IMPORTANT FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

ARRIVAL OF THE ORIZABA.

Evacuation of Nicaragua by the Costa Ricans.

SUCCESSES OF GEN. WALKER.

Interesting Military Movements.

Gen. Domingo Goicouria's Expedition to the Chontales Mines.

ORGANIZATION OF CAVALRY AND MILITARY BANDS.

THE TRANSIT ROUTE OPENED.

COFFEE, CACAO AND COTTON CULTIVATION.

Sentence of Death on Col. Schlessinger.

No Interference from the British Naval Commanders.

MOVEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN SQUADRON,

&c., &c., &c.

The steamship Orizaba, Capt. E. L. Tinklepaugh, arrived yesterday afternoon, from San Juan del Norte, with 456 passengers, most of whom left San Francisco May 5, on the Sierra Nevada.

We are indebted to Purser Hatch, of the Orizaba; the Pacific Express Company, and Wines & Co.'s Express, for late files and news from Nicaragua.

Among the passengers by the Orizaba are Mr. E. Randolph, who succeeded the Transit Company on the Isthmus; Mrs. G. F. Alden; Colonel Piper, of the Nicaragua Army; and a portion of the family of Mr. Wheeler.

The Transit route through Nicaragua is again open, the Costa Ricans having left the country without another battle. The cholera made its appearance among their troops at Rivas, owing to the dead being left unburied after the battle. President Mora, with his staff, left on the 26th of April, and the army followed immediately.

Gen. Walker landed at Virgin Bay on the morning of April 30, and found that the last detachment of the enemy had left only six hours previously.

Gen. Canas, the Commander-in-Chief of the Costa Ricans, after President Mora left, wrote to Gen. Walker a letter commending to his care a number of sick and wounded Costa Ricans, whom he could not remove, and offered to exchange twenty-five Americans, whom he said he held as prisoners, for them, when they recovered.

The elections are being held in Nicaragua, and it was considered certain that Rivas would be elected President.

The Vanderbilt party—that is, those agents and others who remain in the interest of the old Transit Company—aided the Costa Ricans during their invasion of Nicaragua, notwithstanding the slaughter of innocent Americans at Virgin Bay.

General Walker is in good health and spirits. There is no sickness in the army, excepting at Granada, where the fever has been very severe, several Americans having died with it.

H. B. M. frigate Eurydice and steamer Hermit were at San Juan del Norte, but made no opposition to the passengers going up the river or on shore. There were no other vessels in port on the 24th.

The brig C. H. Sampson left for New Orleans on the 22d.

Movements of the American Home Squadron.

OUR NAVAL CORRESPONDENCE.

KEY WEST, May 28, 1856.

The following United States vessels are at this moment at anchor in our harbor:—

United States frigate Potomac, Captain Tatnall, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Hiram Paulding.

United States steam frigate Susquehanna, Commander Joshua R. Sands.

United States steamship Fulton, Lieutenant Commander R. H. Tilghman.

United States sloop-of-war Cyane, Lieutenant Commander R. A. Robb.

The Fulton and Cyane have been in port—the former since the 9th and the latter since the 17th—both having orders to await the arrival of the Commander of the squadron. The Susquehanna, Captain Sands, arrived off Sand Key at an early hour on the morning of the 27th, and sent in despatches for the Cyane and Fulton. She had left Havana the day previous, and was in search of the Commodore, having important despatches for him.

Not finding the Potomac here, as was expected, she headed for San Juan, and soon disappeared. At sunset, however, she was again signalized in the offing, having the frigate Potomac in tow. The two vessels anchored off the city last night, and this morning got under weigh, and came in to the usual anchorage.

The Orizaba hove in sight at 6½ o'clock this morning, having late and important news from San Juan—the character of which will govern the movements of the squadron.

In consequence of the success of Gen. Walker, and the visit of the Saratoga at San Juan, whence she sailed the 17th for Key West, and the entire uninterrupted transit of the Isthmus, no occasion arises for the presence of the fleet at that important position. As far as we can now learn this is the disposition of the fleet: The Fulton is to go North—first visiting Havana, and thence to New York, via Key West; the Susquehanna to take the Mediterranean mails, and sail hence (after coaling) for the Mediterranean; the Cyane to go to Aspinwall, and the Potomac to remain here until the Fulton and Saratoga arrive.

Our Nicaragua Correspondence.

CASTILLA, VIEJO, May 18, 1856.

The Defeat of the Costa Ricans—Their Losses and Retreat—Coffee, Cacao and Cotton Cultivation—Military Movements—The Rainy Season—The Very Latest—Arrival of the Sierra Nevada—Manufacture of Minie Rifle Balls at Granada—Interview between Minister Wheeler and Capt. Tarleton—Death of Mr. G. F. Alden—A Kentucky Sharp Shooter—Gossip—Incidents, &c., &c.

Time drags its slow length along—so does the cause of political and civil redemption in these Central American States. They, however, travel "with unequal step;" while the one has made only a "march," the other has taken a brilliant stride within the brief space of thirty days.

Costa Rica has been taught a sorry lesson in the loss of nearly all her brilliant army, at the head of which President Mora so pompously entered the State of Nicaragua, proclaiming his desire to eat the flesh and drink the blood of Walker's ragamuffin band of filibusteros. Besides learning that she cannot fight with Americans, she has lost fully two-thirds of her army, which consisted of nearly four thousand men.

The American bullet from the Mississippi rifle—the scourge of cholera, engendered by the stench of the one thousand bodies of their slain at Rivas, together with the bad generalship of Mora, their President and leader, so thinned their ranks and decimated their numbers as to leave them powerless. General Mora, while almost totally discouraged and disheartened at the unhappy state of affairs, and while contemplating a speedy retreat from this State, learns that the liberalists at home, sympathisers with General Walker and the republican cause, had effected a revolution, and that he was deposed, and a new President elected in his place. Would it not be better in this connection, to throw out the suggestion to Secretary Marcy, that, acting upon the same policy with which he rejected P. H. French, he had better dismiss the Costa Rican Charge d'Affairs at Washington, "not knowing whether there is any responsible government" in Costa Rica, "or whether the government powers are temporarily assumed by a reckless band (Americans,) of marauding adventurers?"

Tell the old *burro* that the one case is a fac simile of the other; that consistency is a jewel, and he can now win for the first time a political one, by dismissing forthwith the Costa Rican Minister. He of course will do this, unless he has some ulterior designs which he carefully conceals from the public, as in the case of Nicaragua.

If he fail to dismiss him promptly, and the new party (which is of filibustering proclivity,) should remain permanently in power, and also send on an ambassador whose claims were not at once rejected by Secretary Marcy and the Executive, it might not only involve the United States in a war with Costa Rica, "a power with whom we are at peace, and a friendly State," but also with Nicaragua, who is already becoming jealous of the rising, growing power of the United States.

But to return to the subject. When General Mora was hurrying away from Rivas, Virgin Bay and San Juan del Sur, scattering those dying of wounds and disease so thickly along in his trail as to render the roads impassable from stench—filling up the wells that lay in his course with dead bodies, arms and munitions, and hurrying the starving remnant of his army off upon two over crowded vessels, on which to make his escape, it should be fully known, and kept in mind, that Gen. Walker had it in his power to have fallen upon the rear of his army, and slaughtered the entire remnant of his force. Notwithstanding the barbarity and cruelty of Mora to prisoners, as well as unarmed citizens of American origin, massacreing both indiscriminately, and in cold blood, Gen. Walker showed the most noble minded and merciful magnanimity in thus sparing their lives and refraining from unnecessary bloodshed.

Subsequent to the embarkation of the enemy, their dead bodies daily floated ashore in scores, and it is doubtful if three hundred of them survive to reach their homes. Such are the results of the first lesson of experience taught Costa Rica at the hands of Gen. William Walker and his brave followers.

But the end is not yet. Though the enemy has fled from the State in such sorry plight, there is harder fighting in store for her; and, if she have the courage to stand up to defend herself when the war is pressed upon her own gates and upon the defences of her capital, many thousands more of her soldiery must and will be made to bite the dust. Costa Rica declared the war and opened the ball. Now, it only remains for her to learn, by sad experience, against whom she declared it; that the extermination of *Los Americanos* is no play spell; that war is no joke this time, for Costa Rica, at least. Let her be assured at the same time that their Minie balls will be returned next time; that the majority of Gen. Walker's army love to fight; that they will insist on fighting; that no compromises will wipe out an indignity, and that no diplomatic dodges or graceful and plausible apologies, or hypocritical and lying propositions, however liberal their character, will appease, stay or avert the wrath to come.

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The allusion to coffee reminds me that I have further and more definite knowledge concerning the productiveness of coffee growing than that communicated in a former letter. I have taken much pains to collect information, and I think the following statement will bear criticism. The high price of labor and provisions will be placed in effect at liberal figures, thus:—

Clearing land, at $30 per acre, 500 acres	$15,000
Fencing, to enclose	2,000
Planting trees, $5 per thousand, 600,000 being wanted	3,000
Cost of seed for trees, living and incidentals	1,000
Interest of capital, at seven per cent, for two years	2,940
Total	$23,940

Now, estimating the profits, allowing the trees to produce but one pound each the third year, 600,000 pounds of coffee, at 10c.—and it is worth that here, being the best in the world excepting the celebrated Mocha—$60,000.

Deducting expenses from the product of the first crop and adding ten per cent for labor of that year, leaves a net profit at the close of the third year of $32,460.

It is said not to be an uncommon thing to obtain an arobo from a single tree, 25 pounds; but putting all the trees at an average of 10 pounds per year, it affords 6,000,000 pounds, which [illegible] to the enormous sum of $600,000. Take from this for expenses as much as you please, and it still leaves a princely annual fortune which endures for a life time.

Is it any wonder that England is so interested in these central States, or that her citizens owning coffee or cocoa plantations in Costa Rica, as well as the natives, can afford to live abroad in princely style and float around the courts and palaces of Europe?

The truth is, Costa Rica coffee is better, richer and finer flavored than its only rival, the Mocha, and is monopolized by the English market, Americans scarcely knowing what it is.

Superior to coffee, in productiveness, is the cacao, or chocolate. The cacao is not to be confounded with the cocoa, the former producing the chocolate and the latter the nut by that name. Cacao is still more profitable than the coffee, by perhaps one hundred per cent, and an orchard of it lasts for a long life time with but little care. It will plant five hundred trees to the acre, and will yield $10 to $30 per tree per annum.

These look like large figures; but let those who doubt come and see for themselves, remembering that they are the products of a tropical clime, so luxuriant that people forget the necessity of either labor or economy, and become too indolent to attend to either the one or the other. Labor pays best where it meets with the most speedy and liberal return, and here is that locality. Cotton appears to be perennial and enduring, at least the variety of that staple of the United States which appears here; but I am requested, as a favor, to intercede with you for samples of the best seeds, for the purpose of testing them in this soil and climate, and you will oblige many friends by forwarding the same to me.

The Urapiqui river is still commanded by Capt. J. M. Baldwin, the enemy being driven back to San Jose by the force under his command.

Major A. F. Rudler, commanding the river San Juan, is stopping here. He is an exceedingly fine specimen of the man, gentleman and soldier, and was promoted from a captaincy subsequent to the sanguinary battle of Rivas, where his cool bravery, manifested so conspicuously throughout that trying day, proclaimed him most worthy of the high position of Major in the line. It was him who led the Voltiguers at Santa Rosa, in Guanacoste, and did all the fighting of that day of treachery and cowardice—his little band stood up and coolly fought the fearful odds, when Schlessinger, with all the rest of the command were in full flight. A Georgian by birth and education, he reflects honor upon his native State, and gives promise of still greater laurels and higher promotion.

Capt. McNamara Comyn, with his company, garrisons this place. He is a brave and good officer, and it was him, (called "Corporal Kelly",) at Santa Rosa, who collared Schlessinger, and attempted to form his men; he has accompanied Gen. Walker from the first. First Lieut. Bemish and Second Lieut. J. M. Griffin, both of whom are from New York, are attached to his command.

The rainy season is slow in setting in, and the water is low in the river. The Transit is free from obstruction, the general health is good, and no *ruemigos* in the country. Large quantities of freight, military stores and provisions are passing up the river, bound for headquarters.

The steamer Orizaba has arrived from New York, with a small reinforcement. News is brought from Aspinwall and Panama of the fearful loss of life among the passengers—first, in an attack by the natives, killing thirty to forty, and second, by the fearful leap of the railroad train through a bridge.

Times become more and more stirring in this direction. Will it not be necessary for Gen. Walker to go down to Panama and afford protection to that route also? or will Mr Secretary Marcy wake up to a sense of public duty?

THE LATEST.

CASTILLA, May 23, 1856.

The steamship Sierra Nevada has just poured upon us an avalanche of 500 passengers from California. The news from headquarters is gratifying; all is quiet except in the armory department, where the manufacture of the Minie rifle ball is employing all hands. I am informed that machinery is being prepared, at Gen. Walker's directions, to rifle the United States muskets so as to adapt them to the Minie ball—make Minie muskets of them; but to furnish the Minie ball to the Mississippi rifle is the great point of interest. From experiments recently made at Granada with this arm, charged with the Minie ball, it is clearly shown to be the most destructive, and in every way effective, arm known. It carries farther (1½ miles) with greater precision and force than any other, tearing an enormous hole, at 500 yards, in two thicknesses of boiler iron. The Costa Ricans, with their English Minie muskets, have hitherto had the advantage in reach, of the Mississippi, but now our soldiers feel a disposition to retaliate and give them a show.

The health of the army is generally good.

As I predicted, Major Rudler is promoted to the position of lieutenant-colonel—than whom no man is more deserving. He adorns his laurels—not they him.

Colonel Wheeler, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, passed down to Greytown a few days since, to dismiss his family—they wishing to visit home—when he took opportunity to see Captain Tarleton, of the British frigate there on station, and informed him that the American government would not tolerate his conduct in boarding our mail or passenger steamers for the purposes of either question or search, and that he must desist. Captain Tarleton apologisingly said, *"he did not wish to do it, having no instructions from his government, but that the people of Greytown had asked his protection from passengers and filibusters, as they had nothing for them to eat."*

Judge Randolph has just arrived here, and is suffering temporary illness. The rainy season has just set in earnestly, and we hope to soon have water in abundance.

[illegible] en is here, *en route* to New York—a [illegible] ber husband in Granada by fever. He [illegible] widow, having lost [illegible] ur courts. [illegible] was clerk in one of [illegible] Virgin Bay.

Headquarters are at [illegible] nd son of A. M. Cristalar, 23 [illegible] David Cristalar, a lad [illegible] was sent here to have his Bowery, New York, (and [illegible] this climate,) was mercieyes medicated with the air of [illegible] while standing upon the lessly shot by the Costa Ricans, [illegible] sion of their entry wharf at Virgin Bay, upon the occa[illegible] in that place, April 8.

Wm. Irving Langsdale, of Kentucky, who was in the battle of Rivas, and who made forty-eight shots at the enemy with a Kentucky rifle, killed [illegible] forty-eight Costa Ricans! He occupied a place of sec[illegible] rity, took rest [illegible] shooting—saw twenty-six of them fall [illegible] himself, the balance others witnessing. He is one of [illegible] those few sharp shooters who will, off hand, at the distance of 100 yards, knock out the middle spot of the "tray of hearts" nine times out of ten.

But they finally wounded him with buckshot, shooting away the stock of his rifle, wounding his hands, and putting out his left eye. I hope he will soon be able to return from the States, whither he is going with his right (shooting) eye, all safe and sound, to "give them another turn." He is a brave fellow and good soldier.

Mr. Moritz Schwartz, formerly clerk of the Liquor Dealers' Society, New York, has opened the Cottage Hotel, in Virgin Bay, and is the bearer of my special despatches to the NEW YORK HERALD. He returns per next steamer, with his family, to make his abode at Virgin.

General William Walker, still most rapidly and mysteriously and worthily wins upon the confidence, esteem and affections of all parties. Loved and feared by the soldiers and officers—idolized by the natives as a supernatural man—the opinion gains ground that his destiny is a proud one, and the speeches at National Hall, which utter hopes of seeing him at Washington as United States Senator, degrade both the man and his grand future by the allusion.

The U. S. war frigate Merrimack is daily expected at Punta Arenas. Will she stop and give some balls at Havana, or will she obey orders promptly?

General Walker's Pursuit of the Costa Ricans.

THE WALKER VICTORY OF THE SARAPIQUI.

[From El Nicaraguense, April 26.]

On the 10th of the present month the garrison of American troops stationed at the mouth of the Rio Sarapiqui, which empties into the San Juan about sixty miles above San Juan del Norte, ascertained that the enemy were cutting a road through the country down to the coast, by which they hoped to communicate with Point Arenas. A party was immediately despatched to reconnoitre, and it was discovered that the engineers had progressed to the river Sarapiqui. Two hundred and fifty Costa Ricans sustained the working party. It was immediately determined to attack the enemy, and Captain Baldwin immediately led a party of forty men, consisting of regular soldiers and a few volunteers, down to the river, and awaited the approach of the enemy.

When the Costa Ricans appeared a volley was fired by our troops, quickly followed by another, and in a few moments the enemy fled, leaving twenty-four men dead on the field. The wounded of the enemy were taken away, and it is not possible at present to give any information as to the total number that suffered at the hands of our gallant boys.

We are filled with sorrow in announcing the death, in this engagement, of Lieut. Wm. Rakestraw, and also the wounding of Lieutenant John B. Green. Both of these officers are spoken of in our reports in the highest terms. The gallantry of the troops is also much extolled. The post on the Sarapiqui is at present manned by eighty men, who feel confident of being able to hold it against any number of the enemy. The position is an important one, as it commands the only route to the city of San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica.

WALKER'S OPPONENTS AT RIVAS.

[From El Nicaraguense, April 26.]

At the battle of Rivas the principal damage done to the American soldiers was inflicted by a party of concealed foreign mercenaries, who, fortified behind walls and towers, out of danger, shot down our men with cowardly precision. The range of the Minnie musket enabled them to pick off our officers at a great distance; and the advantage was taken without compunction for the brave spirits that fell before these unseen foes. Many of these fatal guns were captured by our troops and brought home. General Walker immediately had them examined to see if our muskets could be improved, and on trial it was found that a decided improvement on the Minnie could be made. Captain Rawle immediately set the Ordinance Department at work, and he now reports on hand a large supply of the new material, which, on trial, has proved of greater force and accuracy than the arms of the Costa Ricans. The force is still at work, and in a few days the soldiers can be armed with muskets more desperate than any yet ever tried in Central America.

OPERATIONS AT VIRGIN BAY—THE REMNANT OF THE COSTA RICAN ARMY.

[Correspondence of El Nicaraguense.]

VIRGIN BAY, April 30, 1856.

and arrived at this port about sunrise this morning. The force consisted of the infantry battalion, under Col. Piper, and the whole of the rifle battalion, under Col Saunders—all under command of Gen. Walker himself, accompanied by Gen. Hornsby and Col. Natzmer.

As the Virgin rounded to at the wharf every eye was strained to catch a glimpse of the enemy, and many a good rifle was examined and recapped to make sure. But very few persons could be seen in or about the streets; and as no sign of the presence of any force could be detected, a visible shade of disappointment came over the countenances of our men; but this was quickly removed by the appearance on shore of a small party who came down to the flagstaff standing in front of the Transit Company's building, and ran up the American flag, the sight of which drew forth from our boys three hearty cheers.

Col. Piper, with a small party, was immediately despatched in a small boat on shore to learn particulars. He returned and reported that the Costa Ricans had abandoned Rivas and Virgin Bay, and were probably in force at San Juan del Sur. Orders were immediately given to debark, which was done, company B, of the infantry, Capt. Farnham, in advance. As soon as this company landed, strong picquets were detailed and posted well out upon the approaches to town, and the balance of the company took charge of the town and one cannon, which had been mounted by the enemy, but which they had left behind, ready loaded for service. By 10 o'clock the whole party was landed, and the several companies had selected quarters in the deserted buildings.

A heavy discharge of musketry was suddenly heard down the San Juan del Sur road, and being detected by the quick ear of the General, orders were given to "fall in," and in a very few moments the two batalions were under march for San Juan. It appears that the picquet fired upon two persons who were coming into town, but who, when hailed, turned and fled, followed by a volley from the whole picquet.

We had marched about three miles from town when Gen. Walker was met by a courier, with despatches for himself from Canas, the Costa Rican General. The courier informed the General that the entire force of the enemy had left San Juan the day before, and that the whole country was clear of them. There was now no necessity for going to San Juan, and the order to countermarch was given, and in one hour more we were all again in quarters at Virgin Bay.

The Transit route is again free from all obstruction, and, God willing, it will not be closed by Costa Rica until she is able to do something better towards "exterminating *los Americanos*" than she has done this time.

We learn that President Mora was highly incensed at, and disgraced the officer in command at Virgin Bay by whose orders the wharf was burned. He is reported to have said it was an act of vandalism and a disgrace to his army.

In fact, we hear that the Costa Ricans proper were far more civil and humane in their conduct and treatment of prisoners than the "Serviles" from this State, who were in their army. All the wanton and barbarous acts done by the Costa Ricans are laid to the charge of the Chamoristas, and shows that between them at least and the democrats there can be "no peace," but "war to the knife"—a war of extermination.

Two companies have been sent to occupy San Juan; the balance of the army will remain here. What is the next move? *Quien sabe?*

LETTER FROM GENERAL CANAS, OF COSTA RICA, TO GENERAL WALKER.

The following is a translation of the letter referred to, and explains itself. It will be seen from this that some twenty Americans who we have heretofore supposed to have been taken and killed by the enemy, have only been retained as prisoners of war, and they may yet all return in safety to their friends and country:—

RIVAS, April 26, 1856.

WM. WALKER, General in Chief of the Nicaraguan Army:—Obliged to abandon the plaza of Rivas on account of the appearance of the cholera in the most alarming manner, I am forced to leave here a certain number of sick men whom it is impossible to carry away without danger to their lives; but I expect your generosity will treat them with all the attention and care their situation requires. I invoke the laws of humanity in favor of these unfortunate victims of an awful calamity, and I have the honor of proposing to you to exchange them for more than twenty prisoners who are now in our power, and whose names I will send you in a particular list for making the said exchange, when they may be quite re-established from sickness. Believing that this my proposal will be admitted, according to the laws of war, I have the honor of subscribing myself, with the feelings of the highest consideration, your most obedient servant. JOSE MA. CANAS, General in Chief Costa Rican Army.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

It will be perceived that the enemy have evacuated the State, and are now in Costa Rica. The most reliable reports estimate the loss of General Mora at 1,200 men, in those who were killed in battle, wounded and since died, and taken off by disease.

General Walker, with a larger part of his army, left this city for Virgin Bay, on Tuesday evening, and arrived at that place at daybreak next day, just six hours after the enemy left San Juan del Sur. He found at Rivas a large number of the enemy sick and wounded, together with a letter from Gen. Jose Maria Canas, commander of the Costa Rica forces, entrusting these men to the generosity of General Walker, and proposing, at some future time, to exchange American prisoners for them. They were taken care of by the General. General Walker returned to Granada on Thursday, and after remaining in this city two days, again departed this morning for Virgin Bay, where the headquarters of the army will be temporarily fixed. It will be a matter of congratulation to our friends in the United States to learn that the Transit route across from San Juan del Norte to San Juan del Sur has been re-opened, and will be continued so hereafter. The almost entire strength of the American force is now stationed on the line of the Transit.

NEWS FROM HEAD QUARTERS IN VIRGIN BAY—CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAILING FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

[Correspondence of El Nicaraguense.]

VIRGIN BAY, May 8, 1856.

War leaves behind it many an evidence of its destructiveness, and its footsteps of desolation may be seen wherever its votaries have been. This little town, so thriving once and happy—with its streets full of busy men, chatting women and playful children, its fine road, and above all, its handsome wharf—presents another aspect, and the very reverse of the one I have pictured. Why are these houses and cabins deserted? Why has the fire blackened and destroyed yonder wharf, a work of which any State or country might be justly proud? Why has an enemy been here to burn, sack and destroy all that they could find? Why has the commerce of the two worlds been in part interrupted, and the peace and quiet of millions of people disturbed? Simply to gratify an ordinary ambition to rule, or a criminal revenge that opportunity might glut with its bloody destructive vengeance.

The History of the past two months in Central America is but the repetition of what has taken place here almost every year for a quarter of a century; and it is time these scenes were stopped. It is time that the wild and criminal ambition of those who are thus ready to bring war and desolation upon their own country should be taught a lesson as lasting as severe, and be made to feel in their own persons the pains and penalties their infernal acts so often heap upon others. It is time the legitimist party of this State should be made to know that their treason will be as severely as deservedly punished, and that the fate they may decree to others will return upon themselves with tenfold force. They should be made to know also that the spirit of the age is against them, and that democracy cannot now be exterminated from this country by any combination they may bring against it; but that it will grow and strengthen just in proportion as it is persecuted and opposed; and that ere long it will sweep down all the feeble barriers raised against it in all Central America.

Rivas is emphatically a "city of barricades" now, for it is so strongly walled in and walled out that one can hardly pass from one street to another without climbing over half a dozen barricades of one kind or another. The plaza is walled in first—that is, across every street leading from the plaza; the Costa Ricans have thrown up a wall or breastwork about four feet high, and then fortified the adjacent buildings, so as to prevent the advance of any force upon this outer wall. The houses around the plaza are full of holes, through which they were to poke their muskets and fire in case Gen. Walker should return and attack them in their stronghold. They buried their dead of the 11th ult. in the wells; and when they left the city there were no corpses left to taint the air, as has been reported.

But Rivas is a sacked city. These well bred, moral, brave men from Costa Rica, led on by the humane and well disposed J. R. Mora, who pays so readily for everything he takes or destroys, (as some of his apologists will have it,) took from the people of Rivas everything under the heavens they could carry away—trunks of clothing, dry goods, groceries, provisions—in fact, everything they could find to lay their hands upon, they took away, which, according to my notion of things, amounts to a sacking of the place, and that too of a city that gave to the Costa Ricans no motive for such robbery and plunder.

On the night of the 3d instant, there was a small gathering of the "Vesta Boys" at the headquarters of the General to celebrate the anniversary of the sailing of the expedition from San Francisco. From one cause and another, only about seventeen of the "original fifty-six" were present, viz., Gens. Walker and Hornsby; Col. Markham; Maj. Anderson; Capts. Rawle, Hoof, Veeder and Leonard; Lieuts. Gist, Creton, Gardner, Mathews and Webb; Privates Lyons, Travella, Burke and Coleman, and Drummer Norris. All restraint was thrown off, and each one talked, sang and acted just as he did on board the little vessel that brought them hither. Of course, there was the usual accompaniment of all such gatherings, viz., *Eau de vie*; and when the company became a little "mellowed up," there were toasts, cheers and songs, as there naturally would be. The first toast was by General Walker, as follows:

The brig Vesta—She should never have made another voyage.

The second, by Major Anderson—

To General Walker.

The third, by General Walker—

To the Fifty-six, without their commander.

The fourth, by Captain Rawle—

To the lamented dead of the Fifty-six.

After these toasts were disposed of, Mr. De Frewer sang the "Blue, White and Blue;" and after a very pleasant time generally, the company separated in fine spirits. Of the original "fifty-six" some sixteen are dead, but the day will come when the anniversary of their exodus from California will be celebrated as a national holiday; and, like the anniversary of the "Landing of the Pilgrims," be commemorated as a great event in the history of Central America.

There is a talk now of moving the headquarters of the army up to Rivas, but as yet nothing is certain.

Should the steamers now overdue bring a goodly number of recruits, it is probable the cry will be "Ho! for Costa Rica and Veragua!"

On the 6th inst. a Costa Rican was shot at St. George, for being concerned in the murder of [illegible] wounded [illegible] found prowling about near Rivas, and [illegible] by some of our troops.

The San Carlos went down last evening to Castillo, and we expect her up to-morrow.

We have just heard of the appearance off San Juan de Sur of the California steamer.

There were two men hung yesterday. They were Chamorristas, and were engaged in the murder of a man on Ometepec Island, and were also concerned in burning the wood there. All the prisoners were out to witness the execution.

The expedition of Capt. Farnum to Sapoa came back last evening. They found nothing but a deserted town.

The health of the army remains good, though there are a few sick.

Captain Mason died on the 5th, and was buried on Ometepec.

PROSPECTS OF ANOTHER CAMPAIGN.

El Nicaraguense, of May 17, says:—A courier arrived in town yesterday, from Leon, bringing despatches from the President. The Northern States are still quiescent; and as the rainy season is about commencing, no fear of an invasion need be apprehended during the next six months. At the expiration of that time, if hostilities should be determined on, Nicaragua will be able to send into the field an army, not only sufficient to defend our own Territory, but to carry the contest into any adjoining State which may wage a war against us.

Gen. Walker and his staff left this city on Monday morning last for Virgin, by the way of Rivas. The General expressed himself well satisfied with the management of affairs in this department.

PRESENT APPEARANCE OF VIRGIN BAY—THE SICK COSTA RICANS—TRADE REVIVING.

[Correspondence of El Nicaraguense.]

SAN JUAN DEL SUR, May 14, 1856.

I came over here a few days ago on duties connected with the Quartermaster's Department, and am so well pleased with the town and surrounding country, that I should not like to leave it, at least for the present. The distance hither from Virgin, via the Transit road, is about twelve miles, and in a nearly southern direction, the road winding gracefully along the side of the hills, and finally across the mountain range which divides the great plain of the lake from the rugged slopes bordering the Pacific. In many places this great highway is cut from the sides of lofty hills that tower amid the clouds, and presenting many admirable points for ambush and battle of a foe. In one of these gorges, near the very ridge point, General Walker once posted his little army of two hundred men to await the approach of the Servile force. The position was admirably selected, and had the enemy advanced within the ambush, there would have been no escape from the muskets and rifles of the ambuscaders.

A very small force, if skilfully posted at this line, could cut to pieces any number that might have the daring hardihood to advance upon it from either side. From one point on the road a sublime view is presented of the lake, the lofty Ometepec, Virgin Bay and surrounding country; and a little further on the eye is gladdened by a glimpse of the great Pacific, wrinkled with waves that plunge their surf with a thundering crash upon the sand or rocks that line the shore.

San Juan del Sur is set down in a little circular valley, bounded by high rocky hills, which enclose within their graceful reach the town and bay. The latter is full one mile in circumference; has excellent anchorage and sufficient water close in shore for the largest vessels to ride in safety.

As I rode slowly down the road from the elevation south of the Rio San Juan, a low rumbling sound, as of distant thunder, came from the bay, which I quickly detected as the beating of the heavy surf upon the low sandy shore. There was a deep wild music in that heavy roar that I loved to hear, and involuntarily I reined up my horse to listen to its voice. It was the first time that my ear had ever listened to the "voice of old Ocean," whose waters roll round one half the globe and dash their spray upon "many a distant land and many a lovely isle." Hastily spurring forward towards the bay, I did not stop until my horse's feet and limbs were suddenly bathed by an inrolling surge, which broke into foam and bubbles far in my rear.

At present the bay is almost entirely deserted by everything like a water craft, if we except one great bare masted merchantman, which lies like a huge giant, browned and blackened by many a stormy voyage across the great ocean, upon whose waters it now rides slowly down to rottenness and destruction. The town, too, is still partially deserted; but as peace once more reigns around, the natives who fled away on the approach of the Costa Ricans gradually return to occupy their dwellings and pursue their usual avocations.

When I first came over from Virgin there were left here by Gen. Canas some fifteen or twenty infirm Costa Ricans, many of whom have died, and the balance—eight in number—have been transferred to Virgin. These unfortunate fellows seem to be contented with their treatment, and have become much attached to the Americans, whom they regard with quite a different view from what they had previously entertained of them. They tell a sad story of the suffering of the whole expedition from Costa Rica to this department; and if allowed to return to their homes and families, when they are exchanged, they will be apt to dispel many of the errors and falsehoods uttered by the San Jose journals concerning our people.

I found at this place several persons whom I had considered as dead, or at the best, prisoners in Costa Rica. They were not molested much by the enemy during their stay at this post; and they represent the army under Canas as being exceedingly dissatisfied when it became known that they were in full retreat from this country. Many of the officers were so much disgusted with the whole expedition—the innumerable falsehoods that had been told them before leaving Costa Rica, and the disgrace that attached to the failure of their enterprise—that they openly denounced their Generals, and declared their intention to leave the army forever on their arrival hom[illegible] e Rifle Battalion (Col. Saunders) has [illegible] son of this place, and I hear that the [illegible] army is soon to be divided between [illegible] n and this town.

VIRGIN, May 14, 1856.

[illegible] portance to report, at least in con[illegible] The health of the troops continues good, although there have been some [illegible] sickness and deaths since the army arrived here [illegible] of peace and their own country shall furnish their full quota of support to those who are endeavoring to establish the prosperity and peace of the State upon a solid basis, there has been lately no want of wholesome food for our men, and consequently no murmuring is heard on account of empty stomachs and hard fare.

The steamer Virgin has been plying for several days between this port and Ometepec, from whence we have received provisions, horses and cattle, and a few subjects for "tight rope performances," unless they can prove themselves innocent of the charges preferred against them. The servile party will find out, by and by, that treason, conspiracy, murder and rebellion will not pay; and that it will be better to be quiet, at least, if not patriotic, when their native soil is invaded by a foreign foe.

Rivas begins to exhibit signs of returning life; but it will be a long time before the marks and scars of battle are entirely eradicated from her walls.

For several days past there has been in circulation a rumor that the Costa Rican government has sued for peace. Be this as it may, there is a political storm brewing in that State before which the servile party will fall down like ancient oaks before a whirlwind. A patient, toiling, industrious people have been deceived into a disastrous war, and as its fearful consequences begin to be felt in almost every cabin in the State, a wail of anguish, mingled with the cry for revenge, goes up to the very Throne, calling to a bloody account the men who have deceived, betrayed and sacrificed their friends in a cruel, needless and destructive war.

Last week two of the Santa Rosa men reached this place, after wandering about and suffering for six or seven weeks. They had been protected and concealed by one or two natives, and finally brought in by them in a small boat across the lake. There is a report that more of the men who escaped from that field are on the islands in the lake, and may yet return.

Mr. Toohy, correspondent of the New Orleans *Delta*, is at San Jose, or was there some ten days ago.

We learn that but about 1,200 out of the 1,700 Costa Ricans who left San Juan under President Mora, reached La Union, and a large number of those were in a most miserable condition. The balance had sickened or died by the way or deserted the ranks.

Virgin is again filling up with residents, and business once more begins to revive; and, with the return of peace and the re-establishment of the Transit line, this department will begin to prosper like all other countries where Americans are interested.

We are looking anxiously for the return of the San Carlos from Castillo.

LATEST.

El Nicaraguense, of May 17, says:—

The latest information from the Costa Rican army represents it as retreating very rapidly through the Department of Guanacoste, towards San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica. The cholera was prevalent among the troops, and great numbers were dying off from its fatal effects. A facetious officer remarks that the cholera is serving our purposes very well as a squadron of cavalry.

Nicaraguan Army Intelligence.

PROMOTIONS, EXCHANGES, AND FORMATION OF COMPANIES AND MILITARY BANDS.

[From El Nicaraguense, April 26.]

Captain A. F. Rudler, promoted Major of the 1st Light Infantry Battalion.

H. L. Porter appointed First Lieutenant of Ordnance.

A. Schwartz appointed Captain of Artillery.

Leonidas McIntosh appointed Major of the 2d Battalion Light Infantry.

James Walker appointed Captain of Co. A, 2d Light Infantry.

James Mullan appointed Captain Co. B, 2d Light Infantry.

L. Engleheart appointed First Lieutenant Co. B, 2d Light Infantry.

Geo. W. May appointed First Lieut. Co. A, 2d Light Infantry.

B. F. Delaron appointed First Lieut. Co. B, 2d Light Infantry.

W. J. Montjoy appointed Second Lieut. Co. A, 2d Light Infantry.

F. W. Polk appointed Second Lieut. Co. C, 2d Light Infantry.

Robert Glenon appointed Second Lieut. Co. C, 2d Light Infantry.

Calland Faysour appointed First Lieutenant, and attached to the staff of Brigadier-General Hornsby.

First Lieutenant George R. Caston assigned to the staff of Brigadier General Hornsby.

L. D. Hart appointed Second Lieutenant Co. B, 2nd Light Infantry Battalion.

The recruits received by the last steamers were immediately formed into a new battalion of infantry, and are now daily drilled in the tactics of that branch of warfare. The battalion is formed of good looking men, and for the time they have been in service, their drill is accomplished with great ease and order. The battalion is [illegible] McIntosh; Captains Co. A, James Walker; Co. B, James Mullen; First Lieutenants: Co. A, Geo. W. May; Co. B, B. F. DeLaney; Co. C, L. Engleheart; Second Lieutenants, Co. B, Robert Glennan; Co. A, W. J. Montjoy; Co. C, F. W. Polk.

By the steamer Charles Morgan a very full and efficient brass band, under the charge of T. G. Adkins, arrived in this city. Their performances, at the head of the column of recruits that entered the city on Tuesday last, gave unusual satisfaction, and raised the spirits of the boys to fighting pitch. The natives flocked around in large crowds, and everybody seemed to feel inspired under the magic influence of American tunes. The band has performed several serenades, on which occasions the city hardly ever fails to turn out.

Lieut. Colonel James S. Piper having been promoted as Colonel of the First Light Infantry, resigned his position as Commandant of Granada, and took command of his battalion.

Brigadier General D. B. Fry has been appointed Commandant of Granada.

The services of the new mounted company which recently arrived from New Orleans on the steamer Charles Morgan, under Capt. Davenport, have been accepted by the government for four months. The men will be mounted as soon as possible.

Brigadier-General Hornsby, a general favorite with the army, arrived in town on Tuesday on the steamer, and was received by his many friends with a hearty grasp of the hand.

General Walker has given orders for the immediate organization of an artillery corps, and the detail has already been made. Several heavy pieces of ordnance are being mounted, and additions will be made as fast as possible. The want of artillery was felt most seriously at Rivas, and very effectual service was rendered by a small four pounder captured from the enemy. We shall soon have a formidable park of artillery.

The Commander-in-Chief, on Thursday evening, while the army was on general parade in the public plaza, transmitted a letter from President Rivas, complimenting the troops on the achievements of the 11th of April, and returning the thanks of the nation for the steadfast courage of the army during the protracted fight of seventeen hours.

A military commission, to consist of Brig. Gen. C. C. Hornsby, Col. Bruno Natzmer, Col. E. J. Saunders, Lt.-Col. P. Selva and Maj. A. F. Rudler, with Surgeon N. A. Ingraham as special Judge Advocate, assembled at 12 o'clock to-day, to try Gabriel Lacayo, charged with treason against the republic.

It is a cheerful sight in the afternoon to see the efficiency with which the troops are acquiring the regular drill. The Light Infantry Battalion, under Col. Piper, and the Rifle Battalion, under Col. Saunders, are respectively drilled for one hour in the afternoon. In the morning the various companies drill under their respective company officers.

Mr. C. J. McDonald and Dr. Cole, gentlemen who were missed after the return of the army from Rivas, and concerning whom much solicitude was felt, arrived in this city in the early part of the week. They had both been rusticating in the neighborhood of Rivas, much against their will, however, and no doubt felt as happy as we did on their safe entry into Granada.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

All applications for rank in the medical staff must hereafter undergo a regular examination before a board of medical examiners, appointed by the Surgeon General.

The wounded soldiers and officers of the army, now in the hospital or under medical treatment, are in a condition of convalescence.

The expedition to Chontales brought back one hundred horses and mules, and the Volunteer Rangers are now mounted. The new company numbers forty men.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 2.]

Surgeon S. C. Coleman, promoted surgeon, with the rank of major.

First Lieutenant J. C. Jamison, promoted captain, Company D, First Light Infantry.

Second Lieutenant D. Barney Woolfe, promoted first lieutenant, Company D, First Light Infantry.

P. F. Truly, appointed first lieutenant, and attached to First Light Infantry.

Wm. Clarendon Young, appointed first lieutenant, and attached to Second Light Infantry.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 10.]

At last accounts, General Goicouria was at Comalapa, with the volunteer Rangers and a large body of native troops. Nothing had transpired worthy of note up to the time of the departure of our informant.

About the time of the battle of Rivas, when many timid Americans supposed there was danger of a siege of Granada by the Costa Rican army, Capt. D. W. Thorpe, of company A, second rifle battalion, under the old organization, disappeared, and has not been officially heard from since. Rumor says that he left San Juan del Norte for New Orleans recently, and that he is nowise restricted in his abuse of the army he has deserted. The Adjutant General informs us that Capt. Thorpe's name will be dropped from the army roll soon, if he does not report himself.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

Gen. Goicouria will probably arrive in town to-day from his trip to Chontales. Major Rogers came in yesterday, and reports that throughout the whole journey the troops under Gen. Goicouria were received with the utmost friendship by the people.

General Walker has appointed Brigadier General C. C. Hornsby to the command of the Meridional Department, comprising Guanacoste and Rivas. General Hornsby has accepted the trust, and in his address to the people lays down as the basis of all his actions, justice to the people over whom he is appointed to rule. The position thus conferred is probably the most responsible one in the State, and no one is better qualified to fill it than the soldier whom the General has selected. He is called the "fighting officer" by the soldiers, and the confidence of the troops in his bravery and discretion is unbounded. We may safely predict that peace will prevail in the department over which General Hornsby rules.

Colonel J. S. Piper, of the Light Infantry battalion, has resigned his position, and intends going East. The army will regret his loss, as he was an excellent disciplinarian, Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Markham, of the Light Infantry battalion, has been promoted Colonel, vice J. S. Piper, resigned. Major Rudler has been promoted Lieutenant Colonel, and Captain Raymond, Major, in the same battalion.

El Nicaraguense of May 10, says:—The General and his [illegible] Lieut. Gist, arrived in town quite unexpectedly about [illegible] and last night. The escort consisted of ten rangers [illegible] o'clock last [illegible] command of Capt. Waters. [illegible] under [illegible] Goicouria, with the newly mounted rangers. General [illegible] the city last evening, but the destination of the company, left [illegible] has not transpired.

[illegible] of the expedition [illegible] that machinery will soon be brought [illegible] We understand [illegible] the use of the Ordnance Department out from New York fo[illegible] on of which the government will [illegible] ment, and on the recep[illegible] army with many things in [illegible] be prepared to supply the [illegible] which it is now sadly deficient. [illegible] on on Tuesday, with a [illegible]

Two wagons came down from L[illegible] recruits. An escort [illegible] large number of muskets for the new [illegible] ons, and also two of twenty men came down with the wa[illegible] the hospital at [illegible] sick Americans, who had been left in [illegible] Leon.

Gen. Fry informs us that he intends visiting [illegible] Massaya [illegible] take ar- during the coming week, and, if possible, will [illegible] army arrangements to establish the general hospital of the [illegible] in that town. Massaya is represented as one of the healthiest places in the State, and if suitable building can be obtained, the design of establishing the hospital at that place is a very commendable move.

The Rifle Battalion, under Col. Sanders, is at present stationed at San Juan del Sur. The probability is that this battalion will soon be ordered to winter quarters at Leon.

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE ARMY, VIRGIN, May 1, 1856.

The bearer of this, Benjamin Barritiss, has permission to go to Granada; and this will secure him from molestation while there. WM. WALKER, General Commanding-in-Chief.

WANTED.—Corn, guate, sugar, coffee; rice, beans, salt, candles, soap, &c., wanted for the use of the army, for which the market prices will be paid, in money or goods, from the national store, at the option of the seller. Neither persons nor their animals, bringing in marketing, will be molested. THOS. F. FISHER, Colonel and First Assistant Intendant General, N. A.

GRANADA, May 14, 1856.

Nicaraguan Colonization—A New Decree of Government.

[From El Nicaraguense, April 26.]

The continual influx of settlers and the many delicate points at issue relative to landtitles, etc., which can only be put to rest by a native tribunal, has rendered necessary the appointment of a commission, possessing more extended and varied powers than those heretofore accorded to the Director of Colonization. The commission, which embraces in its members the best legal talent of the country, will sit at Leon, or wherever the State capital may be permanently established. The appointment of this commission gives additional guarantee to our friends abroad that Nicaragua is in earnest in inviting emigration to her shores, and colonists may rest assured that the titles obtained by them to the grants they occupy, will be perfect. It will be seen that the present decree in no way conflicts with or annuls the preceding one of the 23d of November last, but is executed to carry its provisions more fully and formally into effect:—

The supreme government has been pleased to issue the following decree:—

The Provisional President of the republic of Nicaragua to the citizens thereof:—

With the view of expediting and perfecting the execution of the decree relative to colonization, passed 23d of November last, in the use of their functions decree:—

Article 1. A Direction of Colonization shall be established to carry into effect the provisions of the above cited decree of the 23d of November last.

Art. 2. The Direction shall be composed of three individuals appointed by the government, whose salary shall be hereafter fixed, and whose place of business shall be at the capital.

Art. 3. The members shall meet on such day as they may appoint, and choose a President, a Vice President and a Secretary, either in or out of the Board.

Art 4. The functions of the Direction shall be:—1. To receive petitions, which immigrants must make in writing on stamped paper. 2. Touching the assignment of public land, and in conformity with said decree of 23d of November. 3. To see that the grantees comply with the obligations specified in the 3d, 4th and 5th articles of the said decree, and make the corresponding declaration. 4. To establish a registry of lands granted in each department. 5. To appoint agents who shall aid the Direction in selecting suitable tracts, and whatever else concerns its functions. 6. To mark out the boundaries between public and private lands, by surveyors or skilful persons, with the consent of those interested. 7. To prepare topographical plans in each department, so that the public land may be distinctly designated from the private, as well as the amount allotted to each *pueblo* for plantation and pasture. 8. To record in the registry books the changes of occupation when an actual occupant disposes of his tract to another person, which sale shall be null unless the bill of sale shall bear statement that the same has been recorded.

Art. 5. Let this be communicated to whom it may concern. Done in LEON, this 29th day of March, 1856.

PATRICIO RIVAS.

Friendly Relations of the other [illegible]

On the breaking out of the present war with Costa Rica we were led to expect, from the assertions of General Mora, as well as from other sources, that Honduras would join her forces with the other States against us in a war upon democracy—a crusade against principles that are indestructible as the eternal hills. We had reason to doubt, however, that President Guardiola, who had just been elevated to the chair of State, and who had expressed himself so warmly in favor of peace with all the neighboring States in his inaugural, would, for slight and transient cause, involve his people and State in a war, which, to say the least, could not end otherwise than disastrously to himself and ruinously to his country. The result has shown our opinions to have been correct, and the present position of Honduras towards Nicaragua and Costa Rica is such as does honor to him who has had the prescience to determine and the firmness to hold her in her peaceful and proper line of conduct towards the belligerent powers. In the inaugural referred to General Guardiola says:—

> The wars and revolution which have but recently afflicted our State have brought her to the verge of ruin, and it is only by an immediate return to the path of peace and order that will save us from anarchy.

This is a bold, but certainly a manly declaration; and it seems that one who had the courage to openly declare the truth to his people has also the wisdom to direct them in the path that will lead them out of their miseries and misfortunes. The whole tenor of the address is advisory and peaceful, though couched in firm and decided language. This, together with other facts, induced the opinion that Gen. Guardiola would not allow himself to become embroiled in this contest, and his recent actions confirm the opinion, as well as raise him still higher in our estimation as a wise and patriotic chief executive. When the government of Nicaragua declares to the world that it wishes peace, and will eschew war, if it can do so honorably, it puts forth no deceptive declaration, nor asserts what it does not mean. The democratic party is now too firmly fixed in this State ever to be overturned again or seriously disturbed by wars from without, or civil commotions within; and while it can afford to be magnanimous towards its enemies, it can raise a strong and terrible arm in its vital defence upon its own soil, and send forth a powerful force, if need be, in aid of its friends. At the same moment that Nicaragua is magnanimous she is also just and forgiving; and though the act of friendship be tardily and but coldly extended, she will warmly clasp the proffered hand and truly maintain every obligation she takes upon herself to perform; and Honduras will find our wise and patriotic provisional government as frank to accede to every demand of national honor and courtesy as her own chief can be in declaring to her people the true and proper line of policy to adopt and pursue.

Frank and friendly relations between States can only be obtained by frank and manly avowals of each other's wishes and intentions; and no State can descend to protestations of peace and friendship only to deceive, without losing its real dignity and self respect and compromitting its honor. We cannot, therefore, let go the hope that President Guardiola will be as open and manly in his policy towards the neighboring States as he has been in declaring the internal policy of Honduras; and that from him, at least, Nicaragua need have nothing farther to fear by way of attack, but much to hope by way of peace and lasting friendship.

The internal discords that have torn and distracted these States should cease, and it will not be the fault of Nicaragua if she is compelled to preserve a hostile attitude towards those who should be her best friends. She seeks nothing but what is right, and will submit to no wrong. She will not allow her Territory to be the nursery of internal commotions and discords for the other States of Central America, but if called by the necessities of the times to declare war, she will do so fearlessly and fight the battle openly.

An Armed Expedition to the Chontales Gold Mines—Fighting by the Way.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

Some ten days since Gen. Goicouria, with Capt. Raymond's company of the Light Infantry Battalion, left Granada to suppress the movement of the servilists in Chontales. The expedition landed at Baldo, where they discovered a party of lancers. The latter were immediately fired upon with effect, when they quietly dispersed in every direction. Proceeding to Acoyapa they found the town deserted, but after some search a few persons were found, and a proper example was made of one who was known to be deeply implicated in the rising. After levying a contribution of one thousand dollars upon the town, an amount long due to the government, the party proceeded to Juigalpa, where they met and quickly defeated a large force of the legitimists. Here, too, an example was made, and the contributions due from certain parties in that region were collected. Proceeding down to San Lorenzo Hacienda, several prisoners were taken, and one body of serviles of considerable number was dispersed. From San Lorenzo the party proceeded to Comolapa, where another example was made, and where the party made collections of money and effects to a considerable amount. From Comolapa the company came gradually to Granada without meeting any serious resistance from the serviles, and upon the whole the party was highly successful in the objects of their expedition, as well as fortunate in their escape from loss in killed or wounded, only one man of the party, Lieut. Wm. Lewis, being hurt, and he was but slightly wounded in the cheek. The killed of the servilists amounted in all to ten, their wounded being quickly concealed by their friends.

The success of the party was greatly promoted by the presence and counsel, as well as energy and perseverance of Gen. Goicouria, the Intendencia General, and the troubles in Chontales may be said to be ended for the present. The bravery and good conduct of each and all of the command is highly praised, and the serviles have received a lesson for their future behavior which they will do well to remember. The present wise and provisional government of Nicaragua is too strong to be shaken by any effort that the legitimists can make to overturn it, and they can only bring destruction upon their own heads by their unwise and treasonable combinations.

When the American army first entered Nicaragua, a cream colored dog, about five years old, very rough in appearance, but "pluck" every inch of him, joined our troops and continued with them all the while. He was

called "Fillibuster," and always acknowledged the compliment of the name with a wag of the tail. When our troops entered Granada, the first sight was "Fillibuster" whipping a cur with a white, or chamoristа, ribbon on his neck, and constantly afterwards he "walked the cock of the walk" in the garrison, and was the pet of all the soldiers. "Fillibuster" never patronized any particular company, but would mess to-day with one and to-morrow with another. At "guard-mount" he always attended punctually, and when the soldiers fired off their muskets, he testified his appreciation by loud barking and genuine canine applause. All the soldiers loved "Fillibuster," and he deserved their confidence. Whenever a party left this city, "Fillibuster" went along, and his right to march in the company was never disputed.

Last week, when Gen. Goicouria's party left this city for [illegible] Juigalpa. At that place, when the troops charged the enemy, 'Fillibuster' headed the column, and while thus gallantly charging the town, was shot down. The cruel shot struck him in the shoulder, and after a few revolutions he fell dead—not a soldier but paused to grieve, and as they saw their friend, no doubt their appetite for war was greatly whetted:

THE FATE OF FILLIBUSTER—THE DOG OF THE ARMY.
BY CORPORAL FITZLAY.

Our little bark had landed her small but gallant band
Within the harbor of San Juan, upon the promised land:
The enemy had vamosed; their strongholds, too, were ta'en;
Our troops were bivouacking, despite of wind and rain;
When, by the watch-fire's flickering light, down from a mountain trail,
A famish'd hound crept to our midst—and thereby hangs a tale.
A gaunt and grizzled creature, with harsh and matted hair,
And eyes like some fierce mountain wolf, just started from his lair—
No pet for ladies' parlor, nor watch for lonesome hall;
But, Ishmaelite of canine life, he seemed the scorn of all.
Yet strangely, too, he followed us, on march or in the fray;
He was our constant shadow, at midnight or by day.
Despite of kicks and curses, not few nor far between;
Despite of wintry weather, and hunger, too, I we'en,
His conduct ever faithful, again and still again,
By slow degrees, did gain for him the favor of our men.
And when at Rivas' bloody field he charged our troops among,
His bark rose ever loud and clear in the thickest of the throng;
And when Granada's plaza charged at early morning's light,
He seemed the fiend incarnate—the demon of the fight.
At last, the fight being over, and peace returned again,
He then became the soldier's pride, in pleasure or in pain.
We named him "Fillibuster," he quartered with us all,
Familiar with each company and every dinner call.
Prompt was he at dress parade, at the tapping of the drum,
Or barking approbation at the fire of a platoon.
He followed each dead soldier in silence to the grave,
With quiet step appearing to do honor to the brave.
And collars of bright ribbons, too, we placed about his neck;
But for such gauds and bravery full little did he reck,
For they did seem in action his free spirit to enthral;
And so he oft would lose them by bone, or dog, or ball.
And so we learned to love him, this gaunt and shaggy hound—
To laugh at his rough gambols, to greet his daily round;
And he became our pensioner, a kind of soldier's pet,
As you may see by this rough sketch, he's not forgotten yet.
But when a small detachment was to Chontales sent,
To oust a nest of traitors, he with the troopers went.
In Juigalpa's plaza, our soldiers met the foe,
And a bullet from their riflemen full soon did lay him low.
He fell—'twas in the van he fought; the charge he fearless led,
And died still bravely fighting for the cause he'd often bled!

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

During the absence of Gen. Goicouria to the Department of Chontales and Juigalpa, they frequently heard of a band of disaffected troops, one hundred and fifty in number, who paraded the country, robbing and harrassing all the quiet people of the district. They took every description of property; and frequently pressed the Indians into their ranks as soldiers. Two Frenchmen who left this city to mine near Libertad were also forced to join the party. Two officers of the bandit—one holding a first lieutenant's commission under Chamorro, and the second a captain's—were taken and shot by Gen. Goicouria. The country through which our troops marched was wholly deserted by the inhabitants, through fear of the bandit crowd arrayed in opposition to the government. Gen. Goicouria, with twenty-five men, challenged them to fight, but they always fled; and it is the opinion of the people that these stragglers intend robbing until they are satisfied or closely chased, when they will go into Honduras. Major Rogers has promised us a full description of the route.

The Popular Elections in Nicaragua.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

On Sunday last, a large table, covered with a red cloth and surrounded by officers, attracted considerable attention from the Americans, as they walked up and down the colonnade of the row of buildings on the west side of the plaza. Papers were thrown loose upon the cloth, and every other while the clerks would seize their pens and write. The people of the country, the simple market women, the beggars on the corners, the leper of the infirmary, all knew what it meant, but we, the editor of a newspaper, the great factotum of a country town, were completely in the dark as to the import of the red table, its officers and papers.

It was the solemn election of the Republic.

The people were exercising their greatest prerogative of electing the officers that shall rule them for another term of office. In this country the elective franchise extends to every male inhabitant of eighteen years against whom there is no criminal prosecution, and who is not charged with being a dissolute and vicious man. The voters elect delegates, who assemble in the capitals of the different departments and elect Representatives, Senators and a President. A man must be twenty-three years old to be a delegate, twenty-five to be a Representative, and thirty to be a Senator or President.

The election on Sunday last, as most public days in the republic come on Sunday, was concluded with the greatest decorum. The candidates for the Presidency were all of the same political faith, the only dispute being between the democrats of Leon and those of Granada. Don Patricio Rivas, the present popular President, was supported by the people of Granada, and General Mariano Salizar, a great favorite, by the people of Leon. A few votes have been cast for Don Nordeste Ramirez, of Leon. The struggle is between Rivas and Salizar, and it is impossible to determine at present who will be the next President of Nicaragua.

The election in Granada proceeded by cantons, or wards, each ward of 4,000 persons electing one delegate. The people generally took great interest in the result, and the number of votes ran larger than at any election held in Granada. To the governments and people abroad this significant fact cannot be avoided, that the republic of Nicaragua expresses the will of the people. All its actions emanate from their silent expression, and every movement it has made has been undertaken by the concurrence of the great body of the people. To ignore, then, the fact of our absolute independence, is to deny to the inhabitants of Nicaragua the right of self-government.

Currency of Nicaragua—Money Exchange Difficulties.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

The principal currency of Granada is small coin, mostly francs, dimes and half dimes. Thousands of dollars are paid from hand to hand, and never a higher denomination of coin than a two franc piece, and but few of them. Of every hundred dollars in circulation seventy-five dollars will be found to consist of dimes. Ten of them pass for a "strong" dollar, while eight of them pass for a dollar of the country. A decree of the country, however, makes a dollar in all cases to consist of ten dimes; still in trading, the "strong" dollar or *dinero fuerto* must be expressed to make it ten dimes for a dollar. Francs and Mexican quarters all pass for the same amount, twenty cents; and only the United States twenty-five cent piece is recognized as of more value than two dimes.

A singular feature in the local currency is the existence of a large number of dimes with holes punched in them. It is impossible to pass one of these on the market women in the plaza or a native laborer. Some say that this repugnance originated a considerable time ago, when a shrewd fellow introduced a great many counterfeit dimes into the country, and passed them off; and when the cheat was discovered, government collected all the spurious coin, and made small holes in them, as an advertisement of their unworthiness. Others say the objection is made by the Indians, because by that small hole the value of a cuartillo has been abstracted from the money. We do not pretend to decide which of these reasons is the true one; but we do say, and "say it boldly, too," that certain dimes in our possession have been indignantly refused by the market people, because the money was thus disfigured.

The Wharf at Virgin Bay—General Mora's Opinion of his Troops.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 3.]

We understand that the wharf at Virgin Bay, constructed at so much expense and labor by the Transit Company, which the traitors in the camp of the Costa Rican army attempted to destroy by fire, was not injured so much but that it can be repaired at a slight cost. As President Mora said, it was truly an act of vandalism; and when we consider that the act was the work of people who claim Nicaragua as their home, there is no language sufficient to condemn it. What plea can the incendiary urge to justify the destruction of a piece of property which reflected so much credit on the State? We could as easily forge a reason for the man who would tear down the monument to the Father of his Country, erected in Washington city. Men who do such acts are not rational to themselves.

Court Martial of Colonel Louis Schlessinger

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 95.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
VIRGIN BAY, May 3, 1856.

1. Before a General Court Martial, convened by General Orders No. 73, and of which Brigadier General Goicouria, Department Intendencia General, is President, was arraigned and tried Colonel Louis Schlessinger, 2d Rifles, N. A., on the following charges and specifications, viz.:—

Charge 1. Neglect of duty.

Specification 1. In this, that Colonel L. Schlessinger, N. A., did allow great confusion and disorder to exist in his command on the march from Virgin Bay to the Costa Rica frontiers, and did not exercise proper control over the officers and men of his command. All this on or about the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th days of March, 1856.

Charge 2. Ignorance of his duties as a commanding officer.

Specification 1. In this, that on his arrival at Santa Rosa, on the evening previous to the engagement, Colonel L. Schlessinger did neglect to muster his men and inspect their arms and ammunition. All this on or about the 20th of March, 1856.

Spec. 2. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger, N. A., did fail to keep his men together, and did allow them to scatter, so that it would have taken some time to have collected them together in case of sudden attack. All this at Santa Rosa, on or about the 20th of March, 1856.

Spec. 3. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did neglect to post picquet guards at suitable points, and maintain the necessary chain of sentinels about the quarters of his command, thus laying them open to surprise. All this on or about the 20th of March, 1856.

Spec. 4. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did, upon the approach of the enemy, neglect to form any plans of battle or give the necessary orders for the position of his men. All this at Santa Rosa on or about the 21st March, 1856.

Spec. 5. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did neglect to exert himself (during the retreat) to rally or collect his scattered command. All this on or about the 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th March, 1856.

Specification 6. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did desert his command on their retreat, and ride on in advance, accompanied only by a few personal attendants. All this on or about the 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th and 26th.

Specification 7. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did neglect, on his arrival, to make any reception of his command, but did allow them to arrive naked and hungry. All this on or about the 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th March, 1856.

Charge 3. Cowardice in presence of the enemy.

Specification 1. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did, without proper resistance or giving encounter to the enemy, desert the field himself, accompanied by a portion of his command, leaving the other portion without a commanding officer, in the power of the enemy. All this at Santa Rosa, on or about the 21st March, 1856.

Specification 2. In this, that Col. L. Schlessinger did neglect to appear during the short engagement on the field, so as to direct or in any way control the movement of the troops under his command. All this at Santa Rosa, on or about the 21st March, 1856.

To which the accused pleaded as follows:—
To specification 1, charge 1—Not guilty.
To the charge—Not guilty.
To specification 1, charge 2—Guilty.
To specification 2—Not guilty.
To specification 3—Not guilty.
To specification 4—Not guilty.
To specification 5—Not guilty.
To specification 6—Not guilty.
To the specification on 22, 23, 24 and 25—Guilty.
To specification on 26, specification 7—Not guilty.
To the charge—Not guilty.
To specification 1, charge 3—Not guilty.
To specification 2—Not guilty.
Charge 3—Not guilty.

During the progress of the Court, the following additional charge and specifications were preferred:—

Charge—"Desertion."

Specification, In this, that Colonel L. Schlessinger, Second rifles, N. A., after having been arraigned and under progress of trial before a General Court Martial of which Brigadier General Goicouria is President, did desert the service of the Republic of Nicaragua on or about the 12th day of April, 1856.

The accused not being present, the court nevertheless proceeded in the case, and finds as follows:—
Specification 1, Charge 1—Not Guilty.
Charge 1—Not Guilty.
Specification 1, Charge 2—Guilty.
Specification 7—Guilty.
Specification 3—Guilty.
Specification 4—Guilty.
Specification 5—Guilty.
Specification 6—Guilty as to the 22d, 23d, 24th and 25th, and confirms the plea of the accused as to the 26th.
Charge 2 (unanimously) Guilty.
Specification 1, Charge 3—Guilty.
Specification 2—Not Guilty.
Charge 3—Guilty.
Specification to additional charge—Guilty.
Additional charge—Guilty.

The Court unanimously passed the following sentence:—That Col. Louis Schlessinger, 2d Rifles, N. A., be degraded from the rank of Colonel, to be shot for the charges proved against him, and for desertion while undergoing trial, to be published by name in the papers throughout the civilized world.

2. The foregoing proceedings having been laid before the General Commanding in Chief, he approves of them, with the following remarks:—

The sentence of the Court on the specifications and charges preferred against Col. Louis Schlessinger, of Second Rifles, is approved, and he is therefore degraded from the rank of Colonel, will be shot as a deserter wherever found, and will be published as such throughout the civilized world.

3. The general court martial of which Brigadier-General Goicouria is President is hereby dissolved.

By command of
WM. WALKER, General Commanding-in Chief.
FR. R. THOMPSON, Adjutant General, N. A.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 10.]

We publish the official proceedings of the court martial convened under general order, No. 73, to try Colonel Louis Schlessinger for neglect, incompetence, ignorance and cowardice in the discharge of his duties, and desertion from the army. It is sufficient to say that every opportunity was given to the prisoner to relieve himself of these charges, if possible; that the court martial progressed with every delay required by the respondent; and that in the end it could come to no other conclusion than the verdict recorded in the proceedings. We may also state that during the trial Colonel Schlessinger was allowed to go at large on his parole of honor, restricted, however, to the bounds of the city guard. Soon after the privilege was granted, and before the decision of the court was known, he fled from town, breaking his plighted word, thereby affording his own testimony in favor of the decision of the court martial.

The result, therefore, may be considered the just verdict of time; and we have no hesitation in saying that the disgrace which must always attach to the defendant, will never lessen, but will continually increase until his name becomes a by-word. In his connection with this army, Colonel Schlessinger never was countenanced by the officers and troops, but adventitious circumstances kept him in a position near the Commander-in-Chief, and when the Second Rifle Battalion was formed—which was intended to be composed principally of Germans—he was appointed to its command. Here he might have won an enviable eminence, and requited the confidence of the Commander-in-Chief. To have defeated the enemy at Santa Rosa would have established him as an officer of bravery and sagacity.

He did nothing, however, and left himself to be convicted on every charge possible to be framed against a military commander. The English language could not shape another specification to complete his degradation; and should he ever be thrown into the hands of the officers of this government, the simple fact of his execution will have no other effect than to satisfy the soldiers that some atonement has been made for the disgraceful affair of Santa Rosa.

Col. Wheeler's Official Troubles—The Wandering Californians at his Office.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 10.]

The position of a minister must always subject him more or less to the importunities of travellers; and we can really feel sympathy for him as he finds his time and talent engaged in explaining profound points of international law to uncomprehending but persistent bores. There is no task more severe than trying to enlighten a mind naturally bewildered; and if we should ever break our religious scruples against using profane language, it will be when some genius fails to appreciate the clearness of our expositions on subjects that engage the editorial attention. Thus sympathetically afflicted, it may reasonably be concluded that we have lavished an abundance of sympathy on the Minister of the United States in this city. He is the only representative of his government here, and all the nephews of Uncle Sam apply to him for the thousand and one remedies to satisfy their many wants.

Particularly has this been the case since the California passengers have arrived in town. A few of them are of a nervous and timid disposition, and these being war times, they have no particular disposition to stay here. The steamer is expected every day, and as they cannot get off until she does come, they are constantly applying to the Minister for information. C. I. Wheeler is one of the most accommodating and urbane gentlemen we have ever met with, and it is his delight to relieve the anxieties of all; but being unacquainted with the movements of the boat, as a matter of course he is ignorant when she will be in. No allowance is made for this, but every day the same crowd would go and ask him the same question, until at last he became completely worn out in the explanatory service. A long specimen of Pike sauntered into his residence a day or two before he left, early in the morning, and looking around, drawled out:

"Is this the house of M-i-s-t-e-r W-h-e-e-l-e-r, our United States Minister?"

"Yes," said the youngest son of the Colonel.

"W-e-l-l, I should like to know when I'm g'wine to git away from this 'ere place. I want to go to C-a-l-i-f-o-r-n-i-a. My claim is up on the Y-u-b-a r-i-v-e-r, and I orter be thar soon."

"I'll tell you," said the representative of the Minister, "my father does not know when you will get away; but it is my opinion you are in for it, and you had better buy a ranche and settle."

Pike squared himself uneasily, but he still had a hope.

"W-e-l-l, if I can't go away to-day nor to-morrow, maybe the boat will be in Saturday, and I don't mind stopping two days."

"You will not get off for several days, and you had better content yourself."

"W-e-l-l, dandern my skin, if I don't git away from 'ere, I'll kick up a row 'tween Uncle Sam and them infernal Costa Ricans. I want to know what bis'ness they've got stopping American citizens? An' if the United States don't wollop her, she hasn't got no pluck. If I had my claim sold on the Y-u-b-a, I'd pitch in and help Billy Walker tan them niggers down thar; and if Ingland interfeared, we'd soon see which was the biggest, her or 'Meriky."

Pike "biled over," and he is now daily cursing the President of Costa Rica with a double distilled virulence; and he promises to write home to Missouri that there is a splendid chance for a "row" in these quarters.

This customer had hardly left the house before another came along, and after asking the same questions, with the same result, he wanted to be informed where the barber shop was. Enlightened on this point, he left. Another wanted to know where he could get an awful hole in his coat mended; and the third sought the shoemaker. One man wants an interpreter, and he goes to the Minister; another wants this, and another that, until the whole day is given to bestowing information.

A Dutchman came along on Friday last.

"Ish yu no de Minishter vat I hears on dat perdects 'Mericans in dish 'ere Nicaragua?"

"Yes," said the Colonel, "but you talk like a German."

"So I ish; but you see I vash born in Herkimer county, Bennsylvany, and dat makes me von American. And now you ehs I vants to know if it ish healty in dish town to eat oranges? You bees de Minishter, ven I comes to ax you dish matter, and I shall vant you to make me zatisfied. If you can answer me dat vord, I vould like to know ven de shteamboat cums: for me and mine vamily vants to go to Callyforny. Vill you makes me a question if it ish healty to eat fruit, and I ish content."

The Minister went into an explanation that it was healthy to eat an orange in the morning, but it was decidedly wrong to eat fruit and drink the bad liquor of this country at all times. Something was said about the gastric juices, but the German did not understand, and he went off muttering—

"Callyforny ish a vasht humpug. I hash been dar dwice, and I always has a biarrea and makes no monish, and some tam tief shteals mine vift—got tam."

He had a poor idea of the morality of California.

So the time was spent, until at last the Colonel posted up a notice that the steamer would leave on such a day, and this allayed the fever of the crowd. On the appointed day the steamer did go; but when the crowd came to learn something about the circumstance, the Minister and his family had gone with it. The disappointment was great, but it had to be endured; and we hope our friends will take things easy. Be content a little while. Do not fret; if you do not get away, the Minister will be back, and you can then interrogate him further on the subject.

The Great Issue in Central America—Disposition of the States and Foreign Intrigue.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 10.]

The present movement under General Walker may be characterized by as many names as there are different opinions of it; but there is only one word to define it truly. General Walker may reap the fame, and his associates may enjoy a few of the advantages, but these matters are only personal, and therefore of [illegible] than the mighty principle resting at the bottom of the revolution. We do not [illegible] affirm, that every action of the existing government, or of the Americans, is worthy of the cause or creditable to our race, for the few private wrongs are only personal, and have nothing to do with the government or the revolution. They are the excrescences upon the body politic, and as such are to be found in all communities and under all governments. They are evidences of that infirmity which must ever attach to human excellence.

The true and definite question at stake is one in which the forms and interests of government and the people are concerned. Is the world to be a representative democracy or a hereditary aristocracy? Are we to govern, or are we to be governed? Nicaragua and its interests are but pigmies to the startling proposition of universal freedom, and as the statesman ponders the momentous question the fate of a single State is lost in consideration of the entire family of States. Shall the word progress, or shall it stand still as did the sun of old at the bidding of human breath? Eighty years it has quietly and earnestly run the race of freedom, and now there is a hindrance in the pathway, which must either be broken down, or it will overwhelm the newly created principle of popular sovereignty. Centuries of time, and the hoarded treasures of wrong and sophistry, have served to frame a system of governments in Europe in which birth involves the right to rule. No matter whether the nascent ruler be a fool or a fop, he is still the peer of kings, and a lord of the democracy. The people have suffered under this singular institution too long, and soon there must be a conflict between right and wrong. There is no room for quiet in the economy of God's world; and having arrived at the point we now occupy, the road leads forward or back through scenes of blood. To stand still is impossible; and he who attempts to do so will find himself opposed to all the laws of nature and philosophy. The few, armed with hereditary power and long stored wealth, stand opposed to the many, claiming their birthright of freedom and self government. They broke down the individual despotism of kings, and now they seek to restrain the congregated authority of the people. They are the medium between despotism and liberty, and from their number and wealth, it must be a severe struggle to overturn the charter of their privileges. In a conflict against the autocracy of Russia, aristocracy has just gained a brilliant victory; and to-day it is preparing for a battle with the hosts of democracy. In the latter it will find that the opposition springs from no single despot, but from millions of kings. It will not war alone with foreign nations, but with the hearts of its own subjects.

The issue, then, embodies the freedom of Central America and the integrity of the North American continent. The democratic element has long struggled for supremacy in these States, and its struggles have been opposed by English and French influence. Gradually, but surely, the power of the former was being manifested, and to-day her strength in Costa Rica directs the servile government. In Nicaragua and Honduras she has quietly claimed a footing by seizing and holding the territories of these States. In Guatemala, if anything but the brute despotism of Carrera has force, it is the strength of English intrigue. The revolutions of this State were constantly fomented to bring the cause of popular government into disrepute. The force of British diplomacy has exerted itself in these States to obtain advantages for England; and the slightest ground of assumption was sufficient to lead to the assertion of most improbable rights. In Mexico the same charge is made, and history substantiates its accuracy. No good was sought to be conferred by these intrigues, but they were all the result of a mischievous policy, determinedly opposed to the principles of free government.

With all these historical antecedents, it is not strange that England opposes the present movement in Nicaragua. The acts of the revolution she cares nothing for, but simply the principle involved disturbs her. The spread of republican institutions threatens the existing order of her government, and therefore she opposes the independence of Nicaragua. Whatever diplomatic excuses she may urge—whatever reason she may give in morality—there is one grand principle at the base; and it was as apparent in the revolution of Texan independence as it is to-day. No politician will or can shut his eyes to these vital issues, let the surface opposition appear what it may. Europe opposes the progress of democracy.

It is, then, for Central America to determine what part she will play in this important struggle. The Russian war being closed, European governments will now turn their attention to this government, and in their attempts to solve the difficulty a conflict must ensue with the democrats of Nicaragua, and then with the republican element of the United States.

It is not difficult to determine what the ultimate result will be, but it is important to know in what condition these Central American republics will emerge from the struggle. Will they coalesce with Europe or the United States? Will the democratic element forget its old struggles and glorious fame, and join the ranks of legitimacy against the forces of popular freedom?

Some of the democrats, we know, and a large portion of the serviles, look upon the Americans with unfavorable eyes; but this feeling is gradually wearing away, and as they come to understand us better, bitterness will entirely subside. We are but a portion of the people, and when the government is firmly established, and the army becomes a secondary element in the State, they will find that the revolution has but resulted in bringing the real power of the State into the hands of the people. The democracy will rule through the ballot-box, and theirs will be the satisfaction to know that these benefits resulted from their enduring patriotism.

On the other hand, if they join with European aristocrats, the political result will be the same, for Central America will emerge from the struggle still a republic. The fight of human freedom must succeed, and no one can estimate at present when its success will terminate. For three hundred years the force of education has been drawing the world towards the goal of its redemption, and it is absurd to suppose that in this enlightened day the masses are prepared to give up those liberties and go back to feudalism and darkness. When the battle comes, it will be one of great forces, but as it has done in all fights, the right must triumph. The people and their cause, led on by the ardent patriots who are now thinking and preaching liberty in every kingdom, must succeed; and then it will be a melancholy sight to look upon Nicaragua a free State against its will. Shall this be so! Will the democrats of this republic allow the Americans to fight the battle of their liberty alone? The sentiment of the State, as it comes to us, distinctly avows its loyalty to freedom, and the people are prepared to maintain the principles they have fought so many battles in favor of.

Internal Convulsion in Costa Rica—Approaching Fall of President Mora.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

The concurrence of reports from Costa Rica, that the country is actuated by internal commotions, and that the Presidency of General Mora is in danger of overthrow, induces us to attach some importance to the statement. Before President Mora left Virgin, he believed himself that his power was unpopular at home; and he did not make himself faster by deserting so ingloriously the expedition he commenced with such vain and trenchant proclamations. *El Nicaraguense* advised in the beginning that his course would bring down upon him untold evils; but he disregarded the admonition, and the result has proved the assertion.

Three causes have conspired to bring General Mora in great disrepute at home. The vanity which prompted him to undertake, individually, the suppression of the present republican government of Nicaragua was sufficient to condemn him in the estimation of the world; but in Costa Rica, where the people might foolishly shut their eyes to the probability of such an undertaking, they could not avoid observing the disastrous chain of circumstances that commenced with and have continued to follow the expedition of invasion. But there is no reason to suppose that the people of Costa Rica approved of the war; and if we are to credit the advices from that State, it is altogether probable hostilities were commenced wholly without the consent and against the wishes of the majority. We will not assert that the people of Costa Rica approve of the presence of American soldiers in Nicaragua; but they did not wish any conflict with them unless a general league of offensive operations could be formed among the four adjoining Central American States against this republic. Failing to perfect this combination, they chose to live in peace and accept what destiny might be held in store for them under the course of progressive events that now threaten to disenthrall the world.

But the real and tangible grounds of Gen. Mora's recent unpopularity at home is to be found, first, in his imprudent attack on this State without effecting the above combination; second, for having sacrificed so many victims, both by war and cholera, in an unprovoked outrage upon this republic; and, third, for having introduced the cholera into Costa Rica, where it is creating sad devastation.

It is also stated that the republicans, or those discontented with the existing authority in Costa Rica, have originated a revolt in the city of Alajuela, where the people have always opposed the servile administration of affairs. In consequence of these untoward circumstances, says our Spanish editor, General Mora is uncertain of his continuation in power, or of his own personal security.

Thus the false steps of politicians continually jeopardize the national welfare and undermine the stability of peace and progress. With blind temerity General Mora involved himself in a war with Nicaragua, and to-day the prospect of ruin to himself and evil to his country is the prominent contingency of the times. *Of the three thousand men brought with him in his warlike invasion, scarcely twelve hundred survive to tell the story of their defeat and the destruction of their friends.* War, with all its horrors, has visited them, and yet the chain of disastrous consequences has not ceased to afflict the survivors. The men are deserting and the officers resigning—all [illegible] disgusted with the improvidence that thus plunged the country into such a labyrinth of misfortunes. And still, we may add, the end is not yet.

The Press of Costa Rica—Its Writings and their Effect.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

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The war now existing between this State and Costa Rica, with all its present terrible disasters and future consequences to the government and people of the latter, is the immediate and direct result of a prostituted servile press in that State. During the past six months, we have carefully perused the journals from San José which have fallen into our hands, and we have never yet taken up a single number of the *Boletin Oficial* or the *Album de la Paz*, in which we have not found, in almost every column, falsehoods without number, and slander and abuse the most obscene and insulting to the people of Nicaragua, whenever affairs in this State were the subject of discussion. The American people general[illegible] Walker and his brave soldiers in particu[illegible] the themes of vituperation, insult [illegible] objurgation, as unmerited as unwise, [illegible] evil, lasting, severe and retributive. [illegible] was too gross and glaring to utter [illegible] Walker—no misrepresentation [illegible] to circulate against American[illegible] and no epithet too infamous to apply to the patriots and statesmen of Nicaragua who are and were toiling with hand and head to raise up our beloved State from her fallen position, and enable her to assume a proud and honorable station among the nations of the earth.

What have been the consequences of this unwise, disreputable and mischievous course of conduct? First, it inflamed the minds of the people of Costa Rica against Gen. Walker and his army, and against the entire American people; roused the resentment of those who were the direct objects of so much obloquy and abuse; opened a bloody war and a terribly disastrous campaign, in which have been sacrificed the lives and property of innocent [illegible] in which she must now needs beg humiliatingly for [illegible] peace. How must her statesmen, soldiers and leading citizens now feel at being thus suddenly brought down from their "pride of fight," and compelled to supplicate a favor from those whom they have heretofore represented as destitute of every noble quality, and wanting in every manly virtue! And to what extreme necessity for falsehoods are these writers now pushed to explain away the campaign just closed so disastrously to their country, who have been so efficiently instrumental in rousing the war fever there, and so prolific of boasting and promises of victories and glory!

The servile, mindless instigators of public disorders and national prejudices, however, are never at a loss for explanations of disasters and defeats; and we presume that the writers for Costa Rica journals will make a shift to still longer hoodwink and deceive the mass of the people of that State, and in the very teeth of overthrow and disgrace, claim a glorious victory and a triumphant campaign. But the press cannot be always chained; and its emancipation from thraldom and the hireling duties of the sword and bayonet is sure to take place even in Costa Rica. The "ragged, tatterdemalion" army, led hither by traitors and cowardly renegades from Nicaragua, will do much more effectual service at home for us than they did for Costa Rica while they were upon our soil; and we shall not be of the number of those who may envy the honors conferred upon the rulers and leading men of that State by their intimate associations with those treason-dyed parricides who betrayed their native land to enjoy the temporary honors won by the Costa Rica army, when it butchered the Santa Rosa prisoners, and slaughtered in cold blood the unarmed men at Virgin.

We rejoice heartily, however, at the signs of returning peace; and while we claim for Nicaragua the honors of a triumph, we cannot but regret that our victory and Costa Rica's humiliation have their origin in the same source; and we certainly hope that the severe lesson taught her by this campaign may result in the liberation of the press, and its elevation in tone and ability commensurate with its high mission and vast responsibilities.

American Enterprise in Nicaragua—The Contrast.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

Wherever we look about us in this State the glance is occupied with contrasts. Here an improvement, and there an ancient form; here a labor saving machine, and there a labor wasting piece of furniture. The democratic party, impelled by the progressive spirit of the age, has sought to introduce the works of modern utility; but the aristocratic element as continually shut them out, fearful lest the people might become enlightened and consequently powerful.

A singular feature of these enterprises consists in the proprietorship. Americans have introduced and carried out all the grand enterprises that have promised benefit to the State. Wharves and steamboats are the work of their hands; and in most places, even the rotary pump has waited for foreign energy to adapt it to the unhandy wells of this country. Some native democrats have engaged to improve their places, but they have always found it a fruitless effort in the face of the determined opposition made by their neighbors. The simple natives have been taught to avoid learning these new machines, as they thereby injure themselves, and pave the way to deprive themselves of work.

But the time is changing, and all Nicaragua will soon learn that modern science and American enterprise has done nothing to injure the human race; but that rather, every labor saving machine is but the gradual development of the day when all men shall live more comfortably than at present, on less resources. Work is money; and when labor is saved, all classes of workmen are nearer their redemption from toil.

Miscellaneous Incidents.

El Nicaraguense, of April 26, has the following news items:—A general rumor having obtained circulation that Col. Parker H. French had been entrusted by the government with its business negotiations in New Orleans, we think it but justice to the public at large to deny the statement as altogether groundless. Col. French has no connection whatever with this government; and, as an evidence of this, we are warranted in saying that he is at present engaged in doing the republic of Nicaragua all the injury his genius is capable of. He at least aims this intention, and persons coming from San Juan del Norte say he is not allowing his determination to rest quiet. Fortunately, he can do no material damage.

Col. Wheeler, United States Minister, left for Leon on Saturday last, and has not yet returned.

Granada is now more healthy than at any period since the advent of the Americans.

Commodores Slocum and De Brisott are both rusticating in this city at present.

Campbell, who shot Mooney on the day of the departure of our troops for Rivas, was tried by court martial on Tuesday, and condemned to death. He was executed on the plaza on Thursday morning, in the presence of the whole army and a large concourse of people.

The President and his Cabinet is still in Leon, and will remain until circumstances allow of his return to Granada.

Levi Woodbury Wheeler, the youngest son of the American Minister, who was so sadly wounded by a gunshot wound, accidentally given on the road to Leon, has been brought to this city, and is fast recovering. The little fellow is around in good spirits, and promises to suffer no material damage from his wounds.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 27.]

Don Ferman Ferrer, Minister of Hacienda, is now in his city.

The annual election has just passed off with great interest and quietude. Don Patricio Rivas and General Mariano Salinas were the opposing candidates for the Presidency, and were both democrats. It is impossible to conjecture at present who is elected.

Several prisoners of state are now in the guard house, but what their ultimate disposition will be we are unable to determine.

Brigadier General Fry will command in the Department the garrison consisting of the Second Light Infantry Battalion.

The family of Colonel Wheeler, United States Minister, will leave for the Atlantic States in the steamer this morning. Colonel Wheeler accompanies his family to San Juan del Norte, from whence he will return immediately.

We have every reason to believe that the reported recall of Colonel Wheeler, United States Minister to this republic, and the appointment of Mr. Hiss to fill his place, is altogether without foundation.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 10.]

A late number of the *Album de La Paz*, of San José, urges upon the government the propriety of introducing Chinese laborers into that State, for the purpose of working the haciendas of coffee, sugar, rice and cacao. It asserts that the Chinese are peculiarly adapted to the climate of Central America, and that their sustenance would be a matter of great economy.

NOTICE.—The business affairs of the late Judge J. Caleb Smith, having been entrusted to the undersigned, any information his friends from abroad may desire, will be furnished, on application. J. A. RUGGLES, Agent of Wines & Co., Granada.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

We notice with pleasure the arrival in this city of Padre Salazano, Curate of Acojapa. He officiated yesterday at the funeral service of Capt. Walker, and attracted much attention by his fine appearance and christian bearing. Padre Salazano is one of the strong democrats of this State, a man of education, and one who, with Padre Vijil, is capable and willing to do great good in the country.

A courier arrived in this city yesterday, from Leon, carrying despatches to Gen. Walker, and also bringing information of the dangerous and probable fatal illness of Edmund Randolph, Esq. Mr. Randolph has long been laboring under a pulmonary affliction; but his friends had hoped, from recent accounts, that the climate of the northern portion of this State had resuscitated his system beyond the reach of danger. We give the news with a sorrowful heart, and with a hope that he may yet recover. No man under the general could be so illy spared at present.

A letter from San Juan del Norte says that Princess, sister of the negro King of Mosquito, is now a servant in the house of a colored preacher at that place, named Smith.

Col. Mendez, who left this city in company with Gen. Goicouria, is again in town, after a pretty extensive trip through Chontales.

NOTICE.—Employment will be given to shoemakers, tailors and seamstresses, at good wages, by applying to Thos. F. Fisher, Colonel and First Assistant Intendant General, Granada; or Ira Munson, Massaya.

GRANADA, May 14, 1856.

The enemy, before leaving Rivas, filled all the wells with dead bodies, and otherwise injured the town to such an extent that it will hereafter be almost impossible to live there. The greatest evil thus done falls on the opponents of the present government of Nicaragua, and is a just punishment inflicted on the people who deserted their own soil to unite with a foreign foe to invade the State.

PROCLAMATION.—Juan Rafael Mora, the sanguinary President of Costa Rica being, (according to his own statement) about to exterminate the democracy of Nicaragua, I deem it proper to announce for the "cause of suffering humanity" that I am now, and continue at all times, ready (until the great event comes off,) to "clothe the naked" and "unprove the appearance of the outer man." Having constantly in my employment an efficient corps of workmen, I am thus enabled to supply my patrons with despatch, having just concluded arrangements with an extensive importing house in New Orleans, I will be constantly in receipt of the latest styles and most improved fabrics. I most respectfully solicit the officers of the army and citizens in general, when in want of anything in the clothing line, to call at the "Pioneer Merchant Tailoring establishment" of James H. Means, and I will guarantee to afford them every satisfaction. Particularly observe my store, sign of the Golden Goose.

NOTICE.—*El Nicaraguense* will be published hereafter every Saturday at the rate of eight dollars per annum. The paper is now one of the handsomest weeklies issued out of the United States, and is entirely devoted to the matters pertaining to Nicaragua; it can but be a most desirable companion to every American and Nicaraguan in the republic. As a medium of advertising to New Orleans and New York merchants, the fact that it is widely circulated throughout the whole of Nicaragua is the best recommendation.

El Nicaraguense, of May 17, says:—We are wholly without local items this week, and we should like to know on whom the responsibility rests? We have searched every corner, run at every noise, but nowhere [illegible] up the slightest approach to a paragraph. If the dogs of this city were all killed off, there would not be sufficient annoyance to keep us awake.

While we are in a peck of trouble about the scarcity of news, the Postmaster informs us that great piles of our papers are boxed up in his office, awaiting the steamers for New York and California. These papers would be a perfect god send to editors abroad, and yet boats fail to come and take them where they are so much wanted.

During the week we have been visited by frequent and plentiful showers, to the great delight of the people and the sweet refreshment of the earth. With the season of rain and verdure the health of the city returns.

The town of Granada is remarkably lonesome at present. The streets look deserted, and the market place has fallen away in the number of merchant women at least one-half.

Considerable sickness prevails at present among the native population. We have heard of two cases of smallpox.

Last week a party of serviles connected with the Costa Rican army went across the lake to the island of Ometepe, and destroyed a large quantity of wood belonging to private individuals, which had been cut for the steamers. They also killed one white man, whose name we could not learn.

Don Senor Max. Thoman, of Gotham notoriety, has favored us with a specimen of Cognac equal to the best drank in the locality where brandy is made. We are authorized to state that he has a few more left at his institution on Hospital street, fronting the San Francisco Convent.

Mr. Chas. Wasseman has been appointed Consul of the King of Prussia for Granada City.

The government of Honduras has published a decree ordering the Minister of Hacienda to receive francs at the bate of five for 87½ cents.

The same paper adds:—Wines & Co. inform us that at least 1,100 issues of *El Nicaraguense* were sent to the Eastern States by the last express. Pretty good circulation for a new paper. Besides these, 1,000 copies were forwarded to different parts of the republic and the neighboring States.

Wines & Co. forwarded by the steamer of Friday 800 letters for the Eastern States.

Obituary.

El Nicaraguense of April 26, says:—Lieut. JOHN S. JONES died on Thursday night. He deserved to live for the good of his adopted country.

On Thursday, Capt. — COOK, who was wounded in the left breast at the battle of Rivas, while heading a charge against the enemy, died from the effect of the wound. He was buried at twelve o'clock that night, with the honors of war. The American brass band played the funeral march, and the ceremonies were otherwise conducted in a manner to pay the utmost respect to a lion hearted officer. The memory of Sir John Moore's burial in the Peninsular war, was strongly brought to mind on the occasion.

Judge J. CALEB SMITH, well known in California and Virginia, died in Granada on Friday, 25th of April, after a short attack of fever. The best of medical advise and attention was rendered to Judge Smith, but the disease could not be stayed, and another gallant and honorable gentleman has given his life to make memorable the grave yard of Granada.

El Nicaraguense of May 2, says:—Lieutenant Colonel Brewster, of the First Rifle Battalion, died in this city on Tuesday night, after a short illness of three days. His sick bed was soothed by a lady's kindness and his funeral honored as a soldiers should be.

Died at Granada, April 27, Nathaniel Parker Potter, aged 27 years, First Lieutenant of Company D, First Rifle Battalion. Lieutenant Potter was a native of Albany, N. Y. He emigrated to California in 1848, joined General Walker in the Lower California expedition, was among the first to follow him to Nicaragua, was an active participator in the capture of Granada, and received the wound from which he died, while gallantly charging the enemy in the second battle of Rivas. It will be some consolation to his many friends at home and in California, to learn that all the care sorrowing companions and a brother's unremitting attention could give; he received.

Died at Granada, on the 28th inst., Griffith Gray, of Kentucky, aged 27.

[From El Nicaraguense, May 17.]

On Thursday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, Capt. JAMES WALKER, of company A, second light infantry battalion, died at Massaya, and was buried in this city yesterday. Capt. Walker was the youngest brother of General Wm. Walker, and only arrived in this city about three weeks ago. Owing to an exposure in the service of the State, he was seized with inflammatory rheumatism, which subsequently resulted in his untimely death. During his illness, Capt. Walker was attended with all the care that could be bestowed; and much credit is due to Capt. John McCardle, who attended him at his bed during his entire sickness. Senor Francisco Bravo, Governor of Massaya—a gentleman whose feelings and ability always prompt him to acts of kindness towards Americans—is also spoken of by the attendants of Capt. Walker as most unremitting and solicitous in his care. Before his death Capt. Walker confessed himself and received the holy sacrament administered by the Catholic Church; and his last wish was to be buried as a true believer in that religion. After his death, a party of sixteen natives was detailed to bring the corpse to this city. This morning, under the charge of Capt. Williamson, Quartermaster, a suitable coffin was provided, and at 11 o'clock the funeral procession formed on Heina street, and, accompanied by the heads of the civil department, the garrison soldiers, and a large and brilliant array of native and American officers, together with the American citizens in town, proceeded across the plaza, and to the cathedral, where high mass was performed in the presence of a large attendance of the population. Afterwards the funeral cortege moved off to the cemetery, and the body was interred with the solemn ceremonies of the Catholic religion. A brave man, an accomplished gentleman and a general favorite has thus passed away, and is to-day exalted among the "spirits that inhabit eternity."

List of Arrivals at Granada on May 10.

Brig'r Gen. Hornsby and staff, with four companies of recruits for the army.	James R. Babcock, N. York.
	Edward C nnor..... do
	Holland P. Gates..... do
	L. P. Dunton .... do
Henry Gabel........Ohio.	George H. Smith.... do
Wm. H. Clark....... do	John Gerry and two ladies .... do
Patrick Sharkey ... do	Mrs. G. F. Alden.... do
R. W. Gates ....Illinois.	Alex'r B. Jackson... Tenn.
J. G. Scott.......... do	Edward L. Craten.... do
James McComb ..... do	Wm. Rosbrow.....Indiana.
George R. Cushing .. do	Daniel Hurley.......Penn.
Urias Eitzer .... do	Wm. McDougal ...... do
John Yore.......... do	Timothy Hollohan, Georgia.
Harris A. Peeples... do	John M. Medina.....Mich.
James A. Peck...... do	A. A. Fisher and lady do
Homer Quirck ...... do	Jas. Clifford and lady, N. H.
G. G. Nixon.......N. York.	M. H. Sesler Bellgentaine...... Switzerland.
Chas. G. Smith...... do	Jas. G. Robinson..Missouri.
George R. Cook ..... do	
John O'Brien .... do	
Robt. H. Charles.... do	

List of Letters

REMAINING AT THE POST OFFICE IN GRANADA, MAY 5, 1856.

A		
Appley Ira M	Aply Marshal—2	Appley J M
Armstrong J Glenn		
B		
Bourke Martin	Bailey Thos L	Brown B F
Bolton Jas C	Browne G M	Barker Dr E D
Beebe Geo M	Bradley Hiram	Bean Dr Alex M
Bayley Capt D K	Barnhouse Chas C	Boyle John O
Baldwin Capt Thos	Bushnell Wm	Brown Geo E
C		
Cutler Chas T—3	Clinton DeWitt	Connelly David
Colton James	Colvin Dr A T	Cheesman B F—2
Cooper Thos	Campbell Geo H—2	Christelar David
Crummy G W	Conklin Benj B	Casey Thos
Corbet Daniel	Coyle Henry	Conker Fred F—2
Colby Edwin H		
D		
Dusenbury Alfred S	Darwin Dr S M	Dick James—2
Dorsey Samuel P—2	Dillingham	Davidson Gustavus
Dieckman H H L	Devalt Thos C—2	Dunn Thos
Dowsing Chas	Dickson Henry	
E		
Ewing, Theo F	Evans Dr Wm	Eldredge Jas
F		
French Parker H	Fauth Edward	Fisher Willard S—2
Felix Henry	Forrest D C	Field Green B
Fellows Thos	Ferrere Chas J	Fisher G W
Finney John H	Field G B	
G		
Gurding J W—2	Grimes Mrs Clarissa	Grayson Peter W
Gaudreau Gustave	Gates Capt	Gron Morris U
H		
Haley, Geo	Hossack Alex	Haynes Wa'sm G
Henry Jno	Hixon S C	Hopping Chas
Hegeeboome R	Hall A L	Harrington T
Holmes Dr W R	Hankins Chas	Hodsdon Benj L
J		
Johnson John N—2	Jones Alex Dr—4	Johnson Arthur—2
Jamison Lt J C		
K		
Kingland E W—2	Kenney Geo M	Keipp Seth W
L		
Lezynsky Hy S	Luther Edwin B	Lamb Geo W
Lamoureux Geo A	Loring Lucius	Lanle Henry
Lewellyn F L	Liegal Jos N	Luce Charles—2
M		
Morris Lieut Wm	Maltravers Ernest	McGoff Mortimer
Myer O C	Merrow Wm T—2	Murphy Wm
Madison Jas	Morris Capt Wm—3	Maver Joseph
Miller Wm L	McKuskey Wm	Magnus Wm
Miler W	McAlpin Major J W	Morrison Capt A J
Martin Thos W	McDonall Chas	
N		
Natzdorff Mrs A	Norton Wm	Nicholson Wm C, Jr
P		
Petterie Joseph		Prior Volney B
R		
Reynolds Francis H	Rigg Edwin A	Rider Capt John W—2
Read Wm G	Randolph Edm'd—2	Rapier John H
Ronalds Geo L—2	Ritcher T B	
S		
Sweeny Jas W	Scott Wm B	Squires Wm K
Skuner L	Satpley B G	Sherlock T T—2
Stanford Wm	Summers J W	Starr Raymond T
Smith Stephen	Salmon Dr Chas	Swift Capt J R
Sarborn Jas H	Snyder Dr Henry—2	Sully Jno—2
Stetson Geo J	Swift (Capt of Port)	
T		
Tripre T H—2		Trask Wm F—2
V		
Van Dusen Thomas		Vandyke Capt C
W		
Wilkins Geo W	Williams J M	Wilson Capt David—2
Woodhouse T G	Weiss A	Wordell L C
Wallas Don Antonio	Willard G M—2	Worthington H G
Welsh David B	Waddill Wm A	Wilkes Geo—2
Wadsworth D N—3	Wilkins Douglas J	Williams Jno
Willard Geo M—2		Whitehead H L

J. A. RUGGLES, Postmaster.