
COL. S. A. LOCKRIDGE OF NICARAGUA.

If any one who has escaped a grave in Nicaragua will look back with more regret than another upon that country, that person is Col. Lockridge. The victim of unfortunate circumstances, he has become associated with the loss of the command of San Juan river, which precipitated, with the subsequent action of the English and American forces combined, the final overthrow of Gen. Walker and the cause of progress in Nicaragua. Col. Lockridge on December the 17th, 1856, started from the United States as an agent for Gen. Walker. When he arrived at Castillo Rapids on the San Juan, he heard that the Costa Ricans were taking possession of the Nicaraguan steamers. Perfectly helpless to prevent the catastrophe, he was suddenly cheered by the arrival of two hundred and twenty men from New Orleans, whom, in spite of the interference of the English officers, he got ashore, and entrenched at Serapiqui. On the 3^d of March, while busily engaged in preparing to attack the Costa Ricans at Castillo, Col. Titus arrived with two hundred and thirty men, mostly from Kansas. With such an amount of force Col. Lockridge dreamed that the river route would soon again be opened, and that the Costa Ricans would be driven back to their own fortresses, but fortune, although giving him apparently the material to bring about his desired object, denied him the fruition of his hopes. Col. Titus, with a force of nearly three hundred Americans, abandoned the attack on Castillo, held by twenty Costa Ricans, and fled down the river, a series of disasters followed, and Col. Lockridge, gallant and determined, was sacrificed.

Col. Lockridge is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, is six feet high, and has a fine military presence. In his manners he is mild and affable. He spent some six years in Costa Rica previous to the advent of Gen. Walker, and still considers himself a citizen of that country. The cause, in his opinion, was never more hopeful, and there were never such abundant means at their disposal for carrying on the war; although the discipline of the camp prevails about the headquarters respecting the particular movements intended. Col. Lockridge is quite averse to being publicly mentioned in connection with the war, but this diffidence evidently is not put on from any want of confidence in his future success, as he was among the first to embark with Walker, and says he means to devote himself still to the freedom of Nicaragua, a consummation which will, in his opinion, soon be brought about.
