

WELCOME TO GEN. WILLIAM WALKER.

His Reception Preceded by a Riot and Concluded by a Storm.

GREAT GATHERING IN THE PARK.

An Address by Judge Phillips.

REPLY OF GEN. WALKER.

Proceedings from his Arrival in the City to his Retirement in the Lafarge.

Were Wm. WALKER an Alexander, just returned from a series of brilliant successes, bearing in his hands the rich spoils of nations added to his empire, he could not have been received with more enthusiasm than marked his advent into our City last evening. The weather was not very propitious. All day the skies betokened rain, and the air was raw and chilly. Fortunately, however, for the pageant the clouds withheld their contents until the proceedings were nearly over.

It was feared, also, during the day, that a disagreeable difficulty would occur upon the landing of WALKER and his associates, growing out of the pending difficulty between Col. LOCKRIDGE and Captains FARNUM and HALL. It will be remembered that these Captains were dismissed from LOCKRIDGE's command for alleged intemperance, and that they, in turn, have published the Colonel as a coward, and incompetent to lead the expedition with which he endeavored to force his way up the San Juan River to reinforce WALKER. The consequence is, a bitter state of feeling between these parties, which manifested itself this morning in declarations by FARNUM and HALL—who were Marshals of the procession—that Col. LOCKRIDGE should be prevented, forcibly, if need be, from taking a seat in the carriages provided for the distinguished strangers. This breeze also blew over, we believe,—at least we heard of no effort to put the uttered threats in execution. Nevertheless, the apprehensions of so disagreeable an incident not a little disconcerted and discouraged the Committee having the conduct of the reception ceremonies in their charge.

THE COMMITTEE EMBARK.

At 2 o'clock, several members of the Committee of Reception went on board the steamer *John Potter*, and proceeded to South Amboy to meet the object of their attentions. These gentlemen—who were designated by a silver star set in a rosette of white and blue ribbon—were as follows: Capt. JNO. CREIGHTON, Chairman; Judge A. A. PHILLIPS, Alex. N. Wild, Edward Cooper, Gen. C. R. Wheat, Alex. C. Lawrence, Wildes P. Walker, and Malcom Campbell. Gen. C. P. HENNINGSEN was also of the party,—looking younger and heartier than he did five years ago, notwithstanding his rough campaign in Central America.

THE STEAMER DECORATIONS.

The steamer was not decorated except with her usual colors, and a dozen flags, on each of which was blazoned the blood-red star of Nicaragua, displayed over the hurricane deck. The union jack was also spread to the breeze at the bow, where it waved in close embrace with the flag of Nicaragua, which hung from the same staff. Nothing of interest transpired on the trip to Amboy, where the steamer arrived in about two hours time. At 5 o'clock the train from Philadelphia came in sight, and in a few minutes more reached the wharf.

THE MEETING WITH WALKER.

The Committee of Reception met Gen. WALKER as he left the cars. On recognizing Generals HENNINGSEN and WHEAT in the collection of friends, WALKER advanced and greeted them cordially, and was then introduced to Judge PHILLIPS, who bid him welcome, without, however essaying any speech. WALKER responded to the greeting without formality, expressing his pleasure at meeting again his companions-in-arms who were present. The friends who accompanied Gen. WALKER from New-Orleans and arrived here with him yesterday, were Col. LOCKRIDGE, Col. J. P. WATERS and Capt. FAYSOUX, late of the Nicaraguan war schooner *Granada*. Col. FRANK ANDERSON accompanied him hither from Washington.

THE RECEPTION ON BOARD.

The guests accompanied by the Committee, proceeded on board the boat to the ladies saloon, where Mr. CAMPBELL, addressing the General said:

Gen. WALKER: On behalf of the Committee appointed for your reception, by the citizens of New York, a portion of that Committee have come here to welcome you, and to escort you to the City, where suitable ceremonies of reception will be observed.

The General bowed in acknowledgment, took his seat, and received the congratulations of a crowd of persons presented to him by the Committee, until Capt. SIMPSON, of the steamer, rescued him from the throng, and escorted him to a private room, for refreshment. After his return to the saloon, the remainder of the time was expended in general conversation between the guests and their friends.

SCENES ALONG THE ROUTE.

Our reporter, who accompanied the party from Camden to Amboy, states that nothing of note occurred along the route, except the assemblage of enthusiastic masses of people at different points, all anxious to see the "President of Nicaragua." At Burlington and Bordentown in particular, the concourse was very large. On the way across the bay, the steamer *Wyoming* dropped alongside the *John Potter*, ringing a salute, to which General WALKER responded from the deck of our vessel, amid cheers from the *Wyoming's* passengers. At various points along the "Kilis," also, small collections of people upon the banks of the river saluted the *Potter* as she passed.

CONVERSATIONAL INCIDENTS.

While crossing the bay, J. W. GERARD, Esq., who was among the Philadelphia passengers, obtained an introduction to Gen. WALKER, with whom he entered into conversation, assuring him that he bore a striking resemblance to Gen. TAYLOR—a suggestion which the party to whom addressed received with great dignity, evidently half suspicious that the comical attorney was quizzing him. Mr. G. subsequently introduced that novel topic of conversation, the weather, and drew the General out upon the subject of the climate of Nicaragua, which he described as very fine, the temperature upon its high table-lands rarely rising above 85°.

THE CAUSES OF DISEASE IN NICARAGUA.

Mr. GERARD remarked that he had seen Gen. HENNINGSEN, and that he looked remarkably well. WALKER replied that those who took care of themselves in Nicaragua were well enough. Mr. G. suggested that the soldiers who went out to that country were a rough, careless set, we supposed, and apt to be disastrously free with bad whisky. WALKER rejoined that there were some certainly who suffered from that course, but that bad food and an insufficiency of food, was a far more frequent and more serious difficulty.

DIPLOMACY GREETING WAR.

Chevalier WYCKOFF next presented himself and introduced an agent of WALKER, the celebrated daguerreotypist, who made application to Gen. WALKER to sit to him this morning for a photograph. The General promptly acceded to the request, and fixed an hour for the engagement. WYCKOFF subsequently struck very naturally into the field of diplomacy. In WALKER's triumph would be the solution of the Central American imbroglio, he said to the General, and added that he had made the same remark a day or two since to a British functionary at Washington, who received the suggestion with significant nervousness. Lord NAPLES should instantly demand his passports.

A GREETING FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

An old gentleman from Massachusetts sought an introduction, and asked WALKER if he proposed to visit that State. WALKER replied that it was uncertain. The old gentleman said that if he did, he would find he had friends there. They would not be descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers, WALKER replied, if they did not welcome the cause which I represent.

THE APPROACH TO THE BATTERY.

When the steamer was within a mile of the Battery, the cannon planted there began to thunder forth its salute of one hundred guns, served with great rapidity and precision. As she neared the wharf, Gen. WALKER, and his accompanying companions-in-arms, took their station upon the upper deck, where the General, with uncovered head, and supported on either side by Colonels HENNINGSEN and ANDERSON, bowed acknowledgement of the cheers sent up by the dense mass of human beings who assembled in thousands, blackening the wharf, the Battery and the lower end of State-street. The sight was certainly such as is not witnessed every day.

Atterman WILSON was one of the first to rush on board when the steamer touched the dock. Seizing Gen. WALKER, he welcomed him again in behalf of New-York.

FORMATION OF THE PROCESSION.

During the afternoon, Col. HALL, Captain O'KNEFF, Captain FARNUM, and Captain MCKORKLE, were upon the platform that had been erected for the formal reception. The presence of the Colonel was remarked, particularly, because those who had read the reports of the proceedings of the Committee of Arrangements, thought he would have been engaged in superintending the Rynders Grenadiers, who, it had been said, would appear in full strength, and take prominent part in the reception. Such was the intention of the Committee, and such, at one time, was thought to be the intention of the Grenadiers. But they did not appear at National Hall, Canal-street, at 4 o'clock, as ordered, and consequently Col. HALL was not engaged in the direction of their movements.

At 5 o'clock a gentleman came upon the platform with a transparency, on two sides of which was written:

"We Honor the Brave,"
and on the two others—

"Nicaragua shall soon be Free."

This was nailed on the right, and in front of the platform. Soon afterwards another gentleman appeared with a tri-color flag—three horizontal stripes, the upper and lower blue, the middle white, with a red star in the centre. It was nailed to the left front of the platform.

At a few minutes past 6 Capt. O'KNEFF stood upon the reporter's table, and said:

GEN. WALKER: Gen. WILLIAM WALKER, the hero of Nicaragua, will arrive at pier No. 1 in half an hour, and all who desire to take part in the intended reception, are requested to form into line behind the band, and march down to meet him when he lands. Stewart's Band marched off, and a large portion of the vast assemblage that had been there for hours witnessing the extraordinary proceedings of the authorities at the City Hall, followed, passing out of the western gate to Broadway and down Broadway to the steamboat landing. While they were forming and for some time after they had left, a cannon was fired at intervals of two or three minutes.

THE DEBARCATION—SCENES AT THE WHARF.

An open barouche, drawn by four horses, was in waiting upon the wharf when the steamboat arrived. To this Gen. WALKER attempted to walk, but the crowd all rushed to seize his hand, lifted him up on its wave and fairly swept him into the seat provided for him. An attempt to organize a procession quite failed in consequence of the tremendous pressure of the masses to get near enough to shake the hand or see the face of the man they had come to honor.

Accompanied by a band of music, the carriages containing the guests and Committee passed up State-street and Broadway to the Park. All along the route the side-walks were crowded with anxious spectators, who cheered the lion of the day with enthusiastic rounds as he passed. The Police force was evidently elsewhere engaged at this time, for very few if any of its members were visible in the procession, much to the damage of General WALKER's carriage, the springs of which were broken, and its back torn out by the rude efforts of "the boys" to climb into the vehicle for a better look at its distinguished occupant.

KNOCK-DOWN ARGUMENTS.

Capt. CREIGHTON tumbled over of these intruders out of the carriage, and was himself knocked down in the crowd. In the *melée*, the Captain's coat was nearly torn from his back and quite ruined—a fact which will probably necessitate his purchase of a new wedding garment immediately, as he had designed getting spliced in the coat which now is itself so sadly in need of splicing.

AT THE PARK.

When the first carriage arrived at the western gate, the crowd in the Park, between the stand and the City Hall, became very much excited; and by the time it reached the front of the platform, there was the most densely packed mass of human beings that have gathered in front of the City Hall for many years. They were much closer together than sardines in a tin case, for sardines admit a little fluid between them, while, although it was raining freely at the time, not a drop could penetrate lower than the line of the breasts of the assemblage. Above that line there was a quantity of water, which flowed from one to another along the open space above the line of pressure of backs and breasts. There was no room for the carriage, and for some time it could not be moved. The horses remained remarkably quiet, considering that they were hard pressed in front and on either side; and that many who doubted the resisting power of their ribs were dodging under their bellies, in the hope of escaping under the platform. Others clung to the horses harness and to the carriage, and those who could climbed up the platform to save themselves from injury. When the second carriage arrived, drawn by four horses, and containing Gen. WALKER and some of the members of the Committee, the confusion was, if possible, greater than ever. As the mass swayed towards it, those in front clung to the carriage and to the harness to save themselves. Several minutes elapsed before General WALKER could gain the platform. As soon as he appeared, three cheers were given, and there were loud cries of "Order!"

REMARKS OF CAPT. CREIGHTON.

Capt. CREIGHTON, mounting the reporters' table, said: If those who cry "Order!" will only keep order, we will soon have order. Fellow citizens: If you will give me your attention for one moment, as Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, I will not occupy your time by a long speech, but will merely introduce to you Judge A. PHILLIPS, who will deliver the address of welcome to the noble chief we have assembled to do honor to. [Cheers, and the utmost confusion.] I now introduce to you Judge A. PHILLIPS, who will deliver the congratulatory or welcome address to Gen. WM. WALKER. Three cheers or WALKER!

[This was responded to loud and long, and Judge PHILLIPS, amid a confusion which rendered him inaudible beyond the stage, addressed Gen. WALKER, who stood opposite him with head uncovered.]

GENERAL WALKER'S REPLY.

When Judge PHILLIPS had concluded, the rain was coming down heavily, but an umbrella being held over his head, Gen. WALKER spoke as follows, in a clear, deliberative voice:

CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK: I thank you for your expressions of sympathy toward a cause of which I am the humble representative. I thank you for these manifest approbations of a cause for which we have been so lately engaged, and for which we expect to struggle yet in the future.

[The noise and confusion was here so great that Captain CREIGHTON made a fresh appeal to the crowd, that while the President of Nicaragua was addressing them they would have sufficient self-respect to keep silence. This appeal had very little effect, and General WALKER continued.]

CITIZENS: It is gratifying to have heard allusions to the fields, which I hope may be termed glorious of Nicaragua; but with far higher pride than any which mere victories may inspire, I stand in your presence, to-day, and declare with satisfaction that I challenge any one to point to the first instance in which I have acted contrary to the law of right or justice. Prouder do I feel to make this declaration than to have been victor on a thousand fields! [Enthusiastic cheers.]

[The rain was now falling very fast and the confusion was so great that it was impossible to hear a word beyond the reporters table. Observing this Mr. H. N. WILD cried aloud to the audience.]

REMARKS OF H. N. WILD.

Gentlemen, if you are desirous of hearing the tones of General WALKER, you must be as quiet as possible. While Mr. WILD was addressing the audience, Gen. WALKER concluded his remarks as follows:

Again I thank you for these expressions of sympathy and approbation, and I hope to see you all at any time that you may make it convenient.

The General and those of his officers who accompanied him were immediately shown to their carriages and driven to the St. Nicholas, and the crowd dispersed.

AT THE ST. NICHOLAS.

Arriving at the hotel the General alighted, when it was discovered that there were no rooms provided for him. Another crowd gathered, and the General was again hemmed in. Discovering Gen. WHEAT near by, Gen. WALKER said to him: "General, get me out of this."

AT THE LAFARGE.

No sooner said than executed, the powerful arm of Gen. WHEAT made way for his friend. As soon as he reached the door, Gen. WHEAT procured a carriage. They both entered, and the driver drove in haste down Broadway until the crowd was far behind, then up again to above Fourth-street. Gen. WHEAT then ascertained that there were rooms prepared at the Lafarge, to which he drove immediately, and Gen. WALKER was admitted through the private door to his rooms without the knowledge of any who were searching for him.

As the rain had caused the General to shorten his intended remarks at the Park, it was thought he would resume them at the Hotel, but, under the circumstances, he declined. Subsequently, it was determined to make an occasion on some future day, for the General to speak at length.

During the evening, he was visited by a large number of friends—among whom was GEORGE LAW—but nothing of a public nature transpired.

Probable Arrest of General Walker.

Commodore VANDERBILT has had a *capias* issued for the arrest of General WALKER, charged with having combined with Messrs. C. K. GARRISON and CHARLES MORGAN to break up the accessory Transit steamships line. The Commodore is, of course, well aware that General WALKER's pockets must be completely empty. He has had the writ issued as a matter of form. The effect of the writ, though not particularly remunerative to the Commodore, will probably compel the General to show himself before a New-York Court.