

From the Philad. Ledger

LATE FROM THE ARMY.

By the Southern Mail we have the announcement of the arrival of the steamship New York of New Orleans, having left Brazos Santiago on the 5th inst. Accounts from Carmargo to the 14th state that the Texan Rangers were to start on that day for Mier on a scouting expedition, with orders to take possession and hold it if possible.

The Mounted Rangers were ordered to proceed to Linares and Monterey, and seize those places also.

General Taylor passed up the river to Reynosa on the 5th, and would probably arrive at Carmargo in four days. The dragons were in camp at Matamoros.

General Taylor was accompanied by one half of the Texan regiment of Infantry and a few regulars.

A skirmish had taken place near Carmargo, between six hundred Comanche Indians and twenty-five or eighty rangers, in which the Indians lost 20 and the Rangers 2. The latter captured 150 horses from the Indians.

There is supposed to be about 4,000 Mexican troops in the vicinity of Monterey.

The army were to commence moving towards Carmargo on the 10th, but the whole would not be put in motion until the 25th.

The river was still rising.

The health of the army was good, but the sickness among the volunteers was increasing.

Capt. Walker was lying dangerously ill at Matamoros.

The volunteers will soon follow General Taylor. The enemy has been occupying Monterey with his small force. It is supposed they have made arrangements to assemble in large force when the army gets within a striking distance.

Eleven steamboats have ascended the Rio Grande to Carmargo, with troops and army supplies.

No news has been received from Mexico.

Later from the Army.

Departure of Gen. Taylor from Matamoros—A Good Order, prohibiting Spirituous Liquors from entering Matamoros—A Philadelphian Killed.

[From the Matamoros Flag of the 6th inst.]

Departure of General Taylor—Yesterday morning early, 'Old Rough and Ready' left Matamoros for Carmargo in the steamboat Whiteville, accompanied, we believe, by about one half of the Texan regiment of infantry and a few regulars. There was no announcement of his departure, no firing of guns, nothing to indicate that so conspicuous a personage as the commander of the American forces was about to leave a place he had taken, to assume the individual direction of his forces at another point. He left whilst half the city was wrapped in slumber, and ere the sluggard had quitted his couch, was many miles upon his journey. This is characteristic of the brave old veteran, for he would rather face the enemy, double in numbers, than hear the booming of the cannon and the shouts of men paying homage to his well-deserved fame. If we understand Gen. Taylor rightly, he is a man who would travel twenty miles out of the way rather than encounter a host of friends and admirers who had assembled to honor him by a public demonstration.

Murder.—Yesterday morning, about 1 o'clock, Jack Haynes was instantly killed, by a man named McCann, a ranger belonging to Tom Greene's company, from Lafayette, Texas. Mr. Haynes had left the theatre but a short time, and was in a coffee-house hard by, when he was called out by some one—a word or two passed, a blow followed, and the murderous knife was driven deep into the jugular vein of the unfortunate victim, depriving him of life in two or three minutes. McCann immediately left the town, but we learn has surrendered himself to the captain of his company. We did not hear whether any difficulty previously existed between them.

The remains of Jack Haynes were followed to the grave yesterday by a large concourse of friends. He was a man universally popular, and his death creates a blank in the circle of his friends, which will be difficult to fill. Mr. Haynes was a native of Philadelphia, where he has highly respectable connections. He resided several years in Texas.

On the 30th ult., at Barita, a member of Capt. McIntosh's company of Louisiana volunteers, named Wm. Overton, stabbed another of the company, named King, who died immediately. Overton made his escape.

The cause of these disorders and acts of violence was intoxicating liquors, and Gen. Taylor has taken prompt measures to prevent a repetition of them by issuing the following order, which has produced some excitement in camp:

No spirituous liquors will be permitted to enter the river or the city of Matamoros for the purposes of barter or traffic on the account of any person whatever, whether sutler in the army or private dealer. Any liquors found in violation of this order will be confiscated and sent to the Quartermaster in New Orleans to be sold—one half of the proceeds for the benefit of the informant, the other half to be applied to the support of the Hospital Department.

The merchants at Matamoros will be permitted to vend the liquors they may actually have on hand, but to receive no new supplies.

The Chief Magistrate of the city of Matamoros and all other municipal officers will, under his direction, enforce the above orders upon the Mexican residents and traders of Matamoros and will issue notice accordingly. The American traders and residents will conform to these orders and make their arrangements accordingly.

Mier Taken without Opposition.

The New Orleans Picayune publishes several letters from Mr. Kendall, one of its editors, which announces that the town of Mier was captured by Capt. Vinton's command, on the 5th ult. without opposition. The inhabitants throng-

ing to the Plaza in crowds as the troops filed into it and stacked their arms in front of the alcalde.

Mier is by far the most pleasant, cleanly and well-regulated place we have yet seen in this part of Mexico. It is built on a hill overlooking a clear running stream of the same name, three miles from the Rio Grande, and is said to contain 6,000 inhabitants although I do not know where they stow them all. You may well recollect that it was in this place that the Texans under Col. Fisher were compelled to surrender, after they had killed twice their number of Mexicans. The houses occupied by the Texans during the battle were pointed out, and still bear the marks of the desperate conflict.

To show the impudence of the Comanches, and the great contempt in which they hold their Mexican enemies, I will relate one little incident—once farce, if I may so call it, of their production. The day before the Americans took possession of the place—I was told by one who saw the whole proceeding—a small party of Comanches appeared on the opposite bank of the river, and within three hundred yards of the town. One of the Indians had not a rag upon him save a green Mexican uniform coat, faced with red and trimmed with yellow, and was armed with nothing save a Mexican bugle or trumpet. This he held to his mouth and sounded to the full strength of his lungs. Up and down the river bank he blew and blasted away upon this instrument, regardless of tone, but anxious to make all the noise he could in that part of the world situated immediately opposite Mier. The cry of "Los Indios" was raised, the women and children scattered, while the men rode furiously up and down the streets out of reach of balls and arrows, and signed papers and swore that they would do great things, besides dying in defence of the town. It is said they completely broke down their horses in parading and dashing about, and were not ready to start after the Indians until they saw and knew that the Indians had their fun out and were completely out of reach.

There is no mistake that a large force of Comanches is on this side the Rio Grande, committing depredations and murdering the inhabitant with impunity. Parties of them have appeared at Guerrero, a city some thirty miles above Mier, have stolen a great many horses and mules, and have killed several of the principal citizens, among them one of the town council. The authorities of the place have sent in their submission to the officer in command of the United States troops here, and would doubtless be delighted to see an American force in the Plaza. You may ask, why do not the Mexicans turn out in force—outnumbering, as they do the Indians, ten to one—give them a sound drubbing, and drive them out of the country? It is because they are too lazy in the first place, and too timid in the second. So far as I can see, the men here spend one third of the day in sleeping, one third in bathing, and the other third in doing nothing—not a very profitable employment of time they would say away "Down East."

G. W. K.

LETTER FROM THE ARMY.—Lieut. Lee, of the 8th Infantry, who arrived at Charleston on Friday afternoon, direct from the Army, states that Gen. Worth, with his brigade, was on his way to a town called China, sixty miles beyond Carmargo. This town is an important depot, it being a military post of the enemy. There is no doubt that long before this it is in the possession of the American forces.

All of the regular troops, with the exception of Captain May's dragoons and Ridgely's battalion, numbering from three to four thousand men were at Carmargo.

General Taylor has arrived at Carmargo, and it is supposed that he will proceed to Monterey with about six thousand men, and the general impression is that the enemy will attack him at the defile between Monterey and Saltillo.

The Charleston papers say: "We have been requested to state that there has been no meeting between the Comanches and the Texan rangers, as given in the Matamoros paper of the 8th inst."

IMPORTANT MOVE OF TROOPS.—The following is an extract of a letter dated Matamoros, August 6, received by a gentleman in New Orleans:—

"Hay's regiment cannot leave here for two or three days. This expedition is more than an ordinary ranging party. They are being equipped with tents—something unusual; all the horses have to be shod, and a paymaster, I learn, goes along. All the prominent men who are here from the United States or Texas, accompany it. Look out for squalls; do not be surprised (if the water don't prevent) if you hear of them having possession of Tampico, and of the mass of the volunteers being shipped that way, and marched from that point through the country."

GEN. ARISTA'S CORN MILL.—They have at Cincinnati a machine for grinding corn which Arista brought to that city from Mexico. It is nothing more than a stone, some 10 inches long by 12 inches wide, with three legs worked out of the original slab, leaving the height of the mill-stone some 8 inches. The top is flat, and the appearance is not unlike a rude three-legged stool. The manner of grinding corn on it is by the process of pounding with another stone. One leg is shorter than the other two, and is used to raise the mill-stone, so that it will fall off into a vessel.

It is said that the large mass of solid copper, discovered by the Copper Falls Company near Lake Superior, thus far disclosed, is ten feet in length, by nine in depth, and one in thickness—or twenty five cubic feet of pure copper, weighing twenty-two thousand five hundred pounds.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, August 29, 1846.

V. H. F. MEIER, Esq., of his Real Estate and Coal Office, corner of 34 and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising. Also at his Office, No. 160 Nassau Street, New York.

And S. E. Corner of Baltimore and Calvert sts., Baltimore.

We owe our readers an apology for taking up so much space in our discussion with the Gazette, in refuting the absurd idea, that our wheat could be introduced into England cheaper than wheat from the Baltic. We hardly supposed that there could be any doubt on the subject among intelligent persons, and therefore, in our former reply, to cut the matter short, referred to Lord Ashburton's statement in February last, and what is well known to all, conversant on this subject, that nine-tenths of the wheat imported into England comes from the Baltic and European ports. The Gazette, to get out of this difficulty, argued that Lord Ashburton referred to the imports at that moment. This is not true, and we hardly need say that Lord Ashburton would not make himself so ridiculous as to base his arguments on the foreign grain trade on the imports of a single month or year, as the Gazette has done. The facts stated in our reply this week, must appear conclusive to every sane mind.

CANAL COMMISSIONER.—The time is now approaching when we shall be called upon to vote for a man to fill this office. It is not, and ought not properly to be considered an office of a political character, more than a supervisor of roads. The legislature, a few years since, passed a law to elect a Canal Commissioner every year, believing that the old mode of keeping men in office, where so much responsibility and power rested, tended greatly to fraud and corruption. The spirit and intention of the law was that one new man should be elected every year, similar to the mode of electing county commissioners. But Mr. Foster wishes to break down this law, by forcing himself upon the people through a nomination procured by the control of the Canal Board. There is another serious objection to Mr. Foster. He is a free trader man, and his election would be hailed as a triumph of free trade. If the tariff men of Pennsylvania wish to have the tariff amended so as to protect our iron and coal, they must show their determination not to submit to the wrongs imposed on them, by some public demonstration; and they never can have a better opportunity than by opposing the free trade Canal Commissioner. Let our farmers who depend on the coal and iron trade for a profitable market, remember these things. It is well enough for officers, like Mr. Foster, who live off the public, and have salaries, to support free trade, as they have nothing to lose, but every thing to gain, by getting provisions, &c. cheaper, at the expense of the farmer and mechanic.

Let it also be remembered, that Mr. Foster, through his carelessness and want of judgment, suffered the Clark's Ferry Bridge to be destroyed by fire. This bridge cost the state ninety thousand dollars. But two of the spans out of ten or eleven were carried away by the fire. The bridge could have been made passable, and repaired for a few thousand dollars, but for the shameless neglect and mismanagement of Mr. Foster. Let the new law be carried into effect by electing a new man, and the people will save thousands of dollars.

It will be seen that Lieut. Arthur T. Lee, of the 8th regiment, arrived at Charleston a few days since, bringing later intelligence from the Army on the Rio Grande. Lieut. Lee is the eldest son of Capt. Jas. Lee, of Northumberland. He is a young gentleman of varied talents, and a fine officer.

Edward H. Baldy, Esq., of Danville, we see is recommended as a candidate to represent Columbia County in the next Legislature. As the act removing the seat of justice from Danville to Bloomsburg is passed, it would be both just and magnanimous in the upper end to concede the member to Danville, and thus heal up all local divisions. Mr. Baldy would make an excellent member, and enjoys the confidence of the party.

GEN. TAYLOR has issued orders at Matamoros, prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors to the army, in consequence of the frequent affrays and murders committed through intoxication. Gen. Taylor is himself a strictly temperate man in all his habits. Gen. Brady, while here on a visit a few days since, on his return from the Court of Inquiry in Virginia, in the case of Gen. Gaines, informed us that old "Rough and Ready" was a man of a fine constitution, and enjoyed excellent health—that he never took anything stronger than water, and that he could live on anything, and almost nothing; and but seldom, if ever, touched fresh meats.

LEWISTOWN BANK.—The notes of this Bank are at a discount of from 10 to 15 per cent. in Philadelphia. A committee from the Bank was in Philadelphia, a few days since, endeavoring to make the notes pass. The circulation is very large.

GEN. GAINES.—The Court of Inquiry have convicted him of the charges alleged against him. The President, however, advises no further proceedings.

The Gazette—the Tariff, and the Foreign Grain Trade.

In our paper of the 15th inst. we made a short and hasty reply to the long and laborious arguments of the Sunbury Gazette, in which it vainly endeavored to prove the fact that wheat from the Baltic could not be imported in Great Britain cheaper than from the country, and attempted to show by tables of prices, that wheat at \$1 in New York could be delivered in England cheaper than the wheat from the Baltic. The absurdity of this proposition was so self-evident, that we hardly deemed an answer necessary. It is well known that there is but little if any better wheat in the world than ours, and if it can be sent to England cheaper, or as cheap as the wheat from the ports of the Baltic and Black Sea, why is it that Europe has heretofore, as is shown by an article in another column, imported almost 20 bushels from these ports where she has taken one bushel from us? And how will the repeal of the English corn laws mend the matter? Her ports are not opened to our wheat alone, but grain from all countries is admitted on equal terms; and if Baltic and other wheat could then command the English market, in preference to our own, why can it not do so now? Are not these facts (for they are facts that no one can contradict) sufficient to prove the fallacy and absurdity of the statements of the Gazette? But as the writer of the article in the Gazette counts largely upon his array of figures, we shall furnish, in reply, some facts as well as figures, from authentic records, that will at once show the fallacy of his statements. The quibbling of the Gazette about our exports to Europe, instead of all foreign ports, an error that did not affect the main question, shows the difficulty of its position, while we were not a little amused at its innocent simplicity, in its attempt to teach us lessons in geography.

We have already shown that the fact, that we did not supply Great Britain with more than one out of every twenty bushels of wheat she imported, was of itself conclusive evidence that she could get it cheaper from other sources. But let us, in addition, compare the average price of wheat, for a number of years, in the principal parts of trade on the continent of Europe, with those of our own seaports, during the same period. This we can do by reference to the following table, furnished by a correspondent of the Philadelphia Chronicle, prepared from "Parliamentary Reports," showing the prices of wheat per bushel at the different markets of the wheat trade on the continent, from 1830 to 1843, inclusive:

Table with 5 columns: Year, Dantzic, Ham'g, Am'sdam, Antw, Odessa. Rows show prices for years 1830-1843 and an average for 1830-43.

Here we have the prices of wheat at five great marts of the wheat trade, for fourteen years, showing a general average of 88 cts. per bushel. We do not, as the Gazette has done, confine ourselves to one year, and that a year of scarcity in Europe, in order to show the average value of wheat in these markets.

The prices at our own sea ports, during the same period, run as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Price. Rows show prices for years 1830-1836.

The general average of the foregoing prices is \$1.25, being 37 cents more than the average per bushel at the aforementioned ports in Europe.

Now this table clearly demonstrates the fact, that in the first cost of grain, we cannot compete with the wheat growers of the countries above named; and our disadvantages will appear still greater, if we compare the relative distances from London to the different wheat markets above named. For instance, Dantzic, which supplies the best and greatest portion of foreign wheat, is 1500 miles from London, Hamburg 500, Amsterdam 400, Antwerp 300, Odessa 3500, while New York is 3600, Philadelphia 3800 and Baltimore 4000. The freight per bushel to England, according to the list of prices published by the Gazette, is as follows: From Dantzic 12 cts., from Hamburg 12 cts., from Antwerp 7 cts., from Odessa 30 cts., and from New York 22 cts., which is too low.

Here then we have facts and figures, showing that, for the space of 14 years, wheat in Northern Europe and the Black Sea has been selling on an average, 37 cts. per bushel less than wheat in the United States, while the difference in freight has been from 10 to 15 cts. against us, making a difference of 47 cts. per bushel against American wheat.

But we have further authorities, if any were necessary. McCullough, in his commercial Dictionary, (vol. 1, page 510,) a work of the very highest authority in this country and Europe, after giving a history of the grain trade of the whole commercial world, enters into a minute calculation of the cost of delivering a cargo of wheat from Dantzic to London, and makes the cost at London 44s. 4d. per quarter, of 8 bushels, or \$1.33 per bushel, and the cost of a cargo from the United States from 59s. to 52s. per quarter, or from \$1.50 to \$1.56 per bushel, a difference of 17 to 23 cents. per bushel in favor of the foreign article.

Speaking of the American corn trade, he says, (vol. 1, page 515.)

"The price of wheat at New York and Philadelphia may be taken, on an average, at from 37 to 40 shillings per quarter, and as the cost of importing a quarter of wheat from the U. States into England amounts to from 10s. to 12s. per quarter, it is seen that no considerable

supply could be obtained from that quarter, were even prices under 50s. to 52s.

It might also be remarked, that the prices in America are usually higher than in the Baltic, so that but little can be brought from the former, except when the demand is sufficient previously, to take off the cheaper wheats of the Northern ports."

But it is needless to multiply facts, to refute a proposition that no respectable editor of common intelligence ever thought of maintaining, or ever will attempt to maintain. Notwithstanding the repeal of the Corn Laws, each arrival brings news of a further decline in the price of grain. If, then, we are to import largely under McKay's bill, and thus break down our own manufactures, what will become of those thrown out of employment? Will not many of them turn their attention to agriculture and become producers instead of consumers, and thus destroy the home market, the only good and permanent market that our farmers ever had for their products?

We have entered more fully into the above than we had intended, in order to put a quietus on the vain delusions of the Gazette, and to show the editor that we had no idea of retracting our opinions, although the main issue was McKay's free trade bill, which he then strongly equated at, but which in his last paper he has adopted flat footed, with all its imperfections. We congratulate the editor upon the safe delivery of his long pent up opinions on this subject, and trust that he has not suffered severely, mentally or corporally by this extraordinary partition. He may now exclaim, in the lines of the poet, slightly altered:

"No pent up tariff views contracts our powers; But McKay's boundless free trade bill is ours."

We find no fault with the Gazette in coming out in favor of McKay's British bill, which it had a right to do, but we do protest against this skulking behind the bush—of professing one thing and advocating another.

THE FOREIGN GRAIN TRADE.—The following is an interesting and useful extract from Mr. Hudson's speech in Congress, on the subject of our foreign grain trade:

"I am confident, Mr. Chairman, that there is a great misapprehension on this subject of trade. Some gentlemen seem to take it for granted that Great Britain is the principal, and almost the only market for our breadstuff. But nothing can be more false."

He stated further, on official authority that the total average of the export of wheat for the last fourteen years, is 5,505,000 bushels, and that the average export to Great Britain is only 944,000, being about one-sixth of the whole. Our trade with Great Britain in this article is much overrated. For the last fourteen years we have sent to England only eight per cent. more than to Brazil; and for the last three, Brazil has taken sixty per cent. more than England. Our trade with Canada for a number of years past, has been greater than with England itself. For the last seven years we have sent into the British North American colonies 12,586,000 bushels, and to England, at the same time, 7,764,000 bushels; showing a greater demand in Canada than in England by sixty-two per cent.

He gives further tables, and shows that for the last 15 years the average import of wheat into Great Britain has been 10,964,806 bushels. Her demand has been exceedingly variable, ranging from 228,400 to 23,917,100 bushels. Nor is this all. In 1830, she actually exported a large amount to this and other countries. In price, too, there has been a great fluctuation. In 1835, the average price of wheat in Great Britain was \$1.07, and in 1839, \$1.92 per bushel. But not to rely upon single years: In 1829, '30, and '31, she imported, on an average, 12,482,700 bushels; and in 1843, with a population of about 27,000,000, she consumed 7,610,300 bushels of foreign wheat.

We give another passage from the carefully prepared remarks of Mr. Hudson.

Tooke, an experienced English writer, informs us that, from 1832 to 1838, the crops in Great Britain and Ireland were so abundant that wheat was fed out to cattle, sheep, and swine, and even used for distillation. This induced the farmer to sow less; and, for several succeeding years, the winters were unfavorable for the crops, and the season of harvest was so unpropitious as to increase the demand for foreign grain. Every man acquainted with English agriculture knows that great improvements are constantly taking place in her mode of cultivation. Barren hillsides are being converted into fruitful fields, and her waste places are being made to blossom like the rose. She has also adopted an improved mode of seeding. Until quite recently, the wheat growers were in the habit of sowing about three bushels of grain to the acre. But Drummond, a late English writer, says that, by the introduction of a new machine for sowing wheat, which distributes the grain equally over the whole surface of the ground, they have found that a less quantity of seed will answer equally well; and that this improve-

ment alone will save to the United Kingdom five or six millions of bushels, and thus supply at least one-third of her deficiency. Under these circumstances, it is not probable that her demand for foreign grain will materially increase. Her own supply will increase with her demand. The means of the mass of her people are limited; and we cannot expect that, under any circumstances, she will take a quantity of foreign grain much, if any, larger than she does at present.

But suppose that her demand increases, where will she obtain her supply? Where has she obtained it in years past? In 1811, 1812, and 1813, when she made her largest importations, averaging 18,300,000 bushels, or about 51,000,000 for three years, her supply was obtained from the following nations in the proportion:

Table titled 'Importation of Wheat into Great Britain, from the principal wheat countries, for 1811-1812 and 1813, in bushels, together with the sum total from each country.' Columns list countries and bushels for 1811, 1812, 1813, and a total.

Here, sir, we have a view of the demand on the supply of the English market for three successive years. And does it appear that that market is to be regarded as ours? And is the United States the only country on which Great Britain is to depend for her bread stuff? A glance at this table will show at once that our supply, when compared with that of the continent, dwindles almost to insignificance. Russia supplies nearly as much as the United States; Denmark a trifle more; Prussia more than six times as much; Germany and Holland nearly three times as much; France and Italy each nearly twice as much; and British North American colonies more than twice as much in this boasted granary of the world. To show the relative importance of our trade to Great Britain, it is barely necessary to say that of every hundred bushels sent to the English market we supply only five.

We have seen that the importations of wheat into Great Britain have been exceedingly fluctuating, ranging from 228,000 to 33,917,000 bushels. A fair estimate of the English demand, for a term of years to come, may, I think be put down at 15,000,000 bushels annually. And where will she obtain her supply? From the United States? Why have they not supplied that market in years past? Will it be said that the corn laws have operated against us? But those laws have been general in the operation. Why have not these restrictions operated against the nations on the continent? The thirty three millions of bushels brought from the north, during the three years, and twelve millions from the south of Europe, have been subjected to the same duty as the three millions from the United States. And if they can supply more than nine-tenths of the whole under the present law, they can do the same under a less restricted dispensation or a system of perfect free-trade."

Correspondence of the Philad. Ledger. FROM WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, 18th August, 1846.

It is now morally certain that the great interests of Pennsylvania, coal and iron, will receive the earliest attention of the next Congress, and that consideration will be urged, officially, on the consideration of Congress at the next session. receives now, and will receive then, the attention of the proper Executive Department. The tariff of 1816 is, as I ventured to call it in a last, an executive measure, not carried by a particular set of men, who might wish to pursue due advantages, or be led astray by a momentary triumph. Let us not deceive ourselves on this score. The free trade principle would be safely gone to sleep in the South, but for executive resurrection. Its peculiar champions had strength to carry it, and could at best but harass and perplex the adoption of other measures. modification therefore does not depend upon them; though I am well informed that it is precisely the South who are most alarmed at certain features of the tariff of 1840, and most ready to pay a premium to have its moderate provisions insured. The Pennsylvania staple coal and iron, it was always contemplated, every tariff, to protect, as necessary to national independence and defence in case of war. The revenue tariff of 1816 protected them at a higher rate than any subsequent one, (coal to the amount of five cents a bushel, or \$1.50 a ton, and the protection was never so low as in the provision of the compromise act of 1840, which may admit of improvements, among those such as would be particularly acceptable to Pennsylvania, but affords, ever its present state, more incidental protection than any horizontal rate of duties.