

THE SOMERSET HERALD.

AND FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' REGISTER.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM,
HALF-YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

IF NOT PAID WITHIN THE YEAR,
\$2 50 WILL BE CHARGED.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY JONATHAN ROW, SOMERSET, SOMERSET COUNTY, PA.

New Series.]

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1846,

Vol. 4.—No. 33.

Scrub Me.

BY CHARLES SWAIN.

Believe, or believe me not,
At other shrine I could ne'er bow;
The world itself might be forgot—
And never thou—oh, never thou!
Though absent, I recall thy charms;
And wished—as lovers when they part;
I'd, like the vine a thousand arms,
To clasp thee—hold thee—to my heart.

There's not a pulse within my breast
But shudders and trembles to thy touch;
Forget!—oh, no;—the fear is lest
My soul may love thee overmuch!
Thy very name each feeling warms;
And oft, though vain, the wish will start,
That, vine-like, I'd a thousand arms
To clasp thee ever to my heart!

Battles of Palo Alto and RESACA DE LA PALMA OFFICIAL REPORTS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Matamoras, May 16, '46.

Sir:—I have the honor to submit
a more detailed report of the action of the
8th inst.

The main body of the army of occupa-
tion marched, under my immediate or-
ders, from Point Isabel, on the evening of
the 7th of May, and bivouacked seven
miles from that place.

Our march was resumed the following
morning. About noon, when our ad-
vance of cavalry had reached the water
hole of "Palo Alto," the Mexican troops
were reported in our front, and were soon
discovered occupying the road in force.
I ordered a halt upon reaching the water,
with a view to rest and refresh the men,
and form deliberately our line of battle.
The Mexican line was now plainly visible
across the prairie, and about three
quarters of a mile distant. Their left,
which was composed of a heavy force of
cavalry, occupied the road, resting upon a
thicket of chaparral while masses of in-
fantry were discovered in succession on
the right, greatly outnumbering our own
force.

Our line of battle was now formed in
the following order, commencing on the
extreme right: 5th infantry, commanded
by Lieut. Col. McLatoshi; Major Ring-
gold's artillery; 3d infantry commanded
by Capt. L. N. Morris; two eighteen
pounders commanded by Lieut. Church-
ill; 3d artillery; 4th infantry, com-
manded by Major G. W. Allen; the 3d and 4th
regiments, composed the 3d brigade, un-
der command of Lieut. Col. Garland; and
all the above corps, together with two
squadrons of dragoons under Captains
Ker and May, composed the right wing,
under the orders of Col. Twigg. The
left was formed by the battalion of ar-
tillery commanded by Lieut. Col. Childs,
Capt. Duncan's light artillery, and the 8th
infantry, under Capt. Montgomery—all
forming the 1st brigade, under command
of Lieut. Col. Becknap. The train was
packed near the water, under direction of
Capt. Crossman and Myers, and protect-
ed by Capt. Ker's squadron.

At 2 o'clock we took up the march by
heads of columns in the direction of the
enemy—the 18-pounder battery following
the road. While the columns were ad-
vancing, Lieut. Blake, topographical en-
gineer, volunteered a reconnaissance of
the enemy's line, which was handsomely
performed, and resulted in the discovery
of at least two batteries of artillery in the
intervals of their cavalry and infantry.—
These batteries were soon opened upon
us; when I ordered the columns halted
and deployed into line, and the fire to be
returned by all our artillery. The 8th in-
fantry, on our extreme left, was thrown
back to secure that flank. The first fire
of the enemy did but little execution, while
our 18-pounders and Major Ringgold's
artillery soon dispersed the cavalry,
which formed his left. Captain Dun-
can's battery, thrown forward in advance
of the line, was doing good execution at
this time. Capt. May's squadron was
now detached to support that battery, and
the left of our position. The Mexican
cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, were
now reported to be moving through the
chaparral to our right to threaten that
flank, or make a demonstration against
the train. The 5th infantry was immedi-
ately detached to check this movement,
and supported by Lieut. Ridgely, with a
section of Major Ringgold's battery and
Capt. Walker's volunteers effectually re-
pelled the enemy—the 5th infantry repel-
ling a charge of lancers, and the artillery
doing great execution in their ranks. The
3d infantry was now detached to the
right as a still further security to that
flank yet threatened by the enemy, Major
Ringgold, with the remaining section,
kept up his fire from an advanced posi-
tion and was supported by the 4th in-
fantry.

The grass of the prairie had been acci-
dentally fired by our artillery, and the vol-
umes of smoke now partially concealed
the armies from each other. As the en-
emy's left had evidently been driven back
and left the road free as the cannonade

had been suspended, I ordered forward
the 18-pounders on the road nearly to the
position first occupied by the Mexican
cavalry, and caused the 1st brigade to take
up a new position still on the left of the
18-pounder battery. The 5th was ad-
vanced from its former position and occupied
a point on the extreme right of the new
line.—the enemy made a change of posi-
tion corresponding to our own, and after
a suspension of nearly an hour the action
was resumed.

The fire of artillery was now most
destructive—openings were constantly
made through the enemy's ranks by our
fire, and the constancy with which the
Mexican infantry sustained this severe
cannonade was a theme of universal re-
mark and admiration. Captain May's
squadron was detached to make a demon-
stration on the left of the enemy's posi-
tion, and suffered severely from the fire
of artillery to which it was for some time
exposed. The 4th infantry, which had
been ordered to support the 18-pounder
battery was exposed to a most galling fire,
by which several men were killed and
Capt. Page dangerously wounded. The
enemy's fire was directed against our 18
pounder battery and the guns under Ma-
jor Ringgold in its vicinity. The Major
himself, while coolly directing the fire of
his pieces was struck by a cannon ball
and mortally wounded.

In the meantime, the battalion of ar-
tillery under Lieut. Col. Childs had been
brought up to support the artillery on our
right. A strong demonstration of caval-
ry was now made by the enemy against
this part of our line, and the column con-
tinued to advance under a severe fire
from the 18 pounders. The battalion was
instantly formed in square and held ready
to receive the charge of cavalry, but when
the advancing squadrons were within close
range, a deadly fire of canister from the
18 pounders dispersed them. A brisk
fire of small arms was now opened upon
the square by which one officer, Lieut.
Luther, 2d artillery, was slightly wounded,
but a well directed volley from the front
of the square silenced all further firing
from the enemy in this quarter. It was
now nearly dark and the action was clos-
ed on the right of our line, the enemy
having been completely driven back from
his position and foiled in every attempt
against our line.

While the above was going forward on
our right and under my own eye, the en-
emy had made a serious attempt against
the left of our line. Capt. Duncan in-
stantly perceived the movement, and by
the bold and brilliant maneuvering of his
battery, completely repulsed several suc-
cessive efforts of the enemy to advance
in force upon our left flank. Supported
in succession by the 8th infantry and by
Capt. Ker's squadron of dragoons, he gal-
lantly held the enemy at bay, and finally
drove him, with immense loss, from the
field. The action here and along the
whole line, continued until dark, when
the enemy retired into the chaparral in the
rear of his position. Our army bivouacked
on the ground it occupied. During the
afternoon the train had been moved for-
ward about half a mile, and was packed
in rear of the new position.

Our loss this day, was nine killed, forty-
four wounded, and two missing. A-
mong the wounded were Major Ringgold,
who has since died, and Captain Page,
dangerously wounded; Lieut. Luther
slightly so. I annex a tabular statement
of the casualties of the day.

Our own force engaged, is shown by
the field report, herewith, to have been
174 officers and 2,111 men—aggregate
2,285. The Mexican force according to
the statements of their own officers, taken
prisoners in the affair of the 9th, was not
less than 6,000 regular troops, with 10
pieces of artillery, and probably exceed-
ed that number: the irregular force not
known. Their loss was not less than
200 killed and 400 wounded—probably
greater. The estimate is very moderate,
and formed upon the number actually
counted upon the reports of their own of-
ficers.

As already reported in my first brief
dispatch, the conduct of our officers and
men was every thing that could be desired.
Exposed for hours to the severest
trial—a cannonade of artillery—our
troops displayed a coolness and constan-
cy which gave me, throughout, the assur-
ance of victory.

I purposely defer the mention of indi-
viduals until my report of the action of
the 9th, when I will endeavor to do jus-
tice to the many instances of distinguish-
ed conduct on both days. In the mean-
time, I refer, for minute details, to the re-
ports of individual commanders.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.

Brevet Brig. Genl. U. S. Army, Com-
manding, The Adjutant General of the
Army.

Washington, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Fort Brown, Texas,
May 17, 1846.

Sir: In submitting a more minute re-
port of the affair of "Resaca de la Palma,"
I have the honor to state that early in the
morning of the 9th inst., the enemy who

had encamped near the field of battle of
the day previous, was discovered moving
by his left flank, evidently in retreat, and
perhaps at the same time to gain a new
position on the road to Matamoras and
there again resist our advance.

I ordered the supply train to be strong-
ly packed at its position, and left with it
four pieces of artillery—the two 18 pound-
ers which had done such good service
on the previous day—and two 12 pound-
ers which had not been in the action.—
The wounded officers and men were at
the same time sent back to Point Isabel.
I then moved forward with the columns
to the edge of the chaparral or forest,
which extends to the Rio Grande, a dis-
tance of seven miles. The light compan-
ies of the 1st brigade, under Capt. C. F.
Smith, 2d artillery, and a select detach-
ment of light troops, the whole under
command of Capt. McCall, 4th infantry,
were thrown forward into the chaparral
to feel the enemy and ascertain his posi-
tion. About 3 o'clock I received a report
from the advance, that the enemy was in
position on the road with at least two
pieces of artillery. The command was im-
mediately put in motion, and about 4 o'-
clock I came up with Capt. McCall, who
reported the enemy in force on our front,
occupying a ravine which intersects the
road and is skirted by thickets of dense
chaparral. Ridgely's battery and the ad-
vance under Capt. McCall were at once
thrown forward on the road, and into the
chaparral on either side, while the 5th in-
fantry and one wing of the 5th was
thrown into the forest on the left, and the
3d and the other wing of the 4th on the
right of the road. These corps were em-
ployed as skirmishes to cover the battery
and engage the Mexican infantry. Capt.
McCall's command became at once en-
gaged with the enemy, while the light ar-
tillery, though in a very exposed position,
did great execution. The enemy had at
least eight pieces of artillery, and main-
tained an incessant fire upon our advance.

The action now became general, and
although the enemy's infantry gave way
before the steady fire and resolute pro-
gress of our own, yet his artillery was
still in position to check our advance—
several pieces occupying the pass across
the ravine which he had chosen for his
position. Perceiving that no decisive ad-
vantage could be gained until this artillery
was silenced, I ordered Capt. May to
charge the batteries with his squadron of
dragoons. This was gallantly and ef-
fectually executed, the enemy was
driven from his guns, and Genl. La
Vega, who remained alone at one of the
batteries, was taken prisoner. The squad-
ron, which suffered much in this charge,
not being immediately supported by in-
fantry, could not retain possession of the
artillery taken, but it was completely
silenced. In the meantime the 8th in-
fantry had been ordered up and had become
warmly engaged on the right of the road.
This regiment and a part of the 5th were
now ordered to charge the batteries, which
was handsomely done, and the enemy en-
tirely driven from his artillery and his
position on the left of the road.

The light companies of the 1st brigade
and the third and fourth regiments of in-
fantry had been deployed on the right of
the road, where at various points, they
became briskly engaged with the enemy.
A small party under Capt. Buchanan and
Lieut. Wood and Hays, 4th infantry, com-
posed chiefly of men of that regiment,
drove the enemy from a breastwork which
he occupied, and captured a piece of ar-
tillery. An attempt to recover this piece
was repelled by Captain Barbour, 3d in-
fantry. The enemy was at last complet-
ely driven from his position on the right of
the road, and retreated precipitately, leav-
ing baggage of every description. The
4th infantry took possession of a camp
where the headquarters of the Mexican
general-in-chief were established. All his
official correspondence was captured at
this place.

The artillery battalion (excepting the
flank companies) had been ordered to
guard the baggage train, which was pack-
ed some distance in the rear. The battal-
ion was now ordered up to pursue the en-
emy, and with the 3d infantry, Capt.
Ker's dragoons, and Captain Duncan's
battery followed him rapidly to the river,
making a number of prisoners. Great
numbers of the enemy were drowned in
attempting to cross the river near the
town. The corps last mentioned encamp-
ed near the river—the remainder of the
army on the field of battle.

The strength of our marching force on
this day, as exhibited in the annexed field
report, was 173 officers, and 2,049 men—
aggregate 2,222. The actual number
engaged with the enemy did not exceed
1,700. Our loss was three officers killed
and 12 wounded; 36 men killed, and 71
wounded. Among the officers killed, I
have to regret the loss of Lieut. Ince, 2d
dragoons, who fell at the head of his pla-
toon, while gallantly charging the en-
emy's battery; of Lieut. Cochran, of the
4th, and Lieut. Chadbourne, of the 8th
infantry, who likewise met their death in
the thickest of the fight. The officers
wounded were Lieut. Col. Payne, Inspec-
tor General; Lieut. Dobbins, 3d infantry,
serving with the light infantry advance,
slightly; Lieut. Col. Molnosh, 5th infan-

try, twice severely; Capt. Howe, 5th in-
fantry, severely, (right arm since amputa-
ted.); Lieut. Dowler, 5th infantry, slight-
ly; Capt. Montgomery, 8th infantry,
slightly; Lieuts. Gates and Jordan, 8th
infantry, severely, (each twice); Lieuts.
Selden, Maclay, Burbank and Morris, 8th
infantry, slightly. A tabular statement of
the killed and wounded is annexed herewith.

A have no accurate data from which to
estimate the enemy's force on this day.—
He is known to have been reinforced after
the action of the 8th both by cavalry and
infantry, and no doubt to an extent at
least equal to his loss on that day. It is
probable that 6,000 were opposed to us,
and in a position chosen by themselves,
and strongly defended with artillery.—
The enemy's loss was very great. Nearly
200 of his dead were buried by us on the
day succeeding the battle. His loss
in killed and wounded and missing, in the
two affairs of the 8th and 9th is, I think,
moderately estimated at 1,000 men.

Our victory has been decisive. A small
force has overcome immense odds of the
best troops that Mexico can furnish—veter-
an regiments, perfectly equipped and
appointed. Eight pieces of artillery, sev-
eral colors and standards, a great number
of prisoners, including fourteen officers,
and a large amount of baggage and public
property have fallen into our hands.

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.

Brevet Brig. Genl. U. S. A. Commanding,
The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

OUR ARMY IN MEXICO.

The New York Spirit of the Times
has the right sort of a correspondent
among the officers of our gallant army on
the Rio Grande, who has communicated
the following

SCENES IN MATAMORAS.

Camp near Four Brown's, Mexico May 22.
DEAR P.: In my last I predicted that
my next would be dated at Matamoras.
So it is, although our camp is on the out-
skirts of the city. On the 17th the Gen-
eral had decided that we should move to
the point selected for crossing the river
and commence operations against the
city. We struck our tents early that
morning. Our unusual stir and activity
was seen by the enemy, and no doubt at-
tributed to the proper cause. We were
all anxiously waiting the order to move,
when we were informed a parley had
been sounded, and that a deputation from
Genl. Arista had crossed to see Genl.
Taylor. General Ricardo was at the
head of it; Arista proposed to enter into
an armistice, until they could hear from
Mexico, not doubting the boundary
would now be settled. Gen. T. said
"no, that he had offered them one, some
time since; had evinced the most friendly
disposition; that they would not agree to
it when his army was weak, and now,
that reinforcements had arrived, he should
dictate his own terms." Ricardo wished
to know if the General intended to take
Matamoras? He said "yes." Ricardo
offered to surrender all the public prop-
erty, ammunition, &c., if he would not cross.
The General said "no, that he must have
Matamoras if he had to batter it down,
and that now he was prepared to do it.
He told him to tell Genl. Arista that
these and these only were his terms.—
That the city must capitulate all public
property, ammunition, provision, &c., must
be given up, and that then the army
might march out and retire."

The deputation then retired to get
Genl. Arista's answer, which was to be
communicated at 3 P. M. In the mean-
time the army marched, and encamped
3 miles off, at the point selected for cross-
ing. Gen. T. told Ricardo that Gen.
Ampudia had written to him, that the war
should be conducted agreeably to the
usages of civilized nations. That in the
last battle the enemy had stripped our
dead and mutilated their bodies. R. re-
plied "that the women who followed the
army and the Rancheros did it, and that
they could not control them." Our brave
old General replied, "I am coming over
and I'll control them for you!"

During the evening active preparations
were made for crossing the troops. No
reply was given to the General's propo-
sition. The country people commenced
crossing to us, and reported that the army
had deserted the city and retired. On the
morning of the 18th confirmation was re-
ceived of the reported flight of Arista and
his army. The sear was still working.
Early in the morning the Dragoons, the
light companies of the different battalions,
Ridgely's (late the lamented Ringgold's)
Artillery, and the 4th infantry, were
crossed.

I regret to record that in the crossing
Lieut. Stevens of the 2d Dragoons drown-
ed. He was a fine young officer, much
beloved by his regiment, and his death
threw a gloom over the army. For what
singular destinies are we reserved, and
how certainly and irresistibly one has to
advance to fulfil his fate! He was a-
mong those gallant fellows who stared
death in the face, in the late brilliant
charge of Capt. May, at the battle of
Resaca de la Palma. With bells scatter-

ing around him in every direction his life
was saved, only to be delivered up in a
few days in the waters of the Bravo.

The General decided upon crossing the
rest of us at the upper ferry of the city.
As we approached the ferry we saw our
boys in possession of the Fort, and rapidly
engaged in preparing to run up our
flag. Just as we reached the bank, Capt.
Kerr of the 2d Dragoons, ran it up; it
floated gracefully in the breeze, and
proudly waved over Mexico. The men
of the advance sent up three hearty cheers
to welcome the flag of their country!—
Perhaps, Mr. "Spirit," those cheers
were some! There was a rope stretched
across the river, and three boats manned
by Mexicans, ready to transport us.—
We had the felicity of being ferried across
by the enemy! As we landed, the compan-
ies formed and awaited the arrival of
the others. When the whole of the 3d
Regiment was formed, it moved off to
the tune of "yankee doodle!" Did you
hear it Mr. "Spirit?" I reckon you never
did in a foreign land, just conquered, by
good, honest hard blows! If you did,
you never heard such an honest cheer as
arose from the gallant fellows on the op-
posite bank, when the drum and fife
gave us this air which fills at all times,
an American's breast with the purest
patriotism! All was excitement, and
every one boiling over with "amor
patriae!" It was a proud day for the
American army. Citizens in any num-
ber came down to see us. Many of
them, who ten days ago would have cut
our throats, were now apparently our
warmest friends, shook our hands heartily
and cried lustily, "Amigo!"

We here saw some signs of the hurry
in which Arista had left. As we landed
near the Fort, boxes of destroyed ammu-
nition presented themselves, and it was
rumored, and has since been confirmed,
that two pieces of cannon had been thrown
into the river. The army left during the
day and night of the 17th, most precipi-
tately, taking with them, as appears, 11
pieces of artillery, and anything but a
large supply of ammunition. Our victo-
ry is more complete than we claimed
credit for. The citizens say that Arista
had not over 3,000 men with him. What
has become of the remainder of the
7,000? The bloody battle of the 8th and
9th, and the "whirlpools of the Bravo"
can tell the tale.

Our Brigade encamped within half a
mile of the city. We had indulged the
hope of being quartered in it, but our
worthy General saw fit to direct other-
wise. Women, they say, are all curiosi-
ty, but if they felt more than we had to
see in that city, I say God help them. We
had encamped but a short time, before a
party of us rode up to gratify the con-
suming passion. Never have I been more
disappointed—never did distance more
thoroughly "lend enchantment to the
view." The Matamoras, as seen from
Fort Brown is not the Matamoras we
hold. As it may be interesting to you, I
will try to give you some idea of the
city.

I first rode up to the Plaza, which is
quite a large square surrounded by china
trees. The houses surrounding the
square are of brick or stone, the lower
parts used as stores, or offices, and the
second story as dwellings. They have
the appearance of defensive works.—
Streets diverge from the Plaza, and are
again crossed by others. The cathedral
occupies a large space on one side of the
square, and is an unfinished mass of ma-
sonary. Directly opposite to the cath-
edral is the Prison. Properly situated,
"the poison and the antelope." There
are a great many stores and quite a large
market house, which I am told is well
supplied.

I went to visit the different hospitals.
They are filled with the wounded and
dying. The stench that arose from them
from the want of police, was disgusting.
You could tell at a glance the wounded of
Palo Alto or De Resaca de la Palma.—
The latter were mostly bullet wounds,
whereas the amputated limbs told of the
cannon's fearful execution in the former.
Beside one poor fellow a beautiful girl of
17 was seated keeping off the flies. She
was his wife. In another corner, a fami-
ly group, the mother and her children,
were seated by their wounded father. One
bright eyed little girl quite took my fancy,
and my heart led to think that thus early
she should be introduced to so much
wretchedness. On one bed was a corpse;
on another was one dying, holding in his
hand the grape shot that had passed
through his breast. He showed it to us
with a sad countenance. I left the hospi-
tal shocked with the horrors of war.
The army have left their wounded com-
rades with very little attention to their
wants.

I then rode all round the city. As you
leave the Plaza the houses become more
detached, with yards around them; some
with flowers and other pretty shrubs to
ornament them. As a whole, it is cer-
tainly the meanest looking, filthiest city
I have ever seen. The greater part of
the genteel population have left, and in
about one house in three, among the hum-
ble class, one of the family was diligently
searching the heads of the others. They
do say that they are some for lice, and this

very sight set my head itching to such a
degree that I was not satisfied until I
reached the camp.

Col. Twigg has had the especial charge
of the city, as far as the discovery and the
collection of the public property is con-
cerned. The General has declined inter-
fering with the municipal authorities.
The worthy Colonel has a way of his
own, in throwing his mantle of protection
and *fidelity* over all, and Mr.
Prefect has often felt the effect of it. He
has carried on his examination with the
greatest energy and success. He has
discovered several pieces of small ord-
nance, all kinds of munitions of war, in
the greatest abundance, an immense num-
ber of muskets, the greatest quantity of
cigars and tobacco, a large quantity of
corn and lumber. The Prefect testified
no great willingness to make discoveries
or disclosures, but the Colonel was too
much for him. The quantity of the mu-
nition of war, collected here is immense;
our seizure cannot amount in value to less
than \$175,000. I put that down as the
least. The greatest quantity of cigars,
tobacco and cigarettes were seized. The
Government enjoys the monopoly of the
sale of tobacco; and immense revenue is
derived from it. You may imagine how
great it is, when they sell the plain leaf at
SIX CENTS PER OUNCE!

These munitions of war have been col-
lecting here since Santa Anna's invasion
of Texas. Large quantities of anchors
were discovered, intended to be used in
anchoring boats and bridges, upon which
to cross their armies upon their advance
into Texas. They have brought them to
rather a bad market. This Northern
Army must be completely broken up; I
do not think they can supply themselves
short of Vera Cruz or Mexico. There
will be no more fighting at present you
may rest assured. We have left such
marks upon them that they cannot soon
forget us.

I cannot but again repeat, that we all
feel proud that this has been the work of
the Army proper. We were all well a-
ware of the undeserved remarks that had
been made in reference to us by some
portions of the press, and we only asked
for an opportunity, small as we were, to
prove to our country that she had a safe
anchor, in our small but gallant force.—
By far the great majority of the officers
were graduates of the Military Academy;
all did their duty, and many distinguish-
ed themselves by their skill and thorough
knowledge of their profession—all arising
from the instruction received at that best
of military institutions, the West Point
Academy. In the hour of our country's
danger, she will always prove her use-
fulness, and her graduates will show to their
country and the world, that the money
expended in the education of so talented
a corps of officers has not been thrown
away. Richly will she be repaid for
every cent expended. Our Alma Mater
may be proud of her sons; conspicuously
have they shown themselves soldiers,
upon the field of battle. Away hereafter
with opposition to an institution that
reflects credit upon our country and turns
forth into the world, yearly, a class of
young gentlemen fitted for any walk in
life.

I have paid a second visit to the city,
spite of its filth. In company with Lieut.
S. I called upon Mr. B———, an Amer-
ican merchant; he was very polite to
us, and offered to go with us and show us
the town. This day being a church day
the municipal regulations make it a fine
of \$25 to open your store; Mr.
B——— told us that, had we not
been in possession of the town, his doors
would have been closed. We first went
to the City Prison. It is a building of
very thick walls, with a large interior
area, along which were the prison rooms.
The fifth and stench about it was disgust-
ing. There were very few prisoners.
In the second story of the magazines, of
arms is the Hall of justice. It is a room
occupying the whole depth of the build-
ing. At the lower end is a railing enclos-
ing the seats for the Judges and jury;
in the centre of the enclosure was a large
table covered with red cloth, with three
arm-chairs for the Judges' seat were sus-
pended, in a frame, the arms of Mexico;
on each side along the walls, were six
seats, covered with crimson velvet, for
the Jury. We were told that we were in
the "holy of holies," and that if we had
entered in this manner this legal sanctu-
ary two weeks ago, death would have been
the least of our sufferings.

Some of our officers told us that they
had seen a magnificent Spanish saddle
valued at \$400. We took the liberty of
going to see it, and the gentleman ov-
er politely asked us up into his parlor
and gave us a peep at it. The pommel
and cantel were of solid silver. It was
richly worked with silver in every part.
The gentleman had a very com-
fortable house. Three large rooms run-
ning along in front of the house opened into each
other. They were neatly furnished;
paintings and a piano gave evidence of
taste and refinement. Their areas and
their walls take my eye; they must make
their houses deliciously cool.

We then went to the unfinished Cath-
edral, a room of which has been fitted up
in which to perform their religious cere-