

Simeon Locke Doggett [1846]:
THOUGHTS ON THE BATTLES OF PALO ALTO

Racaca De La Palma.

Illustrious in the annals of our history, glorious to our fame, splendid beyond expectation, joyous to the hearts of every patriot are the achievements of the 8th & 9th.

How courageous our little army fought, what deeds of valour they have achieved, what coolness, fortitude and bravery, our officers have displayed.

Honor to General Taylor & his warlike band, let the laurel wreath be twined around the forehead of the defender of his country, the gainer of her victories; let the modern bard chant forth his war in soul-stirring heroic song, & unborn millions think in time to come with gratitude of him.

Let the tear of sorrow be shed for the departed Ringold. He is gone! for his country he died he lost his life for to preserve the honour and safety of this free land; may the generations to come scatter roses and lilies over the warrior's grave. Yet while we grieve for this irraparable loss we can also rejoice that he did not die as a fool dieth he died the death of a true warrior

Rejoice all ye lovers of freedom give 3 cheers for May, the gallant May, who dashed forward against a formidable battery & drove the enemy from his fire

Praise to Captain May, who re [sic: a space] the enemy within 240 feet of his guns & honour and glory to May, the capturer of La Vega

But when emotions of gratitude like these swell the breast of Americans let them not forget the unfortunate Brown Porter & Page inges [?]

[The MS stops here. Since Simeon evidently had the habit of copying out his effusions, he must simply have run out of steam, since obviously, he had much much more to say. What a character! How bellicose his nature seems to have been. Those Doggetts of yore were no mincing cowards. Cuba, Las Vegas, the abolitization of africa's coast -- what next?]