

Pen and Camera Pictures of Old Mexican Battlefields

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—I want to give you some pictures of our Mexican battlefields. I mean of the places where American blood was spilled and American victories won in the latter part of the '40s. During my recent trip to Mexico I visited most of the places and made photographs of the country as it looks today. The Mexican war began on April 24, 1846, and it lasted almost two years. It cost us in good hard cash \$16,000,000, and those who were killed or died during the conflict numbered 35,000. That war established the Rio Grande as our national boundary. It made safe our title to Texas, concerning which the Mexicans were growing; and at its close we took about half of the then Mexican territory, including California, Arizona and New Mexico. If we should have a war with Mexico now, the cost in money and lives will be enormously greater and it will result in our taking over the balance of the country, either as a protectorate or as a part of the union.

In the Days of '46.

All this by way of introduction. It is a far cry from the Mexico of today to that of 1846. The difference in time is sixty-seven years, and the difference in conditions is beyond conception. In 1846 Mexico was thinly populated. It had but few roads, and no railroads. Much of the war was waged in the desert; our soldiers marched upon foot and their supplies were carried on the backs of mules and in wagons. They had to undergo the greatest hardships. At times the armies were decimated by disease, and when General Scott marched from Pueblo to attack Mexico City he left at least one-fourth of his whole army in the hospitals about the former city. The opening battles of the war were fought in the north. They took place near the mouth of the Rio Grande, and General Zachary Taylor, who was afterward made president of the United States for his services, was there in command. The two first great battlefields were close to Brownsville, Tex., a city which is now the center of a farming community, and is connected by railroad with all parts of the United States. It was then known as Fort Brown, and was one of our outposts on the frontier, having only a garrison of about 500 men. When the Mexicans besieged it it had eighteen cannon known as six-pounders, and its ammunition was short.

It was to relieve Fort Brown that Gen. Taylor was marching when the first two battles of the war occurred. He had been sent by the national government to Corpus Christi in 1845 with orders to repel any invasion of Texas territory, and it was in March, 1846, that he was directed to cross into the disputed territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande rivers. The Mexicans warned him to keep off, and upon his starting General Arista, in command of the Mexican forces, not-



The Bishop's Palace at Monterey, taken by the Americans in 1847

General Taylor that he considered war to have been begun by our country.

Battle of Palo Alto.
A little later Fort Brown was besieged, and General Taylor was started to its relief. He first met the Mexican army at Palo Alto, within eight miles of Brownsville. General Taylor had 2,000 men and 250 wagons, and General Arista had 6,800 Mexicans, of which 800 were cavalry. The battle lasted five hours, and resulted in an American victory. Forty of the Yankees were killed and wounded, while the Mexicans lost more than six times as many.

The next fight was within three miles of Fort Brown, in a ravine at Resaca de la Palma. This engagement took place on the day following the battle of Palo Alto, and Taylor again was victorious. More than 1,000 Mexicans were killed or wounded, and the news went out over the United States that the war with Mexico would be fought to a finish. Congress then passed resolutions asking for 60,000 volunteers, and the regular army was increased to 30,000 men.

The country went wild over Taylor's victories. Congress passed resolutions of approval. He was made a major general, and his own state of Louisiana gave him a sword. He became the idol of the hour. He was lovingly called "Old Zach," and his manners and customs were favorably compared with those of General Winfield Scott, the commander-in-chief of the army, who later carried on the war in the south. General Scott was a great soldier, but he was always on dress parade. He was the soul of pomposity, and he was often known as "Old Fuss and Feathers." Zach Taylor, or "Old Rough and Ready," was just the reverse. It is said that he went around the camp during a part of his Mexican campaigns in a linen roudabout and trousers. He had already had a long career in the army, and had become noted as an Indian fighter. He was in command of a company in the war of 1812, and more than twenty years later had gained great victory over the Indians at the battle of Osceola in Florida.

Pierce's Fight at Monterey.
The next fight after Resaca de la Palma was at Monterey, which is now reached by the railroad from Laredo. It made the journey in five or six hours in a Pullman car, and found at the end a thriving city of 100,000 people. There were not one-fifth that number there when General Taylor besieged it. His journey took several weeks, and more than twenty years later had gained that victory over the Indians at the battle of Osceola in Florida.

The town had been fortified. The walls were lined with cannon, and the streets and houses were barricaded and planted with artillery. There were forts about the city, and the strongest of these was the bishop's palace on a hill at the southwest. During my stay in Monterey I walked about the town, visiting the Grand Plaza and other places which the Mexicans had fortified, and went to the outskirts and picked out the spots where the forts were located. The old palace or church at the southwest of Monterey, where the chief engagement took place, still stands, and there is a wall of stones about it today. I found some of the old American cannon still lying on the slope of the hill, and I am told that they have not been moved from their places since the engagement. In taking the town General Taylor captured the other forts first, and then took this one. He now commanded all the heights about the city and houses were barricaded and planted with artillery. There were forts about the city, and the strongest of these was the bishop's palace on a hill at the southwest.

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Talk About Surrender.
Leaving Monterey, I bought a ticket to Saltillo, which lies sixty-seven miles south of it. In order to visit the place where the battle of Buena Vista was fought, Saltillo is the capital of the state of Coahuila. It is situated on the slope of a tableland about a mile above the sea, and it is a health resort as well as a commercial and industrial center. The battlefield is situated not far from the railroad, about seven miles farther south, and there is a station called Buena Vista right at the place.

It was there that General Taylor met General Santa Anna and defeated him, although the latter had four times as many troops. General Taylor's force had been depleted by Congress in order to carry on the war more actively with General Scott in the south. Taylor had less than 5,000 men, while Santa Anna had over 20,000. Indeed the Mexican force was so large that Santa Anna thought it ridiculous for the Americans to fight. He demanded of General Taylor that he surrender. A reply was sent back which afterward became a campaign cry and aided in the election of Taylor as president. It was "General Taylor never surrenders."

Shortly after that the Mexicans sent in a party under a white flag to inquire what General Taylor was waiting for, and "Old Rough and Ready" sent back the following: "General Taylor is waiting for General Santa Anna to surrender."

Captain Bragg's Grape.
All this occurred about February 22, which was Washington's birthday. The



"Old Fuss and Feathers" Gen. Winfield Scott

"Old Rough and Ready" Gen. Zachary Taylor

following day the fighting began in earnest. The Americans were at first driven back, and at one time it seemed as though the battle was lost. General Taylor then gave his celebrated order to Bragg's artillery. It was "Give them a little more grape. Captain Bragg."

Bragg's artillery was situated on a hill nearby. He sent showers of iron ball into the Mexicans, and this threw them into disorder and flight. The battle had lasted two days, and when the night of the second day came the rival armies held about the same positions that they had had that morning. Our men slept on the field, and when the next morning came it was found that the Mexicans had fled. In that engagement 30,000 Mexicans were beaten by less than 5,000 Americans. Their losses were about 2,600 killed and wounded, and 4,000 missing. Our losses were only a little over 700, but that was almost one-sixth of our whole force. General Lee Wallace says that the Americans were beaten, often during that engagement, but that they did not know they were beaten. They rallied and fought, and rallied and fought, and at last won victory from the hands of defeat.

The battlefield of Buena Vista is now desert-like and barren. The ground about it is covered with sage brush and stones and the only green vegetation is the tree under which General Taylor's hospital stood during that engagement. At least, I suppose the hospital stood there, for the tree still bears the name of the General Taylor Hospital.

Taylor's Story of the Battle.
The battle of Buena Vista was the last engagement of any account in the north. It ended the service of General Taylor in Mexico, and, as I have said, it made him the hero of the American people. Upon his return to the United States he was received with the greatest applause, and that notwithstanding he liked to keep in the background. A story illustrating his simplicity is told of a senator named Butler, whose brother, Pierce Butler, was killed in the battle of Buena Vista. Senator Butler had asked for a description of the battle and General Taylor replied: "Well, come and dine with me today and I will tell you all I know about it. The senator waited in patience throughout the dinner for the story to begin, and at its close brought up the subject of the battle, asking about his brother. General Taylor said:

"Yes, senator, your brother, Pierce, was a good soldier and he died after a brave fight on the field. Now you want to know how the battle was fought, do you?"

"Yes, general, if you will be so kind, please tell me just how your troops were placed and all about those of the enemy. I would like to understand how, with such a small force, you could defeat Santa Anna, who had four times the number."

"The difference was more than that," said General Taylor, "but we did not stop to count. I know that I wished for more soldiers."

"Yes," said the senator, "but what was the order of battle?"

"Why, senator, we began fighting early in the morning the first day and we fit all that day. We lost a good many men, and at night it looked pretty bad."

"Well, what next?"

"Well," said General Taylor, "when it got dark I rode out to Saltillo to look after our men and provide against a surprise."

"Why did you go yourself? Why not send one of your aids?"

"You see, senator, everything depended on our not having our supplies cut off, and I wanted to see for myself."

"How was it next morning?" said the senator.

"About the same as the night before," said General Taylor, and stopped.

"Who was the first man you met?"

"General Wool."

"And what did he say?"

"He said, 'All is lost.'"

"What did you reply?"

"Maybe so, general, we'll see. And then we went to fighting again and fit all that day and toward night it looked better." Here General Taylor stopped again, although the senator waited impatiently for more, and finally asked:

"What next?"

"Well, next morning it was reported to me that Santa Anna and all his men had disappeared in the night, and I can tell you I was devilish glad to be rid of them so."

and two weeks later both the city and fort surrendered. The Americans then started on their march up the mountains. They had gone about sixty miles when they entered the Cerro Gordo pass, and there fought the battle of that name, taking 3,000 prisoners, five generals and forty cannon. They then climbed their way on over the mountains and on to the city of Puebla, which is situated on the plateau about seventy-five miles from the capital. Puebla has now over 100,000 inhabitants, and it is one of the industrial centers of Mexico. It has great cotton mills and a number of factories. It has beautiful residences and one of the finest cathedrals of the world. When Scott reached there it had about 50,000 population and there was a great army awaiting him at Mexico City. In the meantime, he had sickness among his men in coming over the mountains. Seven of his regiments had been discharged and the American forces had been reduced to a little over 10,000, nearly half of whom were recruits.

Finishing the War.
Scott left 2,500 of his troops, including the sick and wounded, in Puebla, and with the balance marched upon Mexico City, where he knew an army of about five times his own force awaited him. He had only about 7,000, while the Mexicans had 35,000.

He came over the mountains and down into the little valley where lies Mexico City. He skirted the lakes and met the enemy first at Churubusco, and where he gained a great victory. He fought the Mexicans again at Molina de Rey, and again before the castle of Chapultepec, where the president of Mexico now lives. He was victorious everywhere, and on September 13 the Mexican army evacuated the city and he triumphantly entered the capital.

During his operations in the valley of Mexico, General Scott's total losses were 2,781 men, including 333 officers. The Mexicans lost more than 7,000 killed and wounded and we took over 8,700 prisoners of war. Scott remained in Mexico for some time. He had his headquarters in Mexico City, where his troops were reinforced to an aggregate of 20,000 men.

It was on February 2, 1848, that the Mexicans made peace. The conference was held just outside the capital, near the shrine of Guadalupe and under the shadow of its Sacred Virgin, who is the patron saint of the Mexicans. It is said that the Mexicans prayed to the Virgin to bring about peace, and that many among them believed that it came through her intercession.

During my stay in Mexico I visited Chapultepec, Churubusco and Molino del Rey. The localities of the fighting can easily be found, and under the great trees at Chapultepec the spot is pointed out where the young Mexican cadets fought so bravely in defense of their country. I also visited Guadalupe Hidalgo, where the peace treaty was signed. It is three miles from the capital, and may be reached by street car. This place is still the most visited of any of the Mexican shrines. It has hundreds of thousands of pilgrims who go there every year to worship, and the people of today have as much faith in the efficacy of the Virgin of Guadalupe as they had when they prayed to her to bring pity into the hearts of the Yankees.

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Business Men to Hear of One Cent Letter Postage

Members of the Commercial club of Omaha will listen Thursday to an address by Charles William Burrows, president of the National One Cent Letter Postage Association, Cleveland, on the topic, "One Cent Letter Postage."

Mr. Burrows is head of the movement to secure a one cent letter rate, and the association of which he is president now has a membership of many thousands, located in every state in the Union.

National One Cent Letter Postage association was organized a little over a year ago, with headquarters in Cleveland. It has been instrumental in having introduced in congress a bill providing for one cent letter postage, and is now conducting a campaign to secure the passage of this bill.

Charles William Burrows, who is to give the address, is an acknowledged authority on postal rates, having been a heavy loss. Some business houses in this city pay as high as ten, fifteen and twenty thousand dollars for first class mail service. The creation of a one cent rate would cut this expense in half.

Mr. Burrows declares that the business men of the country have been entitled to the lower rate for many years, but that through prejudice, no active campaign has been prosecuted to obtain it. The National One Cent Letter Postage association has already a large membership here.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.
Dull times often makes sharp appetites. A chaplain is a woman who is supposed to be an imitator. He is an agile politician who can successfully dodge an issue. If a woman is jealous she always insists that she's no such thing. If you would be popular, make others believe they know more than you. A man who lent'to his wife's apron string doesn't want to get away. The young man who declines to flirt with a pretty blonde lets a golden opportunity slip. The man who earns a good living has nothing to complain of—unless some other fellow gets it. A medical journal has an article on "As sober as a judge." Of more value would be an article on how to induce people to tell the truth when awake.—Chicago News.

Only Judges Were Sober.
Justice Darling suggests that the saying "As sober as a judge" originated from the fact that 100 years or so back judges were the only sober people in the country. North of the Tweed, where the saying is so current, judges were certainly not conspicuous for sobriety. Andrew Lang relates that a great Scotch judge was once compelled to abstain from alcohol for six weeks. He then discovered that for thirty-six years of a learned and respected and valuable career he had never been for one hour really sober. He had his "morning" when he arose; his "twelve



CHARLES WILLIAM BURROWS, President National One Cent Letter Postage Association.



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hours" at noon. On the bench he and the other judges solemnly and dutifully absorbed their bottle (say a bottle and a Scots pint) of port. Then he dined and sat over the claret till he titubated to bed. Then he rose, had no tub, and had his morning glass of whiskey or brandy and so on.—London Chronicle.

To Restore Facial Contour When Lost

(From The Clubwoman.)
Often one will gaze long into her mirror, trying to find what it is about her face that is just right. There's something inharmonious about her features, though she can't just locate the fault. Perhaps she has the habit of sleeping on one side, one cheek pressed against the pillow eight hours out of twenty-four. This is bound to affect the facial muscles and circulation on that side and spoil the general contour.
For restoring symmetry of contour—besides correcting error in sleeping or other cause—there's nothing better than this: Every other night spread a liberal coating of parafin jelly over the entire face, letting this remain on fifteen minutes to an hour after it dries, then remove with plain water. This draws in and firms up loose tissue, evening the features, rounding out the face beautifully. It also increases circulation, bringing a healthy color and making one look much younger. Get some parafin dissolved jelly at your druggist's and see what a wonderful restorative it is. It is perfectly harmless.—Advertisement.

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By Miss Valeska Saratt

A LADY once said to me, "I'm sick and tired of trying to beautify my face and arms. I've used about everything this side of the pearly gates, and I still haven't a complexion to be proud of." This is the sentiment felt by thousands of women everywhere, and the question is asked, "Is there anything which will actually and in a short time produce the rose-like complexion which we see in beautifully colored photographs?"

I asked the same question of myself some years ago, and I confess that my only answer to it came after years of trying in an independent way to find for myself the true solution.

This answer was simple as well as wonderful, so much so that was one of the things which inspired me to reveal the secret to as many women as would care to adopt it.



LOOKING OLD—Crows' feet and wrinkles below the eyes can be very readily and quickly eliminated, and a difference of 5 or 10 years in appearance is produced. Stop using the creams you mention. Use instead a mixture of half pint of hot water, two ounces of equal and two tablespoons of glycerine. Mix thoroughly and stir over slow fire until it creams. Then let it cool. Use it generally every morning and night. This will not grow hair. Every wrinkle in your face will vanish and you will look younger by quite a few years in a remarkably short time. The spot you can obtain for not more than fifty cents at the drug store.

GERTRUDE M.—I think hair on the lip, even fusa, is hideous. Fusa on the cheek is just as bad. Never cut or shave it off. Almost anything you use except simple sulfo solution is liable to cause spots, and irritation. Simple sulfo solution almost always dissolves hair in a few moments and leaving the skin soft and beautiful. It will cost you one dollar at the drug store. You can use this on any part of the body. It never harms the most tender skin.

PHOENIX—Most probably be surprised to know that all blackheads, large and small, can be removed in a few minutes. Here is the method. After first washing the face, sprinkle some norexin on a sponge, wet with hot water, and rub over the blackheads for a few minutes, until the face again. The blackheads will vanish. The norexin can be procured for fifty cents at any drug store.

SHARON—Nine-tenths of the shampoo do not get the scalp firm off the scalp. You will never want a more thoroughly cleansing, lather shampoo than by dissolving a teaspoonful of norexin in half cup of water, rubbing well into the scalp and then rinsing the hair. Shampoos are necessary to hair health. The eggol will cost not more than twenty-five cents at drug stores, enough to give you at least twelve generous shampoos.

JULIANA—Certainly, even a woman of 45 may restore her bust development. I cannot too strongly recommend a mixture of a half a cup of sugar, two ounces of ruoteone and a half a pint of hot water, taking of this, when cold, two teaspoonfuls three or four times a day after meals. It produces a girlish plumpness that nothing else can, and does it in a few weeks.

EVANGELINE T. C.—I am not surprised to learn that you have taken blood tonics for over a year trying to get rid of pimples. Twenty-five cents at drug stores, enough to give you at least twelve generous shampoos.

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