

From the New Orleans Dispatch, August 18th.
Letters from Major Gaines and Captain C. M. Clay.

AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO.—By the arrival of the *Fashion* we are in possession of the contents of a letter from the American officers now prisoners in the city of Mexico. In Mr. Kendall's letters of the 14th ult., he gives very interesting extracts from a letter written by one of the prisoners on the 8th of August. Mr. Clay writes of the fate of these gentlemen will refer to those extracts, while we subjoin here letters of a later date, one from Major Gaines and another from Captain C. M. Clay. It will be observed that Major Gaines fully confirms all we have said of the ingratitude of Gen. La Vega. That his good officers in their behalf were repeatedly invoked, we have no doubt whatever. The reference interspersed for Gen. La Vega by Lieut. Hejia, a prisoner here, Maj. Gaines readily disposed of. Col. Maja's defence, it will be borne in mind, was almost instantly refuted by the letter of Col. Wilson. After reading the letter of Maj. Gaines, we shall leave to others the task of vindicating Mexican veracity.

His letter is addressed to his brother in this city:

Mexico, July 29, 1847.

Dear Brother—I have been lately favored with the perusal of a letter in the *Pittsburgh*, dated N. Orleans, May 15th, 1847, and signed Enrique Mejia, representing himself as the son of Gen. La Vega, and undertaking to vindicate that officer against the charge of ingratitude towards the American prisoners confined in this city.

In this letter it is stated that the Palace during the revolution was besieged by the "party of the church and its adherents, and that not one left it during the night, not one not shot down by the populace. That three days before the arrival of Santa Anna (the revolution being still active) they left in haste to meet the American army, and that of Santiago, who were the prisoners were confined, was within the lines of the enemy no intercourse could be held with it." I have rarely read so short a paragraph containing so many errors. The letter was never being near the revolutionary party—their position being near the church called "the Professor," some four or five hundred yards distant, not more than three or four persons were confined in it; its operations had ceased before La Vega left in haste, the castle of Santiago was no more within the enemy's lines than any other part of the city, and the intercourse with the besieged, being visited, I believe every day during the fight by my friends. I sent several messages to La Vega, which I feel sure he received, but whether he did or not I cannot say as there were no witnesses. I was wholly unacquainted with the tenacity of Nessau's shooting class. I dismiss him to the tormenting stages of an abused conscience (if he has any) and the merited contempt of his race.

Our army is still reposing at Puebla, and why it does not advance upon the city exhibits the astonishment of all. That there is no good reason for it (to wit, that it is a learnedly inactive fondly hope. Facts yet to be learned will demonstrate, but with the lights I have the delay is inexplicable.—Had our army marched forth, they would have encountered an enemy; as it is an army of 30,000 men have been concentrated here.

That we shall gain another glorious victory, should the Mexicans show lightness, is not the slightest doubt; and perhaps, after all, a peace will be more certainly "concluded" and more speedily than if there had been no delay.

I have heard nothing from home since A's. letter of the 12th of March, in which you of the 24th of the same month. I need not speak of my great joy in receiving something from you. I must bid me time. A negotiation is now pending between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna for our exchange, and I see no reason to doubt its success. I hope you will be able to return to Vera Cruz, which will follow the army, and if I never receive them you will only lose your time. I have written you so fully concerning my business that I need say nothing on that subject.

If you have ever heard of my name, or my brother Black Hawk, let me know. [Harry was a faithful servant and Black Hawk was a favorite of mine.] They were not with me at Encarnacion.

Yours, affectionately,
JOHN P. GAINES.

Mr. A. D. GAINES, New Orleans.

Letter from Cassius M. Clay.

CITY OF MEXICO, July 15, 1847.

EDM. PEACRE.—I have till now refrained from making anything public touching our capture. The probability of our being the subject of legal investigation, seemed to me to be a sufficient reason among others for silence.

Since the merits of our surrender have become the topic of discussion, my farther defence to personal delicacy becomes criminal injustice to those who have a right to claim of me, their intermediate commander, whatever protection he may be able to afford them. I therefore merge the imputation of egotism and self-elevation in the higher necessity of discharging a duty to the living who do not, and the dead who cannot speak for themselves.

If the failure of our superior officers to exchange us after three successful battles, and the capture of many prisoners, is necessary to the public service, it is necessary to surrender to me in all my life down his life, without regard to inequality of numbers or the resulting glory of the sacrifice. But, by the terms of the capitulation, and without a murmur I submit to the sentence. But, by the terms of the capitulation, and without a murmur I submit to the sentence. But, by the terms of the capitulation, and without a murmur I submit to the sentence.

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From the National Intelligencer, August 18th.
RIDEMANT, DICERE VERUM QUID VETAT?

Another Letter from Major Downings, on the Road to the War, AUGUST, 1847.

Mr. Giles and Stratton: I am writing to you, as you are so kind as to write to me, and I will be glad to hear from you again.

My dear old friends: I am writing to you, as you are so kind as to write to me, and I will be glad to hear from you again. I am writing to you, as you are so kind as to write to me, and I will be glad to hear from you again. I am writing to you, as you are so kind as to write to me, and I will be glad to hear from you again.

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DR. SMITH'S GREAT NATIONAL PILLS.
Dr. G. Benj. Smith's.

Improved Indian Vegetable (Sugar Coated) Pills.
The medicine of the United States, and their superior efficacy for curing all the diseases of the stomach and bowels, and plethoric humors, is now a pre-eminent remedy which needs no foreign influence to perpetuate its fame. It is a medicine of the most delicate and pure nature, and has been found to be the most efficacious in the treatment of all the diseases of the stomach and bowels, and plethoric humors, is now a pre-eminent remedy which needs no foreign influence to perpetuate its fame.

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