

# Democratic Banner.

BY MOORE & THOMPSON.

CLEARFIELD, PA., MAY 20, 1847.

NEW SERIES--VOL. II. NO. 6--WHOLE NO. 1056.

## POETRY.

### DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

Oh! these are the words that eternally utter  
The spell that is seldom cast o'er us in vain;  
With the wings and the wand of a fairy they flutter,  
And draw a charmed circle about us again.  
We return to the spot where our infancy gambol'd;  
We linger once more in the haunts of our Youth;  
We retrace where young passion first so pathetically rambled,  
And whispers are heard full of Nature and Truth.  
Saying, "Don't you remember?"  
We treasure the picture where Colour seems breathing,  
In lineaments mocking a long-worship'd face;  
We are proud of some trees in a chain of close wreathing,  
And gold links of Ophir are poor in its place.  
Oh! what is the secret that gives them power  
To fling out a star on our darkest of ways?  
'Tis the tone of Affection--Life's holiest power--  
That murmurs about them and blissfully says,  
"Don't you remember?"  
The voices of Old Age, while it tells some old story,  
Exhorts o'er the tale with fresh warmth in the breast;  
As the haze of the twilight e'er deepens the glory  
Of beams that are fast going down in the West.  
When the friends of our boyhood are gathered around us,  
The spirit renews its wild dower track;  
The heart is still held by the strings that first bound us,  
And feeling keeps singing, while wandering back.  
"Don't you remember?"  
When those whom we prize have departed forever,  
Yet perfume is shed o'er the system we treasure;  
Yet fond Recollection refuses to sever,  
And turns to the Past, like a saint to the shrine.  
Praise carved on the marble is often deceiving,  
The gaze of the stranger is all it may claim;  
But the strongest of love and the purest of grieving,  
Are found when lips dwell on the missing one's name.  
Saying, "Don't you remember?"

## THE GREAT BATTLE AT CERRO GORDO.

### Further Particulars.

From the Washington Union of the 8th inst.

### OFFICIAL.

The following very interesting despatch from Major General Scott was received at the War Office, by this evening's southern mail: We hasten to lay it before our readers.

### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Plan del Rio, 50 miles from Vera Cruz, April 19, 1847.

Sir:--The plan of attack sketched in General Orders No. 112, herewith, was finally executed by this gallant army, before two o'clock, p. m., yesterday. We are quite embarrassed with the results of victory--prisoners of war, heavy ordnance, field batteries, small arms and accoutrements. About 3,000 men laid down their arms, with the usual proportion of field and company officers, besides five generals, several of them of great distinction, Pinzon, Jarrero, La Vega, Noriega, and Obando. A sixth general, Vasquez, was killed in defending the battery (tower) in the rear of the whole Mexican army, the capture of which gave us those glorious results.

Our loss, comparatively small in numbers, has been serious. Brigadier General Shields, a commander of activity, zeal and talent, is, I fear, if not dead, mortally wounded. He is some five miles from me at the moment. The field of operations covered many miles, broken by mountains and deep chasms, and I have not a report, as yet, from any division or brigade. Twigg's division, followed by Shields's (now Baker's) brigade, are now at or near Xalapa, and Worth's division is en route thither, all pursuing, with good results, as I learn, that part of the Mexican army, perhaps six or seven thousand men, who fled before our right had carried the tower, and gained the Xalapa road. Pillow's brigade alone is near me at this depot of wounded, sick, and prisoners, and I have time only to give from him the names of 1st Lieut. F. B. Nelson, and 2d C. G. Gill, both of 2d Tennessee foot, (Haskell's regiment) among the killed, and in the brigade 106 of all ranks, killed or wounded. Among the latter, the gallant Brigadier general himself has a smart wound in the arm, but not disabled, and Major R. Farquison, 2d Tennessee, Capt. H. F. Murray, 2d Lieut. G. T. Sutherland, 1st Lieut. W. P. Hajje, (adjutant) all of the same regiment, severely, and 1st Lieut. W. Yearwood, mortally wounded. And I know from personal observation on the ground, that 1st Lieut. Ewell, of the rifles, if not now dead, was mortally wounded, by entering, sword in hand, the entrenchments around the captured tower.

2d Lieut. Derby, topographical engineer, I also saw at the same place severely wounded, and Capt. Patton, 2d U. S. Infantry, lost his right hand. Maj. Sumner, 2d U. S. States dragoons, was slightly wounded the day before, and Capt. Johnson, topographical engineer, (now lieutenant) colonel of Infantry, was severely wounded some days earlier, while reconnoitering. I must not omit to add that Capt. Mason, and 2d Lieut. Davis, both of the rifles, were among the very severely wounded in storming the same tower. I estimate our total loss, in killed and wounded, at about 250, and that of the enemy 350. In the pursuit towards Xalapa (25 miles hence) I learn that we have added much to the enemy's loss in prisoners, killed and wounded. In fact, I sup-

pose his retreating army to be nearly disorganized, and hence my haste to follow, in an hour or two, to profit by events.

In this hurried and imperfect report I must not omit to say that Brigadier Gen. Twigg, in passing the mountain range beyond Cerro Gordo, crowned with the tower, detached from his division, as I suggested the day before, a strong force to carry that height which commanded the Xalapa road at the foot, and could not fail, if carried, to cut off the whole or any part of the enemy's forces from a retreat in any direction. A portion of the 1st artillery, under the often distinguished Brevet Col. Childs, the 3d infantry, under Capt. Alexander, the 7th infantry under Lieut. Col. Plympton, and the rifles under Major Loring, all under the temporary command of Col. Harney, 2d dragoons, during the confinement to his bed of Brevet Brig. Gen. P. F. Smith, composed that detachment.

The style of execution, which I had the pleasure to witness, was most brilliant and decisive. The brigade ascended the long and difficult slope of Cerro Gordo, with out shelter, and under the tremendous fire of artillery and musketry with the utmost steadiness, reached the breastworks, drove the enemy from them, planted the colors of the 1st artillery, 3d and 7th infantry--the enemy's flag still flying--and after some minutes of sharp firing, finished the conquest with the bayonet.

It is a most pleasing duty to say that the highest praise is due to Harney, Childs, Plympton, Loring, Alexander, their officers and men, for this brilliant service, independent of the great results which soon followed.

Worth's division of regulars coming up at this time, he detached Brevet Lieutenant Col. C. F. Smith, with his light battalion, to support the assault, but not in time. The General, reaching the tower a few minutes before me, and observing a white flag displayed from the nearest portion of the enemy towards the batteries below, sent out Colonels Harney and Childs to hold a parley. The surrender followed in an hour or two.

Maj. Gen. Patterson left a sick bed to share in the dangers and fatigues of the day, and after the surrender went forward to command the advanced forces toward Xalapa.

Brig. Gen. Pillow and his brigade twice assaulted with great daring the enemy's line of batteries on our left; and though without success, they contributed much to distract and dismay their immediate opponents.

President Santa Anna, with Generals Canalizo and Almonico, and some six or eight thousand men, escaped towards Xalapa just before Cerro Gordo was carried, and before Twigg's division reached the national road above.

I have determined to parole the prisoners--officers and men--as I have not the means of feeding them here, beyond today, and cannot afford to detach a heavy body of horse and foot, with wagons, to accompany them to Vera Cruz. Our baggage train, though increasing, is not yet half large enough to give an assured progress to this army. Besides, a greater number of prisoners would probably escape from the escort in the long and deep sandy road, without subsistence--ten to one--than we shall find again, out of the same body of men, in the ranks opposed to us. Not one of the Vera Cruz prisoners is believed to have been in the lines of Cerro Gordo. Some six of the officers highest in rank refuse to give their paroles, except to go to Vera Cruz and thence perhaps to the United States.

The small arms and their accoutrements, being of no value to our army here or at home, I have ordered them to be destroyed for we have not the means of transporting them. I am also somewhat embarrassed with the pieces of artillery--all bronze--which we have captured. It would take a brigade and half the mules of this army to transport them fifty miles. A field battery I shall take for service with the army; but the heavy metal must be collected, and left here for the present. We have our own siege train and the proper carriages with us.

Being much occupied with the prisoners and all the details of a forward movement, besides looking to the supplies which are to follow from Vera Cruz, I have time to add no more--intending to be at Xalapa early to-morrow. We shall not, probably, again meet with serious opposition this side of Perote--certainly not, unless delayed by the want of the means of transportation.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,  
WINFIELD SCOTT.

P. S.--I invite attention to the accompanying letter to President Santa Anna, taken in his carriage yesterday; also, to proclamation, issued on hearing that we had captured Vera Cruz, &c., in which he says: "If the enemy advance one step more, the national honor will be buried in the abyss of the past." We have taken that step.

I make a second postscript, to say that there is some hope, I am happy to learn, that Gen. Shields may survive his wound. One of the principal motives for paroling the prisoners of war is, to diminish the resistance of other garrisons in our march.

## The Pennsylvanians in the Battle--List of the Wounded.

From the Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger.

PLAN DEL RIO, April 19, 1847.

We have just achieved a most glorious victory. Yesterday afternoon Santa Anna's army of 15,000 men, posted in the hitherto impregnable pass of Vachic, or Cerro Gordo, and upon the field of one of that General's most brilliant and successful efforts, were defeated, their entrenched camp, with 6,000 prisoners, five general officers, and about thirty pieces of artillery, captured, and he himself, with the broken and terror-stricken remnant of his army, driven as fugitives beyond the gates of Jalapa. Our loss does not exceed 500 killed and wounded, and it probably does not begin to reach that amount.

Gen. Twigg's division of regulars and the Second Tennessee volunteers have been the greatest sufferers. The former commenced the action day before yesterday, the 17th, by making a detour of seven miles and taking up a position on an eminence at or near Cerro Gordo, in the rear, or rather flank, of the enemy's lines. It required some little skirmishing, you may be sure, to effect this object, & while it was going on we, in our camp at this place, on the Rio Del Plan, listened, to the firing with the most intense interest. When, however, an express arrived to inform us of Twigg's success, our satisfaction was great. Steptoe's battery of 24 pound howitzers and a heavy battering long twenty-four was immediately detached to the spot, with the corps of sappers and miners and a detachment of the 1st Pennsylvania regiment, the latter under Lieut. Wm. Bryan, and by morning an entrenchment was thrown up and the pieces placed in battery. During this operation a heavy cannonade was kept up by the enemy's batteries, and several attempts were made to drive our troops from their ground, but without success. Seven thousand of the best of Mexico's regulars were hurled by Santa Anna three several times against our little band of about twenty-five hundred, but they were each time repulsed with slaughter. They then desisted. In the morning the whole army was put in motion. General Worth's whole division had in the meantime arrived, and was dispatched to support Twigg on the enemy's left. The attack upon his right was given to Gen. Patterson's division of volunteers to which I belong.

The opening of Twigg's batteries, on the morning of the 17th, was the signal for our brigade, commanded by Gen. Pillow, to move. The 1st Pennsylvania and 2d Tennessee regiments, led the van, to which the 1st Tennesseans and 2d Pennsylvanians formed a supporting column. The utmost enthusiasm and confidence prevailed. Gen. Patterson, though laboring under severe illness, rode on horseback in front of our line as we were leaving the main road for the chapparal, and was received with tremendous cheering. After leaving the main road, we marched along mere sheep tracks, through dense chapparal, in Indian file, in the presence of any other enemy must have ensured our destruction. In this manner we marched about four miles, when we came to an open spot and received orders to hasten forward at double quick time. At this moment the enemy's bugles sounded the alarm, and just as we cleared the space and were rising a hill the other side, the enemy opened upon us with musketry and grape. But we, I mean the first Pennsylvanians, had passed the point of extreme danger, and the fire took but little effect upon us, passing principally over our heads and falling among the 2d Tennesseans. The 2d Pennsylvania and 1st Tennesseans received a portion of this fire, which the annexed list of wounded will show. Orders had been given to our troops not to fire till the word of command had been given, and most rigidly were the orders obeyed. Although exposed to the most galling fire, the shot falling like hail among us, and cutting off the limbs of the trees over and around us, yet when we had taken our position to be ready to charge the entrenchments, not a musket had been emptied. A more signal piece of gallantry and coolness never before was displayed by the most well tried and veteran troops. At this moment, Gen. Pillow was wounded in the arm and left the field. We waited in position for half an hour without orders, when at length we received an order to move away, lest we should be raked by three pieces of artillery which commanded our flank, and which, but for the consternation of the enemy, would have cut us all to pieces. We moved about twenty yards down the hill, when we discovered a party of the enemy gaining, as we thought, our rear, but soon found that it was a flag of truce. Our reconnoiterers reported also that a white flag was waving over the entrenchments, and presently we had the agreeable information that Santa Anna had retired with the loss of all his artillery, and that six or seven thousand of his troops had surrendered prisoners of war. We marched down to the camp with our blue home-made Pennsylvania flag, borne by Sergeant Matthew Gilley, waving in triumph, excepting the six thousand prisoners to a place of security, and the small extent of our loss, when I reflect upon the treatment

we were under. So near were we to the enemy's guns that some of our men were powder burned by their discharges, and their burning cartridge paper and wads struck us, and set fire to our clothing in several instances.

My time and paper are running short, so I must close with the list of killed and wounded in the two Pennsylvania regiments.

1st Penna. Reg.--Comp. A. Pittsburg Blues, under acting Lieut. Ferguson--Mortally wounded, John Lindbart; severely, David Lindsey.

Company B. Capt. Nagle of Pottsville--None.

Company C, under Capt. W. F. Small--Severely wounded, John Sheldon; slightly, Geo. Sutton.

Company D, Capt. Hill--Albert Cudney and Joseph Davis slightly wounded.

Company G, Capt. Morehead--Benj. F. Keyser, slightly wounded, the side of his head grazed by a grape shot.

Company I, Capt. Dana, (the Wyoming Artillerists)--Daniel Morrison, severely, perhaps mortally wounded; B. W. C. Kitchen, slightly.

Among the deaths from disease in the regiment, I am called upon to record that of private Roberts, son of the comedian, of Capt. Scott's company. Also of Henry Lower, of the same corps. The severe march from Vera Cruz to this place is chargeable with these deaths.

2d Penna. Regiment.--Company A, Capt. Leasher--Abraham Rowland, mortally wounded; John Sheets, wounded in the leg.

Company C, Lieut. Frick--John Smith, mortally wounded.

Company F, Capt. Naylor--Jacob Simmons, Edward Cruse and John Chambers severely, perhaps mortally wounded; Thomas Hand, slightly.

Company E, Captain Johnson--Jacob Miller, slightly wounded.

Company H, Capt. Quail--James Shaw slightly wounded.

Company K, Capt. Miller--Wm. Wilhelm, Josiah Horn and Frederick Somers, slightly wounded.

From the N. O. Delta, May 2.

We are indebted to Capt. Hughes, of the Topographical Corps, for much valuable and interesting information relating to the late glorious victory of Cerro Gordo. From him we gather the following particulars of the battle of Cerro Gordo.

The road from Vera Cruz, as it passes the Plan del Rio, which is a wide, rocky bed of a once large stream, is commanded by a series of high cliffs, rising one above the other, and extending several miles, and all well fortified. The road then debouches to the right, and curving around the ridge, passes over a high cliff, which is completely enfiladed by forts and batteries. This ridge is the commencement of the Terra Templada, the upper or mountainous country. The high and rocky ravine of the river protected the right flank of the position, and a series of most abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered their left. Between these points, running a distance of two or three miles, a succession of strongly fortified forts bristled at every turn, and seemed to defy all bravery and skill. The Cerro Gordo commanded the road on a gentle declivity, like a glacis, for nearly a mile--an approach in that direction was impossible. A front attack must have terminated in the almost entire annihilation of our army. But the enemy expected such an attack, confiding in the desperate valor of our men, and believing that it was impossible to turn their position to the right or left. Gen. Scott, however, with the eye of a skilful general, perceived the trap set for him, and determined to avoid it. He therefore had a road cut to the right, so as to escape the front fire from the Cerro, and turn his position on the left flank. This movement was made known to the enemy by a deserter from our camp, and consequently a large increase of force under Gen. Vega was sent to the forts on their left. Gen. Scott to cover his flank movements, on the 17th of April, ordered forward Gen. Twigg against the fort on the steep ascent, in front and a little to the left of the Cerro. Col. Harney commanded this expedition, and at the head of the Rifles and some detachments of infantry and artillery carried this position under a heavy fire of grape and musketry. Having secured this position in front and near the enemy's strongest fortification, and having by incredible labor elevated one of our large guns to the top of the fort, Gen. Scott prepared to follow up his advantages. A demonstration was made from this position against another strong fort in the rear, and near the Cerro, but the enemy were considered too strong, and the undertaking was abandoned. A like demonstration was made by the enemy.

On the next day, the 18th, Gen. Twigg was ordered forward, from the position he had already captured against the fort that commanded the Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on the fortifications on the enemy's left, was to be made by General's Shields and Worth's divisions, who moved in separate columns, whilst Gen. Pillow advanced against the strong forts and difficult ascents on the right of the enemy's position. The enemy, fully acquainted with Gen. Scott's intended movements,

had thrown large bodies of men into the various positions to be attacked. The most serious enterprise was that of Twigg who advanced against the main fort that commanded the Cerro. Nothing, so far as conceived more difficult than this undertaking. The steep and rough character of the ground, the constant fire of the enemy in front, and the cross fire of the forts and batteries which enfiladed our lines, made the duty assigned to Gen. Twigg one of surpassing difficulty. Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed, but the steepness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter, and onward rushed against a hail-storm of balls and musket shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame, at the head of his brigade, his long arm waving his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice, ringing above the clash of arms and din of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and of our own army. On, on, he led the column, whose front lines melted before the enemy's fire like snow flakes in a torrent, and staid not their course, until leaping over the rocky barriers and bayoneting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell-mell from the fort, delivering a deadly fire into their ranks, from their own guns as they hastily retired. This was truly a gallant deed, worthy of the Chevalier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid Harney is well styled. Gen. Scott, between whom and Col. Harney there had existed some coolness, rode up to the Colonel after this achievement, and remarked to him, "Col. Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement, but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms." Harney, with the modesty of true valor, claimed the praise as due to his officers and men. Thus did the division of the gallant veteran Twigg carry the main position of the enemy and occupy the fort which commanded the road. It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their General, Vasquez, was killed. A little after, Gen. Worth having, by great exertions, passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy's left, summited a strong fort in the rear of the Cerro, to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under Gen. Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who seeing the Cerro carried, thought prudent to surrender, which he did, with all his force. Gen. Shields was not so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by Gen. La Vega. A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss, by the gallant Illinoisians, under Baker and Bennett, supported by the New Yorkers, under Burnett. Among those who fell under this fire was the gallant General, who received a grape shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralyzed, and at the last accounts was in a lingering state. On the enemy's right, Gen. Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskell, led the column, and the other volunteer regiments followed. This column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskell's regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. Gen. Pillow withdrew his men, and was preparing for another attack when the operations at the other points having proved successful, the enemy concluded to surrender. Thus the victory was complete, and four Generals and about 6,000 men were taken prisoners by our army. One of their principal Generals and a large number of other officers killed. The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own. The Mexican officers admitted that Santa Anna had 8,000 men in the lines, and 6,000, including 2,000 lancers, outside of the entrenchments. Gen. Scott's force was about 8,000. Gen. Quitman's brigade not having arrived in time to take part in the engagement. Gen. Ampudia was second in command of the Mexicans, and superintended the operations of the enemy. When the Cerro was carried he was seen retreating on a fine white charger, his hat falling off as he galloped away. Many of the Mexicans escaped by a bye path which runs off from the main road between the Cerro and the fort carried by Gen. Worth. As to Santa Anna and Canalizo, they retreated in time to escape by the main road.

When our forces had carried the various positions of the enemy, and the road was cleared, Gen. Twigg started to hot pursuit of the fugitive Santa Anna, and pressed close upon his heels. A strong position, five miles west of Cerro Gordo, fortified and defended by a fine battery of long brass guns, was abandoned by the enemy and occupied by our troops. Gen. Twigg bivouacked within three miles of the lovely town of Jalapa.

Existence is only felt to be valuable while it is necessary, to some one dear to us. The moment we become aware that our death would leave no asking void in a human heart, the alarm is gone.

People that change their religion from reading books of controversy, are not so much converted as outwitted.