



Texas Navy Association

Historical Article



By Express Mail New Orleans, April 24.—

The Mexican fleet is having its own way in the Gulf of Mexico. The squadron consists of the *Vincidor del Alamo*, *General Teran*, *Libertade*, *Genl. Warren*, all brigs of war, and the *Genl. Hidalgo*, an armed schooner. The Mexican fleet had captured the schooner *Vigilant*, from New Orleans for Matagorda, laden with arms and ammunition, and sent her to Matamoras.

From the Bee.

Capture and Recapture.—The *schr. Louisiana*, J. C. Pierce, master, of and from New Orleans, bound to Matagorda in Texas, in latitude 28 35, on the coast of Texas, 'was brought to and boarded, April 4, by the Mexican squadron, consisting of three brigs under the command of Commodore Lopez. The papers of the *Louisiana* were called for and delivered to the boarding officer; at the same time they brought to and boarded an American schooner from Mobile bound to Matagorda, loaded with lumber. The passengers of the *Louisiana*, five in number, were requested to get out their baggage in readiness to go on board the (lumber

schooner, as she permitted to proceed, and the boats of the squadron accordingly took them on board said schooner, and she made- sail. A prize crew was put on board the *Louisiana*, and she was ordered to Brassos St Jago. On the 8th, arrived off that port and came to anchor near a Mexican brig of war, which was at anchor. The pilot came on board and reported not sufficient water on the bar. On the 8th, at 7 A. M., a ship of war hove in sight, which proved to be the U. S. ship of war *Natchez*, Capt. Mervine, and came to anchor near us, and sent a boat on board the Mexican brig of war. As the boat of the *Natchez* was passing under the stern of the *Louisiana*, the officer inquired if there was any thing new, and was answered the *Louisiana* had been captured and ordered to this port. The boat returned to the *Natchez*, and the lieutenant afterwards came on board to learn the particulars; he ordered the master on board the *Natchez*, and the facts of the case being made known to Captain Mervine, he ordered the *Louisiana* to be taken charge of, and the Mexican prize crew to be sent on board the brig of war. At 4 P. M. a crew from the *Natchez*

took possession and remained till the 10th. At 6 in the evening a boat came from the *Natchez* with a Certificate, and at the same time ordered the *Louisiana* to be got under way. The men from the *Natchez* returned to their ship, which got under way—at 7 P. M. she came up and ordered the *Louisiana* to remain near her. At half past 2 A. M. the officer of the deck ordered us to continue, and she tacked ship and stood in shore.

The master and crew of the *Louisiana* were treated with the utmost politeness by the officers of the *Natchez*, as well as by the officers of the Mexican squadron.

On the 15th, in lat. 28 50, long. 92 25, was boarded by a boat from the Texan armed schooner *Tom Toby*, Capt. Hoyt, and treated politely.

The schooner *Champion* was captured by the Mexican squadron on the 3d, and sent into Brassos St. Jago, where she arrived on the 7th and got over the bar, and lay there when the *Louisiana* left.

Army and Navy Chronicle, Volumes 4-5
Editor Benjamin Homans; Publisher T. Barnard, Washington City, 1837 May 4, 1837
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