

# THE BANNER.

"UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL."

LOUISIANA, MISSOURI.

MONDAY, MAY 17.

In consequence of the sickness of our printer, we are throwing something behind our usual time this morning; and that will explain to some of our subscribers the reason for the non-arrival of the Banner by the usual mail.

The editor of the Mo. Republican, "must be neither a profound man, nor one at all versed in the history of the country—at least, he writes with that catechizing imbecility, that marks him as one," who never thinks enough, to know what he is about, when about it, knows what he really thinks. For, with the intelligence, that is commonly attained by that class of writers, facetiously styled assistant editors, he would have hesitated, ere he had betrayed his simplicity, by asking questions which stupidity itself could answer, and making assertions not worthy of serious refutation.

In reply to the following quotation from the Banner:

"People will not believe, that the Administration that found Taylor a mere Colonel, and advanced him to the rank of Major General, over the heads of officers older in years, older in services, and older in rank to himself, can possibly take that mode of breaking him down, except it be to break him down by the weight of his honors."

He says: "That will be news, we have no doubt, to Mr. Polk himself. Taylor was a general by brevet before Mr. Polk ever dreamed of being President. But what is the use of facts in the case?"

To him, indeed, "facts" in the case will be of no advantage, but rather of disservice; to the eliciting of truth, however, they will be quite important.

What then are the facts in the case? Simply that Gen. Taylor was a general of the lowest grade—by brevet before Mr. Polk was President.

Respecting the dreams of Mr. Polk we know nothing, but if Mr. Polk "dreamed," that Taylor was anything more than "a mere Colonel," his dream was as vain as the vision of the Republican. For, granting that Taylor was a general by brevet, what does it prove? Nothing more, or less than, that he was a general by brevet; and of course "a mere Colonel." Suffer us, *Mister Republican*, (for you do not appear to know,) to inform you, that a brevet title gives no rank. You may learn this from any one at all "versed in the history of the country." For your edification, we will illustrate this subject by an apt reference. A dispute occurred on the Rio Grande, between Col. Twiggs, and brevet Brigadier Gen. Worth, as to the right of command. Worth claimed command on account of his brevet title. Twiggs claimed it as being the senior Colonel; and mind you Gen. Taylor gave the preference to "a mere Colonel" (Twiggs,) over a general by brevet (General Worth.) The affair, however, did not rest there. Gen. Worth went to Washington with his complaint, laid the decision before the President, and that decision of Gen. Taylor in favor of the Col. against the brevet General, was approved by the President. Be informed, then, that a brevet title gives no pay, gives no command, gives no rank; in short, that it is only an honorary distinction, a mere feather in the cap. How, then, with this decision staring in your face, could you sit down and inform your readers: "That will be news, we have no doubt, to Mr. Polk himself," when you ought to have known that Mr. Polk had already decided contrary to your insinuation. Instead then of its spoiling the beauty of "the rapid promotion, to doubt that he was taken from a colonelcy to a major-generalship, at one bound, and this, too, over the heads of well-known and much respected democratic generals," it proves the purity of Mr. Polk's intentions, to reward this Col. (excuse us, *brevet general*) Taylor, by the appointment to that high command, which he now holds; and which, for his success, he so richly merited. "Pray, who are these 'brigadier and major generals' whom Mr. Polk has thus wantonly overslaughed?" Before we proceed to answer, you will permit us to observe, that you must not be a very "profound man," nor a man at all "versed in the history of the country," to be compelled to ask for information, on affairs, which in the sequel will appear to be matter of record in your own State; passed by the Legislature of the State; sent to the general government for its action by the Governor of the State; and noticed at the time by, at least, one half of the newspapers in the Union. If

your ignorance, in this matter, is real, you are much to be pitied; if it be assumed, you deserve contempt. If you knew the "facts in the case" you deserve blame for deceiving your readers by an assumed ignorance. If you did not know them, you deserve blame for deceiving your readers by an assumed knowledge. You cannot escape the dilemma. You knew the facts in the case, or you did not; if you knew the facts why try to conceal them; if you did not know them, how dare, by insinuations, to deny them. In all events you are wrong, and in all are you blamable. We give you a choice of the horns.

But "who are those brigadier and major generals?" In other words, what rank is superior to a brigadier general by brevet? Really, this question is a poser. However, at a venture, we state, that maj. gen. Gaines had command of the south west division of the army; that by services, by situation, by seniority, and by rank, he was entitled to the command of the army of occupation. He, however, did not obtain command; for Mr. Polk "overslaughed" him by the appointment of Taylor. The next entitled to it was maj. gen. Scott; but he too was "overslaughed." Major general Jessup was the next in rank, and he also was overslaughed. These 3, you will be informed, were Major Gen. Scott, a whig; Major Gen. Gaines, as much democrat as whig; and Major Gen. Jessup, a democrat. We shall not mention Brooks and the other Brigadier Gen's who were "overslaughed" by that appointment, all, at the same time, entitled to it by seniority. But having said enough to make good our assertion, that he was advanced to the rank of major gen'l over the heads of officers, older in years, older in services, and superior in rank to himself, we will proceed to the question of the Republican, "when and where was this *whig Colonel* (now Gen. Taylor) "overslaughed," and by whom was he "much exalted?"

We answer, that at home, in the west, he was obscure. What peans had been sung in his praise previous to the war in Florida? Was he ever distinguished amongst the host of heroes of 1812? We do not say this in disparagement of Gen. Taylor, whose chivalrous character we admire, but to show that we were correct in our assertion, "that the administration found him a mere Colonel, and advanced him over the heads of heroes older in years, older in services, and superior in rank to himself." We ask the Republican in reply, when and where was he known? Can the Republican point to the actions performed by him prior to the Florida war? It is known that he successfully defended a fort during the war of 1812. Did Congress notice that? Did the nation notice it? Have historians mentioned it? We know that Croghan's gallant defence of Fort Sandusky has been attributed to Taylor—with how much of approval the world will testify. But that he was "obscure" in comparison with Gaines, Scott, Jessup, Miller, Wayne, Croghan and others, who were praised by the people, rewarded by Congress, and handed down to the American nation as men deserving well of the Republic, the world will also testify. By whom he was much exalted we now inform you. By officers in command under him, by subordinates under him, by privates under him, and by the legislature of this state, that passed resolutions condemnatory of his conduct in Florida, which resolutions raised doubts—nay charges against his truthfulness as a man. These resolutions called for an investigation from the then administration. Gen. Taylor did not respond to that call, and those charges. They are yet unanswered—we do not say that they are unanswerable.

We acknowledge the fact, that the "Banner man" has found out, that he was "an obscure and much exalted whig col," and observe that the *man* of the Republican, who had not "found it out," is, if "modest" in any way, only wondrous in political impudence and political ignorance.

We omitted in our last to notice that the Hannibal Journal had been enlarged and much improved. It is now edited by Messrs. Broadus & Hawkins, both young men of considerable ability. With Mr. Broadus we have been acquainted for many years. He is a very spirited, as well as a chaste and elegant writer. Under their control the Journal will not fail to command the support of the Whigs of Marion and the adjacent counties. We wish them great success in every thing but in the dissemination of their Whig principles.

We read the article in the Hannibal Journal containing an extract from a former Banner, with a short string of strictures on the article from which the extract was copied. We mislaid or lost the Journal, so that we reply from memory.

The Journal does us injustice in attributing the contents of that extract to the whole of the whig press; and much more injustice by inferring in an insinuation that we meant the article to include the whole whig party. The Journal does us injustice also in mutilating the article, and endeavoring by a garbled extract to exchange the entire meaning of the paragraph. This may do for a beginning—we hope it may be the beginning of the end.

The very first line in the article from which the extract is taken, commences with the following words, "that portion of the whig press which has been most rabid in its denunciations of the war, and those who supported it, has suddenly veered round and run up the name of the veteran war chief to their mast head." Is there any thing in this, that will warrant such an inference, as is drawn by the Hannibal Journal. The whole article points to "that portion of the whig press," which had denounced the war, and its supporters, of whom we proclaimed Taylor, the chief. We proceeded still alluding to "that portion" (and which cannot by any reading be perverted from that meaning) to say, "with that bright name now flung to the breeze, they have started on a crusade for plunder. Under false colors they expect to clutch the spoils of office, and for that purpose have seized upon his name. But the trick is too shallow. The people will turn with disgust from such brazen-faced hypocrisy. And we are much mistaken in the man, if old Rough and Ready does not administer to them that rebuke which they so richly deserve." What is there in this that points to any, except to "that portion of the whig press" to which we have before alluded.

We have always done full justice to the gallant whigs who have so nobly supported their country's cause. We have taken occasion to refer not only to officers, the Colonels, Captains, Lieutenants and others in office, but to the whig privates also, to the bold men, who, without office, or the desire of office, left wives and children, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, friends, all that man holds dear, and periling their own lives, rushed to the contest, and fell advancing on the foe; or still living, as true patriots, are battling for their country's rights in a manner worthy of all praise from the American people. We have alluded also in terms of commendation to that portion of the whig press which has nobly done its duty to the country, and we would again do so with pleasure. It is justice, simple justice.

We endeavor to act fairly towards our exchanges, by not mutilating an article in order to reply to it, and hope that this example operating on the Hannibal Journal, may cause that paper to imitate us. We even now believe that had the Journal taken time to reflect, the *sheer folly* of the thing would have started it from publishing an extract, so cut up and disfigured. We say in conclusion, that we had more respect in the rectitude of Gen. Taylor's intentions, than appears to be entertained by the Journal, and advise that paper to deal fairly in future. Those who fight under his flag must act up to the strictest discipline, or suffer "that rebuke which they so richly deserve."

The coincidence of action, between a portion of the Whig press and the Mexican partisans, is not more apparent, than their similarity of motives. To defeat democracy, justice, and the spread of free principles, the Mexicans tried violence against the representative of those principles—Gen. Taylor. To accomplish the same ends, the whig press tries trickery, seemingly, with the same representative—Gen. Taylor. The former have already faltered, the latter will as assuredly fail: These are a derision and byword for their bragging and imbecility: these will be a laughing stock for their greediness and cupidity.

The *Metropolitan* has been enlarged and improved. It is now one of the neatest and most spirited papers in this State. We return our thanks to the Clerks of the steamers Ocean Wave, Laclede, and Lucy Bertram, for late St. Louis papers.

DEATH OF A SENATOR.—The last Natchez paper announces the death of General J. Speight, Senator in Congress from Mississippi.

## VIRGINIA ELECTION.

It is probable that the Whigs have elected six, and the Democrats nine members of the next congress.

The Washington Union says that "the fate of unborn millions depends upon the coming elections." We advise the "unborn millions," in case the Locofocoes carry the elections, to remain "unborn."—*Low Jour.*

The above advice is as unfortunate as the advice of Prentice in general;—that is, it won't be taken, for the living who can listen to his advice, will not, "the unborn" can not.

## For the Banner.

### PASS HIS NAME ROUND.

Mr. Editor:—A small boy, a son of a widow lady of this village, fell into the river on last Sabbath, and after sinking once or twice, was almost gone, when Valentine Robinson, a youth belonging to your office, plunged in and brought him out, thus saving him from an untimely and watery grave. It is true this was but his duty, but it was a noble and generous act, and deserves to be recorded. If he must still serve as "devil," let him at least be *brevetted as printer's mate*, and let the craft look out for an officer after a while. Such a fellow will not always remain among the *privates*. I say pass his name round. D.

### "SONS OF TEMPERANCE."

Louisiana Division No. 8 of the Sons of Temperance, was instituted by Bro. Bernard Bryan, D. G. W. P., on Friday morning 14th inst. After Institution, the following named officers were elected and duly installed, to wit:

PHILANDER DRAPER, W. P.  
JOSEPH M. BELL, W. A.  
EDWIN DRAPER, R. S.  
JOHN GUILLEY, A. R. S.  
GEORGE FENTIM, Treas.  
WM. F. SHAW, F. S.  
JAS. L. WOOD, C.  
GEO. W. ADAMS, A. C.  
JAMES STONE, I. S.  
JOHN STONE, O. S.

The regular meetings of the Division will be held every Friday evening.

Amongst other proceedings had, were the following, to wit:

Resolved, That the most cordial thanks of this Division are eminently due, and are hereby tendered to our worthy brother B. Bryan, for his services in instituting the same, and installing the officers. D.

### TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

At a meeting of the members of the Bar of Lincoln county Circuit Court, held at the court house in Troy, on Monday the 3rd day of May, 1847, for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the memory of LEMUEL A. WELCH, Esq., deceased, late a member of the bar of said Court, William Porter, Esq. was called to the chair, and David W. Nowlin, requested to act as secretary. The object of the meeting having been briefly announced by N. P. Minor, Esq., upon motion N. P. Minor, A. W. Lamb and R. K. Saunders, Esqs., were appointed a committee to draft a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

While the committee was absent John B. Henderson, Esq., having been requested to address the meeting in reference to the deceased, spoke briefly and in an eloquent and feeling manner of the life, character and virtues of the deceased. The committee returned, through their chairman, N. P. Minor, Esq., reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were read and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, we, a portion of the members of the bar, have heard with regret, of the untimely death of Lemuel A. Welch, Esq., late a member of this bar: be it therefore resolved, that we sympathize with the family and the friends of the deceased, in the bereavement which has fallen upon them. Resolved, That in the death of our young friend, we learn the bitter lesson, that neither the prayers of friends, nor youth, nor hope, nor promise, can save us from that doom common to our race.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Welch, his family has met a severe loss, and the bar will long lament the void which has been created by his untimely end.

Resolved, That the chairman and secretary sign the proceedings of this meeting, and that the secretary forward a copy thereof to the afflicted widow of Mr. Welch, and to his father; and further, that he furnish a copy to the Patriot, Journal, and Banner, with the request that they be published. On motion, resolved, that this meeting adjourn sine die.

WM. PORTER, Chas'r.  
DAVID W. NOWLIN, Sec'y.

From the N. O. Picayune, May, 6th.

## THE MEXICAN CONGRESS.

Immediately on the receipt of the news of Santa Anna's defeat at Cerro Gordo, the Mexican Congress held an extraordinary session. The following account of its proceedings is translated from *El Republicano* of the 21st April. It comes in the shape of a preamble and eight articles, and we give it entire:

The sovereign constituent Mexican Congress, in use of the full powers with which the inhabitants of the Republic have invested it for the sacred object of saving its nationality; and as a faithful interpreter of the firm determination with which its constituents are decided to carry on the war which the United States are now making on the nation, without desisting on account of any kind of reverses; and considering that under these circumstances the first public necessity is that of preserving a centre of union to direct the national defence with all the energy that circumstances demand, and to avoid even that danger of a revolutionary power arising which might dissolve the National Union, destroy its institutions, or consent to the dismemberment of its territory, has determined to decree as follows:

Art. 1. The Supreme Government of the Union is authorised to dictate all necessary measures for the purpose of carrying on the war, defending the nationality of the Republic, and saving the republican federal form of government under which the nation is constituted.

Art. 2. The preceding article does not authorise the Executive to make a peace with the United States, conclude a negotiation with foreign powers, nor dispose, in whole or in part, of the territory of the Republic.

Art. 3. Neither does it authorise him to make contracts of colonization, impose punishments, nor confer any civil or military employments other than those whose appointments are expressly entrusted to him by the constitution.

Art. 4. Every agreement or treaty shall be null and void which may be made between the Government of the United States and any authority whatever, which, subverting the actual order of affairs, should set aside or take the place of the legally established supreme powers of the Union.

Art. 5. Every individual is declared a traitor, let him be a private person or public functionary, who either in his private capacity or invested with any authority, incompetent or of revolutionary origin, may enter into treaties with the United States of America.

Art. 6. In the event that the actual Congress finds it impossible to continue sessions, a permanent committee shall be immediately installed, to be composed of the oldest individuals then found present of each deputation.

Art. 7.—This committee, in the absence of Congress shall perform the duties of a Government Council; shall appoint, in case of vacancy, the person who is to take charge temporarily of the Executive powers of the Republic; shall regulate the counting and taking of the votes in the election of a new President; shall give possession to the elected person, and call together the national representation.

Art. 8.—The powers which the present decree confer on the Government shall cease as soon as the war is concluded.

Such is about the amount of the proceedings of the meeting of the Mexican Congress held immediately after the news had reached the capital of the disastrous defeat of Cerro Gordo. The editor of *El Republicano*, in speaking of this extraordinary session, in his paper of the 21st April, says that "to the honor of the legislative body it ought to be observed, that yesterday more than eighty members assembled, and that no other than sentiments of patriotism were heard expressed. May the common danger thus unite all the Mexicans, and cause to disappear even the names of our sad dissensions."

## [Correspondence of the "Delta"]

### FALL OF JALAPA.

Jalapa Taken without Resistance—The American Flag waves from the Citadel—Santa Anna and Ampudia ashamed to enter the city in their Retreat—Evacuates Cruz Blanca, the Pass at which he first halted—Our Killed and Wounded more than anticipated.

JALAPA, Mexico, April 21, 1847.

Eds. Delta:—I arrived at this lovely place yesterday morning, and found that Gen. Twiggs has hoisted the American flag in the city the day before. He followed the retreating heroes of Cerro Gordo to within a few miles of Jalapa, when all traces of them as a body, disappeared, and he encamped for the night within three miles of the town that evening, and entered and took possession of it early the next morning.

Santa Anna did not pass through Jalapa, but in company with Ampudia and Torrejon, turned off to the left at his hacienda, and halted for the night at the "nine mile Pass," which was being fortified, but which, on second consultation, it was deemed prudent to evacuate. This evacuation took place yesterday morning, and in the evening Col.