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A Review of the Career, Character and Services of ZACHARY TAYLOR. (Reprinted from the North American and U. States Gazette, Philadelphia.)

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK. MONTEREY.

Great and meritorious as were the victories so admirably—won by Taylor, in the moment of national anxiety, at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, the calm judgment of the intelligent citizen cannot but concede that, amid the circumstances following these exploits, oppressed by new difficulties which they brought upon him, he exhibited even higher qualities than those which had blazed out so gloriously on the field of battle. The war no longer a calamity to be prevented; it had begun, and was to be fought; the enemy was to be followed into his own land, and compelled to peace; everything was to be thought of and resolved on, without delay, by a victor whose Government had left him without sufficient supplies, and particularly without the means of transportation. Troops were at first wanting, but they soon came pouring in, enthusiastic volunteers, in embarrassing numbers—in numbers beyond Taylor's wants and requisitions; but as nothing else came, they only made bad worse, and increased the difficulties of his position.

But, in the midst of these difficulties, his thoughts and resolutions were equally active. Within nine days after the affair of La Palma, his flag floated over Matamoros and the whole lower right bank of the Rio Grande; and as early as the 20th of May, only twelve days after the first blow at Palo Alto, as we know from his official correspondence, he had already meditated the enterprise, the march, the very route to be pursued, against the city of Monterey. This march, in fact, against Monterey—made with insufficient subsistence and ammunition; this march, which, considering the consequences that must have flowed from a repulse, timid critics would have regarded as an overland hazardous adventure, is one of the most decided proofs of Taylor's judgment as well as heroism. His very destitution rendered it necessary. There were food and ammunition enough in Monterey; and with young and zealous volunteers, anxious to see the foe, there was less loss to be apprehended from a hard march, and a harder fight, than from the pining inactivity of sickly camps on the Rio Grande. The autumn was coming, nay, was already at hand; there were pure waters and breezes, and mountain health, at Monterey—what difference did it make if there were tremendous fortifications and (the standing rule) Mexicans in superior numbers? The march was resolved on, pushed in every way; and, about the same period, almost the same day, when Santa Anna was "passed" into Vera Cruz, to raise and head that army which was to meet Taylor at Buena Vista, the latter advanced the first division of his army from Camargo to Ceralvo, on the expedition against Monterey. It was on the 15th September that Santa Anna arrived at the Capital, and, in proud array, amid roaring festivities and the clamor of Mexican oaths of patriotism, swore to drive the "perfidious Yankees," the "barbarians of the North," from the sacred soil of the "magnanimous" republic. Four days later, on the 19th, the Mexican cannon at Monterey was playing upon Gen. Taylor, as with a little reconnoitering party, he rode up to inspect for himself the formidable defences of citadel, redoubts, fortified heights, and stone houses with parapets, each a Moorish fortification, or a part of one great Moorish fortification, embracing the whole city, which it was now necessary he should carry by storm, and that, too, within a few days, to prevent the effects of an entire want of all the necessities of war and of life in his own army.

And so he carried it. What need of repeating the details of this glorious siege, of which every particular has become a part of the recollections of every American mind—the chivalrous exploits of Worth's division, on the west, carrying the armed heights, and hemming in the Mexicans in the rear, and the bloody assaults upon the town itself, on the east, made under the orders of Taylor himself. On the second day the weak man had the strong man at his mercy—six thousand American regulars and volunteers had wrapped in a girdle of bayonets and grape-shot a Mexican city of fifteen thousand inhabitants, defended by a garrison of ten thousand soldiers; and on that second day the city threw up its hands for quarters, and the ten thousand Mexican soldiers hoisted a flag of truce, and capitulated. This was the third glory of Taylor in this war.—How this nation exulted! It was only the newborn malice of political jealousy—for on a sudden the wondrous popularity acquired by Taylor, as if by magic, and the presentation of his name as a candidate for the high office of President by vast numbers of citizens, and in particular by the entire Whig party, had rendered him an object of terror to the scheming Administration which had made the war; it was only the strangely unnatural and ungrateful hatred of Locofocoism which strove, for a moment, to censure that capitulation, and to reprehend, nay, if possible, to crush, the brave old victor for the sin of not having finally captured or exterminated the whole garrison, and put, perhaps, the whole wretched population of Monterey to the sword.

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES, Editors & Proprietors. "KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR RULERS." DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE. Genl. Harrison. NEW SERIES, VOLUME V.—NUMBER 17.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1848.

Who forgets the attempt made so shamelessly by Locofoco adherence of the Executive in Congress to nullify the vote of thanks to General Taylor for that immense success of Monterey, by a proviso censuring the capitulation granted by him to the Mexicans—in other words, to affix upon him the stigma of having failed in the performance of his whole duty as an American commander in battle against the enemy? The attempt only recoiled with injury upon its authors. The first reflection convinced every right-minded American that the capitulation of Monterey was, in itself, the greatest of General Taylor's acts, and that one of them all which was by far the most honorable to his country; and in a moment the sentiment of generous pride in, and lofty appreciation of, the true merit of the Monterey capitulation became universal, which in the memorable Senate debate on that subject, had been proclaimed by Mr. Clayton in tones which went to every heart in the Republic.

"I say, therefore," (said Mr. Clayton) "that from the bottom of my soul I thank the brave, generous, and merciful Commander of the American troops. I thank him not only for his gallantry and skill, his conduct and bravery, but eminently and above all other considerations, as an American Senator, I thank him for his humanity! I honor him because he thought of, and spared, feeble and unoffending woman in that hour of her utmost peril. I honor him because he spared tottering age and helpless infancy; and I glory that an American general has shown himself thus alive to the best feelings of the human heart!"

No, from the moment of that debate, it has been felt that the laurels of Monterey are all the more glorious, and will be so regarded forever, because they associate, not the horrid brutalities of a city taken by sack, but recollections of a generous humanity worthy to be prized as the noblest attribute of the American character. The victor of Monterey, the hero of that capitulation, is a true representative of the people, who admire and love him the more for that reason.

BUENA VISTA. In the last and greatest act of his military life, fortune seemed resolved to prove, in the most unanswerable manner, how much of General Taylor's fame was due to himself, to his wonderful resolution of character, and his power of infusing his own courage into the hearts of the men under his command, even when undisciplined volunteers, who had never seen a foe.

The fine army—the veterans of Monterey, were gone—drawn away to open a new path of glory on the route between Vera Cruz and Mexico, which Taylor himself had indicated as the only suitable one on which to attack Mexico with effect; and, when shorn of his strength but not his valor, and strong in judgment, he had gone to watch the designs of the enemy at the farthest outpost of Agua Nueva, rather than shut himself up within the citadel safety of Monterey, he had, as the world has long known, but 4,073 men—of whom only about one-tenth were regulars—artillery and horse—not a single company of infantry—to meet the 21,340 men, composing the Mexican army. These, well armed and equipped, Santa Anna had provided at San Luis Potosi, ready for a sudden swoop upon, and, what he deemed, an assured victory over, an illustrious victim, provided to his hand (wonderful coincidence of folly! for we do not, of course, impute it to a designed guilt) by the same unfortunate administration which had so foolishly sent himself to Mexico, to re-animate and re-organize his defeated countrymen.

That Taylor, apprised by his scouts of the approaching host, fell back, in good order, to his intended battle-field; where the "magnanimous" Benemerito (or well-deserving) of Mexico, on the next day, informed him that he was "surrounded by 20,000 men," and proposed to allow him the humane privilege of surrendering at discretion. Here Gen. Taylor was guilty of the rudeness of affecting to consider Santa Anna's summons as a request, (as not deeming that a Mexican General would dare make any demands on him,) and the further incivility of "declining to accede to it." The captain of four thousand men to reply in that way to the commander of twenty thousand! But it was on the 22d of February,—the birthday of Washington,—the second national holiday of American freedom. On such a day, indeed, General Taylor might laugh Santa Anna and his summons to scorn; on such a day, young Crittenden, in the midst of the Mexican host, might proudly declare—"General Taylor never surrenders."

Who does not remember the first accounts that reached the United States of the results of Santa Anna's attack—Mexican accounts, fabulous, bewildering, but fearfully exciting,—which represented Taylor as retreating before the immense hosts of Santa Anna, fighting his way back to Monterey, there to turn, like a lion at bay, upon his pursuer, charging into the midst of his legions, and covering the earth with the slain. Well—he was surrounded, but he never fled; the lion was at bay, but it was the favorite lair of Buena Vista; and it was there that the multitude of Mexicans fell, lying side by side with heaps of American volunteers.

The day gone—the night closing around the mountain peaks and deep gorges, and that puny army not yet driven from its lines! Yet a second day dawned, and the conflict was resumed as obstinately, as furiously, as destructively as ever.—Then came a second night; and the brave old General and his brave young troops—so raw and yet so courageous—flung themselves down exhausted, upon the bloody earth, beside their cannons, to snatch a short, uneasy slumber, and then up once more for a third day of battle. The third day was soon there—but where were the Mexicans? Vanquished—routed—utterly fled—their dead and wounded left, like the whole exposed rear of their army—to the humanity of the General who had been so short a time before recommended to surrender at discretion!

Where, in modern times, was there such a battle? where such a victory? No wonder, when the news of this great field reached the country, a field at once so romantic and so heroic,—so exciting and so saddening—for, oh, the dead of those two days, whose blood brought us this glory!—that the fame of Monterey was eclipsed by the greater splendors of Buena Vista, and that Zachary Taylor was enshrined in the very hearts of his countrymen; and no wonder that the purpose of those hearts was confirmed, to call his great qualities into a new field of civil action, in which it was felt that precisely such qualities were wanted.—Integrity and honor—a spotless life and rigid code of moral principles; simplicity, frankness, kindness of heart; moderation of views and feelings, prudence, excellent good sense and judgment; add to these, invincible constancy of purpose and a bravely always so calm and reflective—and we assuredly have presented to us many of those noble traits which went to compose the solid character of Washington, and fitted him to shine so well—so equally well—in the camp and the cabinet.

It is from the strongly marked analogies of character that the people of the United States have formed their opinions of the fitness of General Taylor for the office of President of the United States; to which, if we can believe the signs of the times, they have manifestly made up their minds to elect him.

(To be Continued.)

THE PRINTER. A printer is the most curious being living. He may have a bank and coins and not be worth a penny—have small caps, and neither wife nor children. Others may run fast, but he gets along swiftest by setting fast. He may be making impressions without eloquence; may use the LYX without offending, and be telling truth; while others cannot stand when they set; he can set standing, and even do both at the same time; may make FURNITURE, and yet have no dwelling; may make and put away PI, and "never see a pie," much less eat it during his life—he a human being and a RAT at the same time—may press a great deal and not ask a favor—may handle a shooting iron, and know nothing about a cannon, gun, or pistol—he may move the lever that moves the world, and be as far from moving the globe as a hog with his nose under a mole hill—spread sheets without being a housewife—he may lay his FORM on his BED and yet be obliged to sleep on the floor; he may use the † without shedding blood, and from the earth may handle the ***; he may be of a ROLLING disposition, and yet never desire to travel; he may have a SNEER'S FOOT, and not be deformed; never be without a CASE, and know nothing of law or physic; he always CORRECTING his ERRORS and yet growing worse every day; have EM-BRACES without ever having the arm of a lass around him; have his FORM locked up and at the same time be free from jail, watch house, or other confinement.

MR. CASS'S "EXTRA ALLOWANCES."

We invite the attention of the people of North Carolina to the following account, from the Correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, of the Resolution offered in the House of Representatives, on the 5th instant by Mr. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, and the evasive expedient resorted to by Mr. Cass's friends, to defeat the examination it proposed, and to withhold the vouchers called for. Now, what reasonable object could the friends of Mr. Cass have had to the Resolution, unless they find the awkward disclosures which these vouchers, or the absence of them, might and probably would have elicited. As the writer shrewdly remarks, if these vouchers could be produced and would satisfy the people, would they not be called for and produced with alacrity by his, Mr. Cass's friends?

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. WASHINGTON, August 6, 1848.

Mr. Stewart, in the House, yesterday, produced a resolution, specifying the many numerous charges made against the Government, in the shape of extras for alleged extra services, which have been allowed and pocketed by Gen. Cass, with the proper dates and documentary references, and calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate to the House forthwith, the vouchers for said accounts as rendered by Gen. Cass. The following is a copy of the resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to send to this House, forthwith, the original letters and vouchers in support of the claims and extra allowances, paid to Lewis Cass, over and above his regular salary of \$2000 a year, as Governor, and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of Michigan, to wit: The letters and vouchers in support of the extra allowance paid to him.

- 1st.—For clerk hire, office rent, &c., from the 9th of October, 1819, to the 31st of July, 1831, at \$1500 per annum, as per document No. 245, 3d session, 25th Congress, page 2, \$26,615 00
- 2d.—For rations, to wit: ten rations a day at 20 cts., each from the 9th Oct., 1813, to 29th of May, 1822, as per same document and page, 6,610 00
- 3d.—For services as Superintendent of Indian Affairs, said to have been rendered out of the Territory of Michigan, from the 29th of May, 1822, to 31st of August, 1831, at \$1500 per annum, as per document No. 6, 3d session, 27th Congress, page 11, 14,375 00
- 4th.—For aiding in the negotiation of sundry Treaties, whilst Governor and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs as aforesaid, 772, at \$8.00 per day and 40 cents per mile travelled, same document, page 11 and 12, 9,744 00
- 5th.—For attending at Washington city to settle his own accounts for extra pay, &c., 208 days, to wit, from the 31st of October, 1821, to 29th of May, 1822, for mileage, ten rations per day, &c., as per document, page 11, 1,448 00
- 6th.—For alleged services whilst Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs, "in preparing a code for the regulation of Indian Affairs," 111 days, to wit, from the 22d of October, 1828, to 10th of February, 1829, as per same document, page 12, 1,520 00
- 7th.—For extra pay whilst Governor, as aforesaid, "as Deputy Quartermaster General" in the Army, for one year, as per document 18, first session, 25th Congress, page 28, 1,001 80
- 8th.—For extra pay and allowance as a Captain in the regular army, whilst Governor as aforesaid, to wit: from the 12th of May, 1817, to the 28th of June, 1821, same document, same page, 2,426 66
- 9th.—Letters and vouchers filed in support of the following items in the account rendered by Gov. Cass against the United States, the 21st July, 1832, (about one year after his appointment as Secretary of War), and said not to be embraced in any of the previous quarterly settlements of his accounts with the Government, to wit: for alleged balances and overpayments made by him as Superintendent of Indian Affairs, on the following accounts, as per document 112, 3d session, 25th Congress, page 16, to wit: 1st.—For overpayments on account of contingencies for Indian department, \$3,398 55
- 2d.—For overpayment to Indian sub-agents, 363 15
- 3d.—For overpayments on account of presents to Indians, 416 80
- 4th.—For overpayments on account of annuities under the Appropriation Act of the 15th of May, 1820, 5,370 15
- 5th.—For overpayments on account of annuities under the Act of 2d March, 1825, 245 43
- 6th.—For overpayments on account of annuities under the Appropriation Act of the 25th March, 1830, 32,711 27
- 7th.—For alleged balance on account of the Treaty at Prairie du Chien, 440 00
- 8th.—For alleged overpayments and balances due him on account of Indian Department, prior to 1829, 10,183 41

Amounting in all, as per document 112, 3d session, 25th Congress, page 16, \$117,069 40

10th.—The requisition drawn on the Treasury in favor of Gov. Cass, No. 206, dated the 21st of July, 1832, about a year after his appointment, as Secretary at War, to settle the balance alleged to be due him on account of the overpayments, &c., aforesaid, same document and same page, \$35,975.

11th.—The endorsement on the said accounts, by Gov. Cass, then Secretary at War, after the issue and payment said requisition of \$35,975, for the balance alleged to be due him, by which the final settlement of his account was suspended owing to "the peculiar position which I (Gov. Cass) stand with relation to the Department," until the 5th of December, 1837, when his account was finally closed, as appears by the letter of Wm. B. Lewis, 2d Auditor, of that date, as per document 112, 3d session, 25th Congress, page 16.

According to this resolution, giving facts, dates and figures, carefully hunted out and arrayed in order, Gen. Cass received his \$2000 per annum as Governor of Michigan Territory for some thirteen years, and besides some sixty odd thousand dollars, for other services, and moneys alleged to have been paid out of his own funds, for the Government, during the same period of time.

After he had made these charges and received his pay, the regular salary as Governor and \$60,000 and upwards, in the shape of extra allowances, he was made Secretary of War.

It appears that when he enters on the duties of the Chief Officer of the War Department, he found himself indebted to the Government \$18,000. What course did he pursue? Why, according to Mr. Stewart's Resolution of facts, dates and figures, he made up a new account during the first year he presided over the War Department, in which he charges the fresh sum of \$53,129 96 against the Government for past extra services rendered, running back through ten or twelve years, during a period in which ALL OF HIS OWN ACCOUNTS were, or ought to have been, rendered and settled in quarterly returns! This account of \$53,129 96 made out while he was Secretary of War, under his potent influence and direction or otherwise, was audited and agreed to by the subordinates, which brought the government in debt to Gen. Cass, some \$35,075, in addition to the majestic sums he had before charged and received. A warrant was drawn for its payment. He received the money—pocketed it—and wrote upon the amounts as audited, that inasmuch as he was Secretary of War, he would defer the settlement of the account to a future day—to be approved by his successor. After he left the War Department, and on the eve of his leaving the country for France, he got the then Second Auditor, William B. Lewis, to put the old account in proper order and have it endorsed by the then Secretary of War. The work was done. The date of the warrant by which General Cass pocketed the \$35,075, was July 1st, 1832; the number of the warrant, 2956.

Objections being made to Mr. Stewart's resolution, he moved to suspend the rules that he might offer it. On this motion the yeas and nays were ordered and they stood, yeas 87, nays 61; not two-thirds voting in the affirmative, the motion failed. You will see when the yeas and nays are published, who voted to get rid of the call for the vouchers! If these vouchers could be produced and would satisfy the people, would they not be called for and produced with alacrity by the friends of Gen. Cass?

Does not the General, in his book written in France, in praise of King Louis Philippe and his monarchy (now overthrown) contrast the small salaries of our Government officers with those of the officers of European Governments, and refer to what had been said, that our officers frequently make up by STEALING for the small salaries they receive? If so, does he not discourse KNOWLEDGELY on the subject? If he does not know all about the SYSTEM, pray who does! And is this man to be made President? No. "Old Zack," who never charged or received a cent in the shape of an "extra," is the man.

CHAPTER OF SECRET HISTORY.

From the New York Evening Post.

The two letters which are subjoined, form an important passage in the secret history of the Annexation of Texas. Our readers are aware that several Democratic members of the United States Senate strove to induce Congress to adopt such a method of annexing Texas as would avoid the danger of a war with Mexico, and satisfy every part of the Union. The plan of Mr. Benton, proposing to arrange by negotiation the terms on which Texas should be admitted into the Union, had these objects in view. If it had been adopted, we should have acquired Texas without war, bloodshed, or a national debt. The Democratic Senators who supported it had it in their power to compel Congress to adopt their method or none. How they were induced to consent to a measure which put in the power of the President to annex Texas and the war at once is related in the letters. They were betrayed into the step, it seems, by an act of the grossest perfidy, which is disclosed in the letters of Mr. Tappan and Mr. Blair, which we publish to-day.

We think, for our part, that this fraud should have been disclosed the moment it was consummated—the moment that Mr. Polk, after his solemn promises—after all his pretences of haste to recall Mr. Tyler's clandestine messenger, and to revoke the offer of which he was the bearer, declared in his annual message that he had ratified Mr. Tyler's proceedings, and confirmed his offer to annex Texas and the war. A regard to their own reputation, it seems to us, should have led them to make a frank and full disclosure of the treachery and duplicity by which they were made involuntary accomplices in the guilt of precipitating the country into a war. They seem, on their part, to have thought otherwise.

The only important point, however, is the truth of the narrative. Mr. Tappan and Mr. Blair agree in its circumstances, and, if more testimony were needed, there are other Senators who, if they ever speak on the subject, will tell the same story. We are sorry for the pre-eminence in trickery which it gives Mr. Polk over Mr. Tyler. In all future histories of the annexation of Texas, this story of a promise solemnly given and deliberately violated, will form a part.

LETTERS OF MESSRS. TAPPAN AND BLAIR.

STUBENVILLE, July 21, 1848. To the Editor of the Ec. Post:

DEAR SIR: Since the admission of Texas into the Union was consummated, I have thought, with you, that my vote on that occasion required explanation. I was in favor of receiving that State into the Union as soon as it could be done on fair and just terms, and with the consent of Mexico; and I believed, from all I could learn, that this might be accomplished at a less expense than it would cost to wage a war of one year's duration for obtaining it. So disposed, I had not only voted against Mr. Tyler's treaty of annexation, because it was exceptional in its terms, but in violation of a rule of the Senate, from an imperative sense of public duty, had published it, and the correspondence with which it was accompanied, because it appeared to me that the whole affair afforded evidence of a daring conspiracy to divide the Union, by arraying the free and slave States against each other; evidence which considerations entirely paramount to all Senatorial formulas required to be immediately divulged.

The inquiry is a very natural one—how men who desired the admission of Texas and voted against the treaty of annexation, could afterwards vote for the resolution brought into the House of Representatives by Mr. Milton Brown, which was more exceptional in its terms than the treaty. Now that the war with Mexico is

ended, and the public interest commencing by answering this inquiry, I give you the following statement, premising that the contents of this transaction is in the Congressional Globe, vol. 14, page 358 to 363, and in the National Globe of February 24th, 1832.

When the "joint resolution" was introduced, terms on which Congress will admit Texas into the Union as a State," was before the House, it was soon found that a number of Democratic members who were favorable to the mission of Texas would vote against the resolution. I was one of them. In the matter it was proposed that, instead of rejecting the House resolution, we should do it by adding, as an alternative proposition, the substance of Mr. Benton's bill in lieu of it by negotiating. I had strong objections to this plan, for I did not see the necessity of passing the House resolution, and I was without the proposed amendments. I urged that the session was so near at hand, that the measure would be defeated if we adopted Mr. Benton's plan for the alternative; if we made it an additional article, it would readily pass the House in that form, and I thought it did not satisfy me, but my friends were all satisfied with the arrangement; I acceded to it, and I could have satisfactory assurance that the proposition in such amendment would be used and submitted to Texas.

Mr. Polk was in the city; it was known that he was very anxious Congress should pass the subject before he came into the country; also understood that the proposition in the House resolution originated with Mr. Benton. It had been suggested that, if we adopted the resolution, Mr. Calhoun would veto the House resolution to Texas, and I understood the action of Mr. Polk, Mr. Duffie, his friend, having met him, and the declaration that he would not "surrender" to do such a thing, it was thought of. One difficulty remained, and that was the danger of putting it into the hands of Mr. Polk to submit the House resolution to Texas. We understood, indeed, that he intended to submit the Senate proposition to the Government; but without being satisfied with the substance of Benton's bill, and without doing this, I would not vote for the resolution, and it was well ascertained that my vote, it could not pass. Mr. Benton had voted with me, and was opposed to the House resolution, and undertook to persuade Mr. Polk on the subject, and did so, and his words told me that he was authorized by Polk to say to myself and other Senators, if we could pass the resolution without amendment proposed to be made, he would support the Senate amendment as the side issue to the amendment moved by Mr. Walker, and the substance of Benton's bill, and the resolution as it now stands on the table.

It is matter of history that Mr. Calhoun have the "audacity" to send off a messenger with the House resolution to the President, on the 3rd March, a few minutes before he left out of office; and that Mr. Polk, after he confirmed this act of Mr. Calhoun, sending Texas into the Union, and placing States in a state of war with Mexico.

Knowing that my esteemed friend Polk had taken a deep interest in this subject, and that before Congress, I addressed a letter to him requesting a statement of his course in the way the Texas question was put into the Senate. The following is his answer:

I am, sir, yours, BENJ. TAPPAN.

SILVER SPRING, July 21, 1848. Hon. Benj. Tappan, Stubenville, Ohio.

DEAR SIR:—You letter of the 16th, asks me to state what I know, as to the Texas question which got through the Senate, I comply, and will not encumber the matter with immaterial details. When the resolution passed by the Representatives for the annexation of Texas, reached the Senate, it was ascertained that it would fail in that body. Benton, Bagley, Haywood, and, as I understand, you, all of you absolute in opposition to this measure, and of annexation, which necessarily brought it the war in which Texas was engaged with Mexico. All had determined to adhere to the bill submitted by Col. Benton, for the arrangement of a commission to arrange the terms of annexation with Texas, and to make the President to tender its accession to our Union as possible as Mexico before his commission. It was hoped that this point might have been effected by giving (as has been done in the late treaty of peace) a pecuniary consideration, fully equivalent in value for the territory desired by the United States, and to be paid to Texas only justly assert any title. The States had been polled; and it was ascertained that any two of the Democratic Senators who were opposed to Brown's resolution, which passed the House, could defeat it, the Whig party preferring annexation by negotiation, upon Col. Benton's plan, to that of Brown's.

While the question was thus pending, I met Mr. Brown, (late Governor of Tennessee, then a member of the House) who suggested that the resolution of the House and the bill of Col. Benton, if preferred by the Senate, might be blended, making the latter an alternative, and leaving the President elect (who alone would have time to consummate the measure) to act under one or the other at his discretion. I told Mr. Brown that I did not believe that the Democratic Senators opposed to the resolution of the House, and who had had their fate in their hands, would consent to this arrangement, unless they were satisfied in advance by Mr. Polk that the commission and negotiation contemplated by Mr. Benton's plan would be tried, before that of direct legislative annexation was resorted to. He desired me to see Col. Benton and the friends of his proposition, submit the suggestions he had made, and then confer with Mr. Polk, to know whether he would meet their views. I complied; and after several interviews with Messrs. Haywood, Benton, and others, (Mr. Allen, of Ohio, using his influence in the same direction,) finding that the two plans could be coupled and carried, if a way understood that the pacific project was first to be tried, I consulted the President elect on the subject.

In the conference I had with him, he gave me full assurance that he would appoint a commission, as contemplated in the bill prepared by Col. Benton, if passed in conjunction with the House resolution as an alternative. In the course of my conversation with Mr. Polk, I told him that the friends of this plan were solicited that the commission should be filled by distinguished men of both parties, and that Col. Benton had mentioned to me the names of Crittenden and Wright as of the class from which should be formed. Mr. Polk responded, by declaring with an emphasis, "THAT THE

MONTEREY.