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Ranchero [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859-January 21, 1864

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THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX]

October 22, 1859 – January 21, 1864

Note: Issues are out of order with large gaps

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

Persons desirous of having a view of Corpus Christi, as it now is, can have a photograph of the city of F. M. Slater, at his Gallery. They are well taken, sold cheap, and at some future day will be greatly prized. He also makes good ambrotypes for \$1, milainotypes [sic] for \$1.50, photographs for \$3.50.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

Our Numerous Visitors.—We have several camps of visitors about our City—waggons [sic] loaded with all kinds of 'fixings' standing close by tents—and the general reply to our enquiries as to the object of the emigrants from the Eastern parts of the State is, that they are seeking "a healthy country."

On reaching this, they have found "a promised land," so far as health and stock raising are concerned, good citizenship and steady unpretending progress in wealth. Our stock of cattle, horses and sheep, alone, show our people to have *solid* wealth, although much less pretensions than others.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

Introductory & Salutatory.

We proceed to lay before our readers the first number of The Ranchero, in strict accordance with the terms of our prospectus, published on the first day of last September.

The marked and gratifying encouragement which we have received from our "Brethren of the Press," as well as from the Public generally will, we trust be continued to cheer and sustain us, while we use our most strenuous efforts, to supply the want—so long felt—of a respectable local Journal, devoted to the interests of this section of Western Texas.

Hitherto, the success of Journalism in Corpus Christi, has been short lived and partial. Not, we believe, owing to a lack of editorial ability on the part of our predecessors; or of a generous and liberal disposition on the part of the people to support a local paper devoted to their particular interests; but, rather attributable to the sudden and for the time being, calamitous check, which the prosperity of Corpus Christi, and the adjacent country received from the withdrawal, to San Antonio, of the Depot and Headquarters of the Army.

It is well known that the presence of the U. S. Military depot at this place and the large expenditures of the Government, in freighting Military stores to the numerous Posts and Forts then occupied, but now abandoned by the Government troops, on the Rio Grande, had the effect of giving a sudden and impetuous growth to our settlements along the Nueces and Westward to the frontiers of Mexico.

It is also known that the removal of the Depot and Head quarters to San Antonio, had a disastrous effect upon Corpus Christi, and, was very severely felt in this and the adjoining counties.

For a time Corpus Christi became as it were, a doomed place—a kind of "City of the dead." Its once busy stores and wharves, became idle and tenantless—grass grew in the streets

literally and emphatically—that were wont to be full of wagons and teams doing government business. Mechanics, were thrown wholly out of employment; laborers, left without work; farmers, without a sale for any produce.

Every one in the country suffered severely. There was little or no *money* in the country; and little to "Bank upon" in the shape of live stock.

Although quite a number of stock farms had been opened up, still their growth had not had sufficient time to develope [sic] anything like wealth. In Nueces county, there were not probably more than 10,000 head of stock cattle, worth say (at \$6 a head,) \$60,000, when the U. S. Depot and Head quarters were here. There were scarcely any herds of horses in the country, worth mentioning, as to aggregate value; and not more than two flocks of sheep, that we know of.—Now, though, we find a far different state of things; gradually brought about by the self denial and perseverance, under difficulties, of our stock farmers—our Rancheros, in the coarse [sic] of five years.

We have in Nueces county, at this present moment, at least 60,000 head of cattle worth \$360,000. WE have very large herds of horses, mules & brood mares; all doing finely; raised and cared at trifling expense. We have the sheep farms of Mr. John Dix, Major Chapman, Mr. McClane, Mr. W. Rogers, Mr. F. Beldon, Mr. Quigg, &c., &c., all doing *remarkably* well, *without a single exception*. We have, besides, numerous settlers, engaged in the lucrative *cash* trade, which has recently sprung up, of buying stock in Mexico, and selling it hereabouts, on their farms, to traders from other states, who prefer paying a fair advance for stock here, in good order, rather than risk a trip to dangerous Mexico.

Also in our midst is a new element of wealth—in the opening of Sea Island cotton farms—has been taken advantage of during this year; and, we are happy to say, that with all the draw back of an unusually dry and unpropitious season (as compared with other years,) our planters have succeeded in raising crops that excel all they could have hoped for under the circumstances. On some of the farms, they have already picked half a bale an acre, and the blooms are still

"Crowding thick, as coming fancies!"

This, too, on new land, and of Cotton worth three to four times the price of short staple or upland cotton!

From these *data*, we take it as undeniable that the prosperity of our county of Nueces, and of the adjoining counties of Refugio, San Patricio, Live Oak, and the counties stretching westward, is secure and *self sustaining*. With a bright future before our friends and neighbors, we hope that our editorial labors will meet with a corresponding success.

We call upon our fellow citizens to subscribe to our Paper and to advertise—and to aid us [illegible] by enlisting subscriptions for us.

We ask for every hones man's support to establish a paper, independent of mere party and factions [illegible] in our midst. We want to initiate a Journal that [illegible] worthy in principle of the unhesitating support of every lover of Law, Order and Progress. A Journal that shall never stoop to do the job work of any political satrap—however powerful he may be—of any mere aspirant to office and patriotic pay; of any clique, or body of men, seeking to impose on the public and ready to pay us for aid or silence.

We shall strive to do our duty, faithfully and fearlessly, by the public; and, we hope that we shall succeed in making the Ranchero an efficient instrument in the development of the great resources of this rich and beautiful portion of western Texas. We shall "nail our colors to the mast" in defence [sic] of Law and Order—in defence [sic] of Life, Liberty and Property; and

hoping to reflect in our editorial labors, the best aspirations and noblest wishes of our people, we shall now make our obeisance and so conclude this introduction to the public of this the first number of *The Ranchero*.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 3

Corpus Christi Ship Channel.—We are pleased to be able to say, that this great improvement is now progressing rapidly towards its final completion, under the energetic management of Mr. J. C. Riddle.

The channel through the Shell Bank, between Corpus Christi Bayou and Aransas Bay, is fully completed, to one hundred and sixteen feet in width and nine and one-half feet deep; the course of this channel is North 62 degrees East.

Mr. Riddle, is now at work at the Mudflats, where he has a channel sixty feet wide and nine and one-half feet deep, for the most of the way; and, in the course of six weeks from date, will have the same extended to deep water in Corpus Christi bay.

Any vessel drawing not more than six and one-half feet water can now come to our City; and we are assured that the entire channel will be fully completed to one hundred and sixteen feet wide, and to the depth of nine and one-half feet, between this and the first of January, next, and from the nature of the material (stiff blue clay) we have no fears but that it will keep open.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

Unprotected State of the Frontier—Want of Cavalry at Laredo, Fort Ewell and Rio Grande City.

We hear of nothing from our frontier stock-farms but alarms and apprehensions, and of the breaking up of settlements, on account of the recent Indian murders and robberies along the Rio Grande and Nueces.

The amount of valuable lives and property sacrificed by the parsimony of our Government, and by the bad arrangements of our troops, is deplorable and exasperating. The whole country on the lower Rio Grande frontier—for hundreds of miles—from Fort Clark to Brownsville, and from the Rio Grande to the Nueces, has been stripped of military protection to carry out some Utopian idea of judicious army retrenchments, or equally Utopian ideas of shoving the Comanches up northward, God knows where, and feeding them into good behavior.

Any man knowing that the Comanches and Muscaleros [sic] swarm in Mexico—at pleasure committing all kinds of outrages—could easily foresee that the withdrawal of U. S. troops from the Military points at Eagle Pass, Fort Ewell, Laredo, Rio Grande City and Brownsville, would be surely followed by disastrous inroads of the savages from Mexico.

Joined in with Comanches and Muscaleros [sic] are Lipans, and renegade Mexicans, who keep them properly posted as to the plunder offered by the newly settled stock-farms and the absence of danger from troops all down the lower Rio Grande.

Of course the double attraction of plunder and no risk, can not but have its sure effect, in producing daily incursions of the savages from Mexico. Even as low down as Brownsville, the necessity for a Military force has recently been very—humiliatingly—demonstrated. Where we have seen a horde of Mexican outlaws ride roughshod over the City, and commit, in an organized

body, the murder of American citizens, in open day; forcing the timid civil authorities to apply to the Mexican troops in the opposite city of Matamoros for protection which *rather reverses* Sam Houston's plan of a protectorate!

What degradation for the United States! to say that *Mexico* has to be called upon to furnish a miserable protection to Texas, against brigandage on her soil. How scandalous to have it said that Mexico can afford troops to guard her portion whilst the United States is too economically mean and poor, beggarly, or indifferent to the discharge of Federal Obligations as a Government, to afford an equal protection to American soil.

We trust that this matter shall be brought before Congress—that the dereliction of duty which it exhibits, on the part of our highest Executive officers, shall be severely examined into, and severely punished.

There is no civilized Government on the face of the broad earth but ours, that permits the ruthless murder and plunder of its citizens to go unpunished—that leaves—deliberately and basely—its people at the mercy of murderers and robbers, rather than pay a limited amount of military expense for their safety well being and progress. This is a state of things that wants only to be brought before the bar of *public opinion* to be effectually remedied.

There are large National Interests at stake in the peace and security of our Rio Grande Frontier. It is on the line of the best route—the shortest and most easily traveled—from the Gulf of Mexico to California. This alone challenges National attention, and this alone is amply sufficient to secure it.

We understand that two troops of Cavalry have—at length—been sent by General Twiggs to Fort Duncan, Eagle Pass; and *mirabile dictu*—wondrous to relate—a body of 50 *Foot Artillery* to Laredo. We have not heard whether the command is armed with one or many pieces of ordnance—Dalgrehn [sic] guns or Titanic Mortars—to scare the whole Comanche nation into fits by the mere sight of them—at a distance—or by their romantic echoes on the Mustang Range.

But stop: we have not yet stated the most formidable feature of the Command detailed to protect the lower Rio Grande and the Valley of the Nueces. At we have no doubt considerable expense—and no little inconvenience to the *Foot Artillery*—fifteen of their number have been preposterously supplied with mules—mounted on slow paced and unruly mules to chastise the Comanches mounted on the fleetest horses of the prairie and passing through the country "fleetly as a whirlwind!" We live in enlightened days and under a Judicious Government.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 5

Communication.

Nr. [sic] Editor: Never perhaps, has the old adage of "penny wise and pound foolish" been more strikingly illustrated than in the late order of the Lighthouse Board, discontinuing the light at Corpus Christi, which only costs the Government the pitiful sum of three hundred dollars per year.

There have been many conjectures as to the cause of the discontinuance of our light. Our Lighthouse Board, doubtless, striving to reduce the expenses of the General Government as much as possible have been led to issue the order alluded to above, from representations made by persons who were either unwilling or not qualified to give correct statements of the commerce of our city; and, from what I have understood from good authority, they acted from representations

made by a certain Lieut. Fry, U.S.A. a Lighthouse inspector who has only honored us with one visit and on that occasion arrived on Sunday and departed—before breakfast—Monday morning! Had Lieutenant Fry, remained here a day longer he probably would have made a different report. I learn that he complained that our citizens had not paid him the attention which he thinks he merited.

Now Mr. Editor, you are aware we have had many officers of the Army and Navy here in bygone days and I am confident that they, if questioned, would say that our citizens are as kind courteous and hospitable to all strangers *coming here with proper testimonials*, as those of any City in the country, North or South. It was very unfortunate it seems (as far as our Light was concerned at least) that the Lieutenant, paid us his only visit on the Sabbath, when all of our stores and places of business were closed and the majority of our citizens were attending their usual pious Sabbath vocations.

The commerce of Corpus Christi, is at this time much more than double what it was when the Lighthouse was established, and it is rapidly increasing.

There are now seventeen stores in the city, and no small Mexican trade, besides the Merchants of Live Oak, San Patricio, Webb and Zapata, and the country contiguous, do their business through this place.

I learn there has been about two million feet of lumber received at this Bay during the last twelve months; and, at this time Lt. Fry, said he was going to advise the discontinuance of our Lighthouse, there were in our bay no less than six large schooners, from the Ports of Mobile, New Orleans, Pensacola, and Sabine.

There are now several large Schooners, engaged exclusively in our trade, and three Steamers are just on the eve of entering into it, one inside from Indianola, now on the way, and two direct from New Orleans. There is now a large amount of goods at Indianola, awaiting transportation to this place by lighters.

The Corpus Christi Ship Channel between this and Aransas Bay which has been a very heavy undertaking, and for the construction of which the state has devoted over seventy thousand acres of land, and this city has issued its bonds for five hundred thousand dollars; is almost completed, and we now have over nine feet of water, where we only had two and one half feet when the Lighthouse was first established. More than eighteen hundred sails passed the Shell Bank, (of vessels under Custom-house regulations during the last twelve months, and the mail boat makes three hundred and twelve trips per annum. For a verification of the above facts I would most respectfully refer the members of the Lighthouse board and all others to Col. Wm. H. Jones, the collector at the port of Aransas. From all the foregoing facts and the unprecedented tide of emigration now flowing into our country, may we not hope, Mr. Editor, that you will use your best endeavors to [illegible] the proper authorities to reverse their decision and to give us "more Light."

I was very much gratified in a short trip up the Nueces Valley a few days since, to find such fine crops of Sea Island cotton. It is now clearly demonstrated that we have the best Sea Island cotton growing region in the world; the crops of Mr. Peterson and of others, from the [illegible] or [illegible] years roots, are very fine indeed. The two Mr. Dunns', Mr. B[illegible] and Mr. Atkinson have also very fine crops. I did not see Col. Bee's, J. [illegible] or Mr. Willetts, but learn they have very fine crops and are now progressing nicely in picking and ginning. One of our largest planters has gone to South Carolina for a large additional force of negroes to assist in gathering his crop in his future operations.

Corbett.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 6

News from Rio Grande City.—We take the liberty of laying before our readers the following letter from a reliable source on the Rio Grande. It seems the people have lost all confidence in the powers that be; but, there is a determination amongst them, which is worth more than the protection of all Mexico, (Matamoros included) and all they are receiving of the U.S:

Rio Grande City Texas,
13th October, 1859.

H. A. Maltby Esq., Dear Sir: I have just time to enclose you a "*Proclama*" of the renowned Cortinas, and say to you that our section of country is in a great stir at present, on account of Robbers and Indians. Fourteen men have been killed within the last month by them, that we know of. God knows how many others. WE have formed a committee of Vigilance, and are determined on fighting any marauders that may make an attack on our city, and by the time they clean us up, "in the language of Old Uncle Tilly," they will have to go home and say to their friends, "they had to fight to do it."

We have sent no express to the Governor or Gen. Twigs, for assistance, thinking they would not lend us a listening ear.

* * * * *

In much haste,

Yours, &c. _____.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 2, c. 6

Carpenters Wanted.—The numerous buildings and improvements going up in our city, and on different farms in the country occupy our carpenters to the utmost and have a demand for a number of others.

This is no *puff* but an actual fact, and worthy the implicit confidence of mechanics elsewhere, wanting employment, and *cash pay*.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 3, c. 3

Guerrillas Attack Brownsville.—On the morning of Wednesday our people awoke from their slumbers with their usual feeling of security, and were quietly proceeding to their accustomed avocations, when a circumstance most extraordinary and beyond parallel threw the city into the utmost consternation! It will be recollected that in July last our city Marshall was in the act of arresting a disorderly person, when one Nepomoceno Cortinas, who has an ubiquitous residence sometimes on this and sometimes on the other side of the river, shot the officer so badly that up to this moment he has not entirely recovered from the effects of the wound. Cortinas amediately [sic] made his escape. After a short stay at the rancho of his mother, about thirteen miles above here, he crossed the river and has since, until very lately, been in and about Matamoros. Wednesday morning he, with a band variously estimated at from sixty to one hundred men, armed and on horseback, all Mexicans by nativity but most of them outlaws from Mexico, whom we on the American side have foolishly given an asylum, rode into our city about daylight, posted their sentinels, and proceeded to pick out the men most disagreeable to them. Geo. Morris, William P. Neal, R. L. Johnson, Clemente Reys and Viviano Garcia were killed by them. Alejos Vela, belonging to Cortinas' gang, was killed by Johnson.

By this time our people were about to pass around the streets, but the guerrillas [sic] were in possession of them, and their sentinels held the garrison gates.

The few Americans here could not even pass out of their houses to meet together, and the

cries of "*Viva Cortinas y mueran los Gringos*," could be heard from the various sentinels.

At a late hour our citizens met for consultation, and after much consideration a strong patrol was organized, under efficient officers, to protect the city. No effort has been made to pursue the guerrillas, our number being too few to divide, and it is deemed unsafe for a small body to unite in pursuit.

Since the above was written, it has been well ascertained that instead of disbanding, Cortinas remains with his party, in increased force, defying attack and threatening [sic] assault. His force is said to be over two hundred men, who are encamped at his rancho, on the river, and are constantly receiving accessions. Our citizens are well armed and thoroughly in the alert. All without regard to nationality, are enrolled, and are acting in our impromptu military organization.

By the advice and approval of the Committee of Safety, a detachment of Mexican infantry passed over under Gen. Carvajal, and staid under guard with us all night. They are yet with us. On the night of the first attack, all the troops in Matamoros, and five hundred of the citizens, remained under arms all night, ready to assist in defending our families and homes from ruin.

The above extracts are taken from the Brownsville Flag of the 8th inst.

The Flag of the 15th inst., in speaking of the state of things there, says:

This is but little better than when we last wrote. The daily drill makes our men efficient and skillful but the constant watch wears out their energies. Cortinas is in Matamoros, at large, and surrounded by his guard. He yet has a camp well guarded and fortified, it is said, on this side of the river, in the *potrero* near his mother's rancho, and another at San Jose, a few miles out. A letter written by William Neale, Esq., to his daughter here, received yesterday, states that Nicholas Chano, the butcher, now not so favorably known here, has been to Cortinas' camp, and reports that he has three hundred and fifty men under his command, and that the Tampacuas Indians have joined him.

We have little fear of an attack in any open manner, or that if made it will be successful; but much injury may be done by the secretly setting fire of houses, or robbery of them in case our people are drawn off from one part wholly to another. Besides, under feints of attack, assassinations might be made of solitary individuals who might not be in the main body.

If Cortinas' men are well hid away in the chapparral [sic], it would be difficult to find them; but unless the finding is altogether impracticable, we imagine the best way to prevent attack is to strike the first blow. A few blows well struck would end the whole.

We also insert the following from the same paper; and ask for some one "placed high in authority," to answer the interrogatory?

Assistance From Abroad.—The two expresses sent, one on the 29th ult., and one on the 5th inst., to San Antonio, have returned. The last one bro't the reply of Gen. Twiggs to the appeal of our Committee of Safety for aid, which is cool enough. He does not even alude [sic] to the request for the reoccupying Fort Brown, as urged by them. It is a satisfaction to know that there is a [word left out] above him. On the other hand, three hundred volunteers, under the authorization from the Governor, are reported by the last expressman to have been on the point of starting out here when he left San Antonio.

The Rangers are now looked for every hour. In the meantime three well-mounted and efficient pieces of artillery are in our midst, with a sufficiency of ammunition, all under the direction of St. Langdon, and we feel quite confident that we will be able to crush out any attempt on us from any quarter.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 22, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

Down on Hoops.—One of our Ottawa widowers wants us to give hoops fits. He says that while eating his dinner the other day, at a large hotel in a neighboring city where "female" waiters are employed, one of the waiters served him with a plate of soup, and, as she turned round the vanguard of her immense hooping came in contact with one of the waiters, and the rear part was thrown up over his plate of soup and a portion of the contents carried off with it. Our complainant went on with his soup, however, detecting any peculiarity about it, but he protests against enormous hoops being worn at hotels. We should think that he has good cause for complaint.—Republican.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 1, c. 4

A Female Sailor.—On Wednesday morning a woman was charged at the Newport police office, Monmouthshire, with walking about in male attire. The defendant, who wore seaman's clothes, in her appearance, gait, and gestures, seemed every inch a sailor; and in boldness of conduct presented a striking contrast to the quiet looking seaman, her husband, who stood beside her. It seemed that for the last ten years she had scorned her proper clothing, and devoted herself to hard and incessant toil. In various capacities she has voyaged to Quebec, Bombay, and other distant places, and at times has shipped in coasters, never shrinking from her share of duty, but loading and unloading with the crew. On one occasion, it is said, she carried between the vessel and the shore, in a day, no less than 70 sacks of flour; while at the pinch her courage never flagged and her strength never failed. During two of the ten years spoken of however, she did a little duty on land, working as a navy upon the railway to Exeter. Yet her sex was never suspected. Her last voyage was from Truro, as an able-bodied seaman, at £2 5s per month. She arrived at Newport a short time ago, but her sex became by some means revealed; and, as she continued to remain here and dress as usual, the sergeant of the dock police preferred [sic] the charge. The defendant said she was married the 12th of July last, and shipped as cook and steward at Truro about three months ago, in order to support her husband, who had met with a misfortune. The woman was discharged, and left the court, obtaining the protection of an omnibus, however, to prevent being mobbed.—London Times.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

W. R. Hughes sells sweet potatoes at one dollar per bushel; see his card.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

From Laredo—No Protection
from Indians as yet.
Great Sheep and Goat country.

We are informed that the Company of U. S. Foot Artillery which lately marched down (150 weary miles) from Los Moras and Eagle Pass to Laredo, has "returned to the place from whence it came;" having performed the pedestrian feat, without finding any Comanches in the country sufficiently considerate or chivalrous enough to accommodate the Command with a fight on the high way.

It must be rather disgusting to "The Department" to discover that the red skins are so disobliging as not, Quixotically, to come into its admirable arrangements for their utter

annihilation.

Somehow the Comanches and Mescaleros prefer rather to ride a destructive and merciless raid amongst the stock farms or our citizens, remote from highways—to drive off herds of valuable horses and breeding stock into Mexico—to scalp farmers, herdsmen and Shepherds—to outrage their wives and daughters—to carry off or lance their children—than to plant themselves in the middle of the high road, right in the way of Foot Artillery, to have a romantic but (to them) evidently profitless destructive "passage at arms."

"The Department" may not be able to understand all this but we fancy that our readers and citizens can. A Company of U. S. mounted troops arrived in Laredo, at the close of last week, and it was hoped by the citizens that at length tardy protection was about to be extended to their settlements; but they had to bear with what philosophy and patience they could. Its departure for Camp Ringold [sic]—120 miles lower down the Rio Grande—where the danger from Indians is not one half as threatening as it is about and around Laredo, and its valuable stock farms, within a distance of sixty miles.

Laredo is the oldest town on the Rio Grande, and its importance is almost wholly dependent on stock raising for support. Within a few years a number of cattle and sheep farms, have been started, along the bank of the Rio Grande by Laredo people and also eastward towards the Nueces. Those farms have been very successful, and have presented the people at large hopes of speedy wealth, where for years only poverty presided. We state it as a fact which we can procure at any time we may be called upon—that there have been greater returns from small capitals invested in stock by the people of Laredo—than from any invested by people who boast so much about San Antonio and the vicinity of New Braunfels, and other places, belonging as it were to a kind of "Mutual Admiration Society."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 2, c. 5

The Banquete.

The substantial improvements in this county in, and adjacent to the Banquete, attract much attention. A post office has been established there, and J. Williamson Moses Esq., has been appointed Postmaster.

New settlers are rapidly filling the neighborhood; buildings are going up in various directions. The Banquete, within the past year or two, has become a great market for the purchase of horses, mares, and mules. Traders here intercept caballadas from Mexico, the drivers of which willingly linger to recruit their stock on pasturage not excelled in the world. The business with traders who buy entire caballadas and sell out in lot to suit purchasers, who desire particular descriptions, forms quite an important traffic. The traffic in stock at this point, although as yet in its infancy, amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. All of the many ranchos lately opened, are in a prosperous condition. A good school which to our mind is of as much importance at least, as stock raising, is soon to be established there. The progress of this section of the country is indeed very gratifying.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 2, c. 6

Gen. Sam Houston and A. J. Hamilton were in Bastrop on the 5th inst. The Intelligencer thus describes the respects paid by the Cadets of the Bastrop Military Institute:

*

*

At nine o'clock P.M. the eighty cadets, accompanied by the

officers with fife and drum, made their appearance before the hotel, and after playing a few national airs, gave "three cheers for the Hero of San Jacinto and the Governor elect of Texas." Gen. Houston came forward upon the balcony of the hotel, and in a neat patriotic speech, in which he eloquently defined the duties of the Citizen, the Soldier, and pointed to the Western and Southward march of our country, as the probable theatre for many of the ardent youths who heard him, he returned his thanks, and concluded, by an acknowledgement of his gratitude to the country, who are the children of that Texas, for which he and his comrades suffered so much. His address was at once so pathetic, that it went to the hearts of all present.

The remarks must have been listened to by between two and three hundred persons, who had thus, upon the first announcement of his arrival, rushed together to pay him their respects in a manner which amounted to enthusiasm.

The Cadets then called for Gen. Hamilton, who came forward and made one of those addresses, which have given him so high a reputation as an orator. We believe all were pleased with both efforts.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

Corn Cookies.—One cup of sour cream, half cup of butter, one cup of sugar, one cup of flour, two cups of corn meal, one teaspoonful of soda (rub in the flour dry) half teaspoonful of salt, one egg, half of one nut met. Put all in together, mix with a spoon until it becomes a light foam; bake in a hot oven 25 minutes. Eat with tart preserves for tea.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 5, 1859, p. 2, c. 3

Special Correspondence of the Ranchero.
Important from the Rio Grande.

Rio Grande City, }
Oct. 30th, 1859. }

Henry A. Maltby Esq.—Dear Sir: In consequence of the interruptions daily, of our mail service on the Rio Grande, by Cortinas and his party, and also reports which obtain credence in this place—that he has parties of men on all the mail routes from this river to the interior of the State for the purpose of opening and examining all mail matter, I have thought it might interest you to learn something of affairs on this frontier. You are aware that Cortinas has now under his command a force of some 300 pelados. They are encamped near Brownsville and are still threatening the place. On Monday last a party consisting of some 60 white men, and 50 Mexicans (from Matamoras) went out to give him battle; we learn from the Brownsville mail carrier that the Brownsville party were defeated with a loss of no lives, and four wounded. The Brownsville party had two pieces of artillery which was under the command of D. Miguel Tejerina who commanded the Mexican force from Matamoras; these two pieces were captured by Cortinas and are now in his possession. We here are at a loss to conceive why the artillery was placed under the command of *Mexicans to fight Mexicans*.—Our mails are continually cut open and the contents destroyed, and in consequence of this we are obliged to depend upon the verbal statements of the mail rider. We are in daily expectation of an attack on this place, as we have learned on what we consider good authority, that it is the intention of his band of *greaser pelados* to exterminate the *gringos* on this river.—Gen. Caravajal, very kindly, has offered us assistance, but we have declined; we are determined to accept no assistance from the other side,

and if we are attacked, we intend to give Mr. Cortinas and his party the best fight we can. I think there is now a good opportunity for some of your unquiet spirits (and who can be quiet?) to get into service on this river, and they may be heartily sure that if they come they will be well received and will have opportunities to wipe out some old scores. Gen. Caravajal is now organizing his Brigade in Carmago and would no doubt be pleased to receive some few *gringos*. I send this by an express kindly furnished by Col. H. C. Davis, we cannot depend upon the mails.

Yours truly, G.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 5, 1859, p. 2, c. 3

Mr. Glavecke, who left Brownsville last Friday, and is now with the company of Rangers, represents the people of that city as being in great distress, expecting hourly for Cortinas to attack them. Cortinas had written a letter to the Chief Justice of Cameron county, ordering that the person of Mr. Glavecke should be immediately delivered into his hands; and in case of refusal, threatened to march on and destroy the place immediately.

The guerrillas have taken the mails and made the riders prisoners upon the routes leading from Brownsville to Rio Grande City, and from Brownsville to this city, thereby cutting off all mail communication with other portions of the State. They have also taken the Deputy Sheriff, F. Campbell, Esq., prisoner, since which nothing has been heard from him, and it is supposed he has been killed.

Cortinas says he will lay in ambush for the purpose of "cutting off and murdering the Rangers," upon their approach to Brownsville.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 5, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

Latest News from the Rio Grande.

By reference to the communication from Rio Grande City, signed "G." which reached here by express, it will be seen that the inhabitants of that place are expecting to be attacked by Cortinas' party. It will be well for the Rangers to watch the movements of the bandits, and see that they do not murder and plunder our citizens at other points after forcing him from Brownsville.

In a private note our correspondent informs us that there are only some 20 Americans in that place, but will all fight, and asks for some assistance. Can something be done for them?

The San Antonio *Herald* says it is not improbable that Gov. Runnels might have done something for the citizens of Rio Grande City, had they notified him of their wants.

Still Later.

*Cortinas' Band Attack Rio Grande City—
Plunder a Portion of the Place—The Citizens
Petition the Governor for Relief—
The Inhabitants in great Danger, &c., &c.*

Since the above was in type, we have learned that a portion of Cortinas' band have attacked Rio Grande City and pillaged all the houses except those lying in the centre [sic] of the place, which were probably protected by the citizens.

An express was sent immediately to the Governor, asking for assistance forthwith, to

prevent the bandits from burning the city and murdering its inhabitants. The expressman passed the Banquete on Thursday last, on his way to Austin, from whom the above facts were obtained by citizens of this place.

All the rancheros on the Rio Grande are driving their stock into the interior of the State, to place them beyond the reach of the outlaws.

It seems by reports from authentic sources, that Cortinas has two bodies of men organized, and his force is estimated by some to amount to 700 men. Truly a sad state of affairs; but as soon as the "foot artillery" can march to their relief it will be all right. With good luck they will be there in *three months*.

A Fight with Cortinas.

Our unfortunate city is in peril beyond any which has heretofore threatened it. The force which went up to attack Cortinas' camp, met with such defeat on yesterday as it is painful for us to chronicle. It was composed of about sixty rancheros and twenty Americans on our side, and fifty of the Matamoras Infantry under Lieut. Col. Laranca—the force from our side being under the command of Capt. Thomson.—They carried with them a 4-pounder, belonging to the Mexican force, and a 4-pound howitzer, belonging to Capt. Kenedy.

After giving our account of the fight in which the Americans lost their two pieces of artillery, the *Flag* continues:

Suffice it to say, that Cortinas has won a victory, is in possession of two very efficient pieces of artillery and all the ammunition belonging to them, of a large keg of rifle powder, and some provisions which were on the route when the fight took place. It is said that he has two men at least killed, if not more, while on our side four of the Mexican force were wounded at their gun, but none killed. One of the men from Brownsville, (a Mexican) was badly wounded.

From what we can judge and divine from the statements of those present, especially from the report of Lieut. Col. Laranca and Mr. Thomson, Cortinas had some two hundred and fifty or three hundred men. This is, however, conjectural, as others estimate it far less. Few of the bandits were seen at any one time, but an old U. S. soldier observed, fifty men, hid as they were, could have stampeded five hundred in a road guarding dismounted cannon. Cortinas will of course be able now greatly to increase his band, having artillery and the prestige of a victory to aid him. Indeed it is already known that he received a considerable accession on the very night of the route of our men. He has good arms, and his men are under discipline and fight with zeal.

Yesterday he again stopped the U. S. mail coming from Laredo, cut it open, examined each letter in it, opening all but two, kept the mail rider until to-day, and then sent him down with such of the open letters and way bills as he did not care to retain. This mail rider left him this day examining the contents of the mail bag which left Brownsville this morning.

We are now barricading our streets and preparing for an attack upon the town, which we may expect night by night. For ten days we past nearly every man has remained on the watch all or most of the night. We are well nigh worn out, but will persevere, hoping for the arrival of the promised Rangers. If there are any friends of ours within striking distance, we hope they will not fail to come at once to our relief.—"American *Flag* extra, Oct. 25th, 1859."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 5, 1859, p. 4, c. 2

Camels v. Mules.—In a letter to the Secretary of War, Lieut. Beale, who has charge of the Government camels, says that they are employed constantly in the severest toil—packing

provisions, water, working utensils, &c., from one camp to another, and that his opinion in favor of the advantages of using them is strengthened every day. He says that he has tried effectually the comparative value of mules and camels as pack animals. The experiment leaves the palm with the camels. Both trains receiving the order to start at the same time in the morning, the camels invariably arrived at camp in a distance of twenty-five miles an hour, and sometimes an hour and twenty minutes ahead of the mule train; the mules carrying a burden of two hundred pounds, the camels packed with four hundred, besides a rider armed with his rifle, revolver and ammunition, and his bedding laid over the back to sit on. The difficulties of rearing camels he says, have been greatly exaggerated.—He thinks they require no more attention than our common domestic cattle.—Galveston Civilian.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

Gov. Hardin R. Runnels, has recommended Thursday the 24th inst., to be observed as a day of public Thanksgiving and Prayer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

On Monday the 7th instant, the citizens of Corpus Christi in meeting assembled, appointed Messrs. H. A. Gilpin, T. A. Dwyer, G. Pfenffer, J. M. Howell, and J. O'Connor a Committee of Safety. The committee established General Orders for the government of the city, and the Corpus Christ Guards are enforcing them to the letter.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

A company of 25 men will leave this place to-day at 11 o'clock. Also, a company made up in the counties of San Patricio and Live Oak, consisting of 40 men will leave the town of San Patricio to-day, all going for the purpose of reinforcing Tobins' command. The company from this place are officered as follows: H. W. Berry Capt.; A. P. Tibbitts 1st Lieut.; Wm. J. Davis 2nd Lieut.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

The Latest.

Since we issued our last extra, we have been favored with another letter from Col. H. Clay Davis, dated the 9th inst., who is on his way to Bexar and Austin, to solicit aid for the frontier. He writes us that he had HEARD from 15 miles this side of Brownsville, and that, according to his information, Cortinas withdrew his forces on Saturday, the 5th inst., with a view to concentrate them against Tobin's command, and prevent their further advance upon the Arroyo Colorado; that Brownsville was defended by 200 men from Matamoras—the Americans under the command of Capt. Kennedy, and the foreign population under that of Capt. Delmas—and that the streets were well barricaded, having chains stretched across them. A report was current that the steamer Arizona would bring 300 U. S. Regulars from New Orleans, and the Colonel expresses the opinion that if this proves true, Brownsville would be safe.

On the 5th inst., a party of armed men had crossed from Mexico to this side, about six miles below Rio Grande City, surprising a "fandango party," killing two and making twenty-six prisoners—with all of whom the invaders again recrossed the river. The names of the two killed are Jesus Rivas and Pedro Villareal.

Mat Nolan, Esq., our sheriff, arrived in town on Thursday evening last, and from him we learn that Cortinas had his advanced guard at a place about two miles beyond the Rancho "Carrisitas," the property of Don Juan Nepomacino Cabayas. He had been informed by Mexicans, that this advance consisted of twenty-nine men, and that another of sixty men was posted on the upper road leading from Brownsville to Santa Gertrudes. He was also informed that Brownsville still held out. The Carrisitas is situated twenty miles this side of the Arroyo Colorado, or about sixty-miles from Brownsville.

In addition to the above we insert the extra alluded to in full, thereby giving all news, and its source as it comes to us. Between the foregoing statements and the affidavit of Mr. Miller, there is a contradiction in regard to the fall of Brownsville. The truth beyond contradiction must soon arrive.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

Report of the Committee of Safety.

Mr. Editor: The Committee of Safety avail themselves of the columns of your paper, to lay before the citizens of Corpus Christi the measures that have been taken for the protection and defence [sic] of our city.

A chain of reliable communication has been established on the western boundary of our county, from the mouth of the Lagarto, via Santa Rosa Rancho, to the mouth of the Almos, through which they will receive the earliest information of the movements of Cortinas or his men.

An organization of the citizens into a military company, which has been named the *Corpus Christi Guards*, was effected by the election of F. A. Jordan, Captain, J. A. Ware, 1st, and M. R. Polk, 2d Lieutenants, and the appointment of the inferior officers of the company.

A strict patrol of foot and mounted guards has been kept up regularly by night.

The Committee have been able to send an express to the Governor of the State, giving him information of the warlike condition of our frontier, and calling upon him to send volunteer companies for our defense.

A scouting party has been sent out to co-operate with scouts from the Banquete, who will push their way into the country now occupied by Cortinas' men, and give information of their acts.

The committee beg leave to assure the citizens that they will use promptness and vigilance for our common protection, and only ask that protection and support from the citizens which is due from *ordinary* patriotism.

By order of the Committee,

H. A. Gilpin,
Chairman Committee of Safety.

Geo. Pfeuffer, Secretary.
Nov. 12, 1859.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Astounding News from the Rio Grande! The Mexican Population Up in Arms! Actual War Upon the Frontier! [from our Extra of the 7th.]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

Summary: Still Later. A Battle Fought—Brownsville Has Fallen—The Deputy Sheriff Hung—Americans Retreat to a Foreign Country for Protection—Cortinas Victorious.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 12, 1859, p. 2, c. 5

Summary: Meeting at Banquete to consider best mode of protection against the depredations of the bandit Cortinas.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 19, 1859, p. 1, c. 2-4

[From the New Orleans Picayune.]

Sport in Western Texas.

Corpus Christi, Tex., Oct. 25, 1859.

Dear Pic.—The summer and most of the autumn have almost imperceptibly glided away, and one by one our visitors have gradually left us, not on account of health, climate or weather, for none of these attributes can possibly be surpassed in any portion of the known world, but, obeying the pressing calls of business, which, it seems, almost everywhere, but particularly in the South, has set in with a full, strong tide, much sooner than upon a previous season in many years.

A goodly number of your city folks showed their good sense and sound judgment in the selection of this delightful summer retreat, and well were they rewarded by the never-ending variety and the duration of their amusements and enjoyments; and many a fireside will doubtless be made cheerful and charmed the coming winter evenings by the recital of exploits and success in hunting, fishing &c., in Western Texas. For myself, I may truly say that I am well nigh surfeited with my favorite amusement, fishing. I am frequently forced to laugh in my sleeve at the piscatory reminiscences of some our Northern brethren of the rod, in the effort they make to persuade themselves that catching two or three tiny trout, that will weight a pound or less each, is a glorious day's fun. But here, scarcely a day has passed during the entire season that any half-way sort of piscatorial assassin could not bring home, in two hours at farthest, at least a hundred pounds of red fish, sheephead, croakers, trout, flounders and semi-occasionally, pompano. My first miraculous draught was in a party of six, who in less than three hours from the time the first line was wet, caught one hundred and twenty-six red fish, averaging eight pounds each; and on a subsequent occasion, when one of your most influential citizens formed one of the party, we captured in six hours five thousand pounds! varying in size from ten to fifty pounds each; and I must not neglect to mention that performances were done with hook and line, rod and reel—the last mentioned articles being the only weapons I ever use. This may seem to border on the marvelous, but I assure you that every word is strictly true.

Papabot visited us in August; they were in capital "fix," as plentiful as blackberries, and as welcome a guest as any of the season. Quail in any numbers followed in their wake, and the stream has since perpetually flowed, without any apparent diminution. In fact they are an every day dish. Teal ducks are abundant, fat and fine. The larger ducks—mallard, canvas back, red head, widgeons, &c.—are slowly coming on.—Geese are hourly gabbling over our heads, in myriads. Wild turkeys do not much inhabit this part of the country, but a ride of forty miles or so up the Nueces river brings you into their settlements. I lately returned from an excursion into that part of Texas, and found them in vast numbers. I got eight in one afternoon; they were in the best possible condition for the table. A good joke was practiced upon me while upon one of the

turkey hunts, which I will reserve for your private ear. It is a good thing and it will keep.

One of the most spirit stirring amusements which this part of the world affords, and in which I have frequently partaken, is the chase of the deer with the greyhound. Imagine a level plain, extending as far as the eye can reach, the sight unbroken, except by occasional clumps of mesquite bushes, which kindly serve to screen you from the view of your intended victims, and upon this vast plain myriads of deer, with bright antlers gleaming in the morning sun, quietly grazing—lulled by the general silence into a fatal security, little dreaming that they are "the observed of all observers"—appeasing their hunger with the luxuriant food which on all sides surrounds them, and slaking their thirst with the glittering dew drops which the sun thus early has not gained strength to dissipate. Four well mounted horsemen (no relation to any of James's) with two of the largest and most highly bred greyhounds that England could produce, (selected by the best Judges, with the greatest care, for Mr. Richard Ten Broeck, and by him sent to a friend in this region) compete this portion of the picture.

The distance from Corpus is about twenty miles, which we made the night before, and partook of the generous hospitality of our friend Wm. S. Gregory, Esq., whose rancho on the Laureles tract, one of the finest in this part of the State, embraces about sixty thousand acres of land in one body.

We were stirring betimes—ere the Aurora land

"Scattered with rosy light the dewy lawn,"

and stealthily approaching the herd, about a half mile distant, we were soon ready for action.

I am inclined to think that much interest might be added to the narrative, if I had the artistic skill to portray in colors sufficiently glowing my appearance, and the feelings which both animated and subdued me on the occasion of my initiation into the mysteries and delights of the charming sport. But my pen refuses the office, and your generous imagination must fill the void.—Fancy, then, an individual of my sylph like form and masterly inactivity, (it is generally conceded that I am no myth,) a very tyro in the deer chasing business, mounted upon a restless, runaway, prancing, discontented Bucephalus, a veteran in the line of pursuing everything he sees in the distance, who (or which) was attempting, as I supposed, to rid himself of an unaccustomed load, and I as obstinately and industriously determined to thwart his designs. He paws the ground angrily; he stamps he rears, he plunges and pitches like a laboring barque in a fearful storm, and is only made frantically happy when the start is ordered. I wish I could have "sat like patience on a monument," and smiled at anything, but I couldn't. I was as mad as a hornet for being caught in such a scrape, besides, I expected every minute that I should be thrown from the restless brute. All this manoeuvring [sic] on his part, in the plentitude of my simplicity, I mistook for an effort to get me off, while, as the sequel shows, he but partook of the general joy and excitement, and his only desire was to be off himself; for, at the word, he darted like the bounding roe, and in an instant I was in the lead of the party. I bounced like a trap ball, but I stuck like a leech. If I had fallen, oh, what a fall, my countrymen! I hate to think of it.

When within about a quarter of a mile of the herd, which could not have numbered less than a thousand, the does, ever upon the alert, gave intimation of their knowledge of our approach, by hastily widening the distance between us, and the sight alone of such a moving mass, at such a rapid flight, amply repaid us for all our pains and anxiety. The bucks, either from gallantry or bravery, heeded us not, and they apparently took no notice of us until we had got within about two hundred yards of the nearest ones. Our approach was on the windward side, and when they scented us they scampered off, waving their uplifted flags in gallant style. The pace at first was slow, visibly, however, increasing at each bound, the whole party making a

complete circle around us, in the effort to get to windward of us.

And here I beg pardon for the digression to give my experience upon one point in regard to prairie hunting, and to tell the veteran hunter upon other grounds, who takes bold and daring leaps at fallen trees and deep bayous, in the forest lands, through brake, bramble and briar; at sturdy timber fences, stone walls, and broad drains, who

"Follows the stag, thro' the slippery crag,"

fearlessly and desperately, and is often foiled in his search, that he may learn of a tyro that, on all occasions, upon the broad plain, the open prairie, the deer invariably runs to windward, and when properly approached, as invariably describes a circle.

Silently the dogs took up the running, and at a terrific pace; they gradually gained upon a fat buck, which they simultaneously picked out, and when he became aware of their intent the race was thrilling beyond any descriptive powers that I possess. The novelty of the scene may have had a peculiar effect upon me, and I dare say it did, but no contest between high mettled racers—no, not even the dead heat between Altrof and Grey Medoc, nor Peyton's tremendous burst of speed in the Peyton Stake—ever produced such an oppressive, choking feeling, which only found relief when the noble stag lay dead at my feet.

When I recovered the mastery of my steed, I found that running the circle was no joke and that my weight would tell against being in time. I therefore reined him up, rode the chord of the arc, and had a capital view of the chase. They ran about half a mile; one of the dogs caught the buck by the hamstring, the other by the throat; while struggling with the dogs, the foremost of the party dismounted and struck him to the heart with a sharp knife, and I arrived just in time to be "in at the death."

Your esteemed New Orleans friends, J. F. C____rs and H____y F____e, were of the party—and a jollier one, that and the succeeding day, would not be easily found in this hemisphere. I take the liberty of referring you to them for the accuracy of my statement about the "miraculous draught of fishes." . . . Rover.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 19, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

Summary: The Frontier—Our Situation and Wants.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 19, 1859, p. 4, c. 2

No More Waltzing, &c.—A great revolution, it is stated by a New York writer, is about to take place in the dancing world. The polka redowa dances, waltzes, and all kinds of dancing which involves the whirling motion, or exaggerated agitation of skirts, are to be utterly excluded from "good" society. There are two reasons for this. Middle-aged ladies do not stand an equal chance with the younger ladies in the nimble *pas*, particularly when such dances succeed one another during an entire evening. Another reason is—hoops. A young lady was waltzing in Paris, and her guardian standing near. During a momentary pause he said to her, "I saw them—they're blue." Now, the young lady had blue rosettes in her slippers and also blue garters. Though uncertain as to which her guardian referred, she concluded to stop waltzing in the expanded crinoline she then wore. For a like cause, "good" society is going to frown upon all "round" dancing as long as hoops are worn. Hoops, in a rapid waltz, make an extensive display, and hoops cannot be dispensed with.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 26, 1859, p. 2, c. 3

New Military Organization—
Walker Mounted Rifles.

With a view specially to the protection of all portions of our own and adjacent counties, in any emergency, under the act of the Legislature of February 15, 1858, entitled "An act to incorporate all military uniformed companies now organized, or to be organized in the State," a number of the citizens of Nueces county, met last Wednesday, and formed themselves into a military company, under the name of the Walker Mounted Rifles. 100 men were enrolled. An election of officers was held, which resulted as follows:

President, Joseph O'Connor; Vice President, W. N. Staples; Secretary, Reuben Holbein; Treasurer, W. S. Shaw.

Captain, Charles Lovenskiold; 1st Lieut. H. A. Maltby; 2d Lieuts., Joseph Fitzsimmons, Miles R. Polk; Surgeon, W. I. Moore; Orderly Sergeant, P. O'Donaghue; Duty Sergeants, John Riggs, T. M. Lawrence, T. N. Tinney; corporals J. W. Hooper, J. G. Warren, L. C. Levy, M. Kelley; Musicians, Jacob Ziegler; H. E. Busse; Farier, Peter Dunn; Armorer, Richard Schubert.

There being no arms of any kind at this place, the captain will leave for Austin in a few days, to obtain those necessary from the Government, under the provisions of the act of Jan. 19, 1858, authorizing the Governor to grant arms and accoutrements to volunteer companies.

The company is named in commemoration of Andrew Jackson Walker, deceased, whose whole life was devoted to the defense of this frontier.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 26, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

Letter from Brownsville.

Brownsville, Nov. 14, 1859.

Mr. Editor:--WE arrived here on the night of the 10th inst., without attack or accident. On our arrival near town about 11 o'clock we were fired upon by the people in town, who supposed we were the enemy. It appears that a party of some twenty or thirty of Cortinas' men had passed along the edge of town firing upon the outposts and placing every man on the alert, so that when we came, it was regarded as a second attack. Adolph Glavecke had two balls pass through his coat, and a spent ball struck "old gray," but no one was injured. We fell back and after a few hours succeeded in making ourselves known, and then were heartily welcomed by the citizens.

Until I arrived I had no idea of the situation of this town. Every street is fortified, and every man and boy strong enough to bear arms are on guard every night. Every family has moved inside the barricades, and nothing but defense occupies the attention of the people. Cortinas is encamped just above town with a force of uncertain strength, but estimated at from three to ten hundred—known to amount to several hundred and constantly increasing.

He is strongly fortified, with cannon to support him, and chaparral for a hiding place. He will doubtless make a stand there and fight the rangers, but will be attacked before long. The artillery is expected from above soon.

Our old friend Sam Jackson, 1st Lieut. of Tobin's rangers, was accidentally killed by a fall from a carriage yesterday evening. His funeral was attended to-day by the company, and also the citizen guards. The rangers and citizens feel the loss as a severe one, and they will long remember with sorrow this sad opening of the enterprise of the Texas boys, for the defense of the frontier.

On Saturday night, the old Mexican man Cabrara, was taken from the room where he was confined and hung. Who did it, is not known. The act is almost universally condemned by the people for its secrecy, and impolicy. He was doubtless one of Cortinas' officers, but after being so long a prisoner—to be taken out by an unknown few and hung secretly, and at night—was regarded with almost uniform disapprobation.

The mails to and from this place have all been taken, until every mail route is practically closed. The mail goes to Point Isabel now, however, and has for three days undisturbed.

The Laredo mail has not come or gone for some twenty days—and is not likely to, for the next month.

I send an express to-day to Santa Rosa; the expressman will take the mail and bring another, if he succeeds in getting through. He will go on by-roads and at night. I presume it will be some time before the route will be opened so that mails can go regularly, and safely between here and Corpus Christi.

It is impossible for any person not here to imagine the extent of this disturbance. What are Cortinas' designs, or what moment he will attack the town, is unknown. The larger part of the Mexican population in this neighborhood, are flocking to his standard, or giving him secret support. It has become a war of races, and may become a war of extermination. The alarm here is very great, and there is a good cause for it.

This morning three men who were prisoners in Cortinas' camp, were hung. One was McFadden, who was in Corpus a few days ago, the others were American—names unknown. This is supposed to be in retaliation for the death of Cabrara.

Yours truly,

John Graham.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 26, 1859, p. 2, c. 4

Attention Volunteers.

Goliad, Nov. 23, 1859.

The undersigned has authority from Governor Runnels to muster men into the service of the State. Volunteers in the vicinity of the Nueces will please concentrate at the Banquete, if they desire to enter the service. Arrangements will be made to furnish the troops with rations of subsistence and forage. The pay will be \$26.50 per month, for each private.

The men now here will be moved to the Banquete, and will reach there on Friday evening.

John S. Ford.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 26, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

A Hint to Mothers.—It is a great mistake to plait the hair of children under eleven or twelve years of age. The process of plaiting more or less strains the hairs in their roots by pulling them tight, and tends to deprive them of their regular supply of nutriment, and checks their growth. The hair of girls should be cut rather short, and allowed to curl freely. When they are about eleven or twelve, the hair should be twisted into a coil not too tight, nor tied at the end with thin thread, but with a piece of ribbon.

Cortina Still Triumphant!
Four Americans Murdered, and
their Bodies Mutilated.
Latest from Brownsville!!

Corpus Christi, Texas, Nov. 30, '59.

Mr. Mat Nolan, Sheriff of Nueces county, has just arrived from Brownsville, this Wednesday evening, 30th of November, having left that city on Sunday last at noon.

He reports, that on Sunday, the 20th of November, a detachment of 30 men of Tobin's command had a fight with a part of Cortina's men on the Palo Alto Prairie, where McCay, Dr. Mallett, Greer of San Antonio, and Fox of Live Oak, were killed, Lieut. Littleton, Sheriff of Karnes county, severely, though not mortally wounded, and several other men more or less slightly wounded.

On Monday, the 21st November, he (Mr. Nolan) assisted at the burial of the slain Americans, and found their bodies dismembered in a most disgusting and horrible manner.

On Tuesday, the 22d November, under command of Capt. Tobin, 200 volunteers sallied out from Brownsville in search of Cortina. Their advance guard of some 20 men, under command of Lieut. Pugh, came on the enemy, about nine miles from Brownsville, at about noon, and found them in position, strongly entrenched and fortified. From their fortifications a most galling fire of round shot, grape and canister was opened upon the advance party, and an overwhelming force of the enemy at the same time approaching them on the flanks, they were driven in, and falling back upon the main body of Americans, hotly pressed by Cortina and his followers, retreat became general.

On Wednesday, the 23d of Nov., Capt. Tobin with 250 men, dismounted, and having with them a 24 Pound Howitzer, again sallied out to attack Cortina at his fortified camp, but after a careful reconnoissance [sic] of the approaches and position, it was deemed necessary to withdraw without making the contemplated attack.

Fifty Regular U. S. Troops were in the Barracks at Brownsville, but did not join the volunteers or participate in any of the skirmishes.

Six American prisoners, in the hands of Cortina, at the time of the hanging of Cabrara, had been killed in "retaliation."

The Mexican flag is flying above Cortina's fortress. His scouts were seen at various places as far out as 45 miles from the city of Brownsville.

The forces or strength of Cortina have not been overestimated, nor the condition of affairs in Brownsville, or the hardships undergone by hits inhabitants since Sept. last, been exaggerated or overrated.

The Proclamation of Juan N.
Cortina, to the Inhabitants
of the State of Texas.

The Brownsville Flag Extra of the 26th Nov. last, contains a proclamation of Cortina to the Mexican inhabitants of Texas. It came to hand at so late an hour that we cannot give it in full, it being about two columns in length. The editor of the Flag truthfully calls it a collection of balderdash and impudence.

After taking a view of matters in regard to Mexicans and Texas since its organization, Cortina says:

Mexicans! My part is taken; the voice of revelation whispers to me that to me is entrusted the work of breaking the chains of your slavery, and that the Lord will enable me with powerful arm to fight against our enemies, in compliance with the requirements of that Sovereign Majesty who from this day forward will hold us under His protection. On my part, I am ready to offer myself as a sacrifice for your happiness, and counting upon the means necessary for the discharge of my ministry, you may count upon my co-operation should no cowardly attempt put an end to my days.

This undertaking will be sustained on the following bases:

First. A Society is organized in the State of Texas which devoted itself sleeplessly, until the work is crowned with success, to the improvement of the unhappy condition of those Mexicans resident therein, exterminating their tyrants, to which end those who compose it are ready to shed their blood and suffer the death of martyrs.

Second. As this society contains within itself the elements necessary to accomplish the great end of its labors, the veil of impenetrable secrecy [sic] covers "The Great Book" in which the articles of its constitution are written; while so delicate are the difficulties which must be overcome that no honorable man can have cause for alarm if imperious exigencies require them to act without reserve.

Third. The Mexicans of Texas repose their lot under the good sentiments of the Governor elect of the State, Gen. Houston, and trust that upon his elevation to power he will begin with care to give us legal protection within the limits of his powers.

Mexicans! Peace be with you! Good inhabitants of the State of Texas, look on them as brothers, and keep in mind that which the Holy Spirit saith, "Thou shalt not be the friend of the passionate man, nor join thyself to the madman, lest thou learn his mode of work and scandalize thy soul."

County of Cameron, Camp in the Rancho del Carmen, November 23d, 1856.

Juan N. Cortina.

The Flag comments on the Proclamation thus:

We invite the attention of the people abroad to his pretension that the Mexicans of this region (we suppose he means from the Nueces to the Rio Grande) "claim the right to expel all Americans within the same." He professes to be at the head of a secret society organized for this object. He claims modestly for his co-villains all the virtues, especially those of gentleness, purity and loveliness of disposition. This he says of himself and his followers, who, after shooting into and beating the dead bodies of Mallet and Greer, and McCay, slain in the fight between a portion of his forces and thirty rangers at Palo Alto on Sunday last, and after having in like cowardly manner treated his prisoner, young Fox, after he had surrendered his arms when surrounded, descended to such depth of degradation as to dismember the bodies of the slain in a manner no disgusting as to be too horrible to tell, and then, as does the wild but far more Christian Comanche, ornamented their saddle bows with the beastly trophies of their victory. And these men are the graduates of the *presidios* of Mexico and the penitentiaries of Texas—he, himself, for years under indictment for murder, [illegible] stealing and other crimes, and his

whole clan now engaged in whole sale robbery, horse stealing and murder.

These people have heretofore defied justice on either side of the river, and now, banded together in an imposing army, nought [sic] but the heavy arm of the Union can put a stop to their villainy. He has heavily recruited from the outlaws of Mexico, despite the vigilance of the Constitutional authorities, who detest his crimes and fear his complicity with the party of Miramon and Woll.

All the complaints insinuated in this production are utterly without foundation. These men live usually by horse stealing—by industry, never. They have never been robbed of any property, but many times have imposed on honest men with stolen animals. They have escaped from the conviction due to their crimes by "false witnesses," of whom he complains as employed against him. His appeal to Gen. Houston to sustain him in jail-breaking, in murder, in mail robbery, and waging war on the authorities of the State, is the most stupendous impudence of all. Yet he has now under him quite an army, entrenched in a well constructed fort defended by cannon, with experienced Reactionary officers to direct his military operations, while his will is obeyed by his hundreds implicitly and unreservedly. Is this so to remain? He is a foreigner, levying war against the State and Union within their borders, and flying a foreign flag above his fortress on American soil, and yet fifty men are all the soldiers that within two months have been vouchsafed by our Government to put down this rebellion or repel this invasion—call it by what name you will.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 3, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

Prevention Better Than Cure.—If I were inclined to quit the army, I believe the branch of my profession which I should take up would be that of sanitary reform—the study of health rather than of disease—of prevention rather than cure. It often seems to me, that we of the healing art have begun at the wrong end—that the energy we devote to the alleviation of irremedial diseases would be better spent in the study and practice of means to preserve health.—A Life for a Life.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 3, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

Ring Her.—Somebody in the Atlantic Monthly, in discoursing upon the skeleton fashion of the day, says:

A woman in this rig hangs in her skirts like a clapper in a bell, and I never meet one without being tempted to take her by the neck and ring her.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

Our city is full of wealthy strangers from Boston and Baltimore, looking out for permanent homes in the valley of the Nueces and adjoining country. Our sanctum has been visited by two of their number. Some of these gentlemen have brought out fine ready-made frame houses from the North direct by schooners, and quite a number of valuable horses, mares and sheep. We notice a Chinese sheep amongst the numbers. He can "a tail unfold"—as his caudal appendage is *rather* broad.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

A pleasant affair was that cotillon [sic] party at Cahill's new building on Tuesday evening last. It was well attended, and for unit of feeling could not be excelled. The beauty of Corpus Christi never appeared to better advantage, and if we are a judge of such matters, many a "look"

was given that will leave a lasting impression. Parties of this character are conducive of much good, and always make one feel, after spending a few hours in this pleasant pastime, a much happier and better person. We for one say aye to all such parties, and hope they will occur at least semi-monthly during the coming winter.

We understand arrangements are being made to have a ball on Monday after Christmas on a grand scale. It will most surely be attended with success.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

On Wednesday of last week Col. John S. Ford, with a company of about seventy Rangers, left the Santa Gertrudes for Brownsville. We wish the Colonel success in forcing Cortina from his strong hold; and should he have an opportunity, will add another laurel to his already well-earned fame as a warrior of the true grit.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1859, p. 2, c. 2

Hooray for Uncle Samuel!

Capt. Dawson, U. S. Artillery, with two wagon loads of clothing, and a command of six men, left Santa Gertrudes Rancho, for Brownsville, on the 6th inst., under an *escort* of Col. Ford's Rangers. This is decidedly good. United States troops *escorted* by Rangers! Well, Uncle Sam's men could not have fallen into better hands.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1859

Note: Every issue has articles about the Rio Grande and Cortina

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 24, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

To Dye Silk or Wool an Orange Color.—Boil the skins of ripe onions half an hour; take out the skins, and add one ounce of alum to one quart of dye; put in the silks, stir often for half an hour; dry, wash, and iron quite damp.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 31, 1859, p. 2, c. 1

Christmas passed off 'merry as a marriage bell," and the ranks of the turkygobbledom were "slightly" thinned, on the occasion. Good feeling prevailed, from parson down to sinner.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 31, 1859, p. 4, c. 1

Corn Meal for Cooking-White vs. Yellow.-A writer in the N. E. Farmer remarks on this subject as follows:--"The New England people consider the yellow corn the only sort that is fit for the table, and believe that the white kind is only fit for hogs and cattle. The opposite of this is the truth. Meal made from the white corn is the best, both for cakes and puddings, but the yellow corn is more fattening when given to domestic animals, and is preferred by them to the white. The southern people are well acquainted with this fact. All their Indian bread and their hominy are made from white corn; and they smile at our simplicity, which leads us to prefer the yellow corn. As the southerners use Indian corn in a greater variety of preparations for the table than we do, and are adepts in this branch of domestic economy. I think they are better authority than we at the North in this matter. I may add that those individuals of my acquaintance who

have experimented upon the two sorts of Indian corn, have concluded that the southerners are right.

The superior sweetness and tenderness of the white ears of corn, when they are in the milk and boiled for the table, are apparent to all. But the community have been very slow in finding out this fact, and even at the present day, some people may be found, not apparently deficient in common sense, who still cultivate the yellow corn for table use as a green vegetable.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 7, 1860, p. 4, c. 2

Printing of Silks and Muslins.—The Philadelphia Ledger describes as follows the process of printing on silks and muslins, at the extensive establishment of William Simpson, on the Schuylkill, "the only one in the country where mourning goods are printed:"

Unbleached muslin is used, the bleaching of which forms one of the most interesting processes in the establishment. The muslin is first passed rapidly over an iron plate, heated to a red heat, and is then taken to a bleaching room, which contains three boilers, each of sufficient size to hold 42,000 yards of muslin. The goods are boiled first with lime, and are then passed into the second boiler, containing soda, and then into the third, having chloride of lime mixed with water. The muslin is also passed through sulphuric [sic] acid, and is then taken in this state to another room, and after being spread out by means of double screws, diverging from the centre [sic], is passed over seven large copper drums heated by steam.

Twenty seconds are only required to dry the muslin. It is again passed through a solution of alum and iron, and again dried by passing it over a hot plate; this process being intended to rid the muslin of all the solvent matter. It is then hung up for a day or two, so as to oxydize [sic] the metals with which the muslin is imbued. The rollers for printing are of copper, and the number of rollers is regulated by the variety of colors to be printed upon the muslin. A single machine will print about 13,000 yards per day. A large number of silk handkerchiefs are printed at this establishment, the process being the same as that used in printing the best quality of wall paper. Many of the blocks are made in the same way, and the printing is entirely similar. As many as twenty blocks are used in coloring one handkerchief. Five men will print about 900 per day. The cost of the handkerchief not only depends upon the quality of the silk, but upon the number and richness of colors.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 14, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Turtle.—Messrs. H. Mulrennan & Co., are paying high prices for live turtle delivered at their manufactory in Indianola. See advertisement.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 14, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Green Turtle Soup.—We have tested a sample of green turtle soup, hermetically sealed in tin cans, and put up by Mr. Harrison, of Indianola, and take pleasure in pronouncing it one of the most palatable soups that ever found its way into our masticating apparatus.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 14, 1860, p. 4, c. 2

Camel Plowing Match.—The Montgomery Advertiser, of the 13th, says:

Quite a crowd assembled near the Capitol yesterday evening, to witness the novel spectacle of a camel plowing match. To test the comparative strength of the camel and the mule, one of the latter animals was obtained, and the contest became spirited and exciting. While we are no judges of "deep plowing," it is our decided opinion that the camel bore off the palm; but

whether or not it is more serviceable for plantation purposes, we leave it to old farmers to decide.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 14, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

Turtle! Turtle!

The undersigned will pay \$4 per head for all Turtle delivered at their Factory in upper Indianola, from this date to the 1st of April next.

H. Mulrennan & Co.

Corpus Christi, January 14, 1860.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 4, 1860, p. 1, c. 5

Do You Own Any Books.

If, on visiting the dwelling of a man of slender means, I find the reason why he has cheap carpets and very plain furniture to be that he may purchase books, he rises at once in my esteem. Books are not made for furniture, but there is nothing else that so beautifully furnishes a house. The plainest row of books that cloth or paper ever covered is more significant of refinement than the most elaborately carved *etagere*, or sideboard.

Give me a house furnished with books rather than furniture! Both, if you can, but books at any rate! To spend several days at a friend's house, and hunger for something to read, while you are treading on costly carpets, and sitting upon luxurious chairs, and sleeping upon down, is as if one were bribing your body for the sake of cheating your mind.

Is it not pitiable to see a man growing rich, and beginning to augment the comforts of home, and lavishing money on ostentatious upholstery upon the table, upon everything but what the soul needs?

We know of many and many a rich man's house, where it would not be safe to ask for the commonest English classics. A few parish annuals on the table, a few pictorial monstrosities, together with the stock of religious books of his "persuasion," and that is all! No range of poets, no essayists, no selection of historians, no travels or biographies, no select fictions or curious legendary lore; but then the walls have paper which cost three dollars a roll, and the floors have carpets that cost four dollars a yard! Books are the windows through which the soul looks out. A house without books is like a room without windows. No man has a right to bring up his children without surrounding them with books, if he has the means to buy them. It is wrong to his family. He cheats them! Children learn to read by being in the presence of books. The love of knowledge comes with reading, and grows upon it. And the love of knowledge in a young mind, is almost a warrant against the inferior excitement of passions and vices.

Let us pity these poor rich men who live barrenly in great, bookless houses! Let us congratulate the poor that in our day books are so cheap that a man may every year add a hundred volumes to his library for the price of what his tobacco and his beer would cost him. Among the earliest ambitions to be excited in clerks, workmen, journeymen, and, indeed, among all that are struggling up in life from nothing to something is that of owning and constantly adding to a library of good books. A little library, growing larger every year, is an honorable part of a young man's history.—It is a man's duty to have books. A library is not a luxury, but

one of the necessities of life.

A good book is a thing as separate and distinct from all other creations, as a bird is from a flower, or a jewel from a stone.—Books are at once our masters and our servants. They have a silent independence, an unchanging voice, a calm declaration of truth, as they will. But they are unobtrusive. They wait for our moods and our leisure. They are never jealous if we neglect them, nor quarrelsome when we are familiar. They wait upon us in youth, in manhood, and in old age, with a vivacity that time never chills, and an instructiveness that repetition never wearies. Men grow old, and children are the only reprints allowed. The same volume is never reproduced. But books come again; in successive editions, with the same life, the same disposition, the same offices of love and goodness. Their joints never stiffen. Their heads never grow gray. All hinges but book hinges at Time's grate. But the unoled pages turn smoothly forever.

Books gradually lose their inert and dead form, and become to us like persons that have pulse and articulate voice. We feel more intimately acquainted with authors, two hundred years dead, than we do with our daily companions. We never let living creatures enter into our soul with such universal liberty as authors assume. And a scholar is never alone among books, nor is he ever lonesome, except among crowds of talking, trading, trifling men. A book is better for weariness than sleep; better for cheerfulness than wine; and it will hold out with the longest night that watcher ever saw. It often is a better physician than the doctor, and a better preacher than the minister, a better sanctuary than the drowsy church.—Norton's Literary Letter.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 11, 1860, p. 1, c. 5

Self Help.—"Heaven helps those who help themselves" is a well-worn maxim, embodying in a small compass the results of vast human experience. The spirit of self-help is the root of all genuine growth in the individual; and exhibited in the lives of many, it constitutes the true source of national vigor and strength. Help from without is often enfeebling in its effects, but help from within invariably invigorates. Whatever is done *for* men or classes, to a certain extent takes away the stimulus and necessity of doing for themselves; and where men are subjected to over-guidance and over-government, the inevitable tendency is to render them comparatively helpless.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

St. Valentine's Day was generally observed in Corpus. Smitten young gentlemen and ladies exchanged tender sentiments; the sceptical [sic] 'lovyers' dealt in matter of fact, and the wags let off a perfect shower of "phunny phixins."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Letter from Capt. Lovenskiold.

The following letter which will prove interesting to the members of the Walker Rifles, and our community generally, explains itself:

Austin, Texas, January 31st 1860.

Lieut. Henry A. Maltby, Walker Mounted Rifles, Corpus Christi.

Lieutenant:--Enclosed herewith, you will find your Commission as 1st Lieut. of the Walker Mounted Rifle Company, also those of the Senior and Junior Lieutenants, which please

deliver to them.

The Governor, His Excellency Sam Houston, has granted us 50 good and serviceable percussion rifles, almost new.—Also as many sword bayonets, cartridge boxes, belts, and scabbards, as can be found *here* in a suitable condition. His predecessor, Gov. Runnels, issued *all* the arms of the State to the Rangers, and with them they were either lost or rendered unserviceable, so it is out of the power of the present Governor, to do more for us *at the present time*. He has, however, promised me to give us the benefit of the *quota* of arms, due the State from the United States, for the past year of 1859, amounting to the *equivalent* of 169 muskets, and this requisition will arm us quite satisfactory. The arms and accoutrements I am now getting cleaned, fixed and packed, and by next week I think that I shall be able to get them shipped via Powderhorn. All these expenses have to be borne by the company. We either had to pursue this course, or we would not and could not have obtained any arms for the next twelve months, and ere then occasion might occur to render them very useful and beneficial.

Very respectfully, Your Ob't Serv't,

Chas. Lovenskiold.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 25, 1860, p. 1, c. 2

Birth Days.

Born on a Sunday, a gentleman;
Born on a Monday, fair in face;
Born on a Tuesday, full of grace;
Born on a Wednesday, sour and grum;
Born on a Thursday, welcome home;
Born on a Friday, free in giving;
Born on a Saturday, work hard for your living.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Our Cemetery.—Of all other places, a cemetery should be arranged in such a manner as to be attractive, and instead of presenting a dreary and repulsive appearance, be a favorite spot to pass away a leisure hour. Lots should be arranged in regular order so that walks could be laid out; the fences should be kept in repair, and ornamental shrubbery be allowed to grow. Our cemetery is in a wretched condition. The fences are down; what improvements have been made are scarcely visible, and weeds and brush grow with impunity. Would it not be well for the proper authorities to look into the matter and apply the remedy?

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 3, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Sheep-Raising in Nueces County.—Mr. W. R. Quigg, who lately started a sheep rancho some twenty miles above this city, paid our sanctum a visit a few days since, and informed us that the increase from 454 sheep since last July up to the present time, has been 440 head. He also informed us that not a single one had died during the winter. This speaks well for sheep-raising in Nueces county. The mildness of our winters, during which our pastures are equal to the summer pastures in the vicinity of the "Mutual Admiration Society," about 150 miles north of this, are fast becoming known, and industrious and enterprising men are availing themselves of its bounteous benefits.

We have already many large flocks of sheep in our county, which have stood the winter equally as well as those of Mr. Quigg's.

We would feel obliged to any *pastor* who would give us any statistical information in regard to his flock, that we may give it publicity. Many reports are now being made through the press and otherwise, in regard to the success attending flocks in every portion of the State, none of which can vie with the success that has attended sheep-raising in this county.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 10, 1860, p. 1, c. 4

Manufacture of velvet.—The beautiful substance known as velvet is mostly a silk fabric, remarkable for the softness of its surface. This softness is owing to a loose pile or surface of threads, occasioned by the insertion of short pieces of silk thread doubled under the shoot, weft, or cross threads. These stand upright so thickly as entirely to conceal the interlacing of the warp and shoot.

The richness of velvet depends upon the closeness of the pile threads.

The insertion of these short threads is effected in the following manner: Instead of having only one row of warp threads, which will be crossed alternately over and under by the shoot, there are two sets, one of which is to form the regular warp, while the other is to constitute the pile, these two separate sets being so arranged in the loom as to be kept separate. The quantity of the pile thread necessary is very much like that of the warp thread, and on this account, they have to be supplied to the loom by means of a different kind of agency.

If the pile threads were worked in among the shoots, in the same way as the warp threads, the fabric would be simply a kind of double silk, but without any kind of pile; the pile threads are therefore formed into a series of loops, standing up from the surface of the silk, and by subsequently cutting these loops with a sharp instrument, the pile is produced. Thin brass wires are temporarily woven in among the weft threads, to assist in forming the loops; and by a delicate cut or incision, made with a sharp instrument, the loops are cut and the wires liberated. Striped velvets are produced by some of the pile threads being uncut.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 10, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Casimir House.—Who has not heard of the best hotel in Western Texas? Of course no one. This praise has always been awarded to the Casimir House of Indianola, and the proprietor seems determined, by the attention given to his guests, to merit it; besides he has a *peculiar* way of impressing the fact on one's mind when about to depart—especially if for Corpus on a steamboat. We speak by the card.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 10, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The Grand Fancy Dress Ball.—On next Wednesday night this affair will come off at the City Hotel. Messrs. Riddir and James are making extensive preparations, and will leave nothing undone that can promote the happiness and pleasure of those who attend. A splendid supper will be served at half-past eleven. Good music is engaged—balance all!—a good time is expected—first four forward and back—tickets two dollars and a half—promenade all!

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 24, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The San Antonio Herald says Col. Lee, the new commander of this department, is about to proceed to the Rio Grande.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 24, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

La Retama.—This is the name of a new saloon, recently opened opposite the Sierra Madre Hotel. Two fine billiard tables, a choice lot of liquors and cigars—in fact everything pertaining to a first class house has been provided. We bespeak for "Le Retama" a liberal patronage.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 24, 1860

Note: Articles about Cortina, the Rio Grande, and Indian problems on the frontier still in every issue.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 31, 1860, p. 1, c. 4

A pretty woman is like a great truth, and has no more right to bundle herself under a green veil, or any other abomination, than the sun has to put on green spectacles.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 31, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

A company of Rangers arrived here yesterday from Smith county, *en route* for the Rio Grande.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 31, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Knights of the Golden Circle.—This is the name of a new secret order that is now attracting great attention. It is understood to be a military organization, with Mexico for the contemplated field of operation. Military leaders of high attainments are said to be at the head of this secret movement.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 7, 1860, p. 1, c. 4

For Sale low, to close the Con-
cern.

The Goddess of Liberty, being about to retire from business, begs leave to offer the entire stock in trade of her establishment for sale.

The G. of L., would offer, at the same time "the will" of the concern, but unhappily it is a long while since her once excellent supporters and customers have exhibited any good will towards her. The attention of distant nationalities, who may be thinking about a revolution, Hungarians, Poles, or Irishmen, is specially invited to this great sale.

Among the articles for which she has no further use, and which will be disposed of, without reserve, to the highest bidder, are the following materials in a slightly damaged condition:

Lot No. 1—Will comprise that most respectable fowl, the American Eagle, of the single headed species, with his claws full of sheet lightning and thunderbolts. Warranted genuine. Any nation in need of an Emblem will be treated with on the most liberal terms.

Lot. No. 2—A fine assortment of Liberty Poles, with camps to match. The attention of L. N., who is said to have a curious collection of similar articles in his private cabinet in the Tuileries, is particularly requested to these worthless commodities.

Lot No. 3—The beautiful motto of *E Pluribus Unum*, which rendered important services in times past, but is no longer available for national purposes. The attention of the Argentine

Confederation and the Mexican people is respectfully invited to this very excellent article. The G. of L. is sorry to part with what she has heretofore regarded as one of the most precious jewels in her regalia, but the change in her circumstances compels the sacrifice.

Lot No. 4—The Stars and Stripes, which she would prefer to wrap around her, like the late Mr. Kirby in the National Theatre, and die as would become a Goddess retiring from business; but she hopes, after the next Presidential election to be on her feet again, and therefore she will not entertain the idea of dying just now.

Lot No. 5—Will consist of a lot of fine sentiments not at all the worse for wear, among which will be found, "The Memory of Washington," the "Declaration of Independence," the "Rights of Man," "United we stand, divided we fall," "Sic Semper Tyrannis," "Give me Liberty, or give me death," and "Governor Wise's beautiful sentiment," "The Union of Whigs for the sake of the Union." A large lot of fourth of July orations and Bunkum speeches will be thrown in, gratis, if the purchaser of this lot should desire them.

Lot No. 6—A large lot of national melodies, songs, anthems and choruses—an entire invoice, consisting of "Hail Columbia," "Yankee Doodle," "Adams Liberty," "The Star Spangled Banner."

Lot No. 7—That lovely eidolon called Uncle Sam, or Brother Jonathan, which has been found so very valuable for the purposes of burlesque and comic illustrations.

The Goddess of Liberty begs leave to refer to the following named gentlemen, for further particulars, who have been appointed the assignees for her estate:

References—Robert Toombs, of Geo., Jeff. Davis, of Miss., James Gordon Bennett, of New York, William Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, Horace Greely, late of New Hampshire.

Terms.—Indefinite credit.—Vanity Fair.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 14, 1860, p. 1, c. 6

How to Ruin a Son.—1. Let him have his own way.

2. Allow him free use of money.

3. Suffer him to roam where he pleases on the Sabbath.

4. Give him free access to wicked companions.

5. Call him to no account for his evenings.

6. Furnish him with no stated employment.

Pursue either of these ways and you will experience a most marvelous deliverance, or you will have to mourn over a debased and ruined child. Thousands have realized this sad result, and gone mourning to the grave.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 14, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Graveyard.

We wish to say a few words to the people of Corpus Christi for them to meditate on. Did it ever occur to any of them that some day they are to be the occupants of the tabernacle of the dead? Did any of them, with this impression on their minds, ever visit Corpus Christi's graveyard? Has not the charms of life been lessened thereby, and death made more horrible still? Does it not seem as though the respect for the body ceased at the gates of death? Do they not consider that the sacred ground, exposed as it is to the tramp of the beasts of the field, is a disgrace to this, and even would be to a half-civilized community? Yes, all this, and even more,

is the meditation of many, and would be the conclusion of all upon an investigation.

Now is the time and opportunity to have this stain and blot upon our community rubbed out. All have an interest in the matter, which will, ultimately, prove lasting. No person would refuse to donate liberally towards raising a fund sufficient to make all necessary improvements in and about the graveyard. Let it be done. There is no fund in the county or City Treasury for the consummation of such a work. We must look to ourselves, as citizens; get some one to lead, and then crowd the matter to completion. Then we will have discharged a duty we owe the living, and a respect due the dead.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 14, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

For the Ranchero.

The Church Dedicated.

The church at Casa Blanca was opened for religious worship and dedicated on the 11th day of March. The services were conducted by Rev. W. Mitchell, consisting of appropriate hymns and reading of the Scriptures, with the dedication prayer and a sermon on Psalms 87: ii. The object of the discourse was to describe the true character of the Church of Christ, and to show the intimate connection between the *material* and the *spiritual* temple.

The establishment of religious worship in this locality is new, and the society has been organized and the church erected in less than a year. The house of worship is plain, but convenient and attractive in appearance. It is of small dimensions, but large enough for the present number of inhabitants. The means of supporting the Gospel in a thinly settled country must necessarily be limited; but from the interest manifested in this enterprise, praiseworthy efforts will be made to sustain it. They who have contributed to the erection of the temple of worship, cannot fail of their reward. It may excite others to follow the example; and this may be the first of a series of tabernacles for the Most High, which shall arise amid the solitude of this vast prairie land. And though, in a worldly view, the erection of a little church in a solitary place, remote from human habitations, may seem to be a small matter, yet, like the burning bush in the wilderness, it is an event which may bless ages yet to come.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Rangers Disbanded.

By the latest intelligence from Brownsville, it is stated that all the Rangers serving on the Rio Grande have been disbanded [sic] by order of Gov. Houston. This course has been pursued only upon positive assurances from Washington that a Federal force adequate to the task will be maintained hereafter on the Mexican frontier. Such being the case, Governor Houston has acted wisely; but the "powers that be" have had a very plain intimation, that if they prove direlect [sic] to their promise, Old Sam will put the train through on his own responsibility. A large force is already on the river, and more are on their way from various quarters.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Indianola Items.—We take the following items from the last Courier received:

It is rumored that a cargo of African negroes have been landed on the coast of Western

Texas, somewhere between this place and Corpus Christi, and that some of them are now in Victoria county. We give the rumor for what it is worth.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 28, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Ambrotypes.—Bell and Baker at Peter Mireur's building, corner of Water and William streets, are doing a rushing business as Ambrotypists. Their pictures indicate a superior accomplishment in the art, and give general satisfaction. Try them.

R. S. Hough, ambrotypist, is in with another new advertisement this week. We make an examination of his specimens and must say they speak what he is too modest to say for himself—that he is one of the finest of artists. If you want an ambrotype "true to life" give him a call and he will accommodate you at low figures.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 28, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

In speaking of the redundancy of the flea population in Bastrop, the Advertiser quotes Claib Philborne, and says that they are as numerous as the "sands in the Heavens, or the stars upon the sea-shore." We can beat that, gentlemen; they are as thick in Lockhart as new buttermilk. They climb up trees and *bark*, and are so large that *many* of them will weigh an ounce!—Watchman.

"I wish there was but one flea and he was plump in h__l!"—was the brief exclamation of a victim in Corpus the other day.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 28, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Sheep-Raising in Nueces County.

New Santa Gertrudes, Texas, }
April 10, 1860. }

Ed. Ranchero:--At the request of a few friends, we forward you a statement of our experience in sheep-raising during the last four years; which, should you consider worthy of publication in your paper, you are at liberty to make use of it for that purpose.

We brought our flock here, April 10, 1856, consisting of 694 head ewes, and 11 head bucks. Our present number, April 10, 1860, is 3,778 head. During the four mentioned years, we have disposed of 599 head bucks and wethers; while during the same period we have had losses to the extent of 199 head.

We have also disposed of three clips of wool, and will be able to dispatch the fourth in order to complete the profits of the fourth year, in the course of a few weeks.

Our improvements have all been made upon the South Down breed of sheep, and our wool has brought an average of 31 cents per lb. The following figures will show the result of all sales effected:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| For wool in 1857 | \$400 00 |
| " " 1858 | 994 00 |
| " " 1859 | 1,171 00 |
| " " 1860 (low estimate) | 1,500 00 |
| For bucks and wethers | <u>1,502 00</u> |
| Sum total of sales | \$5,567 00 |

We shall suppose the original flock to be worth \$2 per head, and the present flock, on account of improvements, \$3 per head. With this estimate as a basis of calculation, it will be seen that our original flock cost \$1,410, and that our present flock is worth \$11,334, to which add the amount of sales, will give the sum of \$16,901. Subtract from this amount the cost of our original flock, and it leaves a remainder of \$15,491 as the profit for four years. We will here state, to show this estimate of the value of our sheep is low, that we have been offered \$5 per head for selections of flocks of 500 and 600. The difference in the value of our sheep singly, is little, as there are no small, sickly, puny ones in the flock.

Of course there is the cost of *pastors* for the flock to be added to the list of expenses; but this outlay to us is trifling.

In addition to sheep-raising, we have horses and cattle, and the time of our hired help is employed on that portion of stock that stands in most immediate need.

During these four years, there has been no symptoms of disease in the flocks; the losses have taken place from a number of causes, natural and accidental.

James Bryden & Co.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 28, 1860, p. 3, c. 6

Bryden's, James, cattle and horse brand. Rancho Santa Gertrudes, on Santa Gertrudes creek, forty-seven miles south-west of Corpus Christi. [image of C with backwards J intersecting the bottom of the C and hanging below]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 5, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Personal.—Sheep-Raising.—We were pleased to meet with our friend, John McLane, Esq., the past week, who has a sheep-rancho on the San Fernando. He informed us that the increase of his flocks the present year amounts to fifteen hundred head; and that his sheep are as they always have been—fine and healthy. The success that has attended sheep-raising in this vicinity, explodes the pre-conceived idea that "sheep were bound to be unhealthy in the lower counties."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 5, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Corpus Christi Bible Society and
the Boys.

Mr. Editor:--You gave a very favorable little notice of the late anniversary of the "C. C. Bible Society." It was an interesting meeting. Those of your people who staid [sic] away lost a great treat. Those who went in from many miles to attend it, were well paid.

No one thing so interested me as the spirit and conduct of several boys on that occasion; small boys they were, too: eight, ten, and twelve years old. They had sat quietly through and listened attentively to the addresses, and heard the men pledging their X's and V's to the cause, when a call was made for smaller contributions—for half dollars. After a little, one manly looking little fellow modestly arose, advanced to the aisle, and gave his name, as a half dollar contributor. The example was followed by nearly every boy in the house. About twenty-five of the over one hundred dollars was given in this way. Just in front of me a whole seat full arose, one after the other and pledged their four bits.

I wanted to shake the hands of those boys, and congratulate them on the wisdom of their

choice, and tell them how much better it was for them to give "four bits" to the Bible Society than to spend it for tobacco or whisky. How much better it was to be there than to be hanging about the groceries and billiard tables. There was no opportunity, or I would have told those boys how much more profitable it was to have stock in the Bible Society than to waste their money in saloons and drunkard-making establishments.

It was not the amount of the money—though the giving of two bibles or eight testaments to the ignorant and poor, is a good work for one boy—so much as it was the spirit of the boys I admired. They were starting in the right way; they were interesting themselves in doing good; they will want to know what good their donations effect; they will be at the next anniversary to hear the report and learn; they will then receive a new impulse in the right way, and they will be better citizens when they grow up, for their conduct at that meeting. That was a grand deed performed under a generous impulse. It will react upon the boys themselves, and they will not only do a positive good to others, but will receive a greater positive good themselves.

I trust no boy will ever regret his donation, and that next year will witness a great addition to the number of these noble boys.

Nueces.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 5, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

Celebration of the Battle of San Jacinto.

The twenty-fourth anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto was celebrated on the 21st ult., on the battle ground, by the friends of General Sam Houston favorable to his election to the Presidency.

The Houston Telegraph of the 28th ult., contains a complete account of the celebration, from which we condense the following as the most prominent features of the affair:

Sam Houston was recommended for the Presidency, and great enthusiasm was expressed in favor of the old hero.

Col. Isaac N. Hill, one of the surviving heroes of the battle, was called to the chair. Twenty-five Vice-Presidents and two Secretaries were chosen.

The identical Lone Star flag that floated in triumph over the heroes of San Jacinto on the day they achieved the independence of Texas, was here raised over the platform on which were seated so many of the survivors of the battle; and the flag staff held up by a veteran of Lundy's Lane, who once more unfurled it above the same field where victory perched on that single brilliant star, yet emblazoned on its folds, now conspicuously and proudly shining among the great *fixed stars* in the happy constellation of the American Union.

Eloquent and stirring addresses were then delivered by Judge Gibson and Capt. Daly of Harris, and the Hon. A. C. Hyde of El Paso.

[resolutions]

After some speechifying and the adoption of a resolution appointing a committee of ten to correspond with the gentlemen whose names were proposed as nominees by this meeting, and also to prepare an address to the people of the United States, the meeting adjourned with this resolution:

That when Sam Houston shall have been elected President of the United States, the San Jacinto flag now floating proudly in the breeze, shall again wave in triumph over this consecrated ground.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 12, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The proceedings of the San Jacinto celebration, we published last week, should have been credited to the Houston Republic instead of the Telegraph.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 12, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Letter from the Frontier.

Regular Correspondence of The Ranchero.

Rio Grande City, }
May 3, 1860. }

Editor Ranchero:--The Rio Grande has at last been favored with most copious rains, the benefits of which all are now experiencing—the farmers in the assurance of abundant crops, and others in luxuriating on green corn and young calabasas.

Some little excitement was created here a short time since, by the arrival of a party from Victoria, Texas, in search of buried treasure. The reports as I hear, are as follows: It appears that a Spaniard had informed the head man of the party, (one Mr. Ripley), that he was one of a band who robbed the city of Burgos some years since, of \$800,000, and that his share of the plunder, amounting to over \$200,000, was buried on the Rio Grande some seven or eight miles above this place, and that if he (Ripley) would come to the Rio Grande and get the money they would divide. This, Ripley agreeing to, they did; but on arriving at this place the Spaniard was unable to hit the exact spot, and they all came to this place together. Mr. Ripley and friends being of course somewhat incensed against the Spaniard, who they thought had so grossly deceived them—made some threats against him—he became frightened and broke for the ferry and crossed over to Camargo. The Ripley party immediately returned up the river to the place where the treasure was said to be, and after searching a long while, found the bored tree which was said to be the mark by which to find the treasure. The tree found, all the rest was of course easy. They shortly struck the boxes—took them up and found before their "ravished eyes"—gold, gold, gold, \$230,000 as near as could be guessed at. The Spaniard as soon as he arrived at Camargo, met the Alcalde, told his story, and raised a strong party and put for the marked tree. Judge their "pheelinks" when they found the ground disturbed and the treasure gone.

Now, my dear Ranchero, you know I am an unbeliever in all this, and only give it you as it goes here. Yours,

G.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 19, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Ice?—Yes, in Corpus in May. Not to be found "laying around loose," but at "Zeigler's," "La Ratama" and Scott's Saloons. They each will keep it during the summer for sale either "straight" or "mixed." In your efforts to keep cool, don't get "*chivalrous*."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 19, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Rangers Disbanded.—The Rangers under the command of Captains Ford and Littleton, were disbanded at Goliad the present week. Those of our citizens who have been serving on the Rio Grande, have returned home, and express much dissatisfaction at being disbanded without even a dollar or document to show for it.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 26, 1860, p. 1, c. 6

The Mountain Meadow Massacre.—The bleached remains of the emigrant party massacred at the Mountain Meadow, in Utah, have been collected into a single grave, and a stone monument, conical in form, fifty feet in height, now marks the spot where they rest. This is surmounted by a cross of red cedar, twelve feet in height, on which is carved the following inscription: "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." On the base of the monument stands a granite slab, into which are cut the words, "Here 120 men, women and children were massacred in cold blood, early in September, 1857. They were from Arkansas."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 26, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Wood's Celebrated Mowing Machines.—These mowers are highly recommended as superior to all others for efficiency durability and cheapness, and the manufacturer guarantees each machine sold. We believe they can be used advantageously on our prairies, and parties interested in cutting hay would be consulting their best interests if they were to bring them into general use. They have great power and are so simple they can be used without difficulty on "broken prairie" as well as any other. Mr. Morton Morris, Galveston, Texas, is the agent.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 26, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Sea-Bathing.—It is now favorable weather for bathing, and to keep out of the invigorating and health-giving element is a positive sin. Pay old Neptune's domain daily visits, and our word for it, you will stand higher in the estimation of men and angels. No man can be a Christian that don't obey the law of cleanliness.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 26, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Sea Island Cotton.—Mr. John Dunn, who resides near this city, brought us some fine specimens of the Sea Island cotton plant and blossoms this week. He informed us that he has fifty acres planted, and that appearances indicate an unusual yield. Texas can beat the world raising Sea Island cotton.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 2, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

"In Out of the Wet."—A couple of our citizens, one day this week, in the space of four hours, took one thousand lbs. fine red fish from the Bay with the hook and line. Fine sport that for four hours.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 2, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The numerous friends of Rev. O. A. Fisher, who was the preacher here some two years since, will be glad to learn that he is again in our city, and will preach in the Methodist church tomorrow. He was once a disciple of Faust, and though at present engaged in another field, he still cherishes the greatest respect for "the art preservative of arts."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 2, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Troops on the Frontier.—The San Antonio Herald publishes the following as the disposition made of the U. S. troops on the Rio Grande frontier:

Light battery M, 2d Artillery, with companies M and L, 1st Artillery, will garrison Fort Brown until further orders; companies C and D, 8th Infantry, will occupy Ringgold Barracks, until the arrival of the three companies of the 3d Infantry ordered to that post; company F, 8th

Infantry will continue at Camp McIntosh, near Laredo; company F, 1st Artillery, will remain for the present at or near Eagle Pass; companies F, G, I and H, 2d Cavalry, will occupy the country on the Rio Grande between Brownsville and Ringgold Barracks.

The cavalry companies will select camps where they can best guard the country and procure grass for their horses, and will change them as often as may be required. The senior officer, Captain George Stoneman, will regulate their movements, and give such other directions as the nature and good of the service may demand.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 2, 1860, p. 4, c. 2

Summary: Advertisement with illustration of Mitchell's Patent Self-Regulating Wind Mill

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 2, 1860, p. 4, c. 1

Anatomy is a noble science. It teaches us the precise structure of the human frame and enables us to understand the relation the parts have to each other. We have recently been studying the science under a notable professor of the scalpel. We have come to the conclusion that woman is composed of various things, and the total result may be represented by 100; that is, if the woman is a dear *little* duck. We give the component parts:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Flesh and blood | 25 |
| Heart | 00 |
| Dimity | 10 |
| Hooks and eyes | 01 |
| Stays | 03 |
| Starch | 01 |
| Laces | 10 |
| Ribbons | 05 |
| Cotton | 17½ |
| Rings | 05 |
| Horn combs | 01 |
| Things | 10 |
| Watch springs | 11½ |
| Total | 100 |

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 9, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Fire in San Antonio.

From the Daily Herald of the 29th ult., we learn that a most destructive fire—the largest ever known in that city—occurred the 26th ult. It originated in the buildings around the "old Alamo," used by the U. S. Quartermaster, and belonged to the Hon. S. A. Maverick. The firemen, citizens, soldiers and Mexicans worked hard to prevent the destruction of the main building, where the government property to the amount of \$300,000; and after much exertion against a high wind, succeeded. The buildings destroyed were old and not of much value; the Government property destroyed is valued at \$10,000. An altercation took place during the fire, between marshal Byrn and his deputy Gibson, and a soldier of Co. I, 1st Infantry, in which the latter was shot. The two officials were arrested and held to bail, for trial at the next term of the District Court.

The Nueces Valley—Agricultural Capacities.
Number II.

Modern improvements have greatly facilitated the labor of cultivation. A man and horse can do, after plowing, nearly all the work necessary in a cornfield of ordinary size. The rows for planting are marked by a roughly made rake of long teeth, so wide apart as to mark three rows at once. To this a horse is attached by thills. The driver in the rear with reins, and looking at an object ahead, can scratch the ground in straight lines deep enough to be readily seen. The field is cross-marked in the same way, and the corn is dropped in the corner of each square. The same horse and man, in the hoeing time, can run a cultivator between the rows both ways, killing the weeds and leaving but little work for the hoe. There is great beauty in such a field, and the cultivator keeps the ground light, and substitutes fresh earth for the dry soil. Professor Mapes recommends the flat hill, and a light double plow with two shares turning a shallow furrow each way to the centre [sic] of the rows, and between the shares is what he calls a V, and also a comb which levels the ground and throws the weeds back clear of dirt, and sure to die. It would be economy to use some of these labor-saving implements, and to take more pains in preparing the ground for a crop. In the way that some men plow and plant, a return for their labor would be asking too much of Nature in any country. Other grains beside corn should be subjected to a faithful tillage, to ascertain what may be done, and a vegetable garden might be cultivated with more or less profit. In some cases, gardens can be easily watered, and the high prices at which all vegetables sell, make their cultivation an important object. A few have succeeded in horticulture, and if a few, why not the many?

A word upon Irish potatoes. I have tried all experiments, on a small scale, which is as good as a large one, and ascertained the truth in a few particulars. The eye of the potato, with a little chip cut off to support it, will produce, perhaps, two or three small potatoes. The seed costs nothing, and the increase is worth about the same. We say to children, "you cannot eat your cake and have your cake." The next experiment is planting that part of the potato which contains the eyes, or the seed end. This does better if the potato is large; but the whole is best. It is needed to give nourishment and moisture to the sprouts, and it does this till the new potatoes are grown; and even then it is sound, and is often mistaken for one of its own progeny. Three small potatoes, two of moderate size, and one large one divided, leaving eyes on each half, are each enough for a hill; and the spaces between the hills and rows should be about three feet. If the soil is rich, closer planting will do, and the hills shade each other with some advantage. There is a mistake, too, in deep planting and in throwing up high ridges. This is proper only in a wet soil. In this climate, it is just the wrong thing. The potato does not require much depth, and a flat hill at hoeing is best. I have seen good potatoes raised by laying them on an unplowed ground, and covering them with straw. But this requires an abundance of rain. Now since agriculture is the ground of national wealth, and indispensable to life and health, it is worth while to make protracted and skillful efforts—selecting the best season—preparing the ground in the best manner, and sowing the best seed.

C. B.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 9, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

Maps by Photograph.—In the Land Office at Austin, they are getting up a photographic apparatus, which will enable them to print any number of maps from the original copy; with perfect accuracy, and thus save a vast amount of labor in the Draughtsman's department.—Cor. Galveston News.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 16, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

For the Ranchero.

Texas Wool—Shipments from
this County.

Ed. Ranchero:--We were much pleased to notice on board the steamer *Mexico*, as she was leaving for Indianola on her last trip, quite a large shipment of wool, marked "Prattville Manufacturing Company," and shipped by our fellow-citizens, John McLane and W. L. Rogers, Esqs. We were pleased for two reasons. One, because the superior quality of the wool, and the neat manner in which it was baled, give substantial evidence of the increasing interest taken in wool-growing in Nueces county. Heretofore, although most every rancho has had its few sheep, they were but a secondary consideration, and kept only for the purpose of supplying fresh meat. They were of the commonest Mexican breed, running wild and uncared for; while the wool was hardly thought worth the shearing, and if sent to market at all, it was scraped together in such a dirty condition, and sacked in such a ragged state, that it would hardly pay freight and charges. But now we can count up more than a dozen sheep estancias in our county, where sheep-raising is the primary occupation. The proprietors are giving the business careful attention, increasing and improving their flocks, and are attended with so great success, that they are giving up the raising of other stock, and turning their attention and capital to sheep-raising entirely.

Our other reason for being pleased, was to see the marks on the bales—"Prattville Manufacturing Company, Prattville, Alabama"—a Southern manufactory—showing that our citizens are alive to the necessities and advantages of sending their produce to Southern markets. Mr. McLane sold his wool at the same place last year, and assures us that he realized a better price than he could have obtained at the North. He advises all his friends and neighbors to follow his example.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 30, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Matagorda Gazette says "the report that a cargo of Africans had been landed near Aransas Pass, turns out to be an egregious hoax. No Africans have been landed on this coast for many years." No, nothing but camels!

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 30, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

The Louisville Journal says the greatest novelty of the season will be a grand concert in the Mammoth Cave on the 4th of July, to be given for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum of that city. The Cave will be beautifully illuminated.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 30, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

A party of free-lovers sailed from San Francisco in search of a place to colonize in the State of Honduras, a short time since. They were of the spiritual-bloomeristic persuasion.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 30, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

Summary: Parody of the Declaration of Independence—"When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for a hungry and half starved editor to dissolve the friendly bonds which have connected him with villainous patrons..."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 7, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

For the Ranchero.

The Sabbath School Celebration
on the Fourth.

Mr. Editor:--Knowing the interest that you feel, and the pleasure that others will enjoy, who were not present at the celebration, in reading something of the proceedings on that occasion, is my reason for sending you this communication.

At the appointed hour the children met at their respective schools to form in order of procession. Each school having organized, they marched together, the Methodist school taking the lead. On its banner was inscribed, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." It was borne by a young man, who was assisted by two young ladies, whose beauty crowned its appearance. The uniform was a blue sash, which over the pretty white dresses of the many lovely little children, looked beautifully.

Next came the Presbyterian school, with a banner borne by four of its members. It was indeed *tres joli*, wreathed with flowers and rosettes, interwoven in cedar, and had for its motto, "Liberty and Union." The children, with their pretty dresses, looked not less lovely than the other school.

Having assembled in the Court-House, the exercises were opened by Rev. S. C. Orchard, of Nueces, by reading the seventy-second Psalm, and prayer. Our townsman, Mr. Jacob Ingram, then read the Declaration of Independence, after which "A Song for the Day Beaming O'er Us," was sung by the Methodist school; then Mr. H. Taylor, of Nuecestown, delivered an address to the children and older people, which was highly instructive, thoughtful and interesting. He was well cheered and complimented, by both schools having the band strike up the national air "Yankee Doodle.

Now the more interesting exercises commenced. The children performed their several parts admirably. Talent (though they were young) was evinced, and in many it was developed by genius. Had you been there to hear *that* little girl sing so sweetly "I've Wandered by the Brookside," you would have been charmed; and then *that* trio who sang "The Swiss Toy Girl" so delightfully. These certainly were the best performances by the "Pinks," and if we include *that* dialogue, "The Pilgrim," spoken (by a brother and sister) so well that you imagined it a reality, and the dialogue, "The Rival Orators," and then that piece, "Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven," by the "Blues," they were, taken together, the best performances of the day.

But, then, those original compositions by the "Pinks," and the charming singing by both Sabbath Schools, together with many orations, hymns and verses, claim all a notice. And the music, sir! it kept our foot going continually. What a mercy we could not dance, or the performances would have been interrupted.

During the exercises the house was crowded. Over two hundred and fifty children were present—not all members of the schools—yet they fared sumptuously all together, as their parents had contributed liberally to the Committee of Arrangements to provide a bountiful repast,

which was served at the close of the meeting.

If we were able to portray the whole scene, and with words delineate it that you would have had in continual recollection an ambrotype that, viewed from any point, would always present a scene of happiness and pleasure, beauty and genius, which, like a well of water in a desert, would continually preserve an oasis in your mind during your journey through life. But even were it all told, and well delineated, the great design, the moral good, in value is unconceived, and will ever be inestimable. Like a stone dropped in a calm ocean, this influence will roll ripples of good, rising in greater volume from each depression, until an untold good lashes the shores of Eternity. Reader, have you assisted to drop this stone? If so, think of the result, and you will be abundantly prepaid for your labor.

Spero.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 7, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

Summary: Advertisement for Ingleside College, San Patricio Co., Texas

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 14, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Theatrical.—Palmer's Musical and Dramatic Company have given four entertainments this week, at the City Hotel Hall, which were well attended, and gave general satisfaction.

Mrs. Palmer is a promising actress, and plays her parts true to life. Howard, the youth "all the way from Pike," is a perfect Momus, and Fritz is clever in white or cork opera, and withal a first-rate jig dancer. Drew is the old man, and he assumes the rheumatics and eccentricities of a green old age in a manner fearful to behold. Palmer, understands human nature, and the art of taking off the follies of the age, and plays anything from a tin whistle up to a violin admirably.

To-night they play again, and we advise those who wish to pass away an evening pleasantly, to attend.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Relics of the Long Ago.—Mr. John R. Peterson, of this city, brought into our sanctum this week a collection of petrified bones, which were discovered at a depth of twenty-seven feet below the surface, while digging a well. They evidently belonged to some animal of huge proportions, now extinct, judging from the size of a tooth among the lot. The great mystery is, how and at what period were they deposited there.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Theatre.—To-night Mr. J. B. Fritz takes a benefit. He is certainly deserving of a crowded house, and we trust our citizens will give him a bumper. He will appear both in white and cork opera, and will display his vocal, oratorical and terpsichorean powers regardless of buttons and shoulder braces. "Paddy Miles, or the Limerick Boy," Songs, Burlesques, Dances, etc., etc., are announced on the bills.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

A Texas Girl.—A communication to The Ranchero, dated Galveston, July 13th, 1860, closes as follows: "I remain truly yours; born within the sound of Sam Houston's voice, my cradle fanned by the wavy folds of the Lone Star flag, and my strength strengthened by the bounteous corn of San Jacinto's field—have I not the right to sign myself

Texas Girl."

We think she has. Come down and take some sulphur [sic] water with us.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 21, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

The Camels.—In his late report, Gov. Floyd, the present Secretary of War, says:

The experiments thus far made (and they are pretty full) demonstrate that camels constitute a most useful and economical means of transportation for men and supplies through the great deserts and barren regions of our interior. A camel will go safely with its burden over ground so rough and precipitous that a mule will scarcely pass over it unladen without assistance. They require no forage but what they gather in the most sterile and barren parts of our continent, and for many days together live conveniently without water. An abundant supply of these animals would, beyond all doubt, enable our army to give greater and prompter protection to our frontiers, and to all our interoceanic routes, than three times their cost expended if any other way. As a measure of economy and efficiency, I cannot too strongly recommend the purchase of a full supply to the favorable consideration of Congress.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 21, 1860, p. 4, c. 1

To Make Hominy Bread.—The hominy having been properly soaked, drain off the water, and add of fresh water seven and a half pints for each pound and a half of hominy, as weighed before soaking. Let this simmer for four hours—if boiled rapidly it will become hard and never swell—the hominy will then be fit for stirabout or bread. For bread mix it gradually with the flour, making the dough in the ordinary way, and adding yeast in rather more than the usual proportion. This bread will keep moist and good for a longer time than if made entirely of wheaten flour.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 28, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Destructive Fires.—The town of Dallas, Texas, was almost totally destroyed by fire on the 8th inst. Loss \$400,000.

Our Austin and other State exchanges bring accounts of most destructive fires in different sections of the State, whereby thousands of dollars worth of property has been destroyed. The general opinion is, that these conflagrations are caused by a regularly organized band of incendiaries.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Abolition Incendiaries in Texas.

In another column we publish a letter written by Col. Chas. R. Pryor, editor of the Dallas Herald, which makes some startling developments. Facts have been elicited by actual testimony, that goes to substantiate the fact that this State is infested with an organized band of abolitionists, whose sole object is to war upon the institution of slavery. Plots have been discovered in different portions of the State, which go to show that an actual conspiracy is on foot to inaugurate a second Harper's Ferry affair in our very midst. On the same day that Dallas was destroyed, an attempt was made to fire Austin, and twice since; fires at Denton, Jefferson, and many other places occurred at the same time; an abolitionist was detected at Fort Worth who had just distributed fifty guns and fifty six-shooters among the negroes, and another one engaged in a

similar act in Parker county was caught. Both were hung by the citizens. A correspondent of the Brenham Ranger writes from Chapel Hill that three suspicious persons were brought before a meeting in that place, and after a fair and impartial investigation, it was proven that they were abolitionists, had said that they sympathised [sic] with the negroes, and had made their boasts that there were three thousand abolitionists in the State, and also that in three years the Black Republicans would rule the State. One of them had been seen to take negroes in his room, and, with closed doors, to converse with them. They were ordered to leave the State, which they did.

The existence of abolitionists in the Cherokee Nation has already been chronicled. The State Gazette says it appears that an active warfare is going on there against the institution of slavery, and that the party engaged in it is of a religious denomination (Methodist Church North); thus infusing religious fanaticism in their hostility to the property of Southern men.

We append the remarks of the Gazette, which we heartily endorse:

["] We give these facts to our readers with no idea of desiring to create any false impression. We think any one who could thus trifle with the feelings of the people, would be amenable to the severest censure. We only do so desiring to know if there is an actual conspiracy on foot to treat our State with one of those horrible tragedies which it is proposed to enact in slave States for the purpose of creating the impression that powerful enemies to the institution live here among us, and who are willing to see and aid the conflagration of the incendiary, the bloody knife of the assassin, and deluge with blood the dwellings of all who in any way countenance the slave institution: rejoicing over our attack and the perhaps wide spread famine following in its wake.

Let the citizens of Texas everywhere be on their guard, and we hope that should a well attested case of incendiarism be discovered, the severest penalty will be quickly inflicted. The abolitionists have grown insolent from our own laxity and indifference. ["]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 4, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

The Conflagrations in Northern Texas—Startling News.

Mr. Chas. R. Pryor, editor of the Dallas Herald, writes to the State Gazette, under date of 16th July, giving an account of the destruction of that place by fire, and makes a statement which, if true, will produce exciting times in that quarter. After narrating the particulars of the fire, he says:

[?] All of these were so plainly the work of an incendiary, that suspicions were excited and several white men and negroes were arrested and underwent an examination. This led to the detection of a most diabolical plot to destroy the country. The scheme was laid by a master mind, and conceived with infernal ingenuity. It was determined by certain abolition preachers who were expelled from the country last year, to devastate with fire and assassination, the whole of Northern Texas, and when the country was reduced to a helpless condition, a general revolt of the slaves aided by white men from the North, and many in our midst, was to come off on *the day of Election in August*. The object of firing the town of Dallas, was to destroy the arms of the Artillery Company, ammunition and provisions known to be collected here; to destroy the stores throughout the country containing powder and lead—burn the grain and thus reduce this portion of the country to a state of utter helplessness.

When this was accomplished, assistance was expected from Indians and Abolitionists.

Many other places have already been fired, Denton, Pilot Point, Belknap, Gainesville, Black-jack Grove; some stores in Kaufman, Navarro, Waxahachie and other places, that I do not now remember.—Each county has a special superintendent, a white man, and each county is laid off in districts under the supervision of a white man, who controls the action of the negroes in that district. The negroes are not permitted to know what is doing outside of their immediate sphere of action. Many of our most prominent citizens were to be assassinated, when they make their escape from the burning houses. Arms have been discovered in possession of the negroes, and the whole plot revealed, for a general insurrection and civil war at the August election. I write in haste; we sleep upon our arms, and the whole country is most deeply excited. Many whites are implicated, whose names are not yet made public. Blunt and McKinney, the abolition preachers, were expected here at the head of a large force at that time. You had better issue extras containing these facts, and warn the country of the dangers that threaten it. We are expecting the worst, and do not know what an hour may bring forth. Do the best you can for us. We have no printing press and can do nothing in that line. We may have to call on the lower counties for assistance—no one can tell. All is confusion, excitement and distrust. ["]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Necessity for a Jail.

Nueces county stands in need of one of those institutions known as a jail. Scarcely a week or month passes but what the very letter of the law and justice are defeated, solely for the want of a suitable place of incarceration. Security, alike to the prisoner and the peace of society, demand that the proper authorities should at once take efficient steps to have one built. A man in the heat of excitement, infuriated by the intoxicating bowl, stalks rampant through our streets, and before a restraint can be brought to bear upon him, commits some bloody deed, ending in the loss of his own life, and perhaps that of others. An everlasting, deadly feud is created, justice has been trampled upon, and the peace and dignity of the community grossly outraged. Had there been a jail provided—the transgressor arrested before he had carried his uproarious riotings to the gates of death—and held in durance until cool reflection and reason were restored, how much better it would have been for all parties.

Mainly for the reason of there being no jail, the ends of justice are entirely defeated in many cases, and retarded in all. Every citizen expects an offender to be arrested by the proper officers; but consider the situation of an officer after an arrest has been made. He is without the power of enforcing the mandates of the law. No fund has been provided for the keeping, nor no guard detailed for the security of prisoners.—These things have to be provided, and the expense borne and paid by the Sheriff. Otherwise it is not done at all, in which case it virtually amounts to letting the prisoner go. It cannot be expected of the Sheriff to exceed the provisions made by the County Court for the detention of offenders against the public peace. It cannot be expected of him to be banker for the county, and to maintain a guard to enforce the police regulations of the State. It is the imperative duty of the County Court to provide and facilitate the Sheriff with every means to enforce all requirements against offenders. True, the Sheriff gets an allowance in county script, worth a few dimes on the dollar, for the expense he incurs; but that is a poor equivalent for federal currency paid out.

A county without a jail is like a safe without a lock—its organization exists in name, but in effect, nothing. Desperate characters know this, and commit crimes which the moral restraint

of a jail would prevent. After crime has been committed, and the guilty one escapes, or summary punishment has been meted out to him, how many men are then ready (in word) to give any amount had an arrest been made! But where are these men with their donations—they who have the good of the community so firmly at heart—when arrests are made? As the negro said of the exploded steamboat, they are "no whar" to be found. A place should be provided where these benevolent gentlemen could, when in their patriotic moods, deposit a fund to assist the Sheriff in the execution of his duty. It would be faithfully applied to that purpose.

At the last session of the Legislature, an act was passed authorizing the County court of this County to levy and collect a special tax upon all property subject to taxation, not at a greater annual rate than one-half of one per cent., to be appropriated to the purpose of enabling this county, at the discretion of the County Court thereof, to acquire a suitable building site for a jail and appurtenances, and to erect a secure jail, with room for jailor and guards. The same act confers on the County Court the power to give material aid for other purposes which our necessities do not actually require, and which is an excess of authority that should not be reposed in the hands of so few; but so far as the building of a jail is concerned, we believe that nine-tenths of the tax-payers would willingly say and even demand that the power conferred by the act should be exercised. If there is any doubt among our citizens about the expediency of enforcing this law, let them come forward and assist the county by taking her bonds to a sufficient extent to raise a fund large enough for the purpose contemplated. The question is, a jail or no jail. Those who maintain the affirmative, should be working to attain the desired end. Those who stand on the negative side, will find some point to quibble about, to try and defeat what Nueces county stands most in need of—a good and secure prison.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Melancholy Affair.—We regret to learn that a serious affray occurred on Wednesday, at Helena, Karnes county, between Capt. John Littleton and John Rabb. According to our information Rabb fired the first shot from behind Littleton, striking him on the side, the ball striking the temple, and glancing, scalped the forehead which stunned him so that he did not repeat his fire. Littleton fired two more shots—the first passed through the cheeks, and the last through the body of his antagonist. Littleton's shots having been expended, it is said some unknown person fired at Rabb, the ball striking him in the body. Strange to say, Rabb did not fall, and was still alive when our informant left Helena, though in a very precarious condition. Capt. Littleton, though very seriously wounded, was not considered in any great danger.

The difficulty, it is supposed, grew out of an old feud.—Goliad Messenger.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

Later from Dallas.

More Startling Developments—Several Negroes hung—Among others the Incendiary who Burnt the Town of Dallas—Investigations still going on—Poison found in the hands of Negroes.

The following letter is from one of the most reliable citizens of Dallas, addressed to the editor of the State Gazette:

["] Dallas, July 21, 1860.

The excitement consequent upon the revelations made by negroes under examination continues unabated. Already nearly a hundred blacks have been arrested and examined separately before a committee of vigilance, appointed for that purpose. This committee consists of the most respectable and responsible gentlemen of this country, whose proceedings have been characterized by the utmost prudence and moderation. During so much excitement and confusion it seems almost a miracle that so much forethought and deliberation should govern their action. Such developments and such outrages would seem to indicate a speedy resort to extreme measures; but in this instance they have acted with as much calmness as if no public calamity had befallen the community, and as if no extraordinary emergency had called them from their homes.

Crowds of men are in Dallas, anxious and eager to lend their assistance, and ready to quell every disturbance that threatens the peace of the State. The developments are of the most startling character, unfolding the most diabolical plot that the wickedness of man could invent, to destroy this whole section of country.

At the town of Lancaster the same general plot was revealed—to burn the town, to poison the inhabitants, to assassinate the aged females, and to seize and appropriate the young and handsome for their villainous purposes. Thank God! this unhallowed conspiracy has been nipped in the bud, and the country saved from such a scene of horrors.

Investigations are going on in all directions and startling disclosures are being made.

Monday July 23. An immense concourse of people from all parts of the country is here awaiting the action of the committee of vigilance. The stage came in from Waxahachie yesterday, bringing news of the high state of excitement in that town. The conspiracy and insurrectionary spirit extend to that place in all the horrid forms contemplated at this place. Throughout the country as far as we can learn the same thing exists. That town was destined to be burned, the people to be poisoned and slaughtered, and the remaining property to be distributed among the victorious blacks.

On Red Oak Creek the chief prisoner had been arrested and executed. Negroes at Waxahachie have been detected with the poison in their possession; and a rumor was in town yesterday that there have been several executions at that place. We have not yet received the particulars.

The committee of vigilance have been in session all day, and this evening they announced that three of the ring leaders of the insurrection are to be hanged tomorrow. These hardened scoundrels were amongst the number. The decision seems to give general satisfaction. The crowd dispersed after this announcement, and a strong guard was detailed to watch the jail in which are confined six or eight of the criminals. The police are active and unremitting in their efforts, and it would be impossible for the whole abolition fraternity to surprise us now, although we might be easily overpowered. They "would have to fight for it," however.

Tuesday, July 24. This evening at 4 o'clock the three ring leaders, Sam, Cato, and Patrick, were escorted from the jail under a strong guard to the place of execution. An immense concourse of citizens and negroes assembled to witness their exit from the scene of their wickedness. As they passed through the town they surveyed with composure the ruins of the once flourishing town, that now lays in a blackened mass before them. Patrick Jennings (so called) remained calm and collected during the whole day, and betrayed no remorse or feeling whatever in view of his approaching doom. He it was who fired the town, and that night after its destruction glorified himself for the deed, and pronounced it only a commencement of the good

work. These facts were obtained from many witnesses, who testified to the same facts without any hesitations or contradiction of each others' statements.—Sam smith, so called from the name of his master, was an old negro preacher who had imbibed most of his villainous principles from two abolition preachers, Blunt and McKinney, who lived in the country a year before, and had had much intercourse with said negro; this old negro was a deep dyed villain. Cato had always enjoyed a bad reputation. They met their fate with a composure worthy of a better cause. Patrick Jenning with unparalleled *nonchalance* died with a chew of tobacco in his mouth, and refused to make any statement whatever.

They were hung on the bank of the river above town, and are buried beneath the gallows.

Investigations are still going on throughout the country, all of which tend to confirm the facts elicited at this place. The evidence obtained before the committee will be published in due time. More anon. ["]

The Gazette also publishes extracts from many papers in the State, which go to show that abolitionists are actively engaged in fanning the flame of insurrection and incendiarism. Suspicious characters have been seen prowling about Seguin, Fort Worth, and other localities, and the Paris Press says the house of a citizen of that place was set on fire by one of his negro women, and totally destroyed. Public meetings have been held in the different places bordering on the northern frontier, patrols organized, and other measures adopted to suppress any further attempts on the lives and property of [tear in paper].

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 11, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

["] Texas Wool in New York.—The recent large arrivals of Texas wool, having been put on the market, resulting in quite a stimulus to the trade, and also to some other descriptions of wool—there has been an active demand this week, and about 600 bales Texas, mostly unwashed, has changed hands at prices varying from 24 to 28 cts., and 33 for washed—a portion on time, and part cash.—N. Y. Shipping List. ["]

During the same time California wool was selling at 10 to 16 cts. per pound, and Spanish at 17 cts. This speaks well for the stand Texas wool has taken in the New York market, and the result of the improvement being made in Texas flocks will be to command a still higher grade of prices.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

A New Bath House.—Capt. John Anderson has just completed a bath house at the end of a wharf built for the express purpose, directly in front of his house, for the accommodation of citizens and strangers. It is neatly fitted up and is situated where bathers will be exempt from all outside annoyances, which parties will readily appreciate. Families can have the exclusive use of the bath room from six till nine o'clock in the morning, and from three till six o'clock in the evening. A small fee will be exacted sufficient to keep the house clean and in repairs. It is an institution long needed here, and Capt. Anderson is deserving of thanks as well as a liberal support for supplying the want. To all we say, try the Captain's bath house.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 18, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

Ants.

Mr. Editor:--Next after droughts, the greatest pests to the field and garden are the "cutting ants." They have quite discouraged some of my neighbors, who kept up good heart against other hindrances. They come so suddenly, in such multitudes, and are so voracious, no wonder they are looked upon with dread.

I have tried the "ant poison," the salt recommended by Affleck, the scalding process, etc., and, in common with others, to find they were victors. "Two came to attend the funeral" of each one killed; but latterly I have kept them in check, and driven them off by pouring fine sand into and about their holes. I take the sand that is drifted by the breeze, for that is the finest and the best. It readily fills up their holes, and it is a long and difficult labor for them to pack it out, a grain at a time. After two or three attempts, they will abandon the place and move off, and make a new den. I follow them up, and they move still further. Thus I have driven them quite off my lot each way, and so far off they go the other way to get their food.

This is the result of my experiment. It took only a few minutes for several successive days. I know they will need watching, lest they return or spring up anew; but I hope watchfulness will keep them at a safe distance. This is worth a trial.

L---l.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Our Streets.

The effect of the recent heavy rains upon most of our streets, must have demonstrated to many an unfortunate pedestrian, that although we have great reason to be thankful to the clerk of the weather, we have also a good right to complain of the miserable condition of our public highways. What are the Mayor and Aldermen of Corpus Christi so engaged in, that they cannot find time to make such improvements as the actual wants and necessities of our people demand? Are they acting upon the principle that when it don't rain, there is no necessity for improvement, and when it does, they can't? It seems to us that when public officials are inefficient and slack, it is high time to remind them of their shortcomings, and to insist upon reform. In reality, no man should ever accept an office in the first place that he cannot attend to with his whole heart. Undertake a trip from the Post Office down Chaparral street as far as the Sierra Madre Hotel, and you will encounter about as many obstacles as did old Pharoah [sic] when he tried to ford the Red Sea. This is not the only evil. Standing water is not overly conducive to health. Let a warm sun pour his rays upon these ponds for a short time, and we will guarantee an increase of business to every physician in the place. Now this can all be remedied by a slight expenditure of energy on the part of our City Fathers. Wake up, we say, ye who have the keeping of the city confided to your care, and perform your duty! If you have other business to attend to, *resign, and let others who are more willing to work, fill your places.*

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

An Episcopal Church.—It will be seen by reference to the new advertisements, that a call is made for all persons favorable to the establishment of an Episcopal Church to meet at the Court House on the first of next month. We hope to see a general interest manifested on that occasion by citizens throughout this vicinity. The moral influence of a Church, is sufficient to induce all citizens to give the undertaking a right handed support. That the effort will be a success is our earnest wish.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 25, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

Nacogdoches in Ashes.—The Texas Pioneer, published in Freestone county says:

From a letter received by A. L. Reed, Esq., dated New Salem, Rusk co., we learn that the town of Nacogdoches was destroyed by fire, on Monday last, the 6th inst. No particulars given in reference to the extent of the fire. No doubt exists of its being the work of abolition cut-throat incendiaries.

The fearful plot seems to be fast culminating, and from all indications we are led to believe that there is not a county in the State but where the organization has been perfected in a greater or less degree.

Attempt to Fire Indianola.—From the Indianola Courier, we learn that that place has had a narrow escape from the destruction of a vast amount of property. On the 13th inst., a house on Water street, adjoining Murdock's livery stable was set on fire, but was fortunately discovered and extinguished before any damage was done. A young man who gave his name as Ed. King, was suspected, he having been seen on the premises but a few minutes before the fire was discovered. King was given to understand that a change of location might be better for his health, and at his election, he accordingly took his departure for New Orleans. These circumstances induced the formation of a Vigilance Committee.

The Courier says:

["] We trust that extreme care and prudence will mark their operations, else the remedy may become as bad as the disease. The times do certainly demand *vigilance*, but they do not require a regular banded organization to usurp the powers and exercise the functions of established legal authority. We were glad to see public sentiment aroused but hoped it would operate in a different way. The provisions of the State code are ample for the emergency, and the demand of public sentiment for their strict enforcement, and an augmented patrolling force, would be sufficient. ["]

Sensible talk.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 1, 1860, p. 1, c. 5

How Ladies Should Dress.—We find in All the Year Round the following views expressed in regard to ladies' dress:

As you look from your windows, in Paris, observe the first fifty women who pass: forty have noses depressed in the middle, a small quantity of dark hair, and a swarthy complexion, but then what a toilet! Not only suitable for the season, but the age and complexion of the wearer. How neat the feet and hands! How well the clothes are put on, and more than all, how well they suit each other!

Before English women can dress *perfectly*, they must have the taste of the French, especially in color. One reason why we see colors ill arranged in England is that the different articles are purchased each for its own imagined virtues, and without any thought of what is to be worn with it.—Women, while shopping, buy what pleases the eye on the counter, forgetting what they have at home. That parasol is pretty, but it will kill, by its color, one dress in the buyer's wardrobe, and be unsuitable for the others. To be magnificently dressed costs money; but to be dressed with taste is not expensive. It requires good taste, knowledge, and refinement. Never buy an article unless it is suitable to your age, habit, style, and the rest of your wardrobe. Nothing is more vulgar than to wear costly dresses with a common delaine, or cheap lace with expensive brocades.

What colors, it may be asked, go best together? Green with violet; cold [gold?] with dark

crimson or lilac; pale blue with scarlet; pink with black or white; and gray with scarlet or pink. A cold color generally requires a warm tint to give life to it. Gray and pale blue, for instance, do not combine well, both being cold colors. White and black are safe wear, but the latter is not favorable to dark or pale complexions. Pink is, to some skins, the most becoming; not, however, if there is much color in the cheeks and lips, and if there be even a suspicion of red in either hair or complexion. Peach color is perhaps one of the most elegant colors worn. Maize is very becoming, particularly to persons with dark hair and eyes. But whatever the colors or materials of the entire dress, the details are all in all; the lace around the bosom and sleeves, the flowers—in fact all that furnishes the dress. The ornaments in the head must harmonize with the dress. If trimmed with black lace, some of the same should be worn in the head, and the flowers which are worn in the hair should decorate the dress.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Street Improvements.—We notice our Mayor and Aldermen have gone to work in earnest, and are now making some long needed street improvements. Chaparral street begins to look as becomes a street, to the annihilation of all mudholes and waterpools, that have so placidly reposed on its surface since the late rains. The force under the command of Marshal Cannon are doing good service, and in addition to their pay, will receive the thanks of all citizens who have a regard for the health of the place, or wish to see our streets in good repair. To our City Fathers we say go on with your good work. There are other streets that require your attention, and you will satisfactorily explain to the tax payers how and where the money goes.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Fire at Houston.—On the night of the 17th ult., a large fire consumed a large part of the business houses of Houston. The Kelly House, a large three story building was destroyed. The next morning the charred remains of a man were found, who was burned in Hoffman's hotel. It is supposed his name was Perkins. The fire, judged from the evidence, was accidental.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

More Abolition Outrages.—It is reported that an attempt has been made to burn Athens, and that two white men had been hung, some negroes shot, and others hung. Every negro who has been implicated in this plot, even more than a hundred miles off, has testified to the same facts, the same dates, names and circumstances that were detailed at Dallas.

It is also reported that three men who fired Henderson have been taken and summarily punished. The Tyler Reporter of 7th says that a report has just reached there that Belleview, in Rusk county, was burned on the night of the 4th inst.

The loss by fire at Henderson, will amount, it is estimated, to \$250,000. Efforts have been made to fire many other places, but discovered in time to prevent its execution.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

[From the Goliad Messenger.]

Helena, Aug. 14th, 1860.

Editor Goliad Messenger:--Sir—In a late number of your paper, it is stated that John Rabb and Capt. Littleton had an affray. It was not John Rabb, as stated. The paper also

represented that Capt. Littleton was *shot in the back*. He was not, nor was the shooting the result of an "old feud."

I request the Goliad Messenger, and those papers which have copied its account of the affray, to make this correction.

I am truly yours,

Witt Rabb.

P.S.—It is but justice to you to say there are many contradictory statements in reference to the difficulty.

W. R.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 8, 1860, p. 1, c. 2

Summary: Poem or song "Song of the Texas Ranger." (From Summer Land; or, The Adventures of a Texas Ranger—a MSS. tale) by W. T. G. Weaver.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 8, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

The Episcopal Church.—As will be seen by reference to the proceedings of a meeting held at the Court-House last Saturday, much interest is manifested by our citizens in the establishment of an Episcopal Church in Corpus Christi. A complete list of officers, including a Vestry, were appointed, and five hundred dollars were subscribed, which certainly speaks well for a beginning. As it is generally understood that a gentleman of refinement and intelligence is to be the Rector, is the cause, in a great measure, of the popular favor the enterprise meets with.

The ladies will hold a fair on the 1st and 2^d of October next, to aid in the enterprise, and we will say the right parties are at work to make it all that can be desired. It must meet the approbation of all, and receive a generous support.

The ladies will see by advertisement headed "Fair in Corpus Christi," that they are requested to meet at the Court House next Monday, at 4 o'clock, P.M.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 8, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Hemp Doings.—On the 16th of August, a notorious horse thief, named Robert Tucker, was hung at Poluxy Springs, Johnson county.

The Vigilance Committee of Henderson sentenced a negro woman, concerned in burning that town, to be hung on the 26th ult.

A man named Morrison was hung in the suburbs of Gilmer, for inciting negroes in Wood, Titus and Hopkins counties, to insurrection.

Three abolitionists, named Templeton, Hensley and Kirk, were hung in Gainesville, Cook county. These men implicated fifteen other men belonging to the abolition conspiracy.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 8, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

An Abolition Document.

The following is the copy of a letter we believe was found and published in the State Gazette. If true it will afford some clue to the late outrages perpetrated in Northern and Eastern Texas by Abolitionists:

Denton Creek, July 3, 1860.—Dear Sir: A painful abscess on my right thumb, is my apology for not writing at Anderson. Our glorious cause is progressing finely as far South as

Brenham. I there parted with Bro. Wempler; he went still further south; he will do good wherever he goes. I traveled up through the frontier counties, part of the time under a fictitious name. I found many friends who had been initiated, and understand the Mystic Red. I met with a good number of our friends near Georgetown; we held a consultation and were unanimously of opinion that we should be cautious of our new associates; most of them are desperate characters, and may betray us, as there are slave-holders among them, and value poor negro much higher than a horse. The only good they will do us will be destroying towns, mills, &c., which is our only hope in Texas at present. If we can break Southern merchants and millers, and have their places filled by honest Republicans, Texas will be an easy prey, if we only do our duty. All wanted for the time being is control of trade. Trade, assisted by preaching and teaching, will soon control public opinion. Public opinion is mighty, and will prevail. Lincoln will certainly be elected; we will then have the Indian Nation, cost what it will. Squatter sovereignty will prevail there as it has in Kansas; that accomplished, we have at least one more step to take—but one more struggle to make—that is, free Texas. We will then have a connected link from the Lakes to the Gulf. Slavery will then be surrounded by land and by water, and soon sting itself to death. I repeat, Texas we must have, and our only chance is to break up the present inhabitants, in whatever way we can, and it must be done. Some of us will most assuredly suffer in accomplishing our object, but our Heavenly Father will reward us for assisting him in blotting out the greatest curse on earth. It would be impossible for us to do an act that is as blasphemous in the sight of God as holding slaves. We must have frequent consultations with our colored friends. (Let your meetings be in the night.) Impress upon their clouded intellects the blessings of freedom, induce all to leave you can; our arrangements for their accommodation to go North are better than they have been, but not as good as I would like. We need more agents, both local and traveling. I will send out traveling agents when I get home. You must appoint a local agent in every neighborhood in your district. I will recommend a few I think will do to rely upon, viz: Bro's Leake, Wood, Ives, Evans, Mr. Daniel Viery, Cole, Nugent, Shaw, White, Gilford, Ashley, Drake, Meeks, Shultz and Newman. Brother Leake, the bearer of this, will take a circuitous route, and see as many of our colored friends as he can; he also recommends a different material to be used about town, etc. Our friends sent a very inferior article; they emit too much smoke, and do not contain enough camphine [sic]. They are calculated to get some of our friends hurt. I will send a supply when I get home. I will have to reprove you and your co-workers for your negligence in sending funds to our agents; but few have been compensated for their trouble. Our faithful correspondent and industrious agent, Bro. Webber, has received but a trifle, not so much as apprentice's wages, neither have Bro. Willet, Mangun and others. You must call upon our colored friends for more money; they must not expect us to do all; they certainly will give every cent if they know how soon their shackles [sic] will be broken. My hand is very painful, and I close.

Yours truly,

W. H. Bailey.

N.B.—Bro. Leake will give you what few numbers of "Impending Crisis" I have, also Bro. Summer's speech and Bro. Beecher's letter, etc. Farewell.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 15, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

K. G. C.—A detachment of Knights of the Golden Circle, under the command of Capt. P. H. Thorpe, passed through this city—leaving here this morning on foot, for the general rendezvous near Brownsville, on the Rio Grande.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 22, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The K. G. C.—Another small detachment of K. G. C. arrived here this week. Those who passed through here last week are at the Banquete. It appears that they are bound to suffer disappointment, as they expected to meet a large force composed of members of their order at some point in Encinal county, a place of rendezvous, subsequent to a march upon Matamoros, which place was to be occupied by a portion, while the main force marched and occupied Monterey, as a place for head-quarters. As it is, there are no Knights in Encinal county, nor no one, ten, or fifty thousand concentrated at any point in this section—hence the disappointment. Manuel Doblado is no where to be heard of and the *pronunciamento* of Comonfort is still in the dark.

The Knights who are here, and have passed through this place, are orderly and gentlemanly in their bearing, and one would suppose them to be of those who are not likely to be gulled by the prospect of a rancho in Mexico, or in case it did not suit, to receive in lieu thereof eight hundred dollars in cash. The fallacy of such stories, it seems, will never be apparent other than to such as have gone "regularly through the mill."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 22, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Joke letter to the Ranchero from Albert Edward, Victoria's eldest.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 22, 1860, p. 4, c. 1

Watermelons.

Scientifically speaking, I am not sure whether a watermelon is a *cucumis* or a *cucurbita*, but I am sure it is a good thing to eat.

There are several ways of eating watermelons.

A Southern negro gets his watermelon, poises it dextrously [sic], and bursts it open on a fence rail. Taking one section by both hands, he inserts his head in the cavity and munches. For several minutes the spectator beholds a colored person, looking like cologne earth, but not entirely smelling like cologne water, having a green head, broader than it is high, the chin whereof weeps tears of melon-juice. In a few minutes more the eclipse passes—the head casts its shell—the contents of the rind are exhausted, and the Sybarite Sambo attacks the remaining section.

I never tried this mode of dissecting a watermelon, but I dare say it is a very good way of investigating vegetable structure.

Thoughtless boys have a mode of sampling a watermelon patch, which is unpleasant to the owner. They inspect the fruit, knife in hand, and cutting a square plug, examine the ripeness of the melon. If the portion of the interior inspected does not please them, they return the plug, and go on to the next, and the next. I recollect when a shaver of my experiments of this kind on a West Jersey plantation. After close inspection of a few dozen I found one that suited me, and removing it to a neighboring thicket, took my meat and drink in quiet. I had scarcely finished when, thro' a gap in the coppice, I saw the farmer entering the field. He stopped to examine a promising melon, and found the plug. He made a remark and went farther. He made another remark, even less polite than the first. The third melon inspected elicited an observation not fit to be repeated in Sabbaths schools. By the time he got to the twelfth melon his imprecations were various and profuse. A more profane Jerseyman I never heard, and were it not that I feared

he might lay hands on me, I should have felt it my duty to rebuke him. As it was, I kept very quiet.

Some people eat watermelons in a hurry, and in public. I have even known some, so lost to their duty to mankind, as to buy twopenny slices at the fruit stands, and gobble them before the eyes of the horrified passers. Such offenders are few in number.

If a man wants to eat his watermelon like a Christian, a gentleman and a scholar, let him follow my example.

This is my mode:

This is not an indispensable preliminary, it is true. I might beg it, borrow it, or steal it; but I do not. Begging is mean, borrowing a bore, and stealing dangerous. Therefore I buy it.

I pick out one, in weight from thirty to fifty pounds—the larger the better. I select him with a plump, juicy stem—thump him with my finger, and press him till he crackles, to see if he be ripe. I have him put away in the ice box for three hours. He is brought in with the dessert. His head and tail are amputated with a large knife, and he is stood up endwise. Then into equal and generous slices I divide him, leaving the core intact. To each I assign a longitudinal slice, and add to it a cross section of the core. Then I eat—ye Gods! how I do eat! I munch—I stuff—I cram. Half exhausted, I return to the charge. And so on, till a sense of satisfied fullness and the pile of rinds and seeds convince me that my duty is done. Then I recline backwards in my chair, and with a pleasing satisfaction only felt by the great and good.

I have eaten watermelons in all parts of the United States where they are grown. The watermelon of West Jersey is good, the watermelon of Virginia is better, the watermelon of Georgia is best.

Some tastes are acquired. The liking of oysters, tomatoes and lobsters, are cases in point. The love of watermelons is natural. The man who loves not watermelon is a monster. Society should put him under its ban. Mothers should use him as a bugbear to frighten children. He should be exiled to some distant clime, where there are no comforts—no necessary good—no society—in short, no watermelons. The highest proof of civilization is the general application of watermelon; and we should hesitate in calling that people barbarous, whatever their habits, who cultivate watermelons successfully. Were I a king, I should invite the prominent men of the country to a melon feast, and closely observe them. I should select my officers and ministers of state accordingly. One who would eat his melon carefully, placing the seeds on his plate methodically, and devouring the crisp and juicy morsels close to the rind—for him the portfolio of the treasury.

Another would attack the slices knife in hand, carrying devastation before him, and marking his path by piles of rinds. He should have the baton of field marshal.

A third would linger long over the feast, admiring first the carmine flesh, flecked with brown seeds, and showing the keenest appreciation of the food provided. He should be my minister of state for the home department, and should have special charge of the fine arts throughout the kingdom.

A fourth would—but it is not necessary to pursue the subject any farther. I commend the matter to the consideration of Napoleon the Third.

I might say a great deal more on the subject, but a friend has invited me to eat watermelons. Pleasure before business always, for business is plenty, and pleasure is not.—N. Y. Sunday Courier.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 29, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The recent abundant rains has tended to raise mosquitoes as well as grass. The cattle come into the town by hundreds nightly to escape the gallinippers, and find a moment of ease to chew their cud.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 29, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

That Cannon.—Promptly at nine o'clock each night, the venerable Corpus Christi cannon informs the citizen and stranger that thunder is not an exclusive monopoly of heaven's artillery. All the milk turns sour, nervous ladies protest, cats assume the shape of an inverted U, dogs show their teeth, and men take a hitch in their pantaloons when the brazen old chap gulphs [sic] the wind from his stomach. May he never *go on a "bust."*

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 29, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The Knights.—The last detachment of Knights of the Golden Circle that arrived here, instead of going farther toward the "seat of war," left, we understand, for their respective homes. Those who went to the Banquete, came back here and did likewise; and as they performed the trip into the country and back on foot, will satisfy the Civilian they did not carry bridles with them.

This morning another party of K. G. C., from the States, arrived here. There must be mismanagement on the part of the leaders, or else a concentration of forces would be better understood.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 6, 1860, p. 1, c. 5

Memento of Texas Prisoners in Mexico.—A letter written by a late American traveler in Mexico says:

"I'm traveling through Mexico; I stopped a short time at the Castle of Perote. I was much surprised to find a number of charcoal sketches made on the walls of several of the prison cells. One of these represented Santa Anna hanging to a tree; another a ranger chasing twenty mexicans; another a fat Mexican officer, with the name of "Gutts," written underneath the figure; several miserable half starved creatures represented in a kneeling position with a Mexican guard in the act of firing at them; together with some considerable writing, such as 'Old Simpy,' "a fair field and no more white flags;" "old peg and his yellow nation we owe you much." Several names were written on the walls of the different cells. Among those that could be made out through smoke and dirt, I made out to copy the following names:

Trimble, W. H. Moore, Capt. Cameron, W. M. Shepard, Virginia; John Tanney, Maryland; William H. Lush, New York; Zaccheus Wilson, Thomas Nelson, Tennessee; Isaac Allen, John Young, Thos. Hancock, Kentucky; Harry Oats, A. D. Heddenburg, New York."

The writer is puzzled by those odd records. He says:

"These appear to be American names. Who they were, or what crimes they had committed, does not appear. It is quite probable, however, that they were occupants of these cells at some time or other. The date appears to be the years 1841 and '42. Please publish this. It may possibly convey information to the friends of the poor fellows whose names appear on these prison walls."

There is no mystery about the affair. The authors of this "brief memorial" were Texas prisoners captured by overwhelming numbers of Mexicans, and confined in the Castle of Perote.

Some of them are still alive in Texas, and have had ample revenge on the Greasers. Many others have gone to their long homes; but not unavenged.—Civilian.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 6, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

A Registry Law.

We always have been and are still in favor of a registry law. The Mexican vote has always been cause of serious complaint for years past, and no American has been in this vicinity long enough to tell whether the majority of Mexicans are voters. We have been here for nine years, and have known persons who based their election upon the Mexican vote to be mistaken, and then, perhaps owing to the state of affairs, become very uproarious about the purity of the ballot box. They were chagrined at their defeat, and must have something, some great fraud to assign as the cause. There are many Mexicans who are entitled to vote, and understand the principles and workings of our government, as well as any Americans, but the ignorant do not, and from the nature of circumstances there must be many who have not the legal right to vote. As a general thing, a short time previous to an election, many of the friends and supporters of the different candidates and even the candidates themselves make every exertion for the Mexican vote. Those who secure it are satisfied, and the disappointed affect to imagine and perhaps have good cause to cry fraud, corruption, etc., etc. Those who didn't get the Mexican vote are then of course immaculate.

Who is to blame for this? Certainly not the Mexicans! They are controlled, and who is there, where the opportunity has been before him, that has not taken part in the controlling, if no more than to *simply* vote his hired Mexican. It is a notorious fact, and no matter how he voted, if illegal, a wrong has been perpetrated. Under our present election law this "simply voting my hired Mexicans," will be practiced. In the emergency what is to be done to rid ourselves of this depredation on the rights of the people, if depredation it is? Shall we assume all power into our hands—raise above the law—and by brutal force crush out the existence of every suspicious obstacle to our own idea of right, and become dictators because the law happens to be defective? Or shall we, like rational beings, advanced in the scale of civilization, appeal to our law-makers for wholesome laws to protect our rights, repair all defects and to construct a safeguard to the purity of the ballot box? No one who loves our country and her institutions can even hesitate in choosing the latter of the two alternatives.

A Registry Law, with requirements sufficiently stringent so there will be no mistake about the persons who may obtain a certificate under it having a complete right to vote, is what is wanted. It would do more toward uniting our people in feeling and opinion than any one measure now extant. We shall urge the enactment of such a law.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 6, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Another joke letter from Prince Albert Edward to the Ranchero. "Nothing but an overweening desire to be present at the laying of the corner-stone of the Nueces county jail, and to drive the first nail in your new graveyard fence, prevented my accepting their hospitality, for this being my first experience with the American people, I did desire to honor them with my presence more than I did."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 6, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Texas Penitentiary.—Prof. Alexander, who has been to Huntsville lately, gives us the following items relative to the Penitentiary, which he visited while there. After being admitted through a massive iron gate, guarded by two sentinels; he was placed in the charge of a warden who conducted him over the building. All the cells are clean, some ornamented with pictures, etc. There are 201 prisoners in all, 150 of whom are in the weaving room. They weave cotton and woolen goods of divers qualities. There are 70 Mexicans, in for horse stealing; one woman, an accomplice in a murder case. In another room they make furniture, shoes, and do the tailoring for the tailoring for [sic] the establishment; in another place blacksmith id done. The Mexicans do the cooking and washing for the prisoners. The mode of punishment is the stocks; the neck and wrists of the refractory criminal is placed within a circle of wood, too small to allow the head of hands to pass through; this frame is elevated so that the culprit barely touches with his toes and there fastened he stands until he promises better behavior. Another punishment is the dark cell or black hole—it is painted black and the culprit remains in solitary confinement in the darkness and stillness that is oppressive in the extreme—starvation is also resorted to. One cell the Professor noticed, had this inscription over it: "William Brown, aged 24 years, convicted of murder in Grimes county, in 1858, for which he is now suffering solitary confinement for life." He weeps constantly, it is said.—Crockett Printer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 6, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

The Fair.—The Fair for the benefit of the Episcopal church on last Tuesday and Wednesday, passed off every way satisfactory. We understand that near four hundred and fifty dollars was realized. A press of business will prevent us from giving it a more extended notice this week.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 13, 1860, p. 1, c. 2

Summary: Song—"The Disheartened Ranger"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 13, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

K. G. C.—The last party of gallant knights arrived here, that took a trip up the country, for the knew "there must be at the least calculation one thousand warriors up there somewhere," and that all Mexico would be a toy for their future amusement. But, lo! they have returned, having been disappointed in the number of braves they expected to find at the lowest calculation one thousand men.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 13, 1860, p. 3, c. 2

Fresh and Salt Meets.

W. R. Hughes has just received a large lot of Mutton and other meats. Observe his prices:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Corned Beef, per bbl., warranted good | \$12 |
| Fresh Beef, per lb | 4c a 6c |
| Beef Steaks | 10c |
| Veal, per lb | 5c a 10c |
| Pork " | 7c a 10c |

The larger the piece, the cheaper the price.

Particular attention is taken in sending meat to vessels, or any part of the city.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 20, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Since the dog ordinance went into force, we understand the City marshal has been a terror to all unlucky curs that couldn't boast a regulation collar. Our city has been infested for a long time by a perfect army of worthless dogs, and had become a positive nuisance.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 20, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Blooded Sheep Arrived.—The schooner *Susan Smith* arrived here on Thursday with sixteen head of merino sheep, the property of James A. Ware, Esq. Sheep-raising in Western Texas has been attended with the most flattering results, and those engaged in this profitable pursuit are constantly improving their flocks with the choicest breeds that can be obtained.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 20, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

The dengue, or dandy fever, is at present in Corpus in epidemic form. The fever don't kill folks nor break any bones, although such results have been ascribed to it.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 27, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Improved Sheep and Horses.—We were misinformed last week concerning the breed of sheep belonging to James A. Ware, Esq., which arrived per schooner *Susan Smith*. They are improved Cotswolds, or, as they are sometimes called, New Oxfordshires, from the flock of Col. J. W. Ware, of Clarke county, Virginia. This breed of sheep ranks very high in the estimation of butchers, wool-growers, and buyers in England and America. Their heavy fleeces immense carcasses and early maturity, together with the extraordinary strength of the staple of the wool, renders it a very valuable cross for the light short-breeds of the country. Col. Ware's flock of Cotswolds is bred from the best flocks in England.

He also brought three splendid horses . . .

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 27, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

There are many rumors afloat in regard to there being a large body of armed men, mostly from other counties, in the upper portion of this, with the avowed intention of running off every Mexican inhabitant. We hope the rumor may prove untrue, although it is founded on almost positive authority. If it is true, it is a species of high-handed agrarianism, which must inevitably meet with the hearty condemnation of every citizen who loves his country and her laws; and we would remind those who are engaged in this unlawful business, that their acts are in defiance of the very letter of the law, to which all should submit, and to which every citizen owes allegiance.

From what we can learn, this sad state of affairs is brought about by representations being made of the menacing attitude of certain parties, in which there is no truth. We hope the sober second thought will bring the conclusion that it is better to be vigilant under the law as a standard of morals, than to be vigilant under "higher law" with no such standard. Drive off the Mexicans and the trade with Mexico will be stopped, which will destroy the commercial interests of this place, as well as the cotton interests of this county, as our planters have to depend principally upon Mexican labor.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 27, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

K. G. C.—The arrival and return of squads of men to and from this point, who belong to this mysterious order, and the apparent mismanagement on the part of their leaders, has been a matter of much comment in our community. The knights who arrived here seemed to be in as much need of light upon the subject as ourselves. The following letter written by Gen. Bickley, dated Austin, Oct. 9th, and published in the Galveston News of the 20th, may serve to partially enlighten our readers upon the subject:

["] I regret very much that it was not in my power to remain long enough in Galveston to address your citizens in behalf of the K. G. C. I desired this, because I feel perfectly confident that the principles involved in the success of this organization have not been fully appreciated in Southern Texas, or I should not have met with so much opposition from a portion of the press.

The obstacles which I have had to overcome have been greater than my most sanguine friends could have anticipated. For instance—many of the most prominent men in the organization believe that no attempt should be made until the first of December, at which time we may be more needed at home than abroad. Again, it has been reported that no provisions can be had in Texas to sustain our men while organizing, and this has rendered the men timid about remaining upon the frontier long enough to collect our forces. Many sanguine friends have gone to the Rio Grande without being duly prepared and these must necessarily become discouraged. To procure the arms and necessary materials with which to open the campaign, I have had to traverse every section of the Southern States—to combat misrepresentation, and build up an influence for the order, before anything could be done. This work has fallen altogether on me. Besides, the recent failure of Gen. Walker in his expedition to Honduras, and the silence of our Government in reference to the intervention of the British, has caused many to fear that our task would be more difficult than had been previously supposed. The difficulty of transporting large quantities of materials and troops across the country, and the approaching Presidential contest, have all shown how necessary to success is the element of time. Arms that ought to have been at our rendezvous have not arrived, and agents have to be sent in search of them. Corn must be shipped from the Ohio river and the force in this State simultaneously assembled. All this is the work of time. To throw ourselves in a body of 400 or 500 men only across the river would insure disaster. This will not do—if I cross, it must be with every element of success in my hands, viz: men, arms, and material. We shall cross at the earliest possible moment, and I only ask our friends and the press to give us that assistance which we ought to expect of them. Give us a few weeks, and all will come out right. I shall thoroughly canvass the State, and then, if Texas refuses to assist me, I cannot succeed, for I am only one man, and am strong only as I am surrounded by strong men.["]

The Matamoros correspondent of the N. O. Crescent, seems to take a *vice versa* view of this would be warlike order. He writes:

["] Talking of war puts me on my guard to caution all you folks not to be caught in Gen. Bickley's new humbug—the Golden Circle. The authorities here do not know hide nor hair of the matter, and it will meet with resistance from all classes. What foundation Gen. Bickley has for his movement is past my comprehension, for I know that he is not authorized to raise men on behalf of the Mexican Government. I think that all engaged in it are on a fool's errand, and that Gen. Bickley is only manoeuvring [sic] the public out of its money. ["]

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 3, 1860, p. 1, c. 3

Summary: Poem—"The Texas Ranger" beginning "Mount, mount, and away, o'er the green prairie wide"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 3, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

The body of armed men, forty-five in number, who invaded this county last week, have, we understand, returned from whence they came. It seems the many stories that caused so much alarm in the other counties turned out to be moonshine, and that really every reason does exist why there should be the best of feeling among all.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 3, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Escape of O. M. Jackson.—O. M. Jackson, who has been had-cuffed and shackled by our Sheriff, to secure him in durance, that he might answer to the charge of the murder of Hegenbottom at Santa Rosa, last June, made good his escape early yesterday morning. Through the assistance of his wife he obtained a file, cut off his irons, and then majestically crawled out of the shed where he was confined. He is yet at large, but many persons are after him.

Here is another instance of the escape of an undoubted criminal, because of there being no county jail. On next Tuesday, each voter will have the right to give his preference, through the ballot box, for tax, or against tax, to build a jail. How are you prepared to vote? If you wish to see the laws enforced, vote for the tax; but if on the contrary, you wish to see the law defeated, you have no right to vote at all.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 3, 1860, p. 2, c. 5

Gen. Bickley's K. G. C. Speech at Austin.—The San Antonio Herald publishes a two column and a half report of Gen. Geo. Bickley's K. G. C. speech at Austin on the 17th. He disclaimed the title of a filibuster for himself or order—intimated that they were a humanitarian society—would "perfect" negro slavery in the South and extend it abroad—were not leagued with any political party in the country—did not propose to march into Mexico as an armed force, but as a *defensive colony*, (per invitation of certain intelligent State Governors,) pledging allegiance and assistance to the liberal people of that country, who are kept "under the surf" by their revolutionary brethren, etc., etc.

The K. G. C. platform reads well on paper, but we have serious doubts whether there is enough powder in their guns to cure the "sick man" on the other side of the Rio Grande. The Mexicans are not very apt to affiliate with the "barbarians of the North," and well informed letter writers say that such a movement as that spoken of by Gen. Bickley, would meet with determined resistance from all parties. We advise young men in the States to stay with their parents a while longer, and seek some surer path to emolument and fame than becoming Bickley Mexico colonists.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 10, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Gulf Coast Fair Association.—This fair will commence at Victoria on Wednesday, the 14th inst. The list of premiums to be awarded is large and many of them are worth striving for.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 10, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Election Day in Corpus passed off quietly, and good feeling seemed to pervade those who attended the polls. A mockingbird attached to The Ranchero office warbled a melodious

song for the first time in his life, on that eventful day, which we consider a good omen for our ticket. If he blowed [sic] his horn in vain, he can be bought at a low figure for cash.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 17, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Lone Star Flag has been raised in Gonzales, Houston, and Galveston. These sort of flags are so scarce, that in Galveston the supply was not equal to the demand. In Houston a paper was circulated, and received signatures rapidly, irrespective of the political proclivities of the signers, calling for a declaration of independence. Which half of the American Eagle are we to retain? We suggest that the bird be muzzled, and we take half the spears and all the olive branch.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 17, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

Thanksgiving.—Gov. Sam Houston has appointed Thursday, the 29th of November, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 17, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Capture of Runaway Negroes.

Corpus Christi, Nov. 12th, 1860.

Editors Ranchero:--The following circumstances, communicated to me by Mr. Santos Benavides, of Laredo, are, I think, of sufficient importance to excuse my troubling you or your numerous readers:

On the 5th inst., a negro arrived at Laredo with two horses, both of a light cream color, (in Mexican, *Malados*.) one a stallion. He persuaded the ferryman to pass him over the Rio Grande, by representing himself as a free negro. Shortly afterwards the fact came to the knowledge of Mr. Santos Benavides. That gentleman, who has ever been foremost in confronting danger in support of the laws and institutions of Texas, immediately got together a small party of ten of his friends, crossed the river at 8 o'clock P.M. same day, and in the face of the entire population of the place, seized the negro, and succeeded in making good their retreat to the boat. The moment they pushed out into the stream, the Mexicans opened a heavy fire upon them; which was returned as warmly as the number of the party assailed would allow. They, however, landed on this side of the river, with the negro, who was immediately lodged in the City Jail, there to await the orders of his owner when discovered.

I regret to say that one of our friends (Fines Mussett) was severely wounded during the firing.

It is not the first time that Mr. S. Benavides has distinguished himself in restoring runaway slaves to their owners; always with the same indifference to danger, the same prudence and foresight in forming his plans, and complete disinterestedness, as he has invariably refused to receive any recompense for his exertions.

The above facts, when known to the people of Texas, will, I hope, go far towards opening the eyes of many to the erroneous impressions so generally entertained regarding the portion of our fellow-citizens of Mexican origin.

Similar action if not so daring, and dangerous as the present, frequently repeated, have sufficiently proved, that the citizens of the counties on the Rio Grande have as much at heart the interests of the country and the welfare of its citizens as the most rabid orator of the party now

inimical to them.

Respectfully Yours,
Mich. Lidwell.

We are in receipt of a letter from a reliable gentleman residing at Laredo, who corroborates the above, and states that Mr. Mussett is recovering very fast from his wound. The ball entered just below the eye and came out under the jaw.

Our correspondent also gives an account of another capture of runaway negroes by a party of Americans going from Laredo to San Antonio, on Saturday, the 3rd inst. They met two negroes in the road, who broke and ran, but were fired into by the party, and one of them was wounded and taken on to San Antonio. The other boy escaped, but was captured and lodged in jail at Laredo the next day by a party of Mexicans residing there. He says he belongs to Mr. Harris, who resides near Hallettsville [sic]. The Americans who took the boy on to San Antonio, reside in Atascosa county.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 24, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Corpus Christi awake.—On Thursday morning last the Lone Star Flag was hoisted on Cahill's flag-staff, and one gun for each southern State was fired. Considerable excitement exists in this city, concerning the result of the late election, and a spirit is manifested by many of our citizens in favor of secession and the re-establishment of the Republic of Texas.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 24, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

A Visit to St. Marys.—Last week we visited the enterprising and flourishing town of St. Marys, situated on Copano bay, in Refugio county, Texas, and found business brisk, the inhabitants united, and all pulling in one direction. The town contains about one hundred houses, embracing eight stores, two hotels, and one protestant church. Public improvements are being prosecuted with energy, and every measure calculated to promote the interests of the place, receives the cordial support of the citizens. Stock has already been subscribed to build a screw steamer to run to New Orleans, and the Captain will proceed immediately to the north to build her. She will be of sufficient size to carry 250 head of cattle, besides, having fine accommodations for passengers. It is expected she will be completed and ready for service inside of four months. With this important arm of strength St. Marys is bound to assume an influential position, in commercial affairs.

The unity of feeling, and concert of action, exhibited by our neighbors, is well worthy of imitation by Corpus Christi. Our business men should pull together, and cease not in the good work. See what this has accomplished for St. Marys in two years, and what might it not accomplish for us.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 24, 1860, p. 2, c. 2

The Feeling in Texas.—Our State exchanges come to hand this week containing calls for meetings, and reports of meetings already held, which indicate that Texas is in a blaze, and that the people are moving and preparing to meet the crisis, consequent upon the triumph of abolitionism. The propriety of Texas again rallying under the Lone Star is freely discussed, and resolutions to that effect have been passed in many places. An unmistakable disposition is manifested never to submit to the humiliation which now threatens the South.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], November 24, 1860, p. 4, c. 1

To Give a Yellow Color to a Floor When Scrubbing.—Take the leaves of the China tree, boil well in water; when cool pour off the water and use it for scrubbing. It gives a rich golden hue to the floor and does not rub off easily.

Camphor Pomade.—Half pound of fresh lard that you have rendered out yourself—or still better, if you can procure it, goose grease—1/4 pound of very nice beef suet, 6 ounces of French camphor—melt all together over a slow fire, strain, and when cold add 3 tablespoonsful of spirits of hartshorn. Excellent for a sprain, bruise, rising in the breast, etc.

Cinnamon Biscuits.—Half a pound of dry flour, one pound of loaf sugar, sifted fine, one pound of good butter, five cents of powdered cinnamon, mix with a glass of brandy or rum; roll out thin and back quick.

Hot Spice for Steaks, Chops, Soups or Gravies.—Three drachms each of black pepper, ginger and cinnamon, seven cloves, mace half an ounce, one-quarter of an ounce of cayenne pepper, nutmegs one ounce, white pepper one ounce and a half, mix; more cayenne may be added if desired. This is a delicious adjunct to chops, steaks, etc.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 1, 1860, p. 1, c. 1-3

Summary: Almost three columns of brands

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 1, 1860, p. 1, c. 6

The Lone Star.

The Lone Star was adopted as the national standard of Texas, by Congress, then in session at Columbia, December 10, 1836. We copy the description from the Telegraph, of December 22, 1836:

"Be it further enacted, &c., That for the future there shall be a national flag, to be denominated the National Standard of Texas, the conformation of which shall be an azure ground, with a large golden star central."

"Be it further enacted, &c., That the national flag for the naval service for the Republic of Texas, as adopted by the President at Harrisburg, on the 9th of April, 1836, the conformation, of which is Union blue, star central, thirteen stripes prolonged, alternate red and white, be, and the same is hereby ratified and confirmed, and adopted as the future national flag for the naval service for the Republic of Texas."

The glorious flag of the Lone Star is dear to every Texian. It waved proudly over a free country, which true men wrested from the dominion of the savage. Tears flowed from eyes all unused to weeping, when it was hauled down from the flag at the Capitol, on the consummation of annexation. It may yet be raised again. If so, it will not be dishonored. There are many of those sturdy spirits still left, who gloried in that banner. Thousands of others have been attracted hither by the history of this country, by the unexampled advantages, by the love of liberty that dwells among our people. Many of them love the Union, but all of them, we believe, love Texas more. Whatever may be the action of Texas, whatever steps she may take, whether to stay or go, that step once taken, will be supported by a united people.—Houston Telegraph.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

The News says a Lone Star rifle company, numbering nearly one hundred young men,

has been organized in Galveston, and that the old artillery company is also being reorganized, to be composed of some of the older citizens. Many citizens are wearing the blue cockade, surmounted by metallic [sic] five-pointed stars.

The Telegraph notices the appearance of the blue cockade on the streets of Houston, worn by numbers of citizens, and gives the following description of it:

It consist [sic] of a neat blue rosette, pinned to the hat, having a silver five-pointed star in the centre [sic]. It means that the wearers pledge their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to resistance to abolition encroachments, and that they can see no way of successful resistance but in the withdrawal of their State from the Union.

A movement is on foot for the organization of an artillery company.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 1, 1860, p. 2, c. 6

Flag of the New Confederacy.—The Charleston Mercury publishes the following suggestion for the flag of the "Southern Confederacy:"

The ground entirely blue, with a golden palmetto in the center; a golden rattlesnake twining around the stem of the palmetto, with its rattle sprung, head erect, and tongue protruded. In the back-ground, to the rear of the tree and snake, a golden spread eagle, and a single golden star in the upper right corner, with the words, "Room for More," on the opposite.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 1, 1860, p. 4, c. 2

Sheep Raising in Gonzales County.—We have already given several statements of the large profits of sheep raising in our county. We have now another at hand, which we publish merely to show that the business continues remunerative. Our friend, Mr. J. T. Price, living on the Guadalupe, about ten miles above here, informs us that two years ago he purchased a flock of sheep at a cost of \$900. In the two years he has realized from the sales of wool \$500, and his flock is now worth \$3,000—making a profit in two years time of \$2,600. Of course the expense attending the same must be deducted from this amount, but as that is comparatively small, the reader can judge for himself. We rejoice to see that many are increasing their flocks recently. All doubts as to sheep doing well in this country, seem now to be removed, as last winter was a fair test, when all other stock suffered save sheep.—Inquirer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 8, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Minute Men.—The minute men of Gonzales county met at Gonzales on the 1st instant, for the purpose of organizing a regiment. So says the Inquirer. Companies of minute men are being formed in nearly every county in the State. Are there none of Corpus Christi's chivalrous spirits ready to take the matter in hand and raise a company of minute men? We shall see.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 8, 1860, p. 2, c. 3-4

Summary: Account and resolutions of a pro-secession meeting in Corpus Christi, "one of the largest meetings ever convened in this county"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 8, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

Sharpe's Rifles for Georgia.—The Hartford Times, of the 19th ult., says the steamer City of Hartford takes, this afternoon, as freight, one hundred and eighty cases of Sharpe's patent carbines, containing ten pieces each, amounting to arms for one thousand eight hundred men, and forty cases of conical balls, containing each one thousand bullets. These are ordered by the

State of Georgia, to be delivered at Savannah, and are only the first shipment of an extensive order.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 8, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

Beef Packing.—The establishment for packing beef, on Dickinson's Bayou, in Galveston county, is now ready to begin operations. We understand that several hundred beeves are already on the ground, and all the machinery is in readiness for a heavy business.—Civilian.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 15, 1860, p. 1, c. 5

Summary: Opening poem of the first theatre in Texas, Houston, June 11, 1838, by John Carlos, formerly of New Orleans, first plays "Hunchback" and "Perfection"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 15, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

Our New Methodist Minister.—Rev. H. G. Horton has been assigned to this city by the Rio Grande Conference, lately in session at San Antonio, and will preach at the Methodist chapel to-morrow at the usual hours. Mr. Horton is spoken of as being a zealous and intelligent preacher, and possessed of the attributes of a Christian gentleman.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 15, 1860, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Resolutions of public meeting at San Patricio pro-secession

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 22, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Summary: Resolutions of public meeting at Refugio, pro-secession

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 22, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

Summary: Resolutions of public meeting at Rio Grande City, saying "whatever Texas decides on, that will we cheerfully abide by and support"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 29, 1860, p. 2, c. 1

At Cahill's store you can fine every style of toys for children. Now is the time to make such presents.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 29, 1860, p. 2, c. 4

Texas.—A correspondent of the Scientific American thus expresses his opinion of this State:

"Having completed my rapid survey of Texas, I suppose you would like to have the briefest possible statement of its prominent peculiarities. Texas is a great, beautiful, dry, windy, cotton, cattle, Methodist, live-oak State."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 29, 1860, p. 3, c. 1

Calico by the Million.—The Merrimack Manufacturing Company have made and printed into calico about 11,000,000 yards of cloth, consuming 2,375,838 pounds of cotton during the last six months.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 5, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

This forenoon the school boys belonging to Miss Marsh's school filed past our office, each one bearing a Lone Star flag.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 5, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

Well, the holidays are over! The children have had their stockings filled by their ancient and punctual friend Santa Claus, many generous deeds have been done, old friendships renewed, and good resolutions formed. Old 1860, replete with stirring events, has been sealed and delivered over to the guardian of the long ago, and the clean page of 1861 is now before us, whereon to chronicle the haps and mishaps of a twelvemonth to come. Never before in the history of our country did a year commence which seemed to promise such a prolific harvest of startling events as this. "Wars and rumors of wars" loom up as plentifully as the locusts of Egypt, ("in my mind's eye, Horatio,") and futurity seems pregnant with gloomy forebodings. Millions of freemen are preparing to make a stand against aggressive fanaticism, and American is destined to shake from centre [sic] to circumference from the fierce shock when the opposing elements meet. Truth and justice will eventually triumph, but possibly not until "former things have passed away," and the foul political atmosphere is purified. The swamps of Abolitiondom must be drained, or the miasma they emit will destroy everything human contiguous to them. May all the causes which now exist calculated to engender discord and trouble be removed, and public confidence once more reign supreme. If so, then we greet you, new year, as a precious legacy, and will cherish you as our best friend, in spite you commence your career with bristles erect and claws extended.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 12, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Dancing Academy.—Prof. H. S. Whitehead, as will be seen in the new advertisements, has opened a dancing academy in this city, and will remain here for one month only. The Professor comes highly recommended as being a master of the terpsichorean art, having taught classes throughout every portion of this State. He instructs in all the late fashionable dances, some of which never were before taught in this place. Those who wish to learn the mystery of the "light fantastic toe," as well as the "graceful," should by all means patronise [sic] the dancing academy.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 12, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Prayer.—Right Rev. Alexander Gregg, Bishop of the Diocese of Texas, has set forth the following prayer, that it may be used on all occasions of Public Worship in the Churches of the Diocese—and especially, during the approaching session of the Legislature, and of any conventional body that may shortly be called together.

"O Almighty God, the Supreme governor of all things, whose power no creature is able to resist, to whom it belongeth justly to punish sinners, and to be merciful to those who truly repent; look upon us; we humbly beseech the, in great mercy in this time of trouble and of need; to Thee only can we fly for succor in behalf of our country, of those set in authority over us, and of all orders and degrees of men.

"Grant, O Lord, that our rulers may govern, and the people obey in thy fear; and now especially, in our distress and perplexity, so order and dispose the hearts of those who are to counsel and decide upon the public welfare, that they may have a right judgment in all things; and in all things; and in every work begun, continued, and ended in Thee, may seek to do justly,

to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thee, their God,—being filled with the spirit of truth; unity, and concord. And as they labor for the advancement of the general good, give them grace to remember the account which must at last be rendered up by all men to the judge of quick and dead. Deliver us in thine own appointed time, O, God, from every peril, and restore our land to happiness and peace.

"Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them, and let not thine heritage be brought to confusion.

"Hear us, O Lord, for thy mercy is great. And after the multitude of thy mercies, look upon us. Through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Amen."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 12, 1861, p. 2, c. 5

The Pelican Flag was raised in New Orleans on the 28th ult., which was greeted with loud huzzas, salvos of artillery and "La Marseillaise."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 12, 1861, p. 4, c. 1

Disobedience to Parents.—Young man, is that your father? How could you make use of language so disrespectful? You don't care! You will talk as you please, no matter who hears you? If we were in want of a clerk, and there was not another young man within ten hundred miles, we could not consent to take you. We should be afraid to trust a boy who is disobedient to his parents, who shows such little respect for his father. A boy who was so saucy to his parents we never knew to turn out well. He respects nobody. If your father is in the wrong, and you are certain of it, there is no excuse for such language. No one will respect you for it. Everybody will condemn you. A parent should be treated with respect by his children no matter how poor he may be, or how large his family may have grown.

There is too little respect paid to parental authority at the present day. It is grievous to go into man families and hear the language daily used by the children. "I will," "I won't," "I don't care," "It's none of your business," "I am old enough to know what is right," and the like expressions are painfully common. Large boys and grown up girls even, do not hesitate to give their mothers the lie, and break away from their express commands.

There is truth as well as rhyme in a couplet by John Randolph:--

"Whoever makes his parent's heart to bleed,
Shall have a child that will revenge the deed."

One thing is certain—an undutiful son and a disobedient daughter cannot long prosper. For a season they may appear well to the eye of a stranger, but their self-will and stubbornness are soon discovered, and they are despised. A child who disobeys his parents will not hesitate to abuse anybody. Neither age nor talents receive respect from him.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 19, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Bryden's Wool.—Mr. James Bryden, of Santa Gertrudes, sold his last year's clip of wool in Boston for 37 ½ and 45 cents per lb. This is a considerable increase over former prices, resulting from the improvement of his flocks. He has some as fine blooded bucks as can be obtained, and being an experienced shepherd, hence his success. He has engagements to dispose of \$2,000 worth of bucks from his flocks, of three-fourths and seven-eighths grades.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 26, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

A religious revival is now going on at the Methodist church in this city. There is divine service every night, and much interest manifested.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 2, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

We learn that the Goliad Messenger has been suspended until a new head can be obtained. Although this important appendage would doubtless be a valuable acquisition, we cannot for the life of us see why such a deficiency should stop the paper, since the other extremity has so frequently been exhibited in its stead, and served a two fold purpose.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 16, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Decorate Your Yards.—Nothing is so beautiful, so easily obtained, or to be so highly prized, as a profusion of trees, flowers and shrubbery distributed with taste in the yard about a residence. The most humble cot, when half hid by climbing vines and sheltering trees, with fragrant flowers sending up their sweetness round and about it, possesses a charm, in our opinion, only rivalled [sic] by Eden's bowers. With very little labor and attention, any one can be surrounded with these most lovely and enticing decorations of nature. In our chaparrals and on the bosom of our romantic prairies grow almost countless varieties of shrubs and plants, such as would challenge the admiration of Flora herself. This is the proper season of the year for transplanting, and we do hope the citizens of Corpus Christi will evince their good taste in this respect by improving the opportunity within their reach. Yards are like persons, they improve wonderfully under the embellishing process of art.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 16, 1861, p. 3, c. 1

Hurrah for Arizona.—The Mesilla Times says the Lone Star flag has been raised at Burchville in the Pino Alto Mines. The citizens hold an enthusiastic meeting and fully endorsed southern rights.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Stars and Stripes.—A view of the heavenly bodies while under the influence of a cat o' nine tails.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

There is a general stampede among Uncle Sam's men on the Rio Grande. They are deserting by platoons.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

It is reported that near 2500 men are now under arms in the service of this State. They are divided into detachments, and are marching against the various U.S. military posts in Texas. Col. Ford, ("Old Rip,") we learn, left Galveston for the Rio Grande with 800 men a few days ago. So mote it be.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Account of death and funeral of Forbes Britton, state senator from Corpus Christi, who died in Austin and was the third person buried in the State Cemetery. "The coffin, which is sealed within a zinc case, and all carefully secured within a box of red cedar, is covered with silk

velvet, lace finished, with silver tacks, upholstered and frilled inside, silvered handles on the side, and on the lid to the right is the silvered name plate, on which is engraved: 'Hon. Forbes Britton, Died February 14, 1861.'

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

Exciting Times at San Antonio.

The San Antonio Herald gives the exciting intelligence that col. Ben. McCulloch, with a force of 600 men, entered San Antonio on the morning of the 16th for the purpose of taking possession of the U.S. property there. He was joined by the various city companies and the citizens generally. The Alamo property has been given up by Capt. Reynolds, who has resigned his commission under the U. S. Government. The Lone Star flag floats from the Alamo. Negotiations were going on at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 16th for the other property in the city, which, if not given up within a few hours, was to be taken.

Col. McCulloch is acting under the authority of the State, as represented by the Committee of Public Safety, appointed by the State Convention. These Gentlemen are Hon. Thos. J. Devine, Hon. Sam'l A. Maverick, of San Antonio, and Dr. Lockett, of Corpus Christi. . .

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 23, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The Question

For voters to decide upon to-day, is: Are you in favor of being on a political equality with the free negro of the north, or are you in favor of being his recognized superior in the south? Who can hesitate to cast his vote FOR SECESSION?

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 2, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The San Antonio Herald publishes the following list of property delivered over to the State commissioners by Gen. Twiggs:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| 1800 mules, valued at \$50 each | \$90,000 |
| 500 wagons, " " 140 " | 90,000 |
| 950 horses, " " 150 " | 142,500 |
| 500 harness, " " 50 " | 25,000 |
| Tools, wagon material, iron, nails, horse and mule shoes | 250,000 |
| Corn, (at this post,) | 7,000 |
| Clothing | 150,000 |
| Commissary stores | 75,000 |
| Ordinance stores | <u>400,000</u> |
| Total | \$1,229,500 |

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 2, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

The vote upon the ordinance of secession, on the 23d ult., resulted as follows in this county:

| | For. | Against. | Scattering. |
|----------------|------|----------|-------------|
| Precinct No. 1 | 87 | 40 | 4 |
| " " 4 | 14 | 1 | |
| " " 6 | 41 | 1 | |
| " " 8 | 22 | | |
| Total | 164 | 42 | 4 |

The polls were not opened at the other precincts—at least no information to that effect has been received by the Chief Justice.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 16, 1861, p. 2, c. 5

Latest From the Rio Grande.

Correspondence of The Ranchero.

Brownsville, Texas, March 11, 1861.

Mr. Ranchero:--Almost everything on this frontier bears a powerful "seedy" appearance. Though warlike, turbulent, and stormy betimes, yet always "seedy." This or anything else that I lay down as a rule to go by, the ladies are always exceptions. The Aztec ladies are more than ever fair, fresh and winning, and seem but little browned, and, if anything, improved from the withering and drying-up effects of a March sun. Those fair creatures, as of old, have already made powerful impressions upon the gallant command of Col. Ford, knowing, as they well do, that the airs and epaulets, as proverbially worn by the West Pointers, is about to *vamos* forever from the field of Rio Grande action—from the stage of their watch by day and toil by night, have tacked ship, and are now steering under heavy pressure and full rig of crinoline, for the young and inexperienced privates and officers of the *Stately* army. . .

U.S. officers and soldiers will take away with them many lasting remembrances of the kind treatment they have received on this frontier; and for the services they have rendered at all times, in protecting, from violation and worthless assault, their extensive range, they will carry with them the warmest thanks of the undivided whole. Wherever they go, they will often turn with feelings of rapturous delight to the Rio Grande—the late field of their manly labors, where no breastwork could intimidate them, no trench too broad for them to leap, and no obstacle they have not surmounted. But they are *going* away, not *running*, to give place to those who have the same ends in view—the protection of this whole frontier.

Everything is being turned over by the regulars to Col. Ford and his command, and receipts taken in name and account. Three companies of infantry left yesterday for the mouth of the river; the steamer Mexico took down a load of artillery and men to-day, and the Matamoros will take another load this evening. The Webster lays off the bar to receive them.

The steamer Gen. Rusk will leave tomorrow for Galveston, taking back some of the volunteers, among whom will be the gallant Gen. Hugh McLeod, and Gen. Nichols, the State Commissioner; which latter, by the by, has been quite sick at this place, but it is thought, so much recovered, as to be able to stand the journey.

To Col. Ford, his firmness and determination, are we all indebted for the avoidance here of civil war—a sanguinary conflict between the regulars and volunteers—and wherever I see the right man in the right place, it affords me pleasure to mention the fact. At the same time, Captain Stoneman, U.S.A., merits the gratitude of our people to no limited extent, in the stand he took to prevent the carrying into effect of his superior's rash determination.

With plenty of people here, and plenty of money, Mrs. Dogberry thinks times would be very brisk; but as it is, the times, as well as your servant, are rather

"Seedy."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 23, 1861, p. 1, c. 6

Corpus Christi Minute Men.—On Saturday last a company of minute men was organized in this city for the purpose of operating against the Indians who lately visited this section. The following officers were elected . . .

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 13, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Austin Facts and Fancies.

Correspondence of The Ranchero.

Austin, City, April 1, 1861.

. . . Austin is now in a state of comparative stagnation, and I suppose when the Legislature adjourns—the last excitement of the season—the city will go into her usual summer torpor, reversing the hibernating order of animals, and quietly sleeping through the months of burning days, recuperating her energies for the gaieties of the coming winter. Whatever may be the opinion of Austin in other respects, the beauty of its situation is hardly a matter of question. It requires but little stretch of the imagination, standing upon the Capitol dome, viewing the dark outlines of the surrounding mountains, with their rugged peaks reaching out in bold relief against the voluptuous sky, to fancy one's self among the mountains of Switzerland. The heavens are not less blue, nor the scene more enchanting than here; and when mellowed by twilight, they assume a more imposing grandeur, than if clothed in the glare of day. To the romantic and picturesque beauty of this hill-girded city, is now being added foliage and flowers. Spring time is here among the hills, spreading her green robes on the trees, and leaving her breath on the gale. The whole air is vocal with melody, and health and vigor seems infused into every vein. The ladies and the birds, associated by a sort of natural propriety, seem to appropriate a large portion of the season to themselves, each respectively displaying the instincts of their nature, one flirting with the beaux, and the other as innocently fluttering among the flowers. . .

This naturally introduces the masquerade ball, a species of fashionable amusement that I cannot sufficiently condemn. If a man can find a good reason for making a public fool of himself, that argument will be adduced in favor of the masquerade; it has no other. With the gentler sex it is a little more excusable, for under the cloak of disguise, they are enabled to display charms which society might deem inadmissible elsewhere. This entertainment was followed by a calico dress ball, where the ladies appeared in a simplicity of attire which was really grateful and refreshing. The consequence of manner, and the formalities of society seemed ill at home without kid, silk and lubin. May their shadows ever grow less. I should regard him as a public benefactor, who could devise some plan to infuse more feeling into our society, and stay that heartless coquetry, which is fast assuming the form of a national curse. . .

Southron.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 20, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The news of the reduction of Fort Sumpter [sic] reached here on the 18th inst. The event was celebrated on Thursday night in this city, amidst much rejoicing and the firing of cannon.

Ten guns were fired, seven for the Confederate States, one for Jeff. Davis, one for Gen. Beauregard, and one for Gov. Clark.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 27, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Summary: Resolutions of a meeting at the court-house ratifying the proceedings of the Secession Convention, Saturday night last. "Judge E. J. Davis opposed the ratification of the proceedings of the Convention and was applauded by the opposition."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 27, 1861, p. 2, c. 5

The Twin Sisters.—The two pieces of field artillery, six pounders, known as the "Twin Sisters," which were used at the battle of San Jacinto, and did such good service there, have been delivered at Galveston in accordance with a resolution passed by the Louisiana Convention some time since.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 3, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

The boys in town have become infected with a martial spirit. In front of our office they have thrown up a "fort," and divided themselves into two detachments—one to man the works and another to assault it. Our d---l belongs to the storming party, and he feels quite confident that they can wipe out the U. S. foot pads.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 11, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

The Committee of Safety of this county have taken possession of the boats, tents etc., belonging to the U.S. Coast Survey, which were left here for safe keeping last summer. They are all in fine order, and in case of need, they will be found very convenient.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 3, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Attention Walker Rifles!—In the State Gazette we notice that the Walker Mounted Rifles, of this city, have been reported and received by the Adjutant General of the State. The company is armed with Mississippi rifles, received from the State during the Cortina raid. The members are all animated with a patriotic zeal which is gratifying to record. This company, by the law under which it was organized, is at all times subject to the orders of the Governor of the State.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 18, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

The Magnolia Saloon, corner of William and Water streets, has been recently fitted up and opened for the reception of visitors. A marble top billiard table, the finest in western Texas, is always at the service of "knights of the cue."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 18, 1861, p. 2, c. 4

Retirement of an Editor.—Mr. H. C. Hancock, of the Nacogdoches Chronicle, has retired from that paper. We are sorry to part with him, but since we must, our best wishes go with him in whatever pursuit he may engage.

Mr. S. H. B. Cundiff, who has had charge of the mechanical department, is the gentleman who now stands at the helm. We notice he has adopted the cash system, which should be adopted by the press throughout the State. Upon this subject we shall enlarge at another time. We wish you, Mr. Cundiff, a long and profitable career.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 18, 1861, p. 2, c. 6

K. G. C.

Regular meetings of the Castle of the K. G. C.'s will be held every Friday evening, at the hour of one-half past seven o'clock, in the Virginia House, in this city. Punctual attendance of the members is requested. By order of the Castle.

Thos. E. Hooper, Sec'y.

Captain, Wm. I. Moor; Lieutenant, H. W. Berry; Inspector, Simon Jones; Guide, George Pfeiffer; Sergeant, Chas. E. Clark; Treasurer J. Zeigler; Secretary, Thos E. Hooper.

a29-y

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 25, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Attention Ladies.—The ladies who contributed toward purchasing a Confederate Flag for the Corpus Christi Light Infantry, are requested to meet at Rev. S. D. Davenport's, on the Bluff, on Monday next, at 4 P.M. Important business will be transacted.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 25, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Brass Band.—The amateurs of this city have organized themselves into a Brass Band, and secured the services of Prof. R. Goddat to teach them the science of music. On last Monday evening the members of the class went under his charge, where they will remain until they are qualified to discourse chords and discords after the most approved fashion. They have already advanced sufficiently far to demonstrate that musical talent is not an exclusive monopoly of other places, but abounds in rich profusion in our very midst.

That a place like Corpus Christi should have so long been without a well organized musical association, is simply disgraceful. We are pleased, even at this late day, to chronicle this evidence of a move in the right direction. We will publish, from time to time, their progress.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 1, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Providence permitting, there will be a camp-meeting held on the Nueces, two or three miles from San Patricio, commencing Thursday evening (June 9,) before the 3d Sabbath in June. The public are invited to attend.

H.G.H.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 8, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Negroes Ran Away.—On last Monday night, four negroes—a man, woman and two children—belonging to Maj. S. Peters, who lives on Padre Island, ran away. It is supposed they are making their way toward Mexico. Boys on the Rio Grande, times are hard, and now you have a chance to get a large reward. Look out for them.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 8, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

The Artillery company of this city has adopted a very neat uniform, viz: red jacket with yellow trimmings, white pants with red stripes. They have already commenced drilling, and from the *sava* of those who compose the corps, we infer that they will soon be proficient in the artillery manual. The following is a list of the officers:

Captain—O. F. Hunsaker.

Lieutenants—1st, B. F. Neal; 2d, Geo. E. Conklin; 3d, P. Leonard.
Sergeants—1st, Jas. Gallager; 2d, Sam'l. H. Tinney; 3d, D. Kelley; 4th, Jas. Garner; 5th, C. Dunn.
Corporals—1st, John Cannon; 2d, John Cody; 3d, P. Mireur; 4th, Jas. Dinn.
Drivers—Otis Hall; W. S. Rains; Chas. Hoffman; Julius Duewe.
Engineer—Felix A. Blucher.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 8, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

Bath House.—Capt. John Anderson has refitted his cozy bath house for the summer campaign. He has attached to it a shower-bath, thus affording the bather a very acceptable variation. Soap, mirrors, brushes, combs, clean towels, etc., are always at hand. Capt. Anderson is deserving much credit for his enterprise, and we trust that he will receive a patronage commensurate with his liberality.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 8, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Many of our State exchanges are coming to us in half-sheet form. The blockade has shut off the paper supply from New Orleans by the Gulf route. Doubtless an overland route is or will soon be open, whereby we all can get our regular quantum.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 15, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

On Monday night last the Fort Brown Theatrical Company played to a slim audience. Our citizens are perfectly indifferent upon all subjects which have a tendency to loosen their purse strings.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 15, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

A public meeting of the lower end of Harris county was held on the battle ground of San Jacinto, on the 1st inst., to do honor to the memory of the patriot and martyr Jackson, who was murdered at Alexandria by the Black Republican invaders for defending the rights of his home and country.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 15, 1861, p. 2, c. 4

Flag Presentation.

Last Tuesday was a *gala* day for the military of this city. The ladies, who are always first and foremost upon all meritorious occasions, had previously announced their intention of presenting the Corpus Christi Light Infantry with a flag, and selected Tuesday, the 11th inst., as the day.

The Infantry, under command of Capt. Newman, and the Artillery under command of Lieut. Neal, turned out in uniform, the latter company with side arms. They formed on Chaparral street, near La Retama, the Infantry taking the right, and marched to the Court House, where a large concourse of spectators had assembled. At five o'clock the ladies' committee—consisting of Misses Mary Woessner, Hannah Francke, Lizzy Riggs, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. Crafts—appeared upon the Court House steps. The beautiful Miss Mary Woessner, on behalf of the ladies of Corpus Christi, made the following appropriate presentation address:
["]Gentlemen of the Light Infantry:

Nature having denied to us the privilege of engaging in the strife of war, and as the laurels which you win in our common defense honor us, we are here to testify our appreciation of the patriotism which prompts you to rally to the standard of the Confederate States. The love of all that is dear to us, our homes and our firesides, our duty and all the legitimate happiness of independence and liberty, demands of us an expression of our sense of northern injustice; and that we, too, as well as the men of the south, are ready to part with every comfort rather than submit to northern tyranny. Actuated by this spirit, we have procured for you the flag which we now present you, as the most becoming testimonial of our devotion to the course of Southern Independence. We therefore, while we confide this banner to your protection as an emblem of a just cause, *trust* that you will ever defend it,

With freedom's soil beneath your feet

And freedom's banner streaming o'er you.

Our dearest hopes are clustered around it, and while memory serves to tell you this, we know that in this noble cause victory will crown your toils; and southern institutions, menaced no longer by a northern foe, we shall possess the sacred repose of our peaceful and happy homes.["]

The flag was then delivered into the hands of Lieut. Geo. Pfeuffer by Mr. Denny, when Lieut. Wm. H. Maltby responded on behalf of the company as follows:

["] Ladies of Corpus Christi:

It is with feelings of emotion and pleasure that the Light Infantry accept these beautiful colors which your patriotism and public spirit have prompted you to procure and present to us. We are not unmindful of the high compliment you have paid us, in thus committing to our charge this flag, which, like a magnet, has already attracted and now holds secure eleven of the stars that once emblazoned the blue field of that flag we all loved and revered until it became the badge of despotism. You have demonstrated that the women of '61 have inherited all the noble qualities of the mothers of the Revolution; and, like them, that you are ready and willing to offer your husbands, children, lovers and friends a sacrifice upon the altar of your country, in the great cause of civil liberty. To prove worthy of the confidence you have to-day reposed in us, will be our constant endeavor. If cruel, relentless war must be forced upon us; if the blood of southrons must dampen the soil that the tree of liberty may thrive; we here promise you, ladies of Corpus Christi, that the Light Infantry will defend the Confederate flag so long as a platoon is left, or a cartridge remains undischarged. Again, ladies, we thank you.["]

Three cheers were then given for the ladies of Corpus Christi; three more for Mrs. Robertson, the pioneer of the flag movement; boquets [sic], prepared by fair hands, were thrown into the ranks in profusion; both companies marched and counter marched around the Court House several times, and finally proceeded down town. After marching through the principal streets, the companies broke ranks, highly elated at the attention which had been paid them. The whole affair passed off pleasantly.

In connection with this flag presentation, great credit is due Mr. J. Levy, who selected the flag in New Orleans for the ladies, and brought it to Corpus. He succeeded in getting it at a greatly reduced price, and also purchased two extra stars to be affixed to it when needed, and presented them to the company. His generosity will be remembered by the company, and should occasion ever be presented, every member will take the greatest pleasure in reciprocating.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 15, 1861, p. 2, c. 5

The Hempstead Courier mentions the casting of a six-pound cannon at the foundry of Bartley & Gilbert in that place. It is named in honor of Col. G. W. Crawford of Washington—

the "Wash Crawford." It stood a severe test, and is now ready, like its god father, to take its place in the army.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 22, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Serenade.—The Corpus band, under the surveillance of Prof. Goddat, gave our citizens a serenade on Tuesday night last. It was their first effort in public, and for only one month's instruction, they reflected great credit upon themselves and teacher—with one exception. The next serenade, to be given soon, will astonish some of the professionals. Don't sleep with your deaf ear up, and mind our prediction.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 22, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Camps of Instruction.

Gov. Clark has issued a proclamation, dated June 8th, 1861, directing the attention of the people to a want which is deeply felt, viz: a thorough knowledge of every movement of the battle-field. Military encampments, for the instruction of infantry troops designed for Confederate service, will be established at the most available points in the State, provided with able drill officers. He says our heroic volunteers themselves are eager to go into these encampments and they will find a sufficient and incentive reward in the instruction they will receive, and in the thorough readiness for battle they will acquire. Yet, while receiving this instruction, the people must support them; and he makes the appeal to every man who has one drop of patriotic blood in his veins, or one sentiment of State pride in his heart. Let every farmer hold himself in readiness to bestow a portion of his abundant crop; every merchant a share of his commercial profit; every artisan a contribution of his valuable labor, and every man all that is in his power, to support these chivalric men, who will discipline themselves to defend our country and maintain its independence. Aids-de-camp to the Governor have been appointed, each of whom is provided with full authority and instructions to establish a camp and control its organization in his respective district.

In compliance with the above, the Adjutant General of the State issued orders on the 10th inst., dividing the State into eleven military districts, leaving out the frontier counties. The 1st District is composed of the counties of Matagorda, Wharton, Jackson, Victoria, Calhoun, Goliad, Refugio, San Patricio, and Nueces, with Col. A. Buchell, of Indianola, as Aid-de-camp. The several companies in this district will enter into camp on the 15th of July, and remain there for a period of forty days. The camp equipage for each company shall consist of four axes, two hatchets, four spades, four shovels, ten frying pans, ten skillets or cast iron ovens, ten iron pots, ten water buckets, and also ten tents ample enough to allow room for ten men each, say ten tents for one hundred men, all of which shall be issued to the companies, upon receipt of the captains, previous to their taking up their line of march. Each man will supply himself with one coat, two pairs of pantaloons, two shirts, two pairs of drawers, two undershirts, (if worn), three pairs of socks, two blankets, or one blanket and one overcoat, two pairs of shoes, one towel and one hat, with comb and brushes, and also one knife, one tin cup and one spoon, and if possible, one tin plate and one canteen.

Let our citizens be prepared to contribute liberally toward the accomplishment of the above end.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 29, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Maj. S. Peters, who recently lost and recovered four negroes, offers \$250 reward for their recovery again, they having ran away the second time. See advertisement.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 29, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The Fourth of July.—The patriotic element of this city, we are glad to learn, is in motion, with a view to observe, in an appropriate manner, the anniversary of American Independence, inaugurated by the patriots of '76 and maintained by the people of the south in '61. We trust all persons, old and young, will devote their whole time, next Thursday, to public thanksgiving and rejoicing. "Rebels" first penned and signed the glorious document; let "rebels" sing hozannas [sic] to it, and send up a shout of defiance that will cause Old Abe's knees to weaken, even as did old Belshazzar when he beheld the handwriting on the wall.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 29, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

The 3d Anniversary of the Methodist Sabbath School will (D. V.) occur on the 4th of July. The exercises of the occasion, will take place in the Court House; commencing at 10 A.M., with an address by Rev. J. P. Berhan [? fold in paper]. The children of the school invite their *little* friends of the town to dine with them. The community are invited to witness the exercises.
W. Headen.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 29, 1861, p. 2, c. 2

Prof. Goddat is desirous of organizing a glee club in this city. He will teach gratuitously, only asking pupils to pay for their notes. We second the motion.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Would it not be advisable for parents to keep a tight rein on their boys? By keeping them at home nights, they will learn infinitely less rascality than to let them run loose upon the streets.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

What has become of the new County Jail and the Graveyard Fence and the Dog Law and the Sanitary Committee and the eighty-five enrolled members of the Light Infantry? Answers received over the back fence.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

Read the patriotic offer of Prof. R. Goddat. The ladies of Corpus can now contribute to the south, and at the same time get value received. The Professor is an accomplished teacher, and he will do all he says.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 1

The negroes, four in number, belonging to Maj. S. Peters, who took up their departure for Mexico, on the 24th inst., we are glad to learn, were overhauled by a Mexican at or near Carricitas a few days since. Messrs. Milas R. Polk and John McMahan left here Wednesday evening with the necessary jewelry to secure them a safe and speedy return to their master.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Communicated.
To the Ladies and Gentlemen
of Corpus Christi.

Knowing your patriotism, and considering the love you bear for our Government, I invoke your attention to the condition of the Treasury of the Southern Confederacy. Young as our Southern Confederacy is, you cannot expect that ample means are on hand to pay the expenses necessary to keep northern vandalism in check. We are engaged in a terrible war with one of the richest nations in the world; but we would not flinch a step from the stand we have taken—it is against the principles of a true southron's heart. In this present crisis it is the duty of each citizen to help where it is possible. Much has been done already; but more remains to be done. Companies are formed, which are ready, at any time, to defend southern rights and put down abolitionism. They are armed with a good will, courage and integrity; but arms, which are necessary to display those three virtues, are needed, badly needed.

To secure these arms, money is needed; and to secure this money, I make you this proposition: If you will form a club of at least twelve members, I will teach you the science of music on any instrument you desire. The tuition for the lady will be \$6.25 per month. You will appoint a treasurer, whose duty it shall be to select and keep account of that money, and whenever any money is needed to equip our companies in Nueces county, said treasurer will pay the money over to our Chief Justice and take a receipt for it. Of course, you have a right to inquire, to what purpose the money is to be spent; and if it agrees with your opinion, let him have it. I don't flatter myself too much, ladies; I hope that I will give satisfaction; and if you are willing to pay in this way your share to the Treasury of our Southern Confederacy, I will feel myself very much honored, if you will inform me of your opinion in the next *Ranchero*.

Very Respectfully,
R. Goddat.

I would say to the citizens of Corpus Christi, generally, that I am willing to give an interesting lecture on music, on the last Saturday in each month. I invite every one to attend, because the money will flow into the Treasury of the Southern Confederacy. Admission \$1. Place, Zeigler's Hall. Tickets for sale at the office of our Chief Justice.
Goddat.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

[Advertisement.]

Corpus Christi, July 5, 1861.

To the Editors of the *Ranchero*: Gentlemen—The undersigned being satisfied that a majority of the legal voters of Nueces County are opposed to illegal Mexican voting, would most respectfully say to all owners of ranchos having Mexican *peons* that they are in the habit of voting, and all political demagogues who pride themselves on the number of Mexican votes they can control, that at the coming August election, it would be better for all parties concerned if Mexican voters were kept away from the polls; as the free and independent voters of the county do not think it right for them to vote. As an apology for taking this position, we refer to the 315 votes polled at Agua Poquito.

N. Gussett,

A. E. Clark,
C. C. Cotton,
D. B. Glover.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 4

The Fourth in Corpus.

Last Thursday was a day which will long remain green in the memory of those who participated in its festivities. All seemed to enjoy themselves, and all were on the move from morning till night. No disorderly conduct occurred to mar the pleasures of the day, each man, woman and child seeming to make it an especial duty to promote harmony and good will.

A salute from the big gun at ten o'clock was the signal for the ball to open. We have not the time nor space to speak as fully as we should like of the various features of the day, and therefore will allude to each briefly:

The Sunday School celebration at the Court House, was really a feast of reason and flow of soul. The children of the city, attired in neat holiday dress, entertained a crowded house from ten to near four o'clock with songs, declamations, dialogues, etc. Rev. J. P. Perham made a very eloquent and stirring opening address.

The military of the city, consisting of the Artillery company, Capt. Hunsaker, and the Light Infantry, Capt. Newman, made a very imposing parade. The music was furnished gratuitously by Prof. Goddat, who won for himself golden opinions, not only as a musician, but as a public-spirited, patriotic, whole-souled gentleman.

Messrs. Shaw and Barnard, proprietors of "La Retama," set out what they termed a free lunch, at half past eleven, which we were inclined to regard as a most sumptuous free dinner. It was emphatically the best public dinner we ever partook of in Corpus.

In the afternoon, the K. G. C., a numerous body, who have heretofore been regarded as a very mysterious order, marched through our streets, even as other men, and in a very quiet and orderly manner filed into Zeigler's Hall, where a sumptuous and tempting table awaited them. Geo. Pfeuffer, Esq., made a telling speech, the Knights made a telling impression upon the good things spread before them, and numerous pert toasts were drank.

The remainder of the day was consumed in social amusements and fire-side reunions. Long may the citizens of Corpus retain the public spirit they manifested Thursday.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 5-6

Summary: Sketch of Rev. J. P. Perham's Sermon, Preached in this City, Sunday, the 16th inst.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 2, c. 6

We are sorry to learn that the Rio Grande Sentinel has succumbed to the pressure of the times, and suspended.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 6, 1861, p. 3, c. 2

"Texas Tooth-picks," with blades 13½ inches long and 2½ inches wide, with bone handles, are being manufactured in Washington, Ga.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 13, 1861, skip to Extra dated August 19, 1862

THE RANCHERO EXTRA [Corpus Christi, TX], August 19, 1862, p. 1, c. 1-3

Summary: Bombardment of Corpus Christi! Major A. M. Hobby, Commands. Leads a daring charge! Gunboats Beaten! Victory!! Full Particulars. "An armistice of forty-eight hours was asked, which at first was refused but afterwards was granted. During the armistice, every family in the place moved into the country. Though [illegible] under a burning August sun, into an [illegible] and barren prairie, with only here and there a tree to shelter the aged, sick and [illegible] ones, and during a long continued drought and a consequent scarcity of water [illegible] to distress, our people gladly endured the privations and sufferings, with the in[illegible] of a patriotic devotion, rather than submit to abolition rule, or, less still, have our public buildings inspected by the freebooters. . . . The damage done the City is considerable. The enemy threw over four hundred shot and shell during the bombardment, many of which were fired into harmless houses."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 19, 1862, skipped to September 17, 1863.

Note: Masthead says "Santa Margarita, Texas"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863. Note: Masthead says "Santa Margarita, Texas"; p. 2, c. 1

The Invasion—Situation of Our Frontier.

It is known to our readers that the yankees have invaded our soil and occupied the line of sea coast and Rio Grande from Matagorda to Ringold [sic] Barracks. Notwithstanding there are troops west of the San Antonio river for our protection, they are, it is feared, inadequate for the suppression of large marauding bands.

Under this state of affairs our citizens, especially those residing on the Line of the Nueces, are truly alarmed. A few families indeed, who fortunately possessed teams of their own, moved eastward at the first announcement of danger—but what are the others to do? The trade, on which they relied for the very necessaries of life, cut off both with the east and the west, without teams or other necessary transportation, they are unable to move to any point where provision of other necessaries can be more readily obtained; without protection from their quadruple foe—the yankee, the Indian, the renegade, and the Mexican bandit. We know of no people whose circumstances deserve more sympathy than the sparse population of the southwestern frontier.

Having given to the army, at the commencement of the war, more than a due proportion of its population as volunteers, our able-bodied exempts, although cheerfully organizing and turning out manfully, will, we fear, be insufficient protection for the families alone; our property consisting entirely in stock, we have no hope of being able to save or protect from the robbing bands who we are assured are already on the advance in their course of rapine and plunder.

The question presents itself very forcibly, What are the people to do? "Move further in with the families, and what stock you can gather," quoth one, "and then join the army." With all the pleasure imaginable, my dear sir, if you will only furnish with the means of moving. The people of this section are not so indissolubly wedded to this sterile soil as to remain here amidst the dangers and privations if they could move. We know many, very many, in our midst who have neither means of transportation nor money to procure it. The beautiful cotton trade, which has done so much for the Government—agents, has almost entirely "done" for us in another

fashion. The teams that but for that magnificent swindle would be engaged in hauling corn, flour and bacon into this section to be sold at reasonable prices, or exchanged for salt, were impressed to haul that which was Government cotton on the Brazos, but which by the sharp legerdemain of wizard contractors became individual cotton on the Rio Grande, and as a natural consequence those necessities that now and again appeared among us were sold at such exorbitant prices as to exhaust the means and empty the purses of our poor unspeculating citizens; and again the question presents itself more forcibly than before, "What are we to do?"

We write in no spirit of repining or querulous complaint; we write in sad and sober earnestness, and ask only that the people of this frontier, as patriotic and worthy of sympathy as any in the State, receive that share of consideration to which they are entitled.

Will means of transportation be furnished to those who desire to move, and are unable to do so? or, will a sufficiency of bread stuff be sent in from more favored sections of our State? or, will protection be given to the exposed and defenseless families, whose natural defenders are shedding, and many of whom have already poured out to the last drop, their blood in defense of other portions of the Confederacy? Are we even certain that the meager force at present left west of the Nueces will be allowed to remain there? These questions we would like to hear answered. As for ourselves, we are neither prophets, nor the sons of prophets, and do not profess to know what will be (to us) the result of this invasion, and we have not received any data from "knowing ones" upon which to base even a surmise.

We are in the hands of God, and may He assist us to keep ourselves from the hands of the enemy!

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The cavalry company of Captain Garrett, and the artillery company of Captain W. H. Maltby, being the entire force holding Mustang Island, and numbering in all one hundred men, were surprised and captured, on the 17th ult., by a yankee force about fifteen hundred strong. The yankees say they surprised and captured our pickets, some eight miles below Pass Aransas, and, by daylight, they had our force in their power. None of our men escaped, but one who attempted to run was wounded in the arm.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

We are happy to learn that Major S. Benevides has been promoted to the rank of colonel, and is now energetically engaged in organizing a regiment, which, if composed of the same brave material as his old battalion, will do gallant service on the frontier.

Col. Benevides and his brothers have already done good service on the Rio Grande, and will prove a terror to the ladrones assembling under the yankee flag, who are only incited by the hope of plunder and rapine.

We understand that Col. Benevides has already had a fight with a considerable party of the enemy, and whipped them badly, with a loss on our side of only five men.

We congratulate our citizens on having each soldiers as those of Benevides between them and the enemy.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

The difficulty of procuring transportation for our press and type, has occasioned some weeks' delay in the appearance of our present number. We hope that the issue will not be

interrupted again; however, we are the creatures of circumstances, war is thundering at our very gates, and a further advance of the enemy may occasion other movements on our part.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

We are compelled to suspend the publication of fac-similes of brands until we procure an additional supply of paper.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The enemy under Banks having succeeded in flanking us, by the occupation of Brownsville, and his advance guard on Mustang Island threatening our position at Corpus Christi, we resolved upon a change of base, which, we are convinced, was gallantly, not to say successfully, executed. Our columns did not want a leader to show them the road to—San Patricio. We took our shooting-stick in hand, and prudently fell in with the rear guard. Onward we marched, undaunted by the numerous bands of mule rabbits that incessantly appeared upon our flank, unawed by the myriads of cattle that sometimes impeded our progress. No attempt was made to oppose our advance, but it was our lot to experience some of the inconveniences of actual service. Our "pi" not being edible we had to "turn" for a dinner; and, on our third night out, were forced to accept the hospitality of the fuzzy side of a board. The road was sandy, very sandy, and we wondered, as we advanced, at the soldierly celerity of movement with which General Bee had traveled it. But we waded through it. But we waded through it, sustained by the gallant example of our illustrious predecessor, and here we are. Our camp is on the border of the Confederate lines, and we expect to be able to place our readers in possession of the latest news from Western Texas.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 17, 1863, skip to January 21, 1864, p. 2, c. 1. Note: Sta. Margarita, Tex.

Mother earth, hereabouts is as bare of grass as the palm of a man's hand is of hair. Cattle are roaming about in search of food and find nothing to eat beyond thorny shrubs and the twigs of trees that happen to be within their reach, at best making miserable browsing. Cattle are thin of flesh and are so weak that many after drinking water from the Nueces river are unable to climb its banks, and shortly perish in its bed. Their dead carcasses can be counted by hundreds, up and down the river. The antidote for these evils will come with rain, rain, rain. The attention of the clerk of the weather is called this way, and we are sure the sight of this benighted region would cause tears of pity from his eyes to flow gently upon us.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 21, 1864, p. 2, c. 2

Our exchanges, as well as those having business with this office, will please address us at San Patricio, Texas.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 21, 1864, skips back to December 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

By latest advices we learn that the enemy are concentrating their whole force on Decrow's Point, with the intention of making an advance towards the interior. If any reliance can be placed on the statement of one of our captured pickets, who escaped from them, their programme is to march overland to Galveston, and take that city at any cost, then destroy the railroad bridge and "gobble" Houston, and strike direct for Austin. The force with which they

expect to accomplish all this amounts to about twenty-four thousand.

Men of Texas! respond to the call of your gallant chieftain, and a change of the yankee programme will be a fixed fact.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

We learn that some Minute Men, belonging to Hodge's company, captured a couple of yankee captains and a deserter from Capt. Maltby's company, named Wm. Chase, who was acting as their guide or pilot. The capture was made at Gaston's, between Aransas and Espiritu Santa Bays.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

We are informed from good authority that Col. J. S. Ford will take the field in the west. He has issued an address, calling upon every citizen who is able to shoulder a musket to rally to his standard. Look out for Old Rip!

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 24, 1863, skipped back to Ranchero War Extra, July 20, 1861, p. 1, c. 2

A Word to Our Patrons.

Scarcity of paper forces us to issue a war extra this week in lieu of The Ranchero. We expect that by next week (unless old Abe's cruisers have seized the vessel) to be in receipt of a large supply of paper, which has been ordered for months, and was to have been brought direct from Berwick's to Corpus by the schooner *Clarinda*. This is the first time we have missed an issue, and we trust it will be the last. Our subscribers may rest assured that no effort will be spared on our part to furnish them with the latest news, even if we have to come down to wrapping paper. In the meantime, we trust the D---l will lay violent hands on Old Abe and anchor him in the middle of the lake of fire and brimstone, and that a phantom southern navy will maintain a strict blockade of the "impassable gulf" and pour hot shot into him for a thousand years.

THE RANCHERO WAR EXTRA [Corpus Christi, TX], July 20, 1861, p. 1, c. 1

Major Felix A. Blucher is announced to-day as a candidate for District Surveyor of Nueces county. He is well known to the voters of the county, and his friends will support him.

THE RANCHERO WAR EXTRA [Corpus Christi, TX], July 20, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Castle K. G. C.

At a meeting of the Corpus Christi Castle K. G. C., on the 19th of July, 1861, the following resolution was passed, and ordered to be published in The Ranchero:

Resolved, That the members of said order who have not yet taken the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States of America, come forward as soon as possible and take the same.

Thos. E. Hooper,
Secretary.

THE RANCHERO WAR EXTRA [Corpus Christi, TX], July 20, 1861, p. 2, c. 3

Sewing Machine for Sale.

Will be sold very cheap, a first-class sewing machine, in perfect order. Inquire of
M. & E. Scheuer.

THE RANCHERO WAR EXTRA [Corpus Christi, TX], August 10, 1861, p. 1, c. 1

We would say to our business friends, that although we are out of news paper, we have some fine bill-head, flat cap, letter and note paper, besides cards in great variety, and are prepared to execute card, circular and blank work as in days of yore. We can print hand-bills on good paper, but the color will be of a yellow cast.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Provisions.—At present there is a great scarcity of provisions at this place. Corn is worth six dollars per bushel; flour, thirty-five to forty dollars per hundred; sugar, seventy-five cents per pound; and every other article of the provision kind, commands a correspondingly high price; and nothing to be had at that. Are these figures sufficiently high to induce the up-country farmers to bring down their stocks of provisions?

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Our Paper.—Having received a supply of paper, sufficient for one year or more, today we again publish The Rancho, though much reduced in size. However, by setting the matter solid and in smaller type than heretofore, and there being but few advertisements, we are enabled to give the same amount of reading matter as formerly. We refer to our terms, at the top of the first column, first page, and here state, that in no instance will they be departed from. We intend to survive by a straight cash system; a departure from which, has been the cause of our suspension. Should this course, pursued by us, be the cause of complaint, and the persecution of the paper, be all the credit to the instigators. A man being good for a thousand subscriptions and able to buy a hundred newspaper establishments, does not furnish us with money to pay seventy-five dollars per ream for paper.

The necessity of a paper at this point, situated as it is within hearing of the enemy's cannon, is felt, and we hope that our efforts in supplying that necessity, will be appreciated by citizens and soldiers, far and near. It is as the sentinel upon the watchtower; and not only spreads the alarm of approaching danger, but records the gallant deeds done by our patriotic soldiers, to the gratification of an ever grateful people. In this position we intend to be useful to the country and army, and hope that a supporting patronage, merely, will be extend to our paper.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 11, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

The Hospital.—It is said, and with truth, that our soldiers upon the northern border suffer intensely for want of warm winter clothing; and those sick, for want of comfortable hospital supplies. These facts, have awakened the sympathies of many a heart, and, no doubt, many have wished for the opportunity of giving their last garment to some distant suffering soldier. While these facts are heart-rending, and such desires are laudable, be it known, that such facts exist in the army hospital at this place, and that there is absolute need, and the opportunity is offered, for the practice of noble charities. The Corpus Christi army hospital is almost destitute of every

comfort suitable for the sick, and the people of this town and vicinity are called upon to supply those wants. The soldiers, with their blood, defend the title to southern property. In turn, let those who reap the reward of the soldiers' services, get themselves up equal to the good work, and supply the hospital with beds, pillows and warm bed-clothes. Pay, if demanded, will be given for all articles furnished. Call upon Dr. Throckmorton, the hospital physician, and learn of the wants of the hospital.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

A ball at the "Morian" is on the programme for New Year's Eve. The devotees of Terpsichore will be there.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Wood readily brings twelve dollars per cord in this place, and we understand the Quartermaster has paid as high as twenty dollars.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 18, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

We had hoped to publish a list, this week, of donations to the hospital. In this we have been disappointed—how much more so, the sick and destitute soldier!—because none have, as yet, contributed. "I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

The quartermaster pays twelve dollars per cord for wood. Our informant must have been in error when he stated last week, that the Quartermaster had paid as high as twenty dollars.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Something has been done for the Hospital at last, as will be noticed by reference to the card of Dr. Britton. Still, the wants of the Hospital are not yet supplied. Who will be next on the list in the good work?

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

During the last week there was one load of corn brought into this city, which sold for eight dollars per bushel and was retailed within twenty-four hours afterwards, to the citizens of this place, at a profit of two dollars on the bushel.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Ordinance Sergeant, D. R. Gamble, has taken in crayon a drawing of the late bombardment of Corpus Christi. It is executed with artistic skill and represents the time when thirty-two Yankees, with a 12-pounder, landed north of and enfiladed our battery.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 1

Communicated.

Corpus Christi, Dec. 22, 1862.

Ed. Rancho:--Allow me, through the medium of your paper, to return my sincere thanks

to Miss Kate Dickey, for her patriotic exertions in behalf of the Hospital.

The following is a list of the valuable contributions obtained by her, and turned over to me for the use of the Hospital:

1 cott [sic]; 1 mattress; 4 sheets; 1 pair of grey [sic] blankets; 3 quilts; 11 pillow cases; 8 towels; 7 pillows; and 2 chairs.

E. W. Britton, Post Surgeon.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], December 25, 1862, p. 2, c. 2

Extortion.

Through the mouth of every man; through every journal, comes the just condemnation of the extortioner, who, turn where you may, is met at every corner. He is easily known and always recognized. He always has a supply of everything for sale, "by special favor," but demands a profit greater than the value of any article he may offer for sale. When our ports were open with all the world, traders were satisfied with a profit of cents, where now they must have dollars. This practice is wrong, is rightly named extortion, and can be considered in no other light than that of animosity to our Government. The Government is compelled to issue its paper to furnish munitions of war, pay the soldier eleven dollars per month, and furnish him with subsistence and transportation. It is by sustaining these issues that armies are kept in the field and our Independence is to be won. For these purposes, and these purposes alone, does our Government issue its paper.

Now, the exacting of the extortioner's price, places the families of those who are in arms in a destitute condition, and leaves the soldier where a year's pay will not furnish him with clothing for a month's campaign. The late call of the Governor for volunteers to repel a threatened invasion, has been but feebly responded to, and this is owing, in a great degree, to the actual dread people have of leaving their families to suffer from the insatiate greed of extortioners. Thus it is that extortion breeds destruction to our armies, than which, no deadlier blow can be struck at the very foundation of Liberty. The time has come when extortioners should tremble, for the ground whereon they stand is quaking. The mighty people have already declared that an Independence forever, shall not be sacrificed upon the altar of greed and gain.

Every person should consider himself a soldier in the cause of Liberty; that his wages are eleven dollars per month, and his conscience should limit him not to take more; that though he may not come face to face with the opposing hosts, he is, nevertheless, one of the army that is driving the enemy from our soil. To these ends he should toil unceasingly, in sustaining the credit of the country, supplying subsistence, filling the commissary, caring for the sick and wounded, and relieving the wants of the destitute at home.

The financial affairs of the Confederacy are upon a solid basis. The cotton crop alone is a sure guarantee of the ability of our government to redeem every dollar of its promises to pay. Consequently, patriotism should prompt all, for the moment, to receive Confederate paper the same as though it were specie. Those who will not do so should, close up their shops and forbear amassing fortunes off the wants and distresses of the country.

Let speculators, traders and dealers of whatsoever character they may be come back to first principles; let them be satisfied with a profit of a few cents on the yard for their goods, a few cents on the pound for their groceries, and they will extend to our Government a power more potent than European recognition.

Communicated.

Corpus Christi, }
December 23, 1862.}

Ed. Rancho:--It is with reluctance that I answer your request, as to the condition and wants of this Hospital.

The Post Hospital has received from Head Quarters ten bed sacks, ten pillow sacks, to be filled with straw; one dozen towels, and one coffee mill. The quartermaster refunded to me the money spent, for a few cooking vessels, dishes, knives, forks, etc., of which, we are very scarce, and none to be bought. Mrs. Warren and Miss Dickey, raised, by contribution, from the good ladies of this place, quite a number of pillows, sheets, pillowcases, comforts, blankets, &c., for the benefit of the Hospital at this Post; the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. These acts of kindness came to us most opportunely, for this demonstration of patriotism, the ladies who contributed, and especially those who spent their time in getting up the contributions, will accept the most heartfelt thanks of Dr. Britton, and myself. Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Richardson, are also entitled to our unbounded respect, for assistance rendered some time since. The above sets forth all that has been done by the Government and contribution. Ten cots, if we had them, could be comfortably furnished; there are but two chairs belonging to the hospital, no table, nor bedstead, or other article of furniture. A hospital should be furnished as a house for family use; there is much yet, that should be done.

Dr. Britton and myself feel truly grateful [sic] to Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Cotton and Mrs. Warren for their kindness in sending, at sundry times, nourishment for the sick.

Since I have been connected with this hospital, I have been trying to obtain a good and reliable cook. Could our wives, parents, or the ladies of this place, see the dishes prepared for the sick, they would pity the recipients, and wonder that any of them recover. Whilst Hobby's Battalion remains at this place, they receive equally with the other troops at the Post, the benefit of everything within the hospital.

The ladies of the Aid Society at Goliad, will please accept my most hearty thanks for the \$500.00 placed in Capt. McCampbell's hands, for the benefit of the sick of Maj. Hobby's Battalion.

At the request of the officers of said Battalion, I have had five cots, and one small table, made at the cost of \$33.50, ten sheets (size to suit a cot), and five pillow cases, cost of cotton, \$40.00. The ladies who made up said cotton will please accept my thanks for their kindness, and for five pillows, each weighing four pounds, at \$50.00. I was offered six blankets made of carpeting for \$45 each, with the promise that if I took all of them, (!) the owner would contribute \$25.00. From the above figures it will be seen that the money so patriotically given, would soon be spent to fit up five cots comfortably, leaving nothing to buy a quart of milk, or a chicken to nourish my sick.

At my request, three gentlemen have been detailed to go to their respective neighbors, to our wives, and parents, for quilts, blankets, pillows, etc., sufficient to protect the sick from the damp ground, or hard floor, and to protect them from the chilling northers, or pelting storms, in the event that we receive marching orders. This Battalion has received nothing from Head Quarters, of the kind specified.

Winter is upon us, on which account, it behooves us to look out for ourselves. I feel truly

greatful [sic] to Mrs. Collins for the two comforts sent to one of my invalids. Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Bryant, will be long remembered for the two cots, contributed by them, for the use of my sick.

Yours with respect,
J. A. Throckmorton,
A. A. Surgeon, Hobby's Batt. Infantry.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 1, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Mutual Aid Society.—In view of the fact that there is a great scarcity of provisions, almost none at all, even at the present extortionate rates, and a certainty that things are fast going from bad to worse, it becomes necessary as a means of self protection that the people of this place should organize themselves at once, into a mutual aid society, for the procurement of subsistences. Several organizations have been effected in San Antonio and elsewhere, for the purpose suggested, which have been found to work like a charm, and have resulted in keeping the gaunt monster starvation at respectful distance.

The basis upon which these several societies have been erected, are substantially as follows:

1st. The banding together of from ten to fifty persons, for the purpose of hiring or buying teams to send into the interior for provisions.

2d. The election of a Treasurer and Agent.

3d. The price of membership is fixed from twenty-five to fifty dollars, or, rather, that is the price of a share.

4th. The provisions purchased by the agents to be sold at cost after paying monthly salary to Treasurer and Agent and payment of house rent, &c., &c.

5th. The members to be limited in their purchases—perfect equality to be established as to the consumption by or sale of provisions, to the members.

6th. No sales to be made outside of the association except to needy and indigent families.

Is there, or not, enterprise enough in Corpus Christi to organize a Supply Association? The example has been made and should be emulated. United we stand divided we starve.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 8, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

A national salute was fired yesterday by Willke's battery, in honor of the Confederate victory at Galveston.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 15, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Telegraph says that corn is selling on the Nueces for sixteen dollars a bushel. Ourselves and many others wish the Telegraph's statement was true, for then there would be no danger of starvation. The fact of the matter is, corn has sold here for twenty-six dollars a bushel, and were there to-day corn for sale in this town, it would demand or could be sold for one hundred dollars per bushel. Hunger will force the payment of any price, so long as a dollar is to be had.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 15, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Mouth of Rio Grande, }
January 5, 1863 }

Friend Maltby:--Perhaps a short sketch from a sand hill here may suit you. . . . The

ancient city of Bagdad, founded in the year 1, of the Mexican war, lays at my feet, consisting of one house, the *Aduana*, and some twenty jacals, built mostly of straw, sticks and rushes. It forms one street, not longer than Chaparral street in Corpus, but a great deal of country lies outside. In this city there are twenty restaurants, the same number of bar-rooms, and in every room a monte-bank. To give you an idea of the inhabitants, I will forward by the next ox train a box of water colors, and you can paint them yourself, (use plenty of Bistre and make Mosaic noses).

Of course there is a large amount of goods outside to come in, and cotton to go out, but unfortunately, there being no harbor, the lighters can only work occasionally. They have had only two working days since the 15th ult., and vessels may be obliged to lay months before they can be dispatched, so, of course, the amount of business done is small, in comparison to the fleet off the bar.

I understand there is a French ship out here with a cargo of dry goods, clothing, &c., for the Confederacy, but the Mexicans will not allow her to enter at their Custom House. There has been no U. S. blockader here for some months past.

A boat capsized this morning in attempting to cross the bar, and drowned two men. The same thing occurred to the Orlando's boat last week, and one man was drowned.

Twenty-two scaly looking renegades have arrived here since yesterday morning on foot, from Matamoros. The last eleven had but two blankets among them.

Hardshell.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], January 22, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The people of Refugio county, have supplied that part of the hospital, at this place, allotted to the sick of Hobby's battalion, with beds and bed clothing in abundance. Well done, Refugio county.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Communicated.

Ed. Ranchero:--Nobly have the ladies of Corpus responded to the appeal in behalf of the Hospital. Scarcely a week passes that the sick at this Post are not the recipients of some comfort from the hands of our kind ladies. I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following articles: From Miss C. M. Moore, 100 candles; from Mr. J. H. Moore, \$20; from Master Chapa Moore, 17 pounds of soap.

E. W. Britton, Post Surgeon.
Corpus Christi, Texas, Feb. 3, 1863.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Communicated.

Mr. Editor:--During last month, I received from the ladies of Goliad, six carpets. From the ladies of Refugio, St. Marys and their respective neighborhoods I have also received eleven comforts, five blankets, twelve pillows, one dozen pillow slips, eight sheets and three towels.

The above contributions, so liberally given for the comfort of the sick of Major Hobby's battalion, reflect great credit upon the donors. These most patriotic ladies of our Confederacy

will please accept the heartfelt thanks of every member of this battalion.

Yours,
J. A. Throckmorton,
Act. Ass't Surgeon, C.S.A.

Corpus Christi Feb. 3, 1863.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Special Correspondence.

Little Rock, Ark., }
Jan. 5, 1863, }

Ed. Ranchero.—I learn that you are still alive. An extract from your paper, "going the rounds" proved the fact and occasioned me a good deal of rejoicing. May you live long and your shadow never grow less. . . .

Our Division, which is the 1st Div., 2d army corps, is now crossing Arkansas River. We are en route to Pine Bluff sixty miles below this point and forty miles above Post of Arkansas. Whether this move is for the purpose of placing us in supporting distance of the Post, or a removal to a more salubrious place for winter quarters, or both, or, perhaps, an advance towards Vicksburg are matters of speculation. This Post is exceedingly well defended by the height of its location, and heavy guns, and a large body of troops. There is more than a division of an army there. . . .

Our men fare well, i. e., they have plenty to eat tho' homely in character. They have abundance of clothing, so much that I have seen it auctioned off in the regiment. They are exceedingly well armed, not a gun without a bayonet, and red hot for a fight. Should this Division get into a row, or in the general one at Vicksburg you will hear a good report from it.

Once or twice we have marched as we thought to meet the enemy and then I witnessed such an uproarious noise as I had never witnessed before. Yells earthly and unearthly rent the air as we started on the march and many sick rose from their beds enlivened by the good news and prospect of a fight. When aught of interest occurs I promise you shall hear from me.

Esta entonces soy su amigo de Vd.,

W. H.

P. S. Gen. McCulloch, heretofore commanding this Division was superceeded [sic] by Maj. Gen. Joseph G. Walker. Gen. McC., is but a Brig. Gen. and was but acting as Major Gen. He now commands a Brigade.

I have just learned that John A. Polk, of our town was twice wounded during a late scout in Missouri. His wounds are severe, very severe, but not dangerous. He is in care of Dr. Boring, our quondam Preacher, who is surgeon of the squadron of which he was a member. Rev. H. G. Horton was with Jack. He is unhurt. Jack fought gloriously. We gained the object of the fight—a large train, thirty-five prisoners, killed five, and lost four killed.

W. H.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], February 26, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

The True Issue says the drafted Militia from the county of Fayette, after repairing to Houston in obedience to orders, have been furloughed and sent home; also, that Col. J. W. Dancy has been appointed Provost Marshal, for the same county, by Gen. Magruder. . . .The True Issue

has the following: "A report was brought to town on last Sunday morning, that a body of men, amounting to 30 or 40 in number, went to the house of a Mr. Hildebrand, a citizen of Fayette county, late in the night of Saturday, aroused him from his bed, and took him off, the reporter knew not whither, nor for what purpose. The Provost Marshal promptly dispatched the sheriff of the county to enquire into the matter, with instructions to ascertain whether he had been apprehended under any civil process, or military order, and if he was so apprehended, not to interfere. But if he had been taken off by a mob, to summon a *posse cometatis* and rescue him if he could be found."

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 5, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

The Almanac-Extra, contains an interesting account of a cartridge manufactory at Austin. It says the State Military Board having placed Maj. W. T. Mechling in charge of the cartridge manufactory on the 15th Dec., 1862. He rented buildings, supervised the building of a furnace, for moulding [sic], and had a cartridge machine made in accordance with a plan of his own and he hired suitable persons to perform the work required. He has been entirely successful in his efforts.

The cartridge machine works admirably. It is operated by one man, and fed by a small girl and turns out about four thousand cartridges a day.

He has boys engaged in filling the cartridges with powder, and greasing the ball and outside of the paper.

He has a carpenter employed to make boxes for packing them. They are put up in bundles of ten. Each box contains one thousand cartridges.

It requires a great deal of trouble to gather up moulds, trays, ladles, lead, powder, &c. In the trouble, pains and patience necessary to teach the boys to perform the work required of each, the Major was equal to the task and his efforts have been entirely successful.

He deserves great credit for his skill, energy and perseverance.

We understand he can now manufacture five thousand cartridges a day. They are a very superior article.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 5, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The arch-renegades Jack Hamilton, Judge Davis and Surgeon Moore, having failed in connection with the Bank's expedition to accomplish anything in a movement upon Texas, have, so report goes, had their commands taken away from them. Their army of bold renegades are now used to fill up abolition regiments. "Alas for ambition's vow, how envious fate may overthrow it." Jack, Judge, and Surgeon, backed by Ass Ass Jones, have been thwarted in their lust for rule and power, and stand detested in a country they have forsaken, and without a confiding friend among the abolitionists. Let them seek some spot where in seclusion they can spend their days and await death as the end of their mental sufferings.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 19, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Special Correspondence.

Letter from Brownsville.

Brownsville, Texas, March 11, 1863.

My Dear Ranchero:--I interrupt my unceasing application to public business, now being

transacted in the Confederate District Court, to fulfill my promise to you to drop a line to you from this extreme limit of all the world. . . .

But a few days ago, a transport arrived at the mouth, bringing to Matamoros the immortal Col. E. J. Davis, quondam Judge of this District, arrayed in full uniform, to display the versatility of his talents in filling various and sundry offices, however distinct from those for which nature evidently intended him. A few days of exhibition seem to have satisfied him, for he has since taken with him his family and left for New Orleans, where his regiment awaits him to lead in some ten days, (as predicted by his sympathisers [sic],) an invasion of this frontier. Of course there is no reliance to be placed in such rumors, which are as plenty here as blackberries in season, but the presence of an unusual number of officers, and the announcement of the speedy arrival of the great Jack Hamilton himself, gives rather a serious aspect to the statement. . . .

J. R. M.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], March 26, 1863, p. 2, c. 2-3

From the Fort Brown Flag.
Capture of Renegades.

On the night of Saturday, the 14th, or rather on the morning of Sunday the 15th, a party of men, consisting of some citizens and some soldiers, so we have been told, (for the names and details of the transaction have been kept pretty close by the actors in the affair,) passed from the Texas side of the Rio Grande into Mexico, and captured and took prisoner a man named I. T. Montgomery, a very desperate character, who had made himself notorious and objectionable to the Confederate citizens on this frontier. At the time that Montgomery was captured, there happened to be present a Texas renegade named E. J. Davis, who pretends to hold a colonel's commission in the Yankee army. Davis was with his family at the time, and it is probable that this circumstance is the only excuse for his being alive at this time, to perplex matters between people who ought to have more important matters to quarrel about.

The Texans crossed the Rio Grande early in the morning and soon surrounded the house in which Montgomery was lodged. Quite a number of renegades were in the house, and they soon showed a disposition to fight. This was just the card that suited the Texans, and our boys pitched in. The renegades soon found that fighting was not their game, and they commenced a lively skedaddle over the sand hills. They were fired at by our boys, and we are informed through their own party that they lost three men killed and some wounded.

As we said before, owing to the secrecy observed about the affair on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, we can ascertain none of the particulars of the transaction from those of our men who were engaged in it, and therefore we have to rely mainly on the statements of parties who have heard the talk of the runaway renegades.

Montgomery and Davis were brought to the Texas side of the Rio Grande. Montgomery is said to have been hung immediately after he was landed, and Davis was concealed in the bushes near Brownsville to prevent his being taken possession of by Gen. Bee.

As a matter of course this invasion of Mexico and capture of Yankees in that country, created great excitement and much anxious regret both in Matamoros and Brownsville. The renegades took it in high dudgeon and got up a torchlight procession in Matamoros which consisted of runaways, white and black, a few barefooted Mexicans, and any number of children. The same crowd could have been hired to turn out for any disreputable purpose, either

to attend the funeral of a thief or the orgies of a prostitute.

The Mexican authorities acted very promptly and very calmly on the subject. Gov. Lopez simply made a demand for the surrender of the captured individuals, and as soon as Gen. Bee could obtain control of Davis, he returned him to the Mexican authorities. This act of justice was done on Wednesday, Major Gray acting as the agent of the Military in surrendering the renegade.

The Mexican population of Matamoros, that is the respectable portion of it, acted with a great deal of calmness on the occasion, and used their best endeavors to bring the matter to a peaceful termination. They perceived that the act was one purely personal, and that the two people should not embroil themselves for one of those events which no authority can at all times control.

When the renegades were captured they were at the mouth of the Rio Grande for the purpose of going away on a Yankee transport. When she learned of the capture she put to sea with the threat to return soon with forces to thrash the Texans at the mouth of the river.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1-2

First Letter from Trimmer.

Agua Poquito, Tex., }
April 4, 1863. }

Editor Maltby:-- . . . The capture and release of one E. J. Davis and hanging of one Montgomery and his release, constituted the all-absorbing topic of conversation at Roma when I left there, a couple of days since. A thousand vile rumors were afloat, but none of them bore the impress of truth. A war with Mexico was upon every tongue. The invasion of Mexican soil, the hanging of Montgomery could only be atoned for by the shedding of Texan blood, was the general feeling. My impression is that the financial link at present binding Brownsville and H. Matamoros together will be found hard to break, even though the military on both sides of the brave old river should resolve themselves into a community of blunderbusses; a thing not at all unlikely. Whether or not the Fort Brown military concocted the grand scheme of trying to make of Judge Davis what the Almighty never designed him to be; viz. a man in any respect troubled with greatness, or whether they simply approved the undertaking, or only gave it a *quasi*-recognition, I know not and care less. Of one thing, however, I am well satisfied, that "it was worse than a crime, it was a *blunder*." . . .

Trimmer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], April 30, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Third Letter from Trimmer.

Brownsville, Texas, April 23, 1863.

Editor Maltby:--I wrote you from Roma some ten days since; soon after which I drew the rein for this city. . . .Brownsville present the appearance of a city in all essential respects. Her dress is new compared to the one I have seen her wear the few times I have been here. The dignified and stately generals; the polished, oily, epauleted officers; the lovely and lovable women; (thank God for the variation!) the mighty dollar—hard and round—the cotton bags; the

world of goods; the Jerusalem Creoles, alias contractors, all contribute to give Brownsville new life, new purposes and altogether enlarged ideas.

Women, generals, cotton, dry goods and gold have had turns ruling Brownsville, but they have all been got down of late by these Jerusalem Creoles. Not a general moves, not a dollar rolls, not a bag of cotton turns, but is scented, sampled and hunted by them. When the whole world is in tears, they smile. When gaunt starvation gripes the bowels, their bellies shake with very laughter. When war, that grim-visaged monster—that next greatest calamity on earth to despotism—stalks through the land, rending the social tie; tearing asunder the mighty laws of commerce; swallowing up the wealth of nations and individuals, then Mr. J. Creole, more than at any other time, is in his element—he rides the storm with impunity, and navigates the dirty cess-pools of official favor with success. There it is that he grows rich, fat and agreeable. My kingdom for a war! he cries; may it never end, he prays. Who wonders that Jerusalem fell? When fruit ripens it falls as naturally as water. There was nothing miraculous in that fall my brethren. All were agents and contractors; there were none left to fight.

Ever and anon there arrives from the North some oppressed subject—flying from the land of his adoption and home of his wealth, to enjoy the rights of a free man in the constitution loving South.

When persons do leave the domain of the tyrant because of oppression, because of devotion to constitutional liberty, for which the South is battling, the right hand of fellowship should be extended them. But such causes are so easily assigned; the inducement to make fortunes through some grand scheme already instituted here by some near and dear relative; the ease with which one could avow that, "he couldn't stay in the North and hear the South traduced," that, "a fortune in the Jerseys couldn't hold him," should cause one officially to be exceedingly cautious. They should weigh with coolness and investigate with discretion all such cases, and unless it be a clean one, instead of a warm hand being extended, a cold shoulder at least should be turned. There used to be a custom where I was raised that when fodder gave out cattle were turned loose to browse. Such custom doubtless obtains in the old land yet, hence the conclusion that when those creatures stray way down here they are out on a browsing expedition, the fodder having "gin out to home."

It almost seems to have been the studied business of Government, though I know to the contrary, to keep contracts out of the hands of the Rio Grande merchants. Their wealth, integrity, power, it occurs to me, should early have been invoked in behalf of our cause; their energies, if possible, should have been directed to supplying the army. No imported agent could possibly learn, during a five years apprenticeship, the ropes which the merchants here play with as a fiddler does with his strings, and which they have been many years laying. The complete success attending all their operations; the secrecy [sic] attending their private enterprises, involving a capital of millions, bespeak for them a consideration, at the hands of a struggling people and Government, heretofore neglected. These merchants should have been the depositaries of Government confidence, and through them and by them the outside world should have been reached in all the Texaswise transactions. The Rio Grande merchants however, do not belong to the "persuasion"—they will not and cannot cringe, crawl, toady, smile and fawn. . . .

When Gen. Bee arrived here his personal friends and those who would be, subscribed a large sum in specie dollars and proposed giving the General an ovation. He very sensibly declined receiving it upon the ground that the hospital needed the money. Gen. Magruder arrived; the subscription gotten up for Gen. Bee was collected, and with it an ovation will be given Gen. Magruder to-morrow.

Latest News.--Mrs. General Bee and family are reported in the outskirts of the city. They will be received at head-quarters with open arms.

Capt. R. King, the princely ranchero of Santa Gertrudes, together with his estimable lady and family arrived out yesterday. They have been cordially received. . . .

Gov. Lopez, of Tamaulipas, visited our Generals yesterday. He was treated to a 24-pounder salutation. His intense hatred of Americans, of Southern proclivities, may touch off a bigger gun some time.

So much, no more, from your privileged

Trimmer.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 21, 1863, p. 2, c. 3

Cotton Cards.—The State Military Board have purchased several thousand pairs of Cotton Cards, which have been apportioned to the counties on the basis of the scholastic census. The price is ten dollars per pair, in currency, at Austin, payable on delivery. It is required that the counties wishing the cards shall send for them, and in no case are the cards to be sold for a greater price than cost, including transportation—needy families of those in the army being preference purchasers. In the distribution of these cards the people will save—or rather wrest out of speculator's hands over two hundred thousand dollars. This is one of the good acts the Military Board, composed of the Governor, Comptroller, and Treasurer, have been guilty of, and demonstrates what good things good men can do in a good cause, without trampling upon a good Constitution or the rights of good citizens. Here is the antidote for extortioners.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Complimentary Ball to Gen. Magruder.—A number of officers stationed at this post, taking advantage of the short stay of Gen. Magruder, and staff, here, tendered them a complimentary ball on the 20th inst., at Anacreon Hall, which was accepted. We have only room to say that it was a magnificent affair, and was agreeable to all participants. The Hall was splendidly decorated with evergreens and flowers. Upon the right side, and high upon the wall, was the name of Major General J. B. Magruder, the letters being ingeniously formed by the entwining of evergreens. On the opposite side, were the two quotations—"Wait not for orders; but attack the enemy at once, and furiously, wherever he shall be found;" and—"From Palo Alto to the City of Mexico! From Great Bethel to Galveston—a succession of Victories!" both being beautifully enclosed in a wreath of flowers, and, of course, complimentary to the General. Mr. Jacob Ziegler, the superintendent and indefatigable caterer, prepared a sumptuous table, which received full attention. It is needless to say that the fair ladies of Corpus Christi contrived the decorations, and were the embodiment of beauty and loveliness upon this occasion.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], May 28, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

An Example Worthy of Imitation.—We learn from the *True Issue* that the Chief Justice of Fayette county has invested nine thousand dollars of the State bounty for the relief of soldier's families, into cotton and shipped it to the Rio Grande, there to be converted into necessary supplies and returned to Fayette. This example is worthy of imitation. If the Chief Justices of all the counties would take the amount placed in their hands by the State for the relief of soldier's families, and do likewise, there would be a relief, indeed, to the family of the soldier.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], June 18, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

Dr. Alex. Jones, Surgeon, C. S. A., who was so recently ordered here as Surgeon of this post, has been ordered to Galveston. The reason of this, we understand, to be the removal from this place of a general hospital. Dr. Jones is to take charge of the general hospital at Galveston.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 2, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

Col. Wm. R. Bradfute, C. S. P. A., arrived in this City last Saturday, and has, so we understand, assumed command of this post. Col. Bradfute has seen much service in the present war, having served with high distinction upon the staff of Gen. Ben McCulloch, and subsequently upon the staff of Gen. Earl Van Dorn. The official U. S. army register for 1857, shows that Col. Bradfute was at that time a captain in the second regiment of cavalry. This regiment furnished the Confederacy with a list of heroes whose names and deeds will brightly adorn the pages of our county's history. We may notice those of R. E. Lee, A. S. Johnston, W. J. Hardee, E. Van Dorn, K. K. Smith, J. B. Hood, and Fitzhugh Lee.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 2, 1863, p. 2, c. 4

Notice.

To all whom it may concern:--All soldier's families, widows of soldiers and their dependants, who are not reported heretofore to the County Court of Nueces county, are hereby requested to report themselves to E. B. Mosely, Esq., who may be found at the office of C. Lovenskiold, Esq., as soon as they can do so conveniently. By order of the County Court of Nueces County.

D. B. Glover,
Chief Justice Nueces County, Texas.

Corpus Christi, June 16, 1863.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Fourth of July.

"Thy mandates make tyranny tremble!"

"We hold these truths to be self-evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that when any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience has shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariable the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security."

The above we have copied from the Declaration of Independence, believing that its perusal to be of peculiar fitness at the present time. This much of that Declaration which forever severed the connecting link between the Colonies and the "Mother Country," contains all relating to or foreshadowing the government which was to obtain in future America. It was for the attainment of the ends here laid down that the Colonial people with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

Through blood and fire our revolutionary sires made good their declaration and obtained from Great Britain, and the world besides, the recognition that these fundamental principles of government of right belonged to America.

A government was instituted upon these principles, and ever afterwards the fourth of July, the day upon which the Declaration of Independence was signed, has been celebrated as a day of rejoicing; because that day was the beginning of a new order of government for the amelioration of mankind; because that day was the beginning of a government which recognized the right to govern upon the consent of the governed. This order of things existed in the United States for over eighty years, when those states were dissevered into two sections and are now known as the United States and Confederate States. The question now naturally arises to which section rightfully belongs the duty of celebrating the anniversary of the independence of America. As the question seems to be one of doubt and uncertainty it is a subject worthy of investigation. If we of the Confederacy have departed from the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, if we are the radicals, then it is more than mockery to celebrate the fourth of July. Again, if we cling to the old instrument, if its landmarks are our landmarks then it is becoming our duty to celebrate the anniversary of American Independence as a day of great rejoicing. Let us see:

The Confederate government is essentially the same as that which maintained in the United States for eighty years. The Dred Scott decision, every point of which was involved in the dissolution of the Union, recognized principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, and who will say that the South ever departed one jot from that decision, the highest authority in the land? The Confederate people have always accepted the self-evident truth, "that all men are created equal," exactly as it was intended it should be accepted when proclaimed by a slave-holding people. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are recognised [sic] to their fullest extent under our constitution and laws. Our government derives its powers from the consent of the governed. And because the north assumed an attitude destructive of these ends, our government was instituted, laying its foundation on the principles contained in the Declaration of Independence, and its powers are organized in such form as seem most likely to effect the safety and happiness of the people of the Confederacy. It became necessary, as experience has shown, in order to maintain the principles of our fathers, that the south should abolish, renounce and denounce the "higher law" principles which every day were encroaching more and more upon us. This was not done for light and transient causes. But a long train of abuses and usurpations, by a dominant section, pursuing invariably the object to reduce us to an absolute despotism,--it was our right, it was our duty, we did throw off such a machine of oppression and provide new guards for our future security. It was the party led by Abraham Lincoln, who attempted to revolutionize the American system of republican government, and so far as the south is concerned, the attempt was a most signal failure.

From July 4, 1776, to July 4, 1863 the South has been a conservative adherent to the principles which impelled the American provinces to establish a separate government. We cling

to those principles with an inflexible grasp. What was the fourth of July to our fathers in 1776, is the same to the people of the Confederacy in 1863. For what the first revolution was inaugurated to obtain, the second revolution maintains. The South is the legitimate American government, the true exponent and embodiment of American principles. We defy any one to point out where in our government is administered essentially different from the practices of the United States, as defined by their supreme court, from its foundation down to the election of A. Lincoln, president. The people of the North have changed—radically changed—their government is revolutionized from its foundation up. Then who are the absolute possessors of the glories of the American Independence?

We think a little reflection, a little understanding of the principles involved in the second revolution will remove all doubt as to whom belongs the duty of celebrating the fourth of July. Consistency, reasons, and the practices of our government, the teachings of American history, all, point out the Confederacy as the only government embodying the principles our fathers held on the fourth day of July 1776. Then let the coming of this day be hailed

"With joy for the day beaming o'er us!"

Let us hold on to the same principles with which we began. It has made us great as a people—it will make us more as a nation. Let us hold on to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, ever mindful, that as in the beginning so it will be in the end,

"Thy mandates make tyranny tremble!"

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], July 16, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

From the Houston Telegraph.

The Glorious Victories in Louisiana—Full Particulars.

Alexandria, June 30.

. . . Gen. Taylor, with Walker's division, fought the enemy at Ashland, in North Louisiana, on the 7th inst. . . .After seeing Col. Majors well on his way, Gen. Taylor returned, via Washington, to Opelousas, and pushed on rapidly to Gens. Mouton and Green's headquarters, to superintend in person the attack on Brashear City and its forts. . . The result—captured eighteen hundred prisoners and three commissioned officers, three millions commissary stores, one million five hundred thousand quartermaster's stores, two hundred and fifty thousand ordnance stores, one hundred thousand medical stores, twenty three garrison and regimental flags, one thousand tents, two thousand horses and mules, between six and seven thousand negroes, sixteen guns, seven thousand stand of small arms, and a position of as much importance to this country as Port Hudson and Vicksburg—in fact the key to Louisiana and Texas. . .

The captured flags are in charge of Maj. Tom. Ochiltree, A. A. Gen. on Maj. Gen. Taylor's staff, captured and brought here by Maj. Tom. Ochiltree, are the following regimental colors: 17th New York, 23^d Connecticut, 21st Indiana, and 42^d Massachusetts. Among the captured articles at Brashear City, are the following items:

Three thousand bbls. flour, eight hundred sacks coffee, eighty-five New York planters, one hundred thousand pairs of shoes. . .

H. P.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 6, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

A correspondent of the Galveston News, of Rusk, Texas, July 21, 1863, says: Our town

has been astonished, for a day or two, with the presence of the great military dignitaries of the land. Lieut. Gen. Kirby Smith and Major Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder. What the object of their visit was, has not transpired. Gen. Smith left this morning, and Gen. Magruder, who is quite unwell, will not leave until to-morrow. These gentlemen are accompanied by their respective staffs. Gen. Smith is a very plain, unassuming gentleman, and at once commands the respect and admiration of all, by his sincerity of manner, affable demeanor, and perfect freedom from that stiff, unapproachableness too common with our military leaders; not so much, however, with the leaders as with the more humble starred and striped satellites which revolve around the military centres [sic]. In short, Gen. Smith is a Christian gentleman.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

A Homicide.—We are under the painful necessity of recording another homicide, which took place in Henderson last Thursday [sic]. Capt. Baxter, of Starville [sic], was shot, and almost instantly killed by Sidney Devereux, of this county; one Isham Weaver furnishing Devereux with the pistol and urging him to fire the fatal shot. But very few words were passed between the parties, and about very trivial matters. Of course everybody will readily understand the parties were drinking.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

In Gonzales they are organizing minute men.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 13, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

Wm. G. Venable of Victoria advertises that he will give twelve bushels of corn next month, to any woman in that county, whose husband is in the service, or has died in the service. Good.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], August 27, 1863, p. 2, c. 5

Fayette county has disbursed, through its officers, for the relief of the poor, and soldiers families, the sum of nearly \$46,000.

How much has Nueces done?

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 3, 1863, p. 1, c. 5

The work of organizing minute companies is going on finely in the country. If all the counties of the state will respond to the call of Gen. Magruder and Gov. Lubbock as nobly as old Rusk, the Yankees will meet with a bloody reception, if they attempt an invasion of this State.—Henderson Times.

The Tyler Reporter says that the late militia draft was carried out in that county with a good spirit; every one evincing a willingness to serve their country in this time of trial.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 17, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

The people of La Grange and vicinity have made arrangements to feed and lodge all soldiers passing through La Grange, going to or returning from the army, free of charge. Sick soldiers will also be taken care of until able to proceed on their way home, or to the army. Cannot our patriotic citizens do the same?

At the late entertainment at Navasota for the benefit of sick and disabled soldiers, a young lady who was taking a part in a military scene, representing a Confederate General gone

into *summer* quarters, remarked that "Gen. Magruder has determined to fortify the Piedmont Springs and hold it at all hazards."—Texas Ranger.

The N. O. Era announces the arrival of fifty [sic] or sixty Texas Refugees at that place.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Excellent bar iron is manufactured in Anderson county. One foundry is in operation and another will soon be started.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], September 24, 1863, p. 1, c. 4

Shoe pegs are made by machinery at Gilmer.

The Dallas Herald represents the citizens of Paris and Bonham as in a state of excitement in view of a Yankee invasion of that section, said to be imminent. The enemy are reported within fifty miles of the Texas line, and the men of the Northern counties are turning out in mass.

The Gonzales physicians have published a card acquitting themselves of the charge of demanding specie for their services, and stating that they only make speculators pay them specie. All right.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 15, 1863, p. 1, c. 3

Number of Women Killed at Vicksburg.

The New Albany Ledger says:

Capt. Harry McDougal, who has spent several days at Vicksburg since its surrender, writes us that he has made the most careful inquiry as to the actual number of women killed in the city during its bombardment by Gen. Grant. He learns that the number is twenty. Besides these, quite a number of children were killed. Capt. McDougal states that during the bombardment it was not an uncommon sight for women to be seen, parasol in hand, promenading the streets, and that the number of them killed is attributable to the bravado with which they thus exposed themselves. In one instance of the death of children, eight or ten little boys were playing together in front of one of the caves dug in the hillside for the protection of the women and children; a shell exploded in their midst, killing seven of them. One little fellow, a most interesting child, and son of a formerly prominent merchant of the town, was literally torn into small fragments.—N. Y. Tribune.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1863, p. 2, c. 1

The Corpus Christi Mutual Aid Association has commenced its labors in earnest. Already its members have been furnished with corn at five dollars per bushel; and, from the proceeds of the sale of cotton now on the way to Brownsville, goods will be bought and sold to the shareholders at about half their present cost in this market.

THE RANCHERO [Corpus Christi, TX], October 29, 1863, p. 2, c. 2

We are under the necessity of apologizing to our subscribers for the non-appearance of our paper last week. It was owing to the fact that we were disappointed in a supply of paper which we expected to receive in time for publication.