

SOMERSET HERALD.

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DESPATCH FROM GEN. SCOTT.

The following interesting despatch from General Scott, has been received at the War Department, and officially published:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, PLAN DEL RIO, 50 MILES FROM VERA CRUZ, April 19, 1847. SIR: The plan of attack, sketched in General Orders No. 111, [published in Saturday's National Intelligencer,] herewith, was finely executed by this gallant army before two o'clock P. M. yesterday. We are quite embarrassed with the results of victory—prisoners of war, heavy ordnance, field batteries, small arms, and accoutrements. About 3,000 men laid down their arms, with the usual proportion of field and company officers, besides five generals, several of them of great distinction. Pinson, Jarrero, La Vega, Noriega, and Olando. A sixth general, Vasquez, was killed in defending the battery (tower) in the rear of the whole Mexican army, the capture of which gave us those glorious results.

Our loss, though comparatively small in numbers, has been serious. Brigadier General Shields, a commander of activity, zeal and talent, is, I fear, if not dead, mortally wounded. He is some five miles from me at this moment. The field of operations covered many miles, broken by mountains and deep chasms, and I have not a report as yet from any division or brigade. Twigg's division, followed by Shields's (now Col. Baker's) brigade, are now at or near Xalapa, and Worth's division is in route thither, all pursuing, with good results, as I learn, that part of the Mexican army—perhaps six or seven thousand men, who fled before our right had carried the tower, and gained the Xalapa road. Pillow's brigade alone is near me at this depot of wounded, sick, and prisoners, and I have time only to give from him the names of 1st Lieutenant F. B. Nelson, and 2d G. G. Gill, both of the 2d Tennessee foot, (Haskell's regiment,) among the killed, and in the brigade 10th, of all ranks, killed or wounded. Among the latter the gallant Brigadier General himself has a smart wound in the arm, but not disabled, and Major R. Farqueson, 2d Tennessee; Captain H. F. Murray, 2d Lieut. G. T. Sutherland, 1st Lieut. W. P. Hale, (adjutant,) all of the same regiment, severely, and 1st Lieut. W. Yearwood, mortally wounded. And I know from personal observation on the ground, that 1st Lieut. Ewell, of the rifles, if not now dead, was mortally wounded, in entering, sword in hand, the entrenchments around the captured tower. Second Lieut. Derby, topographical engineer, I also saw at the same place, severely wounded, and Captain Patten, 2d United States infantry, lost his right hand. Major Sumner, 2d United States dragoons, was slightly wounded the day before, and Captain Johnston, topographical engineer, (now lieutenant colonel of infantry,) was very severely wounded some days earlier while reconnoitering. I must not omit to add that Captain Mason and 2d Lieutenant Davis, both of the rifles, were among the very severely wounded in storming the same tower. I estimate our total loss, in killed and wounded, may be about 250 and that of the enemy 350. In the pursuit towards Xalapa (25 miles hence) I learn we have added much to the enemy's loss in prisoners, killed, and wounded. In fact, I suppose his retreating army to be nearly disorganized, and hence my haste to follow, in an hour or two, to profit by events.

In this hurried and imperfect report I must not omit to say that Brigadier General Twigg, in passing the mountain range beyond Cerro Gordo, crowned with the tower, detached from his division, as I suggested the day before, a strong force to carry that height, which commanded the Xalapa road at the foot, and could not fail, if carried, to cut off the whole, or any part of the enemy's forces from a retreat in any direction. A portion of the 1st artillery, under command of distinguished Brevet Col. Childs, the 3d infantry, under Captain Alexander, the 7th infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel Plymton, and the rifles, under Major Loring, all under the temporary command of Colonel Harney, 2d dragoons, during the confinement to his bed of Brevet Brigadier General P. F. Smith, composed that detachment. The style of execution, which I had the pleasure to witness, was

most brilliant and decisive. The brigade ascended the long and difficult slope of Cerro Gordo, without shelter, and under the tremendous fire of artillery and musketry, with the utmost steadiness, reached the breastworks, drove the enemy from them, planted the colors of the 1st artillery, 2d and 7th infantry—the enemy's flag still flying—and, after some minutes of sharp firing, finished the conquest with the bayonet.

It is a most pleasing duty to say that the highest praise is due to Harney, Childs, Plymton, Loring, Alexander, their gallant officers and men, for their brilliant service, independent of the great results which soon followed.

Worth's division of regulars coming up at this time, he detached Brevet Lieutenant Colonel C. F. Smith, with his light battalion, to support the assault, but not in time. The General, reaching the tower a few minutes before me, and observing a white flag displayed from the nearest portion of the enemy towards the batteries below, sent out Colonels Harney and Childs to hold a parley. The surrender followed in an hour or two.

Major General Patterson left sick bed to share in the dangers and fatigues of the day, and, after the surrender, went forward to command the advanced forces towards Xalapa.

Brigadier General Pillow and his brigade twice assaulted with great daring the enemy's line of batteries on our left, and, though without success, they contributed much to distract and dismay their immediate opponents.

President Santa Anna, with Generals Canalizo and Almonte, and some six or eight thousand men, escaped towards Xalapa just before Cerro Gordo was carried, and before Twigg's division reached the national road above.

I have determined to parole the prisoners—officers and men—as I have not the means of feeding them here beyond to-day, and cannot afford to detach a heavy body of horse and foot, with wagons, to accompany them to Vera Cruz. Our baggage train, though increasing is not yet half large enough to give an assured progress to this army. Besides, a greater number of prisoners would, probably, escape from the escort in the long and deep sandy road, without subsistence—ten to one—that we shall find again, out of the same body of men, in the ranks opposed to us. Not one of the Vera Cruz prisoners is believed to have been in the lines of Cerro Gordo. Some six of the officers, highest in rank, refuse to give their paroles, except to go to Vera Cruz, and thence, perhaps, to the United States.

The small arms and their accoutrements being of no value to our army here or at home, I have ordered them to be destroyed; for we have not the means of transporting them. I am also somewhat embarrassed with the—pieces of artillery—all bronze—which we have captured. It would take a brigade, and half the mules of this army, to transport them fifty miles. A field battery I shall take for service with the army; but the heavy metal must be collected, and left here for the present. We have our own siege-train and the proper carriages with us.

Being much occupied with the prisoners, and all the details of a forward movement, besides looking to the supplies which are to follow from Vera Cruz, I have time to add no more—intending to be at Xalapa early to-morrow. We shall not, probably, again meet with serious opposition this side of Perote—certainly not, unless delayed by the want of the means of transportation.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant. WINFIELD SCOTT.

P. S. I invite attention to the accompanying letter to President Santa Anna, taken in his carriage yesterday; also to his proclamation, issued on hearing that we had captured Vera Cruz, &c., in which he says: "If the enemy advance one step more, the national independence will be buried in abyss of the past." We have taken step.

I make a second postscript, to say that there is some hope, I am happy to learn, that General Shields may survive his wounds. Hon. WM. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

FROM MATAMORAS. The Picayune Extra of the 3d instant has a copy of the American Flag, of the 21st ult. The following is the most important paragraph in it:

Down upon them.—We stated not long ago that Gen. Taylor resolved on a requisition upon the States of New Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, for indemnification for destruction of property of the United States by Mexican robbers, in those departments of Mexico. Since then Col. Cushing has received an order directing him to call the Alcades of this place, and will accordingly pay his respects to their honors this morning. The proportion of this department is \$47,500, and can be liquidated in mules at \$20 a head, beef cattle at \$10, or corn at \$3 per fanega (three bushels). The Alcades here will confer with the authorities of other towns as to the amount of taxable property in their several districts, to serve as data in fixing the proportion of each. The Quartermaster here will receipt for all that may be "forked over."

A WONDERFUL WALK.—Mr. Eaton, nearly eighty years of age, completed on Saturday evening, at Vauxhall, N. York, the wonderful attempt to walk one thousand quarters of a mile in one thousand quarter hours.

PREPARATIONS FOR DEFENCE IN MEXICO.

The Editors of LA PATRIA, a Spanish paper published at New Orleans, have gathered the following intelligence from papers of the city of Mexico to the 10th of April:

In the Monitor of the latest date we find, among the resolutions presented to Congress by three members, (Canas, Garcia, and Zubieta,) and supported by thirteen more members, one in which it is proposed to remove that body to the city of Queretaro; and that a majority of one member will be sufficient for Congress to sit.

Senor Ortega proposed that the Executive should be invested with the necessary powers to adopt whatever measures it should deem proper for the continuance of the war with the invaders of the North; and that Congress should be removed to the city of Tlalapa.

Congress had passed a decree, which is published on the 10th, to the following effect:

1st. In order to carry on the war which our nation wages against the United States of The North, all the Mexicans capable of bearing arms are hereby summoned to enrol themselves immediately.

2d. The Government will publish the necessary rules and instructions in order to make effective the organization of the National Guards, according to what is established in part XIX, article 50th of the constitution.

3d. The Executive may dictate any measures which may be considered necessary in order to use all the arms and ammunition which may be in possession of private individuals, and which may not be employed by the Police or National Guards; also for the use of wagons, baggage, ammunition, and provisions, and any other articles or utensils which may be necessary for the fulfilment of this object, providing always the means of indemnification.

4th. The Government will establish stores of supplies for the subsistence of the national forces, wherever it will deem it convenient or necessary.

Articles 5, 6, and 7 provide the manner in which persons assisting with money or other means for this purpose should be furnished with documents and certificates, and stipulate the different payments allowed to persons enlisting either by the year or during the war.

The meeting of the principal citizens took place on the 8th of April, when they unanimously agreed to establish the "guerrilla" system for resisting the North Americans. These resolutions were made known to the Government and to Congress, and they had already commenced the formation of the respective bodies, in order to start immediately for the mountains, passes, and cliffs. Among the persons signing the propositions, we see the names of many prominent lawyers, military and other public men. The papers have before announced this as the means of saving the nation, and sustaining Mexican independence.

All the papers are filled with appeals to the citizens, and one of them asks, "Can it be possible that among eight millions of Mexicans we cannot find a sufficient number of patriotic and determined men who will resist the enemy that is invading our soil without the least regard to our rights?"

The following is from one of the officers of Capt. Naylor's Company. We copy from the Telegraph:

1st PA. REGIMENT. Wounded—Company A. (Pittsburgh Blues)—Henry Linhart, dangerously wounded; David Lindsey, slightly wounded.

Company C—Sutton, wounded in the side; Richard Sheldon, in the left side;—will probably leave his post.

Company G—Benj. F. Keyser, slightly wounded in the head.

Company K—James Shaw, lost a finger.

Company K. (Duquesne Greys.)—Lovett, slightly wounded.

2d PA. REGIMENT. Company C—John Smith, mortally wounded.

Company F—Edward Cruse, dangerously; John Chambers, of Baltimore, dangerously; Jacob Ham, shot through the left shoulder; Jacob Simms, mortally wounded.

There are many others with slight flesh wounds, but as they are doing well I deem it unnecessary to mention them.

GREAT DISTRESS IN THE ISLAND OF MADEIRA.

Letters from Funchal to March 28th state that there was scarcely a bushel of corn or a barrel of flour to be bought in the Island, and the distress in the rural districts was extreme. The merchants of Funchal had advanced to the municipal authorities \$28,500, and the authorities themselves had contributed \$4,000, all of which was sent to Gibraltar, Lisbon, and London, wherewith to purchase provisions for the starving population; but the returns had not been received.

The Madeira Defensor newspaper of Friday, the 12th March, says: "The dreadful state which our island at this moment presents has not been equalled for many years. All kinds of breadstuffs for sale are entirely finished, and the poorer classes, who had not the means of providing in time, have before them all the horrors of starvation. The few barrels of flour that still could be got are held at \$25. If within the next two or three days some vessels do not arrive with supplies, we shall have to witness some of the most distressing scenes that ever visited a community. We really are afraid to say more!"

[From the Nat. Intelligencer. THE WAR.

Nothing can be more uncertain than, from any information in possession of the public, is the probable duration of the existing War. Rumors on the subject are of various and contradictory import.—When Congress adjourned, it was understood to be the opinion that we should have peace in sixty days. Sixty days have passed, and in that interval of time by one brilliant achievement the fortress at Vera Cruz has been captured, and by another the Mexican army of the North has been almost annihilated. Notwithstanding which, the public demonstrations of the Mexican authorities breathe nothing but vengeance and carnage. All that we can do to enlighten the minds of our readers on the question which must be at this moment more interesting to them than any other whatever, is to communicate to them the impressions of those correspondents of the Democratic press who have, by virtue of their politics, more free access to official sources of information here than we make any pretension to. With this view we present to them the following, as conveying the latest intelligence that we have upon the subject:

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.

WASHINGTON, MAY 4. To conquer Mexico, we must take it in detail; conquer each separate State, and make a separate treaty with each, and keep an army in it for the maintenance of peace. All this will constitute a twenty years' job. Not one officer of the army who has been lately in Mexico, not a single individual who is acquainted with the present condition of things in Mexico predicts or expects a peace. A general officer of the army, who has rendered active services during the war, at the head of the Quartermaster's Department, gives it as his opinion, it is said, that the war will not end for five years. Whatever Santa Anna could at one time have done towards the conclusion of a peace, he is now powerless for that purpose. Were he to conclude a peace to-day, he would lose his power to-morrow.

Correspondence of the New York Globe.

WASHINGTON, MAY 4. We had a rumor in town last evening, resting indeed upon no authority to be relied upon, that Santa Anna, supported by certain prominent members of the Mexican Congress, had submitted propositions for opening negotiations and accommodating the difficulties existing between the two countries. We are told in the face of this rumor that Gen. Jesup, just returned from the seat of war, expresses the opinion that the war has but just begun, and the end, or the time of the end, cannot be conjectured! Gen. Jesup is an able man, of clear judgment, and a brave officer, zealous and industrious in the discharge of duty, and has seen much dangerous service. The opportunities he has had for forming an opinion, during his recent tour of inspection over Mexico, would give to any such opinion much weight and force.

From two Correspondents of the New York Herald.

WASHINGTON, MAY —. A gentleman, late from the seat of war, declares it to be his opinion that Santa Anna will not dare to make peace. Although the gentleman is a very reliable authority, yet it is confidently believed here that Santa Anna, after fighting, will seize the first favorable opportunity for making pacific overtures. Indeed, nothing can be ventured on this extremely doubtful question, with any degree of assurance. It is an absolute uncertainty when the war will terminate; and although the best possible plans have been put in execution for bringing it to a close, yet it is impossible to predict its termination with any certainty. The same rules cannot be applied to Mexico as to any other nation. She is sui generis, and it is vain to vaticinate as to her course.

GALVENSIS.

WASHINGTON, MAY 4. In the absence of any reliable information that the politicians of Mexico are apprized of the state of affairs in the ensuing Congress, we stand fast to the hope that peace may be ours on or before the entry of the American army into the halls of the Montezumas.

The President is sanguine of an immediate peace, and his opinion is doubtless based upon the most authentic information. But, NOUS VERRONS.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

Prior to the Virginia election the Whigs had elected 81 members of the coming Congress, the locofocoes 58. The result of that election increases the Whig strength to 87, and the locofoco force to 68. In the States yet to elect, according to a reasonable calculation in the N. Y. Tribune, the Whigs will probably elect 32 members, and the locofoco 39. If this calculation is realized therefore the next House of Representatives will consist of 118 Whigs and 115 Locofocoes. The Senate will of course still be locofoco. Considering that Mr. Polk had a majority of about seventy in the last House, we should think this result indicates pretty strongly what the people think of his miserable administration.—West Chester Record.

Great sickness prevails among the immigrants at New York from European ports. The Commercial says.—From the 1st to the 16th of this month there have arrived here 14,291 immigrants, or nearly one thousand daily; 164 died on the voyage; and 242 have been admitted into the marine Hospital, making the number now in that institution 390.

"I know well enough," said a fellow, "where fresh fish comes from—but where they catch these 'ere salt fish, I'll be hanged if I can tell."

CUBA SEGARS.

CUBA, Half Spanish, and Common Segars, to be had at

may 4 W. M. McCREERY'S.

ORANGES & LEMONS.

Boxes, just received and for sale at the Drug Store of

may 4 W. M. McCREERY.

WATER CRACKERS.

1 BBL. Water Crackers, Just received and for sale at the Drug Store of

may 4 W. M. McCREERY.

CHEWING TOBACCO.

A VERY superior article of Chewing Tobacco.—Also, Congress Plug,—for sale at the Drug Store of

may 4 W. M. McCREERY.

FOR CONSUMPTION.

D. R. WISTAR'S Balsam of Wild Cherry. ALSO, Houck's and Swaine's Panacea, to be had at

may 11 S. KURTZ'S.

FOR THE HAIR.

JAYNE'S Hair Tonic, for sale at the Drug Store of

may 11 S. KURTZ.

PILLS.

PILLS of all kinds: Wilson's Pills, which can confidently be recommended for the sick head ache, Smith's Sugar Coated Pills. For sale by

may 11 S. KURTZ.

SEGARS.

CUBA, Half Spanish, and Common Segars, Crackers, Confectioneries, and Notions, to be had at the Drug Store of

[may 11] S. KURTZ.

TRUSSES.

THOMPSON'S and Heintzelman's Trusses; Spring Lances and Blades, Syringes, M'Alister's All-healing Ointment, for sale at

may 11 S. KURTZ'S.

THE PLACE.

NEARLY opposite J. Neff's Tavern you will find the Drug Store of

may 11 S. KURTZ.

DRUGS! DRUGS!!

THE subscriber, having purchased from John L. Snyder, his stock of Drugs and Medicines, would inform his friends and the public generally, that he has on hand a good supply of Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Dyes, Varnish, Oils, Essences, Patent Medicines, Painter's Brushes, &c., all of which he will sell very cheap for Cash.

May 11, '47. SAMUEL KURTZ.

DRUGS, MEDICINES,

CHEMICALS, Essences, Patent Medicines; Paints, Dyes, Oils, Varnishes, Painter's Brushes, &c., &c.

—ALSO—

Confectionaries, Notions, &c.; a fresh supply on hand and for sale VERY CHEAP at the Drug Store of

may 4 W. M. McCREERY, Somerset, Pa.

EXECUTORS' NOTICE.

LETTERS testamentary on the estate of David Simpson, late of Jenner township, deceased, having been granted to the subscribers, residing in said township, all persons indebted to said estate, are hereby requested to attend at the office of Samuel W. Person, Esq., on Wednesday the 9th day of June next, prepared to settle; and those having claims to present them at the same time and place properly authenticated.

ABSALOM CASEBEER, DAVID SIMPSON, Executors.

May 4, 1847.

Administrators' Notice.

LETTERS of administration, on the estate of Joseph Lichy, late of Somerset township, deceased, having been granted to the subscribers, residing in said township, all persons indebted to the estate are requested to attend at the late residence of said deceased, on the 5th day of June next, prepared to settle; and those having claims to present them at the same time and place properly authenticated.

SAMUEL J. LIGHTY, HENRY MEYER, Adm'rs.

April 27, 1847.

Administrators' Notice.

LETTERS of Administration de bonis non, testamento annexo, on the estate of Simon Hay, late of Brothersvalley township, deceased, having been granted to the subscriber; all persons indebted to the said estate, are requested to meet at the house of the deceased, on Wednesday the 16th of June next, prepared to settle, and those having claims to present them at the same time and place properly authenticated.

JONATHAN G. WALKER, Adm'r.

May 11, 1847.

Administrators' Notice.

LETTERS of Administration on the estate of Christian Schrack, late of Brothersvalley Tp, deceased, having been granted to the subscribers all persons indebted to said estate are requested to attend at the house of the deceased, on Friday the 19th of June next, prepared to settle, and those having claims, to present them at the same time and place, properly authenticated.

JACOB SCHRACK, GEO. SCHRACK, Adm'r.

May 11, 1847.

JOB PRINTING.

NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

Administrators' Notice.

LETTERS of administration, on the estate of David Finley, late of Stonycreek township, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to attend at the house of Samuel Kimmel, in Queenshoning township, on Saturday the 19th day of June next, prepared to settle, and those having claims, to present them at the same time and place, properly authenticated.

MARY FINDLEY, Adm'x, DAVID HUSBAND, Adm'r.

May 4, 1847.

Latest Arrival of NEW & CHEAP GOODS

At the "Big Brick," N. W. CORNER OF THE DIAMOND.

THE subscriber takes this method of informing his friends and the public in general, that he had just received from Philadelphia and Baltimore, a large and well selected assortment of Spring and Summer Goods, which he is determined to sell at such prices and terms, that cannot fail to please.

He will take in exchange for goods, all kinds of country produce, viz: Butter, Eggs, Wool, Rags, Boards, Hides and Skins, Grain of all kinds, &c., &c., &c. JOHN M. HOLDERBAUM, May 4, '47.

Franklin H. Stahl, FASHIONABLE HATTER.

TAKES this method of informing the citizens of Somerset and surrounding country that he has rented the old established hat shop of Sam'l Stahl, where he is manufacturing hats, from the most fashionable to the most domestic, and made of the best materials.—His stock consists in part of Nutria, Cassimere, Brush, Russia, and Naped Hats, of every shape, color and quality. Also a variety of men's and boy's wool hats; all of which he will warrant of equal finish and durability to any manufactured here or elsewhere.

This establishment having gained a reputation for making good work, the subscriber is determined to keep it up. Remember the place opposite the "Herald" Office.

N. B. The highest price given for lamb's fleeces and skin wool and all produce suited to this market. Great Bargains for cash. [Apr 20]

Cumberland Market.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price per unit, and Quantity. Includes Flour, Wheat, Rye, Corn, Oats, Potatoes, Apples, Peaches, Butter, Beef, Veal, Chickens, Eggs, Stone Coal.

Pittsburgh Market.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price per unit, and Quantity. Includes Flour, Wheat, Rye, Corn, Oats, Barley, Bacon, Pork, Lard, Tallow, Butter, Cheese, Apples, Peaches, Potatoes, Neshannocks, Seeds, Clover, Timothy, Flaxseed, Wool.

Bank Note List.

Table with 3 columns: Bank Name, Location, and Branches. Lists various banks in Pennsylvania and Ohio.