a bitter crew if he sacrificed half his men. But May took the pieces with the loss of 14 men. Many individual acts of bravery were performed which I am not able to relate, the members of our staff are said to have attended to their duties with the most admirable coolness. The result of the struggle was a complete rout of the Mexicans, the capture of all their artillery, i.e. 9 or 10 pieces, of several thousand stand of arms, some escape, horses, mules, wagons, etc., and the loss of at least 5000, killed & wounded left on the field, probably as many more carried over to Matamoras. This victory, all circumstances considered, reflects the highest credit on our arms. Our loss killed and wounded cannot exceed 150, our Army was 1700 strong, 400 of whom composing the Artilleria Punta were not engaged the second day. Austin’s force amounted to at least 6000, and he chose his own positions on both occasions. For many reasons the Boz Петр battle of San Jacinto bears no just comparison to it. In the first place the distance was not nearly so great. Secondly San Jacinto was not a battle for there was no struggle; the Mexican Army fell into an ambush and was routed without resistance, while in the present instance they made several stands & were supported by artillery. Finally, the were embarrassed with an immense train of guard which sales as a reserve 400 men were detached.
This reducing our actual fighting numbers to 1300. I take scarcely time to say a word concerning the effect which this victory may produce upon the political relations of the two countries.

Gen. Taylor went yesterday to Isabel, it is expected back to-night. Whether he will commence operations immediately against Matamoreas, or wait for reinforcements is uncertain. He will bring up two mortars, & some 12pdr. for the Fort, I in my own opinion had better push his success without delay. What is to become of me I cannot say, as I am not attached to any regiment. True for personal matters, all more interesting subjects hardly been discussed. As you may suppose, I cannot but feel some degree of disappointment at not having been engaged in the battle—but my hope is by no means put in the first place. The defence of our Fort is considered as in the highest degree creditable. In the heat, my chief reason for desiring to be present in a battle is to derive instruction (from those in military science) in the present case; nothing has to be learned in the chapel, only an inconsiderable portion of the Army could be viewed at any one time. Lastly, any experience in my own appropriate profession was at least equal to that of any Sargent in the field. Then at the depot for the reception of the wounded may have more. In conclusion, I myself began one work in the field of battle, and end of us having a man to hold a light during a camp
toiled, operated during the whole night, extracting balls, draining wounds, amputating cases for amputation. The Mexican wounded were put under our charge. And
I saw a Colonel of Zapadores shot through head, hand, palate, tongue, & the ball emerging from lower jaw which it had inflicted. Young Buck, a handsome young Captain with compound fracture of thigh from grape shot, shocking wound in abdomen, a buck shot just below the elbow. Nearly for each case some
much more we attended to during the night. Some amputations were needed & Dr. Madison & myself opened to operate. Next morning in the presence of our august Medical Director, two or three Surgeons & a number of Officers of rank, I prepared to perform my first amputation.

The number of critics present was not calculated on.

Keep me cool & the subject being an officer, the responsibility was great. I have no desire to boast but can say with truth that my hand was perfectly free from tremor, & my constitution.

The Medical Director complimented my operation. The same day I took off a thigh bone nearly up to the hip joint, & being then relieved by two Mexican Surgeons who came free to attend to their sick, was directed to return to the Fort where I am.

And if not been relieved, I should have performed several other amputations, but it is as well for I was utterly exhausted & could scarcely sit up. I must
mention while I think of it that Capt. Robinson was killed in the action... Sister mentioned him in her letter.
Which I recd yesterday. The post for a few days since.
I am returning to Philadelphia & hearing that my health is not very good. I am writing to you in my own hand. I received your letter of the 3rd. It is after Ten o'clock when I wrote you. I shall go very early in the morning. If at any time you do not hear from me feel no anxiety as our communications may at any time be cut by the enemy. Trust in God for me as I always do by you. I remember how delightful it is to have your friendship.

Andrew M. Lewis
Philadelphia

My health is now very good a trifle far from doing me any harm. I am very much. My horse has turned out to be very good. He has an easy trot. I have not seen him since property. One day I went to the sick bed. It seemed that he would die. It to day I am improving. Thanks to my dear wife for her letter it was most grateful to me. This date Apr. 13th. If I am able I will write you again.