





The social system at this happy village is the precise opposite of that of the Mormons.

HOSPITALS AT RIVAS. Before plunging into the wide sea of personal anecdote, I must finish my description of Rivas by giving you some accounts of that part of the population who are of no service in time of war, but are on the contrary consumers of food merely, a burden and expense.

On the back of the plan of Malafio Hospital there is a list of names of persons who have taken up land by soldiers and settlers warrants on the Transit Road.

There is another hospital at the east side of the Plaza which has about 80 patients, making 170 in all. This does not include sick persons in quarters, officers or citizens: the total number of sick in Rivas did not exceed 200 of the entire population.

FLOATING POPULATION OF RIVAS. There is a loafer and chitupa population of about 20 persons in Rivas, several of whom are grog-sellers and small traders.

Women and children there may be 40, American, German and Irish. At least ten times that number have gone into the country, but many of the women have returned home on the death of their husbands, and some have died.

NATIVES IN RIVAS. There are none of the original population left in Rivas. Dr. Cole, an old resident, and formerly one of the principal civil aids and advisers of WALKER, has died.

Between 75 and 80 volunteers from San Francisco arrived by the steamer of early March. WALKER's plan to throw his volunteers into action as soon as possible, before their first courage and enthusiasm shall have evaporated.

THE STATE OF MORTALITY AND LOSS. The statements of the New-York and San Francisco papers in regard to the rates of mortality among Americans in Nicaragua are undoubtedly exaggerated. It was never at any time as high as fifty per cent. a month, and has sometimes fallen to fifteen and even ten in the hundred, monthly.

The entire white population of Rivas and San Juan del Sur, the only points occupied by Americans, consisted of about 20 at the latter, and 678 at the former, the latter composed as follows: Army, 430; sick and wounded, 170; laborers, trucksters and barkeepers, 30; women and children, 40; to which add 8, general officers and staff; total, 690 Americans at Rivas and San Juan del Sur, which being deducted from 1,670, shows a loss of 980 men, women and children in 90 days—a little less than sixty per cent. of the population, or twenty per cent. monthly, as before stated.

Of the 980 who disappeared from Nicaragua during the 90 days, at least 300 must have deserted or got away by stealth. The desertions from Rivas for the 45 days previous to the 7th of March, over 140 from the army alone; 75 of these were rangers, or persons who had volunteered into the ranger service for the purpose of securing a mule or horse to desert with.

WALKER. I pay no attention to official reports gotten up for the use of recruiting officers, and confine my confidence to private and reliable sources. The ratio of loss in battle has increased very much during the last five months in consequence of the improved shooting and better weapons of the Costa Ricans and Guatemalans, who are now rather superior to the filibusters in point of armament.

FOOD OF THE ARMY. Plantains grow abundantly in the vicinity of Rivas. They are like large bananas, are eaten as we have them here; roasted, raw, or boiled.

PERSONAL ANECDOTES AND GOSPEL. My principal informant hints darkly at an attempt of the natives women to poison the corn cakes (or tortillas). Two or three privates, on another occasion, planned to poison WALKER, but the consideration that they might kill two or three others at the same time prevented the execution of this very wicked and silly attempt.

After the escape of a body of 27 rangers, who went off with the best horses in the camp, the filibuster chief was in a horrid humor for several days. Some rangers seeing a frightened Frenchman look out of the bushes on the Transit road, immediately seized and took him up to WALKER.

This affair was talked of by some as a "cold-blooded murder," but a timely threat of "the stocks," a favorite weapon, silenced the imprudent talkers. This Frenchman was in charge of a ranche belonging to Mr. CHARLES PATTON, of San Juan del Sur.

There is a peculiarity about the postal arrangements among the filibusters which strikes the observant mind. Either ROGERS, or the Chief himself, are the Postmasters of the concern. All letters, consequently, pass under the eye of one or both. If they are directed to, or come from parties suspected to be at enmity with the cause, they are, of course, opened and examined.

Courts martial on deserters are discontinued. They are mere formalities, a torture to the victim and a bore to the officers. Every man is presumed to be a deserter by intent, and consequently if seen outside the camp is shot down by any armed party who meets him and who are not also deserters.

WALKER speaks disrespectfully of Northern men; says he wishes no more recruits from "the purlieus of Bowery and Five Points." He prefers "Southern gentlemen" from New-Orleans, to blackguards from New-York.

however, he had not commenced his triumphant march of 600 miles through four hostile nations to the wealthy and well-fortified City of Guatemala. On the contrary, Guatemala was coming to him.

A great deal of sympathy was manifested by the officers and seamen of the American vessel of war at San Juan del Sur for the filibusters, because they were Americans, and had fought bravely against desperate odds.

THE WAY THEY GET MONEY. One COCH, a deserter who was shot down on the road, had \$483 upon him. The problem is, where and how he got it. Nobody knows.

THE PRINTING-PRESS. Since the death of poor OWEN DUFFY, who went into Nicaragua from New-York, last April, as reporter for the Tribune, and was appointed by WALKER to the editorship of his gazette, the Nicaraguans, there have been no more brilliant and able reports of victories, for the home market.

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ST. GEORGE. The interior fortifications at St. George consist of a solid adobe wall, ten feet in height, with loopholes, surrounding the square or plaza of the village, in the spaces not occupied by houses.

Within the wall and houses the ground is intersected by trenches five or six feet deep by two wide, all of which radiate toward the great church on the east side of the Plaza. These trenches can be used as rifle-pits and command every part of the great wall, and the houses.

ST. GEORGE IS NEAR THE EDGE OF THE LAKE. The steamer Virgin can be seen from the top of the church at Rivas. She was generally at Muiglipa in the Island of Ometepe, and brings reinforcements and provisions every week from Chontales and Granada to St. George.

OPERATIONS AGAINST ST. GEORGE. There were three attacks upon St. George during the two months preceding the 7th of March. The evacuation of Rivas by the allies was a measure of profound policy.

After the first attack upon St. George, when only twenty-five of the men would fight, WALKER made a speech to the remnant of the filibuster legion, in which he alluded to "a few new banners" will be floating, "four months from now our banners" will be added, "four months from the City of Guatemala."

made, a number of valuable officers killed, and some 80 men killed or wounded. Loss of natives unknown, reported 60.

Then followed a canonade, three days later, and without result.

JACOITE IS A RANCH, OR CATTLE HACIENDA, on one of the roads between Rivas and the port of San Juan del Sur. It is the property of HENRY GOTTLER and a native proprietor, CURAZO, whose interest was confiscated by WALKER.

When I review the entire mass of rumors, information, and official reports, which lie before me, some of which, and that the greater part, is gross absurdity and falsehood, I cannot shut my eyes to the conviction that the career of filibusterism in Nicaragua is rapidly drawing to a close.

I have just learned that the young LACROY, one of the last native proprietors who adhered to the filibuster cause, has long since joined the Costa Ricans, and is an aid of Gen. CARRAN.

After the military details with which I have furnished you, the subjoined list of filibuster operations in Nicaragua will be an appropriate addendum.

1. First Battle of Rivas.—Loss.—Americans, after fighting, bravely retired with loss.

2. Battle of Virgin Bay.—Gain.—Nicaraguans put to flight, and abandoned the island.

3. Occupation of Granada.—Gain.—A small force of the Nicaraguans driven out.

4. Battle of Santa Rosa in Costa Rica.—Loss.—Total rout of Americans, one-third the force destroyed.

5. Second Battle of Rivas.—Loss.—One day's fighting. Americans retired in haste, leaving the Costa Ricans in full possession. Loss by all causes, one-fifth of the entire force.

with his whole movable force, enters the suburbs of St. George, attacks, and is driven to the suburbs of St. George, with the irreparable loss of O'NEIL and other valuable officers.

32. Third Attack on San George.—Loss.—Fired one hundred rounds of an iron battery in vain in an attempt to reduce the fort.

33. Cannon attacked near Jocoite.—Loss.—CARRAN followed up JACOITE, and attacked with 150 men defeated and driven back with heavy loss to Rivas.

34. Repulse of Allies from Rivas.—Gain.—Allies follow up SAN JUAN DEL SUR, and are repulsed with loss. Loss of the Americans unknown. By previous operations probably 60 men.

35. Taking of Serrapilla by Lockyer.—Gain.

36. Trench repulsed from Castillo.—Loss.

37. Deserters from Walker's Camp at Panama.— Correspondence of the New-York Daily Times. PANAMA, Wednesday, March 18, 1857.

Many of the deserters from the "Man of Destiny" are rich in experience. It would be a profitable thing for some one of your graphic penmen to bag one of these live filibusters—take him home, wash, feed and clothe him—untangle his hair, crop his beard, scrub him with eau de rose, smooth him down with bandoline, and when he gets fat, and comfortable, and chatty, put a nice regalia between his lips, spread him out on the best lounge, and then squeeze him.

Among the fugitives is C. LEROY, of the Hacienda Department. LEROY is a printer, and has worked for BLAIS & RIVES in Washington, last, in the office of the *Atta California*, San Francisco.

WELL, I was going to tell you why LEROY deserted. He is not a hard-hearted man, but it often became his duty to act as if he was.

return to Nicaragua. WALKER made him a Lieutenant-Colonel. An eloquent fellow-soldier has said that the boyish sincerity and almost childish softness which marked the character of Col. BYRON COLZ, and made him beloved with a half-plying affection, "as associated with a coolness and courage unsurpassed in the veterans of Mexico."

THE WAY HACIENDAS WERE ACQUIRED. An old man, ESPINOSA by name, owned a rich estate in the vicinity of Rivas. WALKER thought he ought to contribute "to Government" \$5,000.

Half way between Rivas and the ruins of Granada—I was going to tell you the story of this hacienda, but the one-armed companion of my poor friend has commenced an affecting story of Colz's chivalrous conduct, when a rough band of half-drunk soldiers had burst upon a house full of women, and how they fell on their knees before him as he lifted his sword to strike down the recreants, and my eyes are filled with tears. I can write no more.

HOW THE DESERTERS ESCAPED. According to Mr. JONES, about fifteen to twenty deserters from Gen. WALKER'S army came on by the *Isidoro* from Aspinwall—their passage being paid to New-York by the Costa Ricans.

The deserters represent that they belonged to a party who left Gen. WALKER'S camp at Rivas, and having traversed a considerable portion of the country, reached Panama, and thence came on to New-York. The route adopted to get off safely was as follows: The party, which numbered about 65, started out from camp mounted and provided, besides their arms, with machucos, ostensibly for the purpose of foraging.

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WALKER'S JUSTICE. BYRON COLZ, an old schoolmate of mine in Maine, was the original contractor with the Democratic Party of Nicaragua, "to colonize the country. He sold out to WALKER. Then he went down to Honduras, gold-hunting—didn't succeed very well—went home to see his mother, (he had a kind and tender heart,) but he was always flighty, unstable, imaginative, so he could not stay at home, after his many hardships, but must needs



...and went in to the hospitals, or gave any personal attention to their inmates. He latterly exhibited a morose and vindictive spirit, the result, probably, of accumulating disasters, and took care that any of the natives, or his own men, showing disaffection to his cause, or who had incurred the suspicion of being hostile to it, were severely dealt with, and not unfrequently hanged.

It was reported in Costa Rica, before the deserters left that country, that WALKER had made overtures to General CANAS, the leader of the Allies, offering to capitulate on condition that he and his men should have leave to withdraw from Nicara-gua unmolested, and convey away with them all their arms, ammunition, and effects. To this CANAS replied, that every man might leave in safety, or settle in Costa Rica if they preferred—where grants of land were offered as an inducement—with the exception of WALKER, who he felt disposed to hold on to if that gentleman should chance to fall into his hands.

#### THE DESERTERS ACCOUNT OF THE CRUELTY OF WALKER AT THE BATTLE OF RIVAS.

Mr. C. GOODWIN, of Boston, a returned Californian by the *Illinois*, relates the substance of various interviews with the soldiers from WALKER'S camp, both the deserters and the discharged portion of them.

There were twenty of the deserters, and three who claimed to have received a discharge. Of the latter there was one who had lost an arm. They were, as a whole, emaciated, ragged and sick, and their whole personal appearance attested the truth of their narrative, which was substantially the same. The passengers took pity on them, and supplied them with hats, shoes and necessary clothing.

A portion of the deserters were in the town of Rivas when it was attacked at night by the Costa Rican forces, about the 5th of March. The report that WALKER lost no men was untrue—he lost more or less in every engagement; he also had hard work to bring his men into action. Every person who could stand and go, no matter how sick and weak, was compelled to fight. In one case, when an order was given to charge, some of these sick soldiers fell behind their ranks, unable to keep up from weakness, when WALKER turned upon and shot them down like dogs. Not a man of the whole party said a favorable word for WALKER. He was uniformly represented as most tyrannical, and destitute of feeling for the sufferings of his men.

Since the issuing of Gen. CANAS' proclamation, offering to send the filibusters out of the country, they have no fears of being ill-used or shot, and everybody was deserting that could get away. They generally took this opportunity when sent out upon foraging excursions. The most favorable reports do not set down WALKER'S available force at above 500, whilst others place it at not over from 200 to 300.

Their sufferings for food were most dreadful, and having no shoes, their bare feet were blistered in the hot sand, and torn by the omnipresent cactus.

After their escape they met with uniformly kind treatment from the natives of the country, who gave them the best they had to eat; and whilst on the road to Panama, in charge of the Costa Rican piquet, their expenses were paid at the different stopping places, generally amounting to a dollar and upwards per day.

#### EXPERIENCES AND SUFFERINGS OF THE DESERTERS UNTIL THEY FELL IN WITH THE COSTA RICANS.

GEORGE C. SHADDOCK, one of the deserters from General WALKER'S army, and one of the passengers on the *Illinois*, gave one of our reporters the following account of the circumstances under which he became attached to General WALKER'S army, and the manner in which he deserted therefrom, as also the treatment he and some fellow-deserters received at the hands of a detachment of the Costa Rican army, by whom they were captured and conveyed to San José!

In April, 1856, the narrative commences. I found myself in San Francisco, with but \$50 in pocket, and 2,500 miles from home. I was hesitating whether to write home for more money and wait patiently its arrival, or to go to work and earn some forthwith. Before I had fully determined what to do, I formed the acquaintance of a gentlemanly individual who was enlisting recruits for General WALKER.

Upon my explaining my position to this gentleman he advised me to write home for what additional funds I needed to convey me home, and in the interval of waiting a reply, invited me to accompany him in the next steamer to Nicaragua. He promised me a free passage up and back, and a pleasant time. I accepted the invitation, meanwhile loaning my newly found acquaintance my \$50, which he desired to pay out in the City before leaving, but which amount he would punctually return to me on arriving at Nicaragua, where he had abundant funds at his command. In case he should be delayed, and prevented getting on the steamer before she left, he gave me a note to the Captain, which I was to hand to the Captain in case of his non-appearance. This note, he said, was a request to the Captain to stop the steamer for him, and the request he assured me would be complied with. The gentlemanly man did not come on board the steamer. I handed the note to the Captain shortly after the steamer left the dock, in my simplicity supposing it to be all correct. The note turned out to be a piece of blank paper inclosed in an envelope. A ticket, which my gentlemanly friend handed me at the same time with the note, to assist me, as he said, on the steamer, in case of his detention, turned out to be a passage ticket to San Juan del Sur from CHATTENDEN'S office, the agent, as I afterwards learned, at San Francisco, of General WALKER. I was not long in realizing the fact that I had been done for by my gentlemanly friend. It did not take me much longer to realize the further fact that I was bound to be done for on board the steamer, as also on my arrival in Nicaragua. To make the matter brief, I was accepted on board the vessel as a recruit for General WALKER. I was landed at San Juan del Sur as a recruit, with the other recruits. I was forced away with them to General WALKER'S headquarters, which was then at St. George, and was there received as a recruit. I explained my case to General WALKER. He would take no explanation, and I was compelled to submit and enter his army.

Previous to going to Nicaragua I had no sympathy with Gen. WALKER. What I saw on my arrival did not change my feelings. I disliked the war—was disgusted with the army and the treatment I received. My only chance of getting away I saw was by deserting. To facilitate this purpose I disguised my sentiments and performed my duties with alacrity and seeming cheerfulness. No good opportunity presented itself for a long time till finally I happened to be commissioned with seven others to go to San Juan del Sur after provisions that had just arrived there from San Francisco. Entering upon this commission was the last of my serving under Gen. WALKER, but it was not the last of my troubles as the result painfully proved.

An Orderly-Sergeant was sent in command of the Commission referred to, and to each of us was furnished a good horse. We set out on the 27th of December last, taking from Rivas the Jocote road. After riding about two hours a halt was made to water the horses. During the ride one of the party referred, half jocosely and half in earnest, to the expediency of deserting from WALKER'S army. I was not slow in taking up the suggestion. Some of my comrades I found were ready to accept the proposition. The only question was whether a majority stood ready to fall in with the proposal. As the best mode to find this out I suggested to one of the company, whose character as a well-known wag I knew would excuse him in the eyes of the Orderly Sergeant, to ask the Sergeant if he would not take the vote of the Company to see how many stood for going on with the mission upon which we had been sent, and how many stood for deserting from WALKER forthwith. The party to whom I made the suggestion did as required. The Orderly Sergeant directly put the vote, stating that he should count none but honest votes. The first vote was those who desired to desert. Every hand was instantly uplifted in an affirmative response. "Are you voting honest?" asked the Sergeant. "We are," was the reply. "I am with you, then," was the Sergeant's rejoinder. It was immediately arranged to

proceed to the Half-way House with view to get provisions for the journey to S. J.; the capital of Costa Rica, whether we concluded to go in acceptance of the proclamation of President MORA to deserters from WALKER. We had but just left the Jocote road and entered on the Transit road when we suddenly encountered at a turn of the road some two hundred lancers under command of Gen. BOSQUEZ, of the Costa Rican army. Before we could turn our horses they completely surrounded us, and took us prisoners. Our Orderly-Sergeant told Gen. BOSQUEZ of the determination we had just come to to desert from Gen. WALKER, and that we had then entered on our journey to San José. The General would not credit this statement; and finding our passports to be San Juan del Sur, thought the statement made a ruse to blindfold them. He accordingly gave us in charge of a detachment of thirty men from his company. This detachment was ordered to convey us to San José, while Gen. BOSQUEZ, with the main body, proceeded to St. George, his original destination, to join the allied forces there; he first, however, took from us our horses, which he retained with him. The company having us in charge at once took our arms from us, and fastening ropes around our bodies, attached to the pummels of their saddles, marched up the Transit road—they being on horseback while we were on foot. We shortly passed the half-way house, which was only a mile and a half distant from the place where we were captured. They continued on three miles beyond the half-way house, and within two miles of San Juan del Sur, where they turned off on a trail leading to Guanacaste, a distance of eighty miles. Having advanced some ten miles on the trail, still dragging us with them as they commenced, a halt was taken for the night. We were fortunately somewhat unexpectedly furnished with a good supply of jerked beef and plantains, which came very refreshing to us after our compulsory long walk, and not having tasted food since leaving Rivas in the morning. Two pickets were stationed to prevent a surprise from any advancing party. We were all tied together to prevent the possibility of escape should we attempt it. Our Sergeant, as also myself and others, protested against the treatment we had thus far been subjected to, insisting that it was very contrary to the promised treatment to deserters, emanating from the Costa Rican army. They persisted in disbelieving our story of intended desertion, and said their instructions were to treat us as prisoners of war. We found that representations and entreaty were of no avail, and made up our minds to submit to whatever fate might await us.

Early the next morning the company resumed their journey, having fastened ropes around our bodies as on the previous day. Not unfrequently would they gallop their horses, dragging us along after them. This day we advanced some twenty-five miles, and were disposed of for the night as on the preceding night. With three days further march, we were at length brought to Guanacaste. Our condition on arriving at this place can be better imagined than described. No relaxation was shown in the cruelty towards us—the only humane treatment was giving us enough to eat—such as it was—with occasionally a little squandette to drink. Our joints were so sore we could not bend a limb without pain, and our feet so badly swollen that it was with the utmost difficulty we could walk. With a majority of my comrades it was no better. It should be stated that one of our party whose limbs positively refused to support him any longer was, the last day, placed behind one of the lancers, on his horse.

From Guanacaste we embarked on bungaloes for Punta Arenas. This ride down the river gave us a slight chance to recover from our physical exhaustion. Under favorable circumstances this ride would have been very pleasant, from the delightful landscape of richest foliage covering the broad surface of mountains extending along the coast on the west side as far as the eye can reach, combined with the rich sky and mild temperature. As it was we had abundant time to chew the bitter cud of reflection, and while lamenting the bitter fate that first brought us to Nicaragua to serve under General WALKER, to doubly lament the sad misfortune of our present position. We were only some seven hours in reaching Punta Arenas, as the current ran with us. At the latter place we staid overnight. On the next morning we entered upon our forced march towards San José. This march was a repetition of our previous treatment. We were two days reaching the Costa Rican Capitol. Upon our arrival we were taken before President MORA and announced as prisoners of war. The President, without giving us a chance to say a word, ordered us to be closely confined, but to be well treated. We were conducted to the guard-house and put in a miserable, dirty and contracted apartment, overrun with all the insects and vermin indigenous to a tropical climate. We were confined here four days, when we were again taken before President MORA. On this occasion we were permitted to speak. We assured the President of our having left Rivas, Gen. WALKER'S headquarters, with view to desert from his army; also promised to accept the terms of his proclamation to deserters. The President was evidently impressed with the truthfulness of our statement, for he immediately commanded that the freedom of the city be extended to us, at the same time telling us, however, that if any of us were found outside the city limits they would be arrested and shot. Following this order we were removed to comfortable quarters and treated as acknowledged deserters from WALKER. Our arrival at San José was on the 2d of January. Our stay in the town continued till March 2 following. Meanwhile we found a number of deserters there on our arrival. Additions were made from time to time to the number up to the day of our departure. These deserters were all treated in full compliance with the stipulations of President MORA. They had abundance to eat, and where clothing was needed the same was furnished to them. Previous to leaving San José, I united with other deserters in signing an address to our countrymen under WALKER, asking them to leave him, on the ground that he was a usurper and murderer. This document was signed without restraint or compulsion on the part of the Costa Rican Government.

On the 2d of March I left San José, in company with the seven who left Rivas with me, and other deserters, and proceeded to Panama, free passports having been previously given us to the United States. At Aspinwall we took the *Illinois*, and thence came on to the States. Individually I have no faith in WALKER or his success. The treatment I received at his hands on my first arrival in Nicaragua was not such as to prepossess me in his favor. Considering the unfortunate circumstances that first placed me under his command, I felt justified in deserting. I have only to lament that I and my associates were so luckless as to fall into the hands of General Bosquez and the treatment we received on our journey to San José. All in all, my experience has been a bitter one, and I feel thankful at finally reaching home as sound in mind and body as I am.

I have learned to be careful who I trust in future, to say nothing of the shock my faith has received in filibuster hands.

#### AN ACCOUNT FROM A DISCHARGED SOLDIER.

THOMAS FRAZER, a discharged soldier from WALKER'S Army, came passenger by the *Illinois*. He left Rivas before the last battles, and traveled through Costa Rica to Panama. On the road he was overtaken by several small squads of deserters who had fled from the filibuster camp. They generally contrived to escape when sent out as foraging parties. They all put a bad face on the position of affairs in the camp. At Panama, on the 17th Inst., he was joined by two companies of California Rangers, who had deserted from Rivas, and thrown themselves upon the protection of the Costa Rican Government. They were a miserable emaciated set of beings, and were in charge of a small detachment of the Costa Rican forces, which was to see them out of the country. They took passage from Aspinwall on the steamer *Granada* for New-Orleans. Some twenty other deserters, a portion from Greytown, came to New-York. General CANAS had been reinforced by near 1,800 men, and was about departing from Leon on the 10th of March to attack Rivas. Another detachment of a thousand men were already on the road to siege and hold San Juan del Sur, to cut off any further recruits for WALKER from that point. The road was blockaded, and no intelligence had been received at Rivas of the 75 who landed from the *Sierra Nevada*. It was told them by the Costa Rican officers that Rivas would be surrounded by a force of 6,000 strong, and that WALKER would be starved out in a week.

No later news had reached Aspinwall from LOCKRIDGE and ANDERSON, but the uncertain detached rumors brought by stragglers, who seem to have lost all idea of dates and events in their anxiety to escape out of the country; but there was nothing encouraging to be gathered from that quarter.

It was currently reported that a steamer from New-Orleans was about to arrive at San Juan with a strong force for the relief of LOCKRIDGE. A general wish was

expressed that the long and uncertain contest might be brought to a close by some decisive struggle.

#### An Address to those who still continue to cling to the Filibuster Walker.

Countrymen and fellow-soldiers: We, the undersigned, desiring to encourage you to follow our example, and leave a dishonorable and thankless service, do hereby pledge our word of honor as fellow soldiers, and our brotherly faith as countrymen in a foreign land, that implicit reliance may be placed by you all in the proclamations of the Government of Costa Rica, inviting you to lay down your arms, and promising a free transit and assistance to the United States. The Government of Costa Rica goes still further in practice than in the proclamations, for she allows (and protects) all who prefer remaining and settling in the country to going home, to do so upon as favorable terms as she grants to any foreigners within her territory.

Since we claimed the protection of Costa Rica we have been treated in such a manner as to cause us to regret that we ever bore arms against her, and such as to inspire us with sentiments of respect and gratitude, very foreign to those with which bare and interested parties had inspired us by false representations, and we had any other but hostile intercourse with the natives of the country.

On the route into the country, from the time we encountered the first Costa Rican piquet until the present, all our wants have been supplied by the Government or people far better than the man-trap WALKER ever supplied them; and there is not a doubt but that the Government will continue to supply them, until we either leave for home or take employment in the country with the view of settling here. Friends of all grades and countries now in Nicaragua, we earnestly urge you, for your own sakes and the sake of humanity, to desert at once, and in a body, the man whom you full well know, by bitter experience, has but deceived you from the first moment you were engaged in his service by his interested myrmidons.

How many of you are there who were induced to come to the country as peaceable emigrants? (Some bringing wives and children.) How were you received when you arrived in Nicaragua? Were you assigned land by the colonization office? Were you furnished with seeds and agricultural implements, and facilitated in taking possession of, and commencing the cultivation of your 250 acres (or more) of land? You cry along with us, no! And we respond what you full well know; you were handed a musket or rifle at your introduction to Nicaragua, and told you were enrolled in some company to fight for the land you were to have, and fight for it, too, against the natural and rightful owners of it; but above all, you were to fight to advance the mad ambition of a man so devoid of natural sympathies and the sentiments which ennoble human nature, that he would feel no compunction of conscience in destroying a world, did he but think he would reign King, even only over its desolation.

To one and all who came with whatever expectations or under whatever inducements, we ask what thanks or emolument have you received, or can you expect to receive from impoverished Nicaragua, or thanks, unfeeling WALKER? For all the toils and privations, the night marches and watchings, the hungerings and thirstings, the sickness, wounds and battles you have experienced, and suffered in one form or other, we answer emphatically and truly, none; where is the realization of all the brilliant promises from time to time made by the arch-filibuster and his myrmidons? vanished into thin air, or rather into the sulphurous vapor of villainous gunpowder.

What benefit have you received, or are you likely to receive, from the hard fought battles of Rivas, first and second, Virgin Bay, Musaya, or Granada, or the terrible sufferings of the return from Santa Rosa? Think of the horrors of the siege of Granada, where the sick and dying lay mingled with the dead and wounded; where innocent and helpless women and children were dying in your very sight from privation and sickness, while you yourselves were supporting a feeble strength, upon unnatural and loathsome food; to enable you to resist a victorious enemy; and victorious only through the notorious incapacity of him whom you looked to for guidance and direction.

And all these trials and horrors you have experienced for no other available purpose but to gratify the wildest species of insane ambition, with which God ever scourged humanity for its sins.

This man does not even possess the tact or ability to gain and keep some small portion of the respect and affection of yourselves, his soldiers. You do not either love or respect him as a man, or confide in him as a good general. Why, then, do you still cling to him? Is it that you fear treacherous treatment on the part of an enemy who offers such liberal, even generous terms? If such should be the reason of your still adhering to a dishonorable God-and-man-abhorred, and a falling cause, we tell you, brothers, dismiss it at once from your minds, for the pledge we have given you, we call God and the world to witness as truth.

There is no dishonor in the soldier's deserting a dishonorable cause. Desert it, then, one and all; and for the sake of humanity, if so doing, put a speedy end to the unavailing bloodshed and suffering which has so uselessly entitled Nicaragua to the epithet which once attached to our now happy and peaceful Kentucky, of the "Dark and bloody ground."

- C. Albert, late Co. A 2d Rifles; N. Noble, do. do. D 1st In.; J. Francis, do. do. C 1st In.; M. Dowdy, do. do. do.; T. O. Donald, do. do. do.; E. Morton, do. do. F 1st R.; G. Elliott, do. do. A 1st R.; W. Spears, do. do. do.; John Smith, do. do. do.; J. McLaughlin, do. do. do.; H. Williamson, do. do. do.; Santa Anna, late Navy; S. S. Kornbacher, C 1st R.; C. P. Ellinwood, late Sergeant Co. C California Rangers; O. P. Goodwin, late Private do. do.; G. W. Cherry, do. do.; G. Barnhart, do. do.; D. W. Brown, do. do.; M. Bally, do. do.; N. Bally, do. do.; W. Redman, do. do.; T. A. Finney, do. do.; D. Dedrick, do. do.; G. Brepper, do. do.; G. W. Payne, do. do.; J. Steinhug, do. do.; P. B. Evans, do. do.; G. S. Love, do. do.; K. Ruland, do. do.; J. Maloy, do. do.; L. Sandford, do. do.; A. Schock, do. do.; R. Henry, do. do.; W. Ahlberg, late 1st Sergeant Co. A Rangers; J. H. Boyken, late Private Co. D; W. Smith, do. do. Company B; P. H. Lynch, do. do. do.; T. Stockhouse, do. do.; U. W. Lester, late Corp. Co. D 2d Rifles; G. R. Rivers, late Private do. do.; J. Cunningham, do. do.; A. Wammick, do. do.; F. W. Inmann, do. do.; G. G. Burns, do. do.; R. J. Powers, do. do.; H. Hamilton, do. do.; J. Farley, late Private Co. F Rifles; W. M. Hill, do. do.; V. North, do. do.; A. B. Watson, late Capt. Co. Dep't; Geo. Hofman, late citizen, Dep't; J. McClintock, late Co. A Light Artillery; James Perry, do. do.; T. W. Mossley, do. do.; Julian Stewart, late Co. B; S. Stewart, late Co. F 1st Rifles; Pat Devan, do. do.; E. 1st Rifles; D. Monroe, do. do. Co. D; James Dean, do. do.; C. Hart, do. do.; C. Fulton, do. citizen; G. Sikes, do. Co. D Light Infantry; G. Ward, do. Sergt. Major 1st Rifles; W. P. Wakefield, do. do.; Jas. Cathin, do. do.; R. Ingermann, do. do. Infantry; J. Etnis, do. do. 1st Rifles; C. A. Saulton, do. Hacienda Dept.; C. Leroy, do. do.; C. Brady, do. do.; W. M. Friesley, late Co. F 2d R.; J. Crofton, do. do.; Peter Friary, do. do.; W. O'Neil, do. do. A.

#### Operations on the San Juan.

REPORT BY THE COSTA RICA COMMANDER OF THE LATE ATTACK AND DEFEAT OF COL. TITUS AT CASTILLO FORT.

Col. G. F. CANTY, Commander of the Costa Rican defending force, thus writes: "Expecting the filibusters every moment, I got both steamers that were manageable up the rapids, sent all the families away up the river, laid fire to the other two, and had just got my six pounders into position, when the filibuster's steamer hove in sight. At the same moment our advanced sentries came in, having been fired upon on all sides by the thieves in the wood. We mustered 30 in all, including four Nicaraguans, an American, and a Frenchman. At the first shot these disappeared, and in a few minutes I was blazing away below with ten men, and Don Faustino MONTES DE OCA with twelve men was doing the same from above.

The steamers were set on fire, but the filibusters contrived to board the *Scott*, and extinguished it, casting her adrift at the same time. As the *Maucha* was burning briskly, I advanced with two men and cast her adrift to float down upon her.

The fire was now tremendous, and only the smoke saved me. The Americans then got on board the *Maucha*, and made her fast again opposite to the houses, which were soon also in a blaze. From this moment it was a rain of bullets at my battery, which I kept going till night, economizing my fire for them whenever they attempted to form and charge.

The embrasure of my piece was knocked to splinters, and two men were wounded at my gun, which I served myself, loading with shot, grape, chain-shot and stones, with which I believe I did tremendous execution.

By dark their fire slackened and my powder gave out, so I spiked my gun, carried off the implements and lynchpins and retired in perfect order up the hill into the fort, expecting an escalade. It proved, however, that they had enough. From above, where they had killed Capt. RAFAEL ROJAS and a sergeant at the other gun, I kept up a fire all night and riddled the *Scott* through and through.

At daybreak they sounded a retreat and got the *Scott* out of reach, working her by hand. With a glass we could perceive her decks covered with wounded. They, however, left a body of about 50 men to keep us inside, firing with great precision at the least visible object. In the night of Monday we got away a boat, and on Wednesday their steamer again appeared, so we expected another attack.

About noon they sent a flag of truce, and a parley being granted, their Colonel, TRUSS, modestly demanded an unconditional surrender. To this we answered, on no account, without the General's consent, upon which he gave me twenty-four hours to make up my mind. I went down to the lines established, and took a drink with Col. TRUSS, who explained that he had a battery of heavy guns, ready to open upon us, and upwards of 1,000 men on the river, who completely surrounded us. This had too bombastic an appearance, and we lay

in hope of relief, but determined to hold out to the last. At 10 on Thursday morning, we heard a brisk fire in the woods, and Costa Rican *cañons*, which we answered, and in half an hour Captains ALVARADO and ORTIZ relieved us, having driven the enemy out of their position, with the bayonets of 60 men.

The filibusters bolted, throwing away their arms, ammunition, and provisions, which were picked up all the way to their embarcadero, two miles down the river, and where, fortunately for them, their steamer came just in time to take them away. On Saturday, we received 40 men more, and we are now impregnable to all filibusterdom. The steamer burnt was of no use, and the steamer lost, we could hardly keep afloat, and are glad it has gone, as it took ten men all day to bale her out; we believe her to be too much damaged even to get down the river.

#### Guatemala.

The *Parana Star and Herald* says: "By observations made on board the *Est*, the position of the port of San José de Guatemala is ascertained to be lat. 13° 56' N., lon. 90° 42' W. This is important to shipmasters, as the port is not even laid down on many charts, and on others it is incorrectly placed. Guatemala dates are to Feb. 22."

The Fair of Esquipulas, which took place from the 6th to the 18th of January, was well attended. The sale of native woolen manufactures and cattle was brisk, but the supply of foreign manufactures far exceeded the demand.

The Chamber of Representatives have approved of the propositions made by England and France at the Paris Conference relative to the suppression of privateering, &c. They have also approved of the treaty made by the representatives of Central America at Washington.

On the 17th ult., the Volcano of Fuego broke out into an active state of eruption, which continued for some days. A great quantity of lava was ejected, but as far as is yet known no injury has been done to the towns and plantations in the neighborhood.

#### Salvador.

Dates are to February 26th. The Secretary of War in his report recommends that a small marine should be provided to protect the ports, and that a fort should be built at La Unión, mounting from twenty to twenty-four guns and six or eight large mortars, to protect the entrance to the harbor. The Point of Chiquirin is mentioned as the most suitable locality for the fortification. He mentions that the government has lately purchased 1,000 *orobas* (25 lbs. each) of powder, in addition to the stock on hand.

During the year ending September 30, 1856, the value of imports was \$1,046,720, being \$348,501 more than the previous year. The value of the exports during the same period has been \$1,285,486, being \$233,765 more than the imports, and \$520,161 more than the exports of the previous year. The returns of exports are very incomplete, and it is certain that the value far exceeds the sum declared. The duties on imports have been \$223,288 at the ports, and \$16,650 at the frontier custom-houses. The expenses of government for the year have been \$619,548, and the balance in the treasury is \$26,961, one-half in cash and one-half in bonds.

The Chamber of Deputies have granted extraordinary powers to the President during the continuance of the war in Nicaragua, giving him authority to use the public revenues from all sources, for the purpose of carrying on the war. He is empowered to borrow money, either from private individuals or Governments, on the security of the national income; also to impose forced loans from two to two hundred dollars monthly, to be repaid by instalments of 8 per cent. of the custom-house duties, when convenient.

A Government decree orders United States dimes to be taken at three-quarters of a real; a fine of three times the amount is imposed on all who refuse them at that value.

The Assembly has ratified the treaty made by the Central American Ministers at Washington. A law has been passed for the encouragement of a national marine, by which all national ships from foreign ports are entitled to a deduction of one-fifth of the import duties. To vessels built in the country a reduction of one-half the duties is to be made. To entitle a vessel to these reductions, one-fourth of the crew must be citizens of Salvador.

F. W. R.