

in-chief, and for withholding from him the copy of that letter for a whole week, and for the contempt and disrespect offered to him in the body of the said letter, he, the general-in-chief, desires that you will immediately consider yourself in a state of arrest, confined to the limits of this city.

I am instructed to add, that on the foregoing grounds and others, you will, in due time, be furnished with charges and specifications against you, and a general court martial be asked of the President of the United States for your trial, by the first practicable opportunity.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

H. L. SCOTT,

A. A. A. General.

Major General G. J. PILLOW,

United States Army.

CITY OF MEXICO, November 23, 1847.

SIR: In the communication of yesterday, from general headquarters, placing me in arrest, you say that, in the postscript to my communication to the Secretary of War, I refer to paragraph 292 of the army regulations.

If the reference be to paragraph 292, it is a mistake, and should have been 296.

The original communication to the Secretary of War, and not the copy, is in the hands of the general. The copy of that communication, and not the original, is referred to in the postscript above alluded to.

I had prepared my communication on the 15th instant, and caused a copy to be taken, intending to forward the original, through the general, and the copy, directly to the Secretary of War, at the same time. If any language in the postscript does not convey that idea, it is inaccurate; and I take the earliest opportunity to place the fact properly before the general, that there may not be, hereafter, any misapprehension.

I must request you to lay this communication before the general, and to acknowledge its reception.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GIDEON J. PILLOW,

Major General, United States Army.

Captain H. L. SCOTT,

A. A. A. General, Head-quarters of the Army.

HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

Mexico, November 23, 1847.

SIR: I have received your communication of the present date, correcting an inaccuracy in your communication of the 15th instant,

to the Secretary of War; and am instructed by the general-in-chief to say that both communications will be forwarded, with his endorsement, in compliance with paragraph 296, general regulations of the army.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. L. SCOTT,

A. A. A. General.

Major General G. J. PILLOW,

United States Army.

CITY OF MEXICO, February 19, 1848.

SIR: I addressed you two notes, on the 14th and 15th instant, desiring that certain of my witnesses might be ordered from the different posts to which they had been ordered.

As you did not extend to me the courtesy of a reply, I must respectfully ask to be informed if those communications were received, and what (if any) action has been taken upon the subject by General Scott.

Inasmuch as it may, and in my opinion will be material, in the investigation of the charges preferred by General Scott against me, to know if my communication to the Secretary of War, for which I was arrested, was forwarded to the government, I respectfully ask if it was forwarded, with his charges against me, or subsequently.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GIDEON J. PILLOW,

Major General, United States Army.

Captain H. L. SCOTT,

A. A. A. General.

HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

Mexico, February 19, 1848.

SIR: Your two letters of the 14th and 15th instants were duly received, but the general-in-chief awaited notice of the place of assemblage of the court before giving orders for the witnesses you desire.

Your two letters of the 14th and 15th instants were this morning turned over to Major Thomas, assistant adjutant general.

In answer to the latter part of your communication of the 19th instant, I am instructed by Major General Scott to say that the communication to which you refer was not forwarded, because it contained the following paragraph:

P. S. Under paragraph 292 of regulations, I have forwarded du-

plicate copy of this directly to the Secretary of War, to guard against the hazards of miscarriage.

GIDEON J. PILLOW,
Major General, United States Army.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. L. SCOTT,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

Major General PILLOW,
United States Army.

HEAD-QUARTERS, THIRD DIVISION,
Micoac, August 24, 1847.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with the order of the general-in-chief, I moved with my division, consisting of the 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th, and 15th infantry, and the voltigeur regiment, and the field battery of Captain Magruder and the howitzer battery under Lieutenant Callender, early on the morning of the 19th instant, and opened the road over the mountain on the route indicated by Captain Lee, of the engineer corps, assisted by Lieutenants Beauregard, Stephens, Tower, Smith, McClelland, and Foster. Brigadier General Twiggs, with his division, reported to me for duty, under instructions from the general-in-chief, whilst my own division was moving over the mountain.

Perceiving that the enemy was in large force on the opposite side of the valley, with heavy batteries of artillery commanding the only road through a vast plain of broken volcanic stone and lava, rent into deep chasms and fissures, effectually preventing any advance except under his direct fire, I resolved to give him battle. For this purpose I ordered General Twiggs to advance with his finely disciplined division, and with one brigade to assault the enemy's works in front, and with the other to turn his left flank, and assail *en reverse*. Captain Magruder's fine field battery, and Lieutenant Callender's howitzer battery, (both of which constitute part of my division,) were placed at the disposal of Brigadier General Twiggs.

This officer, in executing my order of attack, directed Brevet Brigadier General Smith to move with his brigade upon the enemy's front, whilst Colonel Riley, with his, was ordered to turn his left, and assail him in the rear. To sustain these movements, Brigadier General Cadwalader was ordered to advance with his brigade and support Colonel Riley, and Brigadier General Pierce, with his command, to support the column moving upon the enemy's front, under Brigadier General Smith. This last command was soon closely engaged with the enemy, as were also the batteries of Captain Magruder and Lieutenant Callender.

Colonel Riley's command, having now crossed the vast broken up plain of lava, passing the village on the right, and whilst in the act of turning the enemy's left, was confronted by several thousand

lancers, who advanced to the charge, when a well directed fire from the brigade twice compelled them to fall back in disorder, under cover of their artillery. About this time Brigadier General Cadwalader's command had also crossed the plain, when some 5,000 or 6,000 troops of the enemy were observed moving rapidly from the direction of the capital to the field of action. Colonel Morgan, with his large and fine regiment, which I had caused to be detached from the rear of Pierce's brigade, was now ordered to the support of Cadwalader, by direction of the general-in-chief, who had now arrived upon the field.

This general, having discovered this large force moving upon his right flank and to the rear, with decided military tact and promptitude threw back his right wing and confronted the enemy, with the intention to give him battle, notwithstanding his overwhelming force.

This portion of the enemy's force moved steadily forward until a conflict seemed inevitable, when Col. Morgan's regiment, having reached this part of the field, presented a front so formidable as to induce the enemy to change his purpose, and draw off to the right and rear of his former position.

During all this time the battle raged fiercely between the other portions of the two armies, with a constant and destructive fire of artillery. Magruder's battery, from its prominent position, was much disabled by the heavy shot of the enemy, as were also Callender's howitzers. A part of the enemy's artillery had been turned upon Riley's command whilst actively engaged with large bodies of lancers; but even these combined attacks could only delay the purpose of the gallant old veteran and his noble brigade.

The general-in-chief having arrived upon the field with General Shields's brigade of volunteers—consisting of the New York and South Carolina regiments—ordered them to move up to the support of the forces under Brigadier General Cadwalader; but it had now grown so late in the evening that General Shields did not get into position until after dark. Night having come on, (but not until entirely dark,) this fierce conflict was suspended, to be renewed on the morrow.

The battle all this day was conducted under my immediate orders, and within my view. A short time before sunset, having previously engaged in the fight all the forces at my disposal, myself and staff started to cross the plain to join in the terrible struggle on the immediate field of action.

On my way thither, I was joined by Brigadier General Twiggs and staff; but the darkness of the night, rendered still more obscure by a heavy rain, caused us to miss our way through the broken up lava, and to wander to the close neighborhood of the works of the enemy; and it was not until the shrill blasts of his bugles apprized us of our position that we became satisfied we could not reach, during the night, our destination. We then returned, and reported to the general-in-chief.

During the night, Brigadier General Smith disposed the forces present to renew the action at daylight and complete the *original*

order of attack; before dark, however, the enemy had placed two pieces of artillery on a height nearly west of Cadwalader's position, which had opened with several discharges upon his forces. Brigadier General Smith, just before daylight, moved a portion of the forces up the ravine to the rear of the enemy's position, so as to be within easy turning distance of his left flank, leaving Colonel Ransom, with the 9th and 12th infantry, to make a strong diversion in front. The day being sufficiently advanced, the order was given by Brigadier General Smith for the general assault; when General Smith's command upon the left, and Colonel Riley with his brigade upon the right, supported by General Cadwalader with his command, moved up, with the utmost gallantry, under the furious fire from the enemy's batteries, which were immediately carried. A large number of prisoners were taken, including four generals, with twenty-three out of the original twenty-eight pieces of artillery, and a large amount of ammunition and public property.

The retreating enemy was compelled to pass through a severe fire, both from the assaulting forces and Cadwalader's brigade, as well as Shields's command, who had remained at the position occupied by the former general the previous night, with the purpose of covering the movement upon the battery. The forces of the enemy engaged at this place, including the reinforcements of the preceding evening, constituted a force of about 16,000 men, 5,000 of whom were cavalry; the whole were under the immediate command of General Santa Anna in person, assisted by Generals Valencia, Salas, Blanco, Mendoza, Garcia, and others; the last four mentioned were taken prisoners.

Our forces, consisting of my division, General Twiggs's and Shields's commands, amounted to about 4,500 men. The loss of the enemy, as nearly as I can ascertain, was between 1,500 and 2,000 men killed and wounded, and 800 prisoners, including the four generals previously mentioned, four colonels, thirty captains, and many officers of inferior grades.

The reports of the different corps engaged in this part of the battle, which were temporarily under my command, being properly made to their respective chiefs, and not having come before me, I am unable to give our loss. Though many brave and gallant souls have fallen, it is believed, however, when the strength of the enemy's position, his enormously heavy artillery, and his superior forces, are considered, our loss is comparatively small. It is a matter of just pride and exultation that, among the guns captured in the batteries, were the two pieces taken by the Mexican army at Buena Vista, belonging to Captain Washington's battery, (at that battle, under the immediate command of Captain O'Brien;) and it is no less remarkable than gratifying that the good fortune and honor of recapturing them belong to the 4th regiment of artillery, of which Captain Washington's company forms a part.

Throughout this engagement, every corps engaged the enemy wherever he was met with the most determined resolution, and behaved with a degree of gallantry rarely equalled—certainly never surpassed—in any engagement known to the American arms. Brig-

adier General Twiggs, next in command to myself, and charged with the immediate execution of my order of battle, was distinguished by the judgment, promptitude, and courage displayed by him throughout the engagement.

Brigadier General Smith, the senior officer who remained across the plain, and disposed the forces for the final assault, deserves, and will doubtless receive, the thanks of the army, and the honor due to the constancy of purpose and daring which distinguished his conduct on this great occasion. Brigadier General Cadwalader displayed great judgment and high military skill and heroic courage in the manner in which he met the sudden and trying emergency, when all parties were in great anxiety for the safety of his comparatively small command, when about to be assailed by the overwhelming reinforcements of the enemy, on the preceding evening; and also, in the manner in which he brought up his command to the support of the gallant Riley. This veteran officer distinguished himself no less by the manner in which he contended almost single-handed with greatly superior numbers, on the first day, than in his gallant and successful charge upon the works of the enemy, on the second.

Brigadier General Pierce, though badly injured by the fall of his horse, while gallantly leading his brigade into the thickest of the battle, on the 19th, did not quit the field, but continued in command of his brigade; two regiments of which—the 9th and 12th infantry, under the immediate command of the gallant Colonel Ransom and Lieutenant Colonel Bonham, on the 19th, and Captain Woods, on the 20th—assailed the enemy's works in front, at daylight, with great intrepidity, and contributed much to the glorious consummation of the work so handsomely commenced on the preceding day.

The commanders of regiments and inferior officers all behaved with gallantry no less distinguished, though in subordinate positions to those named above as commanding divisions and brigades; but the space proper for this report will not admit of further details.

In justice, however, to officers of this class, I beg to call the attention of the commander-in-chief to the detailed reports of the officers of the several corps engaged in this action. It is due to Captain Magruder and Lieutenant Callender, who have no other organization than as parts of my division, to testify to their great gallantry and daring, the proof of which is found in their losses, and in the fact that both of their batteries were much cut up by the terrible fire of the enemy's heavy guns. During the cannonade, Lieutenant T. P. Johnstone, whilst gallantly serving the advanced section of Magruder's battery, fell mortally wounded; and Lieutenant Callender, in command of the howitzers, nearly at the same time, received so severe a wound as to disable him from commanding his pieces, which consequently devolved upon Lieutenant Reno, of the ordnance corps, who, for the remainder of the battle, conducted the service of his battery with equal gallantry and judgment.

I cannot, in justice, omit to notice the valuable services of Captain Lee, of the engineer corps, whose distinguished merit and

gallantry deserves the highest praise; and who, in the execution of his duties, was ably assisted by his assistants previously mentioned.

They were important aids in the combination of elements brought to bear with the success, no less triumphant than glorious to our arms, upon the most powerful collection of artillery (supported by a force of four to one of our forces) ever successfully assailed in any battle upon this continent.

Having myself crossed the plain, and reached his bloody theatre as the last scene of the conflict was closing, as soon as suitable dispositions were made to secure the fruits of the victory, I resolved upon pursuing the discomfited enemy, in which I found that Brigadier Generals Twiggs and Smith had already anticipated me by having commenced the movement. At the same time, I apprised the general-in-chief of my advance, and requested his authority to proceed with all the forces still under my command, and sweep around the valley, and attack the strong works at San Antonio in the rear, and requested the co-operation of General Worth's division, by an assault on that work in front, which the general-in-chief readily granted and directed accordingly—having, as I learn, upon being advised of the victory, previously given the order. I had moved rapidly forward in execution of this purpose, until I reached the town of Coyoacan, where the command was halted to await the arrival of the general-in-chief, who I was informed was close at hand. Upon his arrival, the important fact was ascertained that the enemy's forces at San Antonio, having perceived that the great battery had been lost, and the total defeat and route of their forces at Contreras, by which their rear was opened to assault, had abandoned the work at San Antonio, and fallen back upon their strong entrenchments in rear at Churubusco.

Upon the receipt of this information, the general-in-chief immediately ordered Brigadier General Twiggs's division to move forward and attack the work on the enemy's right, and directed me to move with Cadwalader's brigade, and assault the *tete du pont* on its left. Moving rapidly in execution of this order, I had great difficulty in passing the command over some marshy fields and wide and deep ditches, filled with mud and water. I was compelled to dismount in order to cross these obstacles, which were gallantly overcome by the troops, when the whole force gained the main causeway; at which place I met General Worth, with the advance of his division, moving upon the same work. It was then proposed that our united divisions should move on to the assault of the strong *tete du pont*, which, with its heavy artillery, enfiladed the causeway. This being determined upon, the troops of the two divisions moved rapidly to attack the work on its left flank; and, notwithstanding the deadly fire of grape and round shot from the work, which swept the roadway with furious violence, *on* and *onward* these gallant and noble troops moved with impetuous valor, and *terrible* and *long* was the *bloody conflict*. But the result could not be doubted. At length the loud and enthusiastic cheer of the *Anglo-Saxon soldier* told that all was well, and the American colors waved in triumph over the bloody scene.

The larger portion of General Worth's veteran division was engaged in this fierce conflict, together with the 11th and 14th regiments of infantry, constituting a part of my division, under the commands, respectively, of Lieutenant Colonel Graham and Colonel Trousdale. To the 14th infantry belongs the honor of capturing a flag on this fort, and taking a large number of prisoners in the fort, among whom was the body of deserters.

The voltigeur regiment, then under command of Lieutenant Colonel Johnstone, had been led on by my adjutant general, Captain Hooker, to the assault of the strong fortification on the enemy's right, with which General Twigg's division was hotly engaged; but finding the artillery of the enemy, as well as his small arms, bore directly on his advance, which was entirely uncovered, the regiment was placed in rear of a church, where it remained until it received an order from myself in person to move to the assault in conjunction with the lively play of Duncan's battery. This fine regiment was rapidly executing this order, now under Colonel Andrews, and led by General Cadwalader, when that work surrendered, and was taken possession of by Twigg's division.

General Worth, (to whose great gallantry during the action it affords me pleasure to bear witness,) with his division, and myself with the 11th and 14th regiments of my command, pressed rapidly on in pursuit of the flying enemy, until we had arrived with our commands nearly under the fire of the guns of the enemy, planted in the suburbs of the capital, where we were overtaken by an order from the general-in-chief to call off our troops from further pursuit. During this movement, I met with Colonels Ransom's and Morgan's regiments, 12th infantry, under Captain Wood, and the howitzer battery, under Lieutenant Reno, parts of my division, forming General Pierce's brigade, which had been moved by order of the general-in-chief, under command of General Pierce, against a large body of the enemy to the right and rear of the main work, where they had been, in conjunction with Shields's brigade, engaged in a fierce open field fight with a large force.

Brigadier General Pierce, though still suffering severely from his injury of the preceding day, had nevertheless been on duty, and in command of his brigade during the day, and until a few moments before, when he had fainted from pain and exhaustion, and been carried from the field. In this last engagement the gallant Colonel Morgan was wounded severely, when the command of the 15th regiment devolved on Lieutenant Colonel Howard.

During this long continued battle, which lasted nearly two days, every part of the army in the field participated in the engagement. The consequence was, that all share justly in the honor and glory of the brilliant victory. I cannot distinguish between the conduct of the commanders of regiments in my division; they all acted a distinguished part, as did their field and company officers; though the circumstances of battle caused Ransom's, Morgan's, Graham's, and Trousdale's regiments, and the 12th infantry, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Bonham, on the 19th, and of Captain Wood, on the 20th, to be most actively engaged. My division was com-

posed entirely of recruits, whom the exigencies of the service had not allowed time to become well disciplined; but they emulated in deeds of valor and constancy the veterans of the old divisions; and I am proud to testify to the general-in-chief my high appreciation of their good conduct.

I cannot withhold the expression of my sense of the deep obligations I am under for the success and honor due to my command to my two gallant brigadier generals, whose promptitude, skill, and daring were equal to every emergency, and who, in the absence of discipline in their commands, met and overcame every obstacle, and led on their brigades to honor and distinction.

I will be pardoned, I trust, by the general-in-chief for travelling beyond the legitimate bounds of a report, to notice becomingly the patriotic conduct of the pious chaplain of Colonel Clarke's brigade. Whilst the battle raged furiously, my column had great difficulty in crossing a deep ditch without damaging their ammunition. The worthy chaplain, besides encouraging the passing soldiers to their work, actively set the example of filling the excavations, so as to enable the troops to press onward to the assault. My medical staff (particularly Surgeon Jordan, though infirm and aged, and Surgeon Slade) distinguished themselves by their great activity and energy in keeping with the column throughout the action, and attending to the wounded and dying on the spot where they fell, as did also the entire medical staff of my division.

During the arduous duties of my command on the 19th, my personal staff being all engaged on duty, I was compelled to make use of the services of some of my friends from civil life; among these, I am indebted to Mr. Kendall for his assistance in promptly bearing and delivering orders; also to Paymaster Burns I express my indebtedness for his valuable services; to Captain O'Hara, chief of the quartermaster's department of my division, I am especially under obligations for his assistance, as well as to Lieutenant Davis, of the 14th regiment, acting ordnance officer.

My personal staff—Captain Hooker, my adjutant general-in-chief of my staff; Lieutenant Rains, 4th artillery, and Lieutenant Ripley, 2d artillery, aids-de-camp; and Passed Midshipman Robert C. Rogers, volunteer aid-de-camp—greatly distinguished themselves by their fearless and gallant conduct, as well as by their judgment and skill in leading forward my different commands, and placing them in position for effective service throughout these long and desperate conflicts. I trust the general-in-chief will deem their conduct worthy his special notice.

I must also notice the extraordinary activity and gallant conduct of Lieutenant Irons, 1st artillery, aid-de-camp to General Cadwalader, who received a wound, probably mortal, whilst in the discharge of his duties.

Lieutenant Caldwell, of the marines, on duty with my division as senior officer of the commissary department, rendered it invaluable services in his department, as well on the long march to this place as during the long continued action. Lieutenant Reno, in command of the howitzer battery on the 20th, rendered valuable

services under the orders of Brigadier General Pierce, in his engagement with the enemy.

Generals Pierce and Cadwalader speak in the highest terms of the good conduct and gallantry of the officers of their respective staffs; and concurring fully in their expression of opinion, I beg to call them to the special notice of the general-in-chief.

Captain Mason, of the engineer corps, rendered me important services, in indicating positions for portions of my command, during the action of the 20th, at Churubusco. Lieutenant Rains, my aid-de-camp, was stunned by the fragments of stone thrown from a wall by a cannon shot, at the same place.

Captain Kearny, of 1st dragoons, commanding a squadron composed of his own and Captain McReynold's companies, was on duty with my division during the action, and made his way with great difficulty across the wide and marshy fields and deep ditches. Seeing no field for the action of his fine squadron until the *tete du pont* was carried, I had held him in reserve. I then let him loose. Furious was his charge upon the retreating foe, dealing death with the unerring sabre until he reached the very suburbs of the city, and drew from the enemy's batteries at the garita a heavy and destructive fire, by which the gallant captain lost his left arm. Lieutenant J. L. Graham, of 10th infantry, serving with Captain Kearny, was wounded in the left arm; and Captain McReynolds, 3d dragoons, who nobly sustained the daring movements of his squadron commander, was also wounded in the left arm. Both of these fine companies sustained severe losses in their rank and file also.

By detachments to secure prisoners taken in the first engagements at Contreras, and captured public property, my force was reduced to about 1,800 men. My total loss, in killed, wounded, and missing, is 211 officers and privates. The loss of the enemy in this last action I have no means of ascertaining. The whole field and road for miles was covered with the dead and dying. In these engagements, *constituting one continued battle*, the enemy himself estimates his loss in killed, wounded, and missing, at about 7,000. This includes prisoners taken by our forces.

Among the many gallant officers whose loss we have to deplore, is the brave Major Mills, of the 15th infantry, who, after having participated most actively in the fierce struggle in which that regiment had its colonel wounded, and one-third of its force cut down, joined Captain Kearny's squadron in pursuit of the enemy, and was killed by the fire of the enemy's artillery at the very garita of the city.

Appended is a list of killed and wounded of my division.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GID. J. PILLOW,

Maj. Gen., United States Army.

To Captain H. L. SCOTT,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General.