

# Columbia Democrat.

"I have sworn upon the Altar of God, eternal hostility to every form of Tyranny over the Mind of Man."—Thomas Jefferson

H. WEBB, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Volume X.]

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA. SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1846.

Number 15.

## OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRAT.

SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN, A FEW DOORS BELOW MARKET-STREET.

### TERMS:

The COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT will be published every Saturday morning, at TWO DOLLARS per annum payable half yearly in advance, or Two Dollars Fifty Cents, if not paid within the year. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months; nor any discontinuance permitted, until all arrearages are discharged.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square will be conspicuously inserted at One Dollar for the first three insertions, and Twenty-five cents for every subsequent insertion. A liberal discount made to those who advertise by the year. LETTERS addressed on business, must be post paid.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

From the New Orleans Picayune.

#### THE HEROINE OF FORT BROWN

More familiarly known in the Army of Occupation as the 'The Great Western,' was first brought to the notice of public in a few remarks by Lieut. Bragg, at the collation given by the army to the Louisiana delegation, at Gen. Arista's headquarters, in Matamoras. He mentioned her gallant conduct and noble bearing during the whole of the bombardment. A few of the incidents of the life of this extraordinary woman, which I have been able to pick up in camp will be read with some interest; they prove that the sex has not been unrepresented in the sole stirring and bloody scenes on the Rio Grande.

The Great Western belongs to a class known and recognized in the organization of the army as 'Laundresses,' three of whom are allowed to draw rations in each company, and are required to wash for the soldiers thereof, at a price regulated by a council of officers. She arrived at Corpus Christi last autumn, with the 7th Infantry, to one of the companies of which her husband was attached. Up to the army marching for the Rio Grande, she performed all her appropriate duties, and in addition, kept a 'mess' for the young officers of the regiment.

When the army took up its line of march for the Rio Grande, the women, with a few rare exceptions, were left behind to come by sea. A very few procured ponies and followed their husbands on their tedious and arduous march. Not so with 'The Great Western.' Her husband was sent by water, whether on duty or for disability I am unable to learn; but she, true to her character, declaring that the boys (young officers of her mess) must have somebody to take care of them, purchased a mule and cart, packed her baggage, cooking utensils and supplies mounted behind her donkey, with whip in hand and displayed upon her whole route qualities and attainments which the best teamsters in the train might have envied. During the whole journey she kept up the 'mess,' a relief from the burdens of which is the greatest boon to an officer on the march. The brigade to which she was attached arrived upon the banks of the Sal Colorado as Gen. Taylor was preparing to cross with the Dragoons and the 1st brigade of Infantry. The Mexicans upon the opposite bank were making great demonstrations by blowing bugles, etc. etc. After calmly surveying the scene from her cart, she remarked, with great coolness and determination, that 'if the General would give her a good strong pair of lungs, she would wade that river and whip every scoundrel that dare show himself.' It may be imagined that the men were not backward in crowing after that.

When Gen. Taylor marched for Point Isabel with his army, on the 1st May, the 7th Infantry, and of course, the Great Western, remained to garrison

Fort Brown. How that noble Regiment and the two companies of Artillery left in this work sustained themselves, is already known, but nothing will more gratify them than to have justice done their gallant heroine, to whom they speak in the warmest terms. She with all the other women left behind, some eight or ten, moved into the fort, where her mess was soon put in operation, the position of her tent and fire being near the centre of the fort. The enemy's fire opened on the 3rd just as she was commencing her arrangements for the 'boys' breakfast. Every security that could possibly be provided was offered to the women, to whom the gallant soldier always gives his first attention. The magazines were the only 'horn proofs' in the fort, and as the government had sent no ammunition to fill them, the next most inflammable materials—the women—found perfect security in them. These women, however, be it said to the honor of the sex, were not idle. Most nobly did they ply their needle in preparing sand bags out of the officers and soldiers' tents, where with to strengthen the work, and protect the artillerymen when serving their guns. The Great Western, true to herself again, declined participating in this protection or sewing, and continued her labors at the fire, in the open air. From the firing of the first gun all hands were at their posts, Lowry's and Bragg's artillery speaking in tones of thunder the indignation they felt at thus being saluted on a bright May morning. When the hour for breakfast, but few expected the luxury which awaited them. The mess was as well attended to as if nothing but a morning drill with blank cartridges had come off, and in addition a large supply of delicious hot coffee was waiting the thirsty, who had to call and partake, without distinction of rank. To some of the Artillery men, who were unable to leave their guns, the beverage was carried by this 'ministering angel,' and, as may readily be believed, not a belle of Orleans, as much as she might be admired and beloved, ever met a more gracious reception. The fire of the artillery was kept up almost incessantly until dinner hour—a soldier's dinner hour is at 1 o'clock—when the good and generous woman again provided for those who were almost utterly exhausted & worn out, a delicious dish of bean soup which is declared by the Mexicans to be the foundation of that invincible spirit which they have seen so strikingly displayed by the Yankee soldiers. This she distributed again, without money, and without price. Thus did she continue to discharge her duties during the seven days that the enemy kept up an incessant cannonade and bombardment. She was ever to be found at her post; her meals were always ready at the hour, and always of the best the market afforded. When the despatches were made up for Gen. Taylor, on the evening of the 4th, a number of officers and others had written to their friends at Point Isabel, and among them 'The Great Western' had found time to communicate with her husband and I have frequently heard it said, by those who saw her letter, for it was loudly called for and made public, that her description, if not the most accurate, was certainly the most graphic which was given of the events of the 3d and 4th May.

my should dare approach within range of her piece. They never did, and our heroine most rest contented with the reflection that she nobly performed her duty, and will long be remembered by the besieged garrison of Fort Brown.

She is probably as celebrated for her personal appearance as she is for her deeds: With an erect and majestic carriage, she glories in a height—six feet—which entitles her to a place in the Grenadiers, any soldier of which might well envy her athletic but graceful form. But her reputation, the dearest of all things to a woman, is what she prides herself on. The tongue of slander has never dared to attack her well earned and well sustained character. With virtue as a basis, and such heroic conduct to build with, she never need fear the necessity of exercising her extraordinary physical ability in defence of that reputation. But if attacked, the defenders of Fort Brown will, I doubt not, be found pressing forward in her defence, and would be the dastard who receives a discharge of artillery from such gunners.

Your truly, H.

#### THE MORMON TEMPLE AT NAUVOO.

The Hancock Eagle published at Nauvoo gives the following description of the great Mormon Temple at that place, it says: We have made two different visits to this great monument of human industry and although our attention has been drawn to every apartment in it, yet such is the vast extent of the immense edifice and the complexity of its architectural designs that our observations have been necessarily very superficial. It stands in a most prominent position on the bluff which overlooks the lower town and river; such is the elevation of its spire, that it is distinctly visible from a distance of twenty or thirty miles in various directions. Viewed from the bank of the river, its whole appearance is grand and imposing. The material of which it is built, is white limestone, which has been worked and faced down to a perfect surface.

Its dimensions, as far as we can recollect are as follows:—Length 128 feet, width 88 feet, height of comb of roof 77 feet, from the ground to top of spire 170 feet. The upper windows of the steeple serve as an observatory, from which a magnificent view of the surrounding country may be had. The Mississippi is seen winding its serpentine form along the wooden valley to the North and South—the hills of Iowa rise in bold relief to the westward and lose themselves in the blue distance; while the prairies, fields, gardens and private buildings lie spread out like a map below.

The walls of the temple are of massive stone, and at least two feet thick. On either side, & at the end, are rows of graceful pillars, crowned with elaborately carved caps, upon the external surface of which is exhibited in bas relief, the face of the 'man in the moon,' and two hands grasping trumpets. Each pillar rests upon inverted crescents, and are at least 50 feet long. They are thirty in number, and the united cost of them is estimated at about \$100,000. The structure is lighted by four rows of windows, two of which are quadrilateral, and two circular. These, with the other novel architectural embellishments give the whole pile an original and not unpleasing aspect. All entrances are from the West, and the immense doorways are gained by a flight of stone steps. The interior contains a basement (in the centre of which stands the celebrated baptismal font), two great halls which extend nearly the entire length and breadth of the building; and a third hall underneath the roof, with small apartments on either side.

The baptismal font is a most extraordinary work, and will stand a monument of Mormon extravagance and grotesqueness of taste. It is an immense stone reservoir, rising upon the backs of twelve oxen, also cut out of stone, and as large as life. The effect of a first view of these rigid animals, standing in such a singular position, and wearing such mysterious countenances is somewhat startling; but a feeling of superstition soon gives way to curiosity, and the beholder is lost in wonder at the magnitude of the design, and extraordinary amount of labour that must have been expended in the erection of the work.

The hall on the first floor was intended as the regular meeting-place of the congregation, and when freed from the rubbish and surplus timber that now encumbers it, will have a beautiful and imposing effect. The architectural decorations are chaste and rich; and the two grand pulpits at the East and West ends, give to the whole an appearance of Oriental magnificence. The attic (as it may be called) is lighted from the roof and designed for a large school room. Leaving the body of the building, you ascend to the bell room of the steeple, thence to the clock room, and last to the observatory. The immense structure is a chef d'oeuvre of architecture, and will rank in grandeur with the largest and most costly edifices of modern times.—The entire cost of its erection is estimated at between 700 and 800 thousand dollars. The temple will be nearly completed and its readiness for dedication by the first of May.—After it shall have been consecrated, it will be abandoned as a place of religious worship by the sect that erected it, and either be sold or rented for a college. It has been examined by the agents of two or three different institutions; and from what we can learn, is likely to be transferred to the Methodist, by them to be used for literary and religious purposes.

#### ACCOUNT OF THE HESSIAN FLY.

Wheat being the great staple of our farmers any thing affecting its culture, will therefore be interesting not only to the farmer but the whole community. And as the fly, of all the enemies of that precious grain the most formidable, a short history of it may not be amiss. Here is a description from the pen, we believe of W. Gaylord: 'It is a very small black insect, not so large as a mosquito, with two fine transparent wings, from the roots of which three ribs diverge, as through the leaf of a plant. The body, when examined by a microscope, is found to be divided into four segments, with a few hairs observable on each. The legs are of a yellowish cast and transparent; the head inflected with a short proboscis.

This, as is common with nearly all other insects, passes through four distinct stages of existence: 1st, the egg; 2d the larva; 3d, pupa or dormant stage; and 4th, the perfect or winged insect. In this part of the country it passes through two generations in one season, and attacks the wheat both in spring and autumn. The fly or perfect insect, deposits the eggs in autumn soon after the young plants appear above ground, between the lowest part of the leaf and that which forms the stem, and as near the ground as possible. It resembles at first a very small white nit, and as it grows larger, becomes a slug gish almost inanimate maggot of a white color. In this state the proper and most natural food is the sap of that kind of green wheat which has the most delicate straw. It remains in this situation during the whole winter apparently in this chrysalis state, without suffering any injury from the frost or snow and in the spring, as soon as the weather becomes warm enough, and generally about the time vegetation has fairly commenced, it is transformed into the fly. In this state it performs the functions necessary for a continuation of its species. It lays its eggs between the straw or stem, and the sheath which encloses it as before described, and dies—and a new generation succeeds.

These eggs are soon hatched by the warmth of the season, and the young insects may be discovered in the form of small white maggots, within the sheath of the straw and just above the lower joint.—They here continue to feed on the sap and tender fibres of the plant, by reason of which it either withers and dies, or is stunted in its growth, so that the grain does not arrive at maturity. They are changed into the pupa state before harvest, and at this season while the wheat is yet green, their presence

may be readily detected by walking through the field, and pressing the heads with the fingers—those which feel soft and unfilled with grains, are those which have been injured by the insect. And if such stalks be examined they will be found near the lower joints, somewhat resembling a flax-seed, but smaller and slender, and of a dark brown color. They continue in this state until after harvest, and may be found upon the stubble in the field. Early they pass into their winged state, lay their eggs upon the young plants of wheat as before described. When the fly is about to issue from the pupa state into that of a perfect insect it disengages itself by boring a small round hole through the brown case in which it is enclosed, and through the sheath or the wheat just opposite to the place where it is lodged, and this hole may be easily discovered as long as the stubble remains entire.

AN IRISH INTERPRETER.

A Mexican passes through the camp with a large jug, curiously laced with strips of raw hide, suspended on his back by a belt running over his forehead, he is crying in his own language 'milk, milk.' A group of soldiers stop him and commence buying his grateful food. Everything goes on well as long as every cup full of milk delivered is promptly responded to by a picayune, holds out his cup and says in round English, 'Mr. Mexican, let me have some milk and I will pay you in the morning.' Mongrel stares eloquently, 'I don't understand you.' The soldier repeats his wish to purchase presently and to pay prospectively. The Mexican is still staring about for information. A good natured Irishman, who distinguished himself by his bravery in the battle of the 9th, comes to the relief of the embarrassed parties. Turning to the milk man he says in round Irishman, 'Ye mixed devil, don't ye understand that Jim Fry there wishes to get some milk on a credit, ye blackguard?' and Paddy turns on his heel perfectly satisfied that he has dissipated the matter of difficulty under consideration.—N. O. Tropic.

#### TIT FOR TAT.

A country fellow was passing down Washington street the other day, when a wag thrust his head out of a window of a boarding house, and sung out, 'Hello, there, Squire, when did come down?' Jonathan cast up at the window, and replied, 'I say, Mister, you'd better haul in your head, folks will think you keep a slaughter house, seeing a calf's head hanging out the window.'

#### Gems from Jean Paul.

One learns silence best among those who have none, and talkativeness best among those who are silent. The bier is the cradle of Heaven! When one does not hold still at the sting of a bee or fortune, the stung tears out and remains behind. The angel who can feel no resentment, yet must envy the man who over comes it.

A good physician, if he does not always save from disease, at least saves from a quack.

A slight affliction makes us beside ourselves; a great one restores us. A bell with a slight crack sounds dead, but when the crack is wider, it sounds clear again.

To men as to books, there are before and behind two empty covers—childhood and old age.

When thou forgettest, the man who wounds thy heart is like the sea worm that perforates the oyster shell, which flows up the wound with pearls.

Memory is the only paradise from which we cannot be expelled. Even our first parents were not banished thence.

#### REWARDS OF MERIT.

'Sam' said one little urchin to another yesterday—'Sam, does your schoolmaster ever give any rewards of merit?'

'I suppose he does,' was the rejoinder, 'he gives me a licking regularly every day, and says I merit two!'

Contemplated Independence of the Northern States of Mexico.—The rumors from Santa Fe render it not unlikely that the Northern States of Mexico will of themselves facilitate the object for which the application to that place and that to California are no doubt intended to accomplish. A Gentleman recently from Santa Fe, writes to the St. Louis Republican, that Gov. Armijo informed him just before he left, that there was at that time a measure in contemplation, to form a new confederation of States in Northern Mexico; that they proposed to declare their independence of Mexico, and then to unite as a Republic; that, to secure the cooperation of the Department of New Mexico in this enterprise, Mr. Hickus, a lawyer of some celebrity, from Chihuahua, had visited him at Santa Fe, and developed the plan to him. The States of Zacatecas, Durango and Sonora, Tamaulipas, and Nueva Leon, are to be united in one State. Coahuila, Chihuahua and California, were parties to the contemplated revolution, and the object of the mission of Mr. Hickus to Santa Fe, was to enlist Gov. Armijo in the struggle. Gov. Armijo is understood to have returned an evasive answer, leaving it to time to determine the most politic course for him to pursue.

If such be the disposition of the people of Northern Mexico, Col. Kearny and Col. Stevenson will not have any serious difficulties to contend against after they reach their destination. With 1500 U. S. troops in Santa Fe, Armijo will soon come to a conclusion what is best to do. If these states separate from the central government, it will not be long before they are united to our own. They constitute the best and richest portion of Mexico.

#### KISSING.

Dow, jr., closed a sermon on kissing with the following quaint advice:—'I want you, my young sinners, to kiss and get married; and then devote your time to morality and money making. Then let your homes be well provided with such comforts and necessities as piety, pickles, pots and kettles, brushes brooms benevolence, bread charity cheese faith flour affection elder cider civility vinegar virtue wine and wisdom. Have these always on hand, and happiness will be with you. Do not drink anything intoxicating—eat moderately—go about business after breakfast—lounge a little after dinner, chat after tea, and kiss after quarrelling, then all the joy, the peace, and the bliss the earth can afford shall be yours, until the grave close over you, and your spirits are borne to a brighter and happier world.'

#### A Woman's Advantages.

A woman may say what she likes to you without the risk of getting knocked down. She can take a snooze after dinner, while her husband has to go work. She can dress herself in neat and tidy calicoes for a dollar, while a man has to fork over at least forty to get a respectable suit.

She can go forth into the street without being invited to treat at every coffee house.

She can paint her face if too pale, or flour if it be too red.

She can wear corsets if too thick, or ruffles if too thin.

She can stay at home in time of war, and wed again if her husband is killed.

She can eat, drink and be merry, without it costing her a penny.

She can get divorced from her husband, whenever she sees any one she likes better.

She can run in debt, and make her husband pony up the cash.

And she can wear shoes, while her husband has to lug to get his boots on.