The New-Orleans Bee.

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OFFICIAL.

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WM. DEBUYS, State Treasurer.

ROBT. C. NICHOLAS, Secty of State.

New Orleans 27th Dec. 1845.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.

☞ Gentlemen who have announced themselves as candidates for Clerks are requested to state for which they are running.

For Judgeship.

FOR CLERKSHIP.

FOR SHERIFF.

FOR CORONER.

FOR ASSESSOR.

FOR CONSTABLE.

FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

FOR COMMISSIONER OF ROADS AND REVENUE.

FOR ALDERMEN.

FOR COUNCILMEN.

FOR SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

FOR CLERK OF THE MARKET.

FOR WEIGHMASTER.

FOR GAUGER.

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FOR INSPECTOR OF FLOUR.

FOR INSPECTOR OF BEEF AND PORK.

FOR INSPECTOR OF LIME.

FOR INSPECTOR OF HAY.

FOR INSPECTOR OF LUMBER.

FOR INSPECTOR OF SHINGLES.

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Monday morning, May 18, 1846.

The War Measures.

By an express which arrived at Mobile on Sunday, we were put in possession of the proceedings of Congress on Monday, the 11th inst., in relation to hostilities between the United States and Mexico.—Soon after the meeting of the two houses, a message from the President was received, and as may be presumed, was listened to with intense interest. This document will be found at full length in our columns.

The message is calmly and creditably written.—The President refers *in limine* to his communication of March, 1845, in which he adverted to existing relations between the United States and Mexico, and decided to the long-continued and unredressed wrongs and injuries, committed by the Mexican Government on citizens of the United States. He then states that an anxious desire for peace on liberal and honorable terms, induced him to re-open diplomatic relations with that country; and that by agreement between the two Governments, an Envoy of the United States, repaired to Mexico to adjust every existing difference. His mission, as we all know, was unavailing. He was refused recognition, and sent back to the United States; menace, contumely, and vituperation followed, to be at length brought to acts of hostility.

The circumstances attending and succeeding the mission of Mr. SLIDELL, are narrated in detail by the President. He then proceeds to explain the presence of an armed American force on the left bank of the Rio Grande. It was designed to protect the frontier and to meet a threatened invasion of Texas by Mexican troops, and because that was considered the most advantageous position for the army, affording extensive facilities for supplies by sea; convenience of obtaining provisions, water, &c. Gen. TAYLOR was positively instructed to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico, unless she should declare war, or commence hostilities. In either of the two contingencies, he was authorized to make requisitions on the neighbouring States for reinforcements.

A brief narrative follows of the several acts of hostilities committed by Mexico, of the outrages upon attached squads of our army, and of the final blow by which war has been brought upon us through the reckless conduct of Mexico herself. After this exposition, which is strongly and clearly put, the President closes the prompt action of Congress to recognize the war, and to place at the disposal of the Executive the means of prosecuting it vigorously. He recommends the most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and overpowering force, as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful termination.

To this manly and the House of Representatives responded with promptitude and efficiency. What they did may be gathered from the bill published in our columns, and which passed the House by a vote approaching unanimity—174 to 14—the minority being composed of Representatives from the extreme north or west, men, whose abolition and fanatical designs and doctrines have "fled their minds," and shed their hearts to the impulses of patriotism and honor. It is sufficient for such men, that the south can be the great party to the war, that she will gather most of the laurels to be won, that the ultimate benefits to be achieved will endure to her advantage.—Such frantic negrophilism produces a moral obliquity and mental aberration in all that concerns a section of country which, they detest.

The message of the President was likewise communicated to the Senate, and was made the subject of a protracted and powerful debate. From a rapid glance of the proceedings, for which we have to thank the Editors of the *Picayune*, it appears, that nearly every Senator avowed his determination to stand by the country, and to concur in the adoption of all fitting measures for the vindication of the American arms, and the retaination upon a Blood thirsty and bastardly foe. Some of the Senators, however, claimed sufficient delay to enable them to reflect upon the message and elaborate a proper plan of action. With this view, the various parts of the message were severally referred to appropriate committees—that relating to military preparations, to Committee on Military Affairs, and that respecting the boundary and other questions, to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

No allusion whatever was made during the discussion, to the bill which passed the House, and indeed for resigned the Presidency. The Annexation was accomplished solely by the army, the people having taken little part in the contest, and thus the supreme power in Mexico passed into the hands of a military leader.

Determined to leave no effort untried to effect an amicable adjustment with Mexico, I directed Mr. Slidell to present his credentials to the government of Gen. Paredes, and ask to be officially received by him. There would have been less ground for taking this step had Gen. Paredes come into power by a regular constitutional movement. In that event, his administration would have been considered but a mere continuation of the government of General Herrera, and the refusal of the latter to receive our Minister would have been deemed conclusive, unless an intimation had been given by General Paredes of his desire to reverse the decision of his predecessor.

But the Government of Gen. Paredes owes its existence to a military revolution by which the subsisting constitutional authorities had been subverted. The form of government was entirely changed, as well as all the high functionaries by whom it was administered.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Slidell, in obedience to my direction, addressed a note to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations, under date of the 1st March last, asking to be received by the Government in the diplomatic character to which he had been appointed. The Minister, in his reply under date of the 17th March, reiterated the arguments of his predecessor, and, in terms that may be considered as giving just grounds of offence to the Government and people of the U. S. denied the diplomatic character of Mr. Slidell. Nothing, therefore, remained for our Envoy but to demand his passports and return to his own country.

Thus the Government of Mexico, though solemnly pledged by official act in October last to receive and accredit an American Envoy, violated their plighted faith, and refused the offer of a peaceful adjustment of our difficulties. Not only was this offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the Envoy who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be said that the offer was fruitless from the want of opportunity of discussing it, for Envoy was present in their own soil. Nor can it be ascribed to a want of sufficient powers, our Envoy had full powers to adjust every question of difference. Nor was there room for complaint that our propositions for settlement were unreasonable; permission was not even given for us to make any proposition whatever. Nor can it be objected that we, on our part, would not listen to any reasonable terms of their suggestion, the Mexican Government refused all negotiation, and have made no proposition of any kind.

In my message at the commencement of the present session, I informed you that, upon the earnest appeal both of the Congress and Convention of Texas, I had ordered an efficient military force to take a position "between the Nueces and the Del Norte."

This had become necessary to meet a threatened invasion of Texas by the Mexican forces for which extensive military preparations had been made. The invasion was threatened solely because Texas had determined, in accordance with a solemn resolution of the Congress of the United States to annex herself to our Union; and, under these circumstances, it was plainly our duty to extend our protection over her citizens and soil.

This force concentrated at Corpus Christi, and remained there until after I had received such information from Mexico as rendered it probable, if not certain, that the Mexican Government would refuse to receive our Envoy.

Meantime Texas, by the final action of our Congress, had became an integral part of our Union. The Congress of Texas, by its act of December 19, 1836, had declared the Rio del Norte to be the boundary of that Republic. Its jurisdiction had been extended and exercised beyond the Nueces. The country between that river and the Del Norte had been represented in Congress and in the convention of Texas, and thus taken part in the act of annexation itself, and is now included within one of our Congressional Districts. Our own Congress had, moreover, with great unanimity, by the act approved December 31, 1845, recognised the country beyond the Nueces as a part of our territory, by including it within our own revenue system, and by revenue officers to reside within that district, has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It became, therefore, of urgent necessity to provide for the defence of that portion of our country. Accordingly, on the 13th of January last, instructions were issued to the General in command of these troops to occupy the left bank of the Del Norte. This river, which is the Southwestern boundary of the State of Texas, is an exposed frontier; from the quarter invasion was threatened; upon it, and in its immediate vicinity, in the judgment of high military experience, are the proper stations for the protecting forces of the Government. In addition to this important consideration, several others occurred to induce this movement. Among these are the facilities afforded by the ports at Brazos Santiago and the mouth of the Del Norte for the reception of supplies by sea; the unwholesome character of the interior region, and the inconvenience for obtaining a ready and more abundant supply of provisions, water, fuel and forage; and the advantages which are afforded by the Del Norte in forwarding supplies to such posts as may be established in the interior and upon the line of the Del Norte.

The movement of the troops to the Del Norte was made by the Commanding General, under positive instructions to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico or Mexican citizens, and to regard the relations between that Republic and the United States as peaceful, unless she should declare war or commit acts of hostility indicative of a state of war. He was especially directed to protect private property and respect personal rights.

The army moved from Corpus Christi on the 11th of March, and on the 28th of that month arrived on the left bank of the Del Norte, opposite Matamoros, where it encamped on a commanding position, which can be approached on the land side only through a narrow defile, and which can be defended against a force many times superior in number. Establishing a battery commanding the mouth of the river, and the only practicable channel for the entrance of vessels of war, and troops, the remainder of the force was posted on the Matamoros side, fronting the town, and threatening it on the land side. Finding that no attack was intended, and that the object was to blockade the river, the Mexican General, on the 12th April, issued a proclamation declaring war against the United States, and on the 24th of April, communicated to Gen. Taylor that "the considered hostilities commenced and should prosecute them."

A party of dragoons of sixty-three men and officers, who were on the same day despatched from the American camp up the Rio del Norte, on its left bank, to ascertain whether the Mexican troops had crossed or were preparing to cross the river, "became engaged with a large body of these troops, after a short affair, in which some sixteen were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded and compelled to surrender."

The grievous wrongs perpetrated by Mexico upon our citizens throughout a long period of years remain unredressed, and solemn treaties, pledging her public faith for this redress, have been disregarded. A Government either unable or unwilling to enforce the execution of such treaties fails to perform one of its highest duties.

Our commerce with Mexico has been almost annihilated. It was formerly highly beneficial to both nations; but our merchants have been deterred from prosecuting it by the system of outrage and extortion which the Mexican authorities have pursued against them, whilst their appeals through their own Government for indemnity have been made in vain. Our forbearance has gone to such an extreme as to be mistaken in its character. Had we acted with vigor in repelling the insults and redressing the injuries inflicted by Mexico at the commencement, we should doubtless have escaped all the difficulties in which we are now involved.

Instead of this, however, we have been exerting our best efforts to propitiate her good will. Upon the promise that Texas, a nation independent as herself, thought proper to unite its destinies with our own, she has affected to believe that we have severed her rightful territory, and, in official proclamations and manifestos, has repeatedly threatened to make war upon us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the meantime we have tried every effort at reconciliation. The most conciliatory forbearance had been exhausted even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory, and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war.

As war exists, and, notwithstanding all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon by every consideration of duty and patriotism to vindicate with decision the honor, the rights, and the interests of our country.

Anticipating the possibility of a crisis like that which has arrived, instructions were given in August last, as a precautionary measure" against invasion or threatened invasion, authorizing General Taylor, if the emergency required, to accept volunteers, not from Texas only, but from the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky; and corresponding letters were addressed to the respective Governors of those States. These instructions were repeated, and in January last, soon after the incorporation of "Texas into our Union of States," Gen Taylor was further "authorized by the President to make a requisition upon the Executive of that State for such of its militia force as may be needed to repel invasion or to secure the country against apprehended invasion." On the 24 day of March, he was again reminded, "in the event of the approach of any considerable force, promptly and efficiently to use the authority with which he was clothed to call to his such auxiliary force as he might need." War actually existing, and our territory having been invaded, Gen. Taylor, pursuant to authority vested in him by my direction, has called on the Governor of Texas for four regiments of State troops, two to be mounted and two to serve on foot, and on the Governor of Louisiana for four regiments of infantry, to be sent to him as soon as practicable.

In further vindication of our rights and defence of our territory, I invoke the prompt action of Congress to recognise the existence of the war, and to place at the disposition of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor, and thus hastening the restoration of peace. To this end I recommend that authority should be given to call into the public service a large body of volunteers, to serve for not less than six or twelve months, unless sooner discharged. A volunteer force is, beyond question, more efficient than any other description of citizen soldiery; and is not, to be doubted that a number far beyond that required would readily rush to the field upon the call of their country. I further recommend that a liberal provision be made for sustaining our military force, and furnishing it with supplies and munitions of war.

The most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and overpowering force, are recommended to Congress as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful termination.

In making these recommendations I deem it proper to declare that it is my anxious desire not only to terminate hostilities speedily, but to bring all matters in dispute between this Government and Mexico to an early and honorable adjustment; and in this view I shall be prepared to renew negotiations whenever Mexico shall be ready to receive propositions, or to make propositions of her own.

I transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence of our Envoy to Mexico and the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, and so much of the correspondence between that Envoy and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary of War and the General in command on the Del Norte, as may be necessary to a full understanding of the subject.

JAMES K. POLK.

From Mexico.

By the arrival of the barque *Anar* and brig *Manda* on we have received our files of Vera Cruz papers to the 6th, and from Mexico to the 1st inst. The papers are full of comments upon the probability of war, the manner in which it should be waged, the valor of the Mexicans, and the audacity and usurping disposition of this country.

The people at Vera Cruz learning the probable commencement of hostilities on the Rio Grande, were fearful of an attack upon the Castle of San Juan de Ulon. Accordingly every preparation for vigorous defence had been made. The guns of the Castle were all manned and matches lighted ready to fire, in case the Squadron showed any disposition to make towards it. The fleet however, went to sea. It was supposed that as soon as Commodore Connor returned from his cruize, he would, if possessed of sufficient force, fire upon the Fortress. San Juan de Ulon is represented by the *Locomotor* as exceedingly well fortified. This may, or may not be.

The weather was intensely warm at Vera Cruz, and the Yellow Fever had begun to make its appearance.

The *Locomotor* of the 4th says. "We learn by to-day's mail that the Government has withdrawn from Almonte the appointment of Minister Plenipotentiary to France, and has conferred the appointment on Senor Vadiveso, our Minister to Spain. It appears that Senor Lerdo has discovered certain papers which compromise Almonte with the Government."

Don Manuel de la Peña y Peña has been appointed President of the Supreme Court of Justice, vice Suarez Pereda, deceased.

The Archbishop of Vera Cruz—the head of the monarchical party in that department—died about the beginning of May.

It is said that Dr José Joaquim de Rosa will probably be appointed Minister of the Interior.

President Paredes has issued a decree against the press, the provisions of which are excessively rigorous. Authors, editors and printers are responsible for all writings which may favor directly or indirectly the designs of any invador of the Republic, or may tend to promote or encourage any change in the established order of things, or be construed into an attack on the Supreme authorities of the nation or the departments. All persons guilty of such misdemeanors shall be condemned and the penalty may be imposed by the Governors of the departments. These provisions to remain in force until the extraordinary session of Congress. Immediately after the promulgation of this decree, individuals now under arrest, for such offences shall be set at liberty.

One of the first victims of this ordinance was Vicente Garcia Torres, publisher of the *Reforma, Contra Tiempo* and *Monitor Republicano*. He was secretly arrested at night and sent away, under an escort. It is thought he has been banished to Matamoros.

Letters from Mazatlan stated the people of that port were in great dread of being blockaded by the naval forces of the United States. There was a large number of English, French and American vessels in the harbor; of the latter there were seven, manned with about 3,000 sailors and marines.

GEORGIA WARMS UP.—Hitherto the business of volunteering has been confined exclusively to Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. By the following, it will be perceived that Georgia is beginning to move in the matter. Let the President's Message and the Declaration of War once reach the West, and we shall have volunteers more than enough to complete the requisition of fifty thousand:

Well done Columbus.—We received last evening a slip from Columbus, Georgia, in which it is stated, fifty-seven have registered their names, and tendered their services to Gen. Gaines as volunteers. J. S. Calhoun heads the list, and we see a number of others, well known to our citizens, who, if called on, will do nothing to debase the fair name of their native State. If volunteers cannot readily be raised *West*, let Gen. Gaines send *East*, and he will find men who will "*fight, fret and talk afterwards.*"—*Sav. Georgian.*

We copy the following from the Washington correspondence of the Baltimore *American*:—

The Select Committee to investigate the Charges of Mr. Ingersoll against Mr. Webster, have asked, yes, for leave to sit during the session of the House. Leave was granted, but a Clerk was refused. This Committee, though appointed two weeks since, have done but little at present, and the Chairman asked to be discharged from further service, which was refused. Mr. Wilmot, an administration member, was excused, however, from the committee, having made the request by letter through the Speaker of the House on account of indisposition.

The Ingersoll Committee have held four sessions this week, and this morning examined Mr. Trist, Chief Clerk of the State Department, in part. His testimony will stand on Monday, when the Committee meet again. Mr. Trist was Secretary of Legation to Mexico, and is the bearer of despatches, &c. from the State Department, which he carried to Mexico, and returned with. The purport of his testimony is not known, but it is thought that it corroborates the statements of Mr. Ingersoll. Mr. Trist is a son-in-law of Mr. Jefferson, and has been a part of the Administration which has been investigated.

Duncan Cobb, 400 newly discharged seamen from the

City Intelligence.

FIRST MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL.—This Council met last evening with eight members present. A letter from the Mayor was read on the subject of the resolution granting six months leave of absence to such officers of the First Municipality, who wished to go to Mexico as volunteers. Capt. Youenes, as Capt. of the Police, who is going as a volunteer, offered Mr. J. P. Freret as his security, and Mr. J. Macoin was proposed as his successor. The letter was laid on the table subject to the call of the Council. Mr. Hagan, on in his resignation as Chairman of the Committee of Improvements. It was unanimously rejected by the Council. The Committee on Claims and Improvement offered a resolution in favor of allowing the sale of provisions and groceries on the side-walks of the meet market—it was lost. Those committees also presented a resolution prohibiting the selling of meat, poultry and eggs, in any other part of the Municipality, except under the market, under a penalty of from $5 to $25. It was adopted. A large number of petitions, &c., was then read, after which the Council adjourned.

THE LEGION.—General ARMSTRONG yesterday inspected the Legion on the Place d'armes. The companies present were "The Orleans Guards," Captain F. Gardere, 60 men; "The Mosquiteers," Captain Mondelli, 70 men; The "Catalan Guards," Captain Vézaca, 64men. The "Cazadores de Orleans" Capt. Trigo, 64 men. The "Eclaireurs d'Orleans," Capt. Desruynes Lambert, 70 men, and the batallion of Artillery, about 200 men, under Major Gelly. Besides these we noticed Capt. Youenes' company, numbering 75 men, who were also on the ground. The numerical force of these companies collectively was about 600 men, and from their appearance and discipline we are persuade that will prove of most formidable aid. A formal offer and tender of the services of these companies was then made by Gen. Augustin. General Gaines observed that for the present he could not muster into the U. S. service any other portion of the Legion, except the Battalion of Artillery.

This done, the Legion paraded the square, and halted opposite the St. Charles hotel, where General Augustin and staff alighted and proceeded to the portico of the hotel, to pay their respects to General Gaines, who was standing there, in uniform, to witness the parade. After a short conversation General Augustin and staff mounted the steps and the troops marched the Legion down to the arsenal, where they were dismissed.

GENERAL DE LA VEGA.—The Mexican General was yesterday introduced to Gen. Gaines and to Governor Johnson, at the St. Charles Hotel. As the General speaks no other language than the Spanish, Mr. Denis Prieur acted as interpreter. Gen. de la Vega expresses himself perfectly satisfied with his position, and stated that he felt more at home here than before they could reach him like with citizens. Verdict accordingly. The deceased was about 36 years old, and was dressed in a striped jacket, blue check shirt and cottonade pantaloons.

Capt. Lawrance, Lieutenants Burk and Alexander arrived last evening from Vandalia Parish, with 66 volunteers, on the steamer Empire.

LARCENY.—Jean Baptiste a f m c. was yesterday arrested by the First Municipality Police, charged with having stolen a bundle of clothing from a passenger on board the Virginia Belle. The prisoner will be examined this morning.

☞ The Independence (Missouri) *Expositor* says—that emigrants for Oregon and California are absolutely pouring into that town. The company for California is much the largest. A letter from St. Joseph's estimates the number of emigrants encamped near there at one hundred and thirty.

MR. WEBSTER AND MR. INGERSOLL.—The Buffalo, N. Y. *Express*, of the 5th instant, says:—Mr. Mason, Attorney General, we understand, is the member of the Cabinet who pronounced the charges made against Mr. Webster by Mr Ingersoll, to be entirely destitute of foundation. Mr M. stated that the proceedings were neither influenced by any considerations of honor, nor founded in truth.

ARREST OF O. P. ROCKWELL.—An extra from the office