A MOUNTAIN FIGHT.

GRAND FACTS AND GALLANT DEEDS AT CERRO GORDO.

Gen. Scott's First Battle with Santa Anna.

How He Turned the Hillsides Pass and Opened the Road to the City of Mexico.

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SYDNEY A. L. Jackson's way of getting the best of a fight was so new a thing to the people of this country that hold on at the game that the bold Cow Boy got his name for originality as well as daring. His force in Rhodesia was so small that he was obliged to use bluff instead of force, hence it is no disparagement to say that the men who made him famous were such as he sought to have instead in the young manhood, and he had proved a poor student of history if he did not know that the Mexicans in his Mexican campaigns are in the exact very books and war histories of the military profession, and that numerous instances of successful flank movements, which have taken place and have been finally said was his Rhodesian bagatelle with Lendy's Lens in the 60's set. I remember that, as a boy, in 1847, I heard my older comrades discuss the military movements that had been made in that campaign which had served across your path to dispute it with great grass was to "move them over them," that is, turn their position by a flank march. This may have been a commonness of attending battles with impunity, but it was found policy all the same and it beats little who originated the method.

Forrest, the Alabama slave trader, who became the greatest cavalry general on the Confederate side, had tactics that was Frederick's, and tactics that was Frederick's, such the Great Prussian best victories without ever having heard of the famous Prussian and his battles.

Jackson may have brought little out of the Mexican campaigning to light the way to his Manassas and Chancellorsville victories, but not to his commander, Robert E. Lee. Lee determined gen Jackson up to every great stroke he made as a corps leader in the Army of Northern Virginia. He had been with Scott in Mexico, and was a prominent factor in the sudden of Cerro Gordo where Santa Anna, with odds of position, superiority of numbers and much more in his favor, was not only outflanked and forced to run for Hooker was in Virginia and at Chancellorsville, but his army was completely routed and virtually destroyed, from such a stern camp.

Cerro Gordo was Scott's first bout with Santa Anna. It was after the successful siege of Vera Cruz, when Scott had not his face toward the Mexican capital, the ancient seat of the Montezumas. Gen. Zachary Taylor, who had been managing the wily Mexican on the Rio Grande line, sent his best troops to re-inforce Scott, and Santa Anna hastened to the scene to meet the old American leader. The route from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico is along the great national highway running through Jalapa and Puebla. At a point twenty miles east of Jalapa the Mexicans had their position to dispute Scott's advance, and in that place Scott's men discovered as his troops from the Rio Grande, and the reinforcements gathered from the country at large, Cerro Gordo was a collection of hills belonging to a South on the slope between the mountains and the Rio del Plan. East of Cerro Gordo the national roads among lane elevations sloping toward the American approaches and commanding the roadway for a long distance.

The Mexican defense formed a semi-circle, the left resting on the river. On the right three separate heights, 100 feet above the plain, were fortified and armed with artillery and manned with an aggregate of 1,400 troops, under Santa Anna. Parallel with the road behind these heights was an extensive breastwork, with 400 men and 2 cannon, and a battery of 6 pieces was placed between mountain and river were 7 cannon and 400 men. Further to the west and the Mexican left and looking down upon the road was a central hill 300 feet high, known as Cerro Telegrafo. This hill was fortified near its summit with works of stone and logs and was protected by fallen trees. It was the key of the position. On the extreme left a central above Cerro Gordo ranch was occupied by a force with 7 cannon. Allied the Mexicans had 12,000 men on the field the day of the fight, April 18, 1847.

Between the fortified elevations there were deep gorges and low plains, all swept

ROUTE OF THE ROBINSON PATROL.

by artillery fire, and along the north side were still deeper gorges and abrupt craggy cliffs, where Santa Anna declared even mountain goats would not climb. The place seemed impregnable against a foe. Scott advanced from the 14th of April with but 1,700 men.

As soon as Scott learned the particulars of Santa Anna's line he sent out a reconnoitering party under Capt. Robert E. Lee, and upon information gathered by Lee fixed his plan of battle. After passing long the mountain north of the Mexican line, the troops penetrated to the rear of Santa Anna. From that height all the ground between the various Mexican fortresses and encampments could be seen. A twelve mile circuit was made by Twiggs's brigade, which was to attack the Mexicans in the rear, and when the sound of the battle was heard Pillow's brigade was to attack the Mexican left, while Riley and Shields were to attack the Mexican right. Meanwhile Harney, Smith and Twiggs were to settle the issue, which for all was to remain close. Old Harney's column was the Alabama company, a portion of the First artillery and the Third and Seventh regiments, Texas Scott had decided to storm Telegrafo and the task fell to Harney, who was an equally fearless man. The ground in rear surrounded the south, one of the gallant episodes of the war. At a signal fired by the Mexicans from their north fortified down into the ravine between the mountains then up the steep and rocky side of the Telegrafo in white sixty or seventy men of the seventh.

At that point the column reformed, and with another dash, Harney at the head, it stormed forward to the palisades and breastworks. The battle was short, and sharp—cutting, lancers and clubbed rifles hacking and battering a way through every obstacle. Quick as a flash flags were exchanged on the lofty tower and the Mexicans guns were turned against the Mexicans on the road below. Meanwhile Riley had engaged the lower side of Telegrafo and drove it back. Shields had penetrated to the road at Cerro Gordo, united with Riley and with him captured the battery there. Shields was severely wounded.

On Pillow's front the Mexicans to their line and his brigade was close up to the gorge. Then a volley of grape from 20 guns swept the dense columns and the assault was abandoned. Pillow was wounded and lost 100 in his brigade. When the Mexicans on his front saw the American colors floating on the Telegrafo they felt that the game was up and they threw down their arms.

It was all over and was a combination flank movement without an opinion. Scott never knew that he was embarrassed with the method of his victory. He seemed almost glad of the victory, but was obliged to parole from 3,000 to 4,000 men. Of casualties he lost 63 killed and 368 wounded. The Mexicans lost 1,000 killed and wounded and about 3,000 the Americans, 431. The Mexicans were fairly harassed by their retreat, and lost more in that way than in defending their lines. Santa Anna escaped alone, and his followers fled across the country without making a stand. The Pass of La Hoja and the town and castle of Perote, beyond Cerro Gordo, also fell as a result of Scott's brilliant stroke in breaking the mountain pass. With a division of fresh men at hand he could have marched in triumph to the City of Mexico. GEORGE T. ROBINSON.

From an ancient book found at Rockport, Me., it appears that in 1797 tobacco was sold by the yard in that town.

Why Young Men Are Afraid.

In New York city, where the standard of salaries is so high perhaps as in any American city, it was recently shown that of the young men in good commercial positions 70 per cent earned $2,000 per year and only 6 per cent exceeded $3,500 per year. Upon these incomes all the home comforts of married life are possible, but only by good management. Girls with frivolous ideas of life make failures of such homes, but the earnest girl can make happy herself, her husband and her children. Into these homes our girls are daily going as wives, and it is apparent that young men must be careful in their choice.

The young men when our young women meet in the street homes of our largest cities are those who are earning the income referred to above. Large incomes are few, and if by a "desirable" marriage is only meant the alliance to young men of dazzling effects, that about one girl in every thousand will make a "desirable" match. Facts such as these must be taken into consideration by the girl of today, and when they are it will be more clearly understood why young men are apt to be frightened from that alliance by the girl whose chief idea of popularity is to be "smart" in her dress, overdress in her manner.—Sphere.

W. Bok in Ladies' Home Journal.

The Farmer and the Lawyer.

This story is told of Charles Dickens and Mr. Frederick Ouvry, the well known solicitor. On one occasion Dickens was in treaty for a piece of land at the back of Gad's Hill, the proposed vendor being a old farmer, a lean old man of business and a hard nut to crack. An interview was arranged with him at Gad's Hill for a certain evening, and Mr. Ouvry came down for the purpose of being present when the bargain was struck. Dickens and Ouvry were sitting over their wine when the old man was announced. "We had better go in," said Dickens. "No, no," said the astute lawyer. "John" (to the butler), "show him into the study and take him a bottle of old port wine."

Then, turning to Dickens, "A glass of port will do him no harm; it will soften him." After waiting about twenty minutes they went into the study. The farmer was sitting bolt upright in an armchair, stern and uncompromising, the bottle of port had not been touched. The usual formalities then preceded, very much to farmer, the farmer said the bargain was struck. With a chuckle the old man then turned his attention to the port and finished the bottle.—San Francisco Argonaut.

He Broke Up the Game.

In public, as well as in private, one should never be mindful of the rights of others. Not long since a clergyman, accompanied by two young ladies, was traveling. It was nearing the hour of midnight, yet they had not enjoyed their sleeping berths made up. Instead, they were making up a game of whist, trying to see who could think of the most words that begin with this or that letter.

They spent half an hour or more on "A," and then went to "B" with a vehemence that seemed to indicate that they intended, despite the lateness of the hour, to go to the end of the alphabet. At any rate, that was the impression they gave to the tired man in the berth opposite, who was trying in vain to sleep.

Presently there came a lull, when none of the three seemed able to think of another B. The tired man took advantage of the lull. Parting his certain the least bit of a space he shouted:

"And 'damn,' sir—'damn!'"—Harper's Young People.

Night Air.

One of the bugbears of sickly people is night air, and there is little exaggeration in saying that the superstition against night air has killed more people than the free circulation of it has ever injured. There is abundance of proof that night air is injurious to no one. On the contrary, people who sleep out doors under the mere protection of a tent are the healthiest of all people and the practice has largely gained in popularity of late years. Better knowledge of hygiene, for people to delicate health to go in camping parties and breathe the balsam of the night air. The vigor gained from a few weeks of such an outing is a marked proof that the old prejudice against night air is as foolish as most other old wives whims.—Denver Sun.

The Pioneer Driver of 1843.

Henry Hewitt, of Wheatland, a pioneer of 1843, claims the honor of having driven the first wagon down the western slope of the Blue mountains, and the second that reached The Dalles. It was in November of that year, the exact date he does not remember, but they reached Oregon City on the 5th.—Portland Oregonian.

Danger in Hot Waste Pipes.

Doctors maintain that no more favorable medium for the culture of micro-organisms can be found than warm sewage. Cases are cited in which hot water and steam introduced into old sewerage have resulted in an epidemic of diphtheria.—New York Times.

The continent of Europe seems to be standing on advancing magazine. There have been dynamite alarms on one and the same day at several cities in France, at Berlin, at Rome, at Brussels, at Vienna and in Holland.

It is an old-fashion notion that medicine has to taste bad to do any good.

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