Everything

Today in History - May 8

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Victory At Palo Alto

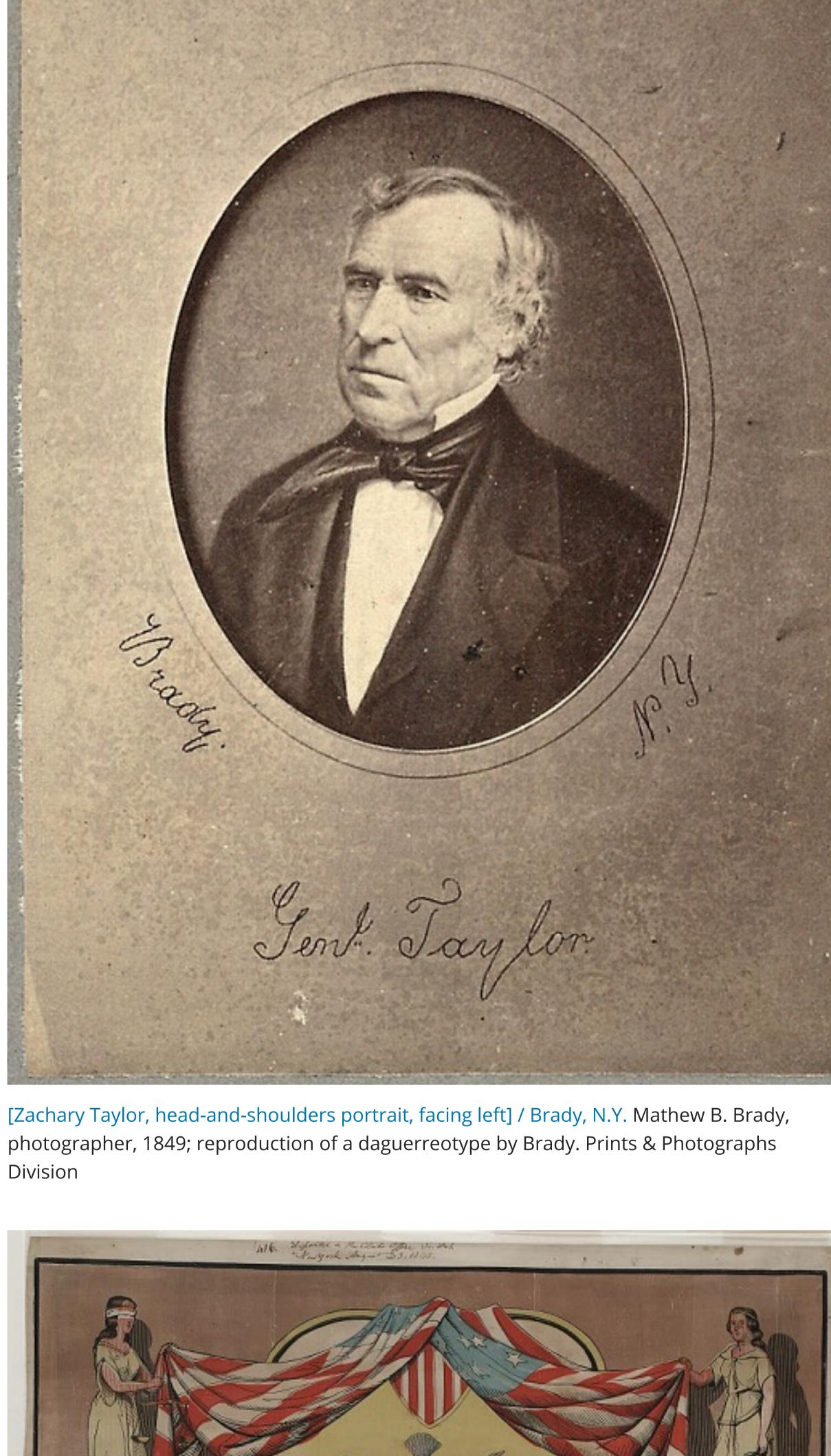
On May 8, 1846, General Zachary Taylor defeated a detachment of the Mexican army in a

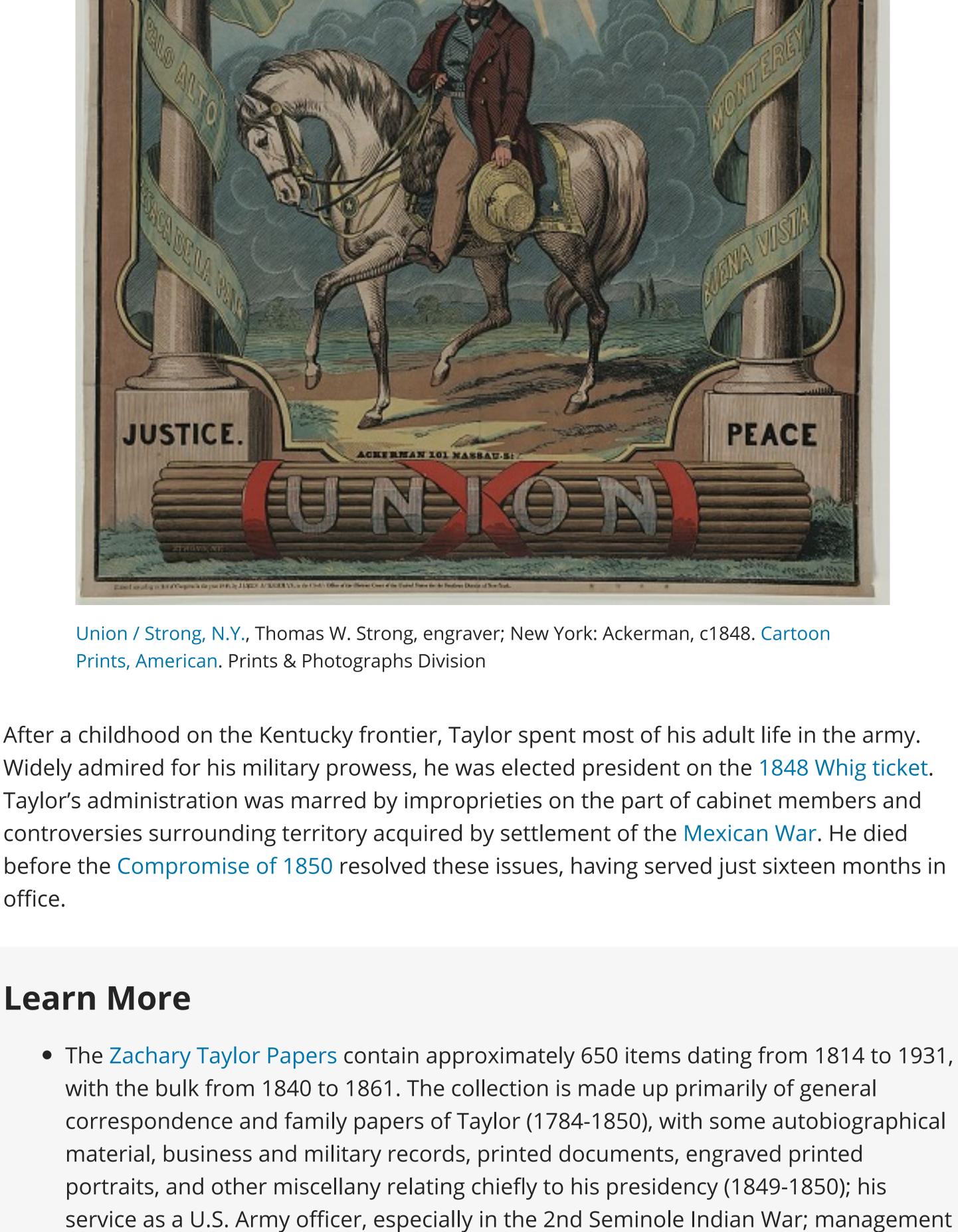
President James K. Polk, General Taylor led American forces on to brilliant victories at Monterrey and Buena Vista.

two-day battle at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. This victory forced Mexican troops across

invasion. Five days later, the United States declared war against Mexico. At the direction of

the Rio Grande River to Matamoros, protecting the newly annexed state of Texas from





office.

• Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music ca. 1820-1860 contains more than forty items relating to Zachary Taylor from marches celebrating military victories to music

(funeral dirges, songs, and marches) composed on the occasion of his death.

• Search the collections of Prints, Photos, Drawings to find more than one hundred

Zachary Taylor: A Resource Guide compiles links to digital materials related to Taylor

such as manuscripts, letters, broadsides, government documents, and images that are

War that are available throughout the Library of Congress Web site.

• A Guide to the Mexican War compiles links to digital materials related to the Mexican

of his plantations; and settlement of his estate.

available throughout the Library of Congress Web site.

images related to Zachary Taylor.

includes cocaine, as well as the caffeine-rich kola nut.

We Ought To Serve A Little Something.

Any Coca-Cola 'Round Here?

Manuscript Division

Our French

drinks, and fast food restaurants came to the fore.

Coca-Cola Dr. John S. Pemberton, a pharmacist and inventor of patent medicines, sold the first Coca-Cola on May 8, 1886, at Jacob's Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. Pemberton's bookkeeper, Frank Robinson, coined the name and it is his handwriting we recognize as the Coca-Cola trademark. Originally marketed as a tonic, the drink contained extracts of coca leaf, which

"A Happy Family." Rev. T.A. Snyder, interviewee; Mattie Jones, interviewer; West Columbia, SC,

1939. American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940.

the turn of the century, the drink was sold across the United States and Canada. Around the same time, the company began selling syrup to independent bottling companies licensed to sell the drink. Even today, the U.S. soft-drink industry is organized on this principle.

Until the 1960s, both small town and big city dwellers enjoyed carbonated beverages at the

local soda fountain or ice cream parlor. Often housed in the drug store, the soda fountain

counters, the soda fountain declined in popularity as commercial ice cream, bottled soft

counter served as a meeting place for people of all ages. Often combined with lunch

Drink Coca-Cola 5 cents. [189-]. Popular Graphic Arts. Prints & Photographs Division

By the late 1890s, Coca-Cola was one of America's most popular fountain drinks. With

another Atlanta pharmacist, Asa Griggs Candler, at the helm, The Coca-Cola Company's

servings of the beverage increased from one million to one hundred million between 1890

and 1900. Advertising was an important factor in Pemberton and Candler's success, and by

Soda Fountain☑. ca. 1900. Runyon (Robert) Photograph Collection☑. Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas/Austin PAUSE...DRINK

Natchez, Miss.. Marion Post Wolcott, photographer, August 1940. Farm Security

Advertising in America: 1850-1920. • Ice cream sodas or floats are one way to enjoy Coca-Cola and another American

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of the impact of Coca-Cola on society.

favorite, ice cream. Read the Today in History feature on the ice cream cone, a treat that vaulted to popularity after being sold at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.

Reminders to drink Coca-Cola dot the landscape as seen in photos of outdoor

advertising found in the Duke University Libraries collection Emergence of

• Use Thomas Jefferson's Recipe for Vanilla Ice Cream available via the exhibit American Treasures of the Library of Congress. Explore additional resources about ice cream compiled by the Library's Science Reference Services.

• Prefer something a little stronger with your soda? Learn to sing and play Charles E.

the Nation: American Sheet Music, ca. 1870 to 1885.

May 8

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May 8

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Pratt's arrangement of the 1871 homage "Soda and B," part of the collection Music for

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