



Fire was immediately opened upon her from two or three guns on board, and a lucky shot disabled one of her paddle-wheels, when she became an easy prey. Colonel LOCKRIDGE's command had surrounded Fort Castillo, and all hands anticipated a speedy surrender.

The Costa Ricans, our informant says, left nothing to speak of behind, in the way of clothing and provisions, except a little rice, and a number of pairs of white duck trousers ornamented with a red stripe; this under-rigging had formerly belonged to General WALKER's Commissariat, but fell into the hands of the Costa Ricans when they gained possession of the San Juan river. One of the onomy was found in the fort when LOCKRIDGE's men entered it; being severely wounded in the leg; he had been left behind by his comrades. He gave information that the Costa Ricans had sustained a loss during the attack of 7 killed and 20 wounded. In giving some account of himself he stated that he had formerly labored in a silver mine, and had been impressed into the service to drive Gen. WALKER and his associates out of the country; he had consented to fight only from a fear of being garrotted, should he refuse. His greatest wonder seemed to be that he was not immediately hung on the nearest tree; as all accounts had represented the Filibusters a band of blood-thirsty villains, giving no quarter, and roasting all they didn't choose to hang. The poor Costa Rican was not only relieved from intense fear, but was highly pleased with the lenient treatment he received, and declared that he would never again undertake to fight against Gen. WALKER's cause.

Our informant was one of a scouting-party of 10 men sent out to track the retiring Costa Ricans, directly after the fort was taken. Liout. MORAY, late of this City, an artist—made a Lieutenant by Captain FAENUM—was put in command. They followed the trail about six miles along the Serapiqui river, and at a distance of half a mile from Serapiqui found huts, showing that the enemy while holding the fort had kept pickets out in that as well as other directions, to avoid surprise. In one of these huts the body of a Costa Rican was found, who had evidently died from wounds received and been left behind by his party. At different points two minié-rifles and 10 flint-lock muskets were found, apparently thrown away by the fugitives to facilitate flight. After penetrating a distance of six miles through the brushwood with the mud in many places knee-deep, the party returned to the fort.

RYAN's account of what he saw and experienced during his short stay in Nicaragua is not exactly *couleur de rose*. It rained, he said, about half the time, and that was what they pretended to call the dry season. As to food, the men at Serapiqui had a plenty of ham, biscuit, beans, rice, &c., but they were less happily off for clothing. He himself was not indebted to WALKER's Commissariat for a shirt, and, though he made application for a pair of the white pants before mentioned, failed to get one, as he understood they had been previously distributed to some of his fellows. Even a blue shirt, of which a few were to be had at one time, he was unable to make himself master of, and was compelled to get along as best he could without a change of raiment. Add to this, sleeping on logs and the ground without a blanket, being on guard at night pretty often, and laboring hard during the day, soon gave him a dislike of Nicaragua and Nicaraguan life.

Immediately after the fort was taken, he says, it was found necessary to repair the fortification and remount the guns. The enemy had left the place in so filthy a condition that it took two days to clean it out. The officers fare rather better, Colonel ANDERSON occupied a thatched cottage about 30 yards distant from the walls, formerly the quarters of the Costa Rican Commandant of the fort.

After scrutinizing the elephant without glasses and to his heart's content, RYAN found himself ready to retire from the service, though he still liked the cause, and would espouse it again, he says, under more auspicious circumstances. As good luck would have it, he was dispatched to Greytown with others on board the *Rescue* for provisions and munitions, when the commander of the British squadron sent an officer and boat's crew to demand the discharge of any subjects of Her Majesty, who might happen to be on board. Six besides himself claimed the protection of the officer, and were accordingly taken off from the *Rescue*. He remained in Greytown until the departure of the British steamer *Clyde*, in which vessel he was conveyed to Aspinwall, and thence reached this City by the *Tennessee*. RYAN's wardrobe had not been at all improved when we saw him yesterday, since he left Serapiqui.

#### Interesting Statements from Miscellaneous Sources—Condition of Walker's Army.

An intelligent Californian, who was a passenger by the *Sierra Nevada*, says there were about 75 recruits for WALKER from California landed at San Juan del Sur on the 6th of March. Some half-dozen of these recruits stowed themselves away on reaching San Juan, and thus escaped from enlistment in the army.

A train of pack mules, with provisions, wine, &c., intended for WALKER, started out of San Juan del Sur on the 5th or 6th, and were met by a force of Costa Ricans, who captured all the pack mules, and killed six of the party, when they fell back upon the town, and waited for the reinforcement from the *Sierra Nevada*.

As soon as the recruits were landed, they were put under a short drill of about an hour on the beach, and were then sent off in company with an escort that had made the previous unsuccessful attempt to open the road to Rivas; it was supposed this squad would find business in their line in two or three hours' travel, as the Allies were posted along the road, for the purpose of intercepting reinforcements and supplies. On the 7th, just as the steamer sailed from San Juan, it was currently reported that the Allies had made three attacks upon WALKER's position in force, and that they had been repulsed with a loss of from four or five hundred men, whilst WALKER did not lose a man! The Allies had drawn off, retreating to San Gorge, two miles from Rivas, where their force was variously estimated from 800 to 1,500 men. There was no definite information from the Atlantic side, and all they knew of the operations on the river was what had been brought up from Panama by the previous steamer. It was quite certain that LOCKRIDGE had not effected a passage up to the Lake, as it was admitted the two steamers on the Lake were still in possession of the enemy, and no change in that direction had taken place.

Mr. JEWETT, of San Francisco, who came passenger in the *Sierra Nevada* and *Tennessee*, had an interview with Mr. PIERCE, the American Consul (of the Walker Government) at San Juan, on the day of their arrival, who represented WALKER's position as unchanged; that he was strongly fortified at Rivas, and only wanting supplies of men and munitions to hold his own, and ultimately to conquer the country. The 75 recruits, with stores and arms, had been dispatched to Rivas, and if they succeeded in fighting their way through, would make an important addition to his strength. But the truth is, Mr. JEWETT says, that WALKER is undoubtedly in a very serious position, though he thinks he will maintain himself.

A prominent *attaché* of Walker's Government, who came by the *Tennessee*, and who prefers that his name should not appear, left Rivas in company with a small party on the 4th inst., at which time every thing remained as at previous accounts; WALKER was occupying Rivas, not fortified, as he does not believe in fortifications, but ready to repel attacks, which at the last resort are done with the bayonet, a kind of exercise not relished by the allied army, and which cannot be induced to fight as a general thing, except behind adobe walls. WALKER's effective force on the 4th of March was about 700 men; the total number, including those in hospitals, being about 1,100.

Gen. WALKER takes all his reverses philosophically. Nothing disturbs, surprises or alarms him. He keeps up all the routine of Government; convening regularly his constitutional advisers, conferring with them upon all important movements, and everything moving on with the utmost precision. He says he has force of character sufficient to carry himself and those associated with him through any crisis, and he will maintain himself in his present position as long as there is anything to eat within ten or twenty miles of the town. All the tropical fruits are found in luxurious abundance, plantains are rotting on the ground, and he cannot be starved out. Without the aid of reinforcements, however, his position must be stationary. He sends out foraging parties two and three times a day, which find no trouble in getting all they require. Notwithstanding the rainy season is over, and the sickly season has returned, the country is healthy, intermittent fever and fever and ague being the only prevailing diseases peculiar to the climate

Excesses in eating and drinking, and the irregular habits of the recruits, carry off some of them, but these are not chargeable to the climate, which he describes as the finest in the world.

The old adobe dwellings in which the soldiers are quartered he considers decidedly unhealthy, as they are filled with vermin and filth. Lizards, centipedes, and tarantulas also run riot through them.

The mass of the natives regard the operations of WALKER, and also of the allied forces against him, with the most sublime indifference, apparently caring little which succeeds. They are generally ready to do anything if not required to fight, as they have been engaged in that business for thirty-five years, as the tools of contending factions, without any perceptible benefit, they have been disgusted with it. WALKER, understanding this feeling, does not require them to take up arms. On the contrary, the allies carry an wholesale conscription. Their method is to visit a Hacienda, and seizing all the males, they tie their arms behind them, and march them off to join their ranks; the consequence is they take no interest in the contest going on, they fight with no spirit, and desert in squads when the first opportunity offers.

The allies have intelligent and able commanders among them, German, French, and even American: there are, also, some well educated native leaders. If WALKER is driven out, (which he don't believe he will be) there will be the most horrible excesses practiced that were ever known of in any country. So he thinks WALKER is very severe on deserters, which he says is the only way an army could be kept together; if full opportunity were given the foreigners, most of them would no doubt desert, as matters now are, but the Americans would not. He gives the following instance of WALKER's mode of treating deserters. Four stragglers were found on the road to Costa Rica; they were all arrested, and carried before WALKER, among them was a Frenchman, who was showing them the road, and assisting them on the way; he was examined, found guilty and shot on the Plaza in an hour; but the others were given a lighter punishment, and saved for the ranks.

#### THE RUMORED ATTACK ON RIVAS.

On the day the *Sierra Nevada* sailed from San Juan, it was currently reported that the Allies had made a night attack upon WALKER's position; the whole force charging first up the street on which the ordnance department is situated, but they were here met by a murderous discharge of cannister and round shot from a six and a four-pounder, which drove them back. They then charged a strong position at the rear of the town, where they were again repulsed by the First Infantry, at the point of the bayonet. The third and last attack was made on a street leading directly to the main plaza, where they were met by a quick discharge of cannister and shot, when they fell back, and beat a retreat to San George.

As there was nothing unlikely in these reports, he supposed they were correct.

#### A DISOUSTED FILLIBUSTER.

One of the most notable representatives from the camp of WALKER, is an Irishman, by the name of KELLY, who has held a Lieutenant's commission in the *Army of Liberation*, almost from the time that WALKER entered Nicaragua. He is quite an old man, and having fallen under the suspicion of intending to desert, suffered a court-martial, two months of imprisonment in irons, starvation, and other ills too numerous to mention, winding up with a passport, and an order to leave the country on the first steamer, on pain of being shot. He calls WALKER a despot a hundred times worse than NICHOLAS, of Russia, ever dared to be; that he has ruined his cause in Nicaragua by his tyrannical and blundering conduct, and that his ignominious reign is rapidly drawing to a close. Mr. KELLY has a journal of the transactions in which he figured, embracing a period of two months, and memoranda of the operations of WALKER, which he was obliged to keep concealed by burying it in the earth, until he escaped out the country. He met with much trouble on board the steamer, on account of the annoyances of WALKER's officers, and at Key West had a fight with one of them in a bar-room, in consequence of which he came near losing his passage—the officer in question threatening that he would take vengeance on him if he came on board. He was ordered ashore by the captain, but by the solicitations of the California passengers, was finally allowed to return.

### VERY LATE FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

Correspondence of the New-York Daily Times. PANAMA, Tuesday, March 10, 1857.

We have nothing since my last of interest, locally. Below you will find all matters of any importance from the South Coast. The U. S. sloop-of-war *Decatur* arrived here yesterday, 64 days from San Francisco.

#### PERU.

THE REVOLUTION LIKELY TO PROVE A FAILURE—RESIGNATION OF CASTILLA'S CABINET—A NEW ONE APPOINTED—REPORT ON THE GUANO TRADE, ETC.

Up to the 5th ultimo, nothing had occurred in Peru to change the opinion I have held for the past two months that the revolution of VIVANCO against CASTILLA will prove a failure. There had been no fighting in any portion of the Republic except at Picora in Piura. About the 20th Gen. CABAYEDO, who was appointed Governor of Paita and the Province of Piura by VIVANCO, and who you will recollect was expelled from Paita about the 6th, returned in the *Tumbes*, steamer, with 200 men, and again took possession. The government forces consisted of three or four hundred volunteers. Gen. CABAYEDO took possession of Picora after six hours' fighting, loss of killed and wounded being considerable on both sides. The *Apurimac*, steam-frigate, had taken possession of the Government brig *Almirante Guise*, of 6 guns, without resistance. This is all the war-news.

CASTILLA's Cabinet had all resigned, because they could not accord with the President on important questions, and the following-named gentlemen were appointed:

President of the Council—General DON JOSE MARIA RAJGA.

Secretary of State—DON MANUEL OSTIZ ZAVALLOS.

Minister of Justice—DON LUCIANO MARIA CANO.

Minister of the Interior—DON JUAN IGNACIO OSMA, at present Minister to the United States.

Secretary of the Treasury—DON FRANCISCO RIVERA, at present Minister to Great Britain.

Governor of Callao—Gen. DON JOSE MARIA PLAZA.

The report upon the guano trade shows that, in eleven months of 1855, the total amount of the fertilizer exported was 256,931 tons register, which produced to the Treasury \$3,501,497. Of this, 223,134 tons, of 2,240 pounds, went to England; 13,935 tons to France; 70,423 tons to the United States; 1,023 tons to Asia; and 9,422 tons to Spain.

In 1856 the total production was \$3,352,445. Of this amount 170,400 tons went to England; 93,793 to the United States; and 13,450 to France. Total net proceeds in two years, \$16,685,442.

The receipts from customs in Peru in 1855 amounted to \$3,766,314 18. In 1856, \$3,270,566 67.

The National Convention has under consideration the following appropriations: \$200,000 to assist the people in various departments in opening new roads and communications; \$100,000 to survey rivers, with a view to facilitate communication with the Atlantic; \$100,000 to open and improve roads in the mountains. These appropriations were voted unanimously.

#### CHILE.

PROGRESS OF THE SANTIAGO RAILROAD—BUSINESS—SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE, ETC.

On the 12th of February there was a general meeting of the shareholders in the Valparaiso and Santiago Railroad, at which an interesting report was made on the state and progress of the road. The line, as far as Quillota, nearly 34 miles, is finished, with the exception of the San Pedro tunnel, which has been contracted for at the rate of \$168,000, and will be opened the whole length at the end of the present month. The total amount expended thus far is \$4,760,912 11, an average cost of \$124,025 per mile. This great cost arose from changes in the direction of the line, unforeseen accidents, &c. From this amount must be deducted the value of a considerable quantity of materials on hand, construction of workshops, storehouses, and other buildings for the whole line as far as Santiago, as well as the value of the lands acquired in Valparaiso. The road, as far as opened, is paying better than was expected. The Government is to continue the line from Quillota to Santiago. To show the interest excited in this enterprise, it is stated that it being cheaper to lease the little town of Limache at about a mile and a half distant, the people got together and subscribed \$24,000 towards building a branch line. On other parts of the road, efforts are also making to establish branches.

The expenses of Valparaiso for the present year are estimated at \$269,740; of Santiago, \$282,287.

The British ship *Lord George Bentinck*, from Shields for San Francisco, was lost at sea, going down in lat. 40° S. and lon. 50° W. Sixteen of the crew were saved and taken to the Malvinas Islands.

Business had been a little better the last fortnight.

Flour is quoted at \$6 50. Rice \$4 75 in bond. American Crushed Sugar, 31 reals per arroba. A quantity of English fire-brick from the United States brought \$60; Hamburg, \$35. The market is overstocked with poor descriptions of lumber; good was worth \$50 to \$56. Freights—Ores to load at Caldera for Liverpool, £3 17s. 6d.

The U. S. sloop-of-war *John Adams* sailed on the 11th February for Callao, to touch at Arica.

There is nothing from Ecuador, Bolivia, or the River Plate Provinces.

F. W. R.