FROM NICARAGUA.

CONDITION OF WALKER'S FORCE.

Interesting Accounts from the Seat of War.

THE BURNING OF RIVAS.

RUNCRED ESCAPE OF CEN. WALKER.

NEWS FROM THE ALLIED FORCES

· COSTA RICAN PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

By the steamer Illinois we have received correspondence concerning the position of General WALKER, which we publish below. The statements to the effect that he is hommed in, with the exception of an opening to San Juan del Sur, are entitled to credit; but the rumor that he had burned Rivas, and left the country, is not entitled to much credit. His position was certainly not a desirable one, but from the known determination of the Costa Ricans not to attack him, it is not to be supposed that he has left the country so soon. The following is all of interest that has occurred:

Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Daily Times

ASTINWALL, Thursday, Feb. 19, 1957. The Illinois leaves here in an hour, and, therefore what I write must be done hurriedly. There is not much that is really news to write about. You have already received accounts of the fights at Obrajo and San George, on the 26th and 28th of January last, Since then there is little other than rumor here concerning Gen. WALKER.

When he left San Juan del Sur, with the 44 recruits he received by the Orizaba from Cultifornia, he promised to fight the enemy again at San George, as soon as he returned to Rivas. If he had done so we should have known it here before this time, and I should have been able to furnish you an account of the result. On the contrary, what news we have is to the effect that Gon. WALKER, becoming autisfied, after his failures at Ohraje and San George, that he could not prevent the progress of the enemy in their plan for surrounding him, had burned Rivas and left the country. I do not credit the rumor.

There is another, however, that may prove true. It is, that he had burned all of Rivas, except the boundaries of the principal Plaza, and that he had fortified and was defending that portion of the town. This may be true. I know that Gen, WALKER had determined to have as much open ground between him and an enemy as possible. With that view he had purposely cleared a considerable space around the town, and for the purpose of having no more to defend, in case of an attack, than should be absolutely necessary, he may have destroyed all of Rivas that would require a division of his force to defend. It is also reported that he had seized the Sierra Nevada for the purpose of making his escape in her; but you would not credit that, I think. Although he is certainly in a very had position, I do not think he will leave the country for several weeks to come. The Aspinwall Courier, having heard the rumors I have mentioned, gives and speaks of them as follows:

"The following news came to us from Panama the same day as the Walker news brought by the Columbus. We do not credit it. The story is: 'WALKER has been attacked by the allies at Rivas. He burnt the city, excepting that part around the plaza, which he had fortified and was defending. He is said to have soized the Sierra Nevada, in order, it is supposed,

to effect his escape therein.'
The Columbus left Punta Arenas on the 5th—the trip from San Juan del Sur to the above named port requires from three to four days—the Orizaba left San Juan del Sur on the 8d, and hence it is evident that the Columbus could not bring later news than the Orizaba, Again, the Sierra Nevada left Panama for San Francisco Jan. 21, and had not time to have made the trip and returned, when the above story represents her to have been at San Juan del Sur. A friend asks; 'Did she not stop on her way up?' We answer no; had she done this she would have been there when the *Orizaba* was. Hence, we believe the above story to be entirely incorrect."

Here, as in Panama, there is no one who believes that Gen. WALHER will be able to regain his former position in the country. In a conversation with a very warm friend of his cause, who is now here, I learned that, having arrived at the conclusion that if he did not receive a large addition to his force by the next steamer from California, he could not hold out against the enemy in his present position, he had determined to go back to Realejo, where be began, and wait for a more favorable turn of fortune's whoel This he might do. The enemy are near him now in large numbers, and he is not receiving reinforcements fast enough to maintain even his present feeble numbers. If he were to return to Realajo, there is no organized enemy there, and it would take them a long time to reach him. I think the more of this as an ultimate movement on his part, from the fact that when the Orizaba arrived at San Juan del Sur, he did not allow the provisions she brought to be landed. They were transferred to his little schooner, where he left them. And besides, he put on board of her one hundred and fifty stand of arms.

You are aware that since the relief of Granada, General HENNINGSEN has been Commander-in-Chief of the army. I do not think the change was a fortunate one for the cause. General Henningsen is a Hungarian soldier, thoroughly educated in the European manner of operating an army; and he is inclined to arrange what few mon he has just as a numerically respectable army would be placed to fight in Austria, England, France and Germany. He must have his centre-his flanking parties-his right and left wings and his reserve. Such men as he has under him don't understand that style of fighting. Their idea is to keep together and bring all their strength to bear upon whatever point they attack. When they see the enemy they want an order to "go in"-not to move on the enemy regularly and in separate bodies consisting of a few men each. Since I wrote you before the following proclamations have been issued by Gen.

The President of the Republic and General-in-Chief of the National Army, to the chiefs, officers and sol-

diers of the conquering army:
CHIEVE AND SOLDIERS: You have worthily fulfilled your duty to your country. Nothing—nothing
has stopped you. Glory to you.
Subodipating yellor countered and hardihood Bubordination, valor, constancy and hardinood have made you admired by your countrymen and strangers. Henceforth, your compatriots congratulate you, the pride of your brethren. I unite with them in vigilance for you.

Continue always united with this tenacity, with

these virtues—and, with them, we shall conquer a lasting peace, glorious and fruitful for our country. BAR JOSE, Jul. 11, 1857. JUAN R. MORA.

The President of the Republic to all the Costa Ricans : COUNTRYMEN: The great army of fillibusterism has been divided forever. The sword of Costa Rica has severed it. In a campaign of twenty days, access deserts destirute of provisions, the densest forests, detestable stagment pools, and swamps of deep rivers, our army has marched at the pace of conquerors, taking possession of Trinidad, of Castillo Viejo, of Fort San Carlos, of eight steamers and other vossels, of ten cannons, of three howitzers, five hundred of ten cannons, of three howithin, have marked stores, and of more than a hundred enomics, whom we have generously placed at liberty. On the surface of the river San Juan and the great lake, the rays of the sun illuminate no flag but that of Costa Rica!
All has been conquered without a shot, without a

drop of blood, and on what did we reckon? Trunks of trees, scarcely hollowed or badly fastened together with wither, have been our floot, to go and capture steamers and powerful enemies; guns which could scarcely be fired, being constantly wet from the almost incessant rains that fell, have been our only weapons, and we contended against scarcity of provisions and of everything at the outset; but there were valor, self denial, patriotism, Costa Rican union, the resolution to conquer to die, and the blessing of Providence, carrying our soldiers from victory to victory.

Masters of the river and of the great lake, put in

communication with our allies, WALKER returned to Rivas and its neighborhood, is about to be hemmed in, attacked and burned, if it be necessary, with the remains of the city in which he is cooped up; pardon has been pledged to all those who blindly followed his cause, if they shall abandon it. We know how to conquer and pardon.

But, is all concluded ? No, countrymen! The work begun must be finished; it is indispensable that we should be freed from expensus to the return of a new WALKER to disturb our pence, fighting to enslave us; WALKER to disturb our peace, fighting to enslave us; the many sacrifices endured, and the many victories over obstacles acquired, must not be starile—and to that extent, it is necessary to continue them. It is absolutely necessary that we should construct with our own hands, on the said river, a dike that may restrein now and hereafter, the usurping torrent. We shall have accomplished nothing in acquiring a precarious peace. Let us, then, conquer one solid, lasting, honorable and fruitful for Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the people of Central America.

Costa Ricans-I count upon you for everything charge of their commands,

With your support and the Divine protection, there is nothing which stall make me receds. Let us thank Providence that shields us, and to the cry of "Long live Costa Rical" let us march forward, always united, with faith and coust ancy in the future.

San Jose, Jan. 11, 1857. JUAN R. MORA.

From the men who are endeavoring to reach Gen. WALKER by way of the San Juan del Norte, we have no news, with the exception of a statement to the effect that they had taken a prominent and commanding position within a few hundred yards of Hipp's Point, on Fort Scrapiqui, and that they had attacked the fort from there without success. The men are reported in good spirits, and sanguine of

SHOCESS. The taking of the boats on the Lake and on the San Juan del Norte, is still spoken of here with much interest. Concerning the parties who were effective n the work I have obtained the following informs-

Mr. WEBSTER, who has the credit of having had a great deal to do with the plan of the seizure, visited Greytown in July last, and kept himself so much aloof from these in that now dull Mesquite metropolis during his stay that he was not popular there. He afterwards proceeded to Granada, where he remained some two months. This led Gen. Walker to suspect him, and he was watched. But he adroitly our witted the Gen. by the purchase of one of the conficated estates, which formerly belonged to Gen. VEGA, at Molacco, six miles from Granada, for which he paid \$1,000. This done, he came from being suspected to be looked upon as a friend. This purchase procured Mr. Web-STER a pasport to the United States, with the understanding that he was to return with farming impliments.

Steamer was awaiting Mr, WEBSTER'S arrival at Greytown. Wheh he arrived they left immediately for New-York, from which they returned to Costa Rica via Panama, after having formed their plans and combinations for taking the San Juan River. Spences WEB placed in the service of CHARLES MORGAN & SON, through influence of VANDERBILT, where he kept an eye upon all that was going on, and reported reguiarly what the prospects were. The Government of Costa Rica have paid both Spences and WEBSTER large sums for their services, and the latter will now be in New-York, working for the interest of Costa Rica. It is also said that WRESTER had an understanding with the British officers at Greytown, and with Mr. Manning, the Conaul in Nicaragua, to whom he submitted the nature of his intended operations. Mr. Manning is a crediter of the Nicaraguan Government to the amount of \$200,000. He is now in England, laying before the British Government the nature of his debt, which he claims WALKER never intended to pay, even if successful, in case the British Government had not pressed it. Mr. Mannine's debt was secured by a mortgage of the dues of the Transit Company.

There is but little else of interest. I may add some items that I glean from the papers.

The following items are taken from the Costa Rican news per the Columbus, received by the Panama Star

The Salvadorian brig-of-war Central America struck on a shoal 50 miles west of La Union, and carried away her rudder whilst the Columbus was in that port, At the solicitation of Admiral North and the authorities of the place, Captain Dow proceeded to her rollef, and conveyed the officers and men to La Union. The vessel was bound from Realejo to Puota Areaas, but eing caught in a heavy gale endeavored to make La

The Guatemalan Government has made a confract with a Mr. Woolbidge to run a monthly line of sailing v. Seels between San José and the port of Tehuantepec for the sum of \$3,000 a year; the contract to last for two years, with the power of renewal. The distance is 341 miles, and the price of passage-money is fixed at \$32. The time for crossing is thirty-six hours, and the fare \$25. A new map of Central America, containing over four thousand approach and additions to Bailey's map, has been lately completed and will shortly be published.

thusiagm falt by the neonly is the Nicaragna question. A fear prevails that when Walker is got rid of internal dissensions between the States will tend to prevent a restoration of tran-

In the action of the 27th and 29th of January the Costa Rican loss was 60 killed and wounded. To those at all informed of the minutize of the batthe of Obraje and San Jorge, (St. George,) in which Walker lost a considerable number of his small force, it is perfectly evident that drunkenness was one of the chief causes of his want of success. Some of his officers are very faulty in this respect, and until he rids himself of them they will continue to cripple many of his movements. He has dismissed and degraded quite a number of officers within a few months past. for this cause alone. There is another difficulty against which he has to contend since he gare up a considerable portion of the command to Gen. Henwhen he leads them than with any one else, and we opine, from hearsay of the details of recent battles, that Gen. H. is upt to fight too much as if he had under command a large number of veteran soldiers, inatead of a small number of brave but comparatively raw rocruits. The present force under his command, however, comprises more old Californians and fron-tier fighting men than he ever had before. Of his tier fighting men than be ever had before. Of his prospects on the Pacific side, we doem it perfectly safe to say, he will held out until he receives ample reinforcements, if he does not undertake too much meanwhile—assuming him to remain in Nicaragua If he should make a sudden invasion of Costa Rica, much of the allied force now in Nicaragua would probably be withdrawn, and then a masterly retreat would free him for a considerable time of their near would free him for a considerable time of their pressing attentions within his own territory.

I will write you by the next steamer. Meanwhile I

PANAMA, Thursday, Feb. 19, 1857. While at Rivas, a fortnight since, I took particular pains, by frequent conversations with both officers and men, and from careful observation, to inform myself of the condition of WALKER's command-of the feelings of the soldiers towards their shief-of the number of men he has lost since the lavasion of Nicaragua-of the springs of his successes and the cause of his defeats-and a few facts on these points may not be uninteresting to the readers of the TIMES.

TOO MUCH AGUADIENTE.

WALKER has done wonders in Nicaragua. That cannot be denied. But that he might have done much better had it not been for the drunkenness of his men and especially of his officers, does not admit of a doubt. It was the evidence of all the men I spoke to on the subject that seven-eighths of the principal officers never went into battle sober, and the officers asseverated that the men would get drunk whenever they could get liquor. My own observation led me to believe that in this respect the oficers were much worse than the men. Walkez makes every possible effort to keep his men sober. Every porson who sells liquor within his jurisdiction must pay a license of \$20 per month, which amounts to an effectual prohibition of its sale in small quantities, so that all the groggeries of San Juan del Sur, La Virgin, Rivas and St. George have been closed. Of course this does not prevent the men from getting any at all, for the liquor of the county is exempted, and I frequently saw them with flasks of miserable aguadiente, which had probably been smuggled into camp. But the officers, in camp and out of it, always manage to keep their skins well stuffed. Of course there are some exceptions, but this is the general rue.

HENNINGSEN'S report of the burning of Granadz, and of his seventeen days' fight, is frequently interlarded with complaints of the drunken state of his soldiers and officers; and he tells us in it that twenty men of one company were fallen upon and killed in the Church while so drunk that they cald not defend themselves. Indeed, it is the testimmy of both men and officers that the burning of Gransda and its eracvation might have been effected without the loss of half a dozen men, and the long siege, starvation and cholera been avoided, had not the nen and officers commenced by sacking the deposits of wines and brandits, and pouring liquor down their throats a: thirsty fravelers would water at a spring in the Great Desert. "Why did you allow yourselves to be so badly cornered in Granada?" I asked of a brave officer who had survived the horrors of that protracted siege in the Church of San Sebastian. "The truth is," he replied, " we were all drunk." In the late attack on Obraje and St. George, Walker's repulses, and the large loss he met with, is principaly ascribed to drunkenness. 4 When the Orizaba arrived at San Jaan del Sur Walken came down with three hundred men and stayed two days. When he mustered his men to return to Rivas pinc-tenths of the commissioned officers were so dronk that they were incapable of taking

nenningren's mode of pighting.

Since the brilliant defence of San Schastian WALKER has intrusted the chief command of his force to Gan-HERRINGER, much to the diseatisfaction of the soldiers. They do not lik: Henningsen's way of fighting. "When Uncle B lly leads," say they, " he don't divide his men. He throws their whole weight upon the centre of the foe-bears them down at once-a panic ensues, and they fly like sheep chased by wolves-or, in Nicaragua phraseology, they git up and git. On the contrary, Henningsen will take 500 men and divide them up as if ne had 100,000 under his command. The consequence is, that each little division to too weak to accomplish anything, and #8 get cut up and defeated_them a retreat is ordered. This is no way to fight gressers. Get them running, and then let the Minnies out on 'em." And there appears to be a good deal of sound sense in the position. WALKER's men place implicit confidence in his skill and bravery-though he has never given any great evidence of being overburdened with the former quality, and he would, no doubt, effect as much with 500 men in an attack as Henningsen would with 1,000. As a defensive officer, probably the latter is not excelled in any army.

NUMBER OF MEN LOST IN THE WAR. I have noticed a good deal of discussion in the pub lie prints as to how many men WALKER has lost in Nicaragua. Some set it down at no more than 1,000 while others put it at 5,000. The only way to approximate to the number, is by ascertaining how many men he has received; for I could not learn that any records have been kept, or at least preserved, of the dead. I found, on very particular inquiry of prominent offcers, that since a year ago las. June, WALKEE has received 4,600 men. Of this number 500 have probably been discharged or deserted. Half of these 500 have doubtless since died from diseases contracted in the country. His present force consists of 800 able-bodied men, or less, besides 150 in the hospitule, and possibly there may be 200 more in the capacity of cooks, servauts. hostlers, teamsters, mechanics, &c., making a total of 1,160. In all, therefore, including those he received previous to June, 1865, he has had not far from 5,000 men. Deduct the 1,150 now remaining in the country, and 250 yet remaining alive of those dis. charged and deserted, and the whole loss appears to be 3,600. I do not include Lockerber's command, consisting of about 400 men, on the river. And I do not believe this is an over-estimate. All the officers I spoke with, concurred in saying that the graveyards and pits of Granada contain 1.500 of the fillibusters; and many placed it as high as 2,000.

DIVERSION UPON COSTA RICA. Many persons seem to think that Walker may abandon Rivas, and make a dash with his little army into Costa Rica. This, they say, would force his enemy to follow bim and return home, leaving the river so slightly defended that his force at Greytown roight regain possession of it, and hold it until his return. I do not believe he will be so foolhardy. He knows his men better. Were he to carry them into Costa Rica, where they could desert and be protected, he would not have fifty of them left in a week after he got into the heart of the country. As to another idea that he will make a descent upon Punta Arenas de Costa Rica by sea, and plunder and destroy it; it is true it might easily be done, but the game would hardly be worth the candle. If he should undertake to march from theace to San José in the interior, he would find himself in the midst of the largest populated districts-for in and around San Josés most of the population of Costs Rica centres-and, as I said before, he would find himself minus soldiers, and probably of almost everything below the rank of a field officer.

SCRIP AND HACTENDAS.

In regard to pay, WALKER's men are rated at \$25 per month. When he had a little money, before his quarrel with President Rivas, they were paid one dollar per week in cash, "for washing," &c. But fo the past six months they have not even got this It is true, they do not now need anything for washing, for their dress consists of only a thick pair of pantaloons and a blue woolen shirt, and not many of them have duplicates. There has been no scrip issued since the destruction of the Press by the burning of Granada; but the men receive written evidence of service, which amounts to pretty much the saute thing-as neither will sell for more than five cents on a dollar. As a general thing, the men do not consider this paper worth keeping, and so dispose of it for a little bread, rum or tobacco, when they can buy them. Many of the officers have been in the habit of buying it up; and it is rich to hear them talk of paying twenty or thirty thousand dollars for a hacienda, or ten thousand dollars for a block of houses, when you know that the whole of it has been gouged out of the poor fellows who tote the muskets and eat

mule meat. WALKER seems to appropriate most of the property of the natives, under some pretence or other, wherever he sets himself down. I heard of his giving a man by the name of Bowly, at San Juan del Sur, a whole block of houses at Rivas, because he lost a quantity of quartz gold-crushing machinery by the burning of Granada! There is one consolation to the despoiled Nicaraguans-and that is, that Bowly will never occupy his houses at Rivas.

NEW RECRUITS THE BEST MEN.

The general opinion in the States is, that the old, or veteran troops of Walker, what few he has left of them, are the best fighting men. This is not so. An intelligent lieutenant, who has served nearly a year in the army, tells me that the longer the men remain in the country, the poorer soldiers they are. They become careless, languid and spiritless after a little while. He says that when his company of forty men who had been several months in the country, were ordered to charge the enemy at Granada or Masaya, I forget which, only nine of them obeyed the order. The most brilliant charge, and the best fighting, he says, was by a couple of hundred men at Granada, who had only a few days before arrived out from New-

In speaking as I have of WALKER's officers, I would repeat that I wish to make some exceptions. In his little army there are as fine gentlemen as ever trod a battle-field. I could name several of them-but as I could not probably designate them all, it would be invidious to name any.

Costa Rican Plan of Operations.

Panama, Thursday, Feb. 19; 1857. The Columbus has arrived here from Acaiutla and other Central American ports. She brings dates from San José de Costa Rica to the 3d of February, but nothing so late from WALKER as the news I forwarded you by the Tennessee. There is, however. some later intelligence from the allied forces on the river San Juan, but still nothing of any particular importance.

On the 15th of January, the boat which the Sierra Nevada sent across Lake Nicaragua to look for her missing New-York passengers, reached Fort San Carlos, and was taken possession of, with her eight men, by the Costa Ricans. On the 17th, at a conference on board the Lake steamer Virjen, General Jose J. Moza, brother of the President of Costs Rica, Generals Ca-NAS, CHOMOPRO, ZAVALA And MARTINES, General Mona was selected as chief of the allied forces. MONA did not accept the appointment, but proposed a plan of operations, which was adopted with enthusiasm, and which it was intended to put into immediate exe-

On the 21st, the troops united at Naudaime, near Granada, with the divisions of Canas, Xateuon and ZAVALA, in all 2,150 men.

On the 22d the whole force marched to occupy St George. I forwarded you the results of the battles of Obraje and St. George by the Tennessee.

On the 18th, cannon was heard at Serapiqui, as the mail courier was leaving. On the same day a few shors were fired at, but fell short of the first fort of the Costs, Ricans, below Scrapiqui. The shots were returned "out of courteso," upon which the little steamer fell down the river again. This is the victory, perhaps, that the Tennessee here gives to the fillibusters.

It was said that the Costa Ricans intended to make an immediate attack upon the Walker men on the river. The Bolstin Oficial, of Costa Rica, reports the number of fillibusters at Fort Anderson to be 180 men, which shows that they have very exact information of the morements and strength of their enemy, as perity about it, and it is to be hoped it will not suffer

this is the exact number Col. Looksings had there | injury from any interruption to it from the accident before the last arrivals from New-Yurk and New Or-

Captain Dow took off from the Guatamalian war brig Centre America, which wruck on a shoel and tost her rudder, 56 miles from L. Union, twenty-four sol. diers and sallors and four officers, whom he took into La Union.

The British war steamer Esk was at San José de Guatemala on the 28th ult., as also the British ship Admiral Greenfield, the latter bound to Shanghae. CHRIS. LILLY IN TROUBLE.

CREIS LILLY, a fancy man, who was sent away from San Francisco by the Vigilance Committee, and who sailed from San Juan del Sur about two months ago in a little schooner, with part of a cargo of coffee, for Manzanillo, Mexico, and who was supposed to be lost, has at last turned up. CHRIS., by stress of weather, was obliged to put into Realejo, where he was captured, put in irons, and taken to San Juan de Guatemala, on a charge of being a fillibuster, and having supplied WALKER with provisions. By request of the American Consul at the city of Guatemala, in the interior, he was to be taken there.

STEAMER BOUTE. I have just learned that the Railroad Company have chartered the P. M. S. S. Co's fine steamer Panama for the regular trip to Central America. The Railroad Company consider this trade to be of too great interest to them to be interrupted in the outset.

UNITED STATES NEUTRALITY LAWS. I have good reason to believe that the sloop-of-war St. Marys, which ought, ere this, to be at San Juan del Sur, will see that the United States Neutrality laws are strictly obeyed while she lays there. Com. Mkr. VINE had no special instructions from the Navy Department on the subject-the Secretary simply requesting him to send a vessel there. But the Commodore instructed Capt. DAVIS to watch closely the California steamers, and to see that they landed neither men nor munitions of war for WALKER, and Captain Davis would be much inclined to do so, with-F. W. R. out instructions.

Starment of Horace Davis.

HORAGE DAVIS, one of the passengers arriving in the Illmois, informed our reporter, that the steamer Sonora which brought the passengers from San Francisco on the Paciac side, stopped at Acapulco. A passenger on board the steamer went on shore at this point and was absent about half an hour. No other passengers left the steamer. The passenger on his re. turn to the steamer said that he was informed by the natives that General WALKER had been completely routed by the Costa Ricans, and had only about 50 men left, the temainder having been killed and taken prisoners. This news was said to have been brought to Acapulco by one of General Walker's men who escaped to Acapulco in a skiff. When the passengers arrived at Panama they heard nothing of this alleged defeat of General Walker, but it was stated that Walker was still at Rivas with 600 men under his command and plenty of arms and provisions.
Mr. Davis states that four or five of the Illinois'

passeng is were men who had originally started to ion WALKER. They had become disgusted, however, with the unpropitious prospects awaiting WALKER and the unfavorable rumors of his treatment of his soldiers, and therefore had concluded to back out and make their way as best they could to their peaceful homes again.

Statement of Wm. Ashfield. The following facts were communicated to our re. porter by WM. ASHPIELD, another of the Illinois' passengers:

An Englishman and his son came on board the steamer at Aspinwall, on the 20th of February inst. He did not learn their names. The Englishman told him that he and his son came, two days previous, from one of the Costs Rican posts. He was there told by General Mona, of the Costa Rican army, that Gen. WALKER and his men were entirely hemmed in, and would be obliged inevitably in a short time to surren-

He was, moreover, shown letters, announcing the fact that additional forces were then on their way from neighboring States to join the Costa Ricans.

The Costa Ricans were sanguine of a speedy overthrow of General WALKER. It was stated that when they did get him in their possession they would show neither him or his officers any mercy, but hang them like so many banditti, without fear or relent.

Mr. Ashrield says that he has been for the past three years at Marysville, California, the former residence of Gen. WALKER. The General's law shingle, he states, still remains, nailed at the side of the old office he occupied. As for the General's legal or moral reputation, he does not picture them in very glowing or eulogistic terms. The general sentiment, he does not hesitate to say, did not accord him more than extra legal ability, while it gave him in morality a character unscrupulous and selfish.

There were several passengers on the Illinois who

came from the Chontales Mines. A majority of them were in bad health. They stated that their average diggings were, each man, ten dollars a day. No later news was brought by them from Gen. WALKER than the accounts published in the Times on the arrival of

Statement of Col. Sam Asten.

This gentleman, who was a passenger by the Illinois, informs us that he left San Francisco on the 5th of February in the steamer Sonora, which put into Acapulco on the evening of the 12th for the purpose of coaling. The steamer remained at that port about three hours, during which time he, in company with other passengers, went on shore. He was informed by a Spaniard known as "John" a former acquaintance of his in San Francisco, and at that time-keeper of a house called the Louisiana Hotel, in Acapulco, that a rumor was then current in town that WALKEE had fought a desperate battle with the allied forces, destroying about 1,200 of their men, and losing some 250 of his own. Col. Asren states that he heard also another rumor in Acapulco to the effect that WALKER had been completely routed, experiencing a severe loss. It is evident that these rumors must have referred to the actions of Obraje and San George, an account of which was received here by the

arrival of the Tennessee. Col. Asten, it will be remembered, was among the earliest of those joining WALKER. He raised a regiment of sixty-five men, in Placer County, California, and joined General WALKER at Granads, in October, 1864. General WALKER had just taken possession of Granads. The whole force of the General at this time was only 103 men. He remained with the General four months. There were no fights during this period. Some additional recruits arrived during the time specified, perhaps one hundred in all. WALKER was waiting full of ambition and hope, but did not attempt to do much on account of the inefficiency of his force. At the end of four months the
Colonel left on leave of absence and went to San
Francisco, and returned with 81 recruits under his
Francisco, and returned with 81 recruits under his command. Shortly after his return peace was de-clared between the Chomorro party and Gen WALKEE. Soon after the declaration of peace he left, but not till he had taken part in the battles at Masaya and Granada, and won a reputation for undauuted bravery and daring as a soldier and officer.

The Colonel still has confidence in Gen. WALKEE,

and feels assured that he will yet achieve a brilliant triumph over his enemies.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

The Indigo Trade-The Reported Guano

Correspondence of the New-York Dady Times. PANAMA, Thursday, Feb. 19, 1857.

The steamer Columbus, Capt. J. M. Dow, arrived here on the 16th inst. from Acajutla, San Jose de Guatomala, Punta Arenas de Costa Rica, and other Central American ports. In the Bay, sixty miles from Pausma, on the 18th, she lost her propeller, and Capt. Dow was obliged to anchor and dispatch a messenger for assistance. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer Panama was chartered to tow her up. which she did safely. The Columbus has a cargo valued at \$180,000, nearly \$150,000 of which is in indigo. The balance of the cargo consists of 1,200 sacks coffee, 1,500 hides, sugar, rice, balsam, palm leaf hats, &c., together with twenty cabin and six deck passengers, and fourteen fillibusters.

She brought also some specimens of pure silver from the mines of Salvador; and it is estimated that in the coming twelve months there will be in the ports of Eulvador 600 tons of rich silver ore from the mines for shipment across this Isthmus to New-York. There will also be for the Columbus a much larger amount of indigo for her next trip, or for the steamer that may be sent while she is under repair, than she now brings. This trade begins to have an air of prosto the Columbus. It will be at least two months before she can be again ready for sea.

The Guatamalian Government has made a contract for a monthly line of sailing vessels to Tehuantepec, giving it a benus of \$3,000 a year. Distance, \$41 miles; passage, \$82. In | Guatamala they have an idea that the Tebuantepec and California steamship line will soon be in operation, in which, I think, they will be disappointed.

We have no local news of importance. Our last accounts from Bogota do not mention the arrival of Mr. Morer, United States Special Commissioner, there. By the next mail we may have something in regard to the difficulties at issue with the United States.

The flaming account of the New-York Herald's Washington correspondent, of the discovery of a rich guano island, that of "Sombrero, in latitude 380 (187) north of Greenwich and longitude 630 80' W. from New-York, by Mr. John E. Gowen of Boston, is intended for a bogus-stock operation. This "rich guano deposit" will be found to be as great a humbug as was Mr. BENSON's in the Pacific. If Mr. Marcy has taken so great an interest in this discovery as the Washington correspondent says he has, he is more easily fooled than most men holding his high position. The Island of Sombrero has a little birdlime on it, but not a ton of guano, and Mr. Gowen knows it. It is simply a scheme like the Benson dodge, to get a sort of demi-indorsement by the Government of the guano story, in order to sell bogus

Bungon is said to have made a hundred thousand dollars out of our Government's sending Com. Msr-VINE on a Tomfool's errand to look up guano islands in the Bacific; and Gowkn is thus probably encour aged to try the same thing on. No guano that is worth anything will ever be found where there are heavy rains. I happen to have the best authority for saying that the guano which Capt. Lucas and Ban-son's son exhibited to the State Department, and which they pretended to have taken from the islands visited by the Independence, was got from the Chinchas. Look out for bogus guano stocks.