American Volunteer.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON. "OURS COUNTRY—MAY IT ALWAYS BE RIGHT—BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY." AT $2 00 PER ANNUM.

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THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLISLE, THURSDAY, DECB'R. 23, 1847.

MR. CLAY AND THE MEXICAN WAR—No. 4.

So far therefore from the President acting unconstitutionally, he was to the letter complying with the constitution. And if the order given by the President was "the immediate occasion of hostilities between the two Republics," it was an *occasion* that was eagerly embraced by Mexico, and without any just ground of complaint. It ought not to have been the occasion of hostilities on the part of Mexico, and the order of the President was in conformity with the enlightened sense of the nation, and sustained by candid men of all parties. Congress, by its act of 13th May, 1846, approved nearly unanimously that order, by solemnly declaring that "war existed by the act of Mexico," which could not have been the case if the removal of the army to the Rio Grande was "the immediate occasion of hostilities" as asserted by Mr. Clay. General Taylor himself, who is claimed as a Whig, not only approved of this order of the President, but *advised* it. In a despatch to the Secretary of War, dated at Corpus Christi, Texas, October 4th, 1845, General Taylor, after giving his reasons at length for an advance from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, to strengthen this view of the subject, says:

"But if our government, in settling the question of boundary, makes the line of the Rio Grande an ultimatum, I cannot doubt that the settlement will be greatly facilitated and hastened by our taking possession at once of one or two suitable points, on or quite near that river. Our strength and state of preparation should be displayed in a manner not to be mistaken. However salutary may be the effect produced on the border people by our presence here, we are too far from the frontier to impress the government of Mexico with our readiness to vindicate, by force of arms if necessary, our title to the country as far as the Rio Grande."

It was not, however, until the 13th of January, 1846, better than three months after the advice of Gen. Taylor, that the order was issued by the War Department, and after the most urgent means through the mission of Mr. Slidello arrange all matters of difference by negotiation had failed. On the 10th November, 1845, Mr Slidell was commissioned envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico, and was intrusted with full powers to adjust both the questions of the Texas boundary and of indemnification to our citizens. He arrived at Vera Cruz on the 30th of November. The Mexican government finally refused to accredit him on the 21st December upon the most frivolous pretexts. On the 17th December that gentleman wrote a despatch to the State Department, stating that he would in all probability be rejected. This information was received in Washington, prior to the issuing the order for the removal of our forces from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande—so that there were before that order in the estimation of Mexico, other "immediate occasions of hostility," as the rejection of Mr. Slidell would signify. Mexico had set her heart on war and hostile invasion, long before that order was thought of, and her whole course of conduct for a series of years, was a *quasi* declaration of war against the United States.

Mr. Clay therefore fails to affix the odium of bringing about a useless and cruel war with Mexico, upon the skirts of the President, or the Democracy of the country. The President has acted with great forbearance and moderation, and has followed that forbearance up since the collision of arms, with repeated offers of peace, after every victory achieved by our gallant and victorious troops.

But Mr. Clay is equally as unfortunate as to his proposed method of bringing this war to a close, as he has been in his views as to what were its causes, and as to how it was occasioned. He says that inasmuch as Mexico is too poor to pay us any indemnity, except territory, we must refuse that. He deprecates any further acquisition of territory. Mr. Clay is far behind the age, and little comprehends the powers and capabilities of the Anglo Saxon race. The Federalists of old opposed the purchase of Louisianna by Jefferson—and again opposed the acquisition of the Florida's by Monroe. And yet the country is not ruined. The "area of freedom" is enlarged, it is true, but that should not be a matter of grief to any man who claims to be a republican. The same cry was then raised about the conquests of Alexander, Cæsar and Napoleon, that is now so feelingly repeated by Mr. Clay. The first had laid waste all Asia, the second had crossed the Rubicon and won the battle of Pharsalia, and the last had subjugated continental Europe, and yet the people of Macedon or Greece, of Rome or France, were not benefitted either individually or collectively, by the triumphs of these great captains.

There is no analogy in these far fetched illustrations, with our own case in the present struggle with Mexico. Our movements have been regulated by the laws of an enlightened government, and our victories have been tempered with mercy. We have not fought for conquest, but to compel a treacherous neighboring power to do us simple justice, and pay us what they owe us. If we have held the weapons of warfare with one hand, we have extended the olive branch with the other. We have time and again offered her terms of peace, more reasonable far than would have been offered her by any European power under similar circumstances, to say nothing of the terms which would have been proposed by an Alexander, a Cæsar or a Napoleon. True we expect Mexico to pay us something in territory for the blood and treasure she has forced us to spend in bringing her to a temper of mind to do us justice. But when that territory is obtained, we have that faith in Democratic principles, and in a *really* republican government, to believe, that it will be governed by wise and beneficent laws, and that it will be inhabited by a people far more contented and happy, than the subjects of the fickle military power that now misgoverns that country. The Democracy fear not to extend "republican institutions." They have no doubts about the capacity of the people to govern themselves—and this constant comparing our own happy country, and our own glorious institutions, to the miserable military despotisms of the dark and middle ages, or even to the spasmodic governments of France about the period of her revolution, when the people of that country had been debased for ages, by subjection to arbitrary power, shows the depreciated idea that those who use such comparisons, have of the glorious liberties we as a people enjoy.

In promulgating such doctrines, Mr. Clay will find rebellious spirits among those who have heretofore been his warm party friends. He will find some *Turks* among those whom he would place on a level with the wild Macedonians, the garrulous Greeks, the tyrannical Romans, or the French *Sans-Culottes*.

We therefore close this subject by leaving Mr. Clay to do battle with some of his own party friends. The New York Courier and Enquirer, formerly one of his most ardent admirers and zealous supporters, uses in reference to the positions assumed in his Lexington speech, the following strong and eloquent language:

"It is an ungrateful task, to review unfavorably a speech from one we esteem and admire, as we do Mr. Clay; but we do not hesitate to pronounce his last effort such a one as he would never dreamed of making were he now of the same age, as when in 1812, he nobly sustained the government of his country in its war with the mistress of the ago. That, he very justly says, "was a war of national defences required for the vindication of national rights and honor;" and yet, at the very commencement of the war we invaded Canada and carried desolation and death to the homes and altars of the unoffending Canadians who had never harmed us! But this did not make it a war of aggression or of conquest, according to Mr. Clay; and Mr. Clay is right. But when Mexico gives orders to her Generals to attack the American army wherever it may be found in Texas, south of the Sabine—and when, because we go into the disputed territory, the Mexicans cross into it also and make war upon our army, and we repulse and follow her beaten forces into her own territory, behold it is no longer a war of defence, but one of aggression and conquest! * * * * * When she did so assail us, she became the aggressor, and when we add to this the historical fact, that her Generals had positive orders to invade Texas, and drive us north of the Sabine, and were actually proceeding to execute them—it is indeed a strange infatuation which denominates this a war of aggression and conquest, and which is the same breath, proclaims our invasion of Canada in 1812, a war of defence!

The people do not so understand it. Their instincts do not lead them to such conclusions. They know and feel, that Mexico struck the first blow; and when they are told that "it is Mexico that is defending her firesides, her castles, and her altars, not we"—they feel that it might have been as if we had not, as in 1812, carried a defensive war into the enemy's country; and large as is their benevolence, they prefer that it should be as it is, rather than we should now be resisting her intended and proclaimed invasion of our territory. And when this speech of Mr. Clay shall have been read throughout the length and breadth of this great country, many will be the tears shed in silence, that Henry Clay—he who so nobly stood by his country in 1812, and even to this day defends the invasion of Canada, should have denounced this war as "unnatural"—a war of "offensive aggression," in which Mexico, not we, is "defending her firesides, her castles, and her altars." Against whom? Why against the gallant and patriotic spirits who have so nobly offered up their lives in defence of their country's honor, and shed upon our arms a halo of glory which has elevated our national character in the estimation of the civilized world, and called forth a feeling of gratitude and pride in the bosom of every man whose heart is capable of beating in response to chivalrous deeds and gallant bearing. And yet it is Henry Clay who thus characterized this war—who thus defends Mexico against the acts of her chivalric invaders—who thus unintentionally endorses the abominable sentiments of the New York Tribune, and will shortly be quoted by it as sanctioning its denunciation of our gallant army as a band of robbers, plunderers and murderers, for whose defeat and dispersion, that editor and his colaborers are justified in praying, as they do, to the God of Battles!

We cannot subscribe to such doctrines; we cannot, with all our reverence and respect for Mr. Clay, unite with him in his seeming response to the heartless assults upon those who have covered our country with glory; and in our sympathies for Mexican sufferings, we cannot forget the sufferings and death of our own gallant sons. If it be indeed a war of conquest and aggression; if we have wickedly assailed "the firesides, the castles, and the altars of Mexico;" if we have robbed, plundered, and murdered her peaceful people; who and what are the men who have volunteered to do the devilish work? When the news of the victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma reached New Orleans, if we mistake not, Mr. Clay was there, and avowed that if younger, he would himself volunteer to take part in the war.—His gallant son did so volunteer, and nobly offered up his life for his country. But would he have done so, if he had believed that he was waging such a war as Mr. Clay describes? Never, never.

☞ The Louisville Journal and Courier had made arrangements to receive the whole of the President's message by telegraph! We presume it was published in Louisville on Wednesday morning! Just think of a Document, such as the President's Message, being transmitted entire more than one thousand miles, in less than ten hours! Truly is this the age of progress, and every thing must move by lightning.

CAPT. NAYLOR'S COMPANY.—A letter from one of Captain Naylor's company, dated the 31st of October, says twelve of that company were wounded in the attacks on the city of Mexico, and out of ninety persons who left Philadelphia a year ago, only twenty remain fit for duty; the rest have been killed, wounded, dead, or sick.

CENTRAL RAILROAD.—During the last two weeks, $70,000 of subscriptions to the Central Railroad stock have been taken in the borough of Hollidaysburg alone.

☞ The Camden, N. J. *Phœnix*, expresses a decided preference for Mr. BUCHANAN for the Presidency.

☞ The Pittsburg Courier, the organ of the German Democracy of Alleghany county, avows its preference for JAMES BUCHANAN, as a Democratic candidate for the Presidency.

BROKE.—That rotten swindling concern, the Lewistown Bank, has at length failed entirely. It has been in a sickly condition for some time, but has managed to deceive and rob the people by making a show of solvency. Thus must the people suffer while rogues grow fat.

APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR.—Dr. James Frow, of Mifflintown, to be an Associate Judge of Juniata county, in place of Hon. Daniel Christy, deceased. A most excellent selection.

Official Reports.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The report of Mr. Marcy, the Secretary of War, is too long for us to publish in full, and as it is chiefly occupied with a detail of the movements of the army in Mexico,—with which our readers are familiar—it is not at all necessary that we should do so. A brief synopsis will give the general reader all the information of its contents, which he may desire.

The force employed in the prosecution of the war, is set down at 49,536—of which 21,509 are regulars. This force is distributed as follows:

With Maj. General Scott, and belonging to his column, including the troops *en route*, at Tampico, and and about Vera Cruz, and on the line thence to his headquarters, the aggregate force is estimated at 32,156. With Maj. Gen. Taylor, at the several posts under his immediate command, it is about 6,727. In Santa Fe, and on the Oregon and Santa Fe routes, and in the Indian country, there are about 3,634.

The force in the Californias is about 1019, including 200 now on the way to that country.

There are no means in the department of calculating the deductions which ought to be made for sickness, disability and other casualities; but the effective force is considerably below the foregoing estimates.

The Secretary then gives a detail of the operations of the Army in Mexico proper, after the capitulation of Monterey, up to the capture of the city of Mexico, including the several skermishes which have taken place subsequently.

The capture of the City of Mexico is declared to be a memorable action—and the subsequent defence of the garrison at Puebla by Col. Childs, and the battle of Huamantla are spoken of in terms of high and deserved praise.

Then is given an account of the operations in California and in New Mexico, and the remainder of the report is devoted to an account of the general affairs of the department, and a discussion of the question of how the war should be henceforward prosecuted. Mr. Marcy is not in favor of the defensive line policy—nor is he in favor of the occupation of the whole of Mexico—but he is in favor of what is about the same thing, "to retain what we now possess, open the lines of communication into the interior, and extend our operations to other important places, as our means and the prospect of advantages shall indicate—keeping a disposable force always ready, within approaching limits, to annoy the enemy, to seize supplies, enforce contributions, and frustrate his efforts to collect means and assemble troops for the purpose of protracting the war." "This plan," he says, "also contemplates further acquisitions extending to other important points, more or less numerous, as circumstances may warrant."

There is no difference, except in words, between this proposition which the Secretary advocates and of overrunning all Mexico and holding it in military subjection—and, indeed, the only means of effecting the latter object would be to adopt the plan he proposes.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The Report of the Secretary of the Navy is an interesting document, though the comparatively limited opportunity for active service of this branch of our national strength, has afforded but little material for remark. We gather from the document the following facts and observation:

Some delay has occurred in the completion of contemplated arrangements for increasing the navy establishment in consequence of the activity of demand for seamen in the mercantile marine.

The squadron in the Mediterranean had been temporarily increased by reason of intelligence of the capture of an American vessel, by one called the Unico, claimining to cruise under Mexican authority. The American vessel was carried into Barcelona, but promptly released, and the captors imprisoned. The efforts of the Mexican government to induce persons to accept letters of marque have found no favor in any quarter, and Spain has honorably fulfilled the condition of her treaty in this respect.

In maintaining a squadron in the Mediterranean it is designed so to arrange, that vessels shall be transferred from the African station, and a cruise in that unhealthy quarter restricted within a year.

An unsuccessful attempt to open friendly intercourse with the Japanese by the visit of the Columbus and Vincennes, in July, 1846, is reported; to the most friendly overtures that were made, the unchangeable reply was—"Go away, and do not come back any more."

The proceedings of the squadron, and the changes that have been made therin, on the Pacific coast, are noticed, and the measures adopted and carried into execution for the suppression of the insurrection at Rio San Gabriel, with deserved commendation of the gallantry and perseverance of the sailors engaged in the affair. They have, says the report, "served in the most creditable manner as infantry, artillery and dragoons."

Tranquility is reported in Upper and Lower California, and the confident belief entertained that Commodore Shubrick has before this time captured Mazatlin, San Blas and Acapulco.

The execution of the orders under which the squadron in the Gulf acted in the attack upon Vera Cruz is highly approved, and the warmest admiration expressed of the conduct of officers of every grade, and the courage of the men. The proceedings of Com. Perry in the capture of Tabasco, Alvarado, Tuspan, Laguna, &c., are referred to in the same terms of liberal commendation. The sickness that has prevailed in the Gulf squdron the past year, is represented to have been of a very malignant type.

The co operation of the squadron in the levying of duties upon Mexican imports, is satisfactorily referred to. The policy has been liberal, and justly appreciated by neutral nations. The moneys collected have been applied to the use of the squadron.

In relation to the capture of prizes, the right of the captor, by condemnation of the vessel, has been submitted to the jurisdiction of the District Court of the United States in Louisiana. In relation to the captures on the Pacific coast, a court of admiralty was established there for the purpose of passing upon them.

The trips of the Macedonian and Jamestown, with stores for the relief of the Irish sufferers, are referred to, and the heartfelt acknowledgements of high functionaries of the British government suitably noticed.

The experiment of Mr. Brown with the liquid fire of his invention, is unfavorably adverted to.

The reports of the several bureaus connected with the department, are submitted with the respective suggestions of each, which are recommended; they relate to construction, equipment and repairs; ordinance and hydrography; yards and docks; provisions and clothing; medicine and surgery. The appropriations asked, amount to $10,365,820. An item of $1,200,000 is asked for the completion of the four war steamers, now in process of building.

During the past year, $345,175 have been paid for 17 vessels, store ships; steamers and schooners, of suitable draught for the service of the Gulf.

Contracts have been effected under the act of Congress for the transportation of the mails between New York and Liverpool, New York and New Orleans, and from Havana to Chagres, with Messrs. Collins and Sloo; and with Arnold Harris for the transportation of a mail between Panama and Astoria in Oregon, once a month each way, upon the following terms: To E. K. Collins, $385,000; to A. G. Sloo, $290,000; and to Arnold Harris, $199,000.—Thirteen new steam vessels will be constructed in pursuance of these contracts.

The observatory is in successful operation, and an appropriation of 6,000 asked for its support, especially with reference to the compilation of a nautical almanac. The refunding of duties upon instruments for the observatory, amounting to $2,279, is suggested. The naval school is spoken of as progressing with favorable indications. The plan of appointing midshipmen from the States, according to the representation in Congress, operates well. It is recommended that the number be increased from 451 to 460, and that one out of eight or ten be appointed, irrespective of residence, to meet special cases.

The duties of the battalion of marines, under Lieut. Col. Watson, appointed to aid the column of General Scott, were performed with the highest honor to the corps throughout the brilliant operations in the valley of Mexico.

The system of disbursements of money and supplies in the navy is satisfactory in its results. The report concludes with a recommendation for appointment of twelve assistant pursers at a salary of $1,000 each, to obviate the necessity for the commanders of the smaller vessels to act as pursers, which is the case at present.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The Report of Secretary Walker is entirely too long for us to republish, but we cut from the New York Tribune a very good synopsis of the most important statistics embraced in the Report, and showing the receipts and expenditures of the past fiscal year, and the estimates for 1848:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 8, 1847.

In obedience to law the following report is respectfully submitted:

The receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1847, were—

From customs,	$23,747,864 66
From public land,	2,498,835 20
From Miscellaneous sources,	100,570 51
From avails of Treasury notes and loans,	25,679,199 45
Total receipts,	52,025,939 82
Add balance in the Treasury 1st July, 1846,	9,126,439 08
Total means,	62,152,428 90
The expenditures during the same fiscal year were	59,451,177 65
Leaving balance in the treasury 1st July, 1847, of	1,701,251 25

—As appears in detail by accompany statement A

The estimated receipts and expenditures for fiscal year ending 30th June, 1848, are

From Customs, first quarter, by actual returns from collectors	$11,106,257 41
From Customs for second, third and fourth quarters, as estimated	19,893,742 59
	$31,000,000 00
From sales of public land,	3,500,000 00
From miscellaneous sources	400,000 00
Total receipts,	$34,900,000 00
From avails of Treasury notes and loans,	6,285,294 55
Total,	$41,185,394 55
Add balance in the Treasury, 1st July, 1847,	1,701,251 25
Total means as estimated,	$42,886,545 80

EXPENDITURES, viz:

The actual expenditures for first quarter, ending 30th September, 1847, were $16,469,196 69, as appears in detail by accompanying statement B.		
The estimated expenditures for the public services, during the other three quarters, from 1st Oct. 1847, to 30th June, 1848, are—		
Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous	$5,486,180 42	
Army proper, including volunteers,	19,080,865 58	
Fortifications, ordnance		
arming militia, &c.	2,036,446 50	
Indian department,	1,720,660 26	
Pensions,	1,063,523 66	
Naval establishment,	10,241,072 47	
Interest on public debt and Treasury notes,	2,250,537 18	
Treasury notes extending and payable when presented,	267,139 31	$58,615,660 07
Excess of expenditures over means, 1st July, 1848,		$15,729,114 27
The estimated receipts, means and expenditures for fiscal year commencing 1st July, 1848, and ending 30th June, 1849, are:		
From customs,	$32,000,000 00	
From sales of public lands	3,000,000 00	
From miscellaneous sources,	100,000 00	
Total revenue,	$35,100,000,00	
Deduct deficit, 1st July, 1848,	15,729,114 27	
Total,	$19,370,885 73	

EXPENDITURES.

The expenditures during the same period, as estimated by the several departments of State, Treasury, War, Navy and Postmaster General, are		
The balances of former appropriations which will be required to be expended in this year,	$1,475,210 77	
Permanent and indefinite appropriations,	4,587,577 82	
Specific appropriations asked for this year,	49,582,153 13	
		$55,644,941 72
This sum is composed of the following particulars:		
Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous	$5,613,061 52	
Army proper, volunteers and military academy,	32,007,728 42	
Fortifications, ordnance		
arming militia, &c.	2,045,169 90	
Pensions	1,694,318 84	
Indian department,	926,401 81	
Naval establishment,	10,905,558 55	
Interest on public debt and Treasury notes,	2,453,402 68	
Total	$55,644,941 72	
Deduct means remaining, applicable to service of fiscal year ending 30th June, 1849		$19,370,885 73
Excess of expenditures over means, 1st July, 1849		$36,274,055 99

THE REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

The very able and well-written report of the Post Office Department, will attract special attention, as exhibiting an account of the working of the system of reduced postage lately put in operation. Under every administration, this department has, from causes obvious enough, been made, to a greater or less extent, the object of unjust and acrimonious complaint. Its present head having been obliged to meet the responsible task of conducting the public mail service under a new and untried system established by Congress, (and which, of course, in all its details of legislation, could hardly be expected to be perfect at first,) has not altogether escaped the common lot of his predecessors. Yet the full and clear account which he now renders of the operations of this department during the past year, must be admitted by every candid judgement to form a most satisfactory refutation of the unfolded complaints which have been from time to time, in some quarters, put forth; and must be regarded as showing that all the powers conferred upon him by existing laws have been most judiciously and energetically and ably exerted to extend and promote the public service.

The exposition given of the working of the new law is, upon the whole, eminently gratifying to the friends and advocates of cheap postage. It appears that, during the last fiscal year, ending on the 30th of June last, the public mails were transported over an aggregate distance of 38,887,899 miles, at an expense of $2,406,848. The aggregate extent of the routes on that day was 153,818 miles, and since that day 8,239 miles of new routes have been put in operation. The revenues of the department during the last fiscal year, (including the amount appropriated to pay the government postage,) having increased more than thirteen per cent. upon the revenues of the last preceding year, amounted to $3,945,893. The expenditures for the same time were $3,979,570—being only $33,677 more than the revenues. The estimate of revenues and expenditures of the department for the present fiscal year shows the considerable excess of means over expenditures of $213,951.

Two of the principal points to which the report invokes the attention of Congress are, the law fixing the rates of payment for the various grades of transportation, and the existing position and powers of the department in respect to foreign and international postal arrangements. The necessity of further legislation upon both these subjects, in view of existing facts, is demonstrated in the report with so much force and ability, that Congress will doubtless give their favorable attention to its suggestions.

The present condition and prospects of the department are in every way eminently creditable to the ability, judgement, and diligence with which its concerns have been administered by the present distinguished Postmaster General.

Poetical.

For the American Volunteer.

THE SOLDIER IN PRISON.

Christmas is here!
How many a bosom with emotion swells?
How many a breast with fond remembrance dwells?
On by-gone days, as memo y sadly tells
Of former cheer.

What changes dire?
Since last the birth day of our Saviour shone,
What countless ones have uttered forth the moan
For those they loved—and now must watch alone,
Their Christmas fire.

Changes are these!
The parent sits in thoughtful mood to day,
Hears not, or heeds not, mirth and laughter gay;
Her thoughts are on the bright one far away.
Sad reveries!

On that fair flower
Whose first essay in life has but begun.
Far distant now to cheer the heart she won
And brightens with the brightness of the sun
His darkest hour.

Would she were here!
But she is happy—though a parent's eye
May look no more upon her—though a sigh
Arise unchecked and from the wayward eye
Escape a tear.

Her bliss is sure—
Link'd to the bosom of her own liege lord,
Her every wish dependant on her word—
Her life, her honor, on his good sword
Doubly secure.

And on that boy
Whose truant steps have led him far astray,
From paths of happiness—for him to day,
The parent feels that not one happy ray
Affords a joy.

A sister's tear
In mournful silence trickles down the cheek,
That now no more a brother's kiss may seek—
And the soul's yearning, plainly, fondly speak
"Would he were here."

And is he gay?
Can happiness be his, who sadly knows
His steps of folly, lead to others, woes;—
Oh! bitter, bitter, is the cup, that flows
For him to day.

No Christmas fire!
No friendly greetings now can meet his eye!
His is the cheerless lot—no comfort nigh
To give him hope—to bid him check the sigh
Of fond desire.

'Tis vain to mourn—
The fondest ties are product first to sever,
And each may find a parting as severe
The drop that leaves the brook may meet a river,
As on 'tis borne.

And we shall find
Though tempests scowl upon us, and despair
Seize with its talons on our hopes most fair
Some sunlit cloud our wearied minds to bear
Above the wind.

CARLISLE BARRACKS, PA. E.

Miscellaneous.

From the N. Y. Organ.

THE UGLY DAUGHTER.

"But look, then," said Mrs. Moore to her husband, "how ugly that little one is. Is she not William?"

And Mr. Moore, who was sitting in a rocking chair amusing himself with poking the fire, laid down the tongs he held and gravely answered his wife—

"But, my dear, you have already said so one hundred times, and were you to say it one hundred times more, Rosa would not become less ugly for your saying so."

Rosanna was a little girl of about fourteen. She was their only child, and to do her mother justice, was really very ugly—nay, almost revolting; with her little gray eyes, flat nose, large mouth, thick, protruding lips, red hair, and above all a form remarkably awry.

Rosa was then very ugly—but she was a sweet girl, nevertheless. Kind and intelligent, she possessed a mind of the highest order. Nature seemed to have compensated her with every good quality of the heart for the want of every beauty of person.

The poor little thing was profoundly hurt as she listened to her mother's observation—

"Oh, you little fright, you will never get a husband!"

Eight o'clock struck; Mrs. Moore was sorely vexed.

"Go to bed, Rosanna."

Trembling the little girl approached her mother to give her a kiss of good night.

"'Tis useless you little monster,' said her mother. A tear rolled from the little one's eye. She hastily wiped it away, and turned to her father; presented him the yet humid cheek.

He kissed her tenderly.

"I am not altogether miserable," she murmured, leaving the room.

Retired to her chamber, she commenced embroidering a scarf; and worked thus part of the night, for she desired to be able to present it to her mother in the morning.

The clock struck twelve. She had just finished, and putting it by, the little girl calmly resigned herself to rest. Her repose was undisturbed.

On the morrow Rosa presented the scarf to her mother. What was the pain when the mother received it coldly, and expressed none of those tender sentiments which ought to have been the sweet ones reward.

Her eyes, by chance, glanced over a neighboring mirror.

'Yes,' she said internally, 'I am ugly—they are right,' and she sought in her young head to find a remedy for ugliness.

And then in the world, now pangs wounded the little ugly one's heart. A first impression alienated all the young girls of her age—but then she was so good, so amiable, so amusing; that they approached, then listened and then loved her.

Now, indeed, our little one was happy.

One day Mr. Moore went home in a violent passion, and become, in consequence of some trifling provocation, highly incensed against his wife. Their domestic felicity was troubled for eight long days—for eight long days Mrs. Moore was continually crying. Rosanna in vain racked her young brain to discover why—but her father still continued angry, and her mother was continually weeping. At last she reflected in her mind how to reconcile them.

They were all three seated in the parlor. Mr. Moore was arranging the fire. When this was concluded, he threw the tongs from him, snatched a book from the mantle, and opened it abruptly; but after a moment's perusal, he closed it again in a violent humor, cast a fiery glance at his trembling wife and hurriedly rose from his chair.

Rosanna, deeply moved, clasped her arms about his neck as he was about to rise, and affectionately caressed him. He could not reject her innocent coaxing, and the little girl thinking she had touched his heart, took in her hands the moistened handkerchief, whereowith her mother had been drying her weeping eyes, and dried them a second time therewith. She then tenderly embraced her mother, who returned her affectionate caresses with all a mother's fondness.

The parties being now favorably disposed, naught remained to establish a peace. This was no easy matter—neither would make the first overture—and without the penetration of little Rosa, the reconciliation would not then have taken place.

She took her father's hand, between her own little hands, pressed it to her bosom; she then took her mother's hand, and joined it to her father's as it lay near the heart. Human pride could resist no longer—the alienated parents rose at the same moment and cordially embraced each other.

From that hour Rosa was the idol of them both.

Six years after this, Rosanna, the ugly Rosanna, was the ornament to every society to which her mother presented her. Amiable, witty and observing, her conversation was universally courted.

One summer evening the sun, which during the day, had shed over nature an intense heat, had just disappeared, leaving the horizon covered with long wide bands of red—clouds more and more dark were heaping themselves on the eastern sky—the atmosphere was suffocating; and one would deem the earth was returning to the sun the heat she had received from the latter during the day. All was heavy and weary—the air inhaled seemed rather to suffocate than nourish. A drowsy languor overcame every one.

In a saloon, whose every window thrown open might be seen gliding, here and there, in the darkened light, groups of young females, whose white dresses slightly agitated by the rising breeze of the evening, offered something mysterious and poetical whereupon the imagination loved to dwell. A low languishing whisper was then heard like the soothing murmur of some distant rivulet. A young woman seated before a piano, was expressing her hearts sentiments by an extempore melody, now smooth and tender, now deep and trembling.

No more whispering, but a gentle silence took place, for her's was a celestial sympathy, a seraph's song.

George Underwood, a fine, rich, blue-eyed young man, was so deeply touched by the melody, that his frame seemed agitated by a momentary convulsion. He listened to the angel's voice, so softly harmonizing with the sweet tones of the instrument, and felt an indescribable sensation thrill through his frame.

The music ceased, but the sweet voice still vibrated on Underwood's ear, and there was a charm in witty and original trifle to which he listened, that transfixed him where he stood.

"How beautiful must the young girl be," thought Underwood. "Happy the man on whom may fall her choice," and he involuntarily sighed. Suddenly lights were brought in. The young woman was the ugly Rosanna.

George Underwood was stupefied. He closed his eyes, but the charm of that voice haunted his memory. He gazed on, her a second time, and he found her less ugly. The beauties of her mind seemed transferred to her person, and her gray eyes, small as they were, expressed wonderfully well her internal sensation.

* * * * *

George Underwood wedded Rosanna and became the happiest of men; in the possession of the kindest and most loving of woman.

Beauty deserts us, but virtue and talents, the faithful companions of our lives, accompany us even to the grave.

THE RETURNED OFFICERS.

POPULAR DEMONSTRATION.

Gens. Shields and Quitman, and other officers, who have arrived at New Orleans, from the battle fields of Mexico, have been received with warm demonstrations of respect. On the evening of the 24th ultimo, several of them were escorted to the American theatre, accompanied by a fine band of music and an immense concourse of citizens.

On entering the theatre, says the Delta, the audience, which was a very large one, rose *en masse* and saluted these way-worn veterans and heroes, with such an outburst of enthusiasm and applause, as fairly shook the theatre from "foundation to turret stone," the orchestra, meantime, playing first, "See the Conquering Heroes come," and "The Star Spangled Banner." Rarely have we seen so large a crowd raised to such a pitch of enthusiasm and excitement, as characterised that which filled the American. Three cheers were enthusiastically given for Gen. Shields; three for Col. Burnett, three for the American army, and three for "Old Rough and Ready." It was the simultaneous and unbidden overflow of hearts full of gratitude and admiration for the illustrious deeds of the brave men, who are now seeking a temporary repose after the severe trials and sufferings of the marvellous campaign, through which they have just passed.

The Delta in a notice of some of these officers, as they appeared at the St. Charles Hotel, says:

In the Saloon we saw the gallant Gen. Shields. He is stouter than when we saw him, some two years since, at Gen. Taylor's camp at Camargo. He then, in his undress military uniform, looked like an elegant gentleman. He had not a wrinkle on his brow, and his countenance ever wore a smile. His beard was closely shaven, and his eyes were lighted up with the brilliant fire of hope. And yet, how a short term of service alters a man! Yesterday he looked like the hero of many wars. His brow was seamed with the lines of fatigue and suffering, and his upper lip was garnished with a thick moustache. His complexion was bronzed; his arm, from a late wound, hung in a sling; but his eye was still brilliant with martial fire. There were hundreds who flocked around him and sought to grasp his hand, and all were received by him with the most cordial warmth and friendship.—These around looked upon the gallant hero with feelings of respect and admiration, and there was not one in that broad Saloon who went out, without saying in his heart, "that man is a true soldier."

In one of the private parlors, Maj. Gen. Quitman held a levee. He was surrounded by many officers, all of whom paid him the utmost respect and attention. The gallant and heroic Quitman—the first American Governor of the proud city of Mexico—seemed to be perfectly "at home."—With a form that seemed to have been wrought in an iron mould, half slightly tinged with grey, a moustache like that of some old Roman soldier, and eyes that sparkled with animation and determination, he seemed the very impersonification of a warrior. Congratulation and compliment met him on every side, and he received the applause of those who were present, with the air of one who combined the character of the chieftain with that of the polished gentleman. Amidst the galaxy that adorns the history of Mississippi, no name shines brighter than that of *Quitman!*

Our attention was next arrested by seeing a man of towering height and gigantic frame, with a chest like that of Hercules and an eye like that of Mars; he was indeed, to use the language of Hamlet, made "to threaten and command." With a smile upon his lips, and a sparkle of pleasure in his light blue eyes, he stood the "observed of all observers." He was the gallant Col. Harney—one of the most accomplished and heroic soldiers in the army—to whom has been so generally assigned the chief glory of the great victory of Cerro Gordo.

These were the most prominent chieftains among the great array of heroes. We regret that the crowded state of our columns forbids our describing others who have borne a prominent part in the late glorious achievements of our army. Many of them bore the marks of the hard fought battles in which they were engaged, in terrible mutilations and horrible wounds, which were painfully evident to the beholder.