but few about at the ranchos, but at almost every place they learned that the *guerrilleros* had gone up towards the National Bridge.

A detachment from Capt. Besancon's company, thirty-five in number, left on a scout on the 9th inst., announce that a private of Besancon's company was killed the evening previous by the Mexicans.—His name was Francis Loring, a Canadian by birth.

We regret to read in the Sun, of the death of Lieut. Guion, Adjutant of the Louisiana Battalion. He died on the 9th inst., after an illness of only three days, and was buried with military honors the evening of the same day.

Col. Wilson who was to have commanded the troops that accompanied the last train from Vera Cruz, is convalescent and considered entirely out of danger.

The reports as to the health of Vera Cruz are more favorable. In private practice there was little fever, but a great deal of sickness in the hospitals.

The Spanish Minister resident in Mexico is expected in Vera Cruz about the 25th inst., on his way to Spain. Letters from Vera Cruz say he will be escorted by a body of Mexican Lancers. The Sun assigns a reason for his departure; in which we place no confidence. The whole story is rather apocryphal.

We are sorry to see in the Sun of Anahuac that another courier in the employ of the Americans has been shot at Antigua.

PUEBLA, August 3, 1847.

Intelligence has just been received that Captain Roff, with a squadron of cavalry, has given the guerillas a severe drubbing at San Juan de los Lanos. Gen. P. F. Smith learning on his arrival at Ojo de Agua that a party of these gentlemen of the road had a rendezvous on the former place, despatched Capt. R. with orders to surprise. The expedition was successful in every way—the guerrillas were surprised before they had time to reach their horses, and at once took refuge in a church and in two or three stone houses adjoining.—Into these our men at once charged; the Mexicans recoiled in dismay, and after a short struggle were entirely defeated, with a loss of between 30 and 40 killed and some 50 wounded. A priest and cure, said to have been in some way connected with the guerrillas, were taken prisoners.

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

We have a rumor this morning, and a startling one to the effect that Santa Anna is moving upon this city with his entire army and fifty pieces of cannon. The news is too good to be true and no one credits it.

PUEBLA, August 3, 1847.

Gen. Smith has returned with his brigade, and the report is that Gen. Pierce is to sleep to night at Amozoque. We will arrive here to morrow. The account of Capt. Roff's adventure with the guerillas at San Juan de Los Llanos, is fully confirmed. No less than 42 of the enemy were killed, a great number were wounded, all their arms were destroyed, and their flag brought off. The two padres who were taken prisoners in the church and who were supposed to have some connection with the guerrillas, have since been released by Gen. Smith.

I have already mentioned the successful escape of young Rogers from Mexico. Last night about 10 o'clock, Maj. Gaines came to, passing safely through the entire Mexican lines. It seems that on Monday last all the American officers were ordered to the headquarters of Gen. Lombardini, and were there told that they must prepare, in twelve hours, to move to Toluca. All of them, save Majors Gaines and Borland, and Capt. Dimitry, gave their parole that they would proceed to that place; but Maj G. distinctly told Lombardini that his parole was at an end—that he did not ask for renewal, nor should he accept it. On Tuesday morning the officers, with three exceptions above named, started in the stage for Toluca, and on the same night Maj Gaines, accompanied by a trusty Mexican guide, set out for this place, and after being once in the hands of the guerrillas, and running many narrow risks, besides, succeeded in coming through in safety. He informed Lombardini distinctly through the interpreter, a brother of Almonte, that he should not give his parole for Toluca, and anticipated being arrested and put under guard at once; but not thinking probably he would attempt to escape, he was allowed to depart. The sequel is known.

Maj. Gaines thinks that Santa Anna has about 15,000 tolerably well uniformed and drilled men, to which number must be added a rabble of undisciplined recruits, caught and picked up every way, and giving little strength to the army. The main defence of the Mexicans—that upon which they most rely—is at the Penon, and at this point they have planted some of their best cannon. Santa Anna himself is described as being in a greater dilemma than ever. The jealousy and obstinacy of his enemies prevent his openly avowing himself in favor of peace, and he is shrewd enough to know that the next battle must result against him. Thus his own downfall is staring him in the face, turn which way he will, and he is now awaiting some revolution of Fortune's wheel to extricate himself. His utter downfall would seem inevitable did not his past history afford abundant evidences that he has risen above every species of reverse, and so fruitful is he in expedients that he may still rise triumphantly from the whirlpool of difficulties by which he is surrounded.

Since I commenced this letter, General Scott's orders for the march of the army have been issued. The division of General Twiggs is to move on Saturday, the 7th instant, that of Gen. Quitman's on the 8th, Gen. Worth's on the 9th, and Gen. Pillow's on the 10th. In the mean time Col. Childs remains in Puebla as military and civil governor, and Capt. De Hart as lieutenant governor, while an efficient garrison, in addition to the sick and those who are convalescing, will be left behind.—Gen. Scott himself will probably accompany Gen. Quitman's division, and the entire army will concentrate at some point this side of the capital. G. W. K.

PUEBLA, MEXICO, *August* 6, 1847.

Gen. Pierce arrived this morning—his men, though much jaded and travel-worn, making a most soldierly appearance. The 9th regiment in particular—the New England regiment commanded by Col. Ransom—attracted much attention from the crowds assembled to see the new levies enter.

Notwithstanding all the stories told in the Mexican papers, it seems that General Pierce has brought his command through without losing a man, and with but three or four wounded. He was attacked several times by guerrilla parties, yet by prompt measures succeeding in routing them on every occasion.

The officers with Capt. Ruff, at the time he routed the guerrillas at San Juan de los Llanos, were Lieut. Walker, of his own company, and Lieut. Hawes, with a company of the 2d Dragoons. The defeat was complete.

We have a hundred conflicting rumors from the city of Mexico. One is to the effect that Valencia is coming out with 12,000 men to attack us in front, while Alvarez, with 5000 Pintos, makes a demonstration in the rear; another report has it that Santa Anna has disarmed 3000 of the Guardia Nacional, having discovered that they were hatching some plot against him; while still another report would have it that a regular revolution had broken out against the *benemerito* of his country, and that all was "confusion worse confounded" at Mexico, at last dates. Then, again, we have it that Puebla is to be attacked immediately after the army has left, the garrison put to the sword, and the citizens severely mulcted and robbed for the good treatment they have given to the Yankees. For any one of these rumors there is probably not the least shadow of foundation; yet as the Mexicans feed themselves upon the hopes of what they should do; they have given them circulation as facts, and very likely one half of the community believe them. There can be little doubt of one thing—that Santa Anna is compassed about with difficulties, and that although at present "he rides upon the whirlwind and directs the storm," the obstinacy of Congress and the jealousy and stubbornness of such men as Valencia hedge him in with a perfect wall of opposition. A long way the shrewdest and most far seeing man among them, he may still be enabled to keep the upper hand and sustain himself in such power as a broken down and fallen Government may afford any one. There is no such thing as foreseeing what such a man as Santa Anna can do—that is what he has done since his terrible defeat at Cerro Gordo for example. No one but he would have dared to show his face at the capital after such a reverse; but with a miserable remnant of an army he boldly entered the city, and once, with an empty treasury and with obstacles that seemed insurmountable, he has collected and organized a numerous force, inspired the hopes of a people he has a thousand times deceived, and for the time being at least, rides roughshod over every thing. What the next fortnight may turn up it is impossible to foresee, and in such a state of affairs it is idle to speculate.

Contrary to all expectations, the train which came up to day did not bring any money, and hence the poor providers for the absolute wants of the army are worse off than ever. As high as fifteen per cent. has been paid to day for money to defray the expenses of the short march from this to Mexico, and some of the holders here are even chafing for *eighteen*. Such are the straits to which our quartermasters and commissaries, abandoned as they have been by the Government at home, are driven. Nor is clothing brought, nor any of the necessaries for the well being of the army, to say nothing of the comfort, and hence all has to be purchased at rates which amount to ruinous extortion. I give you facts which every man here knows—comments may suggest themselves.

I finish this letter in haste, and late at night. To morrow morning Gen. Twiggs moves with his division, as I have already stated. Reports continue to come in that large bodies of the enemy are moving in the neighborhood, and just now we hear that 800 to 1000 guerrilleros who have been dogging Gen. Pierce, were seen this afternoon at El Pinal. The coming fortnight will come to us burthened with news, and whether it be of peace, or war to the knife, I shall give you the intelligence as early as possible.

Yours, &c. G. W. K.

Correspondence of the Picayune.

VERA CRUZ, August 14, 1847.

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

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

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

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

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

Zabala, a Mexican, whom, it would be remembered, stabbed three Americans about two weeks ago, has been tried and condemned to twenty years military confinement. This grand scoundrel has committed no less than four murders, besides dangerously wounding others, and when the city was surrendered he was turned over to the new authorities as a notorious scoundrel, and Mr. Hobsinner was particularly charged to see, that by no means the man should be set at liberty or allowed to escape, but still Mr. H. let him loose, with a pack of other cut throats to try their hands upon the [illegible]

have gone [illegible]

Last evening, and many of them D. Wilson were of the guerrillas. [illegible] the 1st Infantry, and [illegible] of Colonel L. American and Mexican, the grave by coffin was placed in a [illegible] manner of [illegible] tery where it can be conveniently done by his friends.

The U. S. sloop of war Saratoga is [illegible] chored off the city where she will remain for some time.

P. S. Aug. 15.—Not even a rumor from above.

For the Highland Messenger.

Enigmas.

I am composed of twenty two letters.
My 1 3 1 17, is the father of a large posterity.
" 2 13 3, a something that betokens approbation.
" 3.6 17 13 15 7 1 13 12, an uncertain foundation to build upon.
" 4 13 17 18 2, a character illustrative of angels.
" 5 1 7 8, is a kind of quadruped whose upper lip is divided.
" 6 1 7, an organ of wrath.
" 7 12 18, a kind of commodity.
" 8 12 16, is a something essential to happiness.
" 9 7 1 12, a domestic implement much used in cities.
" 10 2 11 10 1, the name of a country.
" 11 20 14 17, an instrument found on battle fields.
" 12 1 17, an esculent root, indigenous to tropical climates.
" 13 11 8, a short poem or song.
" 14 2 10 16 2, is a something by which the world stands.
" 15 18 11 1 7, a kind of wood, esteemed for its durability.
" 16 2 10 13 2, a product of the vegetable kingdom possessing narcotic properties.
" 17 13 2 8 12, is much sought after but seldom obtained.
" 18 11 8 2, the only place where woman never lived in quietude.
" 19 20 1 2 15 13, a country in Europe.
" 20 14 17, is an enemy to mankind.
" 21 1 7, an implement used in navigation.
" 22 1 2, the name of an animal whose true character zoologists have fully analysed.

My whole is a query propounded to the author of the Enigma in last week's paper.

SPOON.