

Hd. Ser. Army of occupation

Campbefno, Monterey

Sept. 25, 1846

Z. Taylor

Majr. Genl. Comd.

No-91

Reports the operations
of the evening and night
of the 23rd, and the ar-
rangements resulting in
the capitulation of
Monterey. Deaths of
Capt. Williams & Lt. Tennett
Capt. Gatlin wounded.

Oct. 11, 1846.
(Monday Night)

General Zachary Taylor's
report of the death of
Capt. Williams at Monterey,
Mexico, 21st Sept. 1846

MS
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No. 91

Head Quarters Army of Occupations
Camp before Monterey, Sept. 25th, 1846

Sir,

At noon on the 23rd inst. while our troops were closely engaged in the lower front of the City, as reported in my last despatch, I received by a flag, a communication from the Governor of the State of New Leon, which is herewith enclosed (No. 1). To this communication I deemed it my duty to return an answer declining to allow the inhabitants to leave the City. By eleven o'clock P. M. and the 2nd Division, which had entered the town from the direction of the Bishop's Palace, had advanced within one square of the Principal Plaza and occupied the City up to that point. The mortar had in the meantime been placed in battery in the cemetery, within good range of the heart of the town and was served throughout the night with good effect.

Early in the morning of the 24th I received a flag from the town bearing a communication from General Ampudia which I enclose (No. 2), and to which I returned the answer (No. 3). I also arranged with the bearer of the flag, a cessation of fire until 12 o'clock which hour I appointed to receive the final answer of General Ampudia at General Worth's Head Quarters. Before the appointed time however, General Ampudia had signified to Genr. Worth, his desire for a personal interview with me for the purpose of making some definitive arrangement. An interview was accordingly appointed for one o'clock, and resulted in the naming of a commission to draw up

articles of agreement regulating the withdrawal of the Mexican forces and a temporary cessation of hostilities. The Commissioners named by the Mexican General in Chief were Generals Antega and Roquena and D. Manr. M. Slano, Governor of Leon; those named on the American side were General Worth, General Henderson, Governor of Texas, and Col. Davis, Mississippi Volunteers. The Commission finally settled upon the articles, of which I enclose a copy (No. 4) the duplicate of which (in Spanish and English) have been duly signed. Agreeably to the provisions of the 4th article our troops have this morning occupied the Citadel.

It will be seen that the terms granted the Mexican garrison are less rigorous than those first imposed. The gallant defence of the town, and the fact of a recent change of Government in Mexico, believed to be favorable to the interests of peace, induced me to concur with the Commission in these terms, which will trust, receive the approval of the Government. The latter consideration also prompted the convention for a temporary cessation of hostilities. Though scarcely warranted by my instructions, yet the changes of affairs since those instructions were issued seemed to warrant this course. I beg to be advised as early as practicable whether I have met the views of the Government in these particulars.

I regret to report that Capt. Williams Top. Engs. and Lt. Tennett, 1st Infantry, have died of the wounds received in the engagement of the 21st. Capt. Gutlin, 7th Infantry, was wounded (not badly) on the 23rd.

I am, Sir, Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

Z. Taylor, Major Genl.
U. S. A. Comd.

The Adjutant General
Of the Army,
Washington
D. C.