democratic Banner.

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BY MOORE & THOMPSON.

TER IR IR ER E

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POETRY.

For the Banner. LINES

BUGGESTED BY MY DEPARTURE FROM HOME

I miss thee, brother, at the evening's hour, When we were wont in unison to raise Our gladsome voices u nto God, to praiso Him for his favors past-and then pray His future guidance. I have not the pow'r To praise my Maker whilst thou art away.

I miss thee, brother, at the festive board, Round which a happy family would meet And with a kindly smile there greet, Prepared each others woul and we to share; The meul no longer pleasure doth afford- [there

I miss thee, brother, on that holy day, When we unto the house of God would go To learn of Him who came to banish wo, And from the curse of sin his people free! My thoughts do wander oft-and when I pray, My prayer's a mockery-I think of thee.

Curwensville, October, 1846.

The Defence of the Alamo

ted to the National Intelligencer SAN ANTONIO DE BEXAR, Texas.) }

On the 14th instant I wrote you a very brief letter announcing my arrival at this stormy follaby to the stormy passions of shower which they encounter fells them to New Orleans, by any vessel that offers, fittel light for a moment upon the slum- doom is sealed. In quick succession, riform the most common means of transmis- bering army, and expire. The reign of sion. This place is very different from any in the Republic as it was, and the houses and streets are not more extraordinary than the habits and appearance of the people. The most interesting object, however, in the vicinity, is the Alamo .-It is now a shapeless mass of ruins. The chapel is delaced and broken down, and the walls of the fort are fast crumbling to decay. Time and the elements have almost completed what the Mexican artille. ly commenced, and the Coloseum of Texms will soon form but a mattered and mournful monument of its own existence.

On the 23d day of February, 1836. San-

ta Anna entered San Antorio de Bexar, ated in his own image, yet endowed with that quarter has for some time been growand took possession of the town without such unhallowed passions. Perhaps with ing slower and slower. Rifles have dropfiring a gun. The small garrison of one in the chapet of the Alamo, consecrated mand of Wm. Barret Travia, retired as tinguished by the emblem of man's salva-the advanced, to the Alamb, on the oppoalte side of the river, determined there to of the tyrant, that God and their own enconquest, so easily effected of the town, the Mexican General prepared for an immediate attack upon the Alamo. He ordered breastworks to be thrown up on every commanding point, and artiflery to be planted wherever it could be most effective. One battery was completed on the right bank of the river by the 25th, and

on this day the siege commenced. It is a dark and gloomy morning, devoting in the work of death upon which her the Mexican battery awakens therechoes far and wide, and rouses fro.n their slumsight for a single moment of their wily ican vengeance. and remorseless enemy : they watch the studied direction of every gun ; they see come, and the walls of the citadel tremble under the shock of the iron-hail, and the

the latter establish a watch for the night, been accomplished. and endeavor to seek that repose which which they know will come to-morrow.

The morning of the 26th dawns, and reveals to the occupants of the fort the effect of the midnight labors of their enemy, in the establishment of two additional batteries within the Alameda of the Alamo. The bayonets of the infantry, crossed over the river during the night, glitter in the morning beams, and the plumes of the cavalry are seen waving on the eastern hills, to intercept the expected aid from that only for the fire of artillery. The place quarter. The contest is renewed by a slight skirmish between a few of the Texans, sent in quest of wood and water, and another of cavalry. If the first shrink, All things have changed !-Brother, thou art not a detachment under the Mexican General Sesma; but this is a mere overture to the by the sabres and pistols of their comgrand performance of the day. The thunders of the heavy ordnance, under the direction of Col. Ampudia, are soon roused into action: volley after volley is poured There is no pause, no cessation. Still Letter from an officer of the Army to his and the Mexican General can see no profriend in North Carolina, communica. gress. Baffled but not discouraged, he of the besieged. The shouts from the fort place. We are so far removed from the those contending hosts. The darkness is to the earth by platoons. Travis shows United States that intercourse is almost broken only by the feeble blaze of a few himself on the walls, cheering on his un-achieved a victory shedding lustre upon prohibited. Mails are so irregular that huts, fired by the Texans, which have fur- daunted followers. Around him are Eno reliance is to be placed in them, and nished a cover to their enemy. The flames vans, Crockett, and Bonham, roused to a private expresses to La Baca, and thence curl upwards with a sickly glare, throw a last struggle, for they know that their not without the loss of many gallant and

darkness and of silence is resumed.

ther side. Those within the fort, with round them. The battalion of Toluca, spirits unsubdued, and with energies weathe flower of the Mexican army, is reduckened but not exhausted, are applying ed from fourteen hundred to twenty-three. their limited resources to the purposes of Men have become for a moment regarddefence. No heart falters ; no pulse less of their officers, and are almost delirthrobs with diminished power; no hand jous, from the crice of anguish which no shrinks from the labor that necessity im- discipline can restrain, and which come poses; all is confidence and determina- from their fallen and expiring comrades. holiness of the cause, and the certainty of ted forces, by the aid of threats and enbrings no rest to those whom God has cretheir faces to the Alamo. The firing in their faces to the Alamo. The firing in the recayune as the friend of Mousson, and Lieut Jacobs as the friend of Shivors.

The New Orleans Picavine contains hundred and thirty men, under the com to the worship of the Almighty, and dis- death, while others cling to their weapons them by such terms." This is more than may be bowed in prayer to the God of one the muzzles drop; the last rifle is offer whatever resistance (to the progress battles for deliverance from their sanguinary foe : but that foe takes no heed of ergies should permit. Flushed with the Sabbaths. Exclusive followers, as they ous in that awful moment, Travis receives proclaim themselves, of the true church, a shot, staggers, and falls. He dies not they down to destruction the very temple unaverged. A Mexican officer rushes they have erected for its worship; and, upon him, and is about to plunge his sakissing the cross suspended from their bre into the bosom of the fallen man, when necks, and planted before every camp, gathering all his energies for a last effort, they point their guns upon the image of he bathes his own sword in the blood of that Saviour they once made the tutelary his enemy, and they die together. deity of the Alamo. The fire of their aras they roll on. Morning, mid-day, and ted to a dark and unholy purpose. Exul- evening are passed, yet there is no latter- before the storms of autumn. The conflict one. They had about fifty pieces of heaing among those who are defending the becomes hand to hand. Each man strugting in the work of death upon the street, in the better to behold the success of his designs, and establishes his headquarters in indomitable hearts within quail not before a small stone building yet standing. The signal is given, and ere the sun has risen spite of that enemy's vindictive vigilance. upon the scene, the roar of artillery from the little garrison receives from Gonzales that the slain are piled up in heaps. Death quiring great labor, and executed in the little garrison receives from Gonzales that the slain are piled up in heaps.

them, there are stout hearts and willing until it falls her efforts fail not.

The siege has continued for ten days .hands ready to repair every breach, and to restore from the interior whatever may The Mexican General has received large as fast as created by the eager efforts of in his efforts to batter down the walls, but those who will permit no evidence of success to cheer the hopes of their enemy.—
Travis; but it is written in the heart of
only upon certain death. They fall, but
only upon certain death. They fall, but
their places are still supplied; and so
their plains when there is a pause in the
when the cannonade is suspended on the
term plains when there is a pause in the

Santa Anna has described in the dead seemed to rise un before

They are as different from our description of
They are as different from our description of tern plains when there is a pause in the when the cannonade is suspended on the work of demolition. The firing ceases 6th of March, Santa Anna has determined work of demolition. The firing ceases 6th of March, Santa Anna has determined him like armed men from the testh of Cadhim like a

ger and besieged; the former raise new again goes down, the flag is no longer seeu, dies, and the Alamo has fallen. entrenchments to prosecute the assault; for the deed of which it was the sign has

It is midnight. Stars are smiling in the From the New Orleans Commercial Times, Oct. 21. shall give them fresh vigor for the contest firmament, and the repose of paradise seems hovering over the armed hosts, and hills, and plains which encircle the Alamo. Now murmur rises upon the air, which gradually becomes more and more distinct. Lights move to and fro in the distance, and indicate some unusual movement. The besieging army is in motion. There is no advance by columns. The force of the Mexicans is so great, that the fort may be surrounded, leaving intervals is girdled by a deep line of infantry, and these are hemmed in and surrounded by they must be thrust forward to the assault rades. Suddenly the batteries are in a blaze, and from their concentric positions pour forth radii of fire pointing to a single centre. Amid the thunders thus created, into the fort, and answered only at rare their own shouls scarcely less terrible, intervals, by the shouts of those within .- and the blasts of bugles, the Mexicans advance to the Alamo. A sheet of flame the can nonade goes on; shells fly hissing from rifles that never failed is the answer have yet been driven from point to point through the air, and balls bury themselves to the charge. The infantry recoil and within the ramparts; but night comes on, fall back upon the cavalry; their ranks tion. Such terms have been granted as with the morning light, to enter upon his on the plain, while the officers are endeatask. The north wind sweeps over the voring to re-form their scattered masses.

dreds to their long account. The Mexiting and the country will deeply sympa, the parties were to meet with their friends the country will deeply sympa. fle after rifle is discharged, sending hun-On the next day the Mexicans appear cans are again repulsed; they fell back inactive. There is but little firing on ei- disheartened by the dead and the dying at their lives. ped from many a vigorous hand, now cold ficers, who besought him not to dishonor

loaded and discharged, and the Mexicans Palace, under Gen. Worth, who speaks in have gained the wall. Proudly conspict. have gained the wall. Proudly conspicu-

tional victims for the luneral pyre, soon to he struggles on. Crockett has been conbers the yet sleeping inhabitants. But be kindled by Santa Anna on the surrounspicuous in the melee, wherever the blows nance, planted so as to effectually cover fence of Monterey, contrary to the wishspicuous in the melee, wherever the blows nance, planted so as to effectually cover fence of Monterey, contrary to the wishspicuous in the melee, wherever the blows nance, planted so as to effectually cover fence of Monterey, contrary to the wishspicuous in the melee, wherever the blows nance, planted so as to effectually cover fence of Monterey, contrary to the wishspicuous in the melee, wherever the blows nance, planted so as to effectually cover fence of Monterey, contrary to the wishthe defenders of the Alamo have not lost ding hills, as a human hecatomb to Mex- fell hottest and thickest. He has forced their entrance. his way over piles of the dead bodies of The American army did not exceed 5,- ving himself erected many of the defenhis enemies, and has reached the door of 000, and 700 of these were reserved as a ces of the city, and taken it upon himself gers, from every point around the missiles the chapel. Here he determines to make camp guard to protect the camp from for- to protect it at all hazards, his responsiof destruction concentrate upon the Ala- his last stand. At one glance of his eye, ces of Mexican cavalry; so that we had bilities bore heavily upon him, and after as if even at that distance they could hear on according to the command to fire: and when it does to the fire and t Provisions are not yet exhausted, but the Evans is no more; Bowie expires upon a left behind. There was only the Flying towards him. But this is the reasoning ammunition is almost gone. Water for bed of sickness, pierced to the heart by a Artillery, which, in order to do much ex- of others; we do not discard or adopt it. tragments of stone are whirled aloft by the days has been supplied by the daring ef. Mexican bayonet; Bonham fell before his ecution, had to be exposed to a most des-Others say that Gen Taylor yielded with their own guns, almost as dealening as the has threaded her way from the river to three who had been his comrades. Per- one 10 inch mortar, and our whole force ter was referred in a council of war. thunder of their assailants. Before the the castle, while her own blood has mark. haps at that moment the life-blood creeps is given. This shows a disparity of more This, too, is but speculation. The same smoke rolls away, & the reverberations are at the path. She have with her the castle, while her the castle, while her own blood has mark. smoke rolls away, at the reverberations are ed the path. She bears with her the spir- to his heart by a natural impulse, but it is than three to one, and vast advantages a subject is touched upon in the letters subtost in the distance, while the shouts of it of her illustrious ancestors, stretched only for a moment. His foes glare on him gainst our army in position, fully equal to joined, to which we refer. the besiegers, the cannenade is renewed, and the fare of doub or the testure that can be with the fierceness of demons, and assault the inequality in numbers. for seven hours fiercely continued upon the fear of death or the torture that can him with blows from sabres, muskets, and for seven hours fiercely continued upon the real of death of the tribute that can place the walls of the Alamo. But these walls are the continued to the tribute that can place the continued of the purpose. In her pressure the strength of a hundred men and wounded, 41 of whom are officers.— far the river may be navigable, and the yield no more than the spirits of their defenders. The fire is steadily returned; and, though stones are shivered around as the guardian angel of the Alamo, and sparing assailants. Their bodies have ened with fire and smoke, besmeared with have been destroyed from without. Earth reinforcements, and his army now numis thrown up, every crack or fissure closed bers thousands. He has been unceasing and the force of bit appearies. Now fire

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER GALVESTON.

MATAMORAS-MONTEREY-CERALVO, &c. The steamship Galveston, Capt Wright, arrived here yesterday, from Brazos Santiago the 14th, and Galveston to the 18th instant. By her we have an abundance of details in our own correspondence, the Matamoras Flag, and the Galveston papers, of the movements of our troops unties, etc., etc., since the capitulation of Monterey, which we proceed to lay before our readers. The following is the order of the day issued by General Taylor, after the capitulation of Monterey:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OCCUPATION. Camp near Monterey, Sept. 27, 1846. The commanding general has the satisfaction to congratulate the army under his command upon another signal triumph over the Mexican forces. Superior in numbers, strongly fortified, and with an immense preponderance of artillery, they until forced to sue for terms of capitulaadvances his line of posts, and prepares are mingled with the groans of the dying government. The general begs to return his thanks to his commanders and to all his officers and men, both of the regular and prairies, as it only sweeps in Texas: a They return to the attack, but the leaden volunteer forces, for the skill, the courage, and perseverance with which they have Col. Marshall, of Kentucky, and Colonel overcome manifold difficulties, and finally the American arms.

A great result has been obtained, bu accomplished officers and brave men. The army and the country will deeply sympawho have thus sealed their devotion with

By order of Maj. Gen. Taylor: W. W. S. BLISS, Assistant Adjutant General. OFFICIAL -GEO. A. McCALL, Assistant Adjutant General.

probable.

the highest terms of the Texans, and says says that he was improving, and it was they love to fight better, can stand hunger thought he would recover. longer, and endure more fatigue than any soldiers he ever saw. The Texans are Lieut Dilworth, of the 1st infantry, has now all disbanded, and are on their way died of his wounds. Lieut Graham, of home, most of them by land through San the 4th infantry, was still alive and hopes Antonio. Col. Hays has authority to raise were eyen entertained that he would reanother regiment of one thousand men.

In the mean time the battle has been are assured that Ampudia had from four- racle, but he has great strength of constitillery keeps company with the minutes raging hot and thick. The Mexicaus have teen to sixteen thousand troops—the forpoured into the citadel, like leaves falling mer is the lowest number given by any despair. vy artillery worked with a degree of skill spite of that enemy's vindictive vigilance, nents. The carnage has been so terrible vy and strong walls of solid masonry, re- to have their prey escape. One explana reinforcement of thirty-three men: addi- stares every survivor in the face, but still most workmanlike manner, or these streets forbearance towards a gallant foe. It is were protected with batteries of heavy ord- urged that Gen. Ampudia made the de-

upon himself alone. Travis has fallen ; ly all our most effective ordnance had been Gen. Taylor was induced to be lenient warrior, of the one hundred and sixty- teries. Add two 24 pound howiters and ficers next in command, to whom the mat-

ed severely wounded, is fast recovering, military depot at the faithest navigable

blood, and roused into phrenzy, he stands is thought to be a more probable estimate. into Chihushua. At the last accounts

fied, for not a single drop has fallen within streaming from the spire of the church in pierces him in the forehead; he falls back- Capt. Smith to storm the first height. the Alamo. Many of his own men have San Antonio, proclaiming that no quarter ward to the earth, in the streams of gore No, says Gen. Worth, 'I want Capt. bit the dust before the artillerits and rifle is to be given to the champions of the Al- which curdle around him. No grean es- Smith to command that party. There men of the lort; but thur far they are un- amo-that blood alone will appease the capes his lips; no cry of agony gratifies shall be no difficulty about that, says the avenged. Darkness falls upon the besie- fury of Mexican malice. When the sun the implacable rancor of his enemies: he gallant little major, I will go under Capsample of the whole body. Col. Haye has gained great reputation among our officers. Walker has, won new laurels.

"Gen. Worth is the hero of this affair ; he done the most of it, and lost only about 30 killed and wounded; while the main body of the army fost about 500. We got 35 pieces of artillery by the surrender. After examination, we found that we had not begun the bardest of the work. All are satisfied with the conditions of the truce, which lasts for sixty days, except, perhaps some of the Texans."

Matamoras. -The Flag of Wednesday, ved in this city on Monday evening last, en route for Monterey, only ten days frem Washington. The steamer Aid was chartered immediately upon his arrival here to take him to Camargo. He will no doubt arrive in Monterey on the 9th, making fourteen days from Washington city.— This is extraordinary speed, and would, imply that his budget contains matters of importance. Probably the destiny of Mexico. Whether she is to be, or is not to be. After the General is done looking at them, he will tell us what it is all about. We have heard so many different conjectures on the subject that we dare not venture one ourselves.

Affairs of Honor. - We learn that Gen, A S Johnson and others would have come by the Galveston, but were detained in Camargo by an unfortunate occurrence. A misunderstanding had arisen between Baily Peyton, of New Orleans. The former, we understand, had very freely censured Gen. Taylor for what he deemed to be bad generalship or cutpable neglect. He was defended by Col. Peyton. The language finally became so warm that a challenge was given and accepted, and difference by combat, Gen A 8 Johnsen acting as the friend of Col Marshall .-The officers now here left Camarge on Saturday evening before the duel. On the same morning, another duel was to be fought between Capt Shivors, who was mustered into the service from Texas, Ampudia .- The Matamoras Flag states and Capt Mousson, of New Orleans .that a Mexican officer who was in the bat. The cause of this is said to be the insulttie of Monterey, says that "Ampudia was ing deportment of Mousson towards Shi-

the following additional particulars:

We are glad to hear that the report brought over by the McKim of the death Texas Rangers.—Hay's regiment was of Col McClung, of the Mississippi voldistinguished in the attack on the Bishop's unteers, was totally unfounded. An of-

His friends will regret to learn that cover. He was so desperately wounded The relative forces, losses, &c .- We that his recovery would be deemed a mi-

The great subject canvassed in the army continued to be the terms granted to General Ampudia. Officers and men

The loss of our army is 561 in killed margo to go up the river to ascertain how The enemy's loss is not known with any point, so as to have stores at a place as certainty. The Mexicans in Monterey near as possible to the route taken by state it at 1,200 or 1,400, but about 1000 Gen Wool, marching from San Antonio An officer writing a description of the she had reached Mier without meeting "The Texans are a gallant set of boys-- ver and select the extreme navigable