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KENT NEWS.

Agriculture, Literature, Politics and General News.

Frustra laborat, qui omnibus placere studet—"He labours vainly, who endeavours to please every one."

VOL. 7. CHESTER TOWN, MD. JUNE 7, 1846. NO. 6.

Wool Carding AND *Manufacturing.*

THE SUBSCRIBERS, thankful for past favors, beg leave to inform their friends and the public generally that they still continue to manufacture CLOTH, KERSEY, BLANKETS 8-4 wide, FLANNEL and LINCY, at moderate prices; or exchange Cloth for Wool. Also, they will CARD WOOL into ROLLS.

For the convenience of those at a distance, Wool may be left with the following gentlemen:

Mr. B. T. Brevett, near Rock Hall,
Messrs. Wickes & Bro. Chester Town,
Mr. George Crossley, Hepbron Town,
Mr. F. B. Crookshanks, Cecil Co. Md.

with instructions, from which place s it will be forwarded to mill, made to order, and returned. Our machinery being in good order, and paying strict attention to business, we solicit the patronage of a generous public.

☞All orders in our line of business thankfully received and promptly attended to. HERRICK & MAY.

Swantown, Kent county, Md.
May 2d, 1846. 3m

BUTCHERING.

The subscribers respectfully inform their customers and the citizens generally, that they have recommenced the above business for the season. They will have fresh VEAL and LAMB as good as the market can afford, every day during the season, Sundays excepted, and BEEF as soon as we can get it. We will attend the Market House at STALL No. 3, on *WEDNESDAY* and *SATURDAY MORNINGS*, until 9 o'clock, the balance of the time at their STAND in the upper part of the town.

Thankful for the patronage heretofore extended towards them, they sincerely desire, by strict attention to business, to receive a liberal share of public patronage.

The public's obedient servants,
GEORGE B USILTON,
THOMAS CARROLL.

Chester Town, May 9th, 1846.

N. B. Farmers having fat Stock for sale, will please give us a call as we are paying the highest cash price.

May 9th. 3m U. & C.

TO FARMERS.

PLOUGHS, PLOUGH CASTINGS, CORN SHELLERS, and all kinds of the best Agricultural Implements, for sale by

WM. GAWTHROP & SON,
No. 7 Bowly's wharf,
BALTIMORE.

Our Ploughs embrace the Minor, and Norton, so much valued at the North, from 9 to 12 inch. The Wiley improved, and old pattern, the Chenowith—all of these are of the New York composition metal, and stock. Also, the Moor Plough, the Self Sharpening, the Concave, and Davis, and our Double Premium Corn Shellers, have proved themselves to be the best in use, all kinds of Plough Points, Shears and Heels; with chilled points, heels and edges. We also keep Field Seeds.

A general Commission business done in Grain, Seed and Country Produce.

April 11th, 1846. 3m

Pharmaceutical.
SIMON WICKES, JR.

HAS JUST returned from Philadelphia with a fresh assortment of DRUGS AND CHEMICALS, which were selected with great care and will be sold to suit the times. Prescriptions accurately compounded with genuine articles, and at low rates, for cash, or to punctual customers.

February 7th, 1846. tf

NOTICE.

The subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has rent the MILL known as "Whaland's," where he is prepared to wait on them in the best manner, and with despatch. His Meal and Flour Store is kept at Mr. Jurdan's, on Front street, near Dr. Whaland's. Prices are 2, 3 and 4 cents, per lb. for corn, chopt corn, 62½ cts. per bushel. 26 cents white wheat flour, on hand and for sale—warranted.

W. BACCHUS.

January 17th, 1846. tf

Negroes Wanted.

Having returned from New Orleans, I now pay the highest cash prices for likely negroes that are slaves for life and title. All communications will be promptly attended to.

HOPE H. SLATER,
Pratt Street.

N. B. On the 7th day of June, 1841, Nathan M. Wilson, (my former Agent) by mutual consent withdrew from my employment and is no longer my agent.

HOPE H. SLATER,
Baltimore.

June 3, 1841. 1y

THE KENT NEWS,
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, POLITICS AND GENERAL NEWS.

Terms:

$2.50, payable at the end of the first six months.
☞For Prospectus, see fourth page.

POETRY.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

IMPROMPTU ON THE DEATH OF MAJOR RINGGOLD.

BY A LADY.

Turf of Texas, softly lie thee,
On the gallant soldier's breast;
For our Ringgold died to save thee,
Country of the bright South West.

Youthful sister of our Union,
Where so late thy lonely star
Shone upon the land and river,
Now our banner waves in war.

Where its glorious folds protect thee,
Oh! forget not, while thus blest,
That for thee, our best and bravest
Bled, and sleep within thy breast.

When the dove of Peace returning,
Rests its wings upon thy field,
Point where Ringgold and those heroes
Made their generous hearts thy shield.

M. A. F.

New Philadelphia, May 25, 1846.

TO THE MEMORY OF MY LAMENTED FRIEND, *COL. TRUMAN CROSS.*

When Victory smiles upon the hero dying,
And glory stands beside his sable bier,
They who have known him can restrain a tear
Which glisters in the eye, and gaze unsighing
On the last relics of the loved and lost,
So nobly shrouded for the Soldier's grave;
Thus Spartan Mothers looked upon the brave,
Nor curst the victory gained at such a cost;
Thus might Columbia, if her cherished son
Had fallen in battle, with his steadfast eye
In death illumined by the mingled cry
Of foeman's rout and victory, nobly won;
But now she only weepeth o'er her loss,
And stands chief mourner at the *grave of* Cross.

Georgetown, May 20, 1846.

A Fresh Supply.

☞The subscriber is just from the city with a complete assortment of BOOTS and SHOES to suit the season:

Gentlemen's fine and coarse Boots,
do Lace Boots and Shoes,
Ladies best Kid and Morocco thick soled Shoes,
Ladies Kid and Morocco Spring and Turns.

Together with a general assortment of Misses' and Children's Boots and Shoes, all which he will sell on accommodating terms, for cash or to good customers; also a first rate stock of the best materials which he is prepared to manufacture in the best manner, and at the shortest possible notice.

N. B. The subscriber tenders his acknowledgements for past favours, &c.

J. W. PRICHARD.

Chester Town, April 25, 1846. tf

Come and See!!

The undersigned has just returned from the city of Baltimore with a large assortment of city made

Boots and *Shoes,*

which he selected with great care, and at very reduced prices, and is therefore prepared to sell as low as they can be bought in Baltimore or anywhere else.

He also laid in a good assortment of LEATHER which he is prepared to make into BOOTS and SHOES for adults or children, in the latest style or according to order. The known promptness and practical experience of the undersigned, he believes to be a sufficient guarantee for the faithful performance of all work entrusted to him. He also has on hand a large assortment of the latest style GUM ELASTIC SHOES, for gentlemen, ladies and misses. He will continue to make the best pegged boots for $3 50 cash and other work in proportion. Thankful for past favors, he would respectfully invite his friends and the public to call and examine for themselves.

WM. CONYER.

Dec. 27, 1845.

PORT WINE AND BRANDY.—Old Cogniac Brandy, and pure Port Wine, (for medicinal puposes, &c.) bought from under Custom House lock, and guaranteed free from adulteration.

WICKES & BRO.

March 28th, 1846.

FOR LADIES.

Gingham lawns; lawns; ginghams; delanes; balzarines; lep delane, and a large assortment of good and pretty calicoes; muslins, &c. &c. all at low prices. For sale by T. W. ELIASON.

May 2d, 1846.

FOR GENTLEMEN.

Summer cloths and cassimeres; linen drilling, and a variety other summer stuffs—now open and for sale at very low prices, by T. W. ELIASON.

☞We give below private accounts of the two great battles of General Taylor with the Mexicans, and of the attack upon his fort, from persons actively engaged in those memorable scenes. They will be read with interest.—[Ed Ky. News.

THE BATTLES ON THE RIO GRANDE.

The following minute and graphic account of the battles of the 8th and 9th May, in which our gallant Army won for themselves imperishable renown, will be read with deep and thrilling interest. It is from the pen of a heroic officer who nobly bore his full share of the duties and dangers of the trying occasion:

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS,
May 13th, 1846.

On the 1st of May the Army under General Taylor took up its line of march at 3 o'clock, P. M. for Point Isabel, thirty miles distant, in order to force up from that point provisions, which were necessary to the maintainance of our Fort here. To defend it in our absence Gen. Taylor left the 7th Regiment of Infantry, Bragg's battery of four six pounders, Captain Lowd's battery of four eighteen pounders and some convalescents as a garison—the whole under the command of Major Brown of the Army.—We had heard of the crossing of six or seven thousand of the enemy to oppose our march to our Depot, and expected to fight them going down—but did not meet with them. On the 2nd instant, in the afternoon we reached Point Isabel, and on the 3d heard the bombardment of our Fort at this place. This bombordment continued at intervals for several days. In the meantime, General Taylor, having learned by express from Major Brown that he could hold the Fort, put his whole command to work in the entrenchments at Point Isabel, the basis of our operations, and having made it sufficiently strong and loaded about three hundred wagons with provisions and ammunition, he determined to proceed at once to the relief of our gallant little band in this Fort, and to give battle to the enemy if necessary. He commenced his march at 2 o'clock, P. M on the 7th instant, in the following order:—A squadron of Dragoons, commanded by Capt. May, in front; the third Brigade, composed of the 3d and 4th Regiments of Infantry and Ringgold's Light Artillery; the 5th Infantry not Brigaded, and the 1st Brigade, composed of the Artillery Battalion serving as Infantry; Duncan's Light Artillery and the 8th Regiment of Infantry—to which must be added two eighteen pounders drawn by oxen, and Capt. Kerr's squadron of Dragoons protecting the rear—the wagons on the march being in a great degree interspersed between the Brigades for greater security.

On the night of the 7 h we encamped about 12 miles from Point Isabel, without seeing the enemy. On the 8th we had advanced about 5 miles, when we described the enemy some two miles distant, drawn up in great force on the open prairie, and occupying the crest of a very gentle slope with their backs to the thick bushes, called in this country "chaparel."

We immediately formed line to the front and advanced calmly and quietly to the attack Our brave and considerate old General finding that the enemy waited to receive us, and that we were passing near a lake of water, the day being very hot and the men thirsty, halted in full view of the adversary and directed the men to fill their canteens with water. We had now a little leisure to examine the force of the enemy and its composition. The horizon in our front and to the right appeared lined with cavalry, (Lancers and Dragoons.)—The woods in their rear were giving up column after column of Infantry, which were manœuvred with great regularity, and batteries of Artillery were observed taking their designated places in our front and on our flanks. The lowest estimate at the time of the enemy's force was 5,000 of all arms—our own being under 2,000 fighting men. We have since learned that on this occasion the enemy had over 6000 fighting men. But the greatest difficulty under which we laboured was the absolute necessity of protecting in an open prairie, from the enemy's numerous cavalry, our enormous train of provisions and ammunition, without which, even if we gained a victory we could not relieve our garrison opposite Matamoras, or maintain our position there. Besides we were miserably deficient as to the number of our cavalry, having only some 200 Dragoons, while the enemy could not have had less than 1,809 or 2,000.—The men being refreshed our General rode to each Brigade, told the men to keep cool, and when the enemy charged not to fire a shot until they were repulsed with the bayonet, and had turned their barks in flight.

Our advance then recommenced slowly, but firmly, wagons and all; and when we arrived within good artillery range, their batteries opened upon us, some of their balls bouncing along the plain and passing us in "ricochet;" others flying over our heads, and falling in the rear, showing us in a few moments that their pieces were served with skill and precision. A movement was now observed among the enemy's cavalry as if about to charge, and the Regiments nearest them were thrown into square, or formation preparatory to the square, and so disposed as to protect our own artillery whenever it was ordered to fire. During this time, some fifteen minutes, the enemy's fire was received in perfect silence by us, and at length, Captain Duncan having been ordered to open upon them, advanced in the most gallant manner, and placing himself in a position to be protected by the Infantry, assault the enemy's cavalry, an one which would enable him at the same time to gall their cavalry and masses of infantry, sent a withering fire among them, which created some confusion, and which was answerad by our squares of infantry by one long simultaneous shout, which showed how anxious they were to be led to the charge at once—but this could not be. They were destined to give the strongest evidence of courage that a soldier can exhibit—to stand in squares for hours under the fire of the enemy's artillery, so as to protect from the enemy's cavalry our own artillery, whilst the latter was mowing down the enemy's ranks. As soon as Duncan opened, Major Ringgold's thunder was heard on the right, Lieut. Churchill's from the 18 pounders in the centre, and all the enemy's batteries opening at the same time, a tremendous cannonading ensued, which, on this plain of almost boundless extent, presented a spectacle of great magnificence The battle commenced at 10 minutes past 2, P. M. It had lasted about an hour, when a large body of the enemy's red Lancers charged the 5th Infantry, with a view of cutting off our wagon train.—They were met with the most perfect tranquility, and a discharge of musketry from the 5th (Gen. Brook's) Regiment told us their fate. They fled precipitately, leaving men, horses, and guidons on the field. In the mean time the whole order of battle had been changed to conform to the manœuvres of the enemy, and our Brigade, the 1st which was the left, now found itself in advance and on the right—the Artillery Battalion being on the extreme right and most in advance. It must be observed also that in these different changes our General was always slowly but steadily gaining ground to the front, and the enemy gradually falling back. The enemy's fire having slackened, and then, ceased, Gen. Taylor, from his new and more advanced position, ordered all his batteries to open, and in his turn attacked the enemy with such fury as to cause evident destruction in his ranks; but still they remained firm. By a charge on them they might have been routed entirely, but then we must have exposed our wagons to be captured by their cavalry, and that could not be thought of.

The battle had now lasted from 10 minutes past 2 P. M. to about 7 P. M. At this mement the enemy was discovered coming down with his left flank in great force, cavalry and infantry, on the Artillery Battalion and the 18 pounders which that Battalion supported.—The 18 pounders were served by thirty men, and the Artillery Battalion about 350 strong. Both the battery and this Battalion were in such a position that they could not be supported by the other portion of the army, and at the time the charge commenced the Battalion had deployed into line. However it was thrown into square by a prompt manœuvre, and awaited steadily the Mexican charge. On they came, "horse, foot and dragoons," shouting and yelling when a single horseman rode into the Square, and said, 'Men, I place myself in your Square." The General was immediately recognized by the men, who gave him three cheers for this evidence of his confidence. At this moment Lieut. Churchill discharged one of his 18 pounders, loaded with grape into the advancing ranks, creating great havoc, but not checking entirely their onward movement. They marched forward to within good musket range, some 150 yards of us, halted and delivered their fire which our men received quietly at a shoulder. Finding that they would come no nearer, Col. Childs, commanding this Battalion, ordered the volley, which was given as if in parade, when the enemy immediately retired, and the action ended for the night. Our Army slept on their arms precisely as night found them, and occupied the position in which the enemy commenced the battle. The two armies slept quietly almost in presence of each other. The night was serene and beautiful, the moon casting the softest light on every thing around us, and but for the groans of the wounded and the screams of those who were suffering under the knife of the Surgeons, no one could have imagined the scenes which had occured but a few hours previously.

On our side we had fifty-five killed and wounded.—The gallant Major Ringold was mortally wounded, and his noble steed killed by the same shot, as he was giving his last fire for the night, and after having distinguished himself by the coolness, precision and effect with which he managed his Battery. Captain John Page, of the 4th Infantry, was horribly wounded, supposed to be mortally. Many officers had hores shot under them.—Captain Bliss, Lieutenant Daniells, Captain Montgommery, and several others.

Many Dragoon horses were also killed, and the escapes were almost incredible. In Magruder's company two men, whilst at an order, had the bayonets of their muskets cut off by cannon, passing just over their shoulders and between their heads. He had also a man killed on his immediate right and left. Some of the balls fell into the centres, and *recoched* out again, without topching any one Others fell just on the outside and bounced over. To stand patiently and coolly, in square, under such a fire, for five hours, without firing a shot, is the best evidence of discipline and invincible courage that troops can give. But more: the effect of this conduct, which none but regulars could have shown, must be considered. The next morning the enemy retreated, leaving the field strewed with their dead, and having lost, by their own confession, *five hundred* in killed and wounded; but we have found out since that his loss is much greater.—The enemy's artillery was numerous and served with great rapidity and precision; while we had little cavalry, and they had an immense proportion of that arm. Hence our shell and grape shot told briskly among them. In short, we gained on that day a great victory. When we consider the enemy's number's, his numerous and effective regular cavalry, and well drilled infantry and artillery, and whose all that he had chosen his own ground, that upon which he is most accustomed to fight,—the plain,—and compare all this with our inferiority in all arms, and that we were incumbered by a train we could not afford to lose, we can only account for the result by the impression made on the enemy by our firm and unshaken advance, by the steadiness with which we repulsed their cavalry, and by the unrivalled skill of our artillery officers and men—to which must be added a perfect knowledge the part of both men and officers that if we lost that battle the Fort at Matamoras would fall, the Army be destroyed, and our depot, Point Isabel, be taken, to the eternal disgrace of the American Army and ruin of the interests of our Government, for some time, at least, in this part of the world. We could not afford to be driven back a single inch, and all were prepared for any thing but retreat.

On the morning of the 9th the Mexican army left the field at early dawn, and, after arranging our train, we commenced the march towards our Fort at this place. At 2 o'clock, P. M. we found the enemy drawn up in great force, occupying a ravine; which our road crossed, with thick "chapparral" or thorny bushes on either side before it reached the ravine, and a pond of water on either side, where it crossed the ravine, constituting a complete defile. They were 7000 strong, we 64 weaker than the previous day. The General ordered immediate attack, by all the troops except the Frist Brigade, which was kept in reserve, and soon the rattling fire of musketry, mingled with the heavy sound of artillery, announced the commencement of the action.—The enemy had chosen his position which he considered impregnable—was vastly supeior to us in numbers, and had ten pieces of artillery, planted in the defile, which swept the road with grape, and which it was absolutely necessary for us to take before he could be beaten. These pieces were flanked on either side by a Regiment of brave veteran troops from Tampico and we obliged to stand an awful shower of grape and bullet before a charge could reach them. The battle had lasted some two hours with great fury on both sides, and many heroic deeds had been done, but no serious impression made, when Gen. Taylor sent for Captain May, of the 2nd Dragoons, and told him he must take that battery with his Squadron of Dragoons, if he lost every man. May instantly placed himself at the head of his men, and setting off at full speed, with cheers and shouts, dashed into the defile, where he was greeted with an overwhelming discharge of grape add bullets, which nearly annihilated his first and second platoons, but he was seen unhurt darting like lightning, through this murderous hail storm, and in a second, he and his men drove away or cut to pieces the artillerists.

The speed of his horses was so great, however, that they passed through the battery, and were halted in its rear. There turning, he charged back, and was just in time to rescue a Mexican General officer who would not leave his guns, and who was parrying the strokes of one of themen. He handed his sword to Captain May, announced himsl as General Vega, and gave his parole. May turned him over to an officer, and, galloping back to General Taylor, reported that he had captured the enemy's battery, and the gallant General Vega, bravely defending it, whose sword he had the honor to present his Commanding officer. The General was extremely gratified, and felt no doubt that a blow had been given from which it would be difficult for the enemy to recover—and so it proved, for a portion of the 5th Infantry, finding that the enemy had immediately re-occupied and commenced serving their pieces, gallantly charged and brought off several, when the 8th, which had just come up, marched to the attack by its gallant commander, Col. Belknap, seconded nobly by Capt. Montgomery and took off the remaining pieces. Col. Belknap, leading his Regiment into the thickest of the fight, seized a Mexican standard, and waving it over his head, dashed on in front of his men, until his horse stumbled over some dead bodies and threw him. Being a heavy man, he was helped on his horse by a soldier, who in the act received a ball through his lungs, and at the same moment a shot carried away the Mexican flag, leaving but the handle with the Colonel. He dashed ahead with that, however, and his Regiment carried every thing before it. At this moment the Mexicans gave way entirely, and throwing down their arms, fled in every direction; leaving all their stores, munitions of war, arms, standards, &c. The killed, wounded and prisoners, including among the killed those who were drowned in the Rio Grande, do not fall short of 1,500—so that the enemys loss in two days amounts to at least 2000 men, something more than the number we had in our army.

When Lieut. Magruder introduced General Vega to Gen Taylor, the latter expressed his deep regret that such a misfortune should happendd to an officer whose character he so highly esteemed, and returned to him his sword which he had won so bravely. It is said also that the General gave the captare officer an order on his private banker for a large sum, for his use when he arrived in the United States.

Immediately after the victory, a regiment marched into this fort, and was received with cheers and open arms. All had done their duty—those who were left to defend our fort—those who marched to its relief. I had nearly forgot to mention that no officer in the battle of the 9th was more distinguished than Lieut Randolph Ridgely. His conduc drew praises from the lips of every officer. But I shall never finish if I record the feats of personal valor which occurred in this battle, where officers and men fought hand to hand for hours with the Mexicans. I shall therefore conclude with the hope that in a few days we shall be in Matamoras."

From the New Orleans Picayune.

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS,
May 13, 1846.

Since the evening of the 9th, nothing has transpired here. You may know ere this, that we gave the Mexicans "jesse" on the 8th and 9th. Gen. Taylor, after establishing his little sand fort here, right opposite the town, left the 7 h infantry and two artillery companies in it, with instructions to defend it to the death; he then left with the remainder of his force for Brazos Santiago for supplies, and with the hope that the two mortars, (which he had ordered six months ago) had arrived from Washington, and also to bring up ammunition enough for our four 18 pounders to batter down Matamoras. Gen. T. and command left on the 1st of this month. On the morning of the 3d, at day light, the Mexicans opened their batteries on our fort, or rather our grand entrenchments; from that moment it was right hot work until 12 o'clock, when both parties had to cease until their guns would cool. Was you ever shot at, in front with a 12 pounder, in the flank by a 6 pounder, and a shell directed to burst over your head? if not, try it, just to prepare ly enjoy a brandy toddy after the gun cooling begins. Well, after the refreshments, the ball continued, varied only by a little more "vindictive looseness" and wild colt comet like flying of shells. It was only 23 minutes after we commenced our fire before one of our 18 pound shot struck their 12 pound cannon directly in the muzzle, and knocked it head, back and stomach into the air about twenty feet, and it was accompanied by legs, heads and arms.—Seven Mexican officers were wounded, and eight privates who were around their piece killed. We have not heard from their 18 pounder since, and so hot was the little fort in which it had been placed, that they were compelled to abandon it. When the first fire came, I rushed into my tent and jerked up my rifle, and as I stepped out, a 9 pound shot struck my tent at the head of my bed, ranged the whole length of my bed, cut off the back uprig t pole, passed out the back part through two other tents, and then buried itself in the parapet. I'm glad I was not caught napping."

In the first half hour a Sergeant of Capt. Lee's company was killed; he was carried over to the hospital tent (full of sick) and directly after he was laid on a bed, a bomb shell was thrown through the top of the tent, lit near the bed, burst, and blew the dead man's head off, without injuring any one else. On Wednesday, the 6th May, and 3d day of the bombardment, Major Brown was struck on the leg with a bomb shell, and his leg had to be amputated—he died on the 9th. These are the only two we have lost during the whole of the bombardment which commenced on Saturday, the 3d, and lasted, with little intermission, day and night, until the next Sunday at dark. During this time the enemy had thrown about 3500 shots—solid and shell—amongst us. It is incredible that the damage should have been so slight. Finding we could not dismount their mortars—they being sunk in the ground, with thick embankments in front—and having only about 400 rounds of amunition to our cannon, we went to work to throw up a kind of temporary bomb proof shelter, by taking our barrels of pork, laying sticks of wood across them, and throwing up six feet of earth upon that. These we built at points in the fort where they would be convenient for the men; and when we saw the smoke from their guns, every one would fall from the parapet and "hole." When we would see a shell coming we would fall upon the ground, as the explosion generally takes place upwards. The Mexicans thought they had killed nearly all of us, as they were under the impression that all who fell were shot.

It was very disgusting to stand and be fired at all round and not be able to return it "in full force and virtue;" but, knowing our ammunition was scarce, we reserved it until the death struggle should come on.—We were in hopes that after a reasonable time of bombarding, the enemy would attempt to storm us. Two or three feints were made, but they could not be brought to the scratch. Five mortars were playing on us at once, from every point of their works. Gen. Taylor's orders to us were to maintain this post, and not pretend to make any sally, or risk in the least his position here; but in case we were surrounded after he left, that signal guns should be fired at certain intervals which would notify him of the fact. This notice was given to the General, as they heard all our guns at Point Isabel. On the 8th, the General commenced his march with the train of provisions, and when about twelve miles from here he saw the enemy in position. He immediately "walked into their affections." We heard the rising of cannon on both sides, and distinctly the volleys of musketry. We knew well that it was the General poking it into their short ribs. We had then stopped to "licker," but at the first gun we sprung upon our parapets, opened our batteries and for one hour we had the pretiest little cannon fight that ever a man beheld. They gave us gun for gun, while we slung at them "the best the shop contained."

But wait, I forget one thing: On the first Wednesday, after the bombardment had lasted three days, the enemy "sounded a parley." Major Seawell and Lieut. Britton were ordered to go out and see what they wanted. They did so, and the Mexicans demanded the surrender of the fort "*for humanity's sake.*" They gave us one hour to surrender, or they would put us all to the sword. They brought us a letter from Gen. Arista to our commanding officer.—The commanding officer, Capt. Hawkins—Brown had been shot just before—had a