

THE BATTLES ON THE RIO GRANDE.

OFFICIAL REPORTS.

WASHINGTON, June 12, 1846.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I transmit herewith, for the information of Congress, official reports received from the officer commanding the Army on the Mexican frontier...

Reports from General Taylor. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, CAMP NEAR MATAMORAS, MAY 16, 1846.

Sir: I have the honor to submit a more detailed report of the action of the 9th instant.

The main body of the army of occupation marched under my immediate orders from Point Isabel on the evening of the 7th May, and bivouacked seven miles from that place.

Our march was resumed the following morning. About noon, when our advance of cavalry had reached the water-hole of "Palo Alto," the Mexican troops were reported in our front...

Our line of battle was now formed in the following order, commencing on the extreme right: 5th infantry, commanded by Lieut. Colonel McIntosh; Major Ringgold's artillery; 3d infantry, commanded by Captain E. M. Morris; two 18-pounders, commanded by Lieut. Churchill; 3d artillery; 4th infantry, commanded by Major G. W. Allen...

About two o'clock we took up the march by heads of columns in the direction of the enemy, the 18 pounder battery following the road.

While the columns were advancing, Lieutenant Blake, Topographical Engineer, volunteered a reconnaissance of the enemy's line, which was handsomely performed, and resulted in the discovery of at least two batteries of artillery in the intervals of their cavalry and infantry.

About two o'clock we took up the march by heads of columns in the direction of the enemy, the 18 pounder battery following the road.

The 5th infantry, on our extreme left, was thrown back to secure that flank. The first fire of the enemy did little execution, while our 18 pounders and Major Ringgold's artillery soon dispersed the cavalry which formed in advance.

The fire of artillery was now most destructive; openings were constantly made through the enemy's ranks by our fire, and the constancy with which the Mexican infantry sustained this severe cannonade was a theme of universal remark and admiration.

The fourth infantry, which had been ordered to support the 18-pounder battery, was exposed to a most gallant fire of artillery, by which several men were killed and Captain Page dangerously wounded.

The strength of our marching force on this day, as exhibited in the annexed field report, was 173 officers and 2,043 men—aggregate 2,216.

The actual number engaged with the enemy did not exceed 1,700. Our loss was three officers killed, thirty-six men killed and seventy-one wounded.

While the above was going forward on our right, and under my own eye, the enemy had made a serious attempt against the left of our line.

Our army bivouacked on the ground it occupied. During the afternoon the rain had been moved forward about half a mile, and was parked in rear of the new position.

Our loss this day was nine killed, forty-four wounded, and two missing. Among the wounded were Major Ringgold, who has since died, and Capt. Page dangerously wounded, Lieut. Luther slightly so.

Our own force engaged is shown by the field report herewith, to have been 177 officers, and 2,111 men; aggregate 2,288. The Mexican force, according to the statements of their own officers taken prisoners in the affair of the 9th, was not less than 6,000 regular troops, with ten pieces of artillery, and probably exceeded that number—the irregular force not known.

As already reported in my first brief despatch, the conduct of our officers and men was every thing that could be desired.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR, Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A. Commanding, THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION, MATAMORAS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Camp near Fort Brown, Texas, May 17, 1846.

Sir: In submitting a more minute report of the affair of "Resaca de la Palma," I have the honor to state that, early on the morning of the 9th instant, the enemy, who had encamped near the field of battle of the day previous, was discovered moving by his left flank, evidently in retreat, and perhaps at the same time to gain a new position on the road to Matamoros, and there again resist our advance.

I ordered the supply train to be strongly parked at its position, and left with it four pieces of artillery—the two 15 pounders, which had done such good service on the previous day, and two 12-pounders, which had not been in the action.

The wounded officers and men were at the same time sent back to Point Isabel. I then moved forward with the columns to the edge of the chaparral or forest, which extends to the Rio Grande, a distance of seven miles.

The light companies of the first brigade under Captain T. Smith, second artillery, and a select detachment of light troops, the whole under the command of Capt. McCall, fourth infantry, were thrown forward into the Chaparral, to feel the enemy and ascertain his position.

At about 3 o'clock I received a report from the advance that the enemy was in position on the road, with at least two pieces of artillery. The command was immediately put in motion, and about 4 o'clock I came up with Capt. McCall, who reported the enemy in force in our front, occupying the ravine which intersects the road, and skirted by thickets of dense chaparral.

The action now became general, and although the enemy's infantry gave way before the steady fire and restlessness of our own, yet his artillery was still in position to check our advance—several pieces occupying the pass across the ravine which he had chosen for his position.

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The light companies of the first brigade, and the third and fourth regiments of infantry, had been deployed on the right of the road, when, at various points, they became briskly engaged with the enemy.

The artillery battalion (excepting the flank companies) had been ordered to guard the baggage-train, which was parked some distance in rear. That battalion was now ordered up to pursue the enemy, and, with the 3d infantry, Capt. Ker's dragoons, and Capt. Duncan's battery, followed him rapidly to the river, making a number of prisoners.

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strongly defended with artillery. The enemy's loss was very great. Nearly 200 of his dead were buried by us on the day succeeding the battle.

Our victory has been decisive. A small force has overcome immense odds of the best troops that Mexico can furnish; veteran regiments perfectly equipped and appointed.

The cause of victory are doubtless to be found in the superior quality of our officers and men. I have already, in former reports, paid a general tribute to the admirable conduct of the troops on both days.

Col. Twiggs, the second in command, was particularly active on both days, in executing my orders and directing the operations of the right wing.

Lieut. Col. McIntosh, commanding the 5th infantry; Lieut. Col. Garland, commanding the 3d infantry; Lieut. Col. Belknap, commanding the 1st brigade; Lieut. Col. Childs, commanding the artillery battalion; Major Allen, Captain Morris, and Montgomery, commanding respectively the 4th, 3d, and 5th regiments of infantry, were zealous in the performance of their duties, and gave examples to their commands of cool and fearless conduct.

Captain Duncan and Lieut. Ridgely deserve special notice for the gallant and efficient manner in which they maneuvered and served their batteries. The impression made by Capt. Duncan's battery upon the extreme right of the enemy's line at the affair of Palo Alto contributed largely to the result of the day; while the terrible fire kept up by Lieut. Ridgely in the affair of the 9th inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy.

The charge of cavalry against the enemy's batteries on the 9th was gallantly led by Captain May, and had complete success. Captain McCall, 4th infantry, rendered distinguished service with the advanced corps under his orders.

I derived efficient aid on both days from all the officers of my staff. Captain Bliss, Assistant Adjutant General; Lieut. Colonel Payne, Inspector General; Lieut. Eaton, A. D. C.; Capt. Vaghaman, Commissary of Subsistence; Lieut. Seavitt, Engineer, and Lieuts. Black and Meade, Topographical Engineers, promptly conveyed my orders to every part of the field.

I enclose an inventory of the Mexican property captured on the field, and also a sketch of the field of "Resaca de la Palma," and of the route from Palo Alto, made by my Aid-de-camp, Lieut. Eaton.

The regimental color (battalion of Tampico) and many standards and guidons of necessity were taken at the affair of the 9th. I would be pleased to receive your instructions as to the disposition to be made of these trophies; whether they shall be sent to Washington, &c.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR, Brevet Brigadier General U. S. A. Commanding, ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE CASE OF MR. WEBSTER. The Committee of investigation appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the charges made by Mr. C. J. Ingersoll against Mr. Webster, having reported, and that report being a full and entire exculpation of Mr. W. from the charges brought against him, it remains to be seen what action the House will take in the premises.

No army, not even excepting the veterans of Napoleon or Wellington, ever displayed more coolness and determined valor, than did the troops of Genl. Taylor in the battles of the 8th and 9th May—days which will be ever memorable in the history of our country.

Attention! RALEIGH GUARD VOLUNTEERS! Meet at the City Hall, on Saturday next, the 20th inst. at 11 o'clock. By order of the Captain, J. S. WALTON, O. S. June 15, 1846.

A FEMALE CLERK OF A COURT.—The Frankfort (Ky.) Common Pleas Court—Judge Kinhead, of the 19th district, has performed a very handsome, and we are happy to hear, a very acceptable act, by the appointment of Mrs. Trimble the accomplished and estimable lady of the late John Trimble, as Clerk of the Carter circuit, in the place of her deceased husband.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.—FRIDAY, June 12, 1846.

A message transmitted the official reports of General Taylor relative to the operations of the army on the Rio Grande. They were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

After the disposal of some private bills, the Senate went into Executive session, and it is understood resumed the consideration of the Oregon proposition.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. McKay gave notice that he would on Monday next, move to take up the Tariff Bill.

Mr. Schenck, from the Select Committee appointed to investigate the mode in which Mr. C. J. Ingersoll obtained his information from the State Department, relative to the charges against Mr. Webster, made a report, accompanied by the testimony taken before the Committee.

A resolution was introduced, authorizing the President to give a silver medal to each private soldier of the army, on the Rio Grande.

Mr. Stewart moved a suspension of the rules, for the purpose of offering a joint resolution providing for a termination of the present session on the 29th July.

After the disposal of some private bills, the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, June 13, 1846.

The Senate did not sit today.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

As soon as the journal was read, the House went into Committee of the whole, and resumed the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill.

A resolution was then adopted to close the debate on the bill in Committee, at half past 2. The bill was then taken up in Committee, and at the time designated, the debate ceased.

Mr. Allen desired to be excused from serving any longer as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. He said that recent circumstances had convinced him that his views on certain important matters, were not in accordance with those of the majority of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Webster, it was ordered that, at one o'clock to-morrow, the Senate will proceed to ballot for another Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Committee of the Whole to the Naval Appropriation bill.

Mr. Hangerford offered a substitute for the whole bill.

Mr. Wrenworth gave notice of an amendment to strike out the provisional duty of 10 per cent. upon tea, coffee and chocolate.

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MORE VOLUNTEERS IN ORANGE.

On Saturday last, the 47th Reg. assembled in this place by order of the Col. Commandant, to respond to the proclamation of the Governor calling for Volunteers.

Mr. Waddell appeared on the portico of the Masonic Hall, and spoke for about an hour in patriotic strains of glowing eloquence.

But they still were not to be despised: for they were numbered by millions. He then spoke of the gallant achievements of our army on the Rio Grande, in the engagements of the 8th and 9th ult.

When Mr. Waddell had concluded, he proposed three cheers for the *Hawfields* Volunteers, and said that they should have nine when we heard from them at the seat of war.

After these proceedings at the Lodge, the Regiment was again marched into two streets, and formed into lines on opposite sides.

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North Carolina LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND MILITARY ACADEMY.

Arms and Equipments furnished by the State. Next Session of this Classical, English and Mathematical School, opens on the 1st of July, with advantages unsurpassed in any Preparatory School in the South.

Classics, English, etc. R. GRAY. Mathematics, Tactics, etc. U. A. HUCK. Music. I. I. SOLOMONS.

During the Session, Lectures on Popular subjects will be delivered, of which due notice will be given in the Public Prints.

Gov. Graham. Dr. Hill. Rev. A. Smedes. Dr. Baker. Rev. D. Lacy. W. R. Gates. Rev. B. T. Riske. E. B. Freeman. Hon. J. J. Furck. Chas. L. Hinton. Hon. G. E. Badger. Thos. J. Lemay. Hon. Jas. Iredell. Geo. Little. Hon. R. M. Saunders. W. J. Clarke, Esquires.

Stop the Rascal! ON Friday last, that notorious scoundrel, JAMES BRYAN, stole from my field a dark BAY MARE, and made off with her in broad day light.

JOHN STUART. Wake County, April 14, 1846. 31—1f

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.—Bertie County. In Equity—March Term, 1846. John Freeman, vs. A. W. Mebane and Jno B Williams.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.—Carter County. In Equity—Superior Court of Law, March Term, A. D. 1846. Mary W. Green, vs. Joseph Green.

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