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POETRY.

Oh, think not less I Love Thee!

BY W. D. GALLAGHER.

Oh, think not less I love thee,
That our paths are parted now—
For the stars that burn above thee,
Are not truest than my vow.
As the fragrance to the blossom,
As the moon into the night,
Our love is to thy bosom
Its sweetness and its light.
Oh, think not less I love thee,
That thy hand I thus resign—
In the heaven that bends above thee,
I will claim thee yet as mine.
Through the vision of life's morning
Ever fitted one like thee—
And then, life's lapse adorning,
Shalt hence that vision be.

MISCELLANY.

WILLIAM TELL.

More than four hundred years ago, the country which goes by the name of Switzerland, was under the Austrian government, and the people were little better than slaves. They were made to pay very heavy taxes, and to perform the most menial offices, while the Austrians lived upon the fruits of their labor, and governed them as with a rod of iron.

One of the Austrian governors by the name of Gessler, was a very great tyrant, and did all he could to break the spirit of the Swiss people, but it was of little use.

Gessler went so far in his tyranny as to command his hat or cap to be placed on a pole in the market-place, and ordered that every Swiss who passed should bow to it. The poor Swiss people did not like this at all; but they were afraid to disobey the order, as imprisonment or death would be the consequence.

There was, however, one noble-minded man, who was afraid of neither imprisonment or death, who refused to bow to Gessler's cap—his name was William Tell. He had not only refused to bow to the hat, but incited his fellow countrymen to throw off the Austrian yoke. He was soon seized and brought into the presence of the tyrant. William Tell was a man of war, and had his bow and arrows about his person when he was seized. Gessler, telling him he had forfeited his life, proposed that he should exhibit a specimen of his skill as an archer, promising him that if he could hit an apple at a certain distance he should be free.

Tell was glad to hear this, and began to have a better opinion of the governor than he deserved; but the cruel man called Tell's only son, a boy seven years old, forward, and placed the apple on his head, bidding his father fire at it.

When Tell saw this, he nearly fainted, his hand trembled so much that he could scarcely place the arrow in the string. There was, however, no alternative; he must attempt the feat or die; but that which unnerved his arm was the fear that his skill might fail him, and that he might kill his only son.

His child seeing his father's distress, sought to console him. "I am sure you will not hit me, father," said he; "I have seen you strike a bird on the wing at a great distance, and I will stand quite still."

The ground was now measured, and the boy placed against the tree. It is impossible for you to understand what the unfortunate Tell felt as he prepared to shoot. Twice he leveled his arrow, but dropped it again. His eyes were so blinded by his emotion that he could not see the apple. The assembled spectators, of whom there were great numbers, seemed to hold their breath. At length Tell summoned up his courage. He dashed the tears from his eyes, and bent his bow. Away went the arrow, and piercing the apple, cut it in two and imbedded itself in the tree.

The spectators shouted and applauded. Tell was taken to Gessler, who was about to set him free, when he observed another arrow sticking under his girdle.

"Ha!" said he, "an arrow! Why that concealed weapon?"

"It was destined for you," replied Tell, "had I killed my child."

Upon this daring threat, Tell was again seized by the tyrant's soldiers, and was hurried away to be put to death. But being a strong and resolute man, he made his escape, and fleeing into the mountains, incited the people to throw off the tyrant's yoke. They accordingly took up arms and made Tell their leader.

But he was again taken prisoner, and being put in a boat with Gessler and his men, for the purpose of rowing over one of the lakes, a storm arose and the boat was driven ashore. Tell leaped out before any one else could land, and snatching a concealed arrow from his person, aimed at the tyrant and shot him dead as he sat in the boat.

After this, Tell roused the people and they soon gained their freedom; and Switzerland is a free country to this day.—Merry's Museum.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

BATTLES OF CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO.

REPORT OF MAJ. GEN. SCOTT.
(Duplicate.)

No. 31.] HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
SAN AGUSTIN, ACAPULCO ROAD,
9 miles from Mexico, August 19, 1847.

Sir:—Leaving a competent garrison in Puebla, this army advanced upon the capital, as follows:—Twigg's division, preceded by Harney's brigade of cavalry, the 7th; Quitman's division of volunteers, with a small detachment of United States marines, the 5th; Worth's division, the 9th; and Pillow's division, the 10th—all in this order. On the 5th, I overtook, and then continued with the leading division. The corps were, at no time, beyond five hours of supporting distance apart; and on descending into the basin of the capital, (75 miles from Puebla,) they became more closely approximated about the head of Lake Texcoco a little in front and to the right. On the 12th and 13th we pushed reconnoissances upon the Penon, an isolated mound, (eight miles from Mexico) of great height, strongly fortified to the top, (three tiers of works), and flooded around the base by the season of rains and sluices from the lakes. This mound, close to the national road, commands the principal approach to the city from the east. No doubt it might have been carried, but at a great and disproportionate loss, and I was anxious to spare the lives of this gallant army for a general battle which I knew we had to win before capturing the city, or obtaining the great object of the campaign—a just and honorable peace.

Another reconnoissance was directed (the 13th) upon Mexicalcingo, to the left of the Penon, a village at a fortified bridge across the outlet or canal, leading from Lake Xochimilco to the capital—five miles from the latter. It might have been easy (masking the Penon) to force the passage, but on the other side of the bridge, we should have found ourselves, four miles from this road, on a narrow causeway, flanked by the right and left by water, or boggy grounds. These difficulties, clearly viewed, I turned me back upon the project, long entertained, of turning the strong eastern defenses of the city, by passing around the south of lakes Chalco and Juchimilco, at the foot of the hills and mountains, so as to reach this point, and hence to maneuver, on hard ground, the much broken, to the south and southwest of the capital, which has been more or less under our view since the 10th inst.

Accorded to, by a sudden invasion—Worth's division, with Harney's cavalry brigade, having marched on the 15th inst., to the left of the Penon, in order to threaten the Penon and Mexicalcingo, and to deceive the enemy as to our intentions. Twigg's division, on the 16th, marching from Ayoa towards Chalco, (six miles) in a cavalry and infantry column, under Gen. Valencia. Twigg's division, deployed into line, and by a few rounds from Captain Taylor's field battery, dispersed the enemy, killing or wounding many men and horses. No other molestation has been experienced, except a few random shots from guerrillas, on the heights; and the march of 27 miles, over a route deemed impracticable to the enemy, is now accomplished by the corps—thanks to their indomitable zeal and physical prowess.

Arriving here, the 18th, Worth's division and Harney's cavalry were pushed forward a league, to reconnoitre, and to carry or to mask San Antonio, of the direct road to the capital. This village was found, strongly defended by field-works, heavy guns, and a numerous garrison. It could only be turned by infantry, to the left, over a field of volcanic rocks and lava, for, to our right, the ground was too boggy. It was soon ascertained, by the daring engineers, Capt. Mason and Lieut. Stevens and Tower, that the point could only be approached, by the front, over a narrow causeway, flanked with wet ditches of great depth.—Worth was ordered not to attack, but to threaten and to mask the place.

The first shot fired from San Antonio (the 19th) killed Captain S. Thornton, 2d dragoons, a gallant officer, who was covering the operations with his company.

The same day, a reconnoissance was commenced to the left of San Augustin, first over difficult ground, and farther on, over the same fields of volcanic rocks and lava which extend to the mountains, some five miles, from San Antonio to Magdalena. The reconnoissance was continued to-day, by Captain Lee, assisted by Captain Beauregard and Tower, all of the engineers, who were joined, in the afternoon, by Major Smith of the same corps. Other divisions coming up, Pillow's was advanced to make a practicable road for heavy artillery, and Twigg's thrown farther in front, to cover that operation; for by the partial reconnoissance of yesterday, Capt. Lee discovered a large corps of observation in that direction, with a detachment of which his supports of cavalry and foot under Capt. Kearney and Lieut. Col. Graham, respectively, had a successful skirmish.

By three o'clock this afternoon the advanced divisions came to a point where the new road could only be continued under the direct fire of 22 pieces of the enemy's artillery, (most of them of large calibre,) placed in a strongly entrenched camp to oppose our operations, and surrounded by every advantage of ground; besides immense bodies of cavalry and infantry, hourly reinforced from the city, over an excellent road beyond the volcanic field, and consequently beyond the reach of our cavalry and artillery.

Arriving on the ground an hour later, I found that Pillow's and Twigg's divisions had advanced to dislodge the enemy picking their way (all officers on foot) along his front, and extending themselves towards the road, from the city and the enemy's left. Captain Magruder's field battery, of 12 and 6 pounders, and Lieut.

Callender's battery of mounted howitzers and rockets had, also, with great difficulty been advanced within range of the entrenched camp. These batteries, most gallantly served, suffered much in the course of the afternoon from the enemy's superior metal.

The battle, though mostly stationary, continued to range with greatest violence until midnight. Brevet Brig. Gen. P. F. Smith's and Brevet Col. Riley's brigades, (Twigg's division,) supported by Brig. Generals Pierce's & Cadwalader's brigades, (Pillow's division,) were more than three hours under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry, along the impassable ravine front and to the left of the entrenched camp. Besides the 22 pieces of artillery, the camp and ravine were defended closely by masses of infantry, and these again supported by clouds of cavalry, at hand and hovering in view. Consequently, no decided impression could be made, by daylight, on the enemy's most formidable position, because, independent of the difficulty of the ravine, our infantry, unaccompanied by cavalry and artillery, could not advance in column without being ridden over by the enemy's numerous cavalry. All our corps however, including Magruder's and Callender's last batteries, not only maintained the exposed position early gained, but all attempted charges upon them, respectively—particularly on Riley, twice closely engaged with cavalry in greatly superior numbers—were repulsed and punished.

From an eminence, soon after arriving near the second, I observed the church and hamlet of Contreras, (or Ansalpa) on the road leading up from the Capital, through the entrenched camp, to Magdalena, and seeing, at the same time, the stream of reinforcements advancing by that road, from the city, I ordered (through Maj. Gen. Pillow) Col. Morgan, with his regiment the 12th, till then held in reserve by Pillow, to move forward and to occupy Contreras (or Ansalpa)—being persuaded it occupied, it would arrest the reinforcements and ultimately decide the battle.

Riley was already on the enemy's left, in advance of the hamlet. A few minutes later, Brig. Gen. Shields, with his volunteer brigade (New York and South Carolina Regiments—Quitman's division) coming up under my orders, from San Augustin, I directed Shields to follow and sustain Morgan. These corps, over the extreme difficulties of ground—partially covered with a low forest—before described, reached Contreras, and found Cadwalader's brigade in position, observing the formidable movement from the capital, and much needing the timely reinforcement.

It was already dark, and the cold rain had begun to fall in torrents upon our unsheltered troops for the hamlet, though strong defensive position, could hold only the wounded men, and, unfortunately, the new regiments have little or nothing to eat in their haversacks. Wet, hungry and without the possibility of sleep, all our volunteers, I learn, are full of confidence, and only wait for the last hour of darkness to gain the positions whence to storm, and carry the enemy's works.

Of the seven officers detached, since about sundown from my position, opposite to the enemy's centre, and on this side of the fields of rocks and lava—to communicate instructions to the hamlet—not one has succeeded in getting through these difficulties, increased by darkness. They have all returned. But the gallant and indefatigable Captain Lee, of the engineers, who has been constantly with the operating forces, is just in from Shields, Smith, Cadwalader, &c., to report as above, and to ask that a powerful diversion be made against the centre of the entrenched camp towards morning.

Brigadier General Taylor, cut off, as above from the part of his division beyond the impracticable ground, and Capt. Lee, are gone, under my orders, to collect the forces remaining on this side, with which to make that diversion about 5 o'clock in the morning.

And here I will end this report, commenced at this date, and in another, continue the narrative of the great events which then impended.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

Mon. [W. M. L. MARCY, Sec'y of War.

No. 32. (Duplicate.)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
TACUBAYA, at the Gates of Mexico,
August 25, 1847.

Sir:—My report, No. 31, commenced in the night of the 19th inst., closed the operations of the army with that day.

The morning of the 20th opened with one of a series of unsurpassed achievements, all in view of the capital, and to which I shall give the general name—*Battle of Mexico*.

In the night of the 19th, Brigadier General Shields, P. F. Smith and Cadwalader, and Col. Riley, with their brigades, and the 15th Regiment, under Col. Morgan, detached from Brigadier General Pierce—found themselves in and about the important position—the village, hamlet or hacienda, called, differently, Contreras, Ansalpa, San Geronimo—half a mile nearer to the city than the enemy's entrenched camp on the same road, towards the factory of Magdalena.

That camp had been, unexpectedly, our formidable point of attack the afternoon before, and we had now to take it, without the aid of cavalry or artillery, or to throw back our advanced corps upon the road from San Augustin to the city, and thence force a passage through San Antonio.

Accordingly, to meet contingencies, Major General Worth was ordered to leave, early in the morning of the 20th, one of his brigades to mask San Antonio, and to march with the other six miles, via San Augustin, upon Contreras. A like destination was given to Major General Quitman and his remaining brigade in San Augustin—replacing, for the moment, the garrison of that important depot with Harney's brigade of cavalry, as above could not pass or

the intervening rocks, &c., to reach the field of battle.

A diversion, for an earlier hour (daylight) had been arranged the night before, according to the suggestion of Brigadier General Smith, received through the engineer, Captain Lee, who conveyed my orders to our troops remaining on the ground opposite to the enemy's centre—the point for the diversion of a real attack, as circumstances might allow.

Guided by Captain Lee, I proved the latter, under the command of Col. Ransom, of the 9th, having with him that regiment and some companies of three others—the 3d, 12th, and rifles.

Shields, the senior officer at the hamlet, having arrived in the night, after Smith had arranged with Cadwalader and Riley the plan of attack for the morning, delicately waived interference; but reserved to himself the double task of holding the hamlet with his two regiments (South Carolina and New York volunteers) against ten times his numbers on the side of the city, including the slopes to his left, and in case the camp in his rear should be carried, to face about and cut off the flying enemy.

At 3 o'clock, A. M., the great movement commenced on the rear of the enemy's camp, Riley leading, followed successively by Cadwalader's and Smith's brigades, the latter temporarily under the orders of Major Dimick of the 1st artillery—the whole force being commanded by Smith, the senior in the general attack and whose arrangements, skill and gallantry always challenge the highest admiration.

The march was rendered tedious by the darkness, rain, and mud; but about sunrise, Riley, conducted by Lieut. Tower, engineer, had reached an elevation behind the enemy, whence he precipitated his columns;—stormed the entrenchments, planted his several columns upon them, and carried the work—all in seventeen minutes.

Conducted by Lieut. Beauregard, engineer, and Lieut. Brooks of Twigg's staff, both of whom, like Lieut. Tower, had, in the night, twice reconnoitred the ground—Cadwalader brought up to the general assault, two of his regiments—the volunteers and the 11th, and at the appointed time, Col. Ransom with his temporary brigade, conducted by Captain Lee, engineer, not only made the movement to divert and to distract the enemy; but, after crossing the deep ravine in his front, advanced, and poured into the works and upon the fugitives, many volleys of his destructive musketry.

In the meantime Smith's own brigade, under the temporary command of Major Dimick, following the movements of Riley and Cadwalader, discovered, opposite to, and outside of the works, a long line of Mexican cavalry, drawn up as a support. Dimick, having at the head of the brigade the company of sappers and pioneers, under Lieut. Smith, engineer, who had conducted the march, was ordered by Brigadier General Smith, to form line faced to the enemy, and in a charge against a flank, routed the cavalry.

Shields, too, by the wise disposition of his brigade and gallant activity, contributed much to the general results. He held masses of cavalry and infantry, supported by artillery, in check below him, and captured hundreds, with one general (Mendoza) of those who fled from above.

I doubt whether a more brilliant or decisive victory—taking into view, ground, artificial defenses, batteries, and the extreme disparity of numbers—without cavalry or artillery on our side—is to be found on record. Including all our corps directed against the entrenched camp, with Shields's brigade at the hamlet, we positively did not number over 5,500 rank and file; and we knew, by sight, and since, more certainly by many captured documents and letters, that the enemy had actually engaged on the spot 7,000 men, with at least 12,000 more hovering within sight and striking distance—both on the 19th and 20th. All not killed or captured, now fled with precipitation.

Thus was the great victory of Contreras achieved; one road to the capital opened; 700 of the enemy killed; 843 prisoners, including, among 88 officers, 4 generals; besides many colors and standards; 22 pieces of brass ordnance—half of large calibre; thousands of small arms and accoutrements; an immense quantity of shot; shells, powder, and cartridges; 700 pack mules, many horses, &c.; all in our hands.

It is highly gratifying to find that, by skillful arrangement, and rapidity of execution, our loss in killed and wounded, did not exceed, on the spot 60—among the former the brave Captain Charles Hanson, of the 7th infantry—not more distinguished for gallantry, than for modesty, morals, and piety. Lieut. J. P. Johnson, 1st artillery, serving with Magruder's battery—a young officer of the highest promise, was killed the evening before.

One of the most pleasing incidents of the victory is the recapture, in the works, by Captain Drum, 4th artillery, under Major Gardner, of the two brass six pounders, taken from another company of the same regiment, though without the loss of honor, at the glorious battle of Buena Vista—about which guns the whole regiment had mourned for so many long months! Coming up, a little later, I had the happiness to join in the protracted cheers of the whole army sympathizing in its just pride and exultation.

The battle being won before the advancing brigades of Worth's and Quitman's divisions were in sight, both were ordered back to their late positions.—Worth, to attack San Antonio in front, with his whole force, as soon as he approached in the rear, by Pillow's and Twigg's divisions—moving from Contreras, through San Augustin and Coyocacan. By carrying San Antonio we knew that we should open another shorter and better road to the capital, for our siege and other trains.

activity, late the evening before, by a severe hurt received from the fall of his horse.

After giving necessary orders on the field, in the midst of prisoners and trophies, and sending instructions to Harney's brigade of cavalry, left at San Augustin, to join me, I personally followed Pillow's movement.

Arriving at Coyocacan, two miles by a cross road, from the rear of San Antonio, I first detached Capt. Lee, engineer, with Capt. Kearney's troop, 1st dragoons, supported by the 5th regiment, under Major Loring, to reconnoitre that strong point, and next dispatched Major Gen. Pillow, with one of his brigades (Cadwalader's) to make the attack upon it, in concert with Major Gen. Worth, on the opposite side.

At the same time, by another road to the left, Lieut. Stevens, of the engineers, supported by Lieut. G. W. Smith's company of sappers and miners, of the same corps, was sent to reconnoitre the strongly fortified church or convent of San Pablo, in the hamlet of Churubusco—one mile off; Twigg, with one of his brigades (Smith's—less the rifles) and Captain Taylor's field battery, were ordered to follow and attack the convent. Major Smith, senior engineer, was despatched to concert with Twigg's mode and means of attack, and Twigg's other brigade (Riley's) I soon ordered up to support him.

Next (but all in ten minutes) I sent Pierce (just able to keep the saddle) with his brigade (Pillow's division) conducted by Capt. Lee, engineer, by a third road, a little farther to our left, to attack the enemy's right and rear, in order to favor the movement upon the convent and cut off the retreat towards the capital. And finally, Shields, senior brigadier, to Pierce, with the New York and South Carolina volunteers (Quitman's division,) was ordered to follow Pierce, closely, and to take the command of our left wing. All these movements were made with the utmost alacrity by our gallant troops and commanders.

Finding myself at Coyocacan, from which so many roads conveniently branched, without escort or reserve, I had to advance, for safety, close upon Twigg's rear. The battle now raged from the right to the left of our whole line.

Learning, on the return of Captain Lee, that Shields, in the rear of Churubusco, was hard pressed, and in danger of being outflanked, I not only ordered, but greatly superior numbers, I immediately set, under Major Sumner, 2d dragoons, the rifles (Twigg's reserve) and Capt. Sibley's troop, 2d dragoons, then at hand, to support our left, guided by the same engineer.

About an hour earlier, Worth had, by skillful and daring movements upon the front and right, turned and forced San Antonio—its garrison, no doubt, much shaken by our decisive victory at Contreras.

His second brigade (Col. Clarke's) conducted by Capt. Mason, engineer, assisted by Lieut. Hardestie, topographical engineer, turned the right, and by a wide sweep, came out upon the high road to the capital. At this point the heavy garrison (3,000 men) in retreat, was by Clarke, cut in the centre; one portion, the rear driven upon Dolores, off to the right; and the other upon Churubusco, in the direct line of our operations. The first brigade, (Colonel Garland's) same division, consisting of the 2d artillery, under Major Galt, the 3d artillery, under Lieut. Col. Belton, and the 4th infantry, commanded by Maj. F. Lee, with Lieut. Col. Duncan's field battery (temporarily followed in pursuit through the town, taking one general prisoner, the abandoned guns, (five pieces) much ammunition and other public property.

The forcing of San Antonio was the second brilliant event of the day.

Worth's division being soon reunited in hot pursuit, he was joined by Maj. Gen. Pillow, who, marching from Coyocacan and discovering that San Antonio had been carried, immediately turned to the left, according to my instructions, and though much impeded by ditches and swamps, hastened to the attack of Churubusco.

The hamlet or scattered houses, bearing this name, presented, besides the fortified convent, a strong field-work (tete de pont) with regular bastions and curtains, at the head of a bridge over which the road passes from San Antonio to the capital.

The whole remaining forces of Mexico—some 27,000 men—cavalry, artillery, and infantry, collected from every quarter—were now in, on the flanks or within supporting distance of those works, and seemed resolved to make a last and desperate stand; for if beaten here, the feeble defenses at the gates of the city—4 miles off—could not, as was well known to both parties, delay the victors an hour. The capital of an ancient empire, now of a great republic; or an early peace, the assailants were resolved to win. Not an American—and we were less than a third of the enemy's numbers—had a doubt as to the result.

The fortified church or convent, hotly pressed by Twigg, had already held out about an hour, when Worth and Pillow—the latter having with him only Cadwalader's brigade—began to maneuver closely upon the tete de pont, with the consent at half gun shot, to their left, Garland's brigade, (Worth's division,) to which had been added the light battalion under Lieut. Col. Smith, continued to advance in front, and under the fire of a long line of infantry, off on the left of the brigade; and Clarke, of the same division, directed his brigade along the road or close by its side. Two of Pillow's and Cadwalader's regiments, the 11th and 14th, supported and participated in this direct movement—the other (the volunteers) was left in reserve. Most of these corps—particularly Clarke's brigade, advancing perpendicularly—were made to suffer much by the fire of the tete de pont, and they would have suffered greatly more by flank attacks from the convent, but for the presence of Twigg on the other side of that work.

This well-contrived and daring movement, at length reached the principal point of attack—the formidable tete de pont, was, at once, assaulted and carried by the batteries. Its defence was first gallantly executed by the 5th and 8th infantry, commanded, respectively, by Maj. Wells and Lieutenant Colonel

followed closely, by the 6th infantry, (same brigade) which had been so much exposed in the road—the 11th regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Graham, of the 14th, commanded by Colonel Trousdale, both of Cadwalader's brigade, Pillow's division. About the same time the enemy, in front of Garland, after a brief conflict of an hour and a half, gave way, in retreat towards the capital.

The immediate results of this third signal triumph of the day were: 3 field-pieces, 120 prisoners, much ammunition and trophies, taken in the tete de pont.

As the concurrent attack upon the convent favored physically and morally, the success upon the tete de pont, so, reciprocally, no doubt, the fall of the latter contributed to the success of the former. The two works were only 450 yards apart; and as soon as we were in possession of the tete de pont, a captured 6 pounder was turned and fired first by Capt. Larkin Smith, and next by Lieut. Snelling, both of the 8th infantry—several times upon the convent. In the same brief interval, Lieut. Col. Duncan, (also of Worth's division,) gallantly brought two of his guns to bear, at a short range, from the San Antonio road, upon the principal face of the work, and on the tower of the church, which, in the obstinate contest had been often refilled with some of the best sharpshooters of the enemy.

Finally, twenty minutes after the tete de pont had been carried by Worth and Pillow, and as the result of a desperate conflict of two hours and a half, the church or convent—the citadel of the strong line of defence along the rivulet of Churubusco—yielded to Twigg's division, and threw out, on all sides, signals of surrender. The white flags, however, were not exhibited until the moment when the 3d infantry, under Capt. Alexander, had cleared the way by fire and bayonet, and had entered the tower. Capt. J. M. Smith and Lieut. O. L. Shepherd, both of that regiment with their companies, had the glory of leading the assault. The former remained the surrender, and Capt. Alexander instantly hung out, from a balcony, the colors of the gallant 3d. Major Dimick, with a portion of the 1st artillery, serving as infantry, entered nearly abreast with the leading troops, and Lieut. J. F. Irons, 1st artillery, and de-companied to Brigadier General Cadwalader, a young officer of great merit and conspicuous in battle, on several previous occasions, received, in front of the work, a mortal wound. (Since dead.)

Captain Taylor's field battery, attached to Twigg's division, opened its effective fire, at an early moment, upon the out-works of the convent and the tower of its church. Exposed to the severest fire of the enemy, the captain, his officers and men, won universal admiration; killed at length much disabled, in men and horses, the battery was, by superior order, withdrawn from the action thirty minutes before the surrender of the convent.

Those corps, excepting Taylor's battery, belonged to the brigade of Brig. Gen. Smith, who, closely directed the whole attack in front, with his habitual coolness and ability; while Riley's brigade—the 2d and 7th infantry, under Capt. T. Morris and Lieut. Col. Plympton, respectively; vigorously engaged the right of the work, and part of its rear. At the moment, the rifles, belonging to Smith's, were detached in support of Brig. Gen. Shields's on our extreme left, and the 4th infantry, acting as infantry, under Major Gardner, belonging to Riley's brigade, had been left in charge of the camp, trophies, &c., at Contreras. Twigg's division, at Churubusco, had thus been deprived of the services of two of its most gallant and effective regiments.

The immediate results of his victory were: the capture of 7 field-pieces, some ammunition, one color, three generals, and 1,200 prisoners, including other officers, and 1,200 prisoners. Captains E. A. Capron and M. J. Burke, and Lieut. S. Hoffman, all of the 1st artillery, and Capt. J. W. Anderson and Lieut. J. H. Rose, both of the 2d infantry—five companies of great merit—fell gallantly before this work.

The capture of the enemy's citadel was the fourth great achievement of our arms in almost a day.

It has been stated that, some two hours and a half before, Pierce's, followed closely by the volunteer brigade; both under the command of Brig. Gen. Shields, had been detached to our left to turn the enemy's works;—to prevent the escape of the garrison, and to oppose the extension of the enemy's numerous corps from the rear, upon and around our entrenched camp.

Considering the inferior numbers of the two brigades, the objects of the movement were difficult to accomplish. Hence the reconnoissance (the rifles, &c.) sent forward a little earlier, in a winding march of a mile around the edge of an open wet meadow, near the road from San Antonio to the capital; and the presence of some 4,000 of the enemy's artillery, a little in rear of Churubusco, on that road.

Establishing the right at a strong battery, Shields extended his left, parallel to the road, to outflank the enemy towards the capital. But the enemy extending his right, supported by 3,000 cavalry, more rapidly (being aided by better ground) in the same direction, Shields concentrated the division about the hamlet, and determined to attack in front. The battle was long, hot and varied; but, ultimately, becoming crowned the seal and gallantry of our troops, ably directed by their distinguished commander—Brig. General Shields, the 9th, 11th and 15th regiments, under Colonel Ransom; Captain Wood and Colonel Morgan, respectively, of Pierce's brigade; (Pillow's division,) and the New York and South Carolina volunteers, under Colonel Burnett and Butler, respectively, of Shields's own brigade (Quitman's division) together with the mountain howitzers, hastened now under Lieut. Reno, of the engineers, who all shared in the glory of this contest, and the victory in this name day.

Brigadier General Pierce, from his position the evening before, under both and immediate command, in the action, soon after darkness in command, ordered on the 20th, that the local forces being severely wounded, the rest of the 15th infantry, ordered, respectively, (under Colonel Howard, Colonel

Major Wells and Lieutenant Colonel