

Question by defence. Did witness, about the time the American forces had come to a position, within reach of the enemy's guns in the entrenched camp, bring any orders from General Scott to General Pillow; and if so, state these orders, and what was done by General Pillow in reference thereto; what orders did he give witness in reference to the subject of progressing further with the road, and to the opinions of the engineers as to the practicability of building the road further?

Answer. A little before one o'clock, on the 19th, two persons came up to where General Pillow was standing, nearly at the base of the hill between San Augustin and Contreras, on the San Augustin side of the hill. They had come out from the city, and spoke the English language; and reported that the force in our front was General Valencia's force; that it consisted of twenty-eight pieces of artillery, and six thousand infantry; that they had counted the pieces, and knew that the enemy had that number. General Pillow sent me to communicate that information to General Scott, at San Augustin; which I delivered, as I had been ordered. General Scott, in some conversation at the dinner table, stated, in substance, that he did not send General Pillow out there to fight a battle, but to make a road. He also read me a note, addressed to General Pillow, which I understood to be a written reply to a note sent by Midshipman Rogers, some time before I had been sent; from which, I likewise concluded, that it was not the intention of General Scott to fight a battle on that day. That note was given to Mr. Rogers, because, I suppose, he brought in the other, and was carried to General Pillow. I immediately returned to Major General Pillow, and communicated to him what I have stated in regard to my conversation with General Scott, and the letter which General Scott read to me. General Pillow then directed me to go forward and ascertain from the engineer officer on the field whether or not he considered the road, up to the point at which I met him, practicable for artillery and wagons. In execution of that order, I rode forward to overtake Major Smith, he being the senior engineer on the field. I asked him if the road was practicable, up to that point, for artillery and wagons; to which he replied, that I had ridden over the road, and knew as well as he did, or words to that effect. I then asked him if it was necessary, to fight a battle, to continue the construction of the road; to which he made a similar reply; all of which I reported to General Pillow directly afterwards. I did not consider that I was the bearer of an order to General Pillow from General Scott; I only communicated to him the information I had gained at the interview.

Question by defence. Witness will please state what he knows in relation to the movement of Colonel Morgan's regiment across the pedrigal; who communicated the order to Colonel Morgan; what were the words of the order; by whose instruction was the order given to Morgan; what time was this order communicated, in reference to the arrival of General Scott upon the field?

Answer. I was the bearer of the order for Colonel Morgan and his regiment to move forward, soon after having joined General

Pillow, from this interview with Major Smith. I delivered it in these words: "By direction of Major General Pillow, you will, with your regiment, move to the support of General Cadwalader. He desires you to move as rapidly as possible, as the enemy's reinforcements are reported to be coming out of the city; which fact you will report to General Cadwalader directly on joining him." Colonel Morgan asked what route he should take? I replied: "Follow me, and I will put you upon Cadwalader's track." I conducted his regiment through the corn-field, until we reached the pedrigal—as far as I could go on horseback—when I returned to General Pillow. Soon after I was directed by General Pillow to go to meet General Scott, who was said to be close by, coming upon the road from San Augustin. I descended the hill, and turned the base of the slope of the hill on which General Pillow was standing, and, a little beyond that, I met General Scott, and informed him that I had been sent by General Pillow to conduct him to where General Pillow was standing—that being the commanding point of the field of operations.

Question by defence. After the arrival of General Scott upon the mound, did witness hear General Pillow explain to General Scott what disposition he had made and ordered; and what reply, if any, did General Scott make?

Answer. Immediately on General Scott's arrival, General Pillow reported to him the dispositions he had made of his forces. I cannot repeat all the conversation that took place there, although I was in hearing, I think, of the whole of it. My impression is that General Pillow, at that time, accounted for all his forces; upon which General Scott said: "Capital! capital!" and his words were accompanied by gestures equally expressive of approbation of what had been done.

Question by defence. Did witness hear General Scott ask General Pillow any question in reference to certain troops, then seen passing at a distance in the pedrigal; if so, what was the inquiry made by General Scott, and what was General Pillow's reply?

Answer. Soon after this conversation, General Scott inquired what bayonets those were he saw in the pedrigal, at the same time pointing in the direction in which they were; when he was told by General Pillow that it was the rear of Morgan's regiment, moving to the support of Cadwalader.

Question by defence. Does witness know from any circumstance, what hour General Scott reached the mound which overlooked the field; if so, please state the circumstance and the hour?

Answer. At a quarter before five o'clock in the afternoon, or a quarter after five, (I think a quarter before five,) and on the arrival of a messenger from General Cadwalader, with a written note, calling on General Pillow for a supporting force, that heavy reinforcements were coming out from the city, General Scott called for the time of day, and Colonel Hitchcock took out his watch and told the time; at the same time he informed General Scott and others who were there, (and there was a number,) that it was four o'clock when General Scott arrived in the field. I returned from