

published, by order of Congress, a new edition of the latter. How well the military system introduced by Scott, serves the purposes for which it was designed, is shown by the general character of the service, and especially by the triumphant success of our arms in Mexico. We owe much to West Point, but West Point owes more to Scott. It is he, in reality, who has given the army its leading characteristics of high spirit, lofty tone, gentlemanly bearing, extreme effi-

### Scott as a Temperance Man.

General Scott may be placed among the very earliest pioneers of the temperance reform. As long ago as 1821 he published a pamphlet (first appearing in the National Gazette of Philadelphia), proposing a plan to discourage the use of intoxicating liquors in the United States. This paper was written with great ability, and furnished the matter for thousands of temperance speeches and addresses since delivered. He was first led to this effort to lessen the great mischiefs of intemperance, in consequence of the difficulties that beset him in improving the discipline of the army. Though never a teetotaler in the strictest sense of the term, General Scott has, nevertheless, always been a

### Scott and South American Independence.

General Scott took a lively interest in the struggles of the South American republics to secure their independence. He was not in the public councils, and could therefore take no part in the eloquent discussions of Congress upon the subject. But so far as his position permitted, he encouraged and sympathized with the noble efforts of the South American leaders of the revolution. Among the acts that illustrated his interest in their behalf, was his successful endeavors to give a military education to three sons of

strictly temperate and abstemious man. Indeed, in all his private and social relations he is a man whom the youth of the country would do well to follow as a model. His moral character gives lustre to his historic celebrity. He has never been corrupted by the temptations of office, debauched by contact with laxity of principle in public men, or stimulated by avarice or habits of extravagance into any forays, direct or indirect, upon the public treasury. Personally, he is without reproach and above suspicion. His example has lifted others up. No example has ever dragged him down.

General Paez, of Colombia. These were by his exertions placed at the Military Academy at West Point, in 1823, under the auspices of the President of the United States, where they were educated, and afterwards sent back to fight for the liberties of their native land.

The military duties of General Scott now engrossed the chief part of his attention for several years. In 1829 he again visited Europe on a professional tour of observation.

### The Black Hawk War.

General Scott returned from Europe after an absence of several months. A war with the Indians on the Upper Mississippi, under the celebrated "Black Hawk," having assumed a formidable aspect, Scott was ordered by the War Department in June, 1832, to the scene of conflict, to take command of the forces to subdue the savages.

In the beginning of July he accordingly embarked at Buffalo, with a body of about 1,000 troops, on board four steamers, bound for the theatre of war. He was arrested in his progress by the breaking out of the cholera in its most malignant form among the troops. Meantime the Indians were subdued by the Illinois militia and the troops under General Atkinson, and Black Hawk was captured. Scott subsequently proceeded to his place of destination, negotiated important

### The Cholera.—Scott's Noble Conduct.

On the passage from Buffalo to Chicago, the Asiatic cholera, which then for the first time visited this country, broke out on board the steamers conveying the troops, in the most frightful form. On board General Scott's own boat, out of 220 persons, no less than 52 died, and 80 others were committed to the hospital within the short term of six days. On board the other boats the mortality was scarcely less alarming. The amazing fatality of the attacks of this disease spread indescribable terror among the troops, and

among the population whither they were carried. Such was the effect produced, that in the course of a very few days, sickness, death, and desertion, had reduced the numbers of our troops from 950 to 400.

On the passage to Chicago, the deck and cabin of General Scott's own boat were covered with the dead and dying. Every hour of the clock struck the knell of some new victim. Gloom was pictured in every countenance. Despair seized upon the bravest. Death in battle they could meet without fear—but here the



Scott at the Cholera Hospital.

viewless destroyer totally palsied their energies. Without warning, the trembling victim was seized, helplessly collapsed, and died in an hour. It was a repetition of the worst horrors of the plague. Amidst this terrible scene, instead of contenting himself with merely ordering the medical men to take all necessary measures for the relief of the sick, Scott set an example of fortitude and courage that shone resplendent through the surrounding desolation. He attended the sick in person, and performed for his humblest comrade every disagreeable and dangerous office with a brother's care. He consoled the sick, comforted the dying, and cheered the flagging and broken spirits of those yet unattacked, but whose apprehensions provoked danger, and insured death when the attack came.

Subsequently, after leaving Chicago, Scott found Atkinson's force at Rock Island, attacked with the same appalling disease. Here he renewed his vigilant and fearless attentions upon the sick and dying. Though himself ill, his devotion to his fellow-soldiers was constant, and became the theme of general admiration. He spared himself no labor, no exposure to danger, to relieve his comrades who were the victims of this fatal pestilence. He visited the hospitals, made it his duty to serve, watch, and encourage all by his cheering presence and his personal services. Never has he at any time shown a more genuine heroism than upon this occasion. Never did any philanthropist exhibit a more pure, noble, and affecting self-devotion.

### Scott sent to quiet the Nullifiers.

General Scott had hardly got home from these trying and fatiguing scenes, when a fresh order from the government sent him to another quarter. At the close of November, 1832, nullification was coming to a head in South Carolina. A state convention had passed its ordinance declaring that the United States revenue laws should not be enforced in South Carolina, and its legislature and executive were making preparations for an armed resistance. Such was the condition of things when General Scott was ordered thither. His first aim was to ascertain what measures were needed to secure obedience to the laws, and suppress the rebellion if it should break out. But he was also charged with the higher office of conciliating the Carolinians. To avoid adding to the public excitement by open steps of military precaution, he visited Charleston by the way of the interior, as if on his annual visit of inspection. When he had finished his examination he returned to Washington, made his report to President Jackson, and concerted the arrangements necessary for the crisis. The revenue

cutters and troops that were needed were sent down to Charleston, and General Scott then repaired thither with confidential instructions. A large discretion was left to him in the execution of his orders. Every thing, in fact, depended on his own good judgment. But in the exhibition of this quality, as well as those of a more brilliant character, General Scott has never failed to distinguish himself. The extraordinary excitement of the time, the phrensied condition of the public mind in South Carolina, now wrought up to the pitch of open war, rendered General Scott's task delicate and difficult in the highest degree. His head-quarters was at Fort Moultrie, opposite Charleston, which had been strengthened by large supplies of provisions, arms, ammunition, and troops; and its force further augmented by the presence of revenue cutters and ships of war. The attitude of the government was unequivocal, and so was that of the nullifiers. One was determined to resist, the other was determined to quell that resistance. That General Scott should have been able, under such an aspect of

impending hostilities, to associate and even hold friendly relations with the leading nullifiers, seems almost to forbid belief; yet so it was. By a happy union of firm and conciliatory conduct he was able to keep on the narrow line of his duty, deficient in no-wise to the demands of the federal government which had placed him there, and yet so to conduct himself as to win the confidence and regard of those whom it

#### Scott ordered to Florida.

An Indian war raged in Florida in 1835. The Seminoles, under their skilful and daring leader, Osceola, had taken up arms against the whites, and fought with a valor that awoke the government to the necessity of taking decided measures to subdue them. General Scott was accordingly ordered to the theatre of hostilities, where he arrived in February, 1836. He got his troops in readiness, and soon after the middle of March moved the three divisions, into which he had divided them, upon that portion of the country where it was supposed the Indians had taken shelter. But the wily enemy eluded his grasp. Having failed in his first attempt to discover the hiding-place of the Indians, General Scott next broke up his force into five detachments, placing himself at the head of one of them, and scoured the country. None of the detachments, however, met with any success in discovering the main body of the savages. They had sequestered themselves in the impenetrable fastnesses of that pestilential country, and thus escaped the most vigilant activity of our troops. Sickness ensued, and

#### Congratulations of his Friends.

After Scott's return from his Florida campaigns, an invitation was extended to him from his friends in the city of New York to meet them at a public dinner. He received similar invitations from Richmond, Virginia, and Elizabethtown, New Jersey. But he declined them all, from personal considerations growing

#### Rebellion in Canada.—Scott sent to the Frontier.

In the same year (1837), a rebellion broke out in Canada. The flame of insurrection spread along the frontier, and threatened to involve the country in hostilities with England. Our border population deeply sympathized with the struggling patriots of Canada. An outrage upon our territory had been committed by a British armed force, which had crossed to Schlosser, in the State of New York, fired the steamer *Caroline*, and sent her blazing over the cataract of Niagara. This act took place on the 29th of December. On the 4th of January following (1838), General Scott hastened from Washington to the scene of the outrage. He found the whole population in a state of tumultuous excitement. He addressed himself at once to the task of subduing the impassioned fervors of our patriotic population, a work which he accomplished with the most admirable tact and skill. He moved with the greatest celerity along the line, everywhere repressing the extraordinary zeal of our people, and everywhere bringing down enthusiastic plaudits upon

#### Scott among the Cherokees.

By a treaty made in 1835, the Cherokees, occupying portions of the States of Georgia, Alabama, North

Carolina, and Tennessee, had stipulated to emigrate to lands allotted to them west of the Mississippi,

became his especial duty to watch, and if necessary to subdue by force of arms. We can hardly conceive of a more difficult undertaking than was General Scott's in this mission, yet he succeeded in it to the entire satisfaction of all parties. At length he withdrew from the scene, with the consoling reflection that his course had been a chief means of saving his country from the horrors of civil strife.

four hundred of our men were in the hospitals. The supplies for the troops proved inadequate, and the campaign ended without any important fruits. General Scott having now experienced the extreme difficulties of the country, apprised the War Department that a larger force and different conduct of the next campaign would be essential to success. Meantime, difficulties broke out among the Creeks in Georgia, and General Scott proceeded thither in May, and at once organized a volunteer corps to subdue them. This was accomplished with great promptness. By the 1st of July the Indians had surrendered or been entirely dispersed. On the 9th of July General Scott was ordered to Washington. Complaints were made because he did not find and capture the hidden Seminoles. But an inquiry that was instituted into the conduct of that campaign, proved the utter groundlessness of the charge, and resulted in the unanimous approval of the conduct of the brave commander by the court.

out of the overwhelming commercial calamities that in that year (1837) had fallen upon so many of his friends. We find in this circumstance a new evidence of his genuine sympathy of nature, and generous self-forgetfulness, where the feelings and interests of others are concerned.

his skilful conduct and his eloquent harangues. He became at once orator, soldier, and diplomatist. He alternately threatened, exhorted, and appealed to the people. His exertions were unremitting by night and by day, and covering a line of country extending from Detroit to Vermont. The details of his mission here would fill a volume. But we have no room for the recital. Suffice it to say that beneath the spell of his manly eloquence, his energy, his activity, the recollection of his former deeds of glory in that quarter, the people threw down their arms and returned to their homes, and war was averted. His grateful and admiring fellow-citizens thronged about him on his return; and at Albany, where the Legislature was in session, a succession of entertainments were given to this illustrious man; now as deeply endeared to the people for preventing war, as on a former occasion he was admired for his exploits of valor and heroism on the very soil of the enemy he had now saved from invasion.

Carolina, and Tennessee, had stipulated to emigrate to lands allotted to them west of the Mississippi.



Scott addressing the Cherokees.

There were but a small portion of them, however, who had gone to their new home west of the Mississippi. The numbers remaining amounted to 15,000, and they had refused to leave. General Scott received orders on the 10th of April, 1838, to take command of the United States troops ordered to the Cherokee country, to enforce the fulfilment of this treaty obligation. Deeply impressed with the painful circumstances under which this more than half civilized people were now to expatriate themselves from the homes they had so long enjoyed, General Scott desired to accomplish his mission with the utmost forbearance and regard towards this highly interesting race. He accordingly issued an address to the army, invoking their kindness and care for the emigrants, and deprecating in the strongest manner all violence or harshness in the discharge of the duties that might devolve upon them, in case of the refusal of any to join the general emigration. He issued another address to the Indians, setting forth the labors he had come to perform. Kindness and humanity are stamped in uneffaceable characters upon these papers; and, taken in connection with his subsequent conduct in the

discharge of his mission, will forever add lustre to the fame of General Scott.

The tribes were at length put in motion, and the vast, tawny multitude slowly wended its way towards the distant waters of the Mississippi. It was another Exodus of a whole people. The great and manifold difficulties and perils of conducting so large a body of men, women, and children, may be readily conceived. But General Scott mastered them all, and for five months superintended and guided an emigration, almost unparalleled, and requiring more wisdom, patience, and perseverance, than is often called into exercise during the entire life of an ordinary man. The work was accomplished successfully. In what manner it was done, let Dr. Channing, the eloquent Boston divine, answer. He says, "In the whole history of the intercourse of civilized with barbarous or half-civilized communities, we doubt whether a brighter page can be found than that which records General Scott's agency in the removal of the Cherokees. As far as the wrongs done to this race can be atoned for, General Scott has made the expiation. It would not be easy to find among us a man who has won a purer fame."

#### Scott settles the Northeastern Boundary Difficulties.

Serious difficulties arose in the winter of 1838-9 between the authorities of Maine and New Brunswick, growing out of our then unsettled northeastern boundary. The action of Governor Fairfield of Maine in calling out the militia, and throwing a heavy force forward upon the frontier, with apparently hostile intent, and a corresponding movement of the British forces in the Province of New Brunswick, gave a threatening aspect to affairs in that quarter. General Scott was ordered at once to the spot, with instructions to endeavor to compose the existing difficulties, and to arrest the hostile movement of our troops. He arrived

at Augusta, the capital of the state, on the 6th of March, 1839.

The Legislature was in session, and he was received by a public meeting of legislators, soldiers, and citizens, on the following day, in the Legislative Hall. His reception was of the most flattering description, and marked by every demonstration of respect and admiration. He devoted himself at once to the work of allaying the excitement that existed, and establishing a basis for the accommodation of the existing disputes. The Governor of New Brunswick, Sir John Harvey, was an old acquaintance and friend of Gen



Scott saving the life of Harvey.

eral Scott, they having met and established an intimacy during the war of 1812.\*

With him General Scott opened a semi-official correspondence in relation to the pressing exigencies of the occasion, which led to the most happy results. Official negotiations followed. General Scott remained in Maine for several weeks, and occupied himself incessantly in bringing about a good understanding between the authorities on both sides. His labors were arduous and perplexing in the extreme. Con-

flicting judgments were to be reconciled, and exasperated feelings were to be subdued. But his untiring efforts were at length crowned with signal success. The troops on both sides were in a few weeks withdrawn, and a good understanding established between the belligerents. General Scott reaped new laurels for his skilful management of this delicate negotiation, and earned a new claim to the title of the GREAT PACIFICATOR, so properly his due for his previous success in South Carolina, and on the Canada frontier.

#### Scott becomes Commander-in-chief.

The death of Major-general Macomb took place June 25th, 1841, and Scott was called to the command of the entire army. He remained in the regular discharge of its arduous duties, almost uninterruptedly, for several years. He took part, however, in the discussion of various public topics that arose during this period, and became in 1844, as he had been in 1839, a

prominent candidate for the Presidency. But we are compelled to omit all notice of this part of his history, for we have but narrow limits in which to recount those stirring and eventful scenes belonging to his career in Mexico, which have crowned his life and his fame with a wreath of unfading glory.

#### War with Mexico.

The peace of the country, after having been long menaced by the state of our relations with Mexico, was at length broken by an unexpected collision, and we found ourselves plunged into open war with that country. In May, 1846, the Mexican forces were suddenly precipitated in large numbers upon the little army of General Taylor, who had command of our forces

on the Rio Grande. That distinguished veteran astonished and electrified the country by the indomitable valor he displayed in repulsing the enemy, and in winning, in swift succession, the two battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. On the 24th of November following, General Scott left Washington for the theatre of hostilities, charged with the command and direc-

\* Colonel Scott and Lieutenant-colonel Harvey were, in the campaign of 1813, the adjutant-generals of the opposing armies in Upper Canada. They were often brought into contact, and both being men of chivalric nature, their acquaintance finally ripened into warm mutual friendship. Once, when reconnoitering and skirmishing, Scott contrived, as he thought, to cut off his daring opponent from the possibility of retreat. In an

instant an American rifle was levelled at him. Scott struck up the deadly weapon with his sword, crying out, "Hold! he is our prisoner." But Harvey, putting spurs to his horse, by a dexterous and intrepid leap, escaped under a shower of balls to reappear in the following campaign a formidable opponent of his magnanimous antagonist on the bloody fields of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane.

tion of our arms in that quarter. He reached the Rio Grande on the 1st of January, 1847. Santa Anna, the commander of the Mexican army, lay at San Luis Potosi, midway between the Rio Grande and the city of Mexico, at the head of 22,000 men. General Taylor had now crossed the river and advanced to Saltillo, about 150 miles towards San Luis Potosi. He had under his command a force of 18,000 troops, that occupied the line connecting his advanced position at Saltillo, with the Rio Grande at Camargo. On his arrival, General Scott divided this force, leaving 10,000 men under General Taylor, and taking the remainder with him to Vera Cruz by sea. Other troops had meantime been concentrated in the vicinity of Vera Cruz, to the number of 4000.

The whole force was combined at the Island of Lobos, and from that point the squadron, having on

board 12,000 men, set sail; General Scott, in the steamship Massachusetts, leading the van. As his steamer passed through the fleet, his tall form, conspicuous above every other, attracted the eyes of soldiers and sailors. Warmed by feelings of patriotic admiration of the hero in command, and fired by the enthusiasm which the occasion and the scene were so well calculated to inspire, they gave vent to their emotions in one spontaneous cheer, that burst simultaneously from every vessel, and echoed and rang along the whole line. Brilliantly decked with flags, and covered with an animated host whose arms flashed in the sun, the ships seemed to move in exulting consciousness of their burden; and flinging the spray from their prows, gallantly dashed forward to the point of debarkation.

#### Landing at Vera Cruz.

The fleet having arrived before Vera Cruz, and all preparations being completed, on the 9th of March, a little before sunset, the landing of this armament, destined for the reduction of one of the most formidable defences in the world, commenced. With such admirable judgment had the enterprise been planned, and with such consummate skill was it executed, un-

der the immediate superintendence of the commander-in-chief, that before ten o'clock at night the troops had all been landed in perfect safety, with all their arms and accoutrements, without the slightest accident or the loss of a single life; an achievement almost unparalleled in a military operation of such magnitude.

#### Siege and Capture of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa.



Bombardment of Vera Cruz.

In three days the army and the fleet had taken up their positions, and invested both the city and the castle, preparatory to their bombardment and siege. Our lines of circummvallation were five miles in length,