

IMPORTANT FROM NICARAGUA.

Arrival of the Brig "Ocean Bird" from San Juan—Decree of Expulsion against Foreigners—Martinez Elected President—Great Defensive Preparations for the Reception of Walker—Disposition of the Present Force in Nicaragua—Return of Colonel Schlessinger—His Statement and Defence.

From our Own Correspondent.

SAN JUAN DEL NORTE, Sept. 2, 1857.

By the brig *Ocean Bird*, which leaves this port to-day, I have an opportunity of sending you the latest news from this region.

The Americans in Nicaragua have been expelled from the country by a decree of MARTINEZ and JEREZ, issued in Managua in the fore part of this month. The decree ordered the expulsion of all those who served in the ranks of WALKER, and not only those, but nearly every American in the country, including many honest and industrious men, who have been driven out at three or four days' notice, leaving their property and interests behind. The American flag actually affords no protection to our countrymen here. Col. HARPER, the only American living in Granada, or in that part of the State, claimed to be an Englishman, in order to have security and protection. It is a humiliating reflection to an American that while citizens of petty German and Italian States live here in perfect security as to life and property, the broad banner of the Stars actually affords none at all to its subjects.

Many of the persons who have been banished the country, are known to be of worthy, honest character, and not to have been engaged in the service of Gen. WALKER. But this avails them little with the petty chiefs who rule in Nicaragua, and who are prompted to this course only by a blind hatred of our nation and people in general.

If an American remonstrates against any abuse, or threatens to complain to his Government, he is only answered with the trite sneer, that *the United States never protect her citizens abroad*. The least our Government can do, is to send an Envoy to protect the few Americans here, and to open the doors of this new Japan to all such honest men as may wish to enter and carry on any peaceful employment.

A report has reached me that our special envoy, Mr. JOHN CAREY JONES, had been sent out of Costa Rica by order of President MORA; he being looked upon as possessing filibustering tendencies. It is quite probable that the animosity those people feel towards us may have led them to commit this imprudent act.

The election in Nicaragua was to have taken place on the 20th inst., and MARTINEZ has probably been elected. MARTINEZ is a man of little education, but of a stern, unyielding character, and displays more largely than any one else the general animosity to Americans.

It is expected in the interior that WALKER will again invade Nicaragua, and great preparations are being made to receive him. A decree has been published, forbidding all natives of the country to leave, and ordering all able-bodied men, between fifteen and sixty, to hold themselves in readiness to take up arms in case of an invasion.

Nicaragua has many resources, her people are generally well united, and with such a stern, inflexible fellow as MARTINEZ for their chief, blood will flow in torrents before WALKER will succeed in taking away the independence of the people. Besides, the other Central American States are on the alert, and an alliance has been formed with two or three of the South American States, who are to lend aid in case of another invasion of the country.

I do not believe that a force under 10,000 men would be sufficient to maintain WALKER in the country. If a smaller force is brought, it will only be for their speedy destruction. Let it be remembered that over 4,000 men were lost by WALKER when fighting against the Central American States—scattered, disunited. How much greater now must be the expenditure of blood before conquest will perch upon the arms of the Filibuster Chief. Let not young and inexperienced men calculate too easily upon what the game will cost, and find their mistake only when it is too late, as did the thousands of poor fellows whose bones, picked by vultures and gnawed by dogs, lie bleached and sunburned on the soil of Nicaragua.

From the other States there is little news, except that extensive preparations are going on for war. The cholera had ceased its ravages in Guatemala, but not until it had numbered among its victims the wife of President CARRERA. Gen. BELLOSA, late General-in-Chief of the allied armies in Nicaragua, had also died of the pestilence in San Salvador.

Granada is rapidly rising from its ruins, and if one year of peace and tranquillity were now to ensue, it would be brought, by the industry of the people, almost to its former position; only its time-honored temples of religion, those magnificent labors of the early apostles on this continent, will not be quickly replaced. It is a sad feeling, one allied, moreover, with shame, that the American wanderer among the ruined shrines and homes of Granada must remember that all this devastation was caused by his own countrymen, the boasted civilizers and progressives of the age.

Among the passengers by the *Ocean Bird*, to-day, is Col. LOUIS SCHESSINGER—he of Costa Rican memory. He, it is said, intends to publish shortly an account of the Nicaraguan revolution, and some facts with regard to the Santa Rosa affair. He is, it is also said, charged with negotiations, relative to the Transit, by the Nicaraguan Government. NICARAGUA.

INTERESTING STATEMENT BY COLONEL SCHESSINGER.

THE LATE ELECTION IN NICARAGUA—DECREE OF EXPULSION AGAINST FOREIGNERS—PRESENT DISPOSITION OF THE NICARAGUAN FORCES, &c.

Col. SCHESSINGER has just returned from Nicaragua, and has furnished us with some important information upon the present condition of affairs in that country.

This gentleman, it is known, was an officer under WALKER and commanded at Santa Rosa.

Col. SCHESSINGER is a Hungarian, and was in the army under KOSSUTH. After the capitulation of Comorn, at which he was present, he came to the United States with Gov. UNHAZY, and shortly afterwards joined the expedition to Cuba, under LOPEZ. He was captured in the mountains of Cuba, having lived a week on roots; and after the garroting of LOPEZ, he was condemned to be sent to Ceuta, in Africa. He escaped, however, from his confinement there and returned to the United States, and soon after got himself into difficulty in Nicaragua.

He defends himself from the charges brought against him by WALKER in a letter which we publish below.

Colonel SCHESSINGER reports that, at the election held in Nicaragua on the 20th ult., General MARTINEZ was elected by an overwhelming vote. He was the joint candidate of the Legislators and Democrats. MARTINEZ is a man of liberal principles, and of undoubted decision and bravery, and popular with the masses.

There were but few Americans expelled from Nicaragua and Costa Rica under the late decree. Those expelled were parties friendly to WALKER, and who would rush to his aid should he return with a military expedition. A free passage was given to the expelled to San Juan.

The following, dated at Managua, seat of Government of Nicaragua, Sept. 5, is the

DECREE OF EXPULSION.

Having received positive news that an expedition is preparing itself in the United States of America against this country, the Supreme Government decrees:

1. All foreigners, without exception, will justify before the military Governors of the Departments his actual occupation.
2. All those who were in the army of WILLIAM WALKER, or in any way connected with him, will leave this Territory within fifteen days from the date of this decree.
3. But the military commanders have power to grant them a leave of stay, provided their conduct does not render their longer residence hazardous to the interests of the country. The military Governors of the departments are charged with the execution of this decree.

Signed for the State of Nicaragua.

JEREZ,
MARTINEZ.

Cortez, Minister of War.

The foregoing decree, in substance, was issued by the Government of Costa Rica about the middle of August, through President MORA, with a request that it would be adopted by the other Central American States.

In relation to the defensive preparations against another filibustering invasion, Col. SCHESSINGER reports that an order had been issued by the Nicaraguan Government, calling upon all the male population, between 16 and 50 years, to arm themselves and

be ready for active service at a moment's warning. In this connection the subjoined information is interesting and important.

The present force of Nicaragua in active service, with their disposition, and the number of guns at their disposal, is as follows:

- Castillo, River San Juan, 200—0 guns.
- San Carlos, 175—1 guns.
- La Virgen, none.
- San Juan del Sur, 175—2 guns.
- Rivas 150 men.
- Granada 250 men.
- Managua 75 men.
- Managua, seat of Government, 300—2 guns.
- Leon 240 men.
- Atitlan 100—18 pieces.
- Reulejo 45 men.
- Chinandeya 75 men.
- Chontales 45.
- Matagalpa 600 Indians.
- Segovia 250.

Total, 2,680 men and 26 guns.

An army of 1,000 men can be put in motion at any point in Nicaragua in three days. Persons well acquainted with the feeling of the native population deny, most emphatically, that WALKER has a sympathizer in the whole country. It is not true that Gen. PINEDA and Col. RAYMONDA SELVA were sent, as prisoners, to work on the roads at Matagalpa. They were both banished from the country.

COLONEL SCHESSINGER'S DEFENCE.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

New-York, Saturday, Oct. 24, 1857.

There are sometimes, by a strange coincidence, a combination of circumstances which makes it an easy task for the base calumniator to bias the public mind against the victim he chooses. Often again, those higher in power or position, for the purpose of covering their own infamy, and escaping the deserts of their criminality, succeed in loading with unmerited contempt those whom accident may have associated with them as their subordinates. Unscrupulous speculators, also, fearing that their prey may escape their grasp if the truth be told, combine with the first named to destroy the good reputation, and even the honor of individuals. Such, almost, has been my fate. I say almost, because when chance spares, amid thousands of dangers human life, in a country where the Press is free, the opportunity is offered to the individual assailed to justify his conduct.

First, it was asserted that I cowardly left the battlefield at Santa Rosa; and next, that I was in concert with the enemy, and consequently a traitor. Both these assertions are false, and are as base as the invention of them. It would be too long a task to intrude upon the columns of a newspaper voluminous facts to prove the contrary. I will shortly publish my *Memoirs on Nicaragua*. In them I will submit my acts to the judgment of the impartial. Meantime, I may be allowed to assert that I will prove that I did more at Santa Rosa than any other commander, under similar circumstances, could have done, and that I was paid for it by the blackest ingratitude. It is true I abandoned WALKER, but never did I part with the glorious principles of Freedom and true Democracy. For these I fought and become an exile from Hungary in 1848; for the same principles I bled in Cuba, and suffered in the dungeons of Ceuta; I shall prove that the standard of WALKER in Nicaragua was one of personal ambition, based upon no principles of honor or justice; that WALKER did not intend to Americanize that country; nor did he ever dream of annexation; that his whole aim was to become the founder of a military confederacy, despotic in its origin, tyrannical in progress, and intended to be united with the Southern States or California as a separate confederacy. I here speak of WALKER's political faith in April, 1856. Circumstances may have forced him to abandon these night-mare visions, but these were then his plans. I expect innumerable assailants in my present position before the public, but truth will enable me to brave the storm.

I will never allow that it may be said that a Hungarian did forego his political principles,—or still worse, that he became a traitor. It is to myself, to my country, to my friends and numerous acquaintances, that I owe it to defend what all men hold dear, and though with unequal weapons, I will fight the battle of justice against falsehood.

The public, I know, must have been influenced by the publications of these incessant calumnies, but I shall beg them to suspend their final sentence until they have read the defence. I will call it defence—though more properly I should call it a statement of the truth, which will be published shortly.

LOUIS SCHESSINGER.