POTTSVILLE.

Saturday Morning, May 30, 1846.

VOLNEY B. PALMER,

At his Real Estate and Coal Agencies,

Corner of Third & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia,
No.160, Nassau-Street, New York,
No. 16, State Street, Boston, and
South east corner of Baltimore, & Calvert Streets, Baltimore, is our Agent for receiving subscriptions and advertisements for the Miners' Journal.

LIFE INSURANCE.

This kind of Insurance is beginning to attract considerable attention in this country.— Pamphlets containing the necessary information, can be obtained at his office, where application can be made.
June 20

AGENTS FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

Minersville—Charles B. De Forest.
Port Carbon—Henry Slissler.
Who are authorised to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the Miners' Journal.

APPRENTICE WANTED.—An active boy, about fifteen years of age, of a good moral character, who is sufficiently educated for the purpose, will be taken as an Apprentice to the Printing business, at this office. None but one who can bring unexceptionable references as to character need apply.

THE WHIG TARIFF OF 1842.

DEMOCRATIC WHIG COUNTY MEETING.

The Democratic Whigs of Schuylkill County are respectfully invited to attend a general County Meeting, to be held at the Court House in the Borough of Orwigsburg, on

Monday the 8th day of June next,

at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of making preparatory arrangements for the fall campaign, and to nominate three Conferees, to meet the Conferees of Lebanon and Dauphin counties, at such time and place as may be thereafter by them agreed upon, to select a suitable candidate for Congress, to be supported at the ensuing October election, and to transact such other business as may be deemed essential to the welfare of our country. A general attendance of the Democratic Whigs and friends of the Tariff of 1842, is therefore earnestly requested.

C. W. Pitman.	Jacob Kline,
John Reed,	James H. Graeff,
Daniel B. Kerhner,	John W. Heffner,
George Kaufman,	John Prevost,
Joseph Bressler,	John Bolig, jr.

Standing County Committee.

May 30, 1846.

WHIG COUNTY MEETING.—We refer our readers to the above call for a meeting of the Whigs and the friends of the Tariff of 1842, to be held at Orwigsburg on Monday the 8th of June. Turn out Whigs on that occasion and do your duty. "Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty."

OURSELVES.—We published all the important news by the Steamer Brittannia, on Saturday last, and sent it to Reading before the news had arrived at that place from Philadelphia.

We also issued the glorious news from the Seat of War, which will be found on our first page, in an Extra Miners' Journal, to all our country subscribers immediately after its receipt. We will continue to lay all important news before our readers at the earliest period.

GEN. TAYLOR PROMOTED—A MERITED HONOR.—On Wednesday last the President nominated to the Senate *Brevet* Brigadier General Taylor as *Brevet* MAJOR GENERAL in consequence of his gallant exploits on the Rio Grande. The nomination was unanimously confirmed in Executive session.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?—Henry Horn, the man whom Gen Jackson said "could'nt lie," has been rejected by the Locofoco Senate, as Collector of Customs for Philadelphia. This movement, it is stated, has created quite a *hubbub* among the *democracy* in Philadelphia.

☞ Several vessels built in New York for the Mexicans, suitable for their coast, and for which the Mexicans could not pay, have been purchased by our Government.

SOLDIERS FOR THE UNITED STATES.—A recruiting station has been established at Reading, for the enlistment of United States soldiers for the increase of the Army, authorised by Congress. They enlist none but able-bodied, sober men.—Lieut. Wm. A. Nichols, U. S. A., is the recruiting officer

EFFECTS OF THE WAR.—Accounts from the South state that business is suffering dreadfully in that quarter since the war has commenced. The produce of the South and West is pouring into New Orleans, but the circulation of business has stopped. A writer from New Orleans says:

"The rates of freight have advanced materially; merchants are unwilling to take the hazards of making shipments; the Northern merchants, unwilling to advance on property which must encounter the risks of the Gulf, have withdrawn their credits; and so the produce is piling up beyond the capacities of all the warehouses. How can merchants meet their engagements, when all their property is suddenly rendered unavailable."

These evils are to be regretted, but the South were determined to have Texas, and they must take the bitter with the sweet.

☞ It will be observed by the proceedings of a meeting in another part of our paper, that our friends in Orwigsburg are preparing for the campaign. The war spirit is fairly abroad in our county. The different volunteer companies are recruiting and drilling, and so far, have been very successful in adding to their numbers. The roll of the drum and the shrill fife is heard nightly in our streets, and our town almost presents the appearance of a camp. If Schuylkill county fails to furnish a full Regiment of volunteers, she can and will muster more than a Battalion, should their services be required.

WIRE ROPE.—We refer our readers to an advertisement offering for sale Wire Rope, for the use of the Collieries. This rope is now almost exclusively used at the Collieries in England, where it has been thoroughly tried. It will last nearly if not quite as long as chains, and costs only about one-fourth the price. A rope 600 feet long, weighing about 600 lbs., which would cost only about $140, would be sufficient in strength for all the purposes required at the Collieries in this region. A number of certificates in its favor can be examined at this office.

HARPER'S PICTORIAL BIBLE.—This splendid work is now completed. One or two copies of the first impressions remain unsold at this office.—Those in want had better apply immediately as the publishers give notice that the price of the work will be advanced.

We have made arrangements to have the work bound in the most elegant style, at less than Philadelphia prices. Subscribers wishing them bound will please hand in their copies immediately.

THE GREAT NATIONAL FAIR.

Accounts from Washington state that this exhibition of American skill and ingenuity, far surpassed the expectations of its projectors. They were fearful that the time was too short for a proper display, but the indomitable spirit of enterprize which characterizes our people was equal to the emergency, and the fair more than realized all that the most ardent friends of American Industry could have expected. The display of articles was grand and beautiful, and the Saloon was visited by an immense concourse of people who thronged to Washington to view the vast display of the arts and manufactures of our country. No less than fifteen hundred persons left Baltimore in a single day for Washington to see the exhibition. The National Intelligencer says:

"It is particularly gratifying to observe that the numerous visitors who throng the spacious building do not parade through it as though they had been brought together from mere motives of curiosity to behold a rare and novel spectacle, but they are busily employed in examining the qualities, inquiring the prices, and other circumstances attending the various specimens of manufactures; thus enabling themselves, as American citizens strongly interested in the question, by ascertaining the value of the American to act knowingly upon it. This is all that the manufactures can require: they can have no more anxious wish than that the Public, the consumers of the articles which they produce, should have the means for judging for themselves. To this test the manufacturers may very safely and confidently trust the question of the encouragement due to American industry."

The display of the Household Furniture is said to be rich almost beyond comparison—a single set of chamber furniture from the establishment of Crawford Riddle of Philadelphia, made of rosewood, and beautifully carved, is valued at $8000.—The headstead alone is worth $2,500. The Silver Ware from the Messrs. Wilson's of Philadelphia is superb, and the prices are said to be 15 per cent less than the foreign wares can be purchased. The display of Carpets was very rich, and also the display of Military Equipments. The able editor of the New York Tribune, who is now at Washington, gives as follows his first impressions of the Fair:

"I have been looking over the fabrics already in position, amid the rattle and din of preparation, until my head aches, yet have glanced at but a portion of what is already awaiting inspection.—It is a vast and gratifying Exhibition. Of Cotton Goods, and indeed of woven textures generally, there has been no previous exhibition equal in extent and variety on this continent if anywhere. I speak not now of the fineness or excellence of the goods; of that another time. This is manifestly not an exhibition of show-goods, of articles get up for the occasion, or of novelties, varieties and luxuries. There are qualities of the commonest staples for every day wear. On most of the articles the width and price per yard is marked, and it is intended to be on all; on many the card tells you the fineness, weight, &c. as well as where made and by whom old. The People and their Representatives are invited to see just how shockingly they are *plundered* by the manufacturers and how much truth there is in the assertion that an increase of duties necessarily leads to an increase of prices. There are at least five hundred varieties of American Calicoes or Prints ranging from 6 to 20 cents per yard: some at 7 cents, which no lady need be ashamed to wear.—(The duty on Foreign Calicoes is 9 cents per square yard, or about 7 cents the running yard.) There are wide, Shirtings at 7 to 8 cents; good Sheetings at 6¼ to 13½ cents—the latter unsurpassable. For Summer wear, there are Jeans at 9 to 15 cents; sturdy doubled-twilled Checks costing 20 cents which Europe cannot match at 25; Drillings of every style at 8 to 12 cents—not to be rivalled in the China or any open market by any British fabrics. For Winter use, there are Kerseys and Plains from 14 cents per yard up to 30: Flannels from 20 to 31, (very good;) Cassimeres somewhat higher, but still within the easy reach of any man who can earn fifty cents a day. Mind you all these are the very descriptions of goods on which the present Tariff levies the highest rates of duties—so that it is said to tax the *poor man's* clothing 50,100, or even 150 per cent, according to the fancy of the declaimer. I do wish that all the poor men of the land could but look through this exhibition, learn the prices of every article they wear, and compare them with the prices of five years ago.

Here is a fact worth stating: A Boston importer—impelled by pure philanthropy, of course—has for a portion of this session occupied the Committee-room of the Capitol as an exhibition room for choice specimens of British Manufactures, comparing the quality and price with what he set forth as like specimens of American fabrics. This gentleman has been waited on in behalf of the Managers of the National Fair, and invited to take his choice of the tables in the exhibition, and there show his British specimens against the American fabrics which he has done his best to disparage. This would be no one-sided comparison, but an actual test, each party selecting its own goods. *He has declined the invitation.*—Every one can make his own comments.

I deeply regret that New York is very scantily represented in this Fair. Philadelphia has turned out nobly; Baltimore, profusely, of course; Boston and Lowell are on hand; even N. Hampshire has a hundred different specimens of goods; while Virginia surpasses all expectation. (I hear that about thirty cotton factories are now being erected in Georgia, which State is resolved to be to the South what Massachusetts is to the North.) Yet I have not met but a few packages of goods from our State, and those from Troy, Oneida Co., &c.

The suggestion we made a few weeks since, to hold a National Fair at Washington every other year, during the long sessions of Congress, seems to meet with great favor. We also suggested another project; that is, the erection of a building at Washington similar to the Patent Office, for depositing all new articles of American manufacture, together with the price, and where and by whom they are manufactured. Members of Congress would then have access to and become acquainted with the varied manufacturing interests of the country; its rise and progress, and the degree of perfection to which it has arrived under a wise and salutary system of protection.

☞ Our paper is rather warlike this week—but the anxiety of those of our readers, who have not access to the city papers, to receive all the news from the seat of war, will encroach to some extent on the miscellaneous part of our paper—and render it not quite so attractive to those already in possession of the news. But this is an evil inseparably connected with our position, which we cannot remedy at present—and we hope our readers abroad, and those more favored in our borough, will bear with us until "war's exciting alarms" cease to exist.

THE RIGHT DOCTRINE.—Proclaim it abroad. The North American, in alluding to the project of conquering Mexico, and annexing it to the U. States, makes use of the following strong but just remarks:

"The day that gives America an acre by the robber right of conquest—a title only recognized in the chancery of fiends—breaks the spell that has charmed her path with sunshine, and turns our future into guilt and gloom. America abhors any conquest—much more such a conquest—a nation of mongrels—and area for slaves. The country will submit to no further extension of the slave system."

The Money market is "tight" in our principal cities. The Banks and monied men, are wisely preparing for the passage of the thrice-rejected and odious Sub-Treasury Bill, which the present imbecile Administration threaten to afflict the country with again.

PROCESSION OF ODD FELLOWS.—The Procession took on Wednesday last, according to previous arrangement. A fall of rain the evening before, and the threatening aspect of the clouds on the morning, prevented a number from neighboring places from participating in the Procession—but notwithstanding these drawbacks, the number that turned out exceeded 350, all in full regalia. Among the visitors was a delegation of upwards of fifty from Reading, belonging principally to Montgomery Lodge and the Encampment of that Borough. They were accompanied with an excellent Band, who kindly favored our citizens with some exquisite music during the day. There were also respectable delegations from the Lebanon Lodge; Grace Lodge, Pinegrove; Carroll Lodge, Schuylkill Haven; Social Lodge, Minersville—and representations from Lodges in Tamaqua, Hamburg, Danville, and other places. The Banners carried in the Procession were beautifully executed, and the Regalia, nearly all of which was entirely new, was extremely rich and beautiful. We were particularly struck with the neat and manly appearance of the members, and the order and precision with which they marched.—The Marshal of the day, *John M. Crosland*, and his assistants, Messrs. Wolf, Brown, Taylor, Chichester and Bindley, all acquitted themselves with credit.

After marching through the streets as designated in the order of the Procession, they proceeded to the Grove, within the limits of the Borough, on the Port Carbon Road, where an address was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Bunn, of Philadelphia. Our engagements prevented us from being present, but we understand that it was appropriate to the occasion, and some portions eloquently delivered.

They afterwards partook of a cold collation served up at the Town Hall by Mr. Mudey, in his usual good style, for 500 persons. Owing to an oversight in the Committee who received our friends from Reading, they engaged Dinner at Geisse's Eagle Hotel, before they were aware that a collation had been prepared. This was an oversight which was exceedingly regretted by our citizen Odd Fellows, and it is to be hoped that our Reading friends will pardon the omission.

In the evening our visitors from Reading were escorted to the Depot, and amidst hearty cheers took their departure from our "city in the hills."

We must not neglect to mention that some of the rich Regalia, which attracted so much attention, was manufactured at the establishment of Mr. B. T. Taylor of this borough.

We know of no institution that has accomplished so much good in our community. Their object is to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, to comfort and help the widow and orphans, and to cheer up those who are cast down—in a word, that God-like virtue, "CHARITY," is the leading feature and principle of Odd-Fellowship. Long may the Order continue to flourish and increase in doing good.

TERRIFIC HAIL STORM.—On Saturday afternoon last, the western portion of our county was visited with an unusual violent and destructive Hail Storm. At Martin Weaver's house all the panes of glass, upwards of 80, exposed to the storm, were all broken—such was also the case in nearly all the houses on the Muddy Branch. Some of the hail stones were larger than a goose-egg, and a number were picked up the follawing day at the side of the road, where the ground remained covered to the depth of several inches. One person who took shelter under a coal shute, states that the pelting of the hail was like the blows of a sledge-hammer. The Gardens, Fruit and crops within the range of the storm, are all cut up and destroyed—and the poor horses engaged in hauling coal on the rail road, suffered dreadfully—the storm came on so suddenly that they could not be removed under covers—some ran away with the trains; others broke loose from the Cars and scampered off in every direction. The storm extended into Northumberland county above us, and into Berks below, prostrating trees, fences, barns, &c. in its course. The extent swept by the storm was not more than two miles wide—and it is fortunate that it was confined to so small a space.

Since the above was in type, we learn that the hail storm was very destructive at Danville—breaking glass in the Borough valued at $1000, and has completely destroyed the crops for about 6 miles in length along the Susquehanna. The farmers have turned their cattle in their wheat fields, which present the appearance of new mowed meadows.

☞ Some of the Papers in the South are loud in their denunciation of the Government for their inefficiency in the present state of affairs, and the utter neglect of their duties. Officially acquainted with the state of affairs on the Rio Grande, with a surplus of $12,000,000 in the National Treasury, up to the time of the actual commencement of hostilities, scarcely a dollar had been transferred South to meet the drafts likely to be made on the Treasury. A letter from New Orleans says:

The government have not a dollar of funds here—are buying every thing *on credit*, and paying enormously through the nose—the certificates of the Quartermaster, for amounts due for supplies, payable on demand so soon as funds arrive, are hawking about at every shaving shop at eight to ten per cent. discount on the face. I saw one today for $1,700, which was offered for $1,550, and no doubt $1,500 would have been accepted. Last week a heavy purchase of pork was made (1000 barrels) at 13½, when the same quality could have been bought for cash at $10½—other things in proportion—and this state of things with $12,000,000 of surplus funds in the Treasury.

The only consolation to be derived from such a shameful mismanagement of the affairs of Government, is that the heavier the expenditures, the greater necessity of sustaining our present Tariff—but God help the country if we should happen to be drawn into a war with England, with such an administration in power.

MILITARY DISCIPLINE.—During the Parade of the 3d Brigade in Philadelphia, on Monday last, under the command of Gen. Hubbell, the Harrison Artillery declined marching any further, stating that they were tired, and left the ranks.—They were ordered to return, but declined doing so. Col. Hubbell immediately despatched the Wayne Artillery, Capt. Murdock to compel the corps to return. When ordered to return, Lieut. McCullen, commanding, replied "that my men should be cut to pieces before they should go back;" then said Capt. Murdock, "I have orders that you shall go back, and I am determined to execute the order, let the consequences be what they may—you must obey, sir." Just as Captain M. was in the act of ordering "charge bayonets," the Harrison Artillery, to their credit, formed into line in the rear of the Wayne, and marched to where the Brigade had halted, and there received a severe rebuke from the General.

The Newtown (Bucks county) Journal states, that the Fly is making great havoc among the wheat crops in that county.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

PROGRESS of the CAMPAIGN

GREAT TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN ARMS.

Honor and renown to Gen. Taylor and his gallant band of Patriots. They have nobly sustained the Flag of the Nation against the most fearful odds,—and it now waves in triumph and and in a blaze of glory on the banks of the Rio Grande. These troops have achieved a victory almost unparallelled in the annals of warfare—a victory which would reflect credit on a Wellington or a Napoleon, and whatever opinion might have been entertained heretofore with regard to Mexican courage or bravery, these two battles have shown that our troops have had no mean or cowardly foe to contend with. Nothing but the coolness of Gen. Taylor, the indomitable courage, and the superior mode of warfare of our troops, saved them from utter annihilation.

On our first page will be found the first account of this brilliant affair which reached us, and below will be found a more

Graphic Account.

The Two Battles—The Americans Killed and wounded.

Correspondence of the New Orleans Bulletin.

POINT ISABEL, May 12th, 1846.

By the last departure I wrote you briefly of the operations of the army up to that time—of the bombardment of the fort opposite Matamoras, and the movement of Gen. Taylor with the main body to this place, for the purpose of strengthening its defences. Having effected this, he marched without waiting for reinforcements, on the evening of the 7th, and on the 8th at 2 o'clock, found the enemy in position, in front of a chaparal, which lies opposite to the timber of a stream called Palo Alto.

The train was closed up, the troops filled their canteens, and Gen Taylor promptly formed his line of battle as follows:—on the right was Ringgold's battery, 5th and 3d Infantry; then two eighteen pounders; then the Artillery Battalion. The left was composed of the 4th and 8th Infantry and Duncan's Battery. A daring reconnaissance by Capt. J. E. Blake, showed the enemy's line to be of nearly twice the strength of ours with heavy reserves in the Chaparal. The Mexicans opened the action with their Artillery, the range of which was hardly great enough to reach our line, which was moving slow on forward, and some got into the thickest of their shot and halted. Their fire was returned from all of our batteries, and I venture to say that no field of battle ever displayed such skill or rapidity of fire and evolution.

The first and only important movement attempted by the enemy, was a detachment of their cavalry to make a detour around a clump of chaperal on our right, and attack the train. Capt. Walker of the Texas Rangers, promptly reported this, and the 5th Infantry was detached to meet it, which it did handsomely, receiving the lancers in square, and driving them by a well delivered volley. The cavalry then pushed on again for the train, and found the 3d Infantry advancing in column of divisions upon them. They then retired, and as they repassed the 5th, they received a fire from Lieutenant Ridgely's two pieces, which had arrived at the nick of time. Two field pieces which were following the enemy's cavalry were also driven back with them.

Meanwhile the enemy's left was riddled by the 18 pounders, while slowly advanced up the road—Duncan's battery on the left pegle ting the enemy's guns, threw their fire into the Mexican Infantry, and swept whole ranks. The 8th infantry on the left suffered severely from the enemy's fire. The grass was set on fire at the end of an hour's cannonading, and obscured the enemy's position completely, and an interval of three quarters of an hour occurred. During this period our right, now resting on the, eighteen pounders, advanced along the wood, to the point originally occupied by the Mexican left, and when the smoke had cleared away sufficiently to show the enemy, the fire was resumed with increased rapidity and execution. Duncan divided his battery on the left giving a section to Lieut. Roland, to operate in front, and with the other he advanced beyond the burning pass (which was three feet high and the flames rolled 10 feet in the strong breeze) and seized the prolongation of the enemy's right, enfilading that flank completely. Night found the two armies in this position.

On the 9th, the General packed the heavy train, collected the enemy's wounded, in hospital, buried their dead, arranged our own wounded, (among whom we have to regret the sudden death of Maj Ringgold, and probably Capt. Page,) and moved on in pursuit of the enemy on the Matamoras road. They had taken post in the chaparal the second time, occupying the bed of a stream called Resaca de la Palma, with their artillery on the road at the crossing. I have no time for details of this affair. The General brought up his troops by battalions and posted them, with brief orders to find the enemy with the bayonet, and placed the artillery where they could act in the road.

The Dragoons were held in reserve, and as soon as the advance of our line had uncovered the Mexican batteries, Gen. Taylor told Capt. May that *his* time had come. "Here's the enemy's battery, sir—take it, *mettens volens*." May dashed upon it with his squadron, and lost one third of it, but he cleared the battery and captured its commander, General Vega, in the act of raising a port fire to fire a piece himself. May took his sword, and brought the General off. The enemy remanned the guns and lost them a second time to the 5th Infantry. Capt. Barbour of the 3d infantry, with his single company, and a few men from the 5th, who joined him in the chaparal, threw his back against a clump of bushes, and received and gallantly repelled a charge of cavalry. Capt Duncan, with his battery, did terrible execution—he is a most promising officer. Lieut. Ridgely was also among the foremost. It truth, it was a series of brilliant skirmishes and heavy attacks, in which 1500 fighting men met 6000 hand to hand—overwhelmed them with the precision of their volties, and the steady coolness of the bayonet—and drove them from the field with the loss of their artillery, baggage, train, stores, fixed ammunition, and near 2000 stands of muskets.

The fort, meanwhile, had been summoned, with true Mexican duplicity, and told that Taylor was flying.—The Matamoras newspapers and official bulletins call him a cowardly traitor. In answer to the summons, the officers plunged their swords into the parapet, and replied, "to the hilt" Up to the evening of the 9th, 1500 shells, and 3000 shot had been thrown, and the only loss was the brave commander, Major Brown, and 1 sergeant and 1 private killed, and 10 wounded.

The General returns to the army to-night and will cross the river to-morrow or next day. The fort will be increased in guns, and especially provided with mortars, which will bring the town to terms at once. The Navy will co-operate at the mouth of the river, and steamboats begin to carry supplies by that route.

Gen. Taylor has just given Gen. Vega a letter to Gen. Gaines, and a letter of credit on his factor. The officers here and in the mainbody vied with their commander in delicate attentions to a brave and accomplished enemy, who won their admiration on the field, and was taken like a soldier in full harness, and fighting gallantly to the last. Our loss is about 30 killed and 140 wounded. In haste, H. M.

Mexican loss at Palo Alto, set down by themselves at 450; at Resaca de la Palma 2000 missing. Since the battle our dragoons have been exchanged, grade for grade; and the Mexican wounded were sent over to Matamoras. By the next arrival you will hear of the fall of the town, and probably an offer from them to receive Mr. Slidell in any capacity.

It ought to be mentioned that some of our regiments are not full, and two of them only have about 300. Many instances occurred of the men handing their canteens to the wounded Mexicans and turning from them to fire upon others. There was not a single occurrence of cruelty to the enemy. The morale of the army is at its highest—it can now accomplish anything, and they would die for a commander who does not ask them to go where he is not willing to lead, and in whose judgement they fully confide.

The steamers Galveston and Augusta arrived at Brazos St. Jago on the 12th, and were discharging when the Col. Harney left.

The steam schooner James Page left Brazos St Jago in company with the Col. Harney, with despatches for Galveston; consequently, the next arrival to be looked for will be the steamship Galveston.

The officers killed and wounded on the American side are as follows:

Major Ringgold, wounded, (since dead.)
Major Brown, wounded, (since dead.)
Capt. Page, wounded.
Lieut. Luther, do.

May 12th.

Lieut. Inge, 2d Dragoons, killed.
Lieut. Cochrane, 4th Infantry, do.
Lieut. Chadburne, 8th do do.
Lieut. Col. McIntosh, wounded.
Lieut. Col. Payne, do.
Capt. Montgomery, do.
Capt. Hoge, do.
Lieut. Gates, do.
Lieut. Seldon, do.
Lieut. McClure, do.
Lieut. Burbank, do.
Lieut. Jordan, do.
Lieut. Fowler, do.

Number of non-commissioned Officers and privates not known.

From the Nashville Orthopolitan.

Gen. Zachary Taylor,

The Commander of the Army of Occupation.

Recent events have thrown this gentleman so prominently before the public, that we feel disposed to gratify the strong desire, expressed by many, by giving some of the incidents of his life.

Gen. Taylor entered the army in 1808, immediately after the attack on the Chesapeake, and has been in the service of his country from that time to the present. Having entered the army as a Lieutenant of Infantry, he had risen to the command of a company at the beginning of the *last war*.

For his gallant defence of *Fort Harrison* on the 5th of September, 1812, President Madison conferred upon him the Brevet rank of Major, and he is now, the *oldest breevet* in the army.

In 1832 he became Col. of the 6th Infantry; with this regiment he went to Florida in 1836, where he was always foremost in danger.

On the 25th of December, 1836, Col. Taylor at the head of a detachment of about 500 men, composed of parts of the 1st, 4th and 6th regiments of U. S. Infantry and some Missouri volunteers, met about 700 Indians, under Alligator, Sam Jones and Coa-coo-che, on the banks of the Okee-cho-bee. This battle was sought by the Indians, for the day before the engagement, Col. Taylor received a challenge from Alligator, telling him where to find him, and bantering him to *come on*. Col. Taylor desired nothing better, and immediately pushed on, at a rapid march to the expected battle-ground, fearful that the wily Indian might change his purpose. The Indians had a strong position in a thick swamp, covered in front by a small stream, whose quicksands rendered it almost impassable, but Col. T. pushed through the quicksands and swamps in the face of a deadly fire from a concealed foe, driving the Indians before him. The action was long and severe—the Indians yielding the ground inch by inch, and then only at the point of the bayonet. After three hours of bloody contest, the Indians were routed and pursued with great slaughter, until night. This was the last stand the Indians ever made, in a large body, and the only instance in which they voluntarily gave battle. Though Col. Taylor won the day it was at the expense of 120 killed and wounded—more than one-fourth of his force. Two Colonels (Col. Thompson of the 5th Infantry, and Col. Gentry of the Missouri Volunteers,) fell at the head of the troops. Capt. Van Swearingen and Lieuts. Brooke and Carter, also fell in the engagement.

During the whole of the engagement, Col. Taylor remained on horseback, passing from point to point, cheering his men to the conflict, and exposed to the Indian rifle every moment. The spirit with which the commander and all his force entered into the conflict, was exhibited in some verses written on the occasion, by a soldier.

"There's battle in your hammock black,
There's lightening in your cloud,
Hark! Hark! to the music, comrades dear,
For the Indian yell is loud;
For the Indian yell is loud, my boys,
And the rifle's flash is free,
But the field of battle is our home,
And happy, happy, men are we,
And happy men are we," &c.

For this battle, Mr. Poinsett, Secretary of War, rendered merited praise to all engaged, in his communication to Congress. The *Breevet of Brigadier General* was conferred on Col. Taylor, and he was given the command in Florida which he resigned in 1840, after four or five years arduous and indefatigable service in the swamps and hammocks of Florida.

After his retirement from Florida, he was assigned to the command of the 1st Department of the Army, including the States of Louisiana, Mississippi Alabama, &c., with his head quarters at Fort Jesup, Louisiana.

His position gave him the command of the Army of Occupation, but the usage of the service would have justified the government in assigning to that command either of the six general officers of the regular army whose rank is higher than his. But it may be fairly presumed that the high character, gallant services and great experience of Gen. Taylor, aside from his geographical position, pointed him out as the appropriate commander of an army which was to plant our flag upon the Rio del Norte.

Gen. Taylor is about 56 years old; is a man of much general information; an excellent and tried soldier; a skilful and prudent commander, whose traits of character are; a wise precaution in providing for the hour of trial, and a fearless, reckless courage in battle.

He is a Kentuckian by birth and all that that word implies. He is an American in heart, and stamped with all the elements of a hero by nature. Under his command the Flag of the Union will receive no dishonor on the banks of the Rio Grande!

MEXICO.—Gen. Waddy Thompson, late Minister to Mexico has just issued an interesting work entitled "Recollections of Mexico." As everything relating to this country at the present juncture of affairs is read with interest, we make a few extracts from the work giving a description of the city of Mexico:

The City of Mexico.

The city of Mexico is said to be the finest built city on the American Continent. In some respects it certainly is so. In the principal streets the houses are all constructed according to the strictest architectural rules. The foundations of the city were laid, and the first buildings were erected by Cortes, who did everything well which he attempted,—from buildings house, or writing a couplet, to conquering an empire. Many of the finest buildings in Mexico are still owned by his descendants. The public square is said to be unsurpassed by any in the world; it contains some twenty or fifteen acres paved with stone. The cathedral covers one entire side, the palace another; the western side is occupied by a row of very high and substantial houses, the second stories of which project into the street the width of the pavement; the lower stories are occupied by the principal retail merchants of the city. The most of these houses were built by Cortes, who, with his characteristic sagacity and an avarice which equally characterized him in the latter part of his life, selected the best portion of the city for himself.

The President's Palace, formerly the palace of the viceroys, is an immense building of three stories high, about five hundred feet in length, and three hundred and fifty wide; it stands on the site of the palace of Montezuma. It is difficult to conceive of so much stone and mortar being put together in a more tasteful and imposing shape; it has much more the appearance of a cotton factory or penitentiary than what it really is; the windows are small, and a parapet wall runs the whole length of the building, with nothing to relieve the monotony of its appearance except some very indifferent ornamental work in the centre; there are no doors in the front either of the second or third stories—nothing but disproportionately small windows, and too many of them; the three doors, and there are only three in the lower story, are destitute of all architectural beauty or ornament. Only a very small part of this palace is appropriated to the residence of the President; all the public offices are here, including those of the heads of the different departments; ministers of war, foreign relations, finance and justice, the public treasury, &c., &c. The halls of the house of deputies and of the senate are also in the same building and last and least the botanic garden. After passing through all sorts of filth and dirt on the basement story you come to a dark narrow passage which conducts you to a massive door, which when you have succeeded in opening, you enter an apartment enclosed with high walls on every side but open at the top, and certainly not exceeding eighty feet square, and this is the botanic garden of the palace of Mexico; a few shrubs and plants and the celebrated manita tree, are all that it contains. I have rarely in my life seen a more gloomy and desolate looking place. It is much more like a prison than a garden. A decrepit, palsied old man, said to be more than a hundred years old, is the superintendent of the establishment; no one could have been selected more in keeping with the general delapidation and dreariness of this melancholy affair.

But the cathedral, which occupies the site of the great idol temple of Montezuma, offers a striking contrast. It is five hundred feet long, by four hundred and twenty wide. It would be superfluous to add another to the many descriptions of this famous building which have already been published. Like all other churches in Mexico, it is built in the Gothic style. The walls of several feet thickness, and made of unhewn stone and lime.—Upon entering it, one is apt to recall the wild fictions of the Arabian Nights; it seems as if the wealth of empires was collected there. The clergy of Mexico do not, for obvious reasons, desire that their wealth should be made known to its full extent; they are, therefore, not disposed to give any full information upon the subject, or to exhibit the gold and silver vessels, vases, precious stones, and other forms of wealth; quite enough is exhibited to strike the beholder with wonder. The first object that presents itself on entering the cathedral is the altar, near the centre of the building; it is made of highly-wrought and highly polished silver, and covered with a profusion of ornaments of pure gold. On each side of this altar runs a balustrade, enclosing a space about eight feet wide and eighty or a hundred feet long. The balusters are about four feet high, and four inches thick in the largest part; the hand-rail, from six to eight inches wide. Upon the top of this hand-rail at the distance of six or eight feet apart, are human images, beautifully wrought, and about two feet high. All of these, the balustrade, hand rail, and images, are made of a compound of gold, silver, and copper—more valuable than silver. I was told that an offer had been made to take this balustrade, and replace it with another of exactly the same size and workmanship of pure silver, and to give half a million of dollars besides. There is much more of the same balustrade in other parts of the church; I should think in all of it, not less than three hundred feet.

As you walk through the building, on either side there are different apartments, all filled from the floor to the ceiling, with paintings, statues, huge candlesticks, waiters, and a thousand other articles, made of gold or silver. This, too, is only the every day display of articles of least value; the more costly are stored away in chests and closets. What must it be when all these are brought out, with the immense quantities of precious stones which the church is known to possess? And this is only one of the churches of the city of Mexico, where there are between sixty and eighty others, and some of them possessing little less wealth than the cathedral; and it must also be remembered, that all the other large cities, such as Puebla, Guanalajara, Guanajuato, Zatatecas, Durango, San Louis, Potosi, have each a proportionate number of equally gorgeous establishments.

The Buildings of Mexico.

There is not, I believe, a house in the city without a court, of greater or less dimensions, in proportion to the size of the building. There is only one door on the lower floor, and none at all on the outside of the upper story. This door is very strongly built, and high enough for a coach to pass through: it opens into the passage through which you pass to the steps leading to the upper stories, where alone everybody lives except the lowest classes. In all the establishments of the better classes, the basement story is only occupied by the servants and as lumber-rooms, and what strikes one as very strange, as stables. I do not suppose there is such a separate building in the city as a stable. In visiting Count Cortuna, for example, whose whole establishment is altogether princely, and others of equal splendor and luxury, I found this entirely occupied by horses and carriages to make my way to the most spacious halls, filled with paintings of the great masters, and furnished throughout in a style altogether gorgeous.—In some of the larger private buildings thirty or forty different families reside; each one having rented one or two rooms; all entering at the only outside door into the court, which is the common property of all—and from which each one has an entrance to his own rooms on the ground floor or the gallery above, which runs all around the building. I do not think that the area covered by the city of Mexico can exceed two miles in length, and a mile and a half in width; a very small space to be occupied by a population of nearly two hundred thousand. But it is not at all surprising when you see thirty or forty families, enough to make a respectable village, all huddled away in one house, and consider what a large number sleep in the open air that delightful climate. How pure must be the atmosphere when the city of Mexico is so remarkably healthy notwithstanding such a crowded and filthy mode of living, and with a tropical sun shining upon the moist surface of the whole valley! One would think the latter sufficient of itself to produce the most fatal malaria.

It is a little curious that whilst the buildings and population of Mexico are thus crowded into so small a space, and the rents are three times as high as in the city of New York, yet all around the city there is a vacant ground, and as dry as the city itself, which may be had almost for the taking. I was riding out with a friend one evening when he showed me a square containing between five and six acres, in the rear of the Plaza de Toros on the outskirts of the city, and not more than half or three quarters of a mile from the public square, which he had just purchased for four hundred dollars. Why then lot are not improved and the city extended, I cannot easily comprehend.

It is stated that Mr. Cunard is arranging a line of Steam Ships to run between Liverpool and New York, on the alternate weeks with those running to Boston, making a weekly communication by steam across the Atlantic.

☞ That good old patriotic Governor Jones says a Nashville paper, has arrived in that City ready to proceed to the seat of war with a company of 64 men, many of whom have already done good service in defence of their country's rights and honor.

The Road to Mexico.

The following table will be read with interest at the present time:

Distance from San Antonio to the following places:

	Miles		Miles.
Rio Grande, at the Presidio,	150	Hacienda San Juan de Venegas	25
San Juan de Nava	22	Village of Cedral	10
San Fernando	15	Town of Matagualа	20
San Juan de Mata	15	Hac. Represadara	25
Rosita	25	" Laguna Seca	20
River Sabinas	35	Village of Benado	30
Hacienda of Alamas	20	Hacienda Bocas	33
" Encines	20	" Penasco	20
" Hermanes	15	City San Louis Potosi	10
" Ajuntas	23		600
Town of Monclava	17	Hacienda Pila	15
	355	Town of Jeral	30
Castano	10	Hacienda Cubo	20
Ranche of Bajan	20	Town of Dolores	35
Tank of San Felipe	33	" S. Miguel Grande	30
Hacienda Anelo	20	Hacienda Santa Rosa	34
" Messia	22	City of Queretero	13
Village of Capellanillo	25		
Saltillo	10		977
		Hacienda Colorado	15
	505	Town San Juan del Rio	28
Hacienda Agua Nueva	15	Hac. Arroya Saco	30
" Incarnacion	35	Village of Tula	30
" San Salvador	30	City of Mexico	50
" Salado	22		
			1130
Ranche los Ancinas	607		

From the N. O. Commercial Times.

Two Days Later from the Army of Occupation.

An Expedition started to attack Barrita—Gen. Taylor preparing to cross the Rio Grande, and attack and occupy Matamoras.

The steamer James L. Day, Capt. Griffin, arrived this morning from the Brazos St. Jago, which place she left on the 16th inst., bringing intelligence two days later than that by the Galveston.

The news is important! Captain Griffin informs us that General Taylor left Point Isabel on the morning of the 13th with about two hundred men, and a supply of provisions for the army at the camp. After proceeding a short distance, however, he deemed it expedient to return and increase his escort, and take with him a large quantity of supplies. He did so, and took up his march again for the camp, on he morning of the 14th, with from six to eight hundred men, a park of artillery, and about two hundred and fifty wagons. He was met about midway between Point Isabel and the camp, late on the evening of the 15th Up to that time he had not met the enemy, nor was it anticipated that he would encounter opposition, as the general impression was that the enemy had retreated from our