

HUNTINGDON JOURNAL.

BY JAMES CLARK.]

CORRECT PRINCIPLES—SUPPORTED BY TRUTH.

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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WHOLE NO. 586.

TERMS.

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POETICAL.

SONG OF THE EDITOR.

An editor sat in his office one night,
Resting his weary hand,
Thought, alas! for him, no visions bright
Would come at his command.
But he thought of the coming day,
With its ever recurring care,
His voice it uttered a mournful lay
To his faithful old arm-chair.

Write! write! write!
Was there ever such labor as mine?
Write! write! write!
Paragraph, column and line.
At early dawn, at midnight dark,
The lamp must yield its feeble spark;
There is no leisure time for me,
A holiday I never see.

Write! write! write!
Was there ever such labor as mine!
Write! write! write!
Paragraph, column, and line.
What though the care-worn brow may ache,
What though the tired arm may shake,
The lonely task I must pursue
With anxious care, concealed from view.

Write! write! write!
Was there ever such labor as mine?
Write! write! write!
Paragraph, column, and line.
The call for copy meets the ear,
The never hurried step is near;
The temples throb—the eye-balls pain,
And whirling thoughts fit through the brain.

Write! write! write!
Was there ever such labor as mine?
Write! write! write!
Paragraph, column, and line.
And oh! of all the varied throng,
Who may peruse the columns long,
How many give a passing thought,
To all the care with which they're fraught,
Or dream how weary is the head
Thus toiling for the children's bread!

MISCELLANEOUS.

PROFITS OF FARMING.

At an agricultural meeting in Massachusetts recently, some remarks were made by Mr. Calhoun, of Springfield, on the profits of farming as compared with other pursuits. The conclusion arrived at was that farmers on the average succeed better than merchants; that if, by way of experiment, one hundred men should go into a city and trade, and one hundred go to farming, at the end of twenty years the hundred farmers would be worth the most money. Mr. Calhoun referred to some facts, statistical and other, to show the risks of mercantile business, and added, with regard to agriculture:

Here is a foundation that may be built on with more certainty than any other. Yet young men are rushing into cities to make their fortunes. It is all-important that the facts which have here been stated, now and at former meetings, should be deeply impressed on young minds. Mr. Brooks says 15 per cent may be made on capital by any diligent and systematic farmer. The Hon. John Lowell said 18 per cent. All this may be done by farming intelligently. He had wondered that farmers generally could get along so well as they actually do in their careless mode of farming. For himself, he had restored him. He repeated his pleasure on hearing the numerous statements of the profits that may be made in this business. One more consideration should have much weight. It had been truly stated by his venerable friends from Framingham, (Maj. Wheeler) that this business naturally leads the mind to contemplation, and to gratitude to the Ruler of the Universe, to whom farmers feel obliged to look for a blessing on their labors. No occupation so directly leads the mind to reflection on the works of creation. All that we eat, drink, and wear, comes from the ground. In every view this occupation is important.

If the profits of farming in New England can be made to rise to eighteen per cent, the advantages of our soil and climate ought to enable the farmers of Maryland to realize a still higher rate. The importance of bringing science to the aid of agriculture is becoming more generally appreciated now than former-

ly, and we hope that the results already realized may have the effect of perfecting an alliance so pregnant with beneficial consequences. It would be easy to make the elements of agricultural chemistry a part of the course of instruction in schools and academies, so far at least as to teach how to analyze soils and learn their different natures.—*Baltimore American.*

Capt. Smith's Bear Story.

About the year 1830 I settled at the Lower Peach Tree, in Wilcox county, (Alab.) and cultivated a few acres in corn and cotton besides a small potato patch and a bit of garden, as was usual in those days. My nearest neighbor (John Champion,) being better off than the rest of us, had a nice gang of hogs; and feeling a little above his neighbors on account of his wealth, and being rather an overbearing man, too, was not particular whether his stock broke into other people's fields or not. My crop was too small to feed my own family and John Champion's hogs too, so I complained to him several times but got no relief, when being at old Erasmus Culppepper's house one day, I heard him say that if a foot, or an ear, or even a piece of bear skin was thrown down in a place where hogs use they would never show their snouts there again. I went home and got the skin of a bear which I had killed some time before, and having supplied myself with some corn, I went out and saw about twenty hogs munching away in my field. I "told them up," and catching a good runner, sewed him up in the bear skin, and then turned him loose, when he ran after the rest, who flew from the supposed bear. The last we seen of them was at Bassett's Creek, near forty miles from my house, only two being alive—one running from his fellow sewed up in the skin, and he trying to catch the other—the rest were found dead in the road having literally run themselves to death. It is useless to add that John Champion's hogs staid at home after that.—*Newark Daily Advertiser.*

A PUGILISTIC GENERAL.—The New Orleans Delta, relates the following story about one of our volunteer brigades at Monterey:

"The General happened one morning to be present, dressed in rather a shabby suit, where some teamsters were harnessing their horses, and not liking the way in which they fixed things, in rather an authoritative manner told them it was all wrong, and they didn't know what they were about. Thereupon, one of the teamsters told the General that he was an old ass, and had better go about his business, with other complimentary phrases adapted to the occasion. The General not used to let such compliments pass unnoticed, coolly took off his coat, and said to the aggressive teamster—"Now sir, you must fight!" and pitching into him, they—the General and the teamster—had a glorious fight, but the General came off victorious. Another teamster, who interfered in the fight, was next walked into by the General, and knocked into a cocked hat in less than no time. It must have been a salve to the mortified feelings of the licked teamsters to discover, as they very soon discovered, that they had been very effectually whipped by a Brigadier General in the United States Army."

[A notorious scamp was brought not long since before an Onondaga justice of the peace, charged with the high misdemeanor of gambling. He was accused of having "come the strap game" over a native. The portly justice, wishing to decide understandingly, requested the culprit to give him a sample of his skill. "The party" instantly produced a leather strap, gave it a scientific whisk across the bench, and remarked—"You see, Judge, the quarter under this strap?" "What!" interrupted the dignified functionary, "do you mean to say that there is a quarter there?"—"Sartin!" was the reply. "No such thing," said the justice. "I'll go you a dollar on it," said the prisoner. "Agreed!" exclaimed "the bench." With accustomed adroitness the strap was withdrawn, when lo! there was the quarter! "Well," said the astonished Shallow, "I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes! There is your dollar; and you are fined five dollars for gambling contrary to the statute in such case made and provided!" The elongated countenance of the discomfited gambler required no additional evidence to testify his appreciation of "the suck."

The following passage from Job is said to illustrate, in some degree, the Magnetic Telegraph:
"Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, here we are!"

Why is an avaricious man variable?
Because he is fond of change.

CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Camp Washington before Vera Cruz,
MARCH 23, 1847.

SIR—Yesterday, seven of our ten inch mortars, being in battery, and the labors for planting the remainder of our heavy metal being in progress, I addressed at 2 o'clock, p. m., a summons to the Governor of Vera Cruz, and within the two hours limited by the bearer of the flag, received the Governor's answer. Copies of the two papers (marked respectively A and B) are herewith enclosed.

It will be perceived that the governor, who, it turns out, is the commander of both places, chose, against the plain terms of the summons, to suppose me to have demanded the surrender of the castle and of the city—when, in fact, from the non-arrival of our heavy metal—principally mortars—I was in no condition to threaten the former.

On the return of the flag, with that reply, I at once ordered the seven mortars, in battery, to open upon the city. In a short time the smaller vessels of Commodore Perry's squadron—2 steamers and 5 schooners—according to previous arrangement with him, approached the city within about a mile and an eighth, whence, being partially covered from the castle—an essential condition to their safety—they also opened a brisk fire upon the city. This has been continued, unintercepted, by the mortars, and only with a few intermissions, by the vessels, up to nine o'clock this morning, when the Commodore, very properly, called them off from a position too dangerously assumed.

Our three remaining mortars are now (12 o'clock, M.) in battery, and the whole ten in activity. To-morrow, early, if the city should continue obstinate, batteries Nos. 4 and 5 will be ready to add their fire. No. 4, consisting of four 24-pounders and two 8-inch Paixhan guns, and No. 5 (naval battery) of three 32-pounders and three 8-inch Paixhans—the guns, officers and sailors landed from the squadron—our friends of the navy being unremitting in their zealous cooperation, in every mode and form.

So far, we know that our fire upon the city has been highly effective—particularly from the batteries of 10-inch mortars, planted at about 800 yards from the city. Including the preparation and defence of the batteries, from the beginning—now many days—and notwithstanding the heavy fire of the enemy, from city and castle—we have only had four or five men wounded, and one officer and one man killed, in or near the trenches. That officer was Captain John R. Vinton, of the U. S. 2d artillery, one of the most talented, accomplished and active members of the army, and who was highly distinguished in the brilliant operations at Monterey. He fell, last evening, in the trenches, where he was on duty as field and commanding officer, universally regretted. I have just attended his honored remains to a soldiers' grave—in full view of the enemy, and within reach of his guns.

Thirteen of the long needed mortars—leaving twenty-seven, besides heavy guns, behind—have arrived, and two of them landed. A heavy mortar then set in (at meridian) that stopped that operation and also the landing of shells. Hence the fire of our mortar batteries has been slackened, since two o'clock to-day, and cannot be re-invigorated until we shall again have a smooth sea. In the meantime I shall leave this report open for journalizing events that may occur up to the departure of the steamship of war, the Princeton, with Commodore Connor, who, I learn, expects to leave the anchorage off Sacrificios, for the U. States, the 25th inst.

March 24.—The storm having subsided in the night, we commenced this forenoon, as soon as the sea became smooth, to land shot, shells and mortars.

The naval battery, No. 5, was opened with great activity, under Capt. Aulick, the second in rank of the squadron, at about 10 A. M. His fire was continued to 2 o'clock, P. M., a little before he was relieved by Capt. Mayo, who landed with a fresh supply of ammunition, Capt. A. having exhausted the supply he had brought with him. He lost four sailors killed, and had one officer, Lieut. Baldwin, slightly hurt.

The mortar batteries, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, have fired but languidly during the day, for want of shells, which are now going out from the beach.

The two reports of Col. Bankhead, chief of artillery, both of this date, copies of which I enclose, give the incidents of those three batteries.

Battery No. 4, which will mount four 24-pounders, and two 8-inch Paixhan's guns, has been much delayed in the hands of the indefatigable engineers by

the mortar that filled up the work with sand nearly as fast as it could be opened by the half-blinded laborers. It will, however, doubtless be in full activity early to-morrow morning.

March 25.—The Princeton being about to start for Philadelphia, I have but a moment to continue this report:
All the batteries, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, are in awful activity this morning. The effect is, no doubt, very great, and I think the city cannot hold out beyond to-day. To-morrow morning many of the new mortars will be in a position to add their fire, when, or after the delay of some twelve hours, if no proposition to surrender should be received, I shall organize parties for carrying the city by assault. So far the defence has been spirited and obstinate.

I enclose a copy of a memorial received last night, signed by the consuls of Great Britain, France, Prussia, and Spain, within Vera Cruz, asking me to grant a truce to enable the neutrals, together with Mexican women and children, to withdraw from the scene of havoc about them. I shall reply, the moment that an opportunity may be taken, to say—

1. That a truce can only be granted on the application of Governor Morales, with a view to a surrender; 2. That in sending safeguards to the different consuls, beginning as far back as the 13th inst., I distinctly admonished them—particularly the French and Spanish consuls—and, of course, through the two, the other consuls—of the dangers that have followed; 3. That although, at that date, I had already refused to allow any person whatsoever to pass the line of investment either way, yet the blockade had been left open to the consuls and other neutrals to pass out to their respective ships of war up to the 22d inst.; and 4th. I shall inclose to the memorialists a copy of my summons to the governor, to show that I had fully considered the impending hardships and distresses of the place, including those of women and children, before one gun had been fired in that direction. The intercourse between the neutral ships of war and the city was stopped at the last mentioned date by Commodore Perry, with my concurrence, which I placed on the ground that that intercourse could not fail to give to the enemy moral aid and comfort.

It will be seen from the memorial, that our batteries have already had a terrible effect on the city (also known through other sources), and hence the inference that a surrender must soon be proposed. In haste,

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

Hon. W. L. MAREY, Secretary of War.

A
HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz,
MARCH 22, 1847.

The undersigned, Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the armies of the United States of America, in addition to the close blockade of the coast and port of Vera Cruz, previously established by the squadron under Commodore Connor, of the navy of said States, having now fully invested the said city with an overwhelming army, so as to render it impossible that its garrison should receive from without succor or reinforcement of any kind; and having caused to be established batteries, competent to the speedy reduction of the said city; he, the undersigned, deems it due to the courtesies of war, in like cases, as well as the rights of humanity, to summon his excellency, the governor and commander-in-chief of the city of Vera Cruz to surrender the same to the arms of the United States of America, present before the place.

The undersigned, anxious to spare the beautiful city of Vera Cruz from the imminent hazard of demolition—its gallant defenders from a useless effusion of blood, and its peaceful inhabitants—women and children, inclusive—from the inevitable horrors of a triumphant assault, addresses this summons to the intelligence, the gallantry, and patriotism no less than to the humanity of his excellency the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz.

The undersigned is not accurately informed whether both the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa be under the command of his Excellency, or whether each place has its own independent commander; but the undersigned, moved by the considerations adverted to above, may be willing to stipulate that, if the city should by capitulation, be garrisoned by a part of his troops, no missile shall be fired from within the city, or from its bastions or walls, upon the castle, unless the castle should previously fire upon the city.

The undersigned has the honor to tender to his distinguished opponent, his

excellency the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz, the assurance of the highest respect and consideration of the undersigned. WINFIELD SCOTT.

B

[Translation]
The undersigned, commanding general of the free and sovereign State of Vera Cruz, has informed himself of the contents of the note which Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the forces of the United States, has addressed to him under date of to-day, demanding the surrender of this place, and castle of Ulloa; and, in answer, has to say, that the above named fortress, as well as this place, depend on his authority; and it being his principal duty, in order to prove worthy of the confidence placed in him by the government of the nation, to defend both points at all cost, to effect which he counts upon the necessary elements, and will make it good to the last; therefore his excellency commands his operations of war in the manner which he may consider most advantageous.

The undersigned has the honor to return to the general-in-chief of the forces of the United States the demonstrations of esteem he may be pleased to honor him with. God and liberty!
VERA CRUZ, March 22, 1847.
JUAN MORALES.

To Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the forces of the United States, situated in sight of this place.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS,

Camp Washington, March 24, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to report for the information of the general-in-chief, that on the 22d instant, and as soon as the chief-engineer had reported that the batteries were sufficiently advanced to receive seven mortars, I placed that number in battery. By 2 o'clock on that day I was prepared to open the fire upon the city of Vera Cruz. At quarter past 4 I received the order of the general-in-chief to commence firing on the city, and the batteries Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were opened with great animation and apparent effect.

From the moment the batteries opened on the afternoon of the 22d instant, the fire has been incessant day and night.

On the 22d, and during the night, battery No. 1, was under the command of Captain Brooks, of the 2d artillery; battery No. 2, under the charge of Lieut. Shackelford, of the 2d artillery, and battery No. 3, under the charge of Capt. Vinton, of the 3d artillery, and until the hour of his death, about 4 o'clock, P. M., when the command devolved upon Lieut. Vanvliet, 3d artillery.

The severe loss to the army by the death of Captain Vinton, was the only loss we sustained on the first day. Several of the men were slightly wounded.

The fire from the city and from the castle on our batteries, with shot, shells and rockets, has been intermitted, but with very brief periods, since we opened our batteries; and we must ascribe our safety, under such a heavy and constant fire, to the skill and science of the officers of engineers in the construction of our batteries.

From the morning of the 23d to this morning the batteries have been in charge of Capt. McKenzie, of the 2d Artillery, and Capt. Anderson and Brevet Capt. Taylor, of the 3d artillery.

Yesterday, about 12 o'clock, M., I was able to place three more mortars in battery, but owing to the highness of the wind, the shells could not be landed from the store-ship, and our fire to this time has been very moderate, not exceeding one fire in every five minutes.

Last night I succeeded in moving 3 24-pounder guns to battery No. 4, with the necessary ammunition and implements, which have been placed in battery.

One more 24-pounder and two 8 inch howitzers will be moved out to-night, and to-morrow morning, (as we shall doubtless obtain a supply of shells to-day, the storm having abated sufficiently to land them,) I shall be able to open the four batteries with ten mortars, four 24 pounders, and two 8-inch howitzers, with increased effect and renewed vigor.

I can bear testimony, from personal observation, to the skill and gallantry of the officers detailed on artillery service under my direction, and of the cheerfulness and steadiness of the men in the performance of their laborious duties.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES BANKHEAD,
2d Artillery, Chief of Artillery.
Lieut. SCOTT, Acting Adjutant General,
Army Headquarters.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS,
Camp Washington, March 24, 1847.

SIR—Since my report of this date of operations in the batteries up to 4 o'clock, A. M., the hour when the troops are relieved, I have to state for the information of the General-in-Chief, that the enemy opened a brisk fire on our batteries soon after sunrise this morning, without effect; but about 10 o'clock, most of their batteries were again opened on us, and one man of Company "B," 2d artillery, was killed at battery No. 1, and three men were severely wounded.

A shell fell into battery No. 3, where four men of Company "F," 2d artillery, were wounded. The shell fell on one of the mortars, breaking the mortar bed, and throwing the mortar bed thirty feet from the platform—another mortar bed can be obtained from the ordnance depot, and the mortar will be remounted.

We have been restrained from the want of shells from throwing more than one every five minutes during the day. A full supply will be in place to-night, and as soon as it is dark enough to send them to the batteries without being observed by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. BANKHEAD,
Second Artillery, Chief of Artillery.
Lieut. SCOTT, Acting Adjutant General,
Army Headquarters.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Vera Cruz, March 29, 1847.

SIR—The flag of the United States of America floats triumphantly over the walls of this city and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa.

Our troops have garrisoned both since ten o'clock. It is now noon. Brig. Gen. Worth is in command of the two places.

Articles of capitulation were signed and exchanged at a late hour, night before last. I enclose a copy of the document.

I have heretofore reported the principal incidents of the siege up to the 25th inst. Nothing of striking interest occurred till early in the morning of the next day, when I received overtures from General Landero, on whom General Morales had devolved the principal command. A terrible storm of wind and sand made it difficult to communicate with the city, and impossible to refer to Commodore Perry. I was obliged to entertain the proposition alone, or to continue the fire upon a place that had shown a disposition to surrender; for the loss of a day, or perhaps several, could not be permitted. The accompanying papers will show the proceedings and results.

Yesterday, after the mortar had abated, and the commissioners appointed by me early the morning before, had again met those appointed by Gen. Landero, Com. Perry sent ashore his second in command, Capt. Aulick, as a commissioner on the part of the navy. Although not included in my specific arrangement made with the Mexican commander, I did not hesitate, with proper courtesy, to desire that Capt. Aulick might be duly introduced, and allowed to participate in the discussions and acts of the commissioners who had been reciprocally accredited. Hence the preamble to his signature. The original American commissioners were Brevet Brigadier General Worth, Brigadier General Pillow, and Colonel Totten. Four more able or judicious officers could not have been desired.

I have time to add but little more.—The remaining details of the siege, the able co-operation of the United States squadron, successively under the command of Commodores Connor and Perry, the admirable conduct of the whole army—regulars and volunteers—I should be happy to dwell upon as they deserve, but the steamer Princeton, with Commodore Connor on board, is under way, and I have commenced organizing an advance into the interior. This may be delayed a few days, waiting the arrival of additional means of transportation. In the meantime, a joint operation, by land and water, will be made upon Alvarado. No lateral expedition, however, shall interfere with the grand movement towards the capital.

In consideration of the great services of Col. Totten in the siege that has just terminated most successfully, and the importance of his presence at Washington, as the head of the engineer bureau, I intrust this despatch to his personal care, and beg to commend him to the favorable consideration of the department.

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

Hon. W. L. MAREY, Secretary of War.

Articles of Capitulation of the City of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa:

PUENTE DE HORNOs,
Without the walls of Vera Cruz,
Saturday, March 27, 1847.

Terms of capitulation agreed upon by the Commissioners, viz:

Generals W. J. Worth and G. J. Pillow, and Colonel J. G. Totten, chief engineer, on the part of Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the armies of the United States; and Col. Jose Gutierrez de Villanueva, Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers, Manuel Robles, and Colonel Pedro de Herrera, commissioners appointed by General of Brigade Don Jose Juan Landero, commanding in chief, Vera Cruz, the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa