

[from the New York Herald]

Yesterday afternoon, between one and two o'clock there was quite an interesting time between General Robert Wheat, of Nicaragua notoriety, and Colonel George F. Cauty, of the Costa Rica service. It appears that the General, for nearly two years past, has entertained nothing but the most agreeable and kindly intentions towards the Colonel, arising from circumstances growing out of the Fortridra expedition. The following is

COL. CAUTY'S STATEMENT.

I went to Delmonico's with W. B. C. Webster, Esq., and Captain Spencer, about one o'clock. On leaving the hotel and gaining the sidewalk on Beaver street, I was accosted by General Wheat, who, without any introduction, asked me if I was Colonel Cauty. I replied in the affirmative, on which he said that he had sent me a challenge at Greytown, which I had thrown to the ground. Those were his words. He immediately spat in my face and struck me with his right hand above the left eye, both of which acts I at once returned. I asked him for his card, telling him not to make a blackguard of himself.

While he was handing me the card with his left hand, with his right he produced a knobbed stick, and struck me twice on the head above the left temple, which second blow felled me to the ground and which caused the blood to flow copiously, and while there he kicked me on the body. The bystanders and my friends interfered, whereon I was enabled to rise. I was perfectly unarmed and surprised, as I had met him frequently before, both in Greytown and in this city, without recognition.

When first I met the General in Greytown, after their defeat at Castillo Viejo, he sent me a private challenge, which I disregarded, by the advice of Com. Erskine, and Capts. Osborne and Dunlop, of the British fleet, on the grounds that as he was virtually a prisoner of war, in the habit of insulting and challenging everybody (which they had personally experienced,) and had no grounds for private quarrel or wrongs to redress, I should be insane to take any more notice of him than they had done. I have not had other relationship with him, and have never reflected upon his private character, and would now consider myself wanting in self respect to take further notice of an act of rowdism.