

GEN. GAINES.

Correspondence of the Norfolk Beacon.

Old Point, August 3d, 1846.

Gentlemen:—At an early hour this morning the Court of Enquiry was densely crowded by visitors of both sexes, eager to hear the justification and defence of the old war worn veteran, General Gaines, who, rumor had it, and truly too, was to submit to the Court a plain and unvarnished statement of all facts connected with the enquiries now being instituted by the Court convened at this station. At the usual hour the Court was opened, but Gen. G., not being in readiness, the Court indulged him until 12 1/2 o'clock, at which hour, in obedience to its summons, the General made his appearance, accompanied by his aid, Lieut. Calhoun, the son of Hon. J. C. Calhoun. The proceedings of the last day having been read, Gen. G. tendered an apology for the delay occasioned to the Court, remarking that "his effort had been, not to see how many pages he could prepare in his justification, but how few." With this apology he proceeded to prepare "that it had been his purpose to prepare an elaborate statement of all facts and issues involved in this investigation, and to invoke testimony of the most distinguished character from Louisiana and other places in his justification—but that he had changed his purpose in that particular. That in the steps he had taken in reference to this whole matter, he had sought and held conferences with many of the most prominent and distinguished men of the South—and he avowed that in an official intercourse of 40 years duration, amid his best efforts to defend the country, promptly and ably sustained as they had been, he never had met a more cordial co-operation than in the present instance. That being in the office of the Governor of Louisiana, just a few minutes after the reception of General Taylor's report, that functionary promptly communicated with the Legislature, who immediately appropriated \$200,000, and ordered 50,000 Volunteers to be raised. That such a Governor and such a Legislature, inspired by the recollections of the last war, were fit and appropriate persons to put the ball in motion. That being cordially aided by him and them in his efforts to raise and organize the Regiments proposed by him—it was his intention to prepare, as already stated, an elaborate justification, and to introduce the Governor and Legislature as witnesses—but remembering that he had with him the vote of thanks of the Legislature, communicated by the Governor, he adjudged such effort wholly unnecessary.

At this instance, the Recorder here read the resolutions referred to—which resolutions (although in a printed form) would be avowed by the Governor and Legislature if they were present, but not being present—if their genuineness were questioned by the Court, he had in his possession the original manuscript communicated by the Governor, and which he would take especial pleasure in exhibiting to the Court. Having stated his conduct was approved by the Legislature of Louisiana, and thousands of the most intelligent citizens of the South, he remarked, that he would now in the most concise manner possible revert to the occurrences which transpired after his leaving New Orleans. That having received an order from the President of the U. States, on the 10th of June, to report himself in Washington, he accordingly on the next day embarked thither, via Mobile, where he had duties to discharge, &c. That on his arrival at Mobile, he was called on by Gov. Chambers and notified that two Regiments which had been formed, &c., were in a state of disorder, in consequence of being commanded by officers of equal grade, neither one conceding the superiority of the other; and being informed by the Governor that some steps must be taken to remedy the evil, he appointed Gen. W. Smith, the Brigadier General, to take the command of the two Regiments. Gen. Smith he knew well, and she knew him to be a talented and meritorious officer; that he performed this duty without any delay; that he had the right to perform it, not being under arrest, his sword not having been taken away from him. It was true, that he had been told that General Brooke was to take the command, but Gen. Brooke was one thousand miles off. He did it, upon the principle of meeting an enemy, who was about to attack the city; if the city were attacked, notwithstanding his orders to go to Washington, he had but one course to pursue, and that was to meet the enemy and beat him, and save the city. Suppose he were to abandon the city to its fate—and assign as the reason that he had orders to go to Washington—would he not be running away from duty and incur thereby disgrace?—Could he quit Mobile under such circumstances, especially when it was in his power to say to a suitable officer, take the command, correct the disorder, and proceed to the seat of war where your services are needed?—To his aid, who acted as Assistant Adjutant General, he would refer for a full corroboration of this whole matter.

He remarked, that he was pleased, as it was in his power to save the Court and himself the trouble of their hearing and his reading twenty pages which he had written to show what he designed to substantiate by the witnesses from New Orleans, as he found an extract in the printed document which saved them and him the necessity of going over that ground—that document was a letter from Washington, dated, War Department, 28th August, 1845—in which the statement is made—"that requisitions for troops upon the Governor of the several States is vested only in the President, and restricted alone to him, except in two or three specific cases—cases all in which the emergency must be great, the peril imminent to the country." That the requisitions for troops were in accordance with the principle disclosed—that Gen. Taylor and his army were in circumstances of extreme peril and of imminent danger, was a fact too palpable to be controverted—a fact which can be attested by thousands of our most intelligent citizens, both in Louisiana and Texas—and a fact believed by the President himself, and by the National Congress, as is clearly deducible from the prompt measures recommended by him, and by them adopted as soon as General Taylor's exigencies were known. Having great reason to apprehend that by a delay of ten days even, Taylor and his army might be cut off by the Mexican reinforcements—the emergency contemplated by the War Department actually existed, and though he did not make requisitions for troops, he nevertheless communicated to the Governor the facts of the case and invited him, in anticipation of such a requisition being made, to accept the services of troops, which were accordingly mustered into service.

Gen. G., further remarked, that he cherished a strong desire to pass over all such matters as did not strictly come properly under the notice of the Court, but discovering certain documents communicated by the President of the United States to Congress before the Court, he felt bound to notice such documents only in so far as they contained inferences unfavorable to his character and reputation. His honor impelled him to notice them in connection with the subjects of investigation now before the Court. If he were a public prosecutor, one disposed to enter the field of bitter acrimony, he might devote days and months to the herculean task to cleanse the Bureau at Washington—but fortunately for him, the task was saved him—the documents emanating from that Bureau were a sufficient expose of its own rottenness, &c. He made no complaint, he came here to complain of no one—he wished to do wrong to no one—only desired that right should be done to him. He craved no indulgence, he asked no greater glory than to be restored to his proper station—in war to conquer our foes, and in peace to prepare for war. That was all the glory that he now or ever craved. He desired no distinctions except such as belonged to his profession. He desired to remain in the service no longer than he was able to perform promptly his duty—he claimed every privilege due to his grade now and to the last; no power should trample on his rights. He was old and had grown grey in the service of his country—if that country could be benefited by treating old soldiers as savages—who treat their old warriors with neglect, he was willing to submit to such treatment—but the virtuous, the patriotic, the brave, surely never thus repay the services of those who have grown grey in defence of their country. I belong to my country; born one year after her birthday. Her declaration of Independence was 4th July, 1776, and my birth day 10th March, 1777; I have grown with her growth, and with fervent hopes for her prosperity, I have strengthened with her strength. Though old and grey in the service of my country, I have been advertised in the newspapers—in one called the Union, I have been stigmatized as an offender—and as a matter of course advertised in the Federal Union. By them I have been accused as a violator of the laws of my country. For you, my old brother soldiers, it is to say whether these things are true or false. Whether or no I am to be arraigned before a General Court Martial, or to be returned to my command. If the latter, I shall be grateful—but if your sense of propriety will not allow you thus to deal with me—and you decide that I am to be arraigned, I sincerely trust, that upon the banks of the Rio Grande, where the witnesses all are now actively engaged in defence of our country's liberties, said General Court Martial may be convened.

I have given you the substance of the General's address and language, as far as my recollections have enabled me to do so. That I have not attained perfect accuracy need not surprise you, who know how little accustomed I am to reporting speeches, &c. After the delivery of the address, the Court was closed.

Yours, &c., A LOOKER ON.

From the Richmond Whig. "A FACT NOT GENERALLY KNOWN."

To the Editors of the Whig. GENTLEMEN.—I see in your paper of this morning, a republication of the paragraph that has been going the rounds of the press for the last few months, in relation to the death of Washington. The paragraph is as follows: "WASHINGTON'S DEATH.—It is a fact not generally known, says an eastern paper, that Washington drew his last breath in the last hour of the last day of the last week of the last month of the year, and in the last year of the century. He died Saturday night, 12 o'clock, Dec. 31, 1799."

Now, in all the histories of the U. States that I have examined, and in his biography by Marshall, it is stated that he died on the "fourteenth of Dec., 1799." But perhaps my authorities are not good; and if you Messrs. Editors, can inform your readers where the author of the paragraph alluded to obtain his information, and whether it is reliable, you will do some of them at least, a favor, and greatly oblige an investigator of TRUTH.

THURSDAY, Aug 6, 1846.

All we have to say, in reply to our correspondent, is, that we copied the paragraph upon which he comments, and the errors of which he exposes, from one of our exchange papers, without taking the pains to ascertain whether or not its statements were correct. We publish his note with pleasure.

The Report of the Commissioner of Patents.—It is said, that the ponderous sum, consumed in its printing, eighty-two and a half tons of paper. The cost of the work to the Government was 114,000 dollars.

LATE FROM EUROPE. The steamer Hibernia arrived at Boston the 3d instant, from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 19th July last.

She brings to the United States the Oregon Treaty, ratified by the British Government, under the seal of the new minister for foreign affairs, Lord Palmerston. This important document was signed on the 17th by his Lordship and Mr. McLane, the American minister.

The new Ministry had got fairly to work, and the business of the country was in a state of progression. In every quarter a disposition existed to give the new appointments a fair trial.

The affairs of this session of Parliament were expected to be brought to a close by the middle of this month.

The great movement to reimburse Mr. Cobden for the loss of health and money was progressing, and there seemed every chance that the hundred thousand pounds fixed upon as the maximum of the amount to be given to him would be raised.

Efforts will be made to raise a splendid monument to Sir Robert Peel, by means of penny subscriptions throughout the British Empire, as an expression of the nation's gratitude.

THE MARKETS. COTTON.—The manufacturing districts are busy, and confidence prevails. The season conduces all that we could desire. The cotton market is firm, with good steady business, and prices have an upward tendency.

AMERICAN FLOUR, JULY 19.—1,070 barrels of American flour have this week been taken by the Grand Junction Railway from Liverpool to Preston, and the company have commissions to take considerable quantities more.

AMERICAN PROVISIONS.—Since the 2d inst. the demand for beef has been on the most limited scale, and prices have further given way. The decline is greater, however, on middling and poor qualities.

First Effects of the Tariff of 1846.—The day after the receipt of the news at Boston of the passage of the Tariff, the manufacturers put down the price of their goods from five to ten per cent. At the time this reduction was made the agents of the Lowell companies stated that they did not fear foreign competition under the new law.

at Fairmount and other manufacturing districts of Philadelphia will either have to stop or make a reduction of from twenty to fifty per cent, on wages. A new hinge manufactory in South-wark, we hear, will not be able to go on.

Stoppage at Pottsville.—The consequences of this foul legislation are not matters of surmise, but it is already sure that almost all of the works which were projected and were being established must be laid aside at once, or as soon as they can be gotten into such a state as to render this feasible.

THE NEW TARIFF—HOW IT WORKS. Extract of a Letter to a Member of Congress dated Fayette Springs (Pa.) Aug. 4, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I have been spending a week here delightfully, hunting and fishing, and examining the classic grounds hereabouts, Fort Necessity, Braddock's grave, Donnar's Encampment, the Ohiopile Falls, &c.

TESTIMONY OF EXPERIENCE. The following testimony of Matthew L. Davis, long connected with the custom-house in this city, we find in his correspondence with the National Intelligencer.

A German merchant by the name of —, had repeatedly entered goods at this custom house by fraudulent invoices, to the verity of which he had sworn. At length he was discovered. As soon as he suspected the discovery, he called upon me at my house and stated that he should probably have some difficulty with the collector, in which case I could render him an essential service.

THE WAY IT WAS DONE. "Oliver Oldshool," the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia U. States Gazette, says in his last letter:

"I heard, some days ago, that Mr. Polk had said that he would give a year's salary to be in the place of Mr. Dallas, that he might have the privilege of giving the casting vote in favor of the new [British] tariff bill. I did not recollect this, as I had some doubt of the fact; but now learn that Mr. Polk did use this language to Mr. Dallas himself—probably with the view to screwing up his courage to the stick-point of giving the vote he has given. Here is, another instance of executive interference in behalf of a bill ruinous to the people of the U. States, and especially ruinous to the great interests of Pennsylvania.

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

Salisbury, N. C. FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 14, 1846.

The Election—Whigs Victorious!

The returns come in slowly. Until this morning we had not heard, satisfactorily, from more than a dozen Counties. It will be seen by the following table that Gov. GRAHAM is running in before his competitor by a very large gain on the vote of 1844. This is just what was expected by the Whigs.—A gentleman writing us from Burke, remarks—"Penitentiary 'snowed under.'" He might well have said the same of Mr. SHEPARD, for just look how that glorious County looks up for GRAHAM, right in the face of all those bragging letters the Standard has published—not received!—concerning her. Indeed, look at the vote of all the Western counties whose majorities were to be so wonderfully reduced! They show a democratic loss without a single exception! Now look to the East: Look at Stanly, Richmond, More, CUMBERLAND! Orange, and WAKE! Cumberland gives 21 majority for GRAHAM—showing a Loss of 491! since 1842. In Wake, there is also a loss of 157! Wayne has actually given an increase of her Democratic vote of—NINE! Now let Billy Holden "spread himself" in sounding praises to Wayne.

P. S. Since the above was in type we learn by the Standard, that Shepard has gained on Hoke's vote in Duplin 19, in Halifax 90, in Johnston 45, and in Nash 6.

Table with 4 columns: Counties, Graham '44, Hoke '46, Graham '44. Rows list counties like Anson, Ashe, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chatham, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Davidson, Davie, Duplin, Edgecomb, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Haywood, Henderson, Hertford, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Lincoln, Catawba, Macon, Martin, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pasquotank, Perquimons, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Sampson, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Tyrrell, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wilkes, Yancey.

Graham's majority in 1844, is 3,153.

Below we give all the election news to hand, and a table showing the number of Whigs and Locos elected, as also the loss and gain of the Whigs. We believe it is pretty nearly, if not altogether correct. It is quite certain that the Whigs have carried the Legislature, although our majority in that body will not be as large as it was in '44. There are eight counties yet to be heard from. In the Senate, we will either have a majority of 25, or else it will stand as before 25 to 25—a tie. Last year we had a majority of 22 in the House. Whether Mr. Shepard has contributed to decrease our majority in the Legislature or not, we cannot say. But we think it fair to conclude that he did not render the Democracy much help in the election of a Governor. We are of opinion that so far as he had any influence on the fortune of his party, either for the Legislature or Governor, it operated against it. How then, can the Whig losses be accounted for? STANLY COUNTY. Senate.—Melcher, 346—no opposition.

Commons.—Palmer, 377—Palmer, 377; Davis, 377; Sheriff—Davis, 377; Commons.—G. W. Shaw, 674; all locos elected. Commons.—N. B. elected over Corns T. ret, loco. Whig loss. Commons.—Murphy and no change. Commons.—Jones and ted. This county and er for Senator. W locos candidate is LINCOLN L. has elected L. Stow H. White, F. D. John Webster to the Senate.—Sam'l. Commons—H. Sherif—J. Commons.—N. W. Yancy, is elected Commons.—John A. Chunn, both whigs, stood: Fag 99; Casey 360. BURKE AND Commons.—Geo. S. J. J. Erwin, whig, 1050; HAYWOOD. Senate.—Edmonston, whig, 157. Commons.—Ferguson, whig, 383. From Macon we but enough to satisfy election of Francis to the whig, to the House. Commons.—E. P. Senate.—J. M. position. Commons.—R. 785; W. H. CHATTA. Senate.—William Commons.—Daniel siter and M. Q. Waddel. Senate.—Alexander Commons.—Abram GRANVILLE. Senate.—Dr. Russell, Commons.—Robert Messrs. Bullock and Commons.—J. A. Gilmer, Commons.—Nathan burne and Peter Adams. ANSON. Senate.—D. Daniel Commons.—Hargrave whigs. Commons.—E. J. Commons.—Jesse 340; Pipkin, (Caus PASQUOTANK AND Senate.—Gen. E. votes over Granberry jority 76, Pasquotank CHOWAN. Commons.—Robert T. PASQUOTANK. Commons.—Elias Barn den: all locos. BRUNSWICK. Henry Waters, whig, loway, loco. NEW HANO. Senate.—William Commons.—Edward HAMPS. Commons.—A. A. Hawkins; all locos, no MOORE AND Alexander Kelly, whig. Commons.—J. W. STOKES. Senate.—John Commons.—S. R. crats; a gain of a BLADEN. McDowell, loco, elected BLADEN. R. Melvin, loco, elected.