

THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

T 133 J, LE 44V, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

"NORTH CAROLINA—POWERFUL IN MORAL, INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES—THE LAND OF OUR BIRTH AND THE HOME OF OUR AFFECTIONS."

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Russell's History of England
Russell's History of France
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Bigland's History of Birds, &c.
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The Farmer's Register—from June 1831 to Dec. 1838
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Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress
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Vehtake's Political Economy
Stock Raisers Manual
Treaties on Cattle
History of the Horse
Political Economy by McCulloch
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Juvenile Forget Me Not
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The Parting Gift
The Bridal Gift
Scripture Gems
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Charles O'Malley—the Irish Dragon
Swain's North Carolina Justice
The Scottish Chiefs
Arabian Nights
Robinson Crusoe
Georgia Scenes
Family Monitor
Fanny Woodbury.
For the Star.
Mr. Editor: Assured that you are an advocate for thorough education, as well among females as males, I take the liberty of communicating to you, and through your columns to those who read your valuable paper, a short sketch of the examination of the young Ladies connected with the Oxford Seminary, which must have been to Trustees, patrons and visitors of the most satisfactory character, as it was highly creditable to the pupils. The progress (which I witnessed with much pleasure) furnished a satisfactory proof of that which should make every North Carolina feel proud. It is, that when we have such schools within our own borders, there is no need to send young Ladies abroad and among strangers to be taught in any of those branches

which compose the essential elements of a thorough education. The course of instruction in this institution is varied, including every thing necessary to make a good English scholar. It must have been truly gratifying to all interested in the school in any manner, to have witnessed an examination so thorough and testing so minutely the accuracy of scholarship in the different classes. Upon the course of Mathematics it was not unusual to see the pupils demonstrating problems on the Black Board that would have caused many a Freshman and Sophomore to scratch his head through the whole recitation hour. Among the most interesting parts of the exercises, was a dialogue in French, in addition to a regular examination upon the same subject, which gave evidence of a proficiency in the construction and the pronunciation of that language highly commendable. It would be in vain to attempt any thing more in this communication than a mere synopsis of the various studies and the thorough and diversified manner in which the examinations were conducted. But upon the subjects of Rhetoric, Astronomy, Mental Philosophy and Mythology, it is nothing but due to the scholars to say that they acquitted themselves in the most handsome manner and deserve the highest credit; and their instructors are entitled to the gratitude of both parents and guardians who have patronised this school, uniting in themselves the qualities so seldom found in proprietors of schools the ability to teach and impart knowledge with great facility, and governing their pupils with that parental discipline which secures all proper respect and obedience, and at the same time strengthens and improves those qualities which are so peculiarly amiable in riper years, (affection and tenderness.) The time occupied in reading composition by the girls was truly an intellectual treat, showing that this important part of education had been properly attended to; and as forming so much of the accomplishment in after life.—In method, purity of style, and elegance of language, these productions were entirely unexceptionable, and the highest compliments that could be paid to those so young would be but a just tribute to deserved merit. Doubtless a Moore or Hemans, at the same age, as little thought of the pleasure and benefit that were to flow from their pens.
The closing scene of this interesting occasion has now arrived, and I must soon take my exit; making my bow to the young Ladies at a respectful distance, and give the hospitable citizens of Oxford a cordial shake by the hand. The concert at night was numerously attended, and the girls in their loveliness and simplicity seemed to engage in this as one of their evening vocations. Upon the Harp, Guitar and Piano many performed the most difficult pieces, Waltzes, Quadrills, Rondos, &c., to a delighted auditory; and it must have afforded pleasure to the most exquisite ears, for it seemed that the "music of the Spheres had begun," and all the muses were in attendance.
After witnessing the close of the examination, which terminated the exercises of the session on the 29th of November last, I was induced to make a few reflections as to the importance and grand object of education; and it appears with great force that to supply the mind with useful and practical information; to adorn it with all the christian virtues, by inculcating the doctrines of the Bible in their purity and simplicity (without bias or sectarian influence,) is the great end, and should be the great desideratum in the education of those who are in so short a time to occupy positions in society so important and to exert an influence the effects of which may not be known this side of eternity.
Yours, &c.

be made without their sanction." He was instructed to call upon them to "avow under what national authority they profess to act," and to give them due warning "that the place is within the United States, who will suffer no permanent settlement to be made there, under any authority other than their own." As late as the eighth of July, 1842, the Secretary of State of the United States, in a note addressed to our minister in Mexico, maintains that, by the Florida treaty of 1819, the territory as far west as the Rio Grande was confirmed to Spain. In that note he states that, "by the treaty of the twenty-second of February, 1819, between the United States and Spain, the Sabine was adopted as the line of boundary between the two Powers. Up to that period, no considerable colonization had been effected in Texas; but the territory between the Sabine and the Rio Grande being confirmed to Spain by the treaty, applications were made to that Power for grants, of land, and such grants, or permissions of settlement, were in fact made by the Spanish authorities in favor of citizens of the United States proposing to emigrate to Texas in numerous families, before the declaration of independence by Mexico."
The Texas which was ceded to Spain by the Florida treaty of 1819 embraced all the country now claimed by the State of Texas between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. The republic of Texas always claimed this river as her western boundary, and in her treaty made with Santa Anna, in May, 1836, he recognised it as such. By the constitution which Texas adopted in March, 1836, senatorial and representative districts were organized extending west of the Nueces. The Congress of Texas, on the nineteenth of December, 1836, passed "An act to define the boundaries of the republic of Texas," in which they declared the Rio Grande from its mouth to its source to be their boundary, and by the said act they extended their "civil and political jurisdiction" over the country up to that boundary. During a period of more than nine years, which intervened between the adoption of her constitution and her annexation as one of the States of our Union Texas asserted and exercised many acts of sovereignty and jurisdiction over the territory and inhabitants west of the Nueces. She organized and defined the limits of counties extending to the Rio Grande. She established courts of justice and extended her judicial system over the territory. She established a custom house, and collected duties, and also post offices and post roads, in it. She established a land office, and issued numerous grants for land, within its limits. A Senator and a Representative residing in it were elected to the Congress of the republic, and served as such before the act of annexation took place. In both the Congress and Convention of Texas, which gave their assent to the terms of annexation to the United States, proposed by our Congress, were representatives residing west of Nueces, which took part in the act of annexation itself. This was the Texas which, by the act of our Congress of the twenty-ninth of December, 1845, was admitted as one of the States of our Union. That the Congress of the United States understood the State of Texas which they admitted into the Union to extend beyond the Nueces is apparent from the fact, that on the thirty-first of December, 1845, only two days after the act of admission, they passed a law "to establish a collection district in the State of Texas," by which they created a port of delivery at Corpus Christi, situated west of the Nueces, and being the same point at which the Texas custom house, under the laws of that republic, had been located, and directed that a surveyer to collect the revenue should be appointed for that port by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. A surveyor was accordingly nominated, and confirmed by the Senate and has been ever since in the performance of his duties. All these acts of the republic of Texas, and of our Congress, preceded the orders for the advance of our army to the east bank of the Rio Grande. Subsequently, Congress passed an act "establishing certain post routes," extending west of the Nueces. The country west of that river now constitutes a part of one of the Congressional districts of Texas, and is represented in the House of Representatives. The Senators from that State were chosen by a legislature in which the country west of that river was represented. In view of all these facts, it is difficult to conceive upon what ground it can be maintained that, in occupying the country west of the Nueces with our army, with a view solely to its security and defence, we invaded the territory of Mexico. But it would have been still more difficult to justify the Executive, whose duty it is to see that the laws be faithfully executed, if in the face of all these proceedings, both of the Congress of Texas and of the United States, he had assumed the responsibility of yielding up the territory west of the Nueces to Mexico, or of refusing to protect and defend this territory and its inhabitants, including Corpus Christi, as well as the remainder of Texas, against the threatened Mexican invasion.

mediate territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. Her reputed pretension that Texas was not in fact an independent State, but a rebellious province, was obstinately persevered in; and her avowed purpose in commencing a war with the United States was to reconquer Texas, and to restore Mexican authority over the whole territory—not to the Nueces only, but to the Sabine. In view of the proclaimed menaces of Mexico to this effect, I deemed it my duty, as a measure of precaution and defence, to order our army to occupy a position on our frontier as a military post, from which our troops could best resist and repel any attempted invasion which Mexico might make.
Our army had occupied a position at Corpus Christi, west of the Nueces, as early as August 1845, without complaint from any quarter. Had the Nueces been regarded as the true western boundary of Texas, that boundary had been passed by our army many months before it advanced to the eastern bank of the Rio Grande. In my annual message of December last I informed Congress that, upon the invitation of both the Congress and Convention of Texas, I had deemed it proper to order a strong squadron to the coast of Mexico, and to concentrate an efficient military force on the western frontier of Texas to protect and defend the inhabitants against the menaced invasion of Mexico. In that message I informed Congress that the moment the terms of annexation offered by the United States were accepted by Texas, the latter became so far a part of our own country as to make it our duty to afford such protection and defence; and that for that purpose our squadron had been ordered to the Gulf, and our army to "take a position between the Nueces and the Del Norte," or Rio Grande, and "to repel any invasion of the Texas territory which might be attempted by the Mexican forces."
It was deemed proper to issue this order, because, soon after the President of Texas, in April, 1845, had issued his proclamation convening the Congress of that republic, for the purpose of submitting to that body the terms of annexation proposed by the United States; the government of Mexico made serious threats of invading the Texas territory.
These threats became more imposing as it became more apparent, in the progress of the question, that the people of Texas would decide in favor of accepting the terms of annexation; and finally, they had assumed such a formidable character, as induced both the Congress and convention of Texas to request that a military force should be sent by the United States into her territory for the purpose of protecting and defending her against the threatened invasion. It would have been a violation of good faith towards the people of Texas to have refused to afford the aid which they desired against a threatened invasion, to which they had been exposed by their free determination to annex themselves to our Union, in compliance with the overture made to them by the joint resolution of our Congress.
Accordingly, a portion of the army was ordered to advance into Texas. Corpus Christi was the position selected by Gen. Taylor. He encamped at that place in August, 1845, and the army remained in that position until the eleventh of March, 1846, when it moved westward, and on the twenty-eighth of that month reached the east bank of the Rio Grande opposite to Matamoros. This movement was made in pursuance of orders from the War Department, issued on the thirteenth of January, 1846. Before these orders were issued, the despatch of our minister in Mexico, transmitting the decision of the Council of Government of Mexico advising, that he should not be received, and also the despatch of our consul residing in the city of Mexico—the former bearing on the 17th, and the latter on the eighteenth of December, 1845, copies of both of which accompanied my message to Congress of the eleventh of May last—were received at the Department of State. These communications rendered it highly probable, if not absolutely certain, that our minister would not be received by the Government of General Herrera. It was also well known that but little hope could be entertained of a different result from General Paredes, in case the revolutionary movement which he was prosecuting should prove successful, as was highly probable. The partisans of Paredes, as our minister, in the despatch referred to, states breathed the fiercest hostility against the United States, renounced the proposed negotiation as treason, and openly called upon the troops and the people to put down the government of Herrera by force. The reconquest of Texas, and war with the United States, were openly threatened. These were the circumstances existing, when it was deemed proper to order the army under the command of General Taylor to advance to the western frontier of Texas, and occupy a position on or near the Rio Grande.
The apprehensions of a contemplated Mexican invasion have been so fully justified by the event. The determination of Mexico to rush into hostilities with the United States was afterwards manifested from the whole tenor of the note of the Mexican Minister of Foreign