

THE SOMERSET HERALD.

AND FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' REGISTER.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.
HALF-YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

IF NOT PAID WITHIN THE YEAR,
\$2 50 WILL BE CHARGED.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY JONATHAN ROW, SOMERSET, SOMERSET COUNTY, PA.

New Series.]

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1846,

Vol. 5.—No. 1.

THE DYING ROSE-BUD.

BY MRS. OSGOOD.

Ab me!—ah, wo is me!
That I should perish now,
With the dear sunlight just let in
Upon my balmy brow!

My leaves instinct with glowing life;
Were quivering to unclose;
My happy heart with love was rife—
I was almost a rose

Nerved by a hope, warm, rich, intense,
Already I had risen
Above my cage's curving fence—
My green and graceful prison.

My pouting lips, by Zephyr pressed,
Were just prepared to part,
And whisper to the wooing wind
The rapture of my heart.

In new-born fancies revelling,
My mossy cell half riven,
Each thrilling leaflet seemed a wing
To bear me into Heaven.

How oft, yet while an infant flower,
My crimson cheek I've laid
Against the green bars of my bower,
Impatient of the shade!

And pressing up and peeping through
Its small but precious vistas,
Sighed for the lovely light and dew
That blessed my elder sisters.

I saw the sweet breeze rippling o'er
Their leaves that loved the play,
Though the light thief stole all their store
Of dew-drop gems away.

I thought how happy I should be
Such diamond wreaths to wear,
And frolic with a rose's glee
With sunbeam, bird and air.

Ah me!—ah, wo is me, that I,
Ere yet my leaves unclose,
With all my wealth of sweets, must die
Before I am a rose!

The Battle and the Armistice.

We find in the government paper the annexed letter from an officer of the army at Monterey. We are glad to see that the letter receives the semi-official endorsement of the government paper, because the writer not only defends Gen. TAYLOR's conduct in regard to the terms granted to the Mexican commander, but states circumstances to show the importance of the armistice to Gen. TAYLOR himself, as well as reasons why its premature termination by the order of the Government is unfortunate for our own army: [Nat. Intel.]

MONTEREY, (Mexico), Septem-
ber 28, 1846.

MY DEAR COLONEL: This place surrendered the evening of the 24th, after three days' contest, during which we drew ourselves around it like a boa constrictor, the fold becoming more contracted each day. The place is strong by nature, and had been much strengthened by art.—They had more than thirty pieces of artillery, which they had disposed of with skill, and used with good effect. The defence was obstinate. Every battery had to be carried excepting two, one of which was evacuated during the second night; the other not until after the surrender. The latter was their citadel, and would have required a breaching battery, which we had not, at least not nearer than Camargo.

The town is a mass of castles. When the attack extended into the town these houses were carried only by small assaults. Worth's division took the heights, crowned with batteries, in the rear. He carried them, one after another, in a most gallant manner, and with little loss. A demonstration, made by the other divisions on the opposite end of the town, intended at first only as a diversion in his favor, soon became a most general engagement there. The horns of the bull were there, and we got terribly gored.—There was the main loss, with the least gain. General Taylor was there with all his staff. We went into the range of the fire at about half past eight A. M. and went out of it at 4 P. M. This was a long time to be peppered. The two following days were partly passed in street fighting, in which the light artillery (singular as it may seem) bore a conspicuous part. Indeed, Ridgely and Bragg were conspicuous the first day. So, it is said, was Duncan, who was with Worth.—The morning of the fourth day General Ampudia held out the flag. That day was a day of rest, for in the evening the articles of capitulation were signed. I was present at the council which arranged the basis for them. Ampudia spoke with dignity and some eloquence. His countenance, however, looked somewhat depressed.

As many soldiers have marched out as we can march in. Under other circumstances, the leniency of the articles might be questioned. Gen. Taylor's answer in the morning had been that arms should be laid down and the parole imposed.—He was afterwards induced to concede, as it was possible, perhaps probable, that at that very moment peace existed between the two nations.

Had he insisted on his first terms, the contest would undoubtedly have been renewed, at least for some hours, which would have been marked by a most exasperated contest, and the effusion of much blood. We would have gained all but the citadel, with what further loss we know not. Under all the circumstances, I approved the course taken. I heard no one find fault with it while the chances of more hard fighting were open. When they were closed, some voices said they were still for war.

The suspension of operations will little more than give us time to prepare for ulterior operations, if they become necessary. Our provisions are now about out. We could not move onward, even if no obstacle was in the way. General Taylor wishes some four or five hundred thousand rations put in deposit here before he aims at Saltillo. They must come up from Camargo. It will take the major part of the four weeks to provide this store, muster all the means of transportation that we can. So you see my work is only begun. I am ready for the task. My strength and willingness are undiminished.

Extracts from the Diary of an Officer of the United States Army, at Monterey.

"September 21.—A day to be noted henceforth in history. The night of the 20th being dark and rainy, and consequently favorable for operations, our battery of 24-pound howitzers and the mortar were established in a hollow opposite the main work, and at about thirteen hundred yards off, with orders to open on the old Cathedral, which is strongly fortified, so soon as we should hear the fire from Gen. Worth's division. Accordingly at 7 o'clock we commenced throwing shells. The enemy returned it pretty briskly with round shot, and soon got the range of our pieces. While in this position we lost one man and a horse. At about 9 A. M. the 1st and 3d Infantry and Baltimore Battalion, under Col. Garland, advanced on our left and engaged the enemy, who occupied an advanced redoubt and the hedges and houses in the suburbs of the town. The Tennessee Regiment was sent forward to his support. This brought on a general action, and in succession the Ohio, Mississippi, and 4th Regiment of U. S. Infantry, Ridgely's and Bragg's batteries, were thrown forward. The enemy had a flank fire of artillery from their main work on the troops as they advanced, and a direct fire from the town and batteries. The extreme right battery of four guns was carried by the bayonet, the enemy descending their guns with the utmost precipitation. The first division, composed of the 1st Infantry, Baltimore Battalion, 3d and 4th Infantry, charged past this battery, and, passing another battery and several breastworks still in the hands of the enemy, charged into the heart of the town, followed by Bragg's battery. This was a fatal mistake. Without any definite object in view, they found themselves in a network of fortifications, exposed to a murderous fire of grape and musketry from the hedges and houses on their right and left, front and rear, along the narrow streets in which they were penned up.—The consequence was that they were terribly cut up. The 3d and 4th Infantry will hardly muster a company strong.—The Baltimore Battalion lost Col. Watson, and was, like the rest of the command for the time, scattered. Bragg's battery, unable to manoeuvre, or even turn in the narrow streets, suffered severely in men and horses. The remnant of this devoted band was recalled, and rallied in the ravine in which our battery was situated. At this time our guns (24-pound howitzers) were ordered to advance and support Ridgely's guns that were playing on the second battery, exposed to a galling fire of musketry and shells. One was put into the road and opened with shells, spherical case and canister, at about two hundred yards. I served and pointed this gun for upwards of half an hour, and during that time was the mark for their fire. I had one ball through the collar of my coat, and one through the skirt. My horse was shot through the shoulder, and finally mortally wounded through the head under me. How I escaped is incomprehensible. I thank God for his mercy. We occupied this position and kept up an incessant fire until late in the afternoon, when the troops were all withdrawn, except the 1st and the remnant of the 3d and 4th Infantry, who occupied the battery taken from the enemy, and strengthened it, working all night."

A Loan of Five Millions.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued proposals for a loan of \$5,000,000 at six per cent. The Union says that "the law under which the loan is propo-

sed to be made, limits the amount to ten millions of dollars, leaving it to the option of the government to issue treasury notes, or make a loan, or both, provided the treasury notes and loan do not together exceed ten millions of dollars. It would appear, from the course pursued by the Treasury Department, to be the intention of the government to effect the whole operation by an issue of five millions of treasury notes, and a loan of five millions of dollars only. With a loan of five millions of dollars, and an issue of five millions of dollars of treasury notes, together with the moneys now in the treasury, and the accruing proceeds of the customs, and of the sales of the public lands, it is believed that the government will have all the funds required."

CUMBERLAND, (Md.) Nov. 3. Tremendous High Water.

We were visited with a rain on Friday night last, which lasted, with but little intermission, until Monday afternoon, causing a rise in the waters of the neighborhood rarely equalled. Wills's creek rose to perhaps within a foot of being as high as the last freshet; and when at its highest, the Potomac commenced to rise, and continued rising until evening, by which time a great portion of the lower section of the town was under water. We are informed by one of our oldest citizens that the Potomac river never attained the same height within his recollection. The back water from the river came into the street at the Wills's creek bridge, and extended to the public square, partially undermining Black's Exchange Hotel, and causing much damage to the house, filling all the cellars, and ran down Mechanic street. The back water from below extended up Mechanic street as far as the Virginia Hotel.

Immense loss must ensue to many of our citizens, the amount of which as yet we have no means of ascertaining. And not only will it be injurious to our town, but the farmers adjacent to the river have doubtless suffered greatly, as shocks of corn in great quantities were seen floating down the stream. We also learn that much damage has again been done the Maryland Mining Company's Railroad above the Narrows.—*Civilian.*

THE STORM AND ITS EFFECTS.—The train of cars with the Western mail, due at six o'clock on Tuesday evening, did not reach this city until 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, having been detained by a flood in the Potomac, which deluged the road. In the neighborhood of Catoctin the water was so deep that it entered the cars, and even put the fire out in the locomotive. The passengers, however, arrived safe, after a most tedious and disagreeable trip.

We learn that in the vicinity of the Point of Rocks the canal was entirely overflowed, and it is feared has suffered considerable damage, though this could not of course be ascertained until the water fell.—*Balt. Sun.*

From the Piqua (O.) Register of Oct. 24.

THE PRESIDENT.—If any other State than Ohio is to have the Candidate of the Whig party for President in 1848, let Pennsylvania be that State, and Hon. ANDREW STEWART be the man! He is now the champion of the interests of the North in Congress—the able advocate of the Protective Policy, upon which, we have no doubt, the next Presidential Election will mainly turn. What say the Whigs to the suggestion?

What say the Whigs to the suggestion? We say good—excellent. We should like to hear the response of the Whig press and party of the whole Union to this interrogatory. We can speak for Pennsylvania. Such a majority as she would roll up for him, has not been heard of since she gave her fifty thousand majority for Andrew Jackson.—*Uniontown Democrat.*

OHIO.—From the following article from the Wayne county, Ohio, Democrat, our readers will be gratified to perceive that Mr. Cox, the Whig candidate for Senator is elected in that district, thus giving the Whigs a majority of two in the Senate of Ohio.

"WAYNE COUNTY SENATOR.—There is no longer any doubt with regard to the right of Mr. Cox to a seat in the Senate of Ohio. Errors in the returns made to the Clerk of the Court, sufficient to give Mr. Cox a clear and unquestionable majority of five or six votes, have been discovered and in due time will be fully substantiated. Mr. Cox has served the proper notice upon Mr. Wilford, advising him that his seat will be contested; and that he will push his claim to a successful issue, there can be no manner of doubt. He has received a manifest majority of the votes cast; and will, as he ought, be awarded his seat."

A soldier on a trial for habitual drunkenness was addressed by the president "Prisoner, you have the prosecution for habitual drunkenness, what have you to plead in your defence?" "Nothing, please your honor, but an habitual thirst!"

THE STORMING OF MONTEREY.

The following account of the operations of Gen. Worth's division at Monterey, and defence of the capitulation, are from the pen of Col. BALIE PEYTON:

MONTEREY, SEPT. 25, 1846.
MY DEAR SIR: After a most obstinate and sanguinary conflict, which was continued from day to day for five days, Gen. Ampudia capitulated this city on the 24th instant. Our loss in killed and wounded has been extremely severe, not less than 500, amongst whom are some of the most valuable officers of the regular army, as well as volunteers.

The first regiment of Tennessee volunteers, commanded by Col. Campbell, suffered more severely, perhaps, than any other which was engaged during the siege having had twenty-seven killed on the field, and seventy-seven wounded, some of them mortally, and many of them seriously, and this out of a force of only 379 men. Notwithstanding this tremendous loss, the regiment charged under the lead of its gallant colonel and other officers, and was the first regiment which stormed the fort, mounted the breastworks, and unfurled the stars and stripes upon its walls, amidst a perfect hailstorm of balls which was pouring upon it.

These Mexican towns and fortresses are incredibly strong, and few men fight better from house-tops and behind stone walls, or are more adroit in the use of stationary artillery than the Mexicans. In these actions Gen. Taylor had, all told, about 5,000 men, while Gen. Ampudia's force consisted of 10,500 infantry and cavalry, besides militia, rancheros, &c. Gen. Taylor had eighteen pieces of artillery, of which seventeen were fieldpieces while Gen. Ampudia had forty-four pieces thirty-eight of which, with two standards of colors, are now in our possession.

Our army arrived before Monterey the morning of Saturday, the 19th instant, and about half-past eight o'clock, while reconnoitering the outworks of the city, a ball, discharged from a twelve-pounder, struck near Gen. Taylor and staff, and bounded with terrible velocity over his head, at which the old hero did not change a muscle or even bat his eye. This day, the 19th, was spent in making reconnoissances of the place and its various outposts, amidst a good deal of firing on the part of the Mexicans, from cannon and a short gun called an escopette, which carries a large ball to a distance of 500 or 600 yards.

On Sunday, the 20th, Gen. Worth was detached by Gen. Taylor, in command of the second division of the regular army (about 1,500 strong) and Col. Hay's regiment of Texas Rangers, (consisting of 400 men,) with a view of turning the city and occupying the Saltillo road, for the purpose of cutting off the enemy's supplies and reinforcements, which were daily expected under Gen. Santa Anna. The division performed the march—making a road, filling ditches, &c.—a distance of about six or seven miles, and reached the vicinity of the enemy in the evening, about five o'clock, when the General, with an escort from Col. Hay's Rangers, was fired on by the batteries placed on the heights, and also by a corps of the enemy's light troops, who were sent through a cornfield to cut off his party.

From this time until the appearance of the white flag, on the evening of the 24th, the division of the army commanded by Gen. Worth, was incessantly engaged, and was ever successful—never for one moment hesitating or faltering—putting to rout the enemy's cavalry on the plains, driving his infantry through the chaparral from the house-tops, scaling immense heights, capturing guns, and storming fortresses which were not only deemed impregnable but which seemed to be almost inaccessible. And, best of all, these brilliant exploits were performed with the loss of fourteen killed and fifty-six wounded; and during the four days' contest there occurred not the slightest error or mistake on the part of the commanding general, nor was there at any time the least faltering or hesitancy on the part of the officers and men—regulars and volunteers—in executing his orders. Indeed, it is difficult to determine which is most worthy of admiration, the wisdom and energy displayed by the able and accomplished commander, or the gallantry and ardor with which he was sustained by those under his command.

When the difficulties and apparently insuperable obstacles are considered, I venture the assertion that the series of successes obtained by the division under Gen. Worth's command, in the recent operations against Monterey, will bear a favorable comparison with the proudest achievements of the American arms. He was opposed by a greatly superior force, which was well served with artillery, and posted upon the highest peaks of the Sierra Madre. He stormed heights, took three pieces of artillery, turned them on the enemy, and with these and the aid of one of his own pieces—which he contrived to place upon the summit which commands the famous Bishop's Palace, eight hundred feet above the base of the mountain—united with the inestimable

services rendered by the dauntless and invincible spirits who stormed these heights, he reduced that stronghold of the enemy and drove him into the city, upon which he turned the guns he had captured. He bivouacked his force for the night on the bleak mountain, and the next day, after bombarding the town, he conducted his forces into the streets amidst a shower of balls discharged at his person. He was seen every where, directing every thing, driving the enemy from his batteries, forcing him from street to street and house to house, until night ended the conflict. He maintained his position in the city, placed a ten-inch mortar in one of the strongly fortified squares, to direct which he placed that gallant and skillful officer Major Munroe, with instructions to fire a shell (weighing ninety pounds) every half hour during the night. This duty was performed with terrible effect, almost every shell falling in the plaza, where the enemy's forces were collected to the number of 7,000 or 8,000 men.—He had made every necessary preparation for pursuing his advantages the next day, even to placing some of his artillery on the tops of high buildings, which would command and sweep the house-tops from which the enemy fought.

Such was the state of preparation when Gen. Ampudia capitulated the city, reflecting equal honor upon the military skill of the head which conceived, and the indomitable energy of the gallant spirits who executed the plan of operations.

Our most serious loss occurred on the 21st, when Gen. Taylor only intended to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth, who was engaged in the attack on the other side of the town, but owing to the arduous and impetuosity of the troops, they very soon became involved in a general engagement, which Gen. Taylor felt bound to sustain. This excess of courage involved melancholy consequences, but it is surely a most excusable weakness, if it be a weakness, to display an excess of ardor in the field of battle.

The volunteers from the different States behaved in the most handsome manner. They have won for the citizen soldier the admiration and applause of the officers and soldiers of the regular army, who speak of their conduct in the highest terms of approbation and eulogy. Amongst the volunteers none have shone more conspicuously than the 1st Regiment of Texas mounted riflemen, commanded by that Chevalier Bayard, Col. J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the Colonel to the private, has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affair in which Gen. Worth's division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the ball, which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the General the Colonel of dragoons who commanded the enemy's forces.—In scaling heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house tops, the voice of the gallant Colonel and the reports of the muzzling rifle of the Ranger were ever heard in the van. The courage and constancy and subordination of this corps is the theme of admiration in the army.

But my object is narrative not eulogy. It is not necessary for me to go into detail in relation to the terms accorded to the Mexican army in the capitulation, as you will have seen the articles, or the substance thereof, published in the newspapers ere this reaches you. If any one not acquainted with the facts of the case should object that our Commanding General has granted terms too favorable to the retiring army, let it be remembered that our invincible little army had already suffered severely in baring the bosoms of our best citizens and bravest officers and soldiers to the batteries of an unseen foe; that the city was still immensely strong in its defenses; that the Mexican army was double that of our own; that this army was in possession of the strongest part of a city each house of which is a fortress within itself; that each remaining street was barricaded, and most of them defended by cannon; and that when driven from the city the Mexican army possessed a fortress called the citadel, of immense capacity and great strength, to which the whole army could have retired. To have taken this work without a siege train, as we were, by assault, would have cost us very dearly. Independently of these considerations, our provisions were growing short and our ammunition was quite limited. We were far removed from our supplies and reinforcements, while the enemy might have been reinforced at any moment. And lastly, the policy avowed by our Government does not inculcate the idea that this is to be a vindictive or exterminating war against the people of Mexico, but on the contrary, to conquer a peace, or, in other words, to whip Mexico to her own satisfaction, obtain our just rights, and conclude a peace upon terms such as would be becoming in a great and magnanimous nation towards a weak and distracted Government. All this has, in my opinion, been accomplished in as full, complete and ample a manner by the course pursued in the capitulation, as if we had stormed the citadel and put their whole army to the sword.

This is, in my judgment, the last battle which will be fought in the Mexican war. General Ampudia, in urging a pacific course on General Taylor, stated repeatedly that he knew that Gen. Santa Anna was disposed to peace; that he was well assured that the course adopted would lead to peace between the two countries; that his object was to save the effusion of blood and the honor of his Government. But, if the war is to be prosecuted, we are in the possession of one of the strongest, most healthy, and beautiful places in Mexico, from which, when our reinforcements and supplies arrive, our army cannot be expelled by any force which Mexico will be able to send against it. We have taken arms and ammunition with which we can act offensively or defensively, according to the course of events and the policy of the Government. If it be the policy of our Government to extend our boundary beyond the Rio Grande, then the line of the Riconada, agreed upon as that beyond which the Mexican troops are to retire, is the most eligible which can be indicated by the geographical features of the country.

Gen. Ampudia and his army left this morning for Saltillo. He was treated with courtesy and respect by Gen. Worth, whose quarters are in the city, and who accompanied him to the limits of town. In fact, all our troops displayed that forbearance which always marks the conduct of brave and magnanimous men towards those whom the fortune of war has placed in their power. You will observe that in my narration of the events of battles I have confined myself to the operations of that division of the army which was commanded by General Worth. I have done so because I was with this command, near his person, saw what occurred, and know that which I have stated to be substantially correct.—You are not to infer that I mean to intimate that the main army, under the command of Gen. Taylor, did not perform feats equally worthy of the applause and admiration of the country. Others well informed as to facts, and much better qualified for the duty, will no doubt give a detailed account of the operations of the army. Take the army altogether, I doubt whether a superior body of men ever rallied under this flag of our country.

Nery truly, yours, &c.
BALIE PEYTON.
J. D. ROZIER, Esq.
LETTER OF GEN. BUTLER.—The following are extracts from a letter of Gen. BUTLER to a near relative of his in Louisville. In publishing it the Journal of that city states that the General says, in the same letter, that it is the opinion of those Mexican officers who have been taken prisoners by our army that their Government will at once offer to ours terms of peace:
MONTEREY, Sept. 25, 1846.
Monterey is ours, but not without a heavy loss, and my division has probably sustained more than one-half of it. I am myself wounded but not badly. I was struck by a musket ball below the knee; it entered in front, grazed the bones without injuring them, ranged round through the flesh, and came out on the opposite side. I became faint from loss of blood, and was compelled to leave the field after having been in it under a heavy fire of grape and musketry for three hours. I have been required by my surgeon to keep perfectly still ever since the battle. I was in the act of leading the Ohio Regiment to storm two of the most formidable batteries in the town, flanked by a stone wall ten feet high, with a deep ditch in front, and covered by a strong musketry force in the rear, under complete shelter. There were two other batteries of grape shot discharged, that swept the ground continually. Col. Mitchell, who commanded the regiment of Ohio volunteers, was wounded about the same time that I was, and we then prudently abandoned the enterprise, as we became convinced that our loss would have been probably at least one hundred more men, had we persevered.
I hope you will not think I acted rashly. I know that I am often rash where I involve myself alone, not so, however, when the fate of others are at stake. The condition in which we were placed fully justified, if it did not positively require us to make the attempt. The peculiarity of our situation I cannot now explain without going into greater detail than I am able to do.
The battle commenced about 9 o'clock A. M., and continued without intermission, for eight hours. I had almost 1,000 men in the battle—the Louisville Legion having been left to guard our mortars—and of that number we lost in killed and wounded about 250.
We took our battery and a house fitted up as a fortification, and assisted the regulars in taking a second. Gen. Worth, with great gallantry and equal success and with far less loss, carried on his operations on the opposite side of the town.
The loss of the regulars who acted with us was nearly proportional to ours,