THE DEMOCRAT.

Cambridge,—Md.

WEDNESDAY.:::::::::::::::::: MAY 20th, 1846.

☞The Orphans' Court of Dorchester County will sit on Monday 25th of May.

☞Passage of the War Bill.—*Despatches from the Army.* The senate on Tuesday evening the 12th inst. with only two dissenting voices, passed without material amendment, the bill from the House to raise 50,000 volunteers, and appropriating $10,000,000, to prosecute the war against Mexico. It will be seen that further despatches from Gen. Taylor, were laid before Congress.

☞Appointment by the President.—*By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.* Benton H. Crocket, to be collector, &c., for the port of Vienna, Maryland.

☞New Goods.—The attention of our readers is directed to our Mercantile Advertisements in todays paper.

☞The Democratic Review.—We have received the May number of this established work, it is rich with valuable articles on the important subjects of which it treats. It is embellished with a beautiful engraving of the Hon. James B. Bowlin, from St. Louis Mo. It should be in the hands of every Democrat. This work is published in New York, by J. L. O'Sullivan and T. P. Kettell, 136 Nassau street, for $3 per annum (in advance)—single copy 25 cents.

☞The Wheat Crop.—The growing wheat of this county, which was so promising a week or so ago, has been greatly injured by the fly.

☞"Easton Star.—We see by the last number of the "Star" that George W. Sherwood, Esq., who has, for the last eight or ten years so ably conducted that paper, has retired from its editorial management. He is succeeded by H. E. Bateman, Esq.—The paper will continue as heretofore, decided in the support of Democratic principles.

☞Virginia.—The returns are now complete. The two houses will be constituted as follows:—Senate, 12 Whigs; 20 Democrats; House, 60 Whigs, 74 Democrats. Democratic majority on joint ballot, 22.

☞Baltimore Market, May 15th 1846.—Grain.—The receipts of Wheat are still light, farmers holding back in expectation, probably, of better prices; we have no transactions to note in reds, except those of a very limited character at 90 to 96 cents for good to prime, the latter for shipment. We have no arrivals of rye to report; and corn is without any material variation prices ranging from 60 to 62 cents for white or yellow—occasionally a cent more is paid. Oats are steady at 38 to 40 cents.

"Our Country."—For upwards of thirty years the American people have enjoyed, almost uninterruptedly, the blessings of peace. The wise policy of our wise forefathers has secured to us the respect of the world, whilst our rapid improvement in all that can make a nation great or a people happy has exposed us, so to speak, to the world's envious and jealous care. As a Nation we have always been watched, but of late with fearful and anxious interest by the Governments of the old world.—Their movements with each other and their conduct to us fully explains the secret. The fire of liberty must be extinguished, or soon their thrones will be enveloped in its blaze.

The silence of peace has now been broken by the shrill blast of the trumpet of war. The President of the United States has proclaimed to the world the declaration by Congress that war exists between this Government and the Republic of Mexico; and in his proclamation exhorts all the good people of the United States, as they love their country, as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence, of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and efficiency of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures, which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace. This has fallen upon the ear of the American people. The public man and the private man have (with almost entire unanimity) both alike endorsed the action of the government thus far, and who can doubt, now that the invaders foot has touched our soil and his hand shed American blood, that a fearful retribution will be his. The whole American Nation is now as one man. What power shall withstand the freeman's arm in whose veins flows the blood of seventy six, in whose heart burns the spirit of seventy six, and who with "justice by his side and God o'er head" strikes for liberty.

POSTSCRIPT.

Glorious News from the ARMY.

THE CAMPAIGN OPENED WITH VICTORY!!

Matamoras Reduced to ASHES!

THE AMERICAN ARMY TRIUMPHANT!

700 Mexicans Killed!

ONE AMERICAN ONLY KILLED.

A General Blockade of the Mexican Ports Ordered!

NEWS BY THE STEAMBOAT MARYLAND, OF YESTERDAY EVENING.

The pulse of the American Nation is beating quick and strong. The outrages on our honor, the insult to our flag, the uncalled for and brutal murder of our citizens has aroused to action the firm and evincible spirit of a liberty loving people. True here and there a dissenting voice is heard, but it produces no echo, and we leave the disaffected and traitorous to their own consciences (if they have any) and the just and deep cunsure of all *honest hearted Americans.* Such creatures were disgraced in the Revolution as well as the late war, and we had hoped that at this period, and particularly in the present contest, shame would have concealed their faces from public view. When war is proclaimed we know of but one cause, *the cause of our Country,* and that we sustain *right* or *wrong. Where liberty dwells there is our home.* Those who entertain different sentiments should seek a more congenial clime. It is a melancholy fact that in the same soil where honest patriotism flourishes, vile treason should spring forth. The Ethiopian however is known by his skin, and we will forbear saying more but hand over to our readers the glorious achievements of American valor and the triunphant success of American arms.

☞We lay this important news before our readers in advance of the Eastern Shore journals.

[*From Yesturdays Baltimore Daily Sun.*]

The news was received at New Orleans, first and mainly by the steamship New York, which had taken down reinforcements from that city to Point Isabel, and returned on the 8th inst. at 9 o'clock, P. M. to New Orleans.

We acknowledge our indebtedness to our brethren of the entire press at New Orleans, for their attention in furnishing us with ample means for obtaining all necessary information. In introducing this intelligence we make use of the following paragraph from the New Orleans Tropic, as indicative of the feeling with which it was received in that city, and also for its testimonial in favor of a gallant son of Maryland, and an officer of whom our city may be justly proud:

"*We have met the Enemy and they are Ours.*"—After a painful suspence of several days, news has reached us of a blow being struck by the Americans. The prowess of our brave soldiers has made the perfidious Mexicans bite the dust. The serpent of the Mexican arms now writhes in death agony in the beak of the American Eagle. Victory perches upon our banner! Honor to Major Ringgold of the 3d artillery, and his brave companions for their defence of the American Camp. Cheers, nine times nine, for our country and its free institutions!

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.]

New Orleans, May 11th, 1846.

Gentlemen.—The city has been in a continued state of excitement for several days, caused first by the great anxiety to hear from Gen. Taylor's army, and then caused by the news enclosed. Although it caused great joy here, and the thousands of volunteers that throng our city rent the air with their shouts, still expectation is not satisfied, and fear for the future clouds the reflecting minds. Gen. Taylor, ere this, has probably engaged the whole force of the Mexican army, and on terms unequal in force and knowledge of the country—until the result of the engagement is known, all will be anxiety.

The brave Major Ringgold, the favorite of your city, has covered himself with glory, as well as his brave companions in arms. Seventeen thousand volunteers will be in Mexico before two months

I do not know that you have been informed that the fortifications were left in command of Major Ringgold, and it was his artillary that opened on Matamoras. Truly yours, * *

[From the New Orleans Picayune, May 11.]

Important from the Rio Grande—General Taylor at Point Isabel—Attack on his Camp—Repulse of the Mexicans and Destruction of Matamoras!

The steamship New York, Captain Windle, arrived in port on Sunday evening, having left Brazos Santiago the afternoon of Wednesday, the 6th inst. Her news is important, and of the most gratifying description.

Our last previous accounts came down to Wednesday; the 29th ult. Capt. Walker, of the Texas Rangers, having come into Point Isabel on the evening of the 28th ult., from his desperate encounter with the Mexicans, had volunteered to carry despatches, to Gen. Taylar. We now learn by the New York that in that desperate attempt—so desperate as to be thought fool hardy—he fully succeeded.

General Taylor learned from him the critical situation in which Point Isabel was placed, and the imminent danger of its being carried by an overpowering force of the Mexicans He promptly determined upon a movement which should protect Point Isabel, and re-establish his communication with his supplies. Accordingly the evening of Friday, the 1st instant, he left his camp, opposite Matamoras, with the main body of his forces, determined to cut his way through, leaving behind him for the defence of the works opposite Matamoras between 700 and 800 troops.

This movement of Gen. Taylor upon Point Isabel was effected without encountering a single Mexican. In place of molesting him they concentrated their troops about the camp which he had just left.

On the morning of the 3d Gen. Taylor despatched Capt. Walker back to the Camp for intelligence. The gallant Ranger executed his commission with success, returning to Point Isabel the afternoon of the 5th.

He reported that the Mexicans, taking advantage of the supposed weakness of the camp, commenced an attack upon it in front on the morning of Sunday, the 3d, with all their batteries from the opposite side of the river, and simultaneously with a detachment of their forces on this side the Rio Grande, in the rear. The Americans hotly returned the fire. The attack in the rear was immediately repulsed, and in less than thirty minutes the Mexican batteries were silenced, and the city of Matamoras battered down.

The loss to the Mexicans in the action is variously set down. While no account makes it less than 200, the latest report in regard to it, and which we find in the Galveston News, carries it as high 700. The Americans lost but a single man, it is said, who was killed by a shell. None were wounded—so admirable was the state of the works before Gen. Taylor left them. The town of Matamoras is a complete ruin; there are scarcely houses enough left standing to serve as hospitals for the wounded.

This attack and repulse, however, is considered but the opening of the campaign. Cannonading was distinctly heard at times, down to the hour of the departure of the New York. Gen. Taylor set forth on the 6th inst., to return to his camp with ample supplies. The Galveston News states that when he left Point Isabel there was not the slightest doubt entertained that he would have to cut his way to his entrenchments through vastly superior numbers of the enemy, who were known to be posted in large forces among the almost impassable thickets of chapparal on the road, with a determination to cut him off, if possible, in his attempt to regain his other forces.

The number of the Mexicans is entirely vague and uncertain, though all the statements agree in estimating them at not less than ten thousand, while many accounts put their numbers at 15 to 20 thousand. All accounts agree also in stating that the Mexicn forces were rapidly flocking in from all quarters. How many crossed the river could not be told, though the News thinks it would be reasonable to presums that a large part of their forces would be brought into requisition to dispute the march of Gen. Taylor.

They could not but see the importance of cutting him off, and would doubtless employ all their advantages of local knowledge, skill in horsemanship and all their acknowledged resources in stratagem to accomplish their object. Gen. Taylor anticipated a formidable and desperate opposition to his march, but determined to accomplish it or perish.

Thus reasons the News, and accordingly anticipates intelligence of a decisive general action. We are greatly inclined to doubt whether the Mexicans would venture to attack Gen. Taylor's whole force, although they so out number him; but should they do so, we are confident that we shall have a glorious victory to recount.

One account before us states, however, that Gen. Taylor had not left Point Isabel, and probably would not leave there before the arrival of further reinforcements, he having full confidence in the ability of the troops left in camp to maintain their position against any odds.

The arrival of the New York at Point Isabel was most opportune. It will be recollected that she had nearly 200 regular troops on board under Lieut. McPhail, as well as several field pieces.—These were all safely landed. Even without the arrival of further reinforcements, the post at Point Isabel must have been so strengthened as to place its safety beyond reasonable doubt. Martial law has been proclaimed there and at Santiago, and every man pressed into the service. But ere this, further support has reached Point Isabel from this city and Pensacola.

The accounts from Texas in regard to volunteers are by no means satisfactory. The greatest apathy seems to prevail throughout the country.

Col. Hays, of the Rangers, with his force of about 400 men stationed in the San Antonio county, determined to march at once for Gen. Taylor's camp, as soon as he learned that it was in a critical situation; nor would it surprise us to hear that Col. Harney, with his dragoons, had done the same thing.

While Gen. Taylor was at Point Isabel he despatched a schooner to Vera Cruz, with intelligence of the proceedings upon the Rio Grande. We presume that Com. Connor will at once formally blockade every Mexican port on the Gulf.

[From the N. Y. Sun.]

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO!

Grand Revolutionary Movement in the South!!!—Glorious News from Yucatan!!!

By a vessel at New York, which sailed from Havana on the 1st instant, the New York Sun has private letters from intelligent correspondents in Merida, Yucatan, to the close of March, with private advices from other parts of Southern Mexico to the middle of April, conveying the gratifying intelligence that the people of Southern Mexico, in imitation of the patriotic example of Yucatan, were concentrating their efforts, in unison with the Congress of Yucatan, then in session, for a grand revolutionary movement against the military depots of the centre. The Congress of Yucatan had refused to entertain any propositions from Paredes, and a courier, whom he had sent to Merida, to request only three hundred troops, narrowly escaped with his life. We translate a few of the principal political views of our Mexican correspondents, remarking that we place confidence in them.

"Having nothing to hope from Paredes but a monarchy in its worst shape, or a central power usurping the independence of the Departments and of the people, we again unfurl the banner of liberty, inscribing upon its folds—*no compromise will the chieftains of Monarchy!* History bears witness to our struggles for liberty. We have periled our lives in its defence, as have our brethern of Texas and of the other gallant States of the great Northern Union. Men of Ameica brethern of the holy ties of human liberty, we shall rise in a few days in these Southern Departments, hoping to rescue our beautiful Mexico from the hands of Europe's minions. Brethern of the North! we respect you for your noble example of self-government, which shines upon the nations. In return we ask your sympathy. You have our confidence—give us yours. We know not that we can have your co-operation. But if the central Junto, incited by another power, should war against you for receiving and protecting our sister Texas, you shall find us prepared to greet you in the Halls of the Montezumas?"

These noble sentiments are much more beautiful in the original Spanish of our correspondents.—We give their spirit. Such patriotism demands, and will receive, a cordial response from the freemen of America. The revolution had, as we already know, commenced in the south of the department of Mexico, which was not known to our correspondents, although expected, at the time of writing. The Congress of Yucatan consists of twenty-three members, representing five departments.

WAR PREPARATIONS.

A PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT—ARMY AND NAVY MOVEMENTS—THE PEOPLE IN ARMS—PRIVATEERS. &c.

The Washington Union of Thursday evening contains the following official documents:

A PROCLAMATION

By the President of the United States of America.

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the Constitutional authority vested in them, have declared by their act bearing date this day, that "by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States."

Now, therefore, I, James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to all whom it may concern; and I do especially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous in discharging the duties respectfully incident thereto; and I do moreover exhort all the good people of the United States, as they love their country, as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence, of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and efficacy of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my [L. S.] hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents. Done at the city of Washington on the thirteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the independence of the United States the seventieth.

James K. Polk.

By the President,

James Buchanan,
Secretary of State.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Captain French Forrest arrived in Boston on Monday, direct from Washington, with orders for the immediate sailing of the Princeton. He goes out in her as passenger, to relieve Captain Dulany in the frigate Cumberland, now in the Gulf. The Princeton was fired up and ready to go to sea in an hour after his arrival, but owing to the state of the weather the pilot declined to take her out. She however, went to sea early on Tuesday morning.

Steamship Massachusetts left New York on Wednesday morning for Washington; she will probably be chartered by the government.

United States Steamer Mississippi,
Pensacola Bay, May 4th, 1846.

Sir: The mail of this day informs me that hostilities have commenced on the part of the Mexicans. The St. Mary's Commander Saunders, being here on the eve of sailing for Vera Cruz, I have ordered her to proceed forthwith to Brazos St. Jago, and report to General Taylor for such duty as he may assign him. A copy of his orders are herewith enclosed.

I shall proceed forthwith to Vera Cruz, in obedience to the orders of Commodore Conner, and report the facts to him. The course I have taken with regard to the St. Mary's will, I hope meet the approbation of the department.

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

Andrew Fitzhugh.

Hon. George Bancroft,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

United States Steamer Mississippi,
Pensacola Bay, May 4th, 1846.

Sir: It appears that "war" is declared by Mexico, and hostilities have actually commenced.

You will be pleased to proceed with all possible despatch with the St. Mary's, under your command, to Brazos St. Jago, or the nearest point to General Taylor's head quarters; you will communicate with him, and report for such orders as he may give you, giving him all the aid in your power.

You will embrace every opportunity of communication with the honorable Secretary of the Navy and Commodore Conner. Should the brig Lawrence be in want of provisions, you will supply her as far as you may deem prudent.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Andrew Fitzhugh.

Commander John L. Saunders,
Commanding U. S. ship St. Mary's,
Pensacola Bay.

PRIVATEERING.

Apprehensions have been expressed that Mexico may issue letters of marque to Spanish subjects in Cuba, to cruise against the commerce of the United States, and that privateers may be fitted out in the ports of that island for this nefarious purpose. Indeed, it has been suggested that the two Mexican steamers which have been recently transferred to the Havana, have been sent there with this object. The Union says that it is not generally known that a Spanish subject could not accept a commission for this purpose from the Mexican government without being guilty of piracy. For public information, we copy the 11th article of our treaty with Spain of the 20th October, 1795, which article is now in force:

"Article 11.—No subject of his Catholic majesty shall apply for, or take, any commission or letters of marque, for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the said United States, or against the citizens, people, or

gainst the citizens, people, or
said United States, or against t
of the inhabitants of any of them
or state with which the said Uni
at war.

"Nor shall any citizen, subjec
the said United States apply for
mission or letters of marque for
or ships, to act as privateers agai
his Catholic majesty, or the prope
from any prince or state with wh
shall be at war. *And if any per*
tion shall take such commissions or
he shall be punished as a pirate."

That is, he shall be "hung by t
dead."

LIEUT. PORTER AND C

A letter received from an officer
lor's army by an officer of the
Washington city, under date of
the following circumstantial acco
Lieut. Porter, of the 4th Infantry:

"The whole of Lieut. Porter's
ed to camp except himself and th
killed by the first fire of the Mex
contre in the afternoon of the 19t
of company A, the last man of this
in on the night of the 22d, states t
in five or six feet of Lieut Porter
He received a ball which penetrat
no doubt parted the artery. He
down, and expired very soon after
dier who was previously killed
yards of him. Frequent attempts
turn the fire of the Mexican party
Lieut. Porter's party were all wer
go off. Private Anes remained n
ies of Lieut. Porter and the soldier
concealed in the dense thicket, (th
ping relief would come and bear t
He was at last, however, obliged
way to camp, which he found wi
owing to the density of the thick
difficulty of moving through it. Th
dead bodies were at one time surro
ber of Mexicans, who made the mo
tions, unworthy of a civilized peop

The same writer adds, in rel
Cross:—

"Colonel Cross's remains were
distance from a road leading near t
on the Point Isabel road, as I wrot
previous letter. He was stripped
and the flesh was picked off his b
tures. It had been dragged some d
thicket after the murder. It was re
the body of Col. Cross by his teeth
scalp, which had been torn off by t
stock, and one of the straps from th
his military frock coat. His watch,
his horse are now in possession o
officers in Matamoras.

"Colonel Cross was killed by on
con, in the presence of a Lieutenant
army. Falcon is what is called
sioner—that is, one who is authori
persons attempting to smuggle go
line. He is commissioned by the M
ment; but all such persons will rob
one they meet.

"The Mexicans should *bleed free*
for the murder of Cross, for it was
murder, committed by a public offic

CAMP OF THE U. STATES
TEXAS.

We find in th New Orleans Trop
ing account of the Camp of the U. S
the Rio Grande. The Tropic states
with the batteries commanding Mata
pied by Major Ringgold's troop:

Gen. Taylor's camp extends about
long the river bank—two miles abov
low Matamoras. The entrenchment
quired twenty-three hundred men fo
It is made of sand, and covered o
woven together like basket work, sur
very wide and deep ditch. The wal
zine, in the interior of the fortificatio
of pork barrels filled with sand, sev
four tier high, covered over with tim
sand is piled ten or twelve feet. T
pieces of ordnance are so placed as
the town of Matamoras. Five hundr
defend the fortification against any fo
cans could bring against it at present.

Gen. Taylor.—The question is fre
ed, who is Gen. Taylor, in command
in Texas, and where is he from? T
particulars, derived from an authentic
satisfy public curiosity in relation to
esting points of inquiry:—

"Gen. Taylor was born in Virginia
in the neighborhood of Louisville, Ky.
the army, as a lieutenant, in 1808; w
and greatly distinguished himself in th
Fort Harrison, in the war of 1812, wh
commanded when it was attacked by a
perior force of British and Indians.
lant conduct on that occasion he was
vet major, being the first brevet that w
in that war. Gen. T. was in Florida c
of the late Seminole war, and comma
son at the battle of Occochubbe, on th
cember, 1837. His gallantry and skill
casion won for him the rank of brev
general."

The Death of Lt. Porter.—The
Lt. Porter, the wife of the late Com. Po
at Chester, and we understand, says th
vanian, is in great distress respecting th
gallant son, on the plains of Texas. T
thies of every parent are with her, a
mourns the loss of a brave officer; the
cendant of the most chilalrous of seam
bodimen of true courage

Revenue Service.—The Philadelp
states that all our revenue cutters w
spared, are to rendezvous in the Gulf of
mediately. They are well adapted to

Cannon Balls.—Messrs. Savery &
founders in Philadelphia, have receiv
from government, to supply at once
cannon balls.

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