

EL PASO HERALD

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Where Honor Comes Easy

WHEN a subordinate, over his official signature, calls attention to your shortcomings, remove the subordinate summarily—that is good logic with plenty of precedent, and the school board, pricked where the skin was thinnest, did the natural thing in dismissing the superintendent.

One of the members of the board thinks that the dismissal of the superintendent will mend matters; but the people will make their own analysis of the figures as presented by the mayor and the school superintendent, and express their own opinions as to the "incompetency" of the school board.

Most people will regard the charge of "incompetency" as absolutely proved by the action of the school board itself in retaining for a whole year in the nominal position of school superintendent a man whom the board had publicly deprived of all authority and control over the schools, and whom they had sought to degrade by various forms of official indignity; and proved further by the action of the board in placing the schools and the teaching body under the direct charge of two committeemen, wholly unfitted by training or experience for the task.

The big blow-up has come at last, with honors about even between the "incompetent" school board and the deposed superintendent. There will be no permanent improvement until the personnel of the board, and thereby the control, is changed by electing the Citizens' ticket in May.

Now that the superintendent of the schools has been dismissed, it is timely to recall the famous remark of W. L. Peabody, one of our public school trustees, at the meeting of the school board June 15, 1909, to wit: "It is not necessary to have a school superintendent; the school superintendent is a misnomer; a school superintendent is a thing of the past." The board may economize by abolishing the office of superintendent and allowing Mr. Peabody to serve without pay.

Arrest Of a Census Man

A LITTLE story of the census taking in El Paso illustrates the necessity of careful supervision over the work of the enumerators and also the fine loyalty which animates some of our people. There is a house on a fashionable north side street in which several families live. The enumerator called the other day and obtained the names of three or four of the residents, but failed to get the names of several families and left the house without even asking the question if others lived there.

As soon as they realized that the enumerator had gone without getting a complete count, two loyal wives, both well known in social circles, ran out the front door and started down the street bareheaded, calling as loudly as they dared after the careless census enumerator. Seeing that the man would probably escape them, they called on several men for assistance and started them to round up the federal employe who was running away from his post of duty as fast as he could go. The census man was finally arrested and brought back to the house, where six or eight names were added to his rolls.

If every El Pasoan were as zealous as these good wives there would be no question about getting a fair count. They showed a spirit that ought to shame the 200 or 300 prominent citizens who refused to accept their share of the work in the volunteer census. With the volunteer census complete, the city will have a very satisfactory check upon the work of the federal enumerators, and we shall be in position to demand a recount if any considerable percentage of error is discovered.

Alfalfa is being successfully grown on the "dry farming" system in some portions of New Mexico and western Texas. Even if only one crop a year be taken and that a small one, the growing of alfalfa tends to enrich the soil and give life to it, so that it will produce more abundantly of any other crop that may be put in later.

The "Save the Babies" fund is approaching the \$100 mark and so far the babies themselves have put up nearly all the money. Never was a worthier cause laid before our people, and it does seem as if the required \$400 or \$500 should be readily subscribed by the charitable public in order to insure the support of the city and county and the prompt and proper inauguration of the work of baby saving. There were 319 deaths last year from intestinal troubles, and a very large proportion of the victims were little children whose lives might have been saved by just such efforts as this "Save the babies" campaign will put forth.

A Weekly Market Day

SEVERAL of the smaller towns in New Mexico, county seats and commercial centers, have inaugurated a unique campaign for bringing in the crowds from the country on a weekly market day. An elaborate program is prepared for one day each week with band concerts, firemen's contests, field sports, moving picture shows, and dancing. The program for the entertainment is then advertised in the county papers, and the success of the plan has been remarkable wherever tried. The people come in from the surrounding country, in large numbers to have a good time. Incidentally they do their weekly trading and swell the receipts of the stores above anything they have ever known.

Why could not El Paso undertake a plan something like this on a much larger scale—providing a weekly market day for out of town buyers, and providing some suitable program of entertainment to meet all tastes.

Any obscure congressman desiring notoriety can get his name in the newspapers by attacking president Taft or some member of his cabinet, and not a few of the underlings are taking this means of bringing themselves before the public.

It is said that the number of horses in the United States has doubled in 10 years, while the average value has advanced from \$44 in 1900 to \$109 in 1910, and this in spite of the fact that the people of the United States have invested some \$750,000,000 in automobiles and are buying the machines at the rate of several hundred million dollars a year. This section is well adapted to horse and mule breeding, and the demand, especially for high class work stock, is all the time on the increase.

Of all curious suits at law, one just instituted in Swedish courts is probably without a double. The plaintiff is seeking to buy back his own skeleton from an anatomical institute. Years ago, when the present plaintiff was dead broke, he sold his skeleton to the school of anatomy with the definite understanding that delivery was not to be made until the natural death of the vendor. Later the man came into a fortune and now he wants to pay back the money he got from the anatomical institute and re-possess himself of his own skeleton. The anatomical school put in a counter claim for two teeth which the plaintiff had had extracted without the permission of the legal owners of his skeleton. The courts have decided that the bargain cannot be voided without the consent of the anatomical institute, so that the plaintiff is confronted by the peculiar requirement of living the rest of his days around a skeleton which he does not own.

UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

THE lover falls upon his knees, where Susan Jane is shelling peas, and says: "O lantern of my life, put down the peas and be my wife! For you, my dear, I'd gladly die. I'd write your name upon the sky! I'd scale the mountain's snowy head, or dip the ocean from its bed! We'll live some lovely, sylvan spot, and there we'll build our little cot, and there we'll seek, in love and ease, as happy as two bumble bees." "Alas! So many dreams go wrong! So many discords mar the song! So many promises are made, and when they're washed they often fade. A million men have married maids, and talked of cots and sylvan glades, and honeysuckle at the door, and love and happiness galore. And this is what they should have cried: "O come, my dear, and be my bride! When sober I will treat you right, and fill our cottage with delight. And when I draw my weekly pay I'll always, in my lavish way, hand you a quarter with a sneer, and go and blow the rest for beer. O come, my pet, and cook and scrub, and wrestle with the washing tub, and wear old clothes and home-made lids, and rear a brood of shabby kids, and sit up nights with aching head, awaiting my returning tread. So come with me and be my drudge, that you may well and fairly judge the joys so many women know when to their husbands' homes they go."

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LETTERS TO THE HERALD

FOR SAINT AND SINNER.

El Paso, April 18. Editor El Paso Herald: I take the Dally Herald; it is a 20th century journal. It gives to both saint and sinner his portion in due season. Its criticisms are so mild and gently given that no one need be offended. I have spent 55 years in the ministry and since I have been on the earth there has been more accomplished for man's well being than in past ages, since the flight of time began. With my highest regards for The Herald, I remain yours respectfully.

Rev. F. M. Linscott, 3007 Magnolia St.

SALARY OF THE MAYOR.

El Paso, April 19. Editor El Paso Herald: I have read the message of Mayor Sweeney as published in The Herald, and noted that he recommends a raise in the salary of the mayor. Before Mayor Sweeney's day such men as Maroffin, Caples, Hammett, Morehead and Davis, were satisfied with a much smaller recompense for their services, and none will deny that each gave a good administration. How many attorneys in El Paso make \$3000 a year beside their office fees? How many business men clear that amount each year, with thousands of dollars invested? Mayor Sweeney may resign for effect—but raise the salary to \$8000 per year with \$100 per month for charity, and next spring you will see Joseph U. announce himself for mayor. And by the grace of God and Henry Kelly, and a large supply of poll tax receipts he will be elected.

I for one am not in favor of raising the salary of perpetual office holders; they are not compelled to run for office, and they can well afford to give their entire time to the office if they did not contribute so heavily toward "campaign expenses" but let the office seek the man, instead of the man seeking the office.

Let the salary remain as it is, and El Paso will continue to furnish a competent man for it. Just, honorable, and upright men are willing to take this office at the present salary, but they do not run for the office or any other office so long as the royal family dominates the city, and when elected, waves the black flag over the city like the Standard Oil company has waved it over the union.

John A. Anderson.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

El Paso, April 19. Editor El Paso Herald: I have for some time been wondering how it happens that the building at the northwest corner of San Antonio and Mesa avenue (recently the Bazar) is jutting out into Mesa avenue for about 15 or 20 feet. Mill's map of El Paso, which I presume was official, shows Mesa avenue continuing in a straight line from Texas street to San Antonio street, so that it looks as if somebody had at one time "swiped" part of the street at this corner for surely the city could not sell it.

Be that as it may, it seems to me that there is great need for improvement at this particular corner. This projection of the corner almost cuts off the free passage of traffic from Mesa into Broadway, and vice versa. It compels traffic to twist around those corners in a snake-like and most dangerous fashion, and it is really a wonder that serious accidents do not occur there every week. As the city grows and Broadway develops into an important business street this twisting crossing will become more and more congested and dangerous.

There can be no doubt that this crossing will have to be straightened some day, and it seems to me that right now (before any permanent building is put up) is the best time to attempt it. The projecting corner should certainly be cut off, and it would be better still to cut it 15 or 20 feet back (west) of the original street line, as that would make Mesa avenue and Broadway almost a continuous street. If anybody holds legal title to the projecting part, it would be a good investment for the city to buy all the ground necessary. Adjoining business concerns and property owners ought to be willing to pay a reasonable share for such an improvement.

If anyone will go down to Texas street and place himself in front of Lightner's store, he will at once perceive how ridiculous it is to have that corner blocking the street.

In course of time Mesa avenue and Third street will form the connecting link for pleasure traffic between the city's north side and Juarez. Yours for public improvement.

E. Martin.

(From The Herald of this date, 1896.)

14 Years Ago Today

The Juarez plaza was crowded last night by residents of that city and El Paso, who were there to attend the band concert given by the two Chihuahuas bands. Alderman Stewart has gone to Arizona and carried with him the report of the auditing committee. Nothing will be done until his return. General Fernandez now says that his regiment will not be moved to Juarez. Deputy marshal George Majors has been officially appointed deputy United States marshal in the place of Geo. Scarborough, resigned. He will move his family here from Colorado City.

The Mexican Central is to inaugurate special excursion rates on its line for the Cinco de Mayo celebrations. The Rector's Aid society of St. Clements will meet at the rectory at 3:20 tomorrow afternoon for the purpose of electing officers. The Juarez and El Paso picked nine played at Washington Park yesterday, and the former were getting the worst of it when Peyton Edwards went in and helped them out. At the end of nine innings the game was called on account of darkness, the score standing 23 to 22. General Escobedo is expected tomorrow morning from Mexico City and will be serenaded by the two bands now in Juarez.

George F. Tilton, Capt. J. C. Beall, John Julian and G. W. Davis left last night to represent El Paso at the convention of the K. T. at the convention of the grand commandery in San Antonio next Wednesday. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week the annual convention of the members of the Texas press will be held in El Paso. Capt. T. J. Beall will deliver the address of welcome. The Southern Pacific sold 40 tickets last night for the K. T. convention at San Antonio. There are several counterfeit dollars in circulation in El Paso. Tomorrow will be San Jacinto day. The schools will be closed, and a Metal market: Silver, 67 1/2; lead, \$2.80; copper, 16 1/2; Mexican pesos, 5c.

With The Exchanges

MARS HAS CANALS.

From Mesa (N. M.) Free Press. The numerous canals said to be in existence on the planet Mars would indicate that it is an irrigated country.

BATCHET ONLY HID.

From Bisbee (Ariz.) Review. The Republican insurgents have buried the batchet—right where they can find it. Cannon knows where it is, too.

THE FIGHTING END.

From Phoenix (Ariz.) Republican. The Tucson Star has announced the startling discovery that "the end of the Republican party draws near." We rise to remark that it is the fighting end.

CHANGE OF VIEW.

From Globe (Ariz.) Silver Belt. "It is a thing of beauty is a joy forever," remarks the El Paso Herald, "most of the new spring hats will give joy for but a short time." Life is not without its compensations.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

From Farmington (N. M.) Times-Hunter. The town council of Alamogordo put the saloon license up to \$2000 and the ordinance went into effect April 1, and the only remaining saloon there went out of business.

REFER TO EL PASO.

From Houston (Tex.) Chronicle. It should be too high a pleasure to permit of the charging of money for the schools, which will be charged to teach our own children, but when one considers what they have to endure from the children of our neighbors, it is almost a relief that they are entitled to a bulky raise in salary.

KENO FOOLS PEOPLE.

From Mexico City (Mex.) El Trabajo. It is not bad will toward the owners of the keno, nor pecuniary interest, nor hatred toward things which the government allows as lawful entertainments and which rebound in benefit to the municipal treasury, that has impelled a decent, methodical, decisive and moralizing campaign against that kind of lottery, which appears lawful, but which upon investigation shows a trap to fool the people, and the authorities, and to extract the money from the people and to perpetrate attempts against the public morals.

FIGHT FOR A COLLEGE.

From Waco, Tex., April 20.—The Waco citizens' committee will this afternoon submit to the Texas Christian University trustees the city's offer to retain the institution in Waco. Dallas and Fort Worth are also trying to get the university. Waco's offer is not divulged.

Famous Indian Dances

CEREMONIES MARKED BY REVELRY; ENDURANCE TESTS AND TORTURE

FOR more than a month the news of the day has been enlivened with reports from different sections of the country regarding feats of endurance at so-called "Marathon dances," in which the participants are said to have danced from eight to 15 hours continuously. In more than one instance the police have interfered. But how trivial seem these efforts when compared with the truly remarkable feats of endurance performed by the Indian braves of the plains! For the Sioux, Cheyenne and the Arapahos tribes a dance of 75 hours was not an infrequent event in the old days when the Indians were allowed to celebrate their victories in orgies of blood and torture.

One Dance Only a Memory. "The most striking of all Indian dances is known as the "Medicine Dance," which has passed into history. Originally the medicine man, or doctor, was the director of these dances. Usually about once a year he sent out his call to the warriors of the tribe naming those in individuals whom he wished to dance in the ceremony of purification, for the medicine dance was not a ceremony of devotion, but rather a sort of American "Delphic Oracle" to determine what were to be the fortunes of war, the state of the crops and the health of the tribe.

When all the warrior dancers were assembled they marched to the Hoop-ey-yum, or lodge of the cottonwood poles, beneath which a circle of about 20 feet in diameter was roped off. The dancers assembled in this ring. Then began the beating of the tom-toms and the Indians, slowly hopping from one foot to the other, began to make the circuit of the central pole, from which was suspended a two-faced figure, one of the faces representing the "Bad Medicine" and the other representing the "Good Medicine."

A "Relay" Dance. During the dance the women and children of the village would gather around the roped circle and shout encouragement to the dancers. After about 10 or 12 hours of this ordeal the dancers would begin to drop from exhaustion. As soon as a warrior was overcome he would be seized by the feet and dragged from the circle. The medicine man would bend over him, and paint symbolic figures over his body, which was always naked except for the breech cloth. If these symbols did not revive him he was hauled from beneath the lodge and water was thrown in his face. This usually revived the warrior to such an extent that he would be ordered back into the circle to continue the dance unless the medicine man could be persuaded by the members of the dancer's family, or by the city of ponies, blankets or beads, to allow him to retire.

Few Went the Limit. It is estimated that ordinarily, if 100 warriors were in a dance, 50 would drop before the end of 24 hours, and another 25 by the end of the 48th hour. Usually from 10 to 15 survived to the fourth day, or the 75th hour. During this long period there was no rest, no sleep, no eating and no drinking. No warrior was ever required to perform the medicine dance a second time, however. Usually one dancer was selected for every 100 inhabitants.

After the waning of the power of the medicine man these dances were continued but the participants were always volunteers and these were confined to young men who were anxious to impress some of the young women of the tribe with their prowess. A volunteer warrior who wanted to do penance for a supposed transgression, or else some person anxious to propitiate the evil spirits, or to restore the health of some member of his family. Usually the volunteers were the young bucks who joined in the ceremony chiefly because it was "the thing to do"—fashionable, in other words.

Torture Solicited. After the dances there were the self-inflicted tortures of the young men of the tribe who were anxious to be enrolled as full-fledged warriors. These ordeals were truly remarkable. A lad of 16 would be examined by the medicine man and there would be a council to determine how much torture he ought to be allowed to endure. He would have bare his breast and the medicine man would make two incisions in each breast, about one inch apart and about four inches long. The flesh and muscle would be lifted away from the bone, and beneath these two strips would be passed a horsehair rope, about three-quarters of an inch in circumference. Then, fastened by his wrists to the top of the central pole of the lodge, with about 10 feet of play, and would be required to remain there until he could tear himself loose.

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Herbs Most Valuable. The herbs used were of such a healing quality that the young braves generally recovered within four or four weeks. If during this torture there was any outcry of pain on the part of the sufferer he was released and sent away in disgrace, thenceforth to be known as a woman man, and not allowed to work of women. Such a man was never allowed to marry or hold property.

Stout's Famous Pioneering. The medicine dance among the Sioux Indians was known as the sun dance. In all of the Indian dances there is practically no variety in the movement of the legs. The feet are kept close together and the whole weight rests upon the ball and the heel, the head being free from the ground. There is a rising and falling of the shoulders to the beating of the tom-toms. This form of exercise is particularly trying on the muscles of the calves, which are kept while an Indian can keep up the movement all night and seem perfectly fresh in the morning a white man is utterly exhausted at the end of half an hour of this sort of exertion.

From the time when "David danced before the Lord," dancing has been an important part in religious observances of every race, and student of customs of the past will find in the history of prayer on the part of Christians an embryonic, or perhaps more properly a decadent, form of dancing. At any rate, the Indians had many forms of religious dances, one of the most interesting being the sun dance, a Mexican dance. In many respects this dance seems to link the red man with the Greeks and Romans of 3000 years ago when harvest time was celebrated by the dance. The sun dance followed by the orgies devoted to Venus. Danced Before War. One of the most gruesome of all Indian ceremonies is the scalp dance, now practically unknown. Warriors returning from a battle would be ordered to go to a place near the village and stretched the skins from the heads of their victims around the edge of hoops. Willow poles 10 or 12 feet long were then tamped into the ground, and the heads of the victims were placed upon the poles, after which the warriors marched into the village, set their poles upright in a circle and began their weird hopping dance about the gory trophies, keeping time to the tom-toms. The dance proceeded the warriors would grow wild with the thought of the battle and each man in turn would narrate the story of his combat, all the time going through the most extravagant antics.

Hosts Often Bankrupted. Among the most curious customs of the Indians were the "begging dances." These were really civilization's old-fashioned surprise parties, and the participants were ordered to go to a place near the village and stretched the skins from the heads of their victims around the edge of hoops. Willow poles 10 or 12 feet long were then tamped into the ground, and the heads of the victims were placed upon the poles, after which the warriors marched into the village, set their poles upright in a circle and began their weird hopping dance about the gory trophies, keeping time to the tom-toms. The dance proceeded the warriors would grow wild with the thought of the battle and each man in turn would narrate the story of his combat, all the time going through the most extravagant antics.

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By Frederic J. Haskie

March 8, Santa Ana, with 4000 picked men, surrounded the fort, intending to take it by storm at no matter what cost. The infantry surrounded the walls, the cavalry was placed outside for the double purpose of forcing the infantry to advance and of preventing the Texans from escaping. "Twice repulsed in attempting to scale the walls of the fort, the Texans behind forced the Mexican infantry outward, and finally, maddened by bayonet pricks, they mounted the ladders and, like sheep fell over the walls in the midst of the besieged. Then commenced the fiercest, bloodiest onslaught; the noblest, most heroic defence; the closest, deadliest struggle, recorded in history.

Travis fell, encouraging with his falling breath his devoted comrades. Bowie and Crocket fell amid a heap of bleeding Mexicans, each one having slain four or five assailants. Capt. Evans fell while firing a train to blow up the fort, and of the 150 brave men who stood up that morning to fight for liberty and independence, all lay cold in death. Thermopylae had her messenger of defeat, the Alamo no one.

Bodies Buried. Santa Ana denied the rudest form of sepulture to the brave martyrs and their bodies, gathered and piled up by his order, were covered with lime and burned, their ashes being scattered abroad. "Whether Travis had surrendered or not was questioned at the time, but the opinion prevailed that, knowing with whom he had to deal, he neither asked for, nor offered, mercy. The massacre of Fannin and his men at Goliad, and of King's party at Refugio, though both had surrendered, and had been promised the treatment awarded prisoners of war, succeeded the fall of the Alamo. Fannin's party had been ordered by Houston, who had been appointed by the provisional government of Texas commander-in-chief of the Coahuila army, to join his command, but hoping to maintain their positions, they delayed executing the order until too late.

Santa Ana's Hosts. "Santa Ana, elated by these victories, marched on, insolently boasting that he would soon have a Mexican American in Texas, and that Houston and his army would be even more summarily dealt with than Travis, Fanning or King. He crossed the Brazos April 12, and on the 15th he was met at San Jacinto, April 21, having 1000 men, several Texas villages and 4000 men. Houston's army, numbering 753, had halted in a grove about a mile from Lynch's Ferry. Expecting a surprise attack, he made a speedy but careful disposition of his force, assigning to each division its proper place, and to each soldier a definite duty. His men, undaunted by their inferior numbers and burning to avenge their murdered comrades, awaited impatiently the signal to move.

At 2 p. m. the officers were ordered to parade. The First regiment, under Col. Burleson, occupied the center, the Second, under Col. Sherman, formed the left wing; the Artillery, under Col. Hockley, were on Burleson's right, four infantry companies, under Col. Millard, supported the artillery, and a number under Col. Lamar, formed the extreme right.

Houston had lately visited a friend, whose pretty young daughter had a sweet musical voice. She sang for him to a guitar accompaniment a number of songs, one of which deeply impressed him. For days it rang in his ears all nature seeming to swell the chorus: "Will you come to the tower I have shaded for you?"

Music for the Attack. "When the order to parade was given the bandmaster asked what air he wished to play, and Houston promptly replied: "Will you come to the tower I have shaded for you?" The Texans calmly received the first fire, then, when ordered to charge, the watchword—Remember the Alamo—was shouted along the line, and such was the force of the appeal, such the ferocious, desperate rage it aroused, that in less than 30 minutes the Mexicans, completely routed, fled in dismay. A Texas private said afterward:

"I remember a headlong rush forward, then an insatiate craving to kill, and a passionate delight on seeing every bullet take effect, and the Mexicans, like a flock of sheep, were blown to the ground."

Houston lost two killed, 25 wounded, no prisoners; Santa Ana 600 killed, 200 wounded and 730 prisoners, including every general officer.

'FRIENDLY RECEIVER' TO REORGANIZE

Superintendent of Military Institute to Act Jointly With Owen P. White.

Judge Walthall has appointed Owen P. White receiver of the El Paso Military Institute company, to act jointly with Capt. Thomas A. Davis, the superintendent of the institute. The request for the receiver was made by Capt. Davis himself, as a stockholder, and was deemed best to ask the court to protect the company.

The object of the receivership is to facilitate a readjustment of the financial affairs of the school. Large sums are due the company on stock subscriptions and tuition and board bills, and it will take a little time to collect all the accounts. Meantime some of the creditors have been pressing for money and threatening suit, and it was deemed best to ask the court to protect all creditors equally with all the investors and stockholders by conserving the assets and business of the school.

The assets of the company are more than double the liabilities, and as soon as the collections can be made and the receivership dissolved. Under the order of the court the school will continue without the slightest interruption under the present superintendent and all current expenses will be provided for as they arise. The actual operations of the school have been profitable from the opening day, but more capital will probably be required to complete the buildings and equipment according to the needs of the large student body.

Following the appointment of Owen White as receiver, Mary L. Springer, executrix of the Springer estate, filed suit in the 34th district court Wednesday morning to recover from the institute on two notes. The receiver has already taken full charge of the finances and business operations of the school.

KENTUCKY BARKER IS KILLED BY SON-IN-LAW. Berea, Ky., April 20.—Walking into his drug store and taking his place at the cigar counter, Samuel Welch, president of the Berea National bank, was assassinated last night, five shots being fired into his body. The assassin, Grover Fish, his son-in-law, surrendered and admitted killing Welch, but refused to discuss the matter.

THURSDAY, ANNIVERSARY OF TEXAS INDEPENDENCE; SAN JACINTO BATTLE

(Continued From Page One.)

measures for their own safety and protection. The first Mexican demonstration against the colonists occurred at Gonzalez, which, invested by Castaneda with a large well drilled force, was ably and gallantly defended by Capt. Albert Martin. Once engaged in the contest, the colonists, earnest, energetic, indomitable, gained recruits from all quarters, and soon their beacon lights were seen from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. Emboldened by success at Goliad, they prepared to attack Goliad and San Antonio.

Texas' Glory. "Milam, the Frio Bowler, Fannin, Travis, Crockett, joined the Colonial army about this time, and sacrificing their lives for Texas Independence, gained imperishable glory. In October Capt. Collingsworth attacked and took the fort of Goliad, and after this, on December 5, Col. Milam, with about 300 followers, attacked San Antonio, garrisoned by Gen. Coss with a large equipped Mexican force, and after a desperate struggle, lasting eight days, forced his surrender.

"The Mexican loss was heavy. The American loss slight, but among their dead was the brave, lamented Milam-Coss, promising not to further molest the colonists and to exert himself to allay hostile feelings, was allowed to return with his troops to Mexico, but once across the Rio Grande, he ignored his earlier active enlistment, recruited, fomented bitter enmity. "News of immense preparations for invading Texas reached the colonists. Santa Ana, president of the Mexican republic, took active command of the army of 8000 regulars, well drilled and equipped, and which, after some time, he ordered to rendezvous February 1. He crossed the Rio Grande on the 12th, on the 23d reached the Alamo Heights overlooking the valley and city of San Antonio, and reviewed his troops, expecting by the imposing display—artillery, cavalry, infantry, all in dashing uniforms, maneuvering, with bands playing and banners flying—to strike terror into the hearts of the small, miserably equipped Colonial garrison. The Alamo battle. "The Texans, numbering 150, and commanded by Travis, after some trifling operations, and some skirmishes, retreated to the fortress of the Alamo, and prepared for a long, desperate siege, determined to make a brave defence and conquer or die. At midnight,