

Buena Vista will secure our line of communication from further interruption, but I still propose in a day to change my head quarters to Monterey, with a view to make such further arrangements as may be necessary in that quarter.

The dispositions made to harass our rear, vindicate the policy and necessity of defending a position in front of Saltillo, where a defeat has thrown the enemy far back into the interior. No result so decisive could have been obtained for holding Monterey, and our communications would have been constantly in jeopardy.

I am, sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Z. TAYLOR.

Maj. Gen. U. S. Army, commanding,  
To ADJ. GEN. of the army, Washington, D. C.

#### Surrender of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa!

Gen. Scott having completed his entrenchments on the 22d of March, his line 9 miles in length, completely surrounding the city, opened his batteries on the afternoon of that day. The city and castle commenced firing shot and shell from the moment our troops were discovered taking position, and the firing between both parties, from the time our batteries opened, until the night of the 25th, was heavy and uninterrupted. On the 25th, in particular, the damage done to the city was immense. A battery of thirty-two pounders and four sixty-eight pounders, from the squadron, manned by seamen, and commanded by officers from the squadron, was placed directly in the rear of the city on the evening of the 22d, and opened its fire on the morning of the 23d. This battery told with such powerful effect, that of the twelve batteries of the enemy surrounding the city, five were directed to it, without having the least effect in dampening the ardor of those who worked it. It was mounted by one hundred and fifty seamen, and commanded by five or six officers, the party being relieved every twenty-four hours, from the squadron, and it is admitted that no guns in our whole line were worked with better effect. The steamers Spitfire, Capt. Tatnall, and Vixen, Capt. Sandis, and schooners Petrel, Lieut. Shaw, Bonita, Lieut. Benham; Reefer, Lieut. Sterrett; Tampico, Lieut. W. P. Griffin; and Falcon, Lieut. Glasson, each vessel having one heavy gun and commanded by Capt. Tatnall, moved up from the anchorage at Sacrificios, on the afternoon of the 22d, and took position on the extreme right of our line, close in shore, and commenced firing shot and shell into the city. They retained this position until the morning of the 23d, when they got under way and stood within about one quarter of a mile of the Castle, at a point to the north of the Washerwoman shoal, so that both castle and city were within reach of their guns. They remained in this position during two or three hours, firing alternately into the city and castle, and notwithstanding its close proximity to the castle, and the continued fire of shell and shot from that point of the enemy's defenses, and from Fort Santiago, at the southern extremity of the city, not a life was lost, a wound received, or one of the vessels injured.

During the 26th, an extremely violent norther blew, and the fire on both sides was suspended during the whole day, and the fire from our batteries on the 25th, being so destructive to the city, the people clamored for a surrender. Morais, the governor, having declared his intention never to surrender while it was possible to fire a gun, was deposed, and Landero elected in his stead; and on the morning of the 27th, a flag of truce was sent with an officer to surrender the city by itself, to which Gen. Scott replied that he could take both city and castle, and that he would accept only the surrender of both. The flag of truce returned, but during the day negotiations were again opened by the enemy, which culminated in the surrender of BOTH THE CITY AND THE CASTLE!!

The smallness of our loss during the siege, is wonderful; including Captains Alburts and Vinton of the army, and midshipman Shubrick of the Mississippi, the latter of whom was killed while employed in the naval battery, in the rear of the city, our whole loss in killed is only seventeen, and in wounded 28. That of the enemy's garrison our informant did not learn, but understood that Gen. Valdez was among the killed. The loss among the non-combatants has unfortunately been very great. The number of women and children killed, is variously stated at from 500 to 2000.

The enemy assigns as a reason for the early capitulation, a desire to spare the blood of non-combatants, and because they were out of provisions, both in the city and the castle. Several of the inhabitants of the city stated, after its surrender, that there was a month's provisions there; but, however this may be, after the terms of capitulation had been agreed upon, General Scott, on being informed of the scarcity of provisions in the city, sent in four days' supplies for their relief.

Commodore Perry, during the siege, was extremely strict in preventing any intercourse between the foreign vessels of war and the enemy, and Gen. Scott refused to afford the British and French consuls an opportunity of leaving the city when they found the fire becoming a little too warm for their safety, as they had refused to avail themselves of his first notification for all foreign residents to leave the city.

The destruction to the city is very great. Fully one-third of it is in ruins.

Gen. Scott, it was supposed, would advance soon on the capital. Gen. Twiggs' brigade, when the Princeton left, was under arms, prepared to march to Jalapa, and General Quitman's brigade was preparing to march upon Alvarado, which it was supposed would be taken without much difficulty, as no preparation had been made for a land attack.

#### From the Vera Cruz Eagle. Battle of Sierra Gorda.

SIERRA GORDA, April 19.

At twelve o'clock, yesterday, the Mexican forces (or rather a portion of them) surrendered to our arms. Our prisoners comprise five generals, a vast number of subordinate officers, and about 5,000 soldiers.

About eleven o'clock a part of the division under general Twiggs succeeded in carrying the height of Sierra Gorda, and the enemy at once came to a parley, which led to a surrender of all the troops with their arms, except the commander-in-chief Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who succeeded, as usual, in effecting his escape, and that of the entire Mexican cavalry, numbering somewhat near 3,000 men.

The positions occupied by the enemy were as strong as nature, combined with art, could make them. The Sierra Gorda, the most prominent of the defenses, commands the Jalapa road for two or three miles, and a heavy battery here, in the hands of skilful men, would keep an enemy in check for many a day, if not entirely prevent its passage. The importance of this point was soon made apparent to all, and last night, about twelve o'clock, a piece of cannon was hauled upon a neighboring eminence, which, after sending a dry shot upon the enemy, was found of little avail; and in the morning the Sierra Gorda was stormed and carried; not, however, before the commander-in-chief of the Mexicans had secured himself a safe retreat, by falling back, with his body-guard, several miles upon the Jalapa road.

In the meantime, the other defenses were being stormed by our troops. Three forts, situated nearer to our camp, and upon three heights adjacent to each other—each commanding the others—were the objects of attack, and the carrying of them was the task of the volunteers. The centre one of these forts runs further in than the others, and this being the object of storm, the advance of the stormers had to undergo the fire of the right and left, and the centre—the latter of which prudently withheld its fire until our men had approached within forty yards of the guns, and then the dogs of war were let loose with such fury, that our men were driven from their position with great slaughter—the second Tennesseans, who were in the advance, losing a large number in killed and wounded. Before the volunteers had time to renew the attack, the enemy had surrendered—driven, as they had been, from their favorite position on Sierra Gorda.

The Mexican forces on the height of Sierra Gorda were the 3d and 4th light infantry, the 3d and 5th regiments of the line, and 6 pieces of artillery, with the requisite number of cavalry. Col. Obando, chief of artillery, was killed, and Gen. Vasques general of division.

Our force consisted of the 2d, 3d, and 7th infantry, and mounted riflemen, and Stepoto's battery. Capt. Mason, of the rifles, was severely wounded, having lost his left leg. Lieut. Elwell, of the 7th infantry, was severely wounded. Capt. Patten, of the 2d, left hand shot off.

On the top of the Sierra Gorda the scene

was truly horrible; from the Jalapa road, dead bodies of the enemy could be seen on every spot where the eye was directed, until they literally covered the ascent to the height. There is about half an acre of level ground on the top of the mountain, and here was collected together the wounded of both armies, and the dead of our own. Side by side was lying the disabled American and the Mexican, and our surgeons were busy amputating and dressing the wounds of each—lotting them in turns, unless the acute pain of some sufferer further along caused him to cry out, when he would be immediately attended to.

The pioneer parties of our men were picking up the wounded and bringing them in from every part of the ascent to the height. From the side toward the river, were the storming party of General Twigg's division, made the charge, most of our men suffered, and many of the enemy, also, for they made a desperate stand—but when they gave way, and started in confusion down the hill, was the time they most suffered—many of them received the balls of our men in their backs.

The charge on Sierra Gorda was one of those cool, yet determined ones, so characteristic of the American soldier. From the time that our troops left the hill nearest that prominent height, the fire was incessant, and they had to fight their way, foot by foot, until they gained the summit from which place the enemy gave way, after a very short resistance.

Our victory is complete. Those of the enemy, who escaped, were driven in all directions by the pursuers, and many of them cut down in the road. Gen. Twiggs, who followed them after taking Sierra Gorda, approached within three miles of Jalapa, and finding no force of the enemy, encamped for the night.

Santa Anna's private carriage was captured, and amongst his effects was found the sum of \$18,000, which is now in the hands of the quartermaster, and an additional leg of cork, for his excellency's use in case of emergency. All Santa Anna's plate was taken, and his dinner cooked for yesterday, eaten by our own officers.

Gen. Shields was mortally wounded, and I hear this morning that he is dead. He behaved most gallantly, and his mishap is deeply deplored. Gen. Pillow was wounded in the arm, but slightly. Maj. Summer, of the 2d dragoons, was shot in the head, but is considered out of danger.

The force of the Mexicans, at the lowest, is set down at 12,000. The officers of the Mexican army are being paroled whilst I write this, and with their soldiers are being sent about their business—our commander being of opinion that he can whip them easier than feed them. The generals will be sent to New Orleans; among them you will have the second appearance of La Vega, he having refused again to be paroled.

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE PRESIDENCY.—A correspondent among the volunteers, writes as follows to the Mobile Herald:

"I was somewhat curious to know what effect the sudden popularity of Gen. Taylor would have upon him. When the old soldier heard of his nomination to the presidency by various meetings in the Union, he showed as much surprise as any of us. He went farther, and expressed a decided opinion against the election to that office of military chiefs—making an exception, however, or excuse, in favor of Gen. Jackson, whose intimate friend he was, and for whom he had the strongest attachment. His words, as given me, ran somewhat in this shape: 'I have been always opposed to the election of mere soldiers to the presidency. They have no business in a civil office of so great responsibility, and they are usually unfitted by education and experience for it. It is not probable that I can be tempted to violate this principle of my life to gratify my own ambition, or those who have controlled these meetings.'"

MARRIED—by the Rev. J. S. Griffin, on the 23d inst., at her father's residence on the banks of the Columbia opposite Vancouver, Mr. ELLIS WALKER, formerly of Missouri, to Miss SARAH ANN BOSORTH, formerly of Iowa.

#### Temperance Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the "Oregon Washington Temperance Society," at the City Hotel, on Saturday evening, October 9, at candle-lighting. A general attendance is requested.  
J. QUINN THORNTON,  
GEORGE ABERNETHY, } Committee.  
JOHN McLAUGHLIN, }  
September 30, '47.

## Marine Intelligence

ARRIVED.  
Sept. 4th. H. B. Co's bark Columbia, Duncan, at Victoria, 29 days from Oahu.  
9th. Am. bark Toulon, Crosby, 29 days from Oahu.  
10th. H. B. Co's bark Cowles, Wynton, from Sika.  
11th. Am. bark Whelan, Gohsen, 21 days from San Francisco.

The Toulon encountered the storm, from the numerous fogs that have been lately raging in the straits along the coast, 20 miles at sea. The difficulty of making harbor under the circumstances, was so great, that she apparently lengthened her passage.  
The Whelan encountered a heavy gale from the Northward, of nine days' continuance, which very much lengthened her passage.

#### CITY HOTEL.

The undersigned announces to the public generally that he has opened a Hotel in Oregon City, under the above name, and he trusts that the agreeable character of his accommodations and his unswerving attention to the desires of his guests may ensure a satisfactory arrangement.  
The undersigned deems it necessary to promise what his table shall afford, and the care that shall control his establishment, pending to leave them matters for the judgment and experience of his patrons, under the conviction that the result cannot but be creditable to the "City Hotel."

THEO. MAGRUDER.

The Recorder's Office has been removed to the City Hotel.  
Oregon City, Sept. 1847. 18-47.

FOR SALE at my farm in Clatsop Co. Flows, Anna, Harrow, Teeth, Seed Wheat, Potatoes, Pork, Store Hogs, &c. &c.  
A. H. BEERS.  
Sep. 30, 1847. 18-47.

#### NEW GOODS.

JUST RECEIVED and for sale at the Store of JOHN H. COUCH, Stuffed Cotton Shirts; Rowing do; Merimack Blue Prints; Shooting; Domestic; Blue and Brown Drills; Cotton Carpeting; White Bed Quilt; Ball Cotton; Linen Thread; Suspenders; German Silver Tea and Table Spoons; Looking Glasses; Ink; Paper; Needles; Fishing Sinks; Heavy and Light Boots; Brogans; Brown Sugar; Molasses; Coffee; Tea; Tobacco; Brown and White Soap; Shaving do; Salt; Spices and Lard Oil; Spirits Turpentine; Black and White Lead; Pitch; Glass; Crochery and Queens Ware; Platform Scales and Brass Cloths.  
For sale cheap for Cash or Produce.  
Sept. 30th, 1847. 18-47.

#### VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE.

THE undersigned offers for sale his claim, which is situated in West Tuality Plains, Tuality Co., 30 acres of which is under fence, with other good and necessary improvements upon it; an excellent grist mill is in successful operation upon a stream passing through the premises that also affords a superior site for a saw mill. This water course indeed is susceptible of great milling improvements. A considerable lot of logs will likewise be sold with the above named property, all of which will be sold on very liberal terms. It would be to the interest of any one desiring of purchasing an improved claim to examine the above.  
For further information apply to Capt. Kilburn or  
JOSEPH GALE.  
Sept. 30, 1847. 18-47.

#### CAUTION.

THE subscriber hereby cautions all persons against his wife Eliza Jane Foster, as he will hereafter pay no debts of her contracting.  
REXIN D. FOSTER.  
Sept. 24, 1847. 18-47.

#### Lost!!!

ON the 6th inst., on the road leading from Chesham to Tuality Plains, a small package of papers, consisting of promissory notes, receipts, orders, &c. Some of the notes were drawn payable to the subscriber, others were payable to him by assignment. Should any note or obligation, payable as above, hereafter be presented to the signer, he or they are requested to withhold payment, except it be by order of the subscriber. Any person who may find and return said papers, shall be liberally rewarded, by  
DAVID LESLIE.  
Salem, September 15, '47. 3189pd

#### Flour.

FLLOUR for sale, in quantities to suit purchasers, at the brick store, Oregon City.  
Sept. 11, 1847-17d

#### Female School.

THE FOURTH SESSION of Mrs. N. M. THORNTON'S SCHOOL, in this city, will commence on Monday, October 11th, and will continue eleven weeks. All the branches usually comprised in a thorough English education, are taught in this School, together with French and Ornamental Needle Work, Drawing, and Painting in Miniature and in Water Colors.

Strict attention will be given, not only to the intellectual improvement of the pupils, but also to their morals and manners. It is Mrs. Thornton's design to make this a permanent School; and her past success and long experience as a teacher, enable her to hope that she will give general satisfaction.

Pupils will be charged from the time of their entering the School, until the close of the Session. For further particulars, inquire of Mrs. Thornton.

#### Expenses.

His Excellency, Geo. Abernethy, } Oregon City.  
Hon. A. A. Shimes, }  
Rev. Wm. Roberts, }  
Dr. Marcus Whitman, Wallawalla.  
Oregon City, October 4, 1847. 178