

The Battle of Rivas—Private Letters Corroborating former Accounts.

On Saturday last several letters were shown to us from prominent officers in the army of General WALKER at Rivas, to gentlemen of this City, who are warmly attached to his cause. They all speak of WALKER's attack upon San Jorge, and of the simultaneous attack upon Rivas by the allies, and agree in the main facts with the statements published on the morning of the arrival of the *Texas*. They agree that Gen. WALKER left Rivas on the 16th of March, with the main body of his little army, for the purpose of attacking San Jorge; that he was doing well there against the allies, when he heard firing at Rivas; that he immediately thereon abandoned the fight at San Jorge and hastened back. When near Rivas he opened fire on the enemy's rear, while General HENNINGSEN was using grape with much effect upon their front. The result was a slaughter of some five hundred of the allies and a stampede of the rest. More detailed statements of the battle were expected, but have not arrived. General CAZENEAVE assures us that letters sent to FERMIN FERBER, to Mrs. HENNINGSEN and to himself, have not been received. He is under the impression that they have been purloined. Captain GARRISON received a letter from Mr. McDONALD, the agent of CHARLES MORGAN & SONS, giving an account of the late proceedings similar to what has already appeared in the *TIMES*. We give extracts from

A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER.

It contains some statements not heretofore published. After speaking in general terms of the healthy condition of the troops under his command, he says:

* * * * * The fight was in fact a second edition of the Granada battle, but we had a better chance than them. You remember how they scattered when we returned from Massaya. Well, here they didn't have the same chance. The old St. Jorge road, you know, is lined with native ranches, and fenced with the cactus. Probably 200 or 300 got into these huts, and escaped by the gardens in the rear. We killed or took prisoners all the rest. You never heard such a howling amongst the poor devils as when we opened, for HENNINGSEN, as Gen. SANDERS facetiously remarked, was giving them all the *Law* allowed. They flung their arms every way. This morning we are bringing them into Rivas, half of them loaded. We shan't need any more importations from California for a while. Of course you will all want to know how many we killed. If anybody asks you, you can say—as our old water-cure friend used to—“any number you please.” WILSON began to count them and got up to 320, and said he thought it was wasting the precious hours of a probationary state to spend any more time on dead greasers. It is certain that we finished at least 500—and have got about as many more on our hands in a most deplorable condition. But the General has given orders to take good care of them all, and no doubt we shall save all that's worth having. One thing you may be sure of: they will never stand up against us again—even if there was any sort of harmony amongst their leaders. So you may consider the hard fighting about over.

Your old horse is here. Col. CASEY rode him in from San Juan. You will see by the papers an account of his skirmish with the greasers. He is a brave fellow.

Another of the private letters shown us is directed to a party in this City, whose relation to present movements in Nicaragua is of a character that should entitle the statements made to respect. A detailed account is given in the letter of the attack on St. Jorge by General WALKER on the 16th ult. Corroborating as it does, in all the main particulars, the accounts of the engagement already published in the *TIMES*, we consider it unnecessary to republish the details again. This letter gives General WALKER's loss as 10 killed and 40 wounded. The number of Costa Ricans killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, are stated as being in the neighborhood of 800 men. After citing the particulars of the battle on the 16th ult., the writer refers to WALKER's present position and his intended future movements. We subjoin three extracts from this portion of the letter, as giving new and important information:

* * * * * I see the New York papers, and, indeed, the papers of the States, generally, are giving most doleful accounts of the present position of WALKER. According to their statements, WALKER is deficient in every sinew of war, men, ammunition, provisions, and money. My previous advices to you I trust have convinced you of the folly of giving credit to newspaper stories. General WALKER has at his command now all the men he needs to accomplish the ends he has in view in this country—there is no lack of provisions or of armaments of war. He has got the steam engine in the arsenal, of which I wrote you in my last letter, in complete operation and every facility perfected for keeping his men supplied with ammunition, guns, and artillery, generally. * * * It is astonishing what astounding stories are told of desertions from WALKER's army. One would suppose there were not men enough left to beat a drum for retreat. I can assure you that *not one good man* has left the army. There has been desertions, as there is in any war, and will be. The sum total of the desertions will not, however, exceed one hundred men; these have been almost exclusively Germans and Frenchmen whom General WALKER has been more anxious to get rid of than retain. Of Americans who have left they comprise such as came on here expecting to lead any other life but a soldier's life. Of these a few went away because they expected at once to be placed at the head of the command, or the next thing to it—they were not gratified in this, and thus became disgusted. The balance of the few Americans leaving were cowards, whom the scent of powder and the whistling of balls frightened off. All these have been a good riddance. As to the German and French deserters, I will add that General WALKER has actually given instructions to allow every possible facility to be given them to desert. Where one of either of these nationalities has been captured and brought back, it has been through inadvertence or ignorance; when one has been shot, it has been to make his riddance sure. * * *

Gen. WALKER, at my writing, is in most excellent spirits. All the officers are feeling jovial and fine. The brilliant assault following the engagement of St. George, which I have detailed to you, has stirred up the privates with encouragement and enthusiasm. I tell you Gen. WALKER's plan to conquer this country is a good one, and his men I believe begin to apprehend what it is. This plan, as unfolded to you in one of my earliest letters, he will rigidly adhere to. He will allow the allied forces to exhaust their resources, and *when their resources of men, and arms and ammunition are exhausted, then he will strike his effective blow*. I tell you Nicaragua is ours. I tell you this confidently and knowingly, and with this declaration I close my letter.

Other letters have been placed in our hands. They give nothing additional to what has been already published in the *TIMES*.

The Nicaragua News.

RECEPTION OF THE NEWS IN NEW-ORLEANS.
NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, April 4.

The late Nicaraguan news has excited General WALKER's friends here, and large collections of money were made to-day, and more recruits and provisions will be sent on to him as speedily as possible.

REPORTED DEFEAT OF GEN. WALKER A HOAX.
BALTIMORE, Saturday, April 4.

The *Wilmington Journal* admits that the account of the defeat of General WALKER, purporting to have been received from a vessel that put into the mouth of Cape Fear River, was a first of April hoax, and chuckles over the success it met with in deceiving a portion of the press.