

## THE FILLIBUSTERS ON THE RIVER.

We saw three returned filibusters yesterday, Chas. W. Conroy of Baltimore County, Maryland, W. M. Brown of New-Orleans, and John Kelly of New-York. The two first went out from New-Orleans, about the 20th of December last, and Kelly left this city in the Tennessee in January, deluded by the false lights hung out at the Tabernacle meeting. That they have become heartily sick of filibustering a glance at their destitute personal appearance would sufficiently indicate; but that their example may prove a warning to others we subjoin the following result of their experience. All of them say that they were led to go to Nicaragua by the promise of \$25 a month in hard cash, good food and clothes, and a deed of 250 acres of land at the end of the first year, and a free passage out and back. We make a few extracts from the diary of one of the two:

Jan. 5—Arrived at Punta Arenas, and made our encampment above the mouth of the river. Found everything in confusion with Walker, the river blockaded, and all of his posts, except Rivas, taken.

Jan. 9—Some of our men sick; 40 men came down from New York to-day on the James Adger.

Jan. 10—A Dutchman died.

Jan. 12—Harry Morgan claimed English protection, and left.

Jan. 13—Rainy all day; alarm at night, and all hands out under arms.

Jan. 14—Fourteen men sick; another false alarm at night, raised by Gen. Rob. Wheat, and Companies A. and B. out. The officers all drunk.

Jan. 17—Thirteen men claimed British protection, and were taken off by the English.

Jan. 19—The measles broke out in camp, and many sick.

Jan. 20—All hands in low spirits; nothing from Walker; river still blockaded; launched the small steamboat Rescue to convey us up the river.

Jan. 21—All hands still gloomy and disappointed.

Jan. 22—Left Punta Arenas for up river, on the Rescue; went 5 miles and anchored for the night.

Jan. 23—Proceeded up the river and dropped the launch we had in tow; stopped at Fort Potaka, the 10 or 15 Costa Ricans leaving at our approach; threw up a small embankment and called it Fort Anderson, in honor of our commander, Col. Frank Anderson.

Jan. 25-7—Still at Fort Anderson.

Jan. 28—Cos. B and D sent up the river to an encampment of Costa Ricans, at Fort Sarapiqui; fired three rounds of grape and canister; but as they returned two shots for our one, we retreated. The fort is at the junction of the San Juan and Sarapiqui Rivers, strongly built of logs and earth, and mounting three guns.

Jan. 29—Col. Lockridge lost his pocket-book.

Jan. 30—Throwing up a breastwork at Fort Anderson.

### COL. TITUS AND HIS BORDER-RUFFIANS.

Feb. 4—The Texas arrived with 205 men from New-Orleans, under command of Col. Titus (he of Kansas), and encamped on the river bank, opposite Fort Anderson.

Feb. 6—Left Fort Anderson early, to storm Fort Sarapiqui. Went up the river by steamboat about 4 miles, when the army under Col. Titus landed on the north side, under a point, and leaving the artillery company on the boat to attack the fort in front from the river, we struck back into the woods, intending to make the river a mile below the fort; but we lost our way, and struck the river further up than we intended, coming out right opposite Fort Sarapiqui. Our advance guard fell into an ambuscade; Lieut. Holman was shot dead. The Costa Ricans on the opposite side of the river then saw and fired into us, killing five men and wounding seven others. So far as we could learn the names of the killed were:

Lieut. Holman of Texas.

L. R. Smith of Mississippi.

— Ross of Ohio.

— Williams Irish, and two others.

### TITUS SHOWS THE WHITE FEATHER.

We fired several rounds, when Col. Titus ordered a retreat, leaving Col. Anderson to do the fighting. We had three doctors, only one of whom, Charleton, I remember by name. These brave fellows, instead of attending to their duties and helping the wounded, ran into a marsh, and, hiding behind a log, buried their bodies in the mud to escape from the bullets of the enemy. We retreated three miles down the river and rested until morning. Before leaving the battle-field our officers appropriated to their own use the contents of the pockets of our dead comrades. [Here the diary of our informant gave out, and we are only able to give the events as he remembered them.] The sick and wounded were sent from this place to Fort Anderson on the steamboat. When she returned, we embarked and went a mile farther up, where we landed and built a fort, which we called Fort Titus, after our commander. Sent reconnoitering parties to find the position of the enemy, while a number of our men were at work building breastworks.

### THE CAPTURE OF SARAPIQUI.

On Thursday, the 12th, at night, we drew our three cannon (one six and two four pounders) opposite Sarapiqui. On the following night we mounted them, and the next morning opened a brisk fire on the fort, in the midst of a very heavy rain. The firing continued all day. During the day a party of our men crossed the river, and opened a cross fire on the fort with small arms. The enemy retired in small parties during the day, and in the night entirely deserted the fort. Next morning our officers marched into the fort, none under the grade of lieutenants being allowed to enter, and helped themselves to what they could find. When we entered we found only a bustle and a half of beans, a few bushels of rice, and some old rusty muskets. Three pieces of cannon were fished out of the river, one of them an iron nine-pounder, supposed to have been furnished by the English. We also found a wounded Costa Rican in the fort, who told us that the enemy had lost 14 killed and 30 wounded. He said that Mora compelled the natives to fight or suffer the garrote. We followed the trail of the enemy for five miles up the river, and came upon two other dead bodies. On the 14th we returned to Fort Sarapiqui, and Col. Titus went up the river with his battalion to surround Fort Castillo. The natives, at his approach, set fire to the small steamboat J. L. Scott. Titus offered \$200 to anybody who would extinguish the fire. Privates De Bois et and Kentock swam out to her and succeeded in putting the fire out. They have yet to get the \$200, however. The fort was mantled by about sixty natives, under command of an Englishman. A fire was kept up all day upon the place, and next day Titus held a long parley with the commander.

### WHY TITUS DID NOT TAKE CASTILLO.

What passed between them is not known, except that the Englishman was willing to relinquish the place without further bloodshed; but he said that his authority did not extend so far without special permission from Gen. Mora. Much to the chagrin of his men, who gave vent to their dissatisfaction in very audacious language, he granted the Englishman an armistice of 24 hours, and allowed him to send a messenger through his lines to Gen. Mora "to ask whether he should give up the fort or not." Of course, thus apprised, Gen. Mora dispatched a reinforcement of 400 men to their assistance, and Titus, at their approach, sounded a retreat. All retired with the exception of two companies, C and B, who did not get the order, being around a hill, out of sight, and in consequence lost 30 men before they escaped.

This affair created a great deal of comment. Some

attributed Titus's conduct to sheer cowardice, while others affirmed that he sold the battle. At all events, it was generally conceded that he was nearly master of the place when he granted the armistice and allowed the messenger to go through his lines to the headquarters of the enemy. Col Titus retreated down the river about twenty miles, and encamped upon an island. Here his officers swore they would serve no longer under such a poltroon, and his men vowed that they would shoot him for his cowardice. At this he left the encampment, ostensibly to go to Walker, via Panama. At Greytown he was arrested for insulting an English officer, but was released. Then he insulted the American Consul, and was taken prisoner by the officers of the American man-of-war Saratoga, and was again released. He then took passage in the Tenreessee to Aspinwall. On the same day that he arrived there twenty-four of his men, who had escaped down the river on rafts and in canoes, arrived in the British steamer Clyde, swearing vengeance upon him. The valiant Titus went about Aspinwall with a loaded revolver in his fist, expecting that his outraged men would really take his life. Capt. Brantley, Lieut. Vowels and other officers also deserted and went to Aspinwall at the expense of the English; and every arrival brought large numbers of the discomfited filibusters. When our informants left there were nearly 100 of these men at Aspinwall, unable to obtain passage to the States. They themselves escaped from Punta Arenas to Aspinwall on the British steamer, and only got home by working their passage on the Tenreessee. It was reported in Aspinwall that the English had determined to prevent the landing of any more filibusters at Greytown.