

# THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

T. J. J. LEAVY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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

(THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE)

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No. 19

## NEW ALMANAC.

JUST Published, and for sale at the Star Office and the Auction and Commission Store of N. B. HUGHES, in this City, "LeMay's N. Carolina Agricultural Almanac for 1847." It contains, besides much valuable matter for the husbandman, the calendar pages & the usual statistical information for the convenient reference of professional and business men, anecdotes, &c. &c., and will be sold in any quantities very cheap.

**The Mode & Subjects of Baptism,**  
BY REV. ALEXANDER B. SMITH,  
For sale at the Star Office.

## FOR SALE,

A fine BROOD AND WORK MARE, and a splendid three year old FILLY. Apply at the Star Office.

RALEIGH, MAY 11, 1847.

## NEW & BEAUTIFUL SPRING GOODS Cheaper than ever!

JAMES LITCHFORD thankful for past favors, would respectfully solicit a continuance of patronage for the future. He has now the pleasure of informing his friends and customers, that he has just received his Spring supply of

## NEW & BEAUTIFUL DRY GOODS:

Which, having been bought on favorable terms, will be sold cheaper than ever—consisting in part of the following articles, viz:  
Do. do. Drap d'Ete and Casimere  
Do. fine Marcelline Vestings  
Kentucky Jeans and Sateen's  
Alpaca and Union Drillings  
Nankin and fancy Pantaloon stuffs  
Bleached and unbleached Shirting and Sheetings  
Cotton checks and Bed Ticking  
Linen and Bandana Handkerchiefs  
Fancy cravats and Webb suspenders  
Beautiful Lawn and Willow Bonnets  
Fine and common Umbrellas  
Elegant fancy summer Prints and Gingham  
splendid Organdie, new style, Muslins  
spool Cotton, Needles, Padlock, Canvas  
silk, Twist, Thread and Buttons  
Diaper, Bleached and brown Jeans  
Hosiery, Gloves, Pastboard  
A superior lot of Gentlemen's and Ladies' shoes,  
shooters and Slippers.  
Gun Powder and Imperial Tea, Loaf, Crushed,  
and Pulverized sugar, Coffee and Brown sugar,  
Molasses, Vinegar and anuff; Gray's Ointment;  
Blacking, Adamantine Candles, Powder and shot;  
chewing Tobacco and segars, Pepper, Allspice  
and Ginger.

## China, Crockery and Glass Ware.

Elegant China Tea sets, Plates and Dishes, Tea  
Pots, Basins, Bowls, Pitchers, Chambers, and  
beautiful plain and mould Tumblers.  
Brads, Nails, Patent Axes, corn brooms, cut  
Tacks, and Jack Knives, together with many other  
desirable articles; all of which, for cash, will be  
sold on the most favorable terms.

To his old friends and patrons, he would also  
say, that he still carries on the **TAILORING  
BUSINESS**, and would be glad to execute any  
job, either in cutting or making, with which they  
from time to time, may see fit to favor him.  
Raleigh, May 8

**PRIME VINEGAR.**  
Just received by  
JAS. LITCHFORD

## POETRY.



## THE DRUNKARD.

Of all the fools by heaven cursed,  
The impious drunkard surely is the worst:  
In vain we seek for fools more void of sense,  
Or deeper sunk in stupid ignorance;  
No beast that walks the plain, or bird that flies,  
Does so imprudent act, or so unwise.  
The poor, the dull, the despised ass,  
In wisdom, doth the drunkard far surpass;  
He drinks no more when nature's satisfied,  
But leaves the stream along the vale to glide:  
But drunkards of inferior sense will drink,  
Till they can scarcely walk, or talk, or think.  
What sin will not a drunkard then commit,  
While in this vile intoxicated fit!  
Natan can rule him then with easy sway,  
And guide him as he pleases in his way.  
His health, his wealth, his character and time  
Are all destroyed with this atrocious crime.  
We curse those who into houses creep,  
To rob their neighbors while they are asleep;  
But of all thieves, the drunkard if we view,  
Is far the worst of this degenerate crew.  
The unfeeling wretch in drink does so delight,  
He robs his wife and children of their right,  
To purchase poison in the flowing bowl,  
Which brings them all to want, and damns at  
last his soul.

For the Raleigh Star.  
**ORIGINAL COIN.**

Sincerity is the best rudder to our lives:  
Reflection is the first step to reform.  
Modesty and firmness are the brightest  
ornaments of a youthful character.  
Empty heads, like empty barrels, are  
the most noisy when moved.

It is printing that gives immortality to  
speech.

Factions and mobs are the workings of  
small minds—for little minds, like little  
pails of water, are easily shaken into com-  
motion.  
Never measure your talents with that  
of another individual—if he be less, it is  
your shame; if he be greater, it is your  
presumption.

Virtue is a youth what a wall is to a  
city—when the wall is strong, down, the  
inhabitants are slain; and it is not so easy  
to repair them in the end as to defend them  
from the beginning.  
E. L. P.

Mr. Bancroft has been elected a mem-  
ber of the London Society of Antiquari-  
ans, on motion of Lord Morpeth. He is  
the first American that has ever received  
that honor.

## OFFICIAL.

The following very interesting des-  
patch from Major General Scott was  
received at the War Office, by this eve-  
ning's southern boat. We hasten to lay  
it before our readers:—**Union of Satur-  
day night.**

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
Plan del Rio, 50 miles from Vera Cruz,  
April 19, 1847.

SIR: The plan of attack, sketched in  
General Orders, No. 111, [published in  
our last paper,] herewith, was finely  
executed by this gallant army, before 2  
o'clock P. M., yesterday. We are  
quite embarrassed with the results of vic-  
tory—prisoners of war, heavy ordnance,  
field batteries, small arms, and accom-  
tments. About 3,000 men laid down  
their arms with the usual proportion of  
field and company officers, besides five  
generals, several of them of great dis-  
tinction. Pinzon, Jarrero, La Vega, No-  
rega, and Obando. A sixth general,  
Vasquez, was killed in defending the  
battery (tower) in the rear of the whole  
Mexican army, the capture of which  
gave us those glorious results.

Our loss, though comparatively small  
in numbers, has been serious. Brigadier  
General Shields, a commander of  
active zeal, and talent, is I fear if not  
dead, mortally wounded. He is some  
five miles from me at the moment.—  
The field of operations covered many  
miles, broken by mountains and deep  
chasms, and I have not a report, as yet,  
from any division or brigade. Twigg's  
divisions, followed by Shields' (now Col.  
Baker's) brigade alone, is near me at this  
depot of wounded, sick and prisoners,  
and I have time only to give from him  
the names of 1st Lieut. F. B. Nelson,  
and 2d C. G. Gill, both of the 2d Ten-  
nessee foot (Haskell's) regiment, among  
the killed, and the brigade 106, of all  
ranks, killed or wounded. Among the  
latter, the gallant brigadier general  
himself has a smart wound in the arm,  
but not disabled, and Maj. R. Farqueson,  
2d Tennessee; Capt. H. F. Murray, 2d  
Lieut. G. T. Shuterland, 1st Lieut.  
W. P. Hale (adjutant) all of the same  
regiment, severely, and 1st Lieut. Year-  
wood mortally wounded.—And I know,  
from personal observation on the  
ground, that 1st Lieut. Ewell, of the  
rifles, if not now dead, was mortally  
wounded, entering sword in hand, the  
entrenchments around the captured  
tower. Second Lieut. Derby, topogra-  
phical engineer, I also saw, at the  
same place, severely wounded, and  
Capt. Patten, 2d United States infantry,  
lost his right hand. Major Sumner,  
2d United States dragoons was slightly  
wounded the day before, and Capt.  
Johnston, topographical engineer (now  
Lieut. Col. of infantry) was very severely  
wounded some days earlier while recon-  
noitering. I must not omit to add that  
Capt. Mason and 2d Lieut. Davis, both  
of the rifles, were among the severely  
wounded in storming the same tower.  
I estimate our total loss, in killed and  
wounded, may be about 250, and that  
of the enemy 350. In the pursuit to-  
wards Xalapa (25 miles hence) I learn  
we have added much to the enemy's loss  
in prisoners, killed, and wounded. In  
fact I suppose his retreating army to be  
nearly disorganized, and hence my haste  
to follow, in an hour or two, to profit by  
events.

In this hurried and imperfect report  
I must not omit to say that Brigadier  
Gen. Twigg, in passing the mountain  
range beyond Cerro Gordo, crowned  
with the tower, detached from his di-  
vision, as I suggested the day before, a  
strong force to carry that height, which  
commanded the Xalapa road at the  
foot, and could not fail, if carried, to  
cut off the whole, or any part of the  
enemy's forces from a retreat in any di-  
rection. A portion of the 1st artillery, un-  
der the often distinguished Brevet Colonel  
Childs, the 3d infantry, under Capt.  
Alexander, the 7th infantry, under Lt.  
Col. Plymton, and the rifles, under Maj-  
or Loring, all under the temporary com-  
mand of Colonel Harney, 2d dragoons,  
during the confinement to his bed of  
Brevet Brigadier General P. F. Smith,  
composed that detachment. The style  
of execution, which I had the pleasure  
to witness, was most brilliant and de-  
cisive. The brigade ascended the long  
and difficult slope of Cerro Gordo, with-  
out shelter, and under the tremendous  
fire of artillery and musketry with the  
most steadiness, reached the breast-  
works, drove the enemy from them,  
planted the colors of the 1st artillery,  
3d and 7th infantry—the enemy's flag  
still flying—and, after some minutes of  
sharp firing finished the conquest with  
the bayonet.

It is a most pleasing duty to say that  
the highest praise is due to Harney,  
Childs, Plymton, Loring, Alexander,  
their gallant officers and men, for this  
brilliant service, independent of the  
great results which soon followed.  
Worth's division of regulars coming

up at this time, he detached Brevet  
Lieutenant Col. C. F. Smith, with his  
light battalion, to support the assault,  
but not in time. The General, reach-  
ing the tower a few minutes before me,  
and observing a white flag displayed  
from the nearest portion of the enemy  
towards the batteries below, sent out  
Colonel Harney and Childs to hold a  
parley. The surrender followed in an  
hour or two.

Major General Patterson left a sick  
bed to share in the dangers and fatigues  
of the day; and after the surrender  
went forward to command the advanced  
forces towards Xalapa.

Brig. General Pillow and his brigade  
twice assaulted with great daring the  
enemy's line of batteries on our left,  
and though without success they con-  
tributed much to distract and dismay  
their immediate opponents.

President Santa Anna, with Generals  
Canalizo and Almonte, and some six or  
eight thousand men, escaped towards  
Xalapa just before Cerro Gordo was  
carried, and before Twigg's division  
reached the national road above.

I have determined to parole the pris-  
oners—officers and men—as I have not  
the means of feeding them here beyond  
to-day, and cannot afford to detach a  
heavy body of horses and foot, with  
wagons to accompany them to Vera  
Cruz. Our baggage train, though in-  
creasing, is not yet half large enough to  
give an assured progress to this army.  
Besides, a greater number of prisoners  
would, probably, escape from the escort  
in the long and deep sandy road, with-  
out assistance—ten to one—that we  
shall find again, out of the same body  
of men, in the ranks opposed to us. Not  
one of the Vera Cruz prisoners is be-  
lieved to have been in the lines of Cer-  
ro Gordo. Some six of the officers,  
highest in rank, refuse to give their  
parole, except to go to Vera Cruz, and  
thence, perhaps, to the United States.

The small arms and their accom-  
tments, being of no value to our ar-  
my here or at home, I have ordered  
them to be destroyed; for we have not  
the means of transporting them. I am,  
also, somewhat embarrassed with the  
pieces of artillery—all bronze—which  
we have captured. It would take a  
brigade and half the mules of this ar-  
my, to transport them fifty miles. A  
field battery I shall take for service  
with the army; but the heavy metal  
must be collected and left here for the  
present.—We have our own siege train  
and the proper carriages with us.

Being much occupied with the pris-  
oners and all the details of a forward  
movement, besides looking to the sup-  
plies which are to follow from Vera Cruz,  
I have time to add no more—intending  
to be at Xalapa early tomorrow. We shall  
not, probably, again meet with serious  
opposition this side of Perote—certainly  
not, unless delayed by the want of the  
means of transportation.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with  
high respect, your most obedient ser-  
vant.

## WINFIELD SCOTT.

P. S. I invite attention to the ac-  
companying letter to President Santa  
Anna, taken in his carriage yesterday;  
also to his proclamation, issued on hear-  
ing that we had captured Vera Cruz,  
&c., in which he says: "If the enemy  
advance one step more, the national in-  
dependence will be buried in the abyss  
of the past." We have taken that  
step.

I make a second postscript, to say that  
there is some hope, I am happy to learn,  
that Gen. Shields may survive his  
wounds.

One of the principal motives for parol-  
ing the prisoners of war is, to diminish  
the resistances of other garrisons in our  
march.

Hon. Wm. L. Marey, Secretary of  
War.

[The Proclamation of Santa Anna  
which Gen. Scott encloses in his des-  
patch, will be found in another col-  
umn.]

## THE ILLUMINATION.

The celebration of the battle of Palo  
Alto and of the other Mexican victories,  
which came off at the city of Washing-  
ton and at the navy Yard, on Satur-  
day last, was a splendid affair.—The  
ceremonies during the day included  
festivities, toast-drinking, speech mak-  
ing, the firing of cannon, and pre-  
parations for the splendid scene which  
was to be presented at night. The il-  
lumination was very beautiful, and re-  
minded us of the fairy tales of eastern  
splendor and magnificence. The dark-  
ness of the evening occasioned by a  
cloudy sky, contributed to the brillian-  
cy of the light by its contrast, and the  
magic scene presented to the eye seem-  
ed to be highly gratifying to the large  
concourse of spectators of all ages,  
shades, and complexions, who thronged  
the avenue and the public places, to

witness it.

Among the buildings in the city  
which attracted particular attention by  
the splendor of their illumination were  
the Observatory, the President's House,  
Jackson Hall, the Franklin Engine  
House, and the printing offices—espe-  
cially the Union and Intelligence offi-  
ces. The latter buildings had splen-  
did transparencies, the most remarkable  
of which represented the battle fields of  
Buena Vista, Vera Cruz and Cerro Gor-  
do, the fall of Maj. Bingham, the rep-  
resentation of different States of the  
Union, various mottos, devices &c.  
From the Franklin Engine House,  
which was beautifully illuminated as  
well as the Fire Apparatus itself, a  
line of flags and mottos stretched en-  
tirely across the avenue;—in front of  
the Union and the Intelligence offices  
were large crowds of people all the  
time, admiring the handsome display  
of transparencies, which were exhibited  
on the occasion.

At the Navy Yard, the attraction was  
very great.—The splendid display of  
fire works surpassed any thing of the  
kind ever before witnessed here. Large  
numbers of people assembled in that  
quarter to enjoy the novel and inter-  
esting exhibition. A transparent arch,  
upon which was painted Santa Anna's  
leg, spanned the street, and paintings  
illustrative of the late battles in Mexico,  
decorated many public and private  
buildings. At intervals during the  
whole evening, Rockets were fired,  
which as they vaulted heavenward  
with splendid trains, and burst in the  
mid-air, threw off and scattered around  
hundred of stars of varied sizes and  
of every hue of the rainbow, and which  
as they gradually fell, one after another,  
lighted up the concave of the Heavens  
with a brilliancy of glory, like to  
that with which the noble exploits, they  
were intended to commemorate, have  
lighted up the page of our nation's his-  
tory. One of the exhibitions of fire works  
which gave the most pleasure was that  
in which the several states of the Union  
were represented with stars all moving  
rapidly around, and blazing with fervid  
brightness, exciting the warmest ad-  
miration from the numerous beholders.  
Within a few minutes after a large  
fixed "one star" appeared in the dis-  
tance, intensely bright, with variegated  
colors, representing the State of Texas.  
This too was much admired. But the  
chief splendor of the scene was yet in  
reserve. When an occasional light  
flared up, there was visible in the back-  
ground, a temple, apparently substan-  
tial in its structure, upon which dimly  
appeared the names of Gen. Taylor,  
Scott, Worth, Clay, Hardin, McKee  
and others.—In a moment the super-  
structure was illuminated as if by en-  
chantment. The names thereon be-  
came brighter and brighter, until they  
were intensely radiant even so brilliant  
as to be painful for the eye to behold.  
As this splendid scene slowly faded  
away, like a dissolving meteor, the sol-  
emn booming of the cannon, and the  
red glare of the artillery, awakened the  
enchained senses of the multitude to a  
vivid idea of war "dread realities,"  
and to the intense excitement that must  
have existed in those life-destriving  
scenes, where the battle itself in all its  
horror, and not its mere representation  
in its figurative magnificence, existed.

Towards ten o'clock a rain came on,  
and the flashing of the lightning gave  
an exhibition of the fire works of na-  
ture, which set at defiance all the art  
and device of man. This soon dis-  
persed the crowd. The scene altogether  
was novel, imposing and grand. It was  
a splendid pageant got up to celebrate  
the glorious victories of war in which  
we have been involved through the hap-  
py proceedings of a single man, who  
has abused the power which has been  
committed into his hands, and involved  
our country in a series of battles which  
might have been escaped without dis-  
honor, and which have cost us more  
treasure and blood than all the glory  
that we shall ever obtain from them,  
can possibly compensate us for.

Georgetown Aso. May, 11.

**General Taylor and the Presidency.**  
The tendency in all popular Govern-  
ments to connect every thing, more or  
less, with politics, arises, we suppose,  
from the disposition natural to men of  
associating their thoughts according to  
their ruling propensity or affection.—  
Political sovereignty is the highest  
thing known to a nation; and hence  
political preferment, bestowed upon an  
individual, is considered the choicest  
form in which popular favor can be ex-  
pressed. Whoever ventures, therefore,  
to distinguish himself in any way so as  
to become fixed, temporarily or perma-  
nently, in the popular regard, must  
expect to be levied on as a recipient of  
the burden of political honor and ser-  
vice.

It follows, also, as a matter of course,  
that the distinctions so highly appreci-  
ated by those who confer them, are  
eagerly sought by many who strive to  
distinguish themselves, in order that  
they may attain them. Aspirants of  
this sort labor for their reward, and very  
frequently get it. In fact the thing is  
reduced to a system, which the political  
neophyte soon learns, he enters into a  
school where the People are regarded  
as a great mass of raw material, out of  
which his own particular fabric of emu-  
lation and power is to be skillfully fash-  
ioned. To him the world is divided  
into two classes—the humbuggers and  
the humbly; the former alone have  
system, objects, sagacity; and they are  
safe from one another only on the prin-  
ciple of reciprocal equivalents, as plun-  
derers who divide a common spoil.

Between those who have political  
distinctions heaped on them as marks  
of popular favor, and those who steady-  
ly and eagerly seek after and seize upon  
offices—as legitimate prizes won from  
the popular credulity, it happens that  
places of honor and profit in the polit-  
ical world are not often vacant for  
want of incumbents.—The incumbent,  
indeed, is not always suited to the place;  
but what matters that if the place suits  
him?—The doctrine of the initiated is  
not to be qualified for office, but to get it.  
A Baltimore Convention may have its  
own views of distribution when it  
makes a President out of an Ex-Gov-  
ernor in Tennessee, who may also  
have his own views of patronage and  
power when he brings on a war with  
Mexico—the welfare of the country, in  
both instances, forming a small item in  
the political calculations.

In the other case when the people  
resolve to show how highly they appre-  
ciate a man, and in accordance with  
such determination, place him in a dis-  
tinguished station, to the discomfiture  
of political managers, there may be a  
want of discrimination, sometimes, in the  
adjustment of the man to the place, but  
the probabilities are always strong that  
a man of sterling stuff is there.

"We should not have the Presiden-  
cy," says the Boston Daily Advertiser,  
"held up as a reward for military ser-  
vices, for any other. It should rather  
be a task imposed upon the strong than  
a temptation held out to the weak. Its  
labors are nevertheless an honor which  
honest ambition may seek. Its seat is  
a throne to which the voices of a grate-  
ful people may well call a successful  
public servant in whom it has con-  
fidence. If this voice can be united,  
without party drill or political tactics,  
to summon as the head of the govern-  
ment any one capable of properly ad-  
ministering our affairs, the event should  
be hailed with rejoicing by every true  
citizen. An era of good feelings,"  
which should break down the lines of  
party, and heal over the habitual polit-  
ical animosities which now divide every  
hamlet in our land, would be a blessing  
which contending factions do not yet  
seem to understand.—We wish that  
the reach of such an era might not be  
postponed by the demands of party,  
and that when the real hero appears he  
should not be claimed as "of Paul" or of  
"Apollon." We distrust the public tone  
which considers every success as the  
price paid for party preferment."

Who will not unite in the sentiments  
here expressed? Let it be remembered  
that the coaction of General TAY-  
LOR's name with the Presidency, from  
the beginning, has existed by the spon-  
taneous action of the people. It is a  
thing which he did not design, and  
which he cannot prevent. If the peo-  
ple choose to make him President, ask-  
ing no other pledge than that contained  
in the official oath, taking his character  
and services as a sufficient guarantee,  
the movement may go on as it has be-  
gun free from any personal participation  
on Gen. TAYLOR's part. It was  
thus that GEORGE WASHINGTON was  
called to the Presidency; it thus that  
the best Presidents are most likely to  
be chosen.  
Balt. Amer.

## BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO.

In the New Orleans Delta of 2d inst-  
ant we find the following general description  
of the battle founded on information fur-  
nished by Capt. Hughes, of the Topograph-  
ical Corps:

On the arrival of the other division  
of the army at the encampment of General  
Twigg, on the 16th of April, General  
Scott, after taking a reconnaissance of the  
enemy's works, determined to storm  
them. The position occupied by the  
enemy was regarded by them as impreg-  
nable, and truly to any other than Amer-  
ican soldiers it must have appeared an  
insurmountable and impracticable under-  
taking to carry by storm or take it by  
strategy.

The road from Vera Cruz as it passes  
the Plan del Rio, which is a wide rocky  
bed of a once large stream, is commanded  
by a series of high cliffs, rising one above

the other, and extending several miles,  
and all well fortified. The road then de-  
bouches to the right, and covering around  
the ridges over a high cliff, which is en-  
closed by forts and batteries. This ridge  
is the commencement of the Terra Time  
plata—the upper or mountainous country.

The high and rocky ravine of the river  
protected the rank of the position, and a  
series of most abrupt and apparently  
impassable mountains and ridges covered  
their left. Between these points running  
a distance of two or three miles, a suc-  
cession of strongly fortified forts bristled  
at every turn and seemed to defy all bra-  
very and skill. The Cerro Gordo com-  
manded the road on a gentle declivity, and  
was a garrison for nearly a mile. An ap-  
proach in the direction was impossible.  
A front attack must have terminated in  
the almost entire annihilation of our army.  
But the enemy expected such an attack,  
confiding in the desperate valor of their  
men and believing that it was impossible  
to turn their position to the right or  
left. General Scott, however, with the  
eye of a skilful general, perceived the  
trap set for him and determined to  
avoid it. He therefore had a road cut  
to the right, so as to escape the front fire  
from the Cerro, and turn his position on  
the left flank. This movement was made  
known to the enemy by a deserter from  
our camp, and consequently a large in-  
crease of force under General Vega was  
sent to the forts on their left. Gen. Scott,  
to cover his flank movements on the 17th,  
ordered forward General Twigg against  
the steep ascent, in front and a little to  
the left of the Cerro. Col. Harney com-  
manded this expedition, and, at the head  
of the rifles and some detachments of  
infantry and artillery carried this position  
under a heavy fire of grape and musketry.

Having secured this position in front and  
near the enemy's strongest fortification,  
and having by incredible labor, elevated  
one of our large guns to the top of the fort,  
General Scott prepared to follow up his  
advantages. A demonstration was made  
from this position against another strong  
fort in the rear, and near the Cerro but  
the enemy were considered too strong,  
and the undertaking was abandoned. A  
like demonstration was made by the  
enemy.

On the next day the 18th, General  
Twigg was ordered forward from the  
position he had already captured, to  
attack the fort which commanded the  
Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on the  
fortifications on the enemy's left was to  
be made by Generals Shields' and Worth's  
division who moved in separate columns,  
while General Pillow advanced against the  
strong forts and difficult ascents on the  
right of the enemy's position.

The enemy fully acquainted with Gen-  
Scott's intended movement, had thrown  
large bodies of men into the various po-  
sitions to be attacked. The most serious en-  
terprise was that of Twigg, who advanced  
against the main fort that commanded the  
Cerro. Nothing can be conceived more  
difficult than this undertaking. The steep  
and rough character of the ground, the  
constant fire of the enemy in front, and  
the cross fire of the forts and batteries  
which enflamed our lines,—made the duty  
assigned to General Twigg one of surpass-  
ing difficulty. Nothing prevented our  
men from being utterly destroyed but the  
steadiness 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 gal-  
lant Harney whose noble daring elicited  
the applause of the whole army. His con-  
spicuous and stalwart frame at the head of  
his brigade, his long arm waving his men  
on to the charge, his sturdy vice rigging  
above the clash of arms, and the din of  
conflict, attracted the attention and ad-  
miration alike of the enemy and of our  
own army. On he led the columns, whose  
front lines melted before the enemy's fire  
like snow flakes in a torrent, and staid  
their course until, leaping over the rocky  
barriers and bayonetting they drove the  
enemy pell mell from the fort, delivering  
a deadly fire into their ranks, from their  
own guns as they hastily retired. This  
was truly a gallant deed, worthy the Che-  
valier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid  
Harney is well styled. Gen. Scott, be-  
tween whom and Col. Harney there had  
existed some coolness, rode up to the  
Colonel after this achievement and re-  
marked to him, "Col. 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."  
Harney, with the modesty of true valor,  
claimed the praise as due to his officers  
and men. Thus did the division of the  
gallant veteran Twigg carry the main  
position of the enemy and occupy the  
fort which commanded the road. It was  
here the enemy received their heaviest loss,  
and their Gen. Vasquez was killed.

A little after General Worth having  
by great exertions, passed the steep and  
craggy heights on the enemy's left, sum-  
moned a strong fort in the rear of the  
Cerro to surrender. This fort was man-  
ned by a large force under General  
Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable  
ability and courage, who seeing the Cerro  
carried, thought prudent to surrender,  
which he did with all his force. General  
Shields was not so fortunate in the battle.