

Illustrated

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OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

BATTLES OF CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO.

Report of Gen. Pillow.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
MEXICO, August 24, 1847.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with the order of the General-in-Chief, I moved, with my division, consisting of the 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 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BATTLE OF MEXICO DEL REY.

Report of General Worth.

HEADQUARTERS 1st DIVISION,
Tacubaya, Sept. 10, 1847.

Sir: Under the convenient circumstances incident to the recent battle, and derangement from loss of commanders—staff, commissaries and non-commissioned—and amid the active scenes resulting therefrom, I proceed to make a report, obedient to the orders of the General-in-Chief, of the battle of Mexico del Rey, fought and won on the 8th of September, 1847, by the 1st division, reinforced as follows:

1st. Three squadrons of dragoons, and one company of mounted riflemen—270 men, under Maj. Sumner, 2d dragoons.

2. Three pieces of field artillery, under Captain Drum.

3d. Two battalions guns, (24 pounders), under Captain Huger.

4th. Cavalry brigade, 784 strong, consisting of the volunteer regiment, the 11th and 14th regiments of infantry.

The General-in-Chief ordered that my division should be before mentioned, should attack and carry those lines and defences, capture the enemy's artillery, destroy the machinery and material supposed to be in the foundry, (El Molino del Rey) but limiting the operations to that extent.

After which my command was to be immediately withdrawn to its position in the village of Tacubaya.

Cadwalader's brigade was held in reserve, in a position on the ridge, between the batteries guns and McIntosh's brigade, and in easy support of either.

The cavalry, under Major Sumner, to envelope our right flank, and to be ready to repel or to support an attack, as the commander's judgment might suggest. The troops to be put in position under cover of the night, and the work to begin as soon as the heavy mists could be properly directed. Col. Ponce was charged with the general disposition of the artillery. Accordingly, all the pieces in the morning of the 8th, the several columns were put in motion, on as many different routes; and when the gray of the morning enabled them to be seen, they were as accurately in position as if posted in midday for their attack. The early dawn was the most opportune for the attack, which was announced to our troops by the opening of Huger's guns on El Molino del Rey, upon which they continued to play actively until this point of the enemy's line became sensibly shaken, when the assaulting party, commanded by Capt. Mason of the engineers, assisted by Lieut. Foster, dashed gallantly forward to the assault. Unhappily the falling fire of musketry and canister that was showered upon them, when they rushed, driving infantry and artillery-men at the point of the bayonet, cut down upon their left flank, and their own guns were trampled upon their retreating masses; before, however, they could be discharged, perceiving that he had been dispossessed of his strong position by comparatively a handful of men, he made a desperate effort to regain it. At length, he was aided by the infantry, which covered the house-tops (within reach of which the battery had been moved during the night), the enemy's whole line opened upon the assaulting party a terrific fire of musketry, which, with the aid of the artillery, was so well directed, that the enemy's line was broken, and the men in proportion; including, among the officers, Brev. Maj. Wright, the commander, Capt. Mason and Lieut. Foster, engineers; all severely wounded. This severe shock staggered, for a moment, the enemy's line, which was then broken, and he fled to cover Huger's battery, under Capt. E. Kirby Smith, (Lieut. Col. Smith being sick), and the right wing of Cadwalader's brigade, were promptly ordered forward to support, which order was executed in the most gallant style; the enemy was again routed, and the whole of his line carried, and fully possessed by our troops.

As the 2d brigade moved to the assault, a very large cavalry and infantry force was discovered approaching rapidly from the rear. As soon as Dunbar's battery was reached, as before mentioned, supported by the enemy's volunteers, of Cadwalader's brigade, it moved promptly to the extreme left of our line, and, with the aid of the 11th and 14th regiments, the enemy's cavalry came, rapidly, within cannon range, when the whole battery opened a most effective fire, which soon broke the squadrons, and drove them back in disorder. During this fire upon the enemy's cavalry, Major Sumner's command moved to the front, and changed direction in admirable order, under a most gallant fire from the Casa Mata. This movement enabled him to cross the ravine immediately on the left of Dunbar's battery; where it remained, doing noble service, until the close of the action.

At this moment the cavalry were driven beyond the Casa Mata, and enabled the guns of Dunbar's battery to open upon this position; which after a short and well directed fire, the enemy abandoned. The guns of the battery were then turned upon his retreating columns, and continued to play upon them until beyond reach.

Major Sumner, 2d dragoons, managed his command with skill and courage; was always in the right place, at the right time; manœuvring and repelling superior forces with his own. His cool eye, and does that excellent officer need, higher praise.

I desire to bring to the notice of the General-in-Chief the gallantry and conduct of Brigadier General Cadwalader and his command, by which the most important service was rendered, and the most important moments as he was directed to make, were executed with skill and promptness. General Cadwalader particularly notices Col. Andrews, Lieut. Col. Graham and Lieut. Col. Wood, who were distinguished in the attack, and who were severely wounded. Lieut. Col. Wood was killed, and Lieut. Col. Andrews was severely wounded. Lieut. Col. Wood was killed, and Lieut. Col. Andrews was severely wounded. Lieut. Col. Wood was killed, and Lieut. Col. Andrews was severely wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Brevet Major-General commanding,
To Capt. Scott, A. A. Adj. Gen. Headquarters.

BATTLES OF MEXICO—CAPTURE OF THE CITY.

Report of General Pillow.

HEADQUARTERS 3d DIVISION, U. S. ARMY,
Mexico, September 18, 1847.

CAPTAIN: On the morning of the 12th instant, at 9 o'clock, a. m. I moved with my command, consisting of the 9th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 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