

# 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, DECEMBER 8, 1846.

Vol. 5.—No. 4.

## THE PRINTER.

Who is it—gentle reader, who,  
That labors hard in pleasing you,  
By telling all that's strange and new?  
The Printer.

Who is it brings you from a far,  
Intelligence of bloody war,  
Of feats of some immortal tar?  
The Printer.

Who tells you of the affairs of State,  
When Legislators legislate,  
And are engaged in warm debate?  
The Printer.

Who is it with strict and rule,  
Chastises well the knave and fool;  
And keeps at awe the party cool?  
The Printer.

By whom is it that learning's got,  
And genius to perfection brought—  
Oh! reader, say—say is it not?  
The Printer.

Say, ye who always wish to know  
How the concerns of nations go—  
Whom do you for that knowledge owe?  
The Printer.

Ye politicians too can tell  
Who makes you understand so well  
The affairs on which you love to dwell—  
The Printer.

Then, reader, why should you delay,  
(Though many do from day to day,)  
With punctuality to PAY  
The Printer.

## Bombardment of Tabasco.

The New Orleans Picayune has been furnished, by an officer of the Navy who was engaged in the affair of Tabasco, with the annexed summary and sketch of the proceedings of Com. PERRY, with the detachment of vessels sent under him against Tabasco. The enterprise (the Picayune says) was altogether successful.—The object of the expedition was to cut out certain prizes anchored in the river. These were all taken. When the city was summoned to surrender, the people were all in favor of yielding at once.—The Governor and soldiery opposed it.—Time was given for all peaceable persons, women and children, to get out of harm's way; but the Governor would not allow any one to leave, so that it is feared most of those killed during the bombardment were not soldiers. Some of the regulars were killed. Had it not been that the execution was principally done upon innocent persons, the city would have been demolished, with the exception of the residences of foreign consuls and the hospitals.

The squadron consisted of the Mississippi, Com. Perry; Vixen, Commander Sands; Bonita, Lieutenant Commanding Benham; Reeler, Lieutenant Street; Nonita, Lieutenant Hazard; revenue steamer McLane, Capt. Howard; revenue cutter Forward, Captain Nones; 200 seamen and marines from the Reeler and Cumberland, under command of Capt. Forrest, Lieutenants Gist Winslow Walsh and Hunt; Capt. Edson and Lieut. Adams of the Marines. They left Anton Lizardo on the 16th of October, and arrived at Frontera on the 23d. Captured steamers Petrita and Tabasco, and several small vessels. On the 24th and 25th ascended the river seventy-two miles to Tabasco; the current very rapid; towed by the Petrita and Vixen; passed Devil's Turn at 2 P. M.; landed and spiked four 24-pounders. Arrived off Tabasco at 6 P. M., and anchored in line ahead, distant 150 yards from the shore. Summoned the city to surrender. Governor refused.—Fired three shots from the Vixen—one cut down the flag-staff of the fort, and as the colors fell, we thought that they had surrendered. An officer came off with a request that we would spare their hospitals, which was granted. At 5 o'clock landed 200 seamen and marines, but, as it was too late to attack the fort, they were ordered on board. Some skirmishing ensued, but none of us were hurt. This was Sunday, and the Commodore was somewhat reluctant to commence the attack on that day. Captured one brig, three schooners, and one large sloop; also captured one schooner before we arrived at Frontera, and another on our passage up the river; making in all one brig, five schooners, two steamers, one sloop, and many small craft and lighters. Monday, 26th, at daylight, a sharp fire of musketry from shore, which was returned by our great guns, firing at the flash. The firing was continued for some time at intervals, when a white flag was shown by the civilians on shore, no doubt with the consent of the Governor. Sent off a petition to the Commodore to spare the town, which he granted, adding that he only de-

sired to fight the soldiery. Got the prizes under weigh, and made every preparation for returning—white flag flying all the while. Lieut. W. A. Parker got ashore with his prize vessel near the city, and was attacked by about eighty soldiers, whom he beat off with about eighteen men losing only one and having but two wounded. This affair lasted thirty minutes.—Lieut. C. W. Morris was dispatched to him with orders, and passing the heavy fire of the enemy, was wounded in the neck by a musket ball. Lieut. Morris stood up in his boat and cheered the men most gallantly, until he fell in the arms of Midshipman Cheever, who was with him. The Commodore then commenced cannonading in earnest from the Vixen, Bonita, and Forward, and in the space of half or three-fourths of an hour almost demolished the city—spraying the houses of the foreign Consuls and such as appeared to be inhabited by peaceful citizens.

At about midday the fleet left Tabasco, and, as it passed the different streets at right angles with the water, fired musketry and great guns, and swept them completely of every living thing. All the prizes were saved with the exception of one, which was burnt by the Commodore's order, it having been found impossible to get her clear of the "Devil's Turn," a rapid in the river.

Arrived at Frontera on Sunday at midnight—inhabitants all peaceful—having been kept in awe during our absence by Lieut. Walsh and his command.

The revenue steamer McLane struck while attempting to pass the bar, and did not succeed in getting over until after the affair at Tabasco and the return of the vessels. Her marines, under Lieut. Brown, were on board the Petrita. During the 25th and 26th all the prizes were duly dispatched and arrived at Anton Lizardo.—The Petrita, on her return under command of Lieut. Best, captured the American brig Plymouth, Capt. Parkerson, engaged in discharging cotton at Alvarado bar.

Lieut. Morris died on the 1st instant on board the Cumberland, and was buried with the honors of war at Lizardo.

It will be seen by reading this cursory report that the Commodore spared the city from humane considerations. The inhabitants could not leave, as the Governor would not permit them; hence they sought refuge in cellars during the cannonade, and thus escaped destruction. Had it not been that we should have been obliged to kill many innocent persons before taking the city, Tabasco at this moment would have been ours. As it is, we have paid them dearly for the shot that deprived us of Lieut. Morris. Long will they remember our visit and dread the return of the Americans.

The Mexican force was three hundred and fifty regular troops, with four pieces of cannon, besides an unknown number of armed peasants; all of whom were posted in strong military works, or in the occupation of stone or brick houses, hence we could only reach them with our great guns and at every disadvantage.

The following vessels were at Anton Lizardo on the 8th of November: Flagship Cumberland, frigates Reeler and Potomac, steamers Mississippi and Princeton, together with the gunboats and six prize vessels. The St. Mary's and Somers blockading Vera Cruz, Porpoise at Tampico, the McLane inside the bar at Tabasco, and the Forward blockading Tabasco. The McLane will get out on high tide.

Lieut. Renshaw came up from the squadron under orders to Pensacola next day. Health of the squadron perfectly good.

There is a Mexican force of from five to six thousand men at Alvarado. They have placed across the mouth of the river three strong chain cables, and sunk vessels on the bar. It would be entirely useless to attempt to place again by a naval force.

## Latest from Monterey.

The steamship Massachusetts arrived at New Orleans on the 16th instant, from Brasos Santiago, having left there the afternoon of the 13th instant. She took out to Brasos troops from New York.

Capt. LAMOTTE, of the 1st Infantry, came over on her. He was severely wounded at Monterey, but we were happy to find him in the finest spirits, and he is doing well. He left Monterey on 3d, instant, and our private advices come down to the 2d.

The gallant Major LEAR, of the 3d Infantry, has died of his wounds. He was buried on the 1st inst.

Gen. WOOL had communicated with Gen. TAYLOR on two occasions. It would appear that the former has detached one thousand men from his command to take possession of Monclova, and with the other two thousand proceeded on his march to Chihuahua. It seemed to be regretted that Gen. Taylor, from motives perhaps of delicacy, refrained from entering in any way with Gen. Wool's plans. It is conceded that the latter's troops can be more serviceable south of Chihuahua, which does not require so large a force for its subjection.

We have no definite knowledge of Gen. Taylor's plans, but may state that the prevailing impression among officers is that

Tampico is to be the next point of attack. From Monterey we learn from an authentic source that nothing of public interest had transpired since our last dates.

[Picayune.]

## LATE FROM MEXICO.

By way of Havana, the N. Y. Sun has received intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 1st inst. Gen. Rejon, Minister of Foreign Relations, and Gen. Pacheco, Minister of Justice, have resigned their respective offices. The vacancies thus caused have been filled by the appointments of Gen. Lafregno and Gen. Ladron de Guevara. The State of San Luis Potosi has pronounced against Salas, declaring that Santa Anna, or some one appointed by him, ought to assume the Government. Don Felix Rivas, bearing a commission for Government, came passenger in the Tay to Havana. His destination is supposed to be London or Paris, to solicit foreign aid.

Several attempts of assassination have been made against Gen. Salas, and other recent threats have been made, in consequence of which he left the Capital on the 25th ult., for Tacubaya, where he will remain in the house of Senor Flores.—President Salas was escorted from the city of Mexico by the troops stationed at the Capitol. These will also remain with him as a life-guard at Tacubaya.

An account of the attempt on Gen. Salas' life was forwarded to Santa Anna by an Extraordinary Express, which travelled from the Capitol to San Luis Potosi, at the rate of 12 miles an hour—extraordinary, indeed, for Mexican horses.

GEN. SANTA ANNA TO GEN. ALMONTE.  
To his Excellency the Minister of War:

SIR:—By the reception of your circular of the 19th inst., I have learned with extreme regret that our foreign enemies, by means of disguised agents, attempted on the evening of that day a serious outrage, from which it appears that they were endeavoring to dispossess his Excellency of the supreme executive power, which circumstance gave rise to a series of alarms, and would have produced the most disastrous consequences, had it not been opportunely discovered at the moment.

I rejoice exceedingly that tranquility and public confidence remain firmly established in this State, and conforming myself to the wishes of the Supreme Government, I shall take good care that it is well preserved. I beg leave to assure your Excellency, on the part of myself and the troops under my command, that no other thought is given place to here except a desire for revenge against our foreign enemy—to fulfil our obligations to the country, and to repel the suggestions of those who endeavor to distract us from such noble objects. I have the honor to reiterate to your Excellency my consideration and high respect.

God and Liberty. Head-Quarters, San Luis Potosi, Oct. 23d, 1846.

ANTONIA LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,  
Mexico, Oct. 23, 1846. [A true copy.]  
MANUEL MARIA DE SANDOVAL.

The following is translated from "El Diario del Gobierno," of Mexico, of Oct. 27th:

"It is said that the American steamships at Isla Verdo have only coal for a few days; that the crews of the squadron are mostly sick with the scurvy; & that the Government have already spent \$75,000,000 in the war. To delay is a triumph on our part, as we have before said; and if we are only fortunate enough to hinder our enemy a little longer by skirmishes, and other obstacles, we shall soon see them retire from our country."

A flag of truce from the United States squadron to Vera Cruz, conveyed the thanks of our Government for the attention bestowed upon the officers and crew of the Traxton, while prisoners in Mexico, and announced the acceptance of the proposition to liberate Gen. Vega and other Mexican prisoners in the United States.

The "National Guard" were pouring into Vera Cruz. Every means that ingenuity can devise, are adopted to excite the people in favor of the war.

## PAINFUL OPERATION.

A few days since, Dr. Wagoner, Senator from Union County, had the entire arm with portions of the collar bone and shoulder blade removed in consequence of a malignant disease, arising from injuries received some time since by being thrown from a sulkey. The operation was performed at the Merchants' Hotel, in this city, by Dr. David Gilbert, of Gettysburg, Professor of Surgery at the Pennsylvania Medical College. Gilbert street. Dr. Wagoner bore the intense pain of the operation with perfect heroism, and is now doing well, with every prospect of recovery.

The Vermont Legislature previous to adjournment, passed resolutions that Vermont will not give her assent to the admission of any new State into the Union whose constitution establishes slavery.

## [N. O. Times, November 17.] Late and important from Mexico.

The brig Hayne arrived here yesterday from Havana, bringing us files of papers from that port to the 7th inst. On the previous day, the 6th, the British steamer Tay arrived at Havana from Tampico and Vera Cruz, with \$683,900 in specie. The Tay left the last named port on the 1st instant, and brought full files of papers from the city of Mexico to the 27th ult., and from Vera Cruz to the 31st.

SANTA ANNA.—Official information had been received at the city of Mexico from Santa Anna, that he was daily concentrating a large force at San Luis de Potosi; and were then announced as being about 20,000 men.

TAMPICO.—We have received dates from Tampico to the 24th ult. Letters announce that on the following day, the 25th, the whole of the troops in garrison there were to evacuate the place and take up the line of march for San Luis de Potosi, whither they were ordered, for the purpose of forming a junction with the main body of the Mexican forces under Santa Anna. The citizens of Tampico, in view of the defenceless state of the town, and the dread of a hostile visit from our land and sea forces, were leaving in great numbers.

San Luis Potosi had declared against Gen. Salas, Acting President of Mexico, in favor of Santa Anna.

On the 21st of October Gen. Ampudia arrived at San Luis Potosi, and on the following day the first brigade of his division. This puts a quietus, if any were needed, to the report of his movement against Gen. Wool. A Vera Cruz paper says that in San Luis the enthusiasm for the war prevails, and whether the American advance or not, there will soon be a decisive battle, which we are persuaded will be favorable to us.

VOLUNTEERS.—Immense numbers of men are said to be rallying around the National standard. The accounts received at the Capitol from all Departments are said to be most encouraging to Santa Anna. Several companies of volunteers, said to be composed of the principal citizens of the city of Mexico, have been organized to garrison it. Besides, upwards of one thousand artisans had volunteered for the same purpose.

SAN LUIS POTOSI.—Santa Anna has resolved on drawing the whole military strength of the country to one point. Not only are the regular soldiers, who are usually scattered over an immense extent of territory, ordered to march to that point—San Luis Potosi—but all the volunteers and militia are enjoined to rendezvous there marching with an overwhelming force, in any direction where the invading army is most assailable.

He has decided on abandoning Tampico without making any resistance, as he has no disposable force to garrison it, and by evacuating it he shall strengthen his own army, and weaken Gen. Taylor's, who will be obliged to detach a considerable body of troops to take possession of and hold it.

We append the following extract of a letter, dated

VERA CRUZ, Oct. 31.

A conducta arrived at Mexico on the 20th inst. from Guanajuato, with about \$1,200,000, so that money was again abundant there. Another has left San Luis Potosi on the 16th inst. for Tampico, with upwards of a million. The British sloop Electra has sailed to Tampico, probably on purpose to receive on board the specie for shipment. Two private conductas arrived here from Mexico, with silver bars and about 200,000 hard dollars.

## The Outrages at Nauvoo.

Extract from a private letter to the Editor of the New York Tribune, dated

ILLINOIS, Nov. 5, 1846.

"Gov. Ford is now at Nauvoo. That city and county is suffering under the effects of the lawless movements which have been carried on there for the last few years. I was there two days after the mob entered the city, and a more desolate looking place was never seen. Out of probably 2,500 houses, not more than 40 or 50 seemed to be occupied.

"The mob had a guard there of over 100 men, under a committee of public safety, before whom every person they disliked was summoned, and ordered to leave the county, not to return under pain of death. They drove off many of the most respectable and wealthy, and prudent men of the State, at the point of the bayonet. They pillaged houses at pleasure, and insulted women and children without hesitation, and under the pretence of being 'law and order men.' For many miles around the city, in every direction, nearly every farm house was abandoned, the fences were thrown down, and the crops at the mercy of cattle and hogs, and 'law and order' men. Such scenes were never heard of in a civilized country."

## Gen. Ampudia and Taylor.

The interview between Gen. Taylor and Ampudia, in relation to the capitulation of Monterey, has been described to the N. O. Delta, by a gentleman who was present, as a very rich scene, in which the two chief actors were in fine contrast.

Ampudia was all courtesy and fine words, big speeches, great volubility, with an abundance of gesticulation, shrugs, nods, alternate smiles and frowns, and that whole catalogue of silent language with which persons of French origin are wont to help the expression of their ideas. Gen. Ampudia is of a French family, and was born in the West Indies.

Gen. Taylor, on the other hand, was as dry as a chip, as plain as a pipe-stem, and as short as piecrust. Dressed in his best coat; (which, by-the-by, looks as if it had served half-a-dozen campaigns,) with his glazed oil-cloth cap, strapless pants, and old-fashioned white vest, he looked more like an old farmer, lately elected militia colonel, who had put on his every-day suit, with the slightest imaginable sign of military toggery, to distinguish him from a crowd of mere civilians. In his reply to Ampudia's long harangues, he used such direct, blunt, and emphatic language, that the valorous Mexican was thrown all aback and "had nothing to say."

Ampudia opened the interview by stating that his forces were too large to be conquered by Gen. Taylor's army—that he had an abundance of ammunition, 7,000 infantry and 3,000 cavalry, with 40 cannon, and the best artillerists in the world—that his loss was very small; and he felt confident that he could defend the city against a much stronger force than that under Gen. Taylor's command; but that, from motives of humanity—to spare the effusion of blood—to save the lives of helpless women and children—he was willing so far to compromise the glory of the great Mexican nation as to surrender the city, provided he was allowed to retire with his whole force, and carry the public property with him, and all the arms and munitions of war. When he had finished his magnificent oration, which, in the style of his celebrated proclamation, was garmented with numerous allusions to the suspended power and undimmed glory and renown of magnificent Mexico, old Zack quietly stuck his hands deep into his breeches pockets, cocked his head a little on one side, and gently raising his grizzled eyebrows, that the bold little black eye lurking beneath might have full play upon the grandiloquent Mexican replied in these few but expressive words:

"Gen. Ampudia, we came here to take Monterey, and we are going to do it on such terms as please us. I wish you good morning." And the old General hobbled off on his two short little legs, leaving the Mexican General and staff in the profoundest bewilderment.

## THE REVOLUTION.

The political changes exhibited in the results of the elections which have been held during the present year, are so numerous and decisive as to indicate beyond all question that a complete and general revolution in public opinion has taken place. It is in vain that the administration presses attribute the defeats of their party to local or incidental causes: they are the evident results of a spontaneous movement of the great body of the people. The broad seal of public censure has been distinctly placed upon the policy of the Government, and this not, in a season of excitement, nor under the pressure of a commercial and financial crisis, but at a time when circumstances, of which the organs of the administration have not failed to avail themselves, singularly favored our antagonists. The agricultural population were told that the high prices they were obtaining for their produce were the legitimate consequences of the Tariff of '45 England it was insisted came to us for supplies because we had consented to open our ports to her manufacturers. But the farmers of the United States are not the credulous fools which the incapables at Washington supposed them to be. They saw that fierce necessity had compelled all Europe to look to our well filled granaries as the only resource against famine; and could not see that by supplying the operatives of England with bread which they could get nowhere else, we conferred upon them the right to supply us with thousands of articles which we could make as well at home, in the manufacture of which hundreds of millions of capital were invested, and upon the prosecution of which some three millions of people were dependent for support.

Let not the locofocos lay the flattering unction to their souls, that subsidiary causes have brought about the late political revolution. It is a mighty popular movement, provoked by the imbecility and daring profligacy of the federal administration; and it is but the precursor of a more tremendous demonstration of popular power in 1848.—*Lon. Herald.*

The Hon. R. J. Ingersoll, our new Minister to Russia, sailed from New York on Monday, in the packet ship Burgundy, for Havre. He was accompanied by his son, Col. C. M. Ingersoll.

## MEXICAN LETTERS OF MARQUE.

The last New Orleans "Bulletin" states as an important item in the recent intelligence from the city of Mexico, that letters from thence as late as the 30th ultimo, from the best sources, announce the issuing of a large number of Letters-of-marque Commissions, which have been forwarded to Havana, together with blank patents for naturalizing the crews of such vessels as may accept the commissions. This information (the Bulletin further says) is confirmed by letters from Havana, which say that Don FELIX RIVERA, who arrived there in the last steamer from Vera Cruz, is the bearer of these commissions, and the object of his mission is to endeavor to put them into effect. It is, however, stated that the Spanish authorities will do all they can to prevent it, but that there are so many desperate characters and slave-traders about Havana that it is possible they may elude all the precautions adopted by the authorities. Our Government ought immediately to strengthen the Gulf Squadron by numerous small fast-sailing cruisers, to nip the plan in the bud, if any of these privateers should be fitted out.—*N. Intelligencer.*

The Union takes occasion to glorify the Administration under every phase of its tortuous and vacillating course of action. When Gov. MARCY declared that no more troops were necessary for the prosecution of the war, the Union was ready to compliment the economical spirit of its masters. That decision was, opinion, the very best evidence of its profound statesmanship!

And now the Administration has stultified itself in that opinion; and before the letter of the Secretary of War in which it was embodied, is cold, an order is issued for 8000 additional troops! In publishing this order, the Union complacently observes:—

"This movement appears to be little in conformity with the policy, latterly assigned to the federal press and its scribes, of 'masterly inactivity.'"

This is certainly cool! The Whig press, in answer to the fulsome adulations which the twaddler of the Union heaped upon those who have hired him to do such work, but said what the course of the Administration itself has shown to be true, that more men would be found necessary to carry on the war vigorously.—This every intelligent man saw and proclaimed at the very moment the fact was denied by the Secretary of War. That functionary, by the advice of the President, has only now done what every one said a month ago would have to be done.—*Albany Journal.*

## The Next Congress.

The Washington Union in making an estimate of parties, before the recent election, conceded to the Whigs 166 members of the House, to 124 locofocos. In this estimate New York was set down as 7 Whigs to 17 Locos, New Jersey as 13 Whigs to 2 Locos, and Ohio as 11 to 10. Correcting these errors by adding six to the Whigs in New York, one in New Jersey and one in Ohio, makes the Whig strength 114 and the Locos 115. This gives the Locos but two majority in the House. The Whigs have, however, a very fair chance to gain one in Vermont, one or two in Maryland, and two in Virginia, with an equally good prospect of two in Indiana. So that the probabilities are very strongly in favor of the Whigs having a clear majority in the next Congress—a very important matter to them should the election of the next President of the United States happen to be thrown into the House!

The number of steamboats built at Pittsburg, Pa., during the past year, will average one per week.

ROBBERIES AT YORK.—Robbers are busy at York, Pa. On Thursday night last they entered the Washington House, stole a dozen silver spoons, opened Mr. Lewis Miller's trunk, from which they took about \$18 in ancient coins, gathered in Europe, and then decamped. On the same night they entered the dwelling of Mr. E. Erb, but slept before obtaining any thing.

NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS.—The first regiment of Volunteers, under Colonel WARD B. BURNETT, have been ordered to be mustered into the service of the United States, under the recent requisition from Washington upon the Governor of the State of New York. This regiment belongs to the city of New York.

It will rejoice the heart of every true Whig to learn that the Hon. GEORGE E. BADGER, Secretary of the Navy under President HARRISON, has been elected by the Legislature of the State of North Carolina to be a Senator of the United States, to fill the vacancy in the Senate occasioned by the resignation of Mr. HAYWOOD.—*N. Intelligencer.*