THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 7789. MORNING EDITION—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1857. PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE RETURN OF GEN. WALKER.

The Effect of His Arrest and the Breaking Up of His Expedition.

SENSATION IN WASHINGTON.

Commodore Paulding's Act Repudiated by the Government.

Gen. Walker's Correspondence with Com. Paulding and Capt. Chatard.

What Were the Instructions to Com. Paulding?

The Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, the Neutrality Law and the Late Treaty with Nicaragua.

ANOTHER INTERVIEW WITH GEN. WALKER.

WHAT HE THINKS OF THE AFFAIR.

HIS SURRENDER TO MARSHAL RYNDERS.

AFFAIRS IN CENTRAL AMERICA,

&c., &c., &c.

The arrival of General Walker in this city on Sunday night, as a prisoner of State, caused great excitement throughout the metropolis. It was yesterday the topic of conversation in every circle. The news ere this has spread all over the country, and has, undoubtedly, produced as deep a sensation everywhere as here.

The excitement in Washington, we learn, was as intense as in this city. One of our correspondents telegraphed to us as follows:—

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1857.

The administration unequivocally condemn the action of Commodore Paulding in invading Nicaragua to capture one of her citizens. The only instructions the Commodore had on the subject were precisely similar to those published in the HERALD and addressed to United States Marshals and others. It was not anticipated that any attempt would be made to arrest Gen. Walker on land. The Commodore will have to answer for this violation of international law.

The instructions referred to in the above despatch were issued on the 18th of last September, in accordance with a request made to Gen. Cass by Senors Yrisarri and Molina, the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Ministers at Washington. The note of the two Ministers was as follows:—

NEW YORK, Sept. 14, 1857.

The undersigned, Minister Plenipotentiary of the republics of Guatemala and Salvador, and the Charge d'Affaires of the republic of Costa Rica, have the honor to make known to the Secretary of State of the United States that there is no doubt that there is being prepared in the southern part of this republic an expedition, under the orders of the adventurer Wm. Walker, the which, according to the advices published in the public journals, will sail about the middle of the present month, or the beginning of the next, and will proceed to the Bocas del Toro, where it will receive the armament, which has been prepared in this port of New York to be forwarded to said point. It is probable that the uniting of the expeditionists and the aforesaid armament at the Bocas del Toro may be for the purpose of these new invaders of Nicaragua entering the port of San Juan del Norte, for they have no other port at which they can enter. The undersigned hope that the government of the United States, in view that it cannot prevent the debarcation of this expedition, so publicly and shamefacedly announced, like all the others, *will order that a vessel of war of the United States prevent the landing of these aggressors in the Bocas del Toro, and that positive orders be given to the vessel of war that may be lying in San Juan del Nort also to prevent the landing of the said filibusters on that coast, causing them to return to the United States, as transgressors of the laws of this country, and as disturbers of the peace and security of friendly nations.*

With the highest consideration, the undersigned have the honor to subscribe themselves, of the Secretary of State of the United States, the attentive and obedient servants, A. J. DE YRISARRI,
Hon. LEWIS CASS. LUIS MOLINA.

The instructions of General Cass, prompted by this complaint, were as annexed:—

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18, 1857.

SIR—From information received at this Department, there is reason to believe that lawless persons are now engaged within the limits of the United States in setting on foot and preparing the means for military expeditions to be carried on against the territories of Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica—republics with whom the United States are at peace—in direct violation of the sixth section of the act of Congress approved 20th April, 1818. And, under the eighth section of the said act, it is made lawful for the President, or such person as he shall empower, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States, and the militia thereof, "for the purpose of preventing the carrying on of any such expedition or enterprise from the territories or jurisdiction of the United States." I am, therefore, directed by the President to call your attention to the subject, and to urge you to use all due diligence and to avail yourself of all legitimate means at your command to enforce these and other provisions of the said act of 20th April, 1818, against those who may be found to be engaged in setting on foot or preparing military expeditions against the territories of Mexico, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, so manifestly prejudicial to the national character and so injurious to the national interest. And you are hereby instructed promptly to communicate to this department the earliest information you may receive relative to such expeditions. I am, sir, your obedient servant, LEWIS CASS.

These instructions were sent to the United States officials in New York, New Orleans and other ports. Our Washington correspondent states that those sent to Commodore Paulding were of a similar character and tenor.

With the additional details we are enabled to give this morning of the arrest of Gen. Walker and the breaking up of his encampment, we publish the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, the Neutrality laws of 1818, and a synopsis of the recent treaty made with Nicaragua, which, we see, has been adopted by the existing Nicaraguan government.

GENERAL WALKER IN NEW YORK.

HE PRESENTS HIMSELF AT THE OFFICE OF MARSHAL RYNDERS—LETTER OF COMMODORE PAULDING.

General Walker, in accordance with his promise to Commodore Paulding, by whom he was taken prisoner, with the men under his command at Punta Arenas, presented himself at the office of Captain Rynders, the United States Marshal, yesterday morning. He was accompanied by his counsel, Mr. Thomas Francis Meagher, Mr. Malcolm Campbell and General Wheat. His visit to the Marshal's office must not be considered as a rendering of himself up to the government, for the General does not consider that he has committed any overt act, but that, as he himself says, he has kept himself strictly within the limits of the law. His appearance at the office was simply in compliance with his promise to Commodore Paulding, and for the purpose of delivering the following letter into the hands of the United States Marshal:—

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP WABASH, OFF SAN JUAN DEL NORTE, Dec. 11, 1857.

SIR—This will be handed to you by General William Walker, who has given me his parole of honor to present it to you in person. With the naval force of this squadron I arrested General Walker on Punta Arenas on the 8th inst., for a violation of the neutrality laws of the United States, he having set on foot in the United States unlawful military organizations, to make war on a people with whom we are at peace, and was at the time of his arrest at the head of said organization in the act of making war as above stated. As Marshal of the Southern District of New York I consign him to your custody.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
H. PAULDING,
Commanding United States Home Squadron.

To ISAIAH RYNDERS, Esq., United States Marshal Southern District of New York.

The following is the written pledge made by General Walker in regard to the delivery of the communication:—

The option being given me to go to the United States in the Saratoga or take passage at my own expense from Aspinwall to New York, I have preferred to return by way of Aspinwall, and will deliver this communication in person to the Marshal for the Southern District of New York. WM. WALKER.

UNITED STATES STEAM FRIGATE WABASH, OFF SAN JUAN DEL NORTE, Dec. 17, 1857.

It was understood that General Walker would present himself, but it was not believed that any official proceedings would take place in consequence of his visit. The fact was that the Marshal had no instructions from Washington, and although, as he himself said, he would have been obliged to arrest Walker if he had received orders to that effect, the government had not even given him an intimation as to how he should act in the matter. Under these circumstances—without a writ or authority of any kind—it would be considered an unwarrantable interference on his part to take the General into custody.

When General Walker made his appearance the Captain shook him warmly by the hand, and said:—

"I am happy to see you, General, as Captain Rynders, but as United States Marshal I cannot say that."

The General returned his greeting in his usual quiet way, saying that he was glad to see the Captain, at the same time handing him the letter from Commodore Paulding, which we have given above. He then took a seat, and awaited the reading of the communication. The only persons in the office at the time were those whose names have been already given, the officials, and two or three members of the press. There was certainly nothing in the scene which would give a stranger any idea of the nature of the proceedings. No one ignorant of the facts would have supposed that the modest looking little man in the light brown overcoat was the same individual who had caused such a commotion among some of the diplomatists at Washington; nor would they have found anything in his personal appearance to justify them in the belief that he was one of the most daring, persevering and determined military adventurers of the age. There is nothing of the soldier in his looks, nor in his figure; but a few minutes conversation with him satisfies you that you are talking to no ordinary common place character. Beneath the quiet, reserved demeanor, the unassuming manner which some might call retiring, there is an expression of indomitable will and unflinching tenacity of purpose. General Walker, whatever may be said about his coolness and self-possession, is a man of strong passions, with great power of self-control. He is essentially a man with one purpose, one great aim; and no matter how people may differ in regard to the course he has pursued, every one agrees that he has exhibited throughout the whole of his career a resolution that no reverse of fortune, no obstacles can subdue. His friends may claim that he is actuated by the one pure and disinterested motive of extending republican institutions, of Americanising Central America; while his opponents may contend that he is aiming at the establishment of a military dictatorship, and that his overruling feeling is an inordinate ambition that will sacrifice anything and everything that stands in the way. Yet all must grant that whatever other qualities they may deny him, that he possesses the characteristics of which we have spoken in an eminent degree. If these of themselves constitute a great man, then General Walker is one.

However all this may be, his personal appearance, to a casual observer, would never, as we have said, give any idea of the character or career of the man. While the Marshal was reading the letter, he sat there more like an indifferent spectator than the most interested person present. When Captain Rynders had made himself acquainted with the contents of the communication, he retired with the General and his counsel to a private office, where, as we subsequently learned, it was decided that the General should go on to Washington. While here, the Marshal said that he had no writ of authority for arresting him, but that he thought the best way would be for him to proceed to Washington this evening or to-morrow (this) morning, as might suit his convenience best; and, added the Marshal, "I will most probably go with you myself."

And thus the matter ends for the present. General Walker took his leave at the close of the interview with his counsel, Messrs. Meagher and Campbell, and General Wheat.

The following are the additional names of officers and men belonging to General Walker's army, who surrendered to the United States naval force at Greytown:—

Assistant Surgeon Greenless.
C. W. Eckhardt.
Mark Devlin.
Michael Lamb.

Messrs. J. M. West, C. J. McDonald, and William R. Rogers claimed to have no interest in Walker's expedition, and were left at Greytown.

INTERVIEW WITH GEN. WALKER—WHAT HE THINKS OF HIS ARREST.

Later in the day one of our reporters had an interview with Gen. Walker at the residence of Gen. Henningsen, in the course of which he learned the following additional particulars:—

It is the General's belief that Commodore Paulding was not authorized by his instructions to place himself and his men under arrest, and he feels justified in entertaining it by the fact that in the conversation which took place between himself and the Commodore no intimation even was given that he was acting under specific orders from the government. The act, he said, in his unimpassioned way, as if he were speaking about something in which he had no particular interest—the act was entirely unjustifiable. "I was arrested," he continued, "on neutral territory, and obliged to haul down the Nicaraguan flag." This, however, he added, was not all, for the order to lower it was accompanied by words which were most offensive to American ears. He was told that they—meaning himself and his men—were a dishonor to the country. "Now," proceeded the General, "there were men among us who had rendered the country good service. There was one, in particular, who was the first to plant the American flag on the heights of Cerro Gordo—and such men were an honor to any nation." There was no justification, he said, for this violation of neutral territory, and no necessity for such a display of force. He did not intend to offer any resistance, and still less was it his desire to bring his men into collision with the United States troops. Such a thing as a conflict with American citizens he would have done all in his power to avoid; and a sergeant's guard would have been all-sufficient to secure his arrest, for he should not have shown the least opposition. But while he submitted to being made a prisoner, he protested in the strongest terms against the injustice and illegality of the act—an act which the President of the United States would not, he thought, justify. His men protested against their arrest, and he believed some of them would commence legal proceedings in the matter on their arrival at Norfolk. It was also an act insulting to the flag of Nicaragua, whose General he was, and from which he had received his commission. For this the United States government was not only bound to make ample apology, but should, in justice to the offended party, place both himself and his men in the same position from which they were taken, and then salute the Nicaraguan flag for the insult which had been inflicted upon it, and which no nation having the power to resent would submit to.

General Walker did not believe, as has been reported, that affidavits in regard to the fitting out of alleged expeditions to Nicaragua in the United States had been placed in the possession of Lord Napier, and by him given to General Cass. Such a course would not have been diplomatic, nor was he of the opinion that our government would have received or acted upon documents coming before it in that way. He intended going to Washington this morning; but as he did not recognise the right of any government to arrest him on the soil of Nicaragua, he should not consider it incumbent on him to report his arrival to the President. He desired simply to know the course the government intended to pursue in regard to him.

As to Colonel Anderson, who had captured Fort Castillo and was in possession of it when he (General Walker) was taken prisoner, he saw that no attempt had been made to arrest him, although it would have been equally justifiable with the course which they had adopted in his (the General's) case. The Colonel was doubtless informed of what had occurred; but as he was acting under the orders of the Nicaraguan government, he should continue to hold the fort.

Those who imagine that General Walker does not intend returning to Nicaragua are greatly mistaken. He is not in the least depressed by this turn in his fortunes, but is on the contrary as hopeful and as sanguine as ever. So far from being cast down he considers that he is stronger than ever, and that the moral support he derives from the position in which he has, through no conduct of his own, been placed, must be attended with the most favorable results to the cause in which he is engaged. It may postpone the accomplishment of the great object he has in view, but it only renders success more certain. That no excuse or pretext might be given for the interference of the United States government, I have, said the General kept within the strict limits of the neutrality laws, and now the first to violate them has been the government itself. He could not say what the administration would do if they did not repudiate the action of Commodore Paulding, who, as he again repeated, was not acting under official instructions. However, a very few days would settle that point, and he should have to await whatever disposition might be made of it.

We understand that during the whole of yesterday Gen. Walker was visited by a large number of friends, among whom were some of those who had served under him in Nicaragua. To-day, as we have already stated, he goes to Washington, where his appearance will create quite an excitement.

GEN. WALKER'S LETTERS TO COM. PAULDING, INCLUDING HIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH CAPTAIN CHATARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NICARAGUA, PUNTA ARENAS, Nov. 30, 1857.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that I landed at this port on Wednesday last, from the steamer Fashion, bearing the United States flag and sailing from the port of Mobile, Alabama. Accompanying me were a number of officers belonging to the Nicaraguan service, and some emigrants from the United States who desired to become naturalized citizens of this Republic. The steamer was regularly cleared at Mobile for the port of San Juan de Nicaragua, and it was acknowledged that her voyage was a legal one. I need not add that the President and government of the United States were fully advised of my intention to return to Nicaragua.

We had scarcely, however, disembarked, when the commander of the United States sloop Saratoga sent a Lieutenant to inform me I must evacuate certain property now held by one Joseph N. Scott, as the pretended agent of the Nicaragua Transportation Company. The Fashion, too, had hauled alongside the schooner Chase, formerly sailed under the United States flag, but now without papers, as she was transferred to me by act before the Commercial Agent of the United States; nevertheless, the captain of the Fashion was ordered to haul away from the Chase, and not to leave any stores for me from the ship until I had complied with the order to evacuate the buildings now held by Scott. I was informed by the commander of the Saratoga that these orders were given because Mr. Scott claimed protection for the property, as being American. In all this Commander Chatard acted *ex parte*, receiving Scott's statements as true, and announcing a decision on the matter without hearing what I had to say.

Now I beg leave to inform you that Mr. Scott holds all the property on the Point from the government of Nicaragua, and under an order from me as President of the Republic. Furthermore, he holds the schooner Chase as my trustee, and he is now protected in fraudulently withholding her from me by an officer of the United States navy. Scott also holds other property, consisting of military and other stores, belonging to this government, and these, he wrongfully and illegally retains by the aid of the guns of the Saratoga.

Notwithstanding the injustice of the commander, I was obliged to yield to the orders of the Saratoga. But this did not relieve me from what I cannot but style the impertinence of Commander Chatard. Without alleging that there had been any interference on my part with American property, he sent a Lieutenant to inform me that if I molested such property he would regard my force as hostile, and prevent it by shot and shell from leaving the Point.

Nor did this end the injustice of Commander Chatard. This morning I received a note, under seal of H. B. M. Consul General for Musquito, couched in the following terms:—

UNITED STATES SHIP SARATOGA, OFF GREYTOWN, Nov. 30, 1857.

SIR—I have been informed through Mr. Green, H. B. M.'s Consul, that you meditate seizing the English mail from Costa Rica, with American, English, and letters of merchants of other nations, besides there may be money. Now I warn you not to touch it, and to allow it to come safely at hand here. If you do not I will proceed against you without hesitation, in the manner I sent you word the other day. In a few days the American, as well as English Commodores will be here, and all your acts of violence will then be more particularly noticed. Yours, respectfully,
FRED'K CHATARD, Commander.

I have the honor to report these facts to you, and to request that you will cause Commander Chatard to cease this unjust and illegal conduct. As a native of the United States, engaged in what your government admits to be a lawful undertaking, and awaiting rights which cannot but commend themselves to the sense of justice of all civilized nations, I claim as my due that you shall not permit the sovereignty of Nicaragua to be violated by the Commander of the Saratoga, for the purpose of gratifying his opinions or his prejudices. With full confidence, I ask from your hands that justice which it is the proud boast of your government to award to all.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
WM. WALKER,
Comm'dg-in-Chief Army of Nicaragua.
Commodore H. PAULDING, United States Navy.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NICARAGUA, PUNTA ARENAS, Dec. 2, 1857.

SIR—Since addressing you on the 30th ult., other events have transpired to which I am constrained to call your attention.

On the afternoon of the 30th a brig, bearing Sardinian colors and having the Nicaraguan flag at the fore, entered this harbor. Soon after she rounded the Point a number of armed boats pulled off from the Saratoga towards the brig, and an officer boarded her. Thus, you perceive, the Saratoga attempts to maintain the police of this port, in derogation of the territorial rights of Nicaragua, treating vessels in our harbor precisely as if they were on the high seas. I cannot think that your government authorizes such palpable wrong and injustice.

The same day several officers from the Saratoga, not in uniform, came into my camp, regardless of the hail of the sentinel and without permission from the officer of the day. They were informed that, should they do so again, the sentry would be instructed to fire on them. On the following morning I was surprised to receive by the hand of Lieutenant Cilley the following communication:—

UNITED STATES SHIP SARATOGA, SAN JUAN DEL NORTE, Dec. 1, 1857.

SIR—Lieut. Cilley, the bearer of this, is one of the officers to whom you offered yesterday the gross indignity of threatening to shoot them. Now, such an insult to officers of the United States navy is a national offence. You certainly act with very little policy, for, surely, if you were to dare to touch one of my officers I would feel justified to retaliate in the extreme, and would not hesitate to do so. I will lay the matter before the Commodore when he arrives, and no doubt he will feel the insult more deeply than myself. I received your despatch and will forward it to him. Respectfully,
FREDK. CHATARD, Commander.

Gen. WM. WALKER.

A few hours after this note was sent, several boats, filled with armed men and with a boat howitzer in one of them, were seen pulling from the Saratoga to the upper portion of the Point, where a company of my men were quartered. The United States officer in charge of the boats immediately begun, without notice, to practise his men in firing, whilst the Nicaraguan officer deployed his command as skirmishers, to resist any encroachment on his camp. Under such circumstances a chance shot might have brought about a collision between the two forces. Seeing from the conduct of the commander of the Saratoga that he was criminally seeking to produce a collision, I deemed it prudent to order the company near where his boats landed into my main camp. I can assure you it is only by constant watchfulness and caution on my part that an actual conflict has been prevented.

Although I had treated the previous notes of Commander Chatard with the contempt they merited, by refusing to answer them, he sent me this morning, by the hands of an officer, another communication, of which the following is a copy:—

UNITED STATES SHIP SARATOGA, Dec. 2, 1857.

SIR—As I am entirely opposed to harming any one unless I know I have full right and very good reasons to do so, I wish to notify you in time that your men on the Point are in the way of any shot I may have to fire to bring vessels to; for I am determined to bring all vessels to, so that I may fully inquire into their character. Of course, I do not admit your claim to that soil, nor can you yourself in earnest imagine that any nation in the civilized world can do so either. Respectfully, FREDK. CHATARD, Commander.

Gen. WM. WALKER.

You will see that this note re-asserts the right of a United States vessel to maintain the police of this port. The commander, too, after having admitted my claim to exercise the functions of government, by accusing me of offering an indignity to the United States, now denies our right to the soil of Nicaragua. But it is useless to call your attention to the childish follies of these notes, as they are apparent to the most casual observer. Were they not signed by a United States officer they should not be dignified by notice on my part.

With consideration, I have the honor to remain your obedient servant, WM. WALKER,
Comm'dg-in-Chief Army of Nicaragua.
Commodore H. PAULDING, United States Navy.

OUR SAN JUAN DEL SUR CORRESPONDENCE.

SAN JUAN DEL SUR, Dec. 3, 1857.

General Canas' Mission—Its Futility—Preparations to Invade Costa Rica—Wm. Carey Jones' Course—Americans Disgusted with the Consul—Mr. Priest and Captain Bailey's Visit to Granada—The Result of his Claim upon the Government, dc., dc.

General Canas is here on the part of Costa Rica, for the ostensible purpose of peacemaking; but that is all gammon. Nothing can be arrived at in the shape of a mutual understanding so long as Costa Rica and Nicaragua allow their conflicting interests to remain in the hands of the Bowling Green Commodores. Costa Rica occupies the San Juan river, and has possession of the lake and river steamers, and will certainly hold on to them until, at the intervention of the United States, she shall be compelled to restore them as American property.

Nicaragua is concentrating all her available forces at Rivas, preparatory to invading Costa Rica, they say. At present there are some eight hundred troops, under the command of five generals, in Rivas, among whom are Generals Jerez, Valle, alias Chilion, and Mendez. Under the existing state of things, it is quite likely that both Costa Rica and Nicaragua will reduce themselves to the deplorable condition of the lamented Kilkenny cats, over that bone of contention the "Transit."

Our government has manifested but little wisdom in sending Wm. Carey Jones to this country in a diplomatic capacity, unless the motive was to raise the price of aguardiente. In that case the object is attained.

Our Consul here is a legacy entailed upon us by the late administration, for which the whole of us Americans residing within his jurisdiction are ungrateful. It may be productive of some good to give a condensed sketch of the brilliant career of this remarkable individual.

His name is John Priest, and was appointed to this Consulate at the time when the war between the Chamorro and democratic parties was in full blast, and also when this town used to pass from the possession of one party to that of the other every few days. It was on one of those occasions that our respected Consul was, at the points of a half dozen bayonets, trotted off to the guardhouse, and there told to deliver up two Americans who had been fighting for the opposite party, in two hours, or, at the expiration of that time, he would be shot. He did not deliver up the delinquents, for he knew not their whereabouts, neither was he shot, but suffered to go his way rejoicing. The result was that he cried aloud for satisfaction, and the United States sloop-of-war Portsmouth was ordered here to demand it. Capt. Bailey, of that ship, and our modest Consul, posted off to Granada, where the captain demanded redress for the insults and indignities heaped upon the distinguished representative of his government aforesaid. Capt. Bailey was very politely listened to on the part of this government, and then shown a letter over the signature of Mr. Consul Priest, exonerating the government of Nicaragua, and all officers—civil and military—acting under it, from all blame, of whatsoever nature or kind, so far as he was officially or personally concerned or interested; and at the same time advised that the blockhead obtained his *exequatur* in exchange for that spirited document. Capt. Bailey, of course, lost no time in getting aboard his ship and going to sea.

I have but little commercial news to communicate. Aguardiente, or native rum, is the only article in market worth noticing; and that, in consequence of the existing diplomatic relations with the United States, has gone up to four dimes per bottle, and will probably reach a higher figure.

OUR SAN JUAN CORRESPONDENCE.

UNITED STATES SHIP SARATOGA, SAN JUAN DEL NORTE, Dec 11, 1857.

The Determination to Capture Gen. Walker—Preparations therefor—The English Offer to Participate—Surrender of Gen. Walker—Arrival of Steamer Morgan—Her Capture—Liberation of the Prisoners—Gen. Walker Requests not to be Sent on Board the Saratoga—Homeward Bound—Reported Capture of Fort San Carlos by Col. Anderson, dc.

Amidst the excitement attendant upon getting ready for sea, I attempt to give you a brief sketch of the downfall of filibusterism, for the time being.

The Wabash and Fulton arrived here a few days ago, it being determined to capture Walker and his party.

On the night of the 7th, the preparations may be said to have commenced, for we despatched our launch with a howitzer a short distance up the river, to intercept all communication. It rained very heavily all day and night. The next morning early we ran out hawsers and hauled our ship ahead until nearly abreast of Scott's house, bringing our port battery to bear on the devoted building which contained the commander-in-chief. Over a small barroom kept by a man named Craig, used as a storehouse, the Nicaragua flag floated gaily in the breeze. You can better imagine the excitement than one can describe it.

About 10½ o'clock several boats from the Wabash came in—this ship, from her heavy draught, laid outside—and shortly afterwards the Fulton, after some prodigious rolls, made her entrance in the harbor, bearing the broad pennant of flag officer Paulding.

She ran up alongside the old hulk, when all of our boats were manned and pulled alongside, but their services not being required, were directed to return, so as to work our guns if it should become necessary. The marines only were received, so as to combine with the guard of the frigate. The captain of the English steam frigate Brunswick offered his, but of course this was politely declined.

The launches, with their field pieces, were now sent up abreast of Walker's forces, the marines and sailors landed from the Fulton a force of about 300, and formed. This was truly a gratifying sight, the men being dressed neatly and exhibiting evidence of fine drill and discipline.

Everything being in readiness, Captain Engle, of the Wabash, was despatched to demand a surrender. At 12.55 the Nicaraguan colors were hauled down, and Walker acknowledged himself a prisoner, without a shot being fired.

Immediately after this, and much to our astonishment, the steamer Morgan was seen coming down the river, having been captured in the taking of Castillo, under charge of Com. De Brisset, with about forty Costa Rican prisoners. The arrival could not have been better timed for us, for she was instantly surrounded by the boats and taken possession of by our launch and anchored under our guns. We sent on board provisions to the captives, who found themselves unexpectedly free, when under the very eyes of the man whom they hold in such mortal dread.

They were allowed to depart. In Greytown there was a universal rejoicing by the natives, many of whom got drunk on the occasion, crying, "Down with Walker" and "Viva los Americanos."

Generals Walker and Hornsby were conveyed on board the Wabash, the former requesting, as a particular favor, that he might not be sent on board this ship.

Both of our steerages are given up to the officers, our own officers living in the cabin. The men are on board the flagship, but we will go outside to receive them on board, being ordered to convey the party to the United States.

We have one lady, Mrs. Buttrick, with three children.

I presume the entire force, when ready for sea, will amount to 150, which with our own crew of nearly 200, will be rather an inconvenient cargo for a second class sloop of war.

The arms and ammunition will be taken on board the Wabash.

I learn that San Carlos has fallen also to the skill of Colonel Anderson, who has shown a great deal of perseverance and courage, which would shine forth in brighter coors were he engaged in a better cause.

Dec. 12.—We are now outside, nearly ready for sailing. Vill write again should we stop *en route*.

UNITED STATES SLOOP-OF-WAR SARATOGA, OFF SAN JUAN DE NICARAGUA, Dec. 12, 1857.

Operations on the River—The Arrest of Gen. Walker, dc.

When Frank went up the river he made me promise to write you in case anything happened to him. By the enclosed copies of letters from him to General Walker you will see what he has done; and I am sure you will rejoice at his brilliant achievement and success with fifty men in three yawl boats. Without artillery he has accomplished what Lockridge, with upwards of eight hundred men, well appointed and with the necessary armament, failed to do after a four months' campaign, with great loss of life and stores. Lockridge disgracefully retreated. New York has good reason to be proud of your brother, and his many friends will be made glad when reading his report of proceedings on the San Juan river.

By the last mail you will have had particulars of our voyage from Mobile and landing on Punta Arenas. Nothing special occurred in camp, save some petty annoyances from officers of the Saratoga, until the morning of the 5th, when Fred. Romer came down the river with the glorious news that Frank had taken Castillo and the steamers. All was joy in our camp, and preparations were making for a move up the country. The river steamer was anxiously looked for on the 6th and 7th, but she did not arrive until the morning of the 8th, after General Walker had hauled down his flag, and we had all been made prisoners by the Commodore of the United Sates squadron. Particulars of this proceeding I will endeavor to give you, observing only that had the river steamer Morgan arrived the night before, General Walker and the majority of us would have been up the river and out of reach of the guns of the United States ships of war. The Wabash, with the Commodore on board, arrived on the 6th, followed closely by two English vessels of war. On the 7th the United States steamer Fulton came in. On his arrival the Commodore gave out that he had no orders, and had nothing to do with us. The first intimation that he was about to take hostile action against us was stopping Captain Fayssoux going up the river on the night of the 7th. When the Captain went on board the Commodore's ship early next morning to inquire the reason, he was made a prisoner, and in a short time the marines and sailors were landed on the Point. These men came in between our camp and the sea. A fleet of boats with cannon, and filled with armed men, advanced in the harbor towards the General's headquarters, a lieutenant jumped on shore and called upon General Walker to haul down his flag and surrender himself and his whole force to the United States. Resistance was out of the question; their men outnumbered ours five to one, with the guns of the Saratoga raking the camp; so the flag was struck and we were all made prisoners, the officers being ordered on board the Saratoga and the men on board the Fulton. General Walker was sent on board the Wabash. The steamer Morgan at this time came down the river; she also was surrounded by the man-of-war boats and made a prize; on board of her were about fifty Costa Rican prisoners, taken by Frank at Castillo. These poor devils were kept on board the steamer, some of them wounded, without attention and but very little food, for two days, and then turned adrift in Greytown. When we were sent prisoners on board many of the men ran away and hid in the bushes, intending to make their way to Castillo and join your brother. Only some eight or ten succeeded in making their escape—all the others were captured and sent on board. From the Fulton the men were sent on board the Wabash, and were transferred to this vessel this morning. We are to sail in a few hours, but for what port we know not. I shall be delighted if it be New York, as some say, for I shall be at home; but it will be hard on the rest of the boys, nearly all of whom come from the South. It will be positive cruelty to turn them adrift in a Northern port at this season of the year. They have neither money, nor clothes, nor friends in that part of the country. But I suppose as Uncle Sam has taken them prisoners he will provide for them if innocent. If they have been guilty of any crime, sending them to prison, where they will have fire and food, would be more charitable than sending them on shore to shift for themselves.

Two hours after the flag was hauled down the camp was deserted; the niggers from Greytown and the people on the Point commenced pillaging the stores; provisions, ammunition and arms were carried off and secreted in the woods. At night a guard of marines was sent to take charge of the quarters and the property; the guard all got drunk, and sold pistols, guns and provisions to any person for money. Next day they commenced removing the stores on board ship, but the officers and men helped themselves to whatever they fancied. I thought our boys knew something about ransacking an enemy's quarters, but they are innocents compared with Uncle Sam's men. Capt. Almy, of the Fulton, expresses great surprise at the excellence of our supplies and the completeness of our fit out; the Commodore told him to help himself in case he saw anything which would be useful on board the steamer. Old canvass, candles, copper tacks, paper, pickles, pork, powder, soap, sugar and soft tack, but more particularly commissary whiskey, were all acceptable to these gentlemen; they searched particularly after the flag, and were very anxious for some relic of General Walker. They were generous also, these naval gentlemen. The lieutenant made a present of our scine, which cost $35 a few days before, to Burton, the pilot of the port. While all this was going on the Commodore came on shore and expressed his disapprobation most vehemently, cursing them all for drunken sons of b——hs, and ordering them pitched into the boat, regardless whether their necks were broken in their removal or not. I wonder what account will be rendered of all these stores. Mr. Macdonald, agent for Garrison & Morgan, got possession of the steamers, but the Commodore took the Morgan away from him because he was a filibuster. Old Scott tried to get hold of her, but the Commodore would have nothing to do with him, so the Morgan was turned over to the Consul. Macdonald is a prisoner on board this ship, because he came out with us in the Fashion.

This hostile action of Commodore Paulding has dumbfounded us all; we do not know what to make of it; we cannot imagine that the Cabinet at Washington has issued orders to arrest us after we had landed on foreign soil; neither can we imagine that the Commodore has acted without special instructions. We feel that we are victimized by the Washington politicians. Surely they had no right to touch us in Nicaragua; the United States has not as yet taken this republic under her protection. If they had no right to take us away, they have injured us, and should make reparation, sending us back without loss of time, and place us in the same position as we were when they kidnapped us. We have not committed any crime against the laws of the United States; even if we had violated any of these laws, we were out of the jurisdiction of their courts. We feel that our rights have been outraged by officers of the United States Navy, who have forcibly abducted us from our adopted country, plundered our camp, and disposed of our property, to gratify the cupidity of our captors by the sale thereof, or their generosity, which has been so lavish of property to which they had no right. When we feel so indignant, what must be the feelings of General Walker, who had, by the success of your brother at Castillo, regained possession of Nicaragua, with the prospect of soon being able to reward those who had in the former campaign so gallantly contended against the allies? If the action of Commodore Paulding has been without right or justice towards General Walker and the men on the Point, toward your brother and his brave companions at Castillo, it is criminal and inhuman. Commodore Paulding talks pathetically about the inhumanity and injustice of making war upon an innocent and inoffensive people (who murdered American passengers, women and children and ministers of the Gospel in cold blood), but makes no calculation of the cruelty of leaving your brother at Castillo, cut off from all communication with his friends, liable to be surrounded by an ignorant and savage foe, who has sworn death to every one of his race. Should any mishap befall Frank or his men Commodore Paulding will be guilty of their murder.

No sooner had General Walker struck his flag, and all his men been sent prisoners on board the ships, than couriers were sent off to Costa Rica calling for troops to come down the Serapiqui immediately, and cut off the retreat of the Americans occupying Castillo. A captain of the Costa Rican army, taken prisoner on board the steamer La Virgin, started immediately to raise a force to wipe out the stain of his defeat. Commodore Paulding would neither send, nor allow any of us to go up the river, to give your brother the news and put him on his guard. The surgeon here represented to Commodore Paulding that the doctor with the detachment at Castillo was sick, and that the men were in want of medicine, begging the Commodore to allow him to go up the river; but he was not allowed to leave the ship or send medicines; Commodore Paulding stating that he would have nothing to do with the people up the river. This may be humanity, but it is of a peculiar kind, which has a higher regard for the life and health of a greaser than for a countryman. Commodore Paulding probably thinks that some white men are nearly as good as niggers.

We are shockingly crowded on board this ship, with very bad food, Captain Chatard having decided that the provisions which they took from our camp on the Point were too good for our men; he therefore feeds us on salt horse of the ship, and biscuit which is very lively, keeping our good pork and hard bread for the wardroom.

We are at anchor outside, and there is a very heavy swell, which makes me feel rather uncomfortable. As we shall sail in an hour or two I will bring my long yarn to a close. We have no news from Castillo since the Morgan came down. Charley Brogan and Curley are on board with me.

OUR ASPINWALL CORRESPONDENCE.

ASPINWALL, Dec. 17, 1857.

Departure of the Wabash from Aspinwall for Greytown—Position of General Walker at Punta Arenas—Dispositions of Commodore Paulding—Surrender of General Walker, dc., dc.

The last steamer carried home the intelligence of the successful landing of the new filibuster army of Nicaragua. As the matter is one of interest to your readers, I propose giving you an account of General Walker's capture, with his entire force.

The flagship Wabash, bearing the broad pennant of flag officer Hiram Paulding, left here on the 4th of the month for the seat of war, and returned to this port on the morning of the 14th, having on board the veritable "gray-eyed man of destiny," a prisoner of war.

The steam frigate Wabash, on her arrival at Greytown, found General Walker and his followers snugly quartered on Punta Arenas. Stockades had been erected, a fort was in process of construction, the red star of Nicaragua was fluttering over the filibuster chieftain's headquarters, troops were being drilled and regeneration had commenced in earnest. The citizens of Greytown were alarmed—looked on and sucked their thumbs.

General Walker having sent forty-five of his men up the Colorado river, under Colonel Anderson, was gratified on learning that Castillo, on the San Juan river, had fallen into their hands. As this party rushed up the hill at Castillo, the Costa Ricans fled down the other side. By this capture the river steamers fell into Walker's hands, and he contemplated moving the greater portion of his force up the river on the arrival down of one of his river steamers. But, alas for human calculation!

On the evening of the 7th the United States steamer Fulton arrived and anchored under the stern of the Wabash, a mile or two to seaward. The Wabash being of so great a draught, she was unable to get into the harbor.

That evening an armed boat from the Saratoga went up the river to seize all wayfarers who might wish to pass and who could not give a satisfactory account of themselves. Captain Fayssoux, N. N., was unceremoneously turned back from an attempted ascent of the river.

At this juncture some of the residents imagined there was something in the wind, and waited for the birth of a new day, which was ushered in as the flag officer, Hiram Paulding, transferred his pennant to the steamer Fulton, taking with him between three and four hundred sailors and marines. The Commodore, accompanied by his staff, made the Fulton his headquarters.

The battalion of artillery, infantry, riflemen and carbineers was composed as follows, and commanded by Passed Captain Frederick Engle. The following is the detail:—

Three launches, with one 24 and three 12 pound howitzers, under command of Lieutenant G. T. Sinclair and Midshipmen Sicord, Cook and Porter.

Company First of Marines, Lieutenant J. O. Payne, United States Marine Corps—Saratoga's guard.

Company Second of Marines—Lieutenant James Lewis, United States Marine Corps—Wabash's guard.

This being a nucleus, I give you the naval force as follows:—

Company B, Minnie rifles—Lieutenant D. M. Fairfax and Midshipman Lee, United States Navy.

Company C, Minnie rifles—Lieutenant J. C. Beaumont, United States Navy.

Company D, Sharp's rifles—Lieutenant Leo Paulding and Midshipman Dalton.

Company E, carbineers—Lieutenant H. M. Garland and Midshipmen Eastman and Blodget.

The following gentlemen were ensigns to the above companies:—Engineers Macomb, Williamson, Jones, Pfeltz and Mr. Melleck of the Purser's department.

The three launches, with formidable boat howitzers, had taken a judicious position in the inside of the bay about this time, and commanded the entire point.

Simultaneous with this movement the battalion had landed and formed in line of battle on the Point, embracing the entire of Walker's ground. The whole thing was as unexpected as it was sudden. The large force was irresistible, and the lone star came fluttering down. Not a shot was fired. The line broke into column and marched back to the Fulton to the lively music of the Wabash's band.

The filibuster army was embarked on board the Saratoga, and on the 12th inst.