

THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

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

(THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE)

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THE MEMOIRS

MAJ. GEN. ZACHARY TAYLOR.

Written expressly for the National Whig.

CHAPTER V.

BATTLE OF MOTEREY.

On the 18th day of September, 1846, the American army under the command of General Taylor marched from Marin and encamped before Monterey in Mexico, on the 19th. It was immediately discovered that the enemy had occupied the town in force and had added greatly to its strength by fortifying the approaches and commanding heights. A close reconnaissance was made the same evening by the officers of engineers and topographical engineers on both flanks of the town and it was determined, from the information procured, to occupy the Saltillo road in the rear of the town carrying in practicable the several fortified eminences in that direction. The second division of regular troops and a portion of Hay's regiment of mounted volunteers were accordingly detached, under General Worth on this service at noon, on the 20th.

A ten inch mortar and 24 pound howitzers were placed in battery during the night, to play upon the citadel and town. At 7 o'clock on the morning of the 21st, these guns opened and continued a deliberate fire, which was returned. To create a still further diversion in favor of General Worth's movement, the remainder of the force, except the camp-guard was displayed around the centre and left of the town. The infantry and one battery of the 1st division made a strong demonstration on the left, and soon became so closely engaged, that Gen. Taylor moved forward the volunteer division under General Butler to its support leaving one battalion—the 1st Kentucky—to cover the mortar battery. A close contest then ensued which resulted in the capture of one strong battery of four guns, which, with some adjacent defences, the American troops continued to occupy. Aarrison being left to hold this position, the remainder of the force returned to camp.

In the mean time Gen. Worth engaged the enemy early in the morning of the 21st and defeated him with considerable loss. In the course of the day, two of the batteries in the rear of the town were carried by forming parties of the 2d division and a raid was carried at the dawn of day on the 22d.

On the morning of the 22d, the Bishop's Palace, occupying a height in rear of the town was gallantly carried by the troops of the 2d division. In the course of the night of the 22d the batteries below the town were with one exception abandoned by the enemy and on the morning of the 23d they were occupied by the American forces. During that day, the 3d infantry with the field artillery of the 1st division, the Mississippi and Tennessee regiments and the 2d regiment of Texas riflemen (dismounted) were warmly engaged with the enemy in the town and drove him with considerable loss, to the Plaza and its vicinity, which were strongly occupied. A portion of the 2d division advanced to the town on the right, and held a position there.

At noon, on the 23d, while the American troops were close engaged in the lower part of the city, General Taylor received, by a flag communication from the Governor of the State of New Leon, requesting that a reasonable time be granted for the inhabitants to leave the city. To this communication General Taylor returned an answer declining to accede to the request. By 11 o'clock in the evening of the 23d, the 2d division, which had entered the town from the direction of the Bishop's Palace, had advanced 4 within one square of the principal Plaza and occupied the city up to that point. The mortar had, in the mean time been placed in battery in the cemetery, within good range of the heart of the town and was served through out the night of the 23d with good effect.

Early in the morning of the 24th Gen. Taylor received a flag from the town bearing a communication from Gen. Ampudia, asking for permission to evacuate the city and its fort upon the grounds, that the defence which the city had made had satisfied military honor, and that as the American Government had manifested a disposition to negotiate peace, further effusion of blood would be unnecessary. Gen. Taylor declined according to this proposition, and demanded a complete surrender of the town and garrison. A cessation of hostilities was agreed upon until 12 o'clock of that day the 24th at which hour the final answer of Gen. Ampudia was to be received. Before this hour Gen. Ampudia signified to Gen. Taylor a desire for a personal interview with Gen. Taylor. The request was acceded to, and the respective parties met at one o'clock in the afternoon of the same day. The result of the conference was the signing of a commission on both sides to draw up articles of agreement regarding the withdrawal of the Mexican troops and a temporary cessation of hostilities. The commission settled upon the articles, which stipulated the surrender of the city and all the public property to the Americans, the marching of the Mexican forces out of the city with the honors of war, and a cessation of hostilities, to last for 8 weeks or until the Government should terminate the war.

The terms granted to the Mexican garrison were less rigorous than those at first proposed, because the American General

look into consideration the gallant defence of the town and the prospect of an early peace arising out of a change in the Mexican Government at the time.

On the 25th, the American troops in accordance with the convention, occupied the citadel.

THE BLOODY BATTLE OF LAKE CKEE-CHOBEE.

The army moved forward at day light the next morning the 24 of December and after marching five or six miles, reached the camp of the Seminoles, on the border of another cypress swamp, which must have contained several hundred persons and which bore evident traces, of having been abandoned in a great hurry, as the fires were still burning and quantities of beef lying on the ground unconsumed. Here the troops were again disposed of in order of battle but no enemy appeared to oppose them. The command crossed over this swamp about 11 o'clock in the morning and entered a large prairie in its front, on which two or three hundred head of cattle were grazing and a number of Indian ponies. Here another young Indian warrior was taken, armed and equipped as the former was. He pointed out a dense hammock on the right about a mile distant, in which he said the hostiles were posted and waiting to give the Americans battle.

The final disposition was made at this place to attack them in two lines. The volunteers under Gentry and Morgan's pieces formed the first line in extended order. They were instructed to enter the hammock and in the event of being attacked and hard pressed, to fall back in the rear of the regular troops, out of reach of the enemy's fire. The second line was composed of the 4th and 6th Infantry who were instructed to sustain the volunteers. The 1st Infantry was held in reserve.

Orders were now given to move in the direction of the hammock. After proceeding about a quarter of a mile, the troops reached the swamp which separated them from the enemy. It was three quarters of a mile in breadth, was totally impassable for horses and nearly so for foot, and was covered with a thick growth of saw grass, five feet high, and with mud and water, about knee deep, which extended to the left as far as the eye could reach and to the right to a deep creek which ran through a part of the swamp and hammock, over which the Americans had just crossed. At the edge of the swamp the men were dismounted and the horses and baggage left under a suitable guard.

Captain Allen was detached with the two companies of mounted Infantry to examine the swamp and hammock to the right, and in the event of his not finding the enemy in that direction, he was to return to the baggage and to join Col. Taylor immediately if he heard a heavy firing. The arrangements being made Colonel Taylor crossed the swamp in the order stated.

On reaching the borders of the hammock the volunteers and spies received a heavy fire from the enemy, which was returned by them for a short time; their gallant commander, Colonel Gentry, fell mortally wounded, when they mostly broke and instead of forming in the rear of the regulars as they had been directed to do, they retired across the swamp to their baggage and horses, nor could they be again brought into action as a body although efforts were made repeatedly by Colonel Taylor's staff to induce them to return. The enemy, however was promptly checked and driven back by the 4th and 6th Infantry, which, in truth, might be said to have been a moving battery. The weight of the enemy's fire was principally concentrated upon five companies of the 6th Infantry, which not only stood firm, but continued to advance, until their gallant commander, Lieutenant Colonel Thomson and his Adjutant, Lieutenant Center, were killed, and every officer of those companies with one exception, as well as most of the non-commissioned officers, including the Sergeant Major and four of the orderly sergeants, were killed and wounded, when that portion of the Regiment retired to a short distance and were again formed—one of these companies having but four men left untouched.

Lieutenant Colonel Foster, with 6 companies, amounting in all to 160 men, gained the hammock in good order where he was joined by Captain Noel with the two remaining companies of the 6th Infantry and Captain Gilliam of Gentry's volunteers, with a few additional men and continued to drive the enemy before him for a considerable time when, by a change of front, he separated his line and continued to drive them until he reached the great lake Ckee-Chobee, which was in the rear of their position and on which their encampment extended for more than a mile.

As soon as Colonel Taylor was informed that Captain Allen was advancing, he ordered the 1st Infantry to move to the left, to gain the enemy's right flank, and turn it, which order was executed in the promptest manner possible. As soon as that regiment got in position, the enemy gave one fire and retreated being pursued by the 1st, 4th and 6th, and some of the volunteers who had joined them, until near night and until the pursuers were nearly exhausted—the enemy being driven in all directions. The action was a hot one, and continued from half past twelve o'clock until three in the afternoon—a part of the time very close and severe.

The Americans suffered much, having 26 killed and 112 wounded, among whom were some of their most valuable officers. The hostiles probably suffered, all things considered, equally with the Americans, they having left 10 dead on the ground, besides, doubtless, carrying off more as is customary with them when practicable. As soon as the enemy were completely broken Colonel Taylor turned his attention to taking care of the wounded and to facilitate their removal to the baggage where he ordered an encampment to be formed. He directed Captain Taylor to cross over to the spot where the baggage was left, and employ every individual whom he might find there in constructing a small foot way over the swamp. This with great exertions, was completed in a short time after dark, when all the dead and wounded were carried over in litters made for the purpose with one exception, a private of the 4th Infantry, who was killed and could not be found.

In his official despatch, giving an account of this battle, Colonel Taylor says: "And here I trust, I may be permitted to say that I experienced one of the most trying scenes of my life and he who could have looked on it with indifference, must have had nerves differently organized from my own. Besides the killed, there lay 112 wounded officers and soldiers who had accompanied me 145 miles most of the way, through an unexplored wilderness without guides—who had so gallantly beaten the enemy under my orders in his strongest position—and who had to be conveyed back, through swamps and hammock, to the place whence we set out with out any apparent means of doing so."

This service however, was encountered and overcome, and the wounded were conveyed to Tampa Bay on rude litters, constructed by the axe and knife only, out of poles and dry hides—the latter article having been found in great abundance at the encampment of the hostiles. The litters were carried on the backs of weak and tottering horses, aided by the residue of the command, with almost as much ease and comfort to the sufferers as they could have had in ambulances of the most improved construction.

The day after the battle, the army remained at the encampment occupied in taking care of the wounded, and in the sad office of interring the dead; also, in preparing litters for the removal of the wounded and collecting with a portion of the mounted men, the horses and cattle in the vicinity belong to the enemy, of which there were found about one hundred of the former many of which were saddled, and nearly 300 of the latter.

Colonel Taylor left his encampment on the morning of the 27th of December, 1837, for the Kissimmee, where he had left his heavy baggage and reached that point on the 29th. After leaving 2 companies and a few Indians to garrison the Stockade, which was nearly completed by that active and vigilant officer, Captain Munroe of the 4th Artillery Colonel Taylor set out the next morning the 29th, for Fort Gardiner, where he arrived on 31. The wounded were sent forward the next day to Tampa Bay, with the 4th and 6th Infantry—the former with orders to halt at Fort Fraser.

Colonel Taylor remained at Fort Gardiner with the 1st Infantry in order to make preparations to take the field again so soon as his horses could be recruited, most of which had been sent to Tampa and so soon as supplies were in a sufficient state of forwardness to justify the measure.

(To be Continued)

EL PASO.

If we are to believe Captain Hughes, the valley of El Paso is the long lost garden of Eden. All the fruits of God's earth produce two crops a year there—half a million of gallons of grape juice are made annually and sold at two dollars a gallon, raisins superior to any in the world—a bound water power for driving all the mills in creation can be had for nothing, the air is so pure that old people do not die but dry up and blow away, &c. We only hope it has not proved a valley of Hinnos to those of our people whom Col. Doniphan left there! Nat. Whig

A Locomotive paper says that if the war with Mexico continues another year, in addition to the MILLIONS that have already been expended TWENTY-THREE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS MORE WILL BE REQUIRED to purchase a peace with that country! About one-half of this enormous sum, says the Editor, "may be required this fiscal year." This patriot calculates the amount of "dollars and cents" to be expended; but makes no calculation as to the probable amount of precious lives to be offered up, or of the NUMBERLESS WIDOWS AND ORPHANS to be made, upon an altar erected to create a little popularity for a weak and imbecile man and a wicked and iniquitous party!

LANCASTER TRIBUNE & UNION.

The Polk papers are becoming ashamed of their General and declare him to be "crazy"—we suppose for not "licking" Gen. Taylor at Buena Vista and Gen. Scott at Cerro Gordo.

LANCASTER TRIBUNE & UNION.

It is said that Gen. La Vega is

"engaged" to a beautiful young creole of New Orleans. What will Father Ritchie and neighbor May say when they hear of this flagrant instance of rendering "aid and comfort" to the enemy—of placing American arms occasionally in the hands of a foe?

LANCASTER TRIBUNE & UNION.

GOING IT WITH A LOOSENESS.

The railroad trains between Philadelphia and New York run at the rate of twenty three miles per hour. This is quite fast enough for careful people; but is only a snail's gallop to what they are doing on the railroad between Loudon and Birmingham, the train on which, on the 28th ult., went the whole distance in two hours and thirty minutes, including three stoppages at turn outs. This is at the rate of fifty-six miles an hour! A part of the distance was run at the rate of seventy-five miles an hour and twenty miles in the same number of minutes.

A PRETTY INCIDENT.

The Jalapa Star of the 9th inst. contains the following: As the column of Mexican prisoners were marching by us on the evening of the 16th, we observed moving on with the rest a little boy and a lamb. Amidst the fire and smoke, and the roar of musketry and artillery, which had so lately enveloped the hill, these weak and defenceless creatures had stood unharmed. As they passed along our lines, they were every where greeted with a kind look and word.—Countenances dark with fierce passions of the recent conflict, clouded with the remembrance of fallen friends, and a revenge but half sated, relaxed into a smile of mingled pleasure and pity—pity, that they should have been exposed, and pleasure, that He who guards the sparrow, had sheltered them from the ravages of the iron storm.

THE ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT AT OUR UNIVERSITY.

The exercises connected with the Annual Commencement at our University, which commenced on Monday and closed on Thursday of last week, acquired additional attraction from the presence of the President of the United States, the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy, Lieut. Manry of the National Observatory, Mrs. Polk, and other ladies of the President's suite. An unusually large number of visitors attended this literary jubilee, many of whom were from a distance, and we were gratified to see among them a fair representation from the gentler sex. It was our pleasure to attend the exercises on Wednesday and Thursday.

The reception of the President and his suite on Monday, of course we did not witness; but we learn that it was conducted in a style befitting the occasion. The President of the University made an address to the President of the United States, and to Hon. John Y. Mason, tendering them a hearty welcome, both of whom responded in appropriate terms.

On Wednesday morning the annual address before the two Literary Societies was delivered by James W. Osborne Esq. of Charlotte; and in the evening at ten o'clock the Hon. John Y. Mason delivered an address before the Alumni Association. Both of these addresses were well delivered, and interesting to the lovers of literature.

Thursday the 3d of June was the Commencement Day. The following is the scheme of the exercises:

FORENOON.

1. Sacred Music.
2. Prayer.
3. Salutatory Oration, [in English.] Mail. W. Ransom, Warren Co.
4. Salutatory Oration [in Latin.] Samuel J. Erwin, Lincoln Co.
5. Oration, Utilitarianism. Eli W. Hall, Wilmington.
6. Oration, *Quisquis eum foris faber.* Joel D. Battle, Chapel Hill.
7. Oration, National Insanity. Lionel Levy, New Orleans.
8. Oration, Revival of Literature. John C. Coleman, Halifax Va.
9. Oration, Public Opinion. Charles E. Shober, Salem.
10. Oration, Political Defamation. John Pool, Elizabeth City.
11. Oration, Progress of free Principles. William Lucas, Chapel Hill.

AFTERNOON.

1. Oration, Law and Lawyers. William Howerton, Halifax Va.
2. Oration, Ireland. Alfred Alston, Warren.
3. Oration, Dependence of Liberty on Law. John J. Kindred, Southampton, Va.
4. Oration, William Gaston. William H. Manly, Raleigh.
5. Oration, Progress of mind. Robert H. Winborne, Hertford Co.
6. Annual Report.

7. Degrees Conferred. S. Valledictory, Johnston Pittgrewe, Tyrrell.

9. Benediction.

We were highly gratified with the speeches of the graduating class. Some of them were indeed excellent, and all of them in very good taste. Every North Carolinian, every friend to education present, must have felt his bosom swell with loftier pride on witnessing such pleasing evidences of high moral and intellectual culture.

The graduating class, upon all of whom the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred, consisted of thirty-seven members, viz: Alfred Alston, Joel D. Battle, Joseph Benjamin, Geo. Wood Berry, Alexander J. Casler, Dudley Clanton, Drincan L. Clinch, John C. Coleman, Thomas W. Dewey, Samuel J. Erwin, John O. Guion, Eli W. Hall, Thomas C. Hall, James W. Hicks, David Hinton, Elias C. Hines, William M. Howerton, John J. Kindred, Menaluc Lancaster, Lionel L. Levy, William Lucas, William H. Manly, Benjamin F. Mebane, James L. Mosely, John D. Myrick, Edmund H. Norcum, J. Johnston Pettigrew, John Pool, Matt. W. Ransom, Thomas E. Skinner, Charles E. Shober, Robert H. Tate, William S. Trigg, Joseph J. W. Packer, Thomas Webb, John H. Whitaker, and Robert H. Winborne.

The degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon the following gentlemen, graduates of this University, viz: Burton Craig, Angus Kelly, P. K. Romislaw, James Johnston, and Walter L. Steele, Esqs., and on Doctors John L. Williamson, John W. Long, Charles Dewey, all of this State.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Benjamin Pierce, Professor of Mathematics in Harvard University, and the degree of Master of Arts on Lieut. Manry, of the National Observatory, Washington.

We could not but be gratified with the good order which prevailed throughout all this commencement. Rare it is that so large a concourse is gathered together for so long a time where so few imperfections are committed. A gentlemanly deportment marked the conduct both of the students and the visitors. The Marshall and his assistants performed their duty admirably well; and perhaps much of the good order that prevailed may be attributed to this fact.

Hills, Rec.

It is stated that Commodore Perry has orders to hang General Le Vega to the yard arm on one of his frigates, in full view of Vera Cruz, in case Marshalman Rogers should be executed as a spy in Mexico.

SUNDAY.

The battle of Palo Alto was fought on Sunday, the 6th day of May.

The Mexican Army arrived and took position in front of Monterey on Sunday the 20th day of September—the battle commenced the next morning.

The battle of Del Norte, New Mexico, was fought on Sunday, the 24 of January.

The battle of Buena Vista commenced on Sunday 21st day of February.

The surrender of the city and castle of Vera Cruz was made to Gen. Scott on Sunday the 28th day of February.

The battle of Sacramento, Chihuahua, was fought on Sunday the 28th day of March.

The battle of Cerro Gordo commenced on Sunday the 18th day of April.

We have the *Hibernia's* news from Liverpool to the 19th ultimo:

A letter from Barcelona, Spain, under date of May 3d says the Mexican privateer *Union*, of Vera Cruz, carrying one gun and 53 men, had captured in the waters of Avica, and bro't in to Barcelona, the American ship *Carmelia*, 190 tons Captain Edwin Liddlefield from Ponce, P. R., with coffee to Trieste.

United States Flour had gone up to 39s. to 40s. 6d per barrel—thus putting it out of the power of the poor to buy.

The Cotton trade had suffered greatly from the pressure in the money market; it had declined 1d.

The stocks of breadstuffs in the Kingdom had decreased to frightful extent. On the continent the same decrease to a frightful extent, decrease was exhibited. Great fears prevailed lest a sufficient supply could not be brought forward before harvest. Wheat has fallen in the far East which is favorable.

American provisions found ready sale in England at good prices.

The pressure upon the money market was beginning to be relieved in some degree.

The prospects of the next harvest both in England and on the Continent were highly promising.

The Countess of Elgin came out in the *Hibernia*.

Industry is indispensable to the successful prosecution of any occupation in life.—It is also indispensable to health and happiness; for indolence invariably leads to

vice. These truisms are no where more highly appreciated than in our own happy country.

Gen. Santa Anna is bound to be licked in every battle. His Polk friends in the United States, who are extending to him "aid and comfort," are also destined to receive a similar fate. The Polk party in the United States and in Mexico, are as near alike as two eggs!

Tribune and Union.

MEXICO.

The prospects of peace between the United States and Mexico are not brightened by the last advices from the capital of the latter. The tone of the public press and the demonstrations of an official character would seem to indicate a settled purpose on the part of the Mexican people to continue the war, regardless of repeated and signal discomfures which they have experienced. How far these outward signs on the part of a people proverbially grandiloquent and boastful, may truly set forth the public sentiment, time can only determine; but it is not improbable that when General Scott reaches the capital, or even before it, a cessation of hostilities preliminary to a treaty of peace may be agreed to. Neither party, assuredly, has any thing to gain by a further prolongation of the war, while both by its cessation would save a large expenditure of treasure and a heavy sacrifice of human life.—The last letters from Jalapa mention the fact of the arrival there in safety of the great army train from Vera Cruz, and it was with this train that Mr. Trist, of the State Department at Washington, travelled to Gen. Scott's headquarters. A Washington letter in the New York Courier, referring to Mr. Trist's mission, says—

Mark what I now say, (that it may be compared with the results, when the whole shall be published,) that General Scott is placed by the Administration in confidential intercourse and conference with Mr. Trist and that Gen. Scott, if the terms of peace are agreed upon by Mr. Trist, will carry into effect, and all active hostilities will cease, in anticipation, until the treaty shall be ratified by both Governments.

Bull. Amer.

A MATRIMONIAL ADVENTURE.

A remarkable story which is vouched for as absolutely true in reference to the discovery of a long lost wife is told in late a Scotch paper.—The Post of Glasgow.—The Adelphi Theatre in that city was open, and that pleasant play, the "Battle of Sedgewood," was in course of performance. A favorite actress, Mrs. De Bourgh, was on the stage supporting one of the characters, when a tall military man, in one of the stage boxes, gazed wildly upon him and starting up from his seat loudly exclaimed—"My wife; by Heaven my Eliza!" Of course, astonishment and excitement ensued, and an explanation took place, which resulted in the discovery, that the gentleman was a Lieut. Lewis, and that he was in truth the lady's husband. He had been on foreign service for many years, and was now accompanied by the lady's son—a fine fellow of two and twenty. Each beheld the other dead, and the lady had married a Mr. De Bourgh, who had been dead about 18 months. Soon after this meeting a most agreeable denouement took place, for the reunited and happy pair availed themselves again of the benefit of the clergy, and no objections being made by the church or state, these two persons, whom the fortunes of war had put asunder, were remarried in the presence of a large body of rejoicing friends.

PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY AT RICHMOND.

The case of Rev. Archibald McQueen, in the complaint against the Synod of N. C. and Presbytery of Fayetteville, for restoring him to the ministerial office after dismissal, for marrying a deceased wife's sister was further discussed on Friday; both as to the question of jurisdiction and upon its general merits. The committee on the dismissal of the ministerial office made a report which was discussed at some length, but finally laid over for further consideration.

On Saturday the case of McQueen was disposed of—dismissing the complaint by a vote of 93 to 52.

In making this disposition of the complaint, the Assembly wishes it to be distinctly understood, that they do not mean to retract or modify any judgment expressed by an Assembly respecting the offence for which Mr. McQueen was suspended from the exercise of the gospel ministry. They simply declare that his case cannot be regularly brought before them by this complaint.