

of which were 5 Colonels, 3 Lieutenant-Colonels, 2 Second Lieutenant-Colonels, 7 Captains, 1 Cadet; prisoners, 730; President-General Santa Anna, General Cos, 4 Colonels, (Aids to General Santa Anna), and the Colonel of the Guerrero Battallion, are included in the number. General Santa Anna was not taken until the 22d, and General Cos on yesterday, very few having escaped. About 600 muskets, 300 sabres, and 200 pistols, have been collected since the action; several hundred mules and horses were taken, and near twelve thousand dollars in specie. For several days previous to the action, our troops were engaged in forced marches, exposed to excessive rains, and the additional inconvenience of extremely bad roads, illy supplied with rations and clothing; yet, amid every difficulty, they bore up with cheerfulness and fortitude, and performed their marches with spirit and alacrity. There was no murmuring.

Previous to and during the action, my staff evinced every disposition to be useful, and were actively engaged in their duties. In the conflict, I am assured that they demeaned themselves in such a manner as proved them worthy members of the army of San Jacinto. Colonel T. J. Rusk, Secretary of War, was on the field. For weeks his services had been highly beneficial to the army; in battle he was on the left wing, where Colonel Sherman's command first encountered and drove the enemy; he bore himself gallantly, and continued his efforts and activity, remaining with the pursuers until resistance ceased.

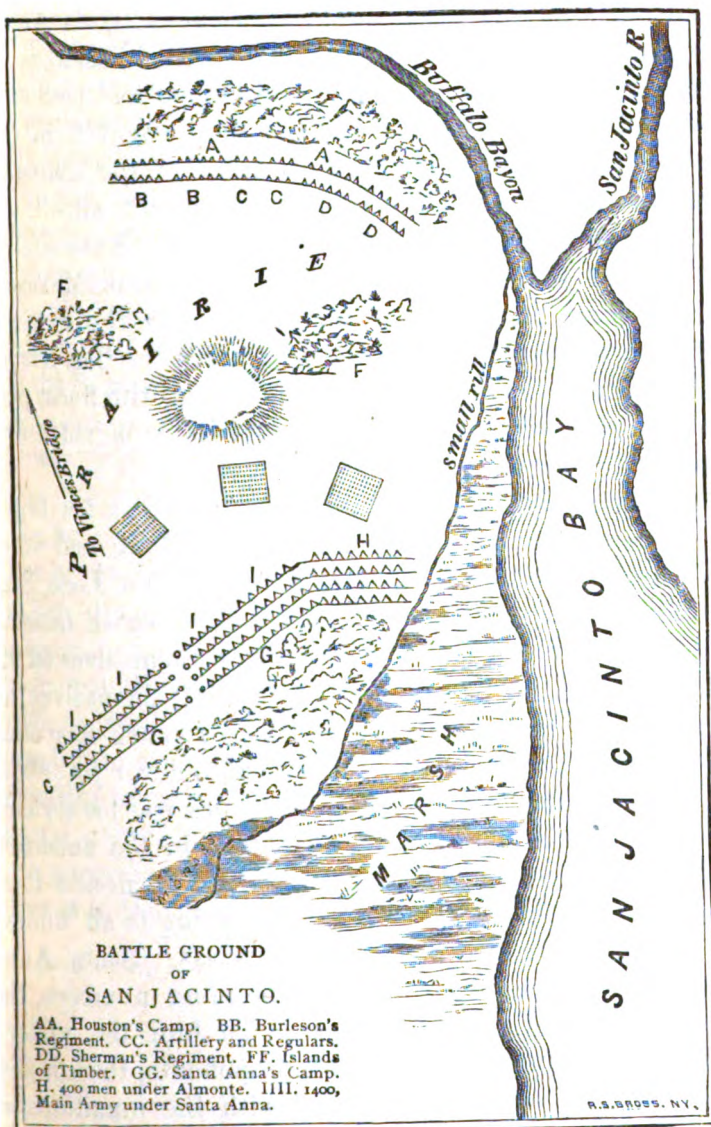
I have the honor of transmitting herewith a list of all the officers and men who were engaged in the action, which I respectfully request may be published, as an act of justice to the individuals. For the Commanding General to attempt discrimination as to the conduct of those who commanded in the action, or those who were commanded, would be impossible. Our success in the action is conclusive proof of their daring intrepidity and courage; every officer and man proved himself worthy of the cause in which he battled, while the triumph received a lustre from the humanity which characterized their conduct after victory, and richly entitles them to the admiration and gratitude of their General. Nor should we withhold the tribute of our grateful thanks from that Being who rules the destinies of nations, and has in the time of greatest need enabled us to arrest a powerful invader whilst devastating our country.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration, your obedient servant,

SAM. HOUSTON,

*Commander-in-Chief.*

The Texas campaign of 1836 furnishes one of the most interesting and remarkable chapters in American history. The population of the province amounted to only a little over 30,000; that of Mexico to over 7,000,000. Texas could hardly be said to have an organized government. It was disturbed by divided counsels, and under the control of distrusted leaders, and was destitute of money and credit,



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and of quartermasters' or commissary stores. The Government of Mexico was a centralized despotism ; completely controlled by the brave and experienced Santa Anna. The opening of the campaign was fearfully disastrous to the Texan cause. San Antonio and Goliad had been captured, and the massacre of all the men engaged in the defense of these posts furnished an index of the character of Santa Anna; and it was such as might appall the bravest, and dishearten the most hopeful. Successfully, and without serious resistance, the victorious Mexicans marched from San Antonio and Goliad, to the extreme eastern borders of Austin's colony, crossing the Guadalupe, the Colorado, and the Brazos rivers, leaving the finest portions of Texas without inhabitants, and its principal towns smouldering ruins.

Notwithstanding these disheartening events, a few brave men, under Houston, Sherman, Burleson, Rusk and other heroic leaders, rallied around the flag of the Lone Star Republic, fully resolved to keep it afloat or perish beneath its folds. By forced marches they threw themselves on the flank of the foe, burned the bridge, and left themselves no alternative but victory or death. The remark has often been made that the soldiers of San Jacinto never jest about the events of that decisive day. The work was too serious. The fate of Texas and the Texans hung in too uncertain balance ; and then and there they resolved to decide it at the cost of their blood and lives. According to all human calculations their cause was all but hopeless. Santa Anna had the heavy battallions, the overwhelming numbers, the veteran commanders and troops. To him the victory ought to have been easy. But his opponents, though few in number, and but poorly supplied with the munitions of war, were simply invincible.

The student of history is often led to the conclusion that a superintending Providence guides the affairs of nations. It was manifestly the design of that Providence that Amer-

ican ideas, and institutions, and people, should possess and develop the resources of this splendid country.

Though the numbers engaged in the battle of San Jacinto were insignificant when compared with other great battles, the result was important. It secured immediately the establishment of the Republic of Texas ; and ultimately its annexation to the United States. Upon this followed the war with Mexico, and the transfer of the vast interior region, from the Rio Grande to the Pacific ocean, from the Mexican to the American flag, thus changing the map of North America.

Again, without the acquisition of Texas it is hardly probable the Southern States would have ventured upon the experiment of secession ; the result of which was the great civil war, and finally the emancipation of four millions of slaves ; thus materially changing the whole labor system of the South.

For over a century Texas had been under Spanish and Mexican domination, and with the exception of colonists introduced mainly by American enterprise during the last decade, population had steadily diminished. Since that period, in less than half a century our population has increased from a few thousands, to two millions, with a corresponding increase in wealth, commerce, products, and the means of moral and intellectual culture. Who can doubt that a super-human wisdom and power guided the affairs of Texas in that critical period of her history ?