

Agua Nueva 20 miles in
front of Saltillo

Feb^y 8th-47

Dear Henry

You tell me in your acceptable letter of the 31st December which I received on the same day that we left Saltillo, that all my friends are complaining that they do not receive answers from me to the letters that they have been good enough to write to me. I regret that this has been the case and still more the cause that I have not had the pleasure of receiving their letters.

I am pleased to learn that you spent your Xmas holiday in Louisville. Nothing gives me more pleasure than to learn that my children are happy. You will find my dear child that true happiness consists not a little in the discharge of duties and the observance of by-laws and proper restraints. I trust you will conform rigidly to the rules of your school and the directions of your uncle James and Aunt Susan.

I wrote to your uncle William a few days ago. At that time every thing looked a battle, but a day or two afterwards Genl Taylor arrived and since then things have assumed a more pacific aspect. Taylor's name in the field like that of all successful Genls is a tower of strength. It is probable too that other causes induced Santa Anna to withdraw his troops from this quarter.