

The People's Advocate.

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MONTROSE, NOV. 11, 1847.

E. W. CARR, Sun Building, N. E. corner of Third and Dock Streets, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent for the "People's Advocate," and receive and accept any moneys due the same for advertising, &c.

No official despatches yet from Gen. Scott. The guerrillas continue their depredations, and Santa Anna is again collecting another army, to be again scattered and defeated.

Numbers 4 and 5 of "Chambers' Miscellany" have been received. They contain, in addition to other excellent reading matter, "The Life of Lord Nelson," with a portrait, "The Temperance movement," "Joan of Arc, maid of Orleans," "Slavery in America," "Wm. Wallace and Robert Bruce," "Cases of Circumstantial Evidence," and "Byron's narrative of the Wager," all of which are highly interesting. The "Miscellany" is published by Messrs. Gould, Kendall & Lincoln, 59 Washington street, Boston, and G. B. Zieber & Co. Philadelphia, at 25 cts. (only) per No. The enterprising publishers deserve the thanks of every lover of the beautiful and true, for the cheap and tasteful style in which they have spread this truly valuable work before the American People.

From indications in every part of the country, it is now pretty evident, that the Hon. James Buchanan will be a prominent candidate before the Democratic National Convention, for the next Presidency. A number of papers in Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York, have already hoisted his name. It is also pretty evident that there is one question which will come before the people in the next Presidential campaign, and which may have a very material bearing on the result: the principle contained in the Wilmot proviso. That question, whatever may be the action upon it in the next session of Congress, must come before the people in the next Presidential election.

THE NO LICENSE LAW.—The Supreme Court of this State, now in session at Pittsburgh, have decided the "No License Law" of Pennsylvania to be unconstitutional. The opinion has not yet been published.

Wm. F. Packer, of Lycoming, and Thos. S. Fernon, of Phila. are recommended as candidates for Speaker of the House.

DEATH OF A SENATOR.—The Hon. J. W. Huntington, Whig U. S. Senator from Connecticut, died at his residence in New Haven on the 2nd inst. of a bilious attack.

New York Election.

For the first time since 1841, the State Government of New York is Whig in every department, save the Judicial. A Whig Governor, Lieut. Governor, all the Heads of Departments, Canal Board, Prison Inspectors, with a large majority in each branch of the Legislature. Never before has the State administration been so thoroughly Whig.

In New York city, the Whig majority on Lieut. Governor's ticket is 3,546; on the Comptroller's, 4,542. Eleven Whigs and five Democrats, one of whom is Mike Walsh, are elected to the Legislature. Last year only one Whig—Whig Senators in each of the four districts of the city. The majority in the State will be immense. The Journal of Commerce says: "Thousands of Democrats, who are dissatisfied with the Syracuse nominations, did not vote at all, and some went so far, in their hatred of Hunkerism, as to vote the Whig ticket. A house divided against itself, cannot stand."

POST-MASTER AT HARRISBURG.

Isaac G. McKinley, Esq., has been appointed Post Master at Harrisburg, in place of James Peacock, Esq., removed. Whether Mr. P. was known, he was esteemed as an honest man, a faithful officer and an estimable citizen; and his summary removal, unasked by the citizens of Harrisburg, might well cause some surprise. The immediate cause of his removal, it is presumed, was for the part he took in the Democratic Taylor Meeting held in Harrisburg sometime since—a caution to other postmasters, and executive officers, to be very circumspect in their choice of candidates. In view of this supposition, the Harrisburg Argus says: "The people of Pennsylvania want no semi-official dictation as to whom they shall nominate or support for the Presidency. They will exercise their own opinions, and act according to their own judgment, as they did when they supported the Hero of New Orleans in spite of all dictation, and even the nomination of a Congressional Caucus."

RILEY, THE DEFEATER.

An officer of Col. Hays' Texas Regiment, who was in the battle of Buena Vista, states that he recognized Riley in the contest, and watched him closely. He said that Riley had a piece of artillery under his charge, and seemed to get independent of everything but his own will. He went over the field courting danger where it was thickest, and often passed our troops to wonder who it was among the Mexicans that so distinguished himself.

THE TREASURY.—The New York Express says that the Secretary of the Treasury will ask for a loan of \$20,000,000 at the opening of Congress, and will wait for the course of events before he makes application for further supplies.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—A dreadful accident occurred on the 6th inst. on the Massachusetts Railroad, between Springfield and Boston. A Car, called the Jim Crow, was dashed to pieces, and seven Irish emigrants were instantly killed, their bodies being horribly mangled. Several other passengers were severely wounded. The accident was caused by the break falling beneath the car while in rapid motion.

GEN. TAYLOR COMING HOME.—It has been several times stated and denied, that Gen. Taylor was about to return to the U. States. The Washington Union of the 6th states that Gen. Taylor has asked for and obtained leave of absence for six months, in order to pay a visit to his home and family. He may therefore be expected to reach New Orleans in about a month.

MICHIGAN ELECTION.—The State election in Michigan took place on the 2nd inst. In Wayne and the adjoining counties, there is a considerable Democratic gain. The State has probably given a large Democratic majority.

THE COURT MARTIAL for the trial of Lieut. Col. Fremont, is progressing slowly. The proceedings unfold nearly the whole operations of our forces in New Mexico. Whatever may be the judgment of the court, neither of the parties are likely to suffer in public opinion, from the facts elicited in the evidence.

By Santa Fe dates to the 7th of September received at St. Louis, we have rumors that the American traders had been driven from Chihuahua and their property destroyed. The Mexicans at Santa Fe remained perfectly quiet. The American soldiers had become very disorderly, and the Calaboose was filled with them. Com. Stockton, with his party, had arrived at St. Joseph, and left there on the 19th of July. Everything was then quiet.

Correspondence of the Public Ledger.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4th, 1847. There is no news from the South, the Southern mail not having come through; but the news from the North is almost equally interesting. The result of the New Jersey elections excites more surprise than those of New York. Every one here expected the opposition in New York to be successful, with the present breach in the Democratic party of that State—especially in an election of a secondary character, like the present, and with such a letter as ex-President Van Buren wrote to the editor in Wilkesbarre to proceed it. It has frightened nobody, and will not change the course of administration in a single particular.

You will see that various papers now repeat what I believe I first told you, that the President will not adopt a line policy, which, from its defensive character, would be as costly and insecure as the actual occupation and tranquilization of the territory now occupied by our troops, and a virtual abandonment of the advantages already obtained. Neither are the President or his administration bent on the entire conquest of Mexico, provided Mexico will make peace in time; but the administration is ready, when circumstances present themselves to do its duty even unto the entire subjugation and annihilation of the enemy. The administration is not ready to say what it will not do, should the Mexicans still hold out; their hopeless resistance, leaving the line with which we consider ourselves satisfied as a frontier, to be drawn according to the duration of the war, the expenses to which it may put our government. The punishment of Mexico is to be graduated by her offences, and above all by her stubbornness. The determination to punish her will be stowed, the degree of punishment will depend on her conduct.

The friends of Mr. Calhoun talk again of starting a paper in this city. They will, in all probability, find it a much harder task than they imagine. A paper in Washington without patronage requires a long purse and a degree of enterprise not often met in conjunction in any set of politicians. The fact is, the party press, of whatever denomination it may be, does not command nearly the influence which its partisan leaders are led to suppose; the independent journals having gradually sapped their foundation, by presenting things without color and arguing on all subjects simply in reference to the subject matter. A simple minded man scarcely understands a political question till he has seen it in an independent paper, and it is he refers for all important subjects. A decent independent press might do good and serviceable business here; but another party press will have a hard time of it.

Mr. Calhoun, it is supposed, will again press the line of policy which he brought forward during the last session, to be reconsidered by Congress, and his friends here are already breaking ground for him in regard to it. This line of policy is to be the Southern attitude to the Wilmot proviso; and in proportion as the latter grows stronger, do the friends of Mr. Calhoun hope to force their champion's policy on the nation. My own humble opinion is, that no such line of demarcation will be drawn between the North and the South; and that the patriotism and considerations of national honor will be stronger than any political sect or party that runs counter to the prevailing popular opinion.

The news, which was started in some of the papers, that Gen. Taylor was coming home, has no foundation. Gen. Taylor will do very good service where he is. His position is considered beyond contingency. You will perceive, from the able military letter published in the last night's Union, that I was right when I stated that such a letter had been received, and would be published. A synopsis of it I have already given you, a few days ago.

The number of troops Gen. Scott commanded, his loss, his entrance into the city, his street fight with the "culprits" discharged from their prison, the planting of the howitzers on the tops of the houses, and his determination to open the churches to have Protestant service performed in them, unless the Priests choose themselves to perform the usual services in them, have all been distinctly stated in my correspondence; but it is so strange, that we are still in expectation of despatches from Gen. Scott himself, at a period so near the opening of Congress, when their contents might have a serious bearing on the course to be pursued by the administration.

Building Coal Fires.

As anthracite is now used it makes a fire that is unpleasant, expensive, and irregular in temperature, and productive of great dust and disagreeable and unhealthy gases, which are wafted about to the great inconvenience and annoyance of the inmates of every house in which it is used. If properly and judiciously used, the anthracite fire is of uniform temperature, free from deleterious gases and annoying dust and ashes, and at a saving of from twenty to thirty per cent. as may be seen by the experiment. Anthracite should be broken into pieces of the size of a nut, and in kindling the fire in the morning as little charcoal or other kindlers used as will assist in starting the ignition with a blower. When the whole is properly ignited, cover it over with the cinders obtained by riddling or sifting the extinguished contents of yesterday's grate, including those of the size of a pea or even smaller. When this, too, has become partially ignited, the whole should be covered from an inch to an inch and a half, or even two inches thick, with a paste or mortar made by mixing the ashes sifted from the cinders with water to the consistency of mortar for plastering. The fire should be left in this situation undisturbed until almost bed-time, or until the room gets cool. The crust should then be broken in pieces of the size of an egg, levelled, well wet with water, bent or patted down in an even cover, and left until the next morning. Thus the poking of the fire is dispensed with altogether, and the only moving of the ashes is the removing them from the fire-place or grate into the hods to be carried out of doors, to be sifted preparatory to making the fire. Fires built in this manner are of even temperature, free from dust and disagreeable and deleterious gases, and at a saving of twenty to thirty per cent. in the expense of coal.—National Intelligencer.

FROM THE ARMY!

From the Public Ledger 6th inst.

Late from Mexico.—Santa Anna Restored to Power.—Mexican Government at Queretaro.—Gen. Lane Advanced to Huanantla.—Santa Anna, with 2500 Men, Abandoned that Place.—Seventy Americans Reported Killed.—Gen. Rea Sallied out from Puebla to meet Gen. Lane.—Prospects of Another Battle.

PETRASTABA, Nov. 5. The New Orleans papers received this morning announce the arrival there of the steamship Alabama, with dates from Vera Cruz to the 20th.

Gen. Patterson was expected to march into the interior on the 24th. The Genius of Liberty has files from the city of Mexico to the 7th. Profound tranquility reigned there. As soon as the government of Vera Cruz was fully organized, the fact was officially announced to the representatives of foreign powers in friendly relation with Mexico, and the British minister replied in satisfactory terms.

The Genius of Liberty was informed by a gentleman that left the Capital on the 7th ult., that the decree which ordered that Pena should take charge of the Supreme powers, in conjunction with two associates, had been repealed, and Santa Anna had been again called to assume the reins of government and resume the command of the army. The same gentleman also reports that Paredes is at Talancingo, where he is endeavoring to establish his monarchical system, and he has recently made some important converts to his political principles.

Valencia was at his hacienda, taking no part in political affairs. Gen. Bravo was in Mexico, perfectly quiet, on his parole. The semblance of the Mexican government met, according to appointment, at Queretaro, on the 5th ult., but there being nothing like a quorum, nothing could be done. The feelings of the people are said to be strenuously opposed to any compromise with the Americans. The other leading men and Generals, for the most part, had gone to Guencanar, seventeen leagues south of the city of Mexico.

From the same source, the Genius of Liberty learns that Gen. Lane's force, on the 11th ult., was at Huanantla, a town half way between Perote and Puebla; Santa Anna was there, but evacuated the town on the approach of Gen. Lane, leaving behind him two pieces of artillery, and two prisoners, Colonels Vega and Iturbide.

Santa Anna had 1000 cavalry at that time, and had subsequently been reinforced by 1500. Reyes' command again took possession of the town after Lane's departure, and following up his rear, killed seventy men, principally stragglers. Gen. Rea had sallied out of Puebla with a considerable force, and was awaiting the approach of Gen. Lane, whose flank and rear was constantly harassed by attacks from small bodies of Mexicans.

The Picayune publishes two important circulars from Vera Cruz, and the Secretary of State, being expositions of the views and policy of the new administration. The Texan Rangers, about whom apprehensions were entertained at the last accounts, had returned in safety.

The yellow fever was still taking off its victims. Lieut. Jenkins of the Dragoons had died of it.

No improvement in the health of Matamoros had occurred up to the last accounts. Capt. Churchill is named among the victims of its ravages.

Reports prevailed that an army mail had been captured by the guerrillas, and that a Mexican force was posted at Mier.

War Incidents.

LATEST FROM MATAMOROS.—To the courtesy of Mr. O'Donnell, from the Brazos, yesterday, we are indebted for the Matamoros Flag, of the 16th inst. We make from it the extracts following: The epidemic has not abated any, speaking in reference to the number it attacks.—The deaths, though, are comparatively few, it easily yielding to medical treatment.

A correspondent at Raymusa informs us, says the editor of the Flag, of the murder of a young Mexican of that town, on the night of the 7th inst. The young man was in attendance at a private party at the house of a friend, and standing with his back to an open door, gazing at the waltzers, who were circling round the room, when some unknown person stepped up to him and fired a pistol at him, putting two balls into his left shoulder, which penetrated to his left chest, and caused his death. The murderer was seen by a youth who was standing near the door, and he is said to have been a Mexican.

As an evidence of the progress of civilization in Matamoros, we note the appearance

of a first-class omnibus—a lip-top, out-and-out Broadway don ton affair. It creates quite an excitement among the Mexicans, and they are saying—"what a come next!" The omnibus sports the name of "Harry Drees," an enterprising citizen, who imported it, and designs it for the convenience of persons going to and from the steamboat landing.

Col. Randall arrived at Matamoros on the 15th, having safely deposited in Monterey the Government funds, of which he had charge, and is now en route for Vera Cruz. Capt. Carleton, 1st dragoons, had also come down from above, bound for Vera Cruz. Likewise Capt. Arnold, 2d Dragoons, on furlough.

The road between Camargo and Monterey is represented as undisturbed, and the troops at Monterey and Saltillo are in good health.—N. O. Delta, 27th.

UNFOUNDED REPORT.—In the News bro't by the James L. Day, there is a report that seems to have reached Vera Cruz on the 18th inst., announcing that an entire company of Texan Rangers had been cut to pieces by the guerrillas. Lieut. Henry, of the Texan Rangers, belonging to the same company supposed to have been massacred, told a gentleman of our acquaintance just before the Day left, that the news was wholly untrue, and that the command to which he belonged had escaped.

The Delta's correspondence, stolen by the Mexicans, and published in their papers, contain many incidents of the fight before the city, which are new. We extract the following:

An incident occurred in taking the breast-works on the Chapultepec road, which is worthy of recording. Lieut. Morris, of the Rifles, was ordered with his company to assault the post before which Major Twiggs had been killed; but not believing his force sufficient, he ordered some sailors to join him; but they refused because he was not their commander. Morris said that he was an officer, but the sailors said he did not belong to their branch of the service. "Well, then," said the lieutenant, "I am the son of Commodore Morris, of the Navy, and if you venerate his name, advance with me." A shout was the answer of the sailors, and they captured the place at the point of the bayonet, and routed the Mexicans from it.

INDIVIDUAL GALANTRY.—On the 11th a large body of cavalry attacked Capt. Hardy, of the Dragoons, who was despatched with a small party to reconnoitre, but they were repulsed with the loss of six killed and some wounded, leaving Capt. Hardy in the possession of the field. It was a portion of the force which Santa Anna had employed in the charge upon Major Sumner, and fearful of being severely reprimanded for their conduct, they wished to distinguish themselves individually.

Accordingly, a soldier came to the front, brandishing his lance as a challenge to single combat. As quickly as it was understood, the challenge was accepted, and a Sergeant advanced to him and despatched him in less time than is spent in referring to it. An officer and soldier then approached, brandishing their arms, when Capt. Hardy advanced to them at full speed, but they, thinking discretion the better part of valor, retired to the rear of the lines, remaining apparently well satisfied with their experience of the dragoons.

THE FIRST AMERICAN FLAG THAT WAIVED IN MEXICO.—The several batteries of the enemy thrown across the causeway were severally attacked and carried, Gen. Quitman always leading in the advance. Next he charged upon the Garita de Belen, (the gates of Belen,) the main entrance into the city, and at twenty minutes past one o'clock carried it, and took a position within the city of Mexico. When our advance had reached the garita, there being no flag among them, Gen. Quitman took a large red handkerchief, and fastening it to the top of a rifle, waved it in triumph from the walls of the city. A few moments afterwards, however, the color company of the South Carolina regiment came up, when Lieut. Slick, of that regiment, ran up the Palmetto colors, by order of Gen. Quitman, from a small building near it, and while gallantly waving it amid the shouts and huzzas of the entire division, he was severely wounded in the thigh. Thus it will be seen that both from the citadel of Capultepec and from the walls of the city of Mexico, the first American standards that were given to the wind were those of the two citizen soldier regiments, the New York and South Carolina, and both of Gen. Shields' brigade.

THE GREATNESS OF THE VICTORY.—The achievements of Cortez in the conquest and occupation of the city of Mexico, have been regarded as marvellous by both historian and reader. And the valor and prowess of his army—insignificant as they were in numbers when compared with those with whom they were struggling—have been the theme of wonder and admiration for ages. But great and heretofore unparalleled as was that achievement, far greater is the one that secured the victorious entrance of the American army into the ancient city of the Aztecs. Cortez conquered a people to whom the use of firearms was unknown, and the introduction of which in the hands of their enemies created a supernatural awe and terror, greater than the effect of the arms themselves. We, but about 7000 strong, in the very heart of a hostile nation, attacked and subdued the city of Mexico, with a population of over two hundred thousand, against impregnable batteries, strong citadels, and other fortifications, mounting, in the aggregate, one hundred and five guns, supported by a well equipped army of men—between thirty and thirty-five thousand men.

Brilliant and unsurpassed as is this greatest of all the greatest battles ever waged by American valor—desperately honored and respected as will all those be by an admiring and grateful nation, who in any way participated in this last fierce contest—still to overshadowing wings of the God of battles are we, in the main, indebted for this glorious triumph, (the crowning act of this eventful campaign,) and who, by this victory, has fully exemplified the force of his declaration, that "the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong."—Correspondence of Nat. In.

GEN. SHIELDS was wounded in the left arm, with a slug, in the early part of the charge upon the work, and, retiring a short distance to have it bound up, immediately returned to his command, which he remained until hostilities ceased for that night.

AN IMPROVEMENT.—They are making drays in Pittsburgh by fixed pulley fastened to the front part, by means of which one man can load a hoghead of sugar, or any other heavy weight, without any assistance.

The Army Court-Martial—Lieut. Col. Fremont's Case.

The Military Court, for the trial of Lieut. Col. Fremont, was organized on Wednesday, Col. Hunt having been substituted for Major McCall, the only member absent. The accused was called upon to object, as of right he might, to any member of the Court; but signified that he had no such objection to make.

The Judge Advocate (Capt. J. F. Lee,) then proceeded to read the charges preferred against Col. Fremont. These are under three different heads—of mutiny, disobedience of the orders of his immediate commander, and conduct tending to produce a like disobedience on the part of others. The charges are substantiated by specifications of fact, involving, as to particular act, mutiny in their severest aspect, and the inferior offences in their middle light.

The Intelligence gives the following report of this most interesting case:

The conduct alleged is made out against the accused by a series of documentary proofs, showing that Col. Fremont, when duly informed of the commission from the government as commander-in-chief with which Gen. Kearney arrived in California, refused, by written replies, to obey his military orders, and persisted to act as military and civil governor of the conquered territory, alleging, as the grounds of his refusal, his own previous appointment as governor and commander by Commodore Stockton, and the fact that the authority conferred on Gen. Kearney had become obsolete by the force of events not looked to by the government as to happen until after the arrival of Gen. Kearney in the territory. The chief of these events was the accomplishment of the conquest of California, already achieved by Commodore Stockton and Col. Fremont, before the coming of Gen. Kearney and the troops under his command.

Such is the general justification set up by Col. Fremont. He further sustains it, in his written answers to the orders sent him, by alleging that Gen. Kearney, in the beginning recognized his authority. This special plea is, on the other hand, met by the special plea that Col. Fremont did at first, by formally reporting himself and his command to Gen. Kearney, acknowledge his right to command.

The charges, in which these respective claims are thus displayed by the orders and counter-orders of the two commanders, show various acts of insubordination on the part of Col. Fremont, consisting either in refusals to obey the orders sent to him by Gen. Kearney, or in persisting to exercise in certain cases the authority of commander-in-chief and governor, or in efforts to procure other persons in the military and naval service to join him in resistance of Gen. Kearney's authority.

The documents produced in the accusation show him either directly declining, for the reasons already stated, to submit to orders, or exercising thereafter the powers of governor, &c., or suggesting to others causes why Gen. Kearney's commission was not valid.

The reading of the charges being finished, the accused was called upon to plead to them, and answered that he was "not guilty." He was also informed that it would be his privilege to except to any particular charge.

Col. Fremont then asked leave to read to the Court the following paper:—

Mr. President: In preferring the usual request to be allowed counsel in this case, I wish to state that it is no part of my intention or desire to make defence on any legal or technical point, but only to have friendly assistance in bringing out the merits of the case in lucid and proper order, and in obtaining a full trial on the merits, in the shortest time, and with the least trouble to the Court. [With this view, no objection can be made to the relevancy or legality of any question proposed by the prosecution, the Court, or any member of the Court; nor to any question which goes to show my motives, either by words or acts, in aggravation of the offences alleged against me; nor to the authenticity of any evidence, written or printed, which I know or believe to be authentic; nor will any question be proposed, or motion made, on my part, knowingly, of a nature to give just ground of objection on the part of the prosecution, or to cause delay in the trial, or give trouble to the Court. But this waiver of proof to the authenticity of papers is made with the express condition that all persons brought from California by General Kearney as witnesses, and listed as such, with the charges, and summoned, shall be sworn on the part of the prosecution, so as to save to me my right of cross-examination.

In this way I hope to facilitate the progress of the trial, to get at once into the merits, to spare the Court the most unpleasant part of an unpleasant duty, and enable them the sooner to obey the feelings which call them to a very decent duty.

In name as the counsel asked to be allowed me the two friends who accompany me, Thomas H. Benton and Wm. Carey Jones, Esquires."

The Judge Advocate here brought forward for the decision of the Court, applications on the part of several Reporters of the press to be allowed to take notes with a view to the publication of the proceedings in the trial. Whereupon the accused offered the following paper:

Mr. President: So far as a prohibition, to publish the proceedings of the Court is intended for the benefit of the accused, I do hereby renounce and waive all such benefit, and agree to the publication of every thing.

The President now ordered the court room to be cleared, with a view to consulting on the application submitted. This being done, the Court remained, with closed doors for about an hour. At its re-opening, a paper was read by the Judge Advocate, in which the Court, though declaring that its proceedings were open to the public, declined to take any such order as that asked for by the application, or in any manner to sanction or approve the publication of the evidence which might be disclosed in the course of the trial.

It being now too late (near 3 o'clock, P. M.) to enter into examination of evidence, the Court adjourned until ten o'clock next morning.