

General William Walker in New Orleans

General Walker publishes, in the New Orleans papers, a note addressed to Senator SLIDELL:

New Orleans, Saturday, April 27, 1858.

Sir: I have read a printed copy of your speech, delivered in the Senate on the 8th inst., sent to a gentleman of this city under your frank. It is, therefore, a copy, I presume, approved by yourself.

In that speech you take occasion to assail my public character. You industriously disclaim any intention to asperse my private reputation, and I am, therefore, obliged to consider your language concerning me as used in a political sense, and for political purposes.

Considered in this light, justice to the cause I represent compels me to say that your speech, so far as it relates to my acts, is a tissue of mis-statements, and that its imputations are as false as its facts are groundless.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WALKER.

The Hon. JOHN SLIDELL.

The 27th ultimo was the day fixed for the trial of General Walker, Captains Frank Anderson, West and McMichael, and Lieut Balcher, in the United States Circuit Court at New Orleans, on the indictment for violation of the neutrality laws. The Crescent says:

"The defendants were all present, with their counsel, Mr. Soule, and ready for trial; but the Court was not ready. Judge McCaleb stated that as Judge Campbell, who would have to sit in the case, was at Washington, he would have to continue the case indefinitely, but he believed that Judge Campbell would be back by the fourth Monday in May, and that the case would be taken up without further delay.

Gen. Walker addressed the Court for himself and comrades, stating that they would like to have some particular day fixed, that they might know how to govern themselves in their private business affairs, which called them out of town. He stated that the case, hanging over them, as at present, in an indefinite manner, prevented them from moving about, and subjected them to great inconvenience and expense; that he believed the case had assumed more of a political than a judicial aspect, the United States District Attorney himself having stated that he had no hope of procuring a conviction. The General concluded by asking the Judge to fix the case on some particular day.

The District Attorney, Mr. Seaman, was "brought up all standing" by the General's remarks. He immediately addressed the Court, expressing his surprise that a chance expression which dropped from him in private conversation should thus be brought up in Court, and that, so far from his holding no hope of conviction, he did think that there was enough internal evidence to convict the defendants, though public opinion might have great influence upon the Jury.

After further discussion, and with the agreement of the District Attorney, and Mr. Soule, the case was continued to the fourth Monday in May, with the understanding that if Judge Campbell should arrive and be ready for trial, sooner, the defendants should be fairly apprised of the fact in time. The defendants departed, under a renewal of their previous bonds."