

HIGHLY INTERESTING FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

Capitulation of Gen. Walker to the Commander of the St. Marys.

COSTA RICAN REJOICINGS.

PROCLAMATION OF PRESIDENT MORA.

Gen. Henningsen's Official Report of the Filibuster Campaign in Nicaragua.

Nicaragua Not to be Divided.

Reception of the Filibusters in New York

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By the arrival of the Illinois we have received dates from Guatemala to April 20, Cajalapique (San Salvador) to 2d, Leon (Nicaragua) 5th, San Juan del Sur 5th, and San Jose 9th of May. The news is highly interesting and important.

A salute of one hundred guns announced to the people of San Jose, at one o'clock on the 7th of May, the surrender of the filibusters; the ringing of the bells, music and cries of rejoicing manifested the enthusiasm of the people for the victors and for the re-establishment of peace. The towns and villages were illuminated during the night; everywhere there were music, fireworks, promenades, balls and merry reunions, and the national flag waving over all houses.

About the 4th of April, says the *Cronica*, a lieutenant from Walker's forces surrendered himself to General Mora as a deserter. The General received him with great kindness, whereupon the lieutenant, drawing a revolver, said, "General, this pistol was given to me by Walker, and he moreover promised me ten thousand dollars if I retook one of the steamers, in company with some others, who pretend to be deserters; and assassinate you and General Canas. Your generosity has disarmed me, and induces me to make this confession."

General Mora, with his division of the army, was expected at San Jose on the 13th. Great preparations were being made to give him an enthusiastic reception.

The *Cronica* gives all due credit to Capt. Davis for his humane interference to save the lives of Walker and his followers, and also speaks in the highest terms of his noble conduct.

The *Boletin Oficial* of Leon, of April 16, states that when the filibuster party left the Castillo fort on the 5th, without attacking it, they left a paper (fastened to a tree with a bayonet) containing the following words:—

"James Bowie and E. J. Calhoun present their compliments to the Commander of Fort Castillo. Good bye, friends. Warriors remain in peace—the war is over."

OUR SAN JUAN CORRESPONDENCE.

WALKER'S ARMY AND THAT OF THE ALLIES LIKE THE KILKENNY CATS—UNCLE SAM KICKS THE BEAM AGAINST WALKER—CAPTAIN DAVIS EMBARGOES WALKER'S SCHOONER GRANADA—WALKER SURRENDERS RIVAS TO CAPTAIN DAVIS—EMBARKS ON THE UNITED STATES SLOOP ST. MARYS—COLONEL TITUS DESERTS AND SURRENDERS TO A GENTLEMAN OF COLOR—CAPTAIN DAVIS SEIZES THE GRANADA—THE GRANADA HANDED OVER BY UNITED STATES OFFICERS TO A BIG BUCK NIGGER.

SAN JUAN DEL SUR, May 2, 1857.

The siege of Rivas terminated on the 1st of May by the surrender of the town and garrison—by agreement or capitulation—to the United States flag, represented by Capt. Davis, of the United States sloop-of-war St. Marys. Gen. Walker, in fulfillment of the terms of this agreement, embarked the same evening on board the St. Marys, with sixteen officers, for Panama, and left the remainder of the garrison in charge of Lieut. McCorkle, of the United States navy, to embark at Virgin Bay for Tortugas, to be thence likewise transported via Tortugas and Panta Arenas to Panama.

The state of the case is about as follows:—Since the sanguinary defeat of the allies in their attempt to storm Rivas on the 11th of April last, no military operation excepting slight skirmishes had taken place on either side. Desertion was decimating both camps. As regards Walker, it was four months and a half since he had occupied Rivas, during which time he had received no succors from the Atlantic States, and only 130 men from California. It was over three months since the allies had occupied San Jorge with the intention of attacking Rivas, which they invested by forming round it four strongly intrenched camps, from which they opened fire on the town with two twenty-four pounders on the 22d March. During this period the allies brought into the field between 6,000 and 7,000 men. Nine actions of more or less importance had been fought, in which Gen. Walker lost a little over three hundred killed and wounded; but the desertions, which had increased to twenty a day, exceeded four hundred. About one month previously, he had commenced slaughtering his horses and mules, and continued to hold Rivas in anticipation of one of four probable events, viz:—The arrival of Lockridge, the arrival of reinforcements from California, the breaking up of the enemy's camp, and the rising of his friends in the north of the State of Nicaragua, who were waiting till the allies were sufficiently weakened, and till an American force appeared to back them. Lockridge was neither heard from nor heard of till the 30th of April. The Transit Company did not start their steamer as promised, on the 5th of April, from San Francisco, and probably intended to repudiate their engagement. The allies, though very near on several occasions breaking up, were encouraged by these circumstances, and by the desertion induced by paid agents in Rivas to renew their efforts and to persevere.

The allies, on their part, had lost, according to their own avowal, between 2,000 and 2,500 men, besides 110 prisoners, in these operations. In every one of these nine fights, except that of Jocote, they had either been driven into their entrenchments or repulsed with loss of prisoners and cannon. Desertion was so great, and discouragement so frequently prevailing, that though aware of the disadvantage of attacking the Americans behind barricades, they made a desperate attempt on Rivas on the 23d of March, and were on the point of dispersing, when the desertion of forty Californians in a body, and the arrival of reinforcements, restored their confidence. The next attempt, on the 11th of April, was determined by like considerations and persevered still more disastrously. Since the 11th they had persevered, because (Walker's force being so far reduced that he could not risk it till the last moment) they were not attacked, and expecting every day that want of provisions would force him to evacuate the place, and because the increase of desertion, the success of corrupting agents in Rivas and the ignominious backsliding of half a score of officers, encouraged the hope that with a little further patience, chance and craft would achieve what force had failed to accomplish. Money, amongst which English sovereigns were conspicuous, and promises were lavished on deserters; letters and proclamations were daily scattered through Rivas, tempting by offers of security and abundance, the pusillanimity of some and the impatience of privation felt by others.

Since the 11th of April, however, the allied army had received no reinforcement. Its last resources in men were clearly exhausted. All the best officers of the allies had been lost in the contest. Death and desertion had so far thinned their ranks that on the morning of the 1st of May their total force did not number 1,700 men. Of 3,500 Costa Ricans, Guatemalans and Hondurans (who had borne the chief brunt of the fighting), less than 600 remained. The stupendous barricades of their entrenched camps might protect them from Walker's weakness, and desertion was to a great extent impeded by inclosing their men at night; but their vast lines of trenches could no longer be manned effectually to impede him, and a night movement to follow him would have entailed the desertion of two-thirds of the men. On the 21st April, for instance, a party of forty Americans gathering plantains were attacked by ninety of the allies. After a hasty skirmishing both parties retired with ignominious haste. The Americans lost five, the enemy eleven killed and wounded, but only forty of the allies returned to their barricades, about the same number throwing away their arms, and improving the occasion to go home. In no case could the allied army have held together fourteen days.

On the 6th of April, Walker was reduced to three days provisions—viz., three horses, two mules, and two oxen, the latter having been reserved to draw cannon or ammunition. He was hampered with 175 sick and wounded, and over 100 prisoners. He had only 260 Americans (including officers) fit to carry arms, and forty natives. Of the Americans only about 200 could have been counted on for a march. He was without means of transportation for ammunition or artillery, except his light mountain howitzers; and it is therefore probable that but for this agreement he would from the 1st to the 3d of May have broken through the enemy's lines on two sides—One body of say 150 men and 40 natives marching towards Leon, where his friends were by this time ready to receive him—the other, of about 60, making for San Juan del Sur, or any other point on the coast, and embarking on board his schooner Granada, which contained reserve stores of ammunition and arms, and which would have

immediately sailed for Realejo to await the first body, raise a native force; and fortify a point as a depot for ulterior reinforcements from San Francisco. On the 23d of April he had accepted the offer of Capt. Davis to remove the women and children, under safeguard of the American flag, to San Juan; and seventy American and native women and children (inclusive of many native women detained as spies) left Rivas, in charge of Lieut. Houston, of the St. Marys, on that day.

On the 30th of April a communication was received from Capt. Davis, dated at the enemy's camp, with offers of mediation, but couched in terms which induced Gen. Walker to send Gen. Henningsen and Col. Waters to confer with him. An account of the ensuing negotiation you will find in Gen. Henningsen's official report, together with the terms of the convention or agreement. But you will perceive that the mediation, or rather the terms offered, were preceded by the startling declaration of United States intervention and hostility—Capt. Davis expressing his determination to embargo and seize the schooner Granada.

Not only, therefore, had Gen. Walker (left for nearly five months without communication with the Atlantic States) to contend against four foreign States, encouraged and aided by Great Britain, and against the servile and demagogic leaders of Nicaragua—not only had he the cowardice and treachery of such men as Bell, Titus and Wright to contend against in his own camp—not only had he to struggle against his abandonment by the Transit Company in his need, but he finds the United States arrayed in hostility against him in the hour of his necessity, and not till then. General Walker had previously expressed his intent on to respect the stars and stripes; in the person of its agents, however humble, right or wrong, reserving his appeal to the American people. Under the circumstances of the case, the resolution of Capt. Davis became, therefore, as Gen. Henningsen anticipated, a determining fact, and General Walker, after accepting the subjoined agreement, left Rivas at half-past five P. M., accompanied by Lt. Col. Henry, Rogers and Tucker, by Col. Natzmer and Waters, by Captains McEachin, Hawkin, West and Williamson, by Lieuts. McMichael, Bacon and Brady, by Major Hooff, by Drs. Kellum and McIlheney, and by Mr. Romer, and embarked that night. Gen. Henningsen remained with Lt. Col. Swingle, to deliver over the place and garrison to Capt. Davis. The officers and men, drawn up on the plaza, after hearing the general order read, gave three hearty cheers for General Walker, then three for General Henningsen, and subsequently three for Capt. Davis, after they had been placed under his control. They were then made over to Dr. Taylor, to whom they delivered up their arms in the ordnance office. Thus terminated the memorable siege of Rivas. Since Henningsen, with 230 men, drove 2,100 of the enemy into Odraje, on the 25th of January, Walker has never had in the field more than 400 men, and that only on two occasions. He had killed, wounded or dispersed more than 4,500 of the enemy. Arriving in Rivas with nothing but a few carpenters' tools, he had, thanks to the genius and perseverance of Brevet Lieut. Col. Swingle, erected a foundry and cast the first iron that ever was cast in Central America. He surrendered Rivas finally only to the United States flag, after a siege of three months and an investment of forty days, after living for a month on horses, mules, and often dogs, cats, owls and stewed raw hides had been eaten by the garrison; after the loss of the first or second in command (or both) of every corps in his army. In the 1st Rifles Col. O'Neal was killed; Lennard, Lieut. Colonel, wounded, and Dolan, Major, wounded. In the 2d Rifles, Lewis, Major commanding, killed; Conway, senior Captain, killed. In the 1st Infantry, Colonel Jacques, commanding, wounded; Dusenbury, Major, killed. In the Artillery, Major Dulaney, commanding, wounded. In the Red Star Guard, Lieut. Colonel Tucker, commanding, wounded. In the Rangers, Finney, senior Captain, killed. In the arsenal, the second in command, Capt. Pellissier, killed; Col. Henry, unattached, received at San Jorge his eighth wound, and Gen. Henningsen had three aids-de-camp wounded since the commencement of the fighting at Rivas.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

After Gen. Walker, Gen. Henningsen and Capt. Davis left Rivas, the garrison was marched down to St. Jorge and the place abandoned to Gen. Canas. The officers and men generally behaved well, except a few drunken rowdies like Brigadier Gen. Sanders, whose dissipation and incapacity had been of late highly detrimental to the army and occasioned the disgraceful rout at Jocote, where he commanded, and a certain Captain Farrel, who had been deprived of his company. Both, it had been discovered, had formed part of a conclave held at Major Bell's quarters, consisting of Colonel Titus, Bostwick, Dr. Johnson, Lieutenant Miller, General Sanders and Captain Farrel. Titus, however, had so completely lost his head from fear that he sneaked off before the others were ready, which drew attention to Bell's quarters, and probably prevented the betrayal of those quarters to the enemy, in which case all the men in them would have had their throats cut without mercy. Colonel Titus wrote back that all was right. He immediately came down to San Juan and told the officers of the St. Marys that he had been cut off with Judge Ware, a noble old man, who remained in Rivas doing duty as citizen soldier to the last. Colonel Titus was last seen under the protection of one of the allied generals or colonels, a truculent gentleman of color, at whose beck and call he seemed proud to find himself.

To return to Sanders, he began making speeches to the men, declaring that General Walker had sold the cause and embarked with the money. With the exception of about a dozen sots like himself, no one listened to him of course. He then, after in vain applying to obtain service with the allies, came down to San Juan, where, when the St. Marys sailed, he was left in the same condition. If it had not been for his continued intoxication, and his repute in the army for general worthlessness, strange to say he would probably have succeeded; for, singular to relate, after all this mutual slaughter, when the allies, and especially the Nicaraguans, came in contact with our people, they not only treated them with great kindness, but appeared on all sides anxious to coax them into their service. The fact is, that directly they were relieved from the pressure of Walker's presence, their dissensions broke out. They would probably have been fighting before the St. Marys sailed, but that they had had a bellyful of fighting lately, and that the Costa Rican and Guatemalan force is reduced down to an insignificant figure. It is, however, not unlikely that they may be at it hammer and tongs before this reaches the United States. Costa Rica wishes to dismember Nicaragua on one side, Guatemala on the other, either with or without the Martinez or the Jeres factions; one called the servile or aristocratic party, the other constituting that portion of the so-called democratic party which betrayed Walker. These two factions, who have done very little fighting during the siege, letting Costa Rica and Guatemala exhaust their forces, are only waiting to get a fair start to cut each other's throats, and all four of these parties have been eagerly bidding for American officers, surgeons and men. Lieut.-Col. Caycee (who was originally in Chamorro's service) has taken service under Martinez.

The Costa Ricans offered a lieutenant a company of forty Americans, if he could raise it, to be paid \$30 per month in cash for each man. A surgeon was offered \$160 per month to go to Guatemala. In fact, before the end of the siege, some of the democratic officers called out that they had nothing against Gen. Walker, and overtures were made to pass over to him if he would undertake with them immediately to storm the servile camp. But General Walker was even in this strait (perhaps unwisely) unwilling to trust to men who had once betrayed him.

Very few Americans availed themselves of this offer, and at the end of a few days the allies discovered that those who had hastily consented over the aguardiente bottle were not men useful in any service, or who had much to do with the fighting. One result, however, is, that many have resolved to remain in the country and see what will turn up. Many have formed friendships and acquaintances, and have dispersed over the country, so that I doubt whether Lieut. McCorkle will embark 125 men.

Any disturbance that may take place would, therefore, probably be only an individual affair. I have heard of only two—Sanders cutting another drunken man about the face, and Captain Scully firing at Lieutenant Malcomb, a deserter, who ventured to address him.

STILL MORE IMPORTANT.

Captain Davis demanded the peaceful surrender of the Granada by General Walker, who refused, telling him he must take her by force. Captain Davis then offered, as a compromise, to return the arms and ammunition and stores on board of her. General Walker again refused. This day the captain having gone on shore, the first Lieutenant, Maury, notified them that he had the written order of the captain to take her by force, for which purpose he beat to quarters, sprung his broadside of eleven thirty-two and sixty-eight pound guns upon her, and sent one hundred men to board her. General Walker had previously sent an order to Captain Faysseaux, her commander, to surrender her to a respectable display of force, and in the course of a few minutes the stars and stripes succeeded the red star of Nicaragua. Captain Faysseaux was brought on board the St. Marys, and the crew landed at San Juan. On the following day Captain Davis returned, and the same afternoon sent Lieutenant Maury on board to deliver over the schooner to the government of Costa Rica, represented by a Jamaica negro, called Murray, who used to do small jobs for the Americans, and is now captain and aid to general something or other.

Captain Murray delivered her over to another gentleman of color, formerly servant to one of Walker's officers, in Leon, and to a greater crew. The opinion of an outsider, from the way they handled her, would have been that they were welcome to her if they could navigate her to Punta Arenas.

But very different were the feelings of those who knew and took a pride in this glorious little craft, whose history will be chronicled in the annals of American naval daring when many a vessel like the St. Marys is rotten and forgotten.

The Granada is a schooner of some 75 tons, which in December last, with two six-pounders on board and a crew of twenty-eight, all told, attacked the Costa Rica brig-of-war *Once de Abril*, of 225 tons burthen, with four nine-pounders and a crew of 114 men, and after fighting for two hours, whilst pursuing, blew her up. Captain Faysseaux, it will be remembered, saved the captain and forty of the crew, who, when cured of their burns, were sent back by General Walker, without condition or exchange to Costa Rica.

The gallant crew of the Granada, when Sir Robert McClure declared that he was about to open the broadside of his shell guns on her, had, though she was filled with ammunition, declared that they were ready to a man to die rather than abandon their flag.

Now, it can be very easily understood that the St. Marys, which had never taken anything, should esteem it an honor to capture the Granada, even in that way. She had been, in fact, virtually seized when on the 30th of April Captain Davis declared his intention of taking possession of her; but surely there was neither sense nor honor in giving her up to Costa Rica, to which she had never belonged, and who could never have taken her, and the feelings of those who saw her handed over to a big buck nigger by officers representing the stars and stripes may be imagined by what I think the majority of the American people will express when acquainted with the facts.