

War Intelligence.



Gen. Taylor again Victorious.

BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

Mexican Loss 4,000—American Loss 700—Slightly three American Officers Killed—Wounded—Loss of Col. A. J. Smith, Henry Clay, Jr., and McKee.

From the New Orleans, Picayune of Tuesday.

Our regular readers in advance of the regular publication of the Picayune will have seen the account of the battle of Buena Vista.

Mr. Turner, of the United States Army, who arrived at Matamoros on the 9th inst., from Monterey, brought the glorious intelligence of another brilliant victory over the Mexican army.

The fighting commenced on the 22d of February and ended on the 23d. Santa Anna retired to Azua Nueva, a distance of 10 miles leaving 4000 killed and wounded upon the field.

The loss on our part was 700 killed and wounded. Santa Anna's losses amounted to about 15,000 men. That of Gen. Taylor's to about 6000, almost entirely of volunteers.

His army is composed of Washington's and Bragg's artillery and Thomas' batteries, one squadron of the 2d Dragoons, the Arkansas and Kentucky Cavalry, a brigade of Illinois and one also of Indiana volunteers, the first Mississippi and second Kentucky regiments and one company of Texas volunteers.

Private letters have been received at Saltillo as late as the 5th of March, at which time Gen. Taylor was at Buena Vista. The following letter was received at Matamoros, by a Mexican merchant at that place, from a Mexican at Saltillo. It was dated on the 5th of March, and gives the only account of the manner in which the battle was fought that has yet been received.

"At 3 o'clock on the 22d ultimo, the battle commenced at Buena Vista, five miles from Saltillo. The fight opened with artillery, and a destructive cannonade was kept up during the whole time. General Wool advanced with a strong detachment against the Mexican army but was driven back with immense loss. The Mexican cavalry charged upon him with drawn swords and did great execution. As Wool fell back, Gen. Taylor ordered a rapid retreat of his own army, and the fight ceased. The number killed and wounded was very great on both sides. I can only estimate the number by the cart loads of wounded that have entered this city from the field.

"On the 23th both armies hung off without coming to a general engagement—each occupied in carrying off the wounded and burying their dead.

"After the 24th there was no more fighting. The Mexican troops remaining with us, became convinced that they could not triumph or drive General Taylor from his position, and retired.

"As yet Santa Anna has only retired a short distance, but I do not entertain the belief that he will venture another engagement.

"Mexico has not the means to bear the burden of the war—it is opposing poverty to abundance—weakness to strength. In my opinion it would be best for the two governments to enter into negotiations. With the power the United States possess, it would be dishonorable in her to force us into treaties advantageous alone to herself, as it would be for us to make concessions from necessity.

"AMERICAN OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Regulars—Killed—Capt. Lincoln, Assistant Adjutant General.

Wounded—Capt. E. Stein, 1st Dragoons, severely; Capt. S. G. French, 3d Artillery, severely; Capt. J. P. O'Brien, 4th Artillery, slightly.

Mississippi Rifles—Killed—Lieut. R. S. Moore and 1 P. McNulty.

Wounded—Col. J. P. Davis, severely; Capt. J. M. Sharpe, severely; Lieut. A. B. Cowin, slightly; Lieut. J. H. Smith, severely; Lieut. J. H. Smith, severely; Lieut. J. H. Smith, severely.

First Kentucky Cavalry—Killed—Adjutant Vaughan.

Wounded—One Captain and three lieutenants. (No names given.)

Arkansas—Killed—Col. A. J. Smith, Col. A. J. Smith, Col. A. J. Smith.

Wounded—Lieut. S. A. Redder.

Second Kentucky Foot Rifles—Killed—Col. McKee and Lieut. Col. H. Clay; Capt. O. W. Morse and Capt. W. T. Willis.

Wounded—Lieut. E. S. Barbour, Withers and Mosier.

Indiana Brigade—Wounded—Gen. Lane, 2d Regiment—Killed—Capt. Kinder, Capt. Walker and Lieut. Porter.

Wounded—Lieut. Saunders and Osborn, and Lieut. Cagen, Pennington, Morse, Lewis, Davis and Epperson.

3d Regiment—Capt. Peggel.

Wounded—Maj. Gorham and Capt. Steep.

Illinois—Killed—Lieut. J. H. Smith, Lieut. J. H. Smith, Lieut. J. H. Smith.

Wounded—Capt. Goring and Capt. Zahrisch and Lieut. Haughton.

Wounded—Lieut. J. L. McConnell, and H. Adams.

Second Regiment—Killed—Chaplin Wood, Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Wood.

Wounded—Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Wood, Lieut. Wood.

Pickett's—Engleton, Steel and West, and Adj. Whitehead.

Texas Company—Killed—Lieut. Campbell and Second Lieut. Lombard.

Wounded—Capt. Connor.

SANTA ANNA'S ACCOUNT.

From the New Orleans, Picayune of Tuesday.

Our own forces engaged at all points in this battle, and were completely routed.

The Mexican army was completely routed, and we have been obliged to retreat to Saltillo.

Gen. Taylor's Dispatches.

(OFFICIAL.)

HEAD-QUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION, BUENA VISTA, MEXICO, Feb. 23, 1847.

Sir—I have the honor to report that, having been assured on the 20th inst., that the enemy assembled in front of Buena Vista, with the evident design of attacking my position, I took up my camp at the latter place on the 21st, and thought it my duty to place the Division of Buena Vista, seven miles south of Saltillo. A cavalry force, led by Agua Nueva, for the purpose of covering the removal of supplies, was driven in during the night, and on the morning of the 22d the Mexican army appeared immediately in front of our position.

At 11 o'clock, A. M., a flag was sent from General Santa Anna, announcing of unconditional surrender. To which I immediately returned a negative reply. The summons and demand were repeated, and the action was commenced late in the afternoon, but was not actively engaged until the morning of the 23d, when the enemy made an effort to force the left wing of my position. An obstinate and sanguinary conflict was maintained, with short intervals, throughout the day, the result being that the enemy was completely repulsed from our lines. An attack of cavalry upon the rancho of Buena Vista, and a demonstration upon the city of Saltillo, were both handsomely repulsed. Early in the night the enemy withdrew from his camp, and fell back upon Agua Nueva, a distance of 12 miles.

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Later from Vera Cruz.

From the New Orleans Delta, 25th ult.

By the arrival at an early hour this morning, of the steamer Portia, Capt. Powell, which left Saltillo on the 19th inst., we are in the receipt of the following highly interesting intelligence from the forces opposing us against Vera Cruz. For the full details, we are indebted to our correspondence and conversations with passengers.

Troops were landed, after a reconnaissance on the 7th, by Generals Scott, Patterson, Worth, Ely, and Taylor, and the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

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