

From the Alabama Journal.

THE GAINESVILLE TRAGEDY.

GAINESVILLE, June 12th, 1847.

DEAR J.—The great convolution in the public mind has partially subsided. Col. Winston has had his hearing before the magistrates, which was delayed until yesterday, in order to give the friends of the deceased time to procure counsel, which they failed to do in this county and also in Greene. J. G. Baldwin finally agreed to sit by and see that the investigation was conducted legally. Scott and Inge for the defence. On yesterday morning at 8 o'clock, the Court sat in the old Lecture Room, which was filled to suffocation, nearly, and many of the people could not get in. The examination of the witnesses lasted until dinner time. There were about 14 or 15. Only one for the State was put upon the stand—the killing being admitted. The evidence for the defence was even stronger than had been represented about the streets. It revealed a case that, for blackness and guilt, deep and damning in all its features, has no parallel in the catalogue of crime in all this country, nor perhaps in any civilized country in the world. The evidence was clear, conclusive and abundant, of the cautious approaches of the Doctor, while weaving the web that eventually succeeded in his getting possession of this unfortunate woman. You cannot imagine the amount of feeling that pervaded every ramifications of society, from the *elite* to the *dandy*, all, on the side of Winston; and ably did his attorneys appeal to the feelings of every married man who loves honor, and to every brother and father. The audience were melted to tears again and again during the investigation and pleadings. When the case was concluded and given to the Court a deep silence pervaded the entire assembly as in the chamber of death; but when, after some five minutes' consultation, Col. Dandridge said that the Court discharged Col. Winston, a shout went up from the old Lecture Room, that rent the very air. There was a general rejoicing and congratulating of each other among the crowd, and a general rush to greet the Colonel, who wept like a child.

His course is, I understand, fixed. He will send her to her friends in Tennessee, make ample provision for her support, and move forthwith for a divorce.

I stated to you in my last that the plot between the Doctor and Mrs. W., it was it is supposed, went even so far as to embrace the destruction of the husband of the one and the wife of the other. That conjecture was true; such was certainly the case. Perry was to draw Winston into a fight and get the first shot, for which purpose he carried a pistol. When Mrs. W. was asked by her confidant what they would do with Mrs. Perry, as they could not marry, as Dr. Perry was a married man, she replied, "Oh, we can get rid of her easy enough."

Excuse me for saying so much on this subject, as I am anxious to give some idea of the case; but it is a very faint one that you will get from this. Never has the great foundation of feeling in this community been so thoroughly broken up before. Inge said, on closing his remarks, that he did not stand there as an hired attorney—that, under circumstances like those, the gold of John Anthony Winston should never pollute the pulse of his hand.

Murphy wrote over that his services were at the command of Col. W. But enough—God grant that we may never have another such tragedy. Yours, &c. S. J. H.

P. S. Mrs. Winston leaves under the charge of E. W. Pettus, on Monday next, for the residence of her friends at Somerville, Fayette co., Tenn. Her maiden name was Mary W. Logwood.

When the Colonel shot Perry, he sent a runner to tell his wife that he had killed the d—d rascal. Her reply was that he would repeat it. He has not seen her since, nor will he see her again.

Perry's widow has left here. She says that she is satisfied of Perry's guilt, as also does Judge Hardman, her brother-in-law. The wedding ring of Mrs. W. was found by Judge H. this morning and handed over. This ring was the gift of Col. W. when he pledged his faith. Perry had worn it publicly in the streets with her initials on it.

Col. W. made his will before he met Perry. He will continue in the field for the Senate with more favorable prospects than ever.

Again, yours, S. J. W.

AN AWFUL TRAGEDY.

GAINESVILLE Ala., June 7, 1847.

I have just returned from the funeral of Dr. S. S. Perry, who was shot down in my office yesterday morning at 35 minutes after 9 o'clock, and died 35 minutes after 10, on the spot where he fell—living only one hour. At the time he was shot, he was standing within about 5 feet of where I was sitting (writing) on the opposite side of the boxes—Col. J. A. Winston did the deed. He used a double-barrel shotgun, and shot only one barrel, the entire load entering the abdomen of Perry, letting out his bowels. When I reached him, he remarked that he was "a dead man," which proved soon to be the case. Mr. A. W. McMahon had just called Perry in from the door (where there was a number of gentlemen sitting) to have some conversation on business and as they stopped, some 25 feet from the door, Col. Winston stepped in and called out in a loud and excited tone, "Go out of the way, McMahon," and fired immediately, producing the effect above stated. As Perry fell, the Col. shouted, "Thank God, I have killed the son of the wife of my bosom, and the destroyer of my own peace." He was perfectly frantic for sometime after he had done the deed, and said a great deal about Perry and his (Winston's) wife. (Perry you know was his family physician.) He regretted that he had not gone to Mexico (last spring) and left his bones to bleach on her plains; for a deep and damning injury had been done him, and that, too, by his bosom friend, under the garb of friendship.

The investigation comes off to-morrow before the magistrates. If half that is stated be true, Perry was guilty of one of the basest, foul and most damning crimes ever committed by any man. I cannot say what will be elicited—I will let you know after the investigation.

A number of ladies will be put upon the stand to-morrow. But mark you this—there is guilt as deep and black as hell! Perry, poor deluded man there are none to mourn his loss.

The general voice is, that Winston used the only remedy left him. It appears that the plot extended to the taking of his (Winston's) life, and that of Mrs. Perry. But enough now we shall see what we shall see. I will enter more into the details of this matter when all is developed.

Dr. Perry had a six-barrel pistol on him at the time he was shot but had not time to draw it. You have no idea of the intense feeling

that pervades every portion of the community. S. W. Inge and L. M. Scott counsel for Winston. Yours, &c.

SANTA ANNA IN THE CAPITAL.
HIS ROUGH RECEPTION.

We find the following interesting paragraphs in the New Orleans Bee of the 14th:

MEXICO.

We have more than once had occasion to translate portions of the letters from the City of Mexico, written for the *Patria*, by an intelligent and seemingly impartial and well informed correspondent. In that paper of yesterday, we find another communication dated 22d May, parts of which are extremely interesting. The writer advertises in the strongest terms to the deplorable disorder and confusion that prevail in the capital.—Mexico, says he, seems in a more desperate state than ever. No one knows what is to be done, and those who hold the reins of what is called Government neither know what steps they should take, nor what they are themselves able to effect.

We have at length an account of the circumstances attending the return of Santa Anna to the Capital. It appears that on the 17th the *Republicano* published the complete and triumphant vindication of Gen. Minon, in which Santa Anna's conduct was exhibited in a most odious light.

The populace were furious against their lately idolized general, and when, two days after, Santa Anna entered the City, he was received by the rabble with indignant cries of "Death to Santa Anna!"—"he sells us to the Yankees," and volleys of stones in all directions. The General-in-chief made his way to the National Palace with all convenient speed, and the guards were doubled to prevent more serious and dangerous outbreaks. Thus far, observes the writer, the press has been prevented from making public these outrages.

The Capital is nearly defenceless, in spite of Mexican fanfare, and it is thought that if Scott were to present himself, he would enter without resistance from a population of nearly 200,000 souls. Almost all others than the military are in favor of peace, and do not care to conceal their opinions. The soldiers are for war, not through patriotic motives, but they may give full vent to their licentiousness and rapacity.

With respect to the Clergy, they have wonderfully modified their views since the promulgation of Gen. Scott's proclamation. Perceiving that the Americans pledge themselves to respect Church property, and observe their pledges, the Clergy have determined not to surrender their wealth for the benefit of the Republic, arguing that when they agreed to despoil themselves before they imagined that the Americans would strip them, and that therefore they had better help their own countrymen. Now, however, that they do not fear being molested, the Clergy keep their purse strings tightly drawn.

The returns for the election of President had not, of course, been fully received at the date of the writer's letter. He is confident, however, that Herrera has been chosen, and thinks that he is disposed to commence negotiations for peace. Gen. Scott will probably be in Mexico by the time the result of the election is ascertained.

DELTA OFFICE,
SUNDAY, (12 o'clock, M.) June 20.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM
MEXICO.

ARRIVAL OF THE GALVESTON.

A Series of Fights with the Guerrillas—100 Mexicans killed and wounded, and forty or fifty Americans—Gen. Cadwallader attacked by a large party—Battle at the Nat. Bridge.

The following highly important intelligence was communicated to us by Lieuts. Floyd and M'Williams, of the 2d Pennsylvania Volunteers, who came over on the steam ship Galveston this morning, at 6 o'clock.

On the 8th, a small recruiting party, together with some citizens and disbanded soldiers, in number about 150, with 75 armed men, and 30 mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under command of Capt. Bainbridge, of 3d Artillery. On leaving Jalapa and getting near Cerro Gordo, this party was informed that it would not be prudent to go through the pass, as there were about 4000 Mexicans in the chaparral along the pass.—Previous to this, two officers who had gone to the rear of the train were fired at from the charro. At the mouth of the pass the party was organised and marched through without meeting an enemy. Arrived at the Bridge evening. Whilst they were bivouacked on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed between the bridge and encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal lights on the ridges and cliffs were distinctly seen.

Before daylight the sick and wounded of this little party were removed to Santa Anna's hacienda—a quarter of a mile from the bridge.

A scouting party was then sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of the party then passed over the bridge. Just as they were entering the bridge, a party of twenty-five Mexicans appeared on the ridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon master and four others, who were passing the bridge, were fired on and the whole five were killed, and a wagon was captured, of no great value.

After the fire had ceased, a party of lancers appeared on the bridge and seemed to be preparing to charge, but seeing that Capt. Bainbridge's party were preparing to receive them, they wheeled their horses and galloped off.

Captain Bainbridge resumed his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 of the lancers, who hung upon his rear and flanks for four or five miles, but at a respectable distance.

In Cotton, however, the transactions have been large, though at no better prices; and Tobacco has been in great request. Provisions are generally dull, and the rates are unchanged.

his large train. The Mexicans who had attacked Bainbridge's party were the same who had compelled Col. McIntosh to halt and wait for reinforcements. The party remained that night in McIntosh's camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept a continued fire on the camp, approaching, with the greatest boldness, very near to our sentinels.

On the next day Captain Bainbridge's party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Capt. Duperre's Dragoons, who were sent back to get their horses. This company, with its gallant Captain, had behaved very handsomely in the attack on McIntosh's camp. Its gallantry was the theme of universal praise and admiration in the army. Indeed, it was generally admitted that Col. McIntosh's command was saved by the gallantry of Duperre's party. Bainbridge's party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrived in safety. In the meantime Duperre's party having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charged by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and suffering no loss themselves. It was said, however, that some of our wagons were cut off and the drivers taken prisoners. Capt. Duperre arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost three killed and three wounded.

On the 15th inst. a party of Mexican lancers attacked the outpost at Tampico and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

On approaching the bridge Gen. Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge, from which the enemy had fired on Capt. Bainbridge's party where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans, posted in the ridges and chaparral, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours, the Mexicans losing some 15 killed and some thirty or forty wounded. The Mexicans were repulsed; the bridge was successfully passed by Gen. Cadwallader, who was on his way to Jalapa.

The estimated loss of Col. McIntosh's party is about \$40,000. For miles the road is strewed with empty boxes and bacon sides, which had been captured by the enemy. There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army, respecting the conduct of the command which had charge of this train. There will be a court of inquiry into the subject.

The garrison at Jalapa has been broken up, by order of Gen. Scott, and all the sick and Government stores have been sent to Perote Castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. Gen. Scott has had a road opened from Perote to Tuxpan, from which, in future, all our stores and men will be sent, in preference to the old road. The Engineer corps have completed a fine road from Tuxpan to Perote, the distance being less than one half that from Vera Cruz to Perote, and Tuxpan being a healthier place.

The success of the attack on McIntosh's command has given great confidence to the guerrillas, who are swarming in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parties, large and small.

It was chiefly owing to the gallantry of Maj. Bennett, the Paymaster, that the specie was saved. He was in one of them himself when the wagon was attacked, and fought like a tiger.

We are pained to hear that the fine charger sent out by the citizens of New Orleans to Col. Harney, was captured by the Mexicans. Their daring was so great that they even *lariated* a woman who was in the wagon, but she was recovered by our men after some hard fighting.

There are about 1000 men in camp at Vera Cruz.

Gen. Shields was at Jalapa, and was about to leave for the United States, when he received an order from Gen. Scott to join him at Puebla.

There are no preparations to defend any point between Puebla and the capital. All the odds and ends of the army are collected in the city, about 20,000 in number, but poorly armed, and of miserable material. There was a small *pronunciamiento* at the City of Mexico, which easily put down by Gen. Bustamante.—It was got up by factions of the peace party and of Gomez Farías' party. Their cry was "down with Santa Anna!" but the President *ad interim* still maintains his power and influence. Congress has refused to accept his resignation.

We have about 6000 men at Puebla, under command of Worth and Quillman.

Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until he is reinforced. Gen. Bravo is in command of the army at the Capital.

Santa Anna has published quite a flaming account of the affair between him and General Worth, at Amozoc. The truth is that he had a large force of cavalry, which was attacked by Col. Duncan's battery and Maj. Bonville of the 6th Infantry. He did not wait to receive more than one volley, from which, however, he sustained a heavy loss, and then fled in the wildest disorder towards the Capital.

The gallant Capt. Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst., he started with his command from Perote on an expedition some distance into the interior. During the expedition he succeeded in capturing nineteen guerrillas and an Alcalde—he has employed them in cleaning the streets and sinks.

A letter had been received in Vera Cruz on the 15th inst., previous to the sailing of the Galveston, direct from the head quarters of Gen. Scott, stating that Gen. Scott had issued orders for the removal of the government from Vera Cruz to Tuxpan. This charge was said to be, in part owing to the sickness in Vera Cruz, and because communications could be more easily kept up between Tuxpan and Puebla than between the latter place and Vera Cruz. All the public stores in Vera Cruz would, in that case, be removed to Tuxpan, and troops, only sufficient to garrison the place, left at Vera Cruz.

The activity displayed among the different vessels in the harbor of Vera Cruz in shifting the cargoes from vessels having but small portions of Government property on board, into others nearly full, with the evident intention of a move which the quantity contained in the *whole six* not being sufficient to fill the hold of one of them.—The demurrage of not one of these vessels is less than \$60 per day. It is not the duty of those who have charge of such matters here, to attend to these things? Could not the coal in the five vessels be transferred to the one, and let the four be discharged? This, Messrs. Editors, is not an overdrawn picture. It would take more time than I can spare at this particular moment to give a faint idea of the immense waste, and I might add, bare-faced plundering of the government property, as carried on here.

The case of the coal vessel, as given above, is but the history of all store vessels employed by government. The captains report on their arrival, and are ordered to await orders—the owners are getting an immense pie for their vessels—they are satisfied to remain for ever, and take good care not to remind the quartermaster of their existence, having once reported. The surf-boats, which cost us at least \$600 piece, are scattered along the beach for miles in extent. Sixty-three surf-boats are bilged and stowed along the beach in every direction. One day's attention of the quartermaster, or his assistant, and one of the hundred vessels or steamers in the pay of the United States, would have saved every one of them.

The country can never know the utter waste of public property, as exhibited in the operations at this place, and the reason is obvious, for almost every man here is the recipient of this same plunder—and if an honest man raises his voice against such doings, the sharks, whose very existence hangs on this state of things, raise their voices in most admirable har-

mony, and cry him down:—an humble volunteer officer would be utterly demolished."

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

ICO.

The steamer James L. Day arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz on Monday morning. She left Vera Cruz on the afternoon of the 16th inst., touching at Tampico on the morning of the 17th, and Braxos St. Jago on the afternoon of the 18th.

Her news is one day later, and we are indebted for it to the Delta Office. The main interest excited by this arrival, (says our slip,) centres in the report communicated to the Jas. L. Day, by Mr. Clinton, the pilot of Tampico, who boarded her on the 17th, off that city. He stated that they are in daily expectation of an attack from the Mexicans, who were reported to be 1500 strong in the vicinity of the city. On the night of the 12th inst., a demonstration was made by the Mexicans in Tampico to rise. The American authorities, however, had timely information of the contemplated movement, and to suppress it, if attempted, called out the troops, who lay on their arms all night. There was then no demonstration of revolt made.

On the 15th inst., a party of Mexican lancers attacked the outpost at Tampico and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

The barque Mary, of Baltimore, put into Tampico on the 16th instant for supplies and repairs. She was bound for Vera Cruz with 200 volunteers, which she landed at Tampico.

The most important part of the intelligence brought by this arrival is the flattering prospect of peace. Capt. Wood, of the Jas. L. Day, informs us that information had been received at Vera Cruz before the Day left, that Gens. Scott and Worth, with the main body of the army, had advanced as far as Rio Frio, without opposition, and were met at that place by a deputation from the capital, with propositions for peace. The exact tenor of the propositions were not known; they were, however, of such a nature, that Gen. Scott refused to accept them, and was determined to push on his forces to the capital.

From the deep anxiety felt by the new government, if the term government can be applied to any party or power in Mexico, to stay the march of our forces on the capital, it was thought that further concessions would be made to Gen. Scott before he took up his line of march from Rio Frio.

WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

In one of its features, at least, the Mexican war is likely to prove a second edition of that which was the opprobrium of Van Buren's Administration—we refer to the protracted and costly contest with the Seminole Indians in Florida, in which Uncle Sam's pocket bled much more profusely than his veins, although blood enough in all conscience then flowed to satisfy even professed amateurs in the business of human slaughter.

The Vera Cruz correspondent of the New Orleans Delta furnishes the following inklings of the recklessness with which the public money is squandered in Mexico. When, after the restoration of peace, the bill shall be footed, we shall, we presume, have a second edition, "revised and improved," but we fear not "corrected," of the bills of expenditure in Florida, which amazed the nation by their exorbitancy. That there is some ground for this apprehension, the reader will admit, when he reads the following extract from the Vera Cruz letter to which we have referred:—*Richmond Whig*.

As we have before remarked, it is perhaps as good a plan as any—it may be better than any other that now occurs to us, under all circumstances; for if there be a considerable peace party in Mexico, it will certainly be to our interest to bring this party into active service, against their fathers and brothers of the war party.