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**SEMI-WEEKLY PUBLICATION.**—The size and form of *El Nicaraguense*, and also the price, are somewhat altered from their former condition, and we hope the change will suit our subscribers. The size of the paper is somewhat reduced, while its appearance is improved, and the cost modified.—The increase of Americans in the country, and the necessity for a speedier dissemination of the news, has induced us to issue the paper semi-weekly instead of weekly, as heretofore. To regular subscribers, the price will be as heretofore, giving them two papers each week, with almost double the amount of reading matter. We hope the alteration will satisfy the public, as we assure that respectable body we have made it at considerable trouble, and in the face of augmented expenses.

### PROCEEDINGS

#### OF THE ACCESSORY TRANSIT CO. COMMISSION.

The temporary removal of head quarters from this city to Rivas and the recent stirring events connected with the movements of the army have for a time interrupted the active operations of the Commissioners having in charge the affairs of the late Transit Company.

Messrs. Alden and Kewen arrived in town on Tuesday last, and will soon resume the sessions of the Commission and continue the same until the affairs of the company are finally disposed of.

We learn that from present appearances on a partial examination of the books of the late company and from the testimony already elicited, the amount due to this government, arising from the \$10,000 annual installments, and the ten per cent. quota upon the yearly net profits, will not fall far short of half a million dollars.

It appears that the company commenced operations without the application of any, or very little of its capital to the stocking of the route with boats, roads, wharves, &c., &c., and have applied all of its enormous receipts to these purposes, as well as to ruinous contracts with favorites, high salaries to employees and supernumerary officials, all of which diminished the ostensible receipts and was to the extent of the per centage, a robbery of this government.

By this course and the abandonment of its proper and sole legitimate business as a transit route, for the more extended sphere of a through line from New York and New Orleans to San Francisco and a systematic charge of every possible item of expense to the Isthmus, the Company have figured the route into a ruinous condition, placing all the profits to the credit of the ocean steamers.

Very fortunately the few books left at the various agencies in this country show enough to enable the Commissioners to find the Isthmus route extremely profitable, and to find also that nearly all of the operations of the company in the building of roads and docks here have been paid for from the receipts of the Isthmus.

We are further informed that the testimony in the hands of the Commissioners affords some astounding developments of treasonable hue, wherein Joseph L. White, Esq., counsel of the Nicaragua Transit Company figures quite extensively in connection with Senor Marcoletta, Minister of the late Servile government, to the United States.—There is proof positive of the fitting out, arming and equipping of a body of men, over whom a son of the Secretary of the Transit Company acted in the capacity of Lieutenant-Colonel, who were brought into this country on the boats and at the expenses of the company, and whose services together with the use of a number of pieces of cannon now on the steamer *La Virgin*, were offered by formal convention to the Servile or Chamorral government.

The correspondence of Mr. White with Judge Courtland Cushing, Agent of the Company at Virgin Bay, is also in the possession of the Commissioners and exhibits fine specimens of that duplicity which has characterized the intercourse of the Transit Company with this government. Its tone runs through the entire gamut, from the deep base of haughty assurance and overbearing insolence to the soft and pliant notes of a whining supplicant.

# EL NICARAGUENSE.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

Vol. I. GRANADA, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1856. No. 23.

These matters will ere long see light in the report of the Commissioners, when the Accessory Transit Company will find that, although their conduct was necessarily unrebuked while this Republic was struggling through that intestine war so happily terminated, yet now the day of retribution has come, and the inauguration of a new era in the annals of this land has been signally marked by a speedy termination of the abuses of the Transit Company, as by any event since the treaty which established the present firm and peaceful government.

The new company of which Edmund Randolph, Esq., is the grantee, have arrangements made for the establishment of a new line of ocean steamers under their charter, and we are informed that the first steamers of the line have already left the Atlantic and Pacific ports of the United States and may soon be expected to arrive in this country. In our next issue we will be able to give information of the proceedings of the Commissioners so far as justifiable before their labors are completed. We know enough of the matter they have in charge, and of the character of the gentlemen in whose hands it now rests, to be assured that a thorough investigation will be had.

Meanwhile we listen with complacency to the comments already made by our Atlantic contemporaries; they will soon discover that the entire powers of the Transit Company are a matter of grant from this government, and that to this government, alone, the Transit Company is responsible. The report of the Commission will place things in a clear light, till when we withhold all strictures.

**ENTHUSIASM AMONG THE SOLDIERS.**—On the arrival of Gen. Walker in Rivas, on the afternoon of Monday, the 30th of March, a military parade of all the soldiers in garrison was ordered on the plaza. At five o'clock the greater portion of three battalions mustered on the square, forming a truly formidable looking military array. One thousand soldiers deployed in sixteen companies, moving in each order, and in such spirit, as to infuse a new feeling among the troops. The array created an enthusiasm not to be expressed, and as the column defiled past head quarters, three thundering cheers were given for "Walker." The occasion was full of energy and spirit, a glimpse of sunshine after a heavy cloud. The defeat at Santa Rosa had cast a gloom on every one, and even the General did not escape without a ruffled brow.—When the cheers were rendered, however, Gen. Walker advanced to the door and cast his glance down the solid array, and as his eye met the steady look of those old companions who had conquered with him when he mustered but fifty six followers, and he saw the firm set countenances of those who felt the disgraceful route at Santa Rosa, the old calm came over his face again. Another cheer was given, when the General advanced in front of the column and addressed the soldiers in a speech of great force and eloquence. We shall not mar the production by any imperfect report, but wait until we give it in full. Suffice it to say, the address was received with unbounded enthusiasm, and as the troops marched off the plaza, every one felt that confidence was again restored.

**FIRST OF APRIL.**—The day of All Fools passed without any particular observance in Rivas. The only hoax practiced was got up by Co. A. Two pistols were charged with powder and a shooting match came off, in which one of the parties fell. The news that a man was killed soon spread over town, and crowds rushed to the quarters of the company to see the unfortunate victim. A man was laid out, but when some inquisitive genius lifted the sheet that covered his head, the deceased, was found with his thumb upon his nose and the fingers wagging very slowly in the last agonies of a suppressed laugh.

**STILL THEY COME.**—We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter of F. A. Fabens, Esq., our Consul at San Francisco, to a friend in this city, by which it appears that there are a few more of the right sort left in California:

"Dr. Jones goes down on April 5th, also Mr. Moses, the Druggist, and many others, all good fellows, as you will agree after making their acquaintance. A goodly number leave to-day on the Cortes. There are many people here who are only waiting the news by the *Uncle Sam* before making their final preparations to start.

### MOVEMENTS OF THE ARMY.

On the twenty-second of March, orders were given to move the head quarters of the army from Granada to Rivas, and in three days the work was done. The various departments of the army, Ordnance, Quartermaster's, Commissary, etc., were packed up with promptness, and in the space of time mentioned above, the entire outfit of a large force, was transferred from one point to another.

In Rivas the various departments were organized, and immediately commenced operations. The quarters were better than in Granada, but the marketing was bad, the streets dusty, the nights windy and after one or two days experience, all hands repented of the movement and sighed for Granada. Rivas is undoubtedly a very healthy point, and Col. Moses, Surgeon General of the army, informs us that a delay of two weeks at that point would have cleared the hospital of its sick. It is also well situated for defence, as a military point, and a few companies of American soldiers in the Plaza, would render it almost impregnable.

On the third of the present month, orders were again issued in Rivas for a general movement of the army, and on Friday night, every thing connected with the camp was on board the steamer *San Carlos*, together with eight hundred soldiers and about two hundred men attached to the army in different capacities. From Virgin the boat pointed her bows to San Carlos and steamed across the Lake, while the soldiers were in a tumult of enthusiasm, impressed with the belief that the General was bent on an immediate invasion of Costa Rica. Arriving at San Carlos, Co. D, Capt. Linton, of the Light Infantry Battalion, was taken on board and again the steamer started down the River San Juan. A few miles further and we met the two river steamers, and all the troops were embarked on these and again started downwards. The impression that Costa Rica was our destination, now became a fixed fact, and sundry baskets of champagne bet on the probability, were voluntarily given up. But the greatest certainties are liable to change, and so the company found a short time afterwards, when the soldiers but one company were ordered on shore, and the boat again started off with the General and Co. C, Capt. Kelley, on board. With them the boat went to Castillo Rapido, where Capt. Kelly and his company was stationed, and the boat bouted her head and returned to the landing, shipped the men, and in a little while was again alongside the *San Carlos*. The greatest imaginable disappointment was felt, but every one thought the General knew what he was about, and while many a wishful eye was turned towards Costa Rica, the ready hearts of the men went along with the Commander-in-Chief. A short trip up the Lake on the opposite side from Virgin Bay, soon brought us to the city of Granada, where under a pressure of active work, the boat, with all her soldiers, passengers and cargo, was discharged in four hours and the various departments, on Wednesday, were again actively at work in their old quarters.

Wednesday, news was received that the enemy had taken Virgin Bay and San Juan del Sur, and was advancing on Rivas. In three hours more, the army was in marching order, paraded on the plaza, headed by General Walker and off for the whereabouts of the foe. Granada is quiet although many of the people are leaving for the country, fearful lest we shall have a battle in the city. Still the plaza is well filled with market women, and all reasonable people feel perfectly assured of their safety.

**ANOTHER HOMICIDE.**—A man named Campbell, on Wednesday last, shot a man named Mooney through the body, inflicting a wound of which he died in a very short time. Campbell was immediately arrested and placed in confinement. It is difficult to give the correct particulars in the midst of so many stories concerning the origin of the difficulty.

**ORIENTAL DEPARTMENT.**—During the absence of the General-in-Chief from Granada, Col. Piper, of the Second Rifle Battalion has been in command of the Oriental Department. Companies A and C, Captains Raymond and Farnham, were stationed at Granada.

**LAGUNA WELING PRINTING OFFICE.**—For twelve days, not less than to Wednesday, the office of *El Nicaraguense* has been indulging in a warlike excursion. Gunpowder and printing ink—the two most potent elements of the age—have been "thick as three in a bed"; while columns of type have marched in the same crowd with columns of soldiers. The topographical engineers and typographical operatives worked together in the same harness—the pen and bayonet pointed in the same direction, and mingled in graceful communion. The army protected the printer, and in turn he must shield the army—the history of the times must be fairly printed, that no malicious author may impeach the valor of the soldier, or slander the honesty of our common enterprise. In these enlightened days, the Press is a necessity in all public matters.

When General Walker left Granada to establish his head-quarters at Rivas, it was thought necessary to establish a newspaper at that point, and accordingly we boxed up half of our printing office and despatched it thither. The work of moving a press, imposing stones, stands, galleys, furniture, cases, and forty kinds of type, is no easy matter, particularly when it is done in a hurry and without removing the type from the cases. Yet in one week our office was removed and ready for operations. In Rivas, however, owing to the uncertainty in the movements of the army, and the work necessary in the re-modeling of the paper to its present form, we were not prepared to publish *El Nicaraguense* for several days, when the army was commanded to move on, and as a matter of course we packed up and moved on with the General.—After a trip to Virgin, a *pasada* across the Lake to San Carlos, a voyage around Ometepe and Zapateros, on Tuesday last we found ourselves, with the printing office, types, and everything else, safely landed in our old quarters at Granada, where we are perfectly satisfied to remain.

During the entire trip we have been favored by the different officers of the government in every possible way. The printing material has been handled with the greatest delicacy, and all dispatch used in forwarding the office. To Captain Carpentier, Harbor Master of the Port of Granada, to Captain Slocum of the steamer *San Carlos*, to Col. Fisher and Capt. Cook of the Intendencia Department, and to Gen. Goicouria, we are under especial indebtedness. Every facility was readily extended, and the whole trip made as pleasant as the necessary anxiety of a removal would allow.

The paper has necessarily been suspended during the two weeks of the trip, for which we beg the indulgence of our readers; and in resuming the regular publication of *El Nicaraguense*, we do so with the hope that no future interruption will ever occur in its issue.

**ACT OF CLEMENCY.**—In Rivas two soldiers, one a German and the other a Chileno, were caught asleep on their posts, as sentinels. A Court Martial was ordered next day, and on the trial both of the culprits plead guilty. The Court pronounced the penalty of Death prescribed in the articles of war, and the Commander-in-Chief approved the finding. Next day was fixed for the execution.—The fatal day came, and as the hour of sun-down approached, all the Americans in the city, together with large crowds of the natives, assembled on the Plaza. The officer of the day led out the prisoners between two rows of soldiers, and the solemn procession moved on to the mournful music of the Dead March. A spot was selected in front of the unfinished church, confession administered, the shooting party stationed, the bandages tied, the culprits placed with their backs against the wall, and everything made ready for the fatal word. An unusual stillness pervaded the crowd, and every one felt a growing sympathy for the unfortunate beings thus self-condemned. Each bore themselves with fortitude, particularly the Chileno who was one of the original eighty who first came into Granada with Gen. Walker. As the fatal minute came, a pardon was proclaimed from Gen. Walker, and instantly a thousand voices proclaimed the magic word. The Chileno was raised on the shoulders of the crowd and carried in front of the General's quarters, where a round of cheers was given. The clemency of the General met a responsive chord in every heart.

During our sojourn at Virgin Bay when an attack was momentarily expected, Col. Fry proposed loading a cannon with our stock of job type, whereupon our devil remarked that he had read in history that Cadmus introduced letters into Greece, but it was Fry who would introduce letters into the *Greasers*.

**POST ADJUTANT.**—First Lieutenant Kruger, of Co. F, has been appointed Post Adjutant to Col. Piper, commander of this post. No better selection could have been made.

# El Nicaraguense

NICARAGUA INDEPENDIENTE.

GRANADA:

Tuesday Morning, April 14.

## ROUTE OF SANTA ROSA.

On the 20th of March, 1856, two hundred and eighty Americans, or men professing that nationality, under command of Colonel Louis Schlessinger, of the army of Nicaragua, at the hacienda of Santa Rosa, eighteen miles from Guanacoste, in this Republic, met a body of the Costa Rica army, variously estimated at from six hundred to a thousand men, and in the course of fifteen minutes received a terrible defeat. No such event is recorded in the history of American arms, if we except the sack of Washington city. All the advantages of time and place were in our favor; the prestige of American valor was at stake, and the effect of a defeat, all conspired to win the battle; but none of these causes, nor all of them, saved us from a disastrous and disgraceful route. Every soldier on the ground or away, feels as we have written. We cannot injure the truly brave, therefore, by coloring over the affair at Santa Rosa, thus placing it on an equality with those actions which are deserving of commendation. The reward of the soldier rests in the appreciation of his meritorious actions above those who fall behind him—where is his taken, then, if the craven is mentioned in the same paragraph.

We have no official report of the action, but from what we gather of those who were there, the route is wholly attributable to the commanding officer. Our troops had stopped at the hacienda of Santa Rosa for dinner, and at the time of the attack were all engaged in eating. No picket guard was detailed, nor any other precaution adopted to avoid an attack. Suddenly an alarm was given, and before the confusion in our camp subsided, the enemy poured in a destructive volley.—The troops were thrown into a momentary panic, when Col. Schlessinger gave an order to the German and French companies to fall back to secure a better position. This command was misconstrued as an order to retreat, and accordingly a rapid flight was commenced by those companies. The Colonel followed, as he says, to rally the fugitives; but his movement was construed into a flight, and soon the route became general. Our troops fled in every direction, scattering themselves wildly over a barren and mountainous country, with a topography of which they were wholly unacquainted. Fearful of passing along the road lest they might be captured by scouting parties of the enemy, they broke up in small parties, and after a fearful journey over mountains, through thick chapparal, without food or water, the poor fellows arrived in Virgin Bay, in straggling parties, worn down with fatigue, ragged, bare-foot, and almost starved. The indignation of the army at the loss of the fight, was divided in its sympathy for the unfortunate sufferers. A loud and indignant expression was uttered against the commander of the expedition, and by no other persons stronger than by the men and officers who had failed under him. Liable as human actions are to be misconstrued, liable as all men are to rest under untoward fortunes, we shall withhold any censure of our own until the court martial at present inquiring into the matter shall render its decision.

It is almost impossible to mention the names of those deserving credit, in any battle; and more particularly in one to which so little credit is due as to the affair at Santa Rosa. But the general voice of the army has been so unanimous in honoring one company and certain officers, that we should be shutting our eyes to a public fact, if we did not designate them. The old Voltigeurs, now commanded by Capt. Rudler, was the last company to leave the field, and not then until the day was utterly lost. The loss by this company was terrible, and the enemy will long have occasion to remember the Voltigeurs.

Major O'Neil, who is justly esteemed the Mars of the army, won unmeasured praise from all the soldiers, not only for his bravery on the field, but for his sympathy to the sufferers afterwards. Adjutant Johnson, a favorite officer in garrison, is highly spoken of for his endeavors to restore order and stop the flight. Corporal Kelly, of Co. A was so highly spoken of to the General, that he was promoted to a Captaincy on his return.

U. S. Coxswain.—Dr. J. C. Tucker, U. S. Consul to Honduras, arrived in the last steamer, and will leave by the first opportunity for the scene of his duties.

## Battle of Rivas!

Costa Ricans Killed!—American loss Thirty!—Total Route of the Enemy!

Rivas has again been the field of a bloody conflict. On the morning of the 7th inst., intelligence reached Granada that immediately after the departure of the American troops from Rivas, a force of 1500 or 2000 Costa Ricans entered and took possession of the city. As the information was authentic, there was no time to be lost on the part of Gen. Walker in making ready to repulse the enemy. By daylight on the 8th inst., a force of 500 men including 100 native troops were on the march from Granada, to engage the presumptuous invaders. Gen. Walker in person was at the head of the army. The force under his command encamped the night of the 10th inst., within nine miles of Rivas, and in the meantime it had been ascertained beyond doubt that the city was held and fortified by 2000 Costa Ricans and Chamoristas. Early on the morning of the 11th, the march was resumed, with the prospect ahead of a lively engagement. Evidently to the surprise of the enemy, the Democratic force instead of entering the city by the usual route from Granada, came in by the road leading from San Jorge or Virgin Bay.

The troops without halting, were assigned their respective positions, and instructed as to appropriate points of attack. The Battalion under command of Lieut. Col. Sanders was ordered to enter by the street leading along the west side of the plaza, and the east side was to be charged by the force under command of Col. Fry. With a whoop and a yell, a rush was made for the plaza, and as the troops were discovered by the enemy ascending the eminence which concealed the approach to the city, they were saluted with a volley of musketry which gave indication of a firm and obstinate resistance. On both sides of the plaza a brisk and incessant firing was kept up by the enemy, but the fearless and undaunted forces of the Democracy charged them with so much rapidity, that in less than five minutes the Americans were in the entire possession of the plaza. The Costa Ricans shunning an open fight precipitately betook themselves to the barricades and fortified houses, and from those places of protection and concealment continued an unremitting fire. Their cannon, too, with thundering voice gave testimony of the efficiency of their preparations for defence. To prevent the destruction that must inevitably ensue from so fatal an engine of war, the determination was instantly formed and carried into execution by Lieut. Col. Sanders, of taking it from the possession of the enemy. The order to charge was given, and the gallant Lieut. Colonel followed by his intrepid soldiers, rushed headless of peril into the face of the menacing danger, and with the loss of four men only succeeded in capturing that essential weapon of war. It was immediately brought and stationed at the southeast corner of the plaza, and placed under the control of Capt. McCordie, a most excellent and intrepid artilleryman. The ammunition belonging to it was also seized, and a few minutes only elapsed before the weapon that was destined for the destruction of the Democratic forces, was pouring a fatal fire upon the discomfited Costa Ricans. Chagrined and enraged at the loss of their gun, they made several bold attempts to repossess it, but its thundering tone, rapidly followed by the deadly discharges of the Mississippi Rifle, intimidated their endeavors, and drove them back to their places of concealment. In the meantime fifteen or twenty Riflemen had stationed themselves on the roof of a building from which they could plainly discover a large body of the enemy on the back streets. A continuous fire was kept up by those gallant fellows, and at least a hundred of the enemy fell from their destructive aim. The conflict became too fierce for the Costa Rican invaders and 300 of them in a body were discovered making their rapid retreat in the direction of San Juan del Sur. Following the retreat of the 300, about 12 o'clock in the day, the enemy received a reinforcement of 250 men from Virgin Bay. Capt. Waters of the Rangers, who held possession of the tower surmounting the unfinished Cathedral on the north side of the plaza, immediately communicated to Gen. Walker, information of their approach, and a body of men was sent to protect that portion of the town. In the meantime Capt. Waters and his Rangers from their convenient position opened upon them with their rifles, and did most signal execution. The intention of the enemy of completely surrounding the city and hemming the Democratic forces in the plaza, was thwarted with most gratifying success. It was not accomplished, however, without a long and fierce firing at the enemy from all four of the corners of the plaza.

The north-west corner was held by Col. Don Bruno Natzmer and Maj. O'Neil, with their command, and over a hundred dead bodies of the enemy, gave signal proof of the gallantry of those officers and the intrepidity of their men. The south-west corner was in charge of Captains Rudler and Mason with their companies, and that with the exception of the position held by Lieut. Col. Sanders, was the one from which the greatest danger was to be apprehended. Those brave officers and their trusty men maintained their ground against a concealed foe, with a firmness and courage deserving of the highest commendation. Some of our noblest spirits in the exhibition at this point of Ca-

less and undaunted courage fell martyrs in the cause of democracy. Among these, it should not be deemed invidious to mention Lieut. Morgan of Gen. Walker's Staff, and Lieut. Doyle of the army, men of as sterling heroism and as true hearts as ever belonged to humanity.

From three corners of the plaza a constant fire was maintained from 8 o'clock in the morning, until noon. Four hours of unremitting service in the field, following a tedious march of more than two days, had necessarily the effect of hardening the energies of the soldiers with irresistible fatigue. The enemy too, seemed to have become wearied of the fight, and little firing for an hour was done on either side, except by sharpshooters adventuring chances at a long distance. The temporary cessation of violent hostilities by the enemy was discovered, however, to be a ruse, for the purpose of secretly possessing themselves of the building on the north-east corner of the plaza, whence unharmed they could pour a destructive fire upon the American troops stationed in every direction upon the plaza. This stratagem of the enemy was discovered by Lieut. Gay, whose timely and vigilant service doubtless saved the lives of many of the Nicaraguan soldiers, and terminated more speedily the sanguinary conflict. Information of the movement of the enemy was communicated by him, and volunteers solicited to make a desperate charge and rout the enemy from their close approximation to the position they coveted. Ten true and fearless men, armed with rifles and Colt's revolvers, were all that were required, and instantly the requisite number fully equipped for the perilous expedition were ready to engage the foe. This number was composed of officers, among whom were Capt's Houston and Sutter of Gen. Walker's Staff; Col. Kewen, volunteer aid to Gen. Walker; Maj. Roger's of the Commissary Department; Maj. Webber, Capt's Beckenbridge and Mehon, Lieut's Winters, Smith and Gay. A few privates also volunteered, increasing the number to thirteen. Crossing the street under the fire of the enemy, they pressed through the corner building that was sought to be possessed by the foe, to the far end of the corridor which was partially barricaded by an adobe wall or breastwork. From that position they cautiously surveyed the approximating enemy, and hastily determining the plan of operation, the order to charge was given, and with a yell and a bound they rushed in the direction of the picket fence behind which the enemy were cautiously making progress. The yell was immediately responded to by a volley of thirty guns; but as the attack was so sudden, the disconcerted foe were unable to aim with precision, and the only damage effected was a single wound inflicted upon the head of Capt. Breckenridge, not interfering at all with his prosecution of the charge. The fence was gained without any loss, and thence a brisk fire opened upon the retreating enemy.—They fled for protection behind a neighboring building, whence, with more security, they could prevent pursuit. It was necessary, however, that they should be driven entirely from that vicinity, and in order to get a position to effect that object, it was necessary to cross a street exposed to the enemy's fire.

It was a hazardous experiment, as the opposition force was ascertained to be more than a hundred strong. Nothing daunted however, the thirteen essayed the perilous adventure, and although the bullets whistled in fearful proximity to them, not a man was killed or wounded. The position they sought was gained, and then in earnest the crack of the rifle became the death knell of the foe.—The enemy with great obstinacy sought to maintain their ground, and returned the fire with apparent zeal and eagerness. In this engagement Capt. Houston, of the General's staff, fell mortally wounded. With his parting spirit escaped the pulsation of a true and valiant heart. He was a man of fine attainments, of noble and generous impulses, and exemplary heroism. As an atonement for the death of Capt. Houston, not less than thirty of the enemy were made to bite the dust. The fire of the remaining twelve became too disastrous for the Costa Rican braves, and they were compelled again to relinquish their position and seek greater security elsewhere. They began a precipitate retreat but were hotly pursued by their assailants. Fortifying themselves behind a broken adobe wall, they again turned upon their pursuers, and opened a determined fire. In this assault Lieut. Gay was slightly wounded on the head. To drive the Costa Ricans from the wall and obtain possession of it was the object and determination of the pursuing party. The enemy perceiving this determination again sought safety in flight. With the loss of eight or ten more of their number, they succeeded in reaching the building from behind, where they again sought to repulse the advance of the Americans. In the further prosecution of the pursuit, Lieut. Gay, was mortally wounded, and Louis, known as "French Louis" was killed. Lieut. Gay was in the first battle of Rivas, and in all the subsequent conflicts in Nicaragua, and a bolder and more determined man never lived.—He died from an excess of gallantry, from reckless exposure to the enemy's fire. He was the projector of this assault, and to him may be attributed in a great measure the triumph of the day. The enemy still pursued, made good their retreat, and little execution was afterwards effected. The fight on the plaza had almost entirely ceased.—During the remainder of the day, and until late at night, there was no firing except from a few of the enemy, who throughout the conflict maintained their concealment, and with Minnie Rifles menaced every visible inimical object. The possessors of these weapons were evidently Englishmen and Germans, who had long experience in the use of that deadly instrument. The majority of Americans killed fell at the hands of those foreign miscreants, who have allied themselves with servilism against the Liberal party of Central America.

This battle of Rivas—the second one fought in that city by Gen. Walker—was warmly contested. The struggle was a long and a dangerous one, and the

Liberals were compelled to fight at every disadvantage. The number of Services four times exceeded the Liberal force, and considering the great security afforded them from barricades and fortified buildings, it cannot be deemed the proudest triumph yet achieved by the Liberal party of Nicaragua. The officers commanding the American force were all gallant men and nobly did their duty. Gen. Walker was cool, firm and self-possessed throughout the entire engagement, and for several hours maintained steadily his position on horseback. He manifested no excitement—betrayed no uneasiness—as to the result, but exhibited a calm and sublime consciousness of ultimate victory. Col's Fry and Don Bruno Natzmer, Lieut. Col. Sanders, Maj. Brewster, Markham and O'Neil, who in command of the Battalions, displayed a degree of heroism and gallantry that could not fail of beneficial results. There were nobly supported by their subordinate officers, many of whom testified to their intrepidity. Some by a heroic death and others by numerous and painful wounds.—Adjutant General Thompson, too, was intrepidly conspicuous throughout the engagement. The Staff of Gen. Walker exhibited remarkable firmness and daring, as the melancholy deaths of Hueston, Clinton and Morgan give ample testimony. Capt. Sutter alone of the regular staff remains, but a braver spirit, or one who acted with more becoming gallantry fell not on that field of battle. Col. Kewen, the volunteer aid of the Commander-in-Chief who was slightly wounded in the leg, returns with a reputation for bravery on the field equal to the best. His conduct is spoken of as gallant and encouraging in the extreme.

It is due to the native force to state that they were in the hottest part of the engagement in the early part of the morning, and maintained themselves with exemplary courage. The loss of their brave and excellent commander, Col. Machado, affected them with profound grief, but their more immediate officers were gallant men, and they sustained themselves with great honor.

The battle of the 11th of April, 1856, will long be remembered by the Costa Ricans. Their loss in killed alone, cannot fall short of six hundred men—and of wounded and deserted, no precise estimate can be formed. The early retreat of the three hundred and the subsequent almost entire abandonment of Rivas, are sufficient indications of their overwhelming disaster. The American loss does not exceed thirty, and the number of wounded is the same. The Costa Ricans with much bravado and pomp invaded the limits of Nicaragua, and were going to exterminate the "plundering filibusters." Gen. Walker displeased at their insolence, determined to teach them a lesson of propriety for future example, and doubtless they will profit by the instruction they received. At least whether they remain contumacious and persistent or not, it will not take them long to learn the disagreeable fact that Gen. Walker is ready and willing at all times and seasons, to employ himself in the gallant task of affording them additional instructions, calculated to produce more indelible impressions.

At ten o'clock last Saturday a courier arrived from Leon with news of the most gratifying character from the north. The proclamation of President Rivas had been received by the States of San Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala in the most friendly mood. Our commissioners were received with cordiality by the people and authorities, and the spirit of peace manifested itself among all classes.

San Salvador has disbanded her recruits, and is now detached from the League of States arrayed against Nicaragua. The President disclaims any hostile intention towards this Republic, and denies his sympathy to Estrada, the pretended President of Nicaragua.

Honduras and Guatemala are also peaceably inclined. The enlistment of soldiers has been suspended, and the new levee dismissed. All the States north of us are now at peace with Nicaragua, and we may expect to have a lengthened quiet when the war with Costa Rica is settled.

ERROR.—We are in error on our first page in assigning Col. Piper to the command of the Second Rifle Battalion. He is Lieutenant Colonel to the First Light Infantry Battalion.

## AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE.

G. H. WINES & CO.

ARE now prepared to carry on the Auction and Commission Business in connection with their Express. Duties on goods consigned will be advanced and custom house business attended to for parties who entrust business to the company. Liberal advances by drafts on New York and San Francisco will be made on receipt of merchandise in the custom house. The building occupied by Wines & Co. is capable of storing ten thousand barrels bulk and general merchandise will be received on storage.

J. A. RUGGLES, Agent.  
Granada—Don Patricio Rivas; San Francisco  
—C. K. Garrison & Co.  
Granada, April 12th, 1856.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC MAILS.  
WINES & CO. will make up a mail for the Atlantic States and California on the 16th inst., and forward the same through their Express.  
G. H. WINES & CO.

INTENDENCIA GENERAL,  
Granada, April, 1856.  
ALL persons who have advanced either money or effects for the Army are hereby required to present the voucher or documents in this office to form the general liquidation of all standing accounts.  
By order of D. de GOICOURIA,  
Intendente General.  
Col. J. T. FISHER, 1st Asst. of the Intend. Genl.

# Parte Española.

sábado, Abril 12 1856.

SE PUBLICA  
LOS MIERCOLES Y SABADOS.

## DE OFICIO.

INTENDENCIA GENERAL DE EJERCITO.

Gradada, Abril 12 de 1856.

Todos los que hayan hecho suplementos en efectos ó efectivo para el ejército se presentarán en la oficina de esta Intendencia General con los comprobantes necesarios, á fin de proceder á la correspondiente liquidación.

Del orden del Sr. Intendente General, Domingo de Goicouria.—Col. J. F. Fisher, primer asesor de la Intendencia General.

El Presidente Provisorio de la república á los nicaraguenses.

COMPATRIOTAS.

He venido á visitar el departamento Occidental, y á ponerme en mas inmediato contacto con los Gobiernos de Honduras, Salvador y Guatemala, con quienes Nicaragua solo desea buenas inteligencias y una amistad leal y sincera, de que resulte la existencia feliz de los Estados reflejos por sus instituciones peculiares.

No quiero la guerra, mucho menos entre pueblos hermanos y amigos naturales. No hay necesidad de un rompimiento, y estoy dispuesto á poner todos los medios que conduzcan á la consolidación de la paz. Al intento he destinado ya comisiones para que se celebren tratados de alianza y amistad. ¡El Cielo protegerá estos designios!

NICARAGUENSES.—Si mis esfuerzos tuviesen el resultado que es de esperarse del civismo de los que actualmente rigen los destinos de los otros Estados, gozaréis en unión de ellos de las bendiciones de la paz y de la libertad. Si por el contrario fuesen frustrados, preparados para la defensa de la patria seguros del triunfo de vuestra justa causa.—Leon, Marzo 30 de 1856. Patrio Rivas.

## DOS PALABRAS AL PUEBLO.

NICARAGUENSES:

El S. P. E. de la república se ha dignado nombrarme editor del periódico intitulado *El Nicaraguense*. Y es tanto mas grato para mí el aceptar este honroso nombramiento, cuanto que en su desempeño solo tengo que satisfacer los votos mercedidos de mi corazón, como amigo devotado del pueblo, como defensor de los sagrados principios en que se apoya la santa causa de la libertad. De consiguiente mi único deseo al desempeñar la referida misión, es corresponder dignamente á la confianza con que vuestros altos funcionarios se han servido distinguirme, promoviendo hasta donde alcancen mis facultades, la difusión de las luces, la educación popular, y con ella el bienestar, el progreso y la prosperidad de esta naciente república.

Poco, muy poco podría yo hacer en vuestro favor ¡oh nobles nicaraguenses! si solo contase con mis débiles recursos; pero cuento con vuestra benevolencia; y sobre todo con vuestros conocimientos, y con vuestra cooperación y acendrado patriotismo, para que me ayudeis á sostener y llevar a cabo en la parte que me corresponde la grande obra de vuestra regeneración social. Invariable en mis principios, firme en mis convicciones democráticas, desde hoy me contemplo como un ciudadano de esta república que me ha abrigado en su seno, y que miro como una patria adoptiva; de consiguiente nada podrá separarme de la senda que me traza el honor en el cumplimiento del sagrado deber que me impone la confianza que se ha servido dispensarme el supremo gobierno de la república.

Nicaraguenses! altamente identificado con vosotros, mi será vuestra causa, mis vuestros intereses, mis vuestros triunfos y vuestras glorias, mis vuestros sufrimientos y vuestras desgracias. Mas en tanto que veo indignamente amenazados la tranquilidad, el bienestar y el progreso de esta república, me infunden la mas alta

confianza el brío y la abnegación de nuestros amigos, las acertadas medidas del Jeneral en jefe, y la decisión del pueblo en el noble empeño de sostener sus derechos bárbaramente vulnerados.

¡A las armas, nobles nicaraguenses! Hay una unión, armonía y buena inteligencia entre vosotros, y no hay que temer los ataques de un enemigo tan injusto como caprichoso, que pretende daros la ley en vuestra propia casa, interviniendo en el arreglo interior de vuestros negocios domésticos....

Nuestra causa ¡oh Nicaraguenses! es la causa de todos los hombres libres, y no dudeis que ellos vendrán, como han venido ya de todas partes, á sostener el sagrado pabellón de la libertad, que es el emblema Santo de la alianza comun de los pueblos; que el gran pueblo americano tambien os ayudará, á sostenerle á despeño de su torpe y vacilante gobierno; y que los esfuerzos de un pueblo generoso y magnánimo que combate por su independencia serán coronados con el triunfo, y con la vergüenza y el escarnimiento de sus enemigos.

Nicaraguenses! como amigo sincero del pueblo, amante de la justicia y de la igualdad, yo no he venido aquí á fomentar discordias ni partidos políticos destructores de todo bien social; he venido, sí, como un hermano que se interesa vivamente por vosotros que desea la union cordial de los ciudadanos, y que anhela con todas las veras del corazón ser tan solo un mediador entre vosotros, para apagar si es posible, la tea incendiaria de la discordia; que por tanto tiempo ha sido la causa funesta de vuestra ruina comun....

Ya lo he dicho, y no me cansaré de repetirlo. *Olvidad lo pasado, si queréis conservar lo presente y lo porvenir.* Sea pues la conservación del orden de cosas presente nuestro solo interes, como debe ser nuestra sola garantía de progreso, de prosperidad y bienestar. ¡Ciudadanos! ¡Viva la unión que nos hará fuertes é invencibles! ¡Viva la libertad! ¡Viva la independencia! ¡Viva el Jeneral en jefe! ¡Viva el gobierno Supremo de la república!

Francisco Agüero Estrada

## CENTRO-AMERICA

Y EL ESTADO DE NICARAGUA.

El monstruo de la guerra ha vuelto á levantar su erguida cabeza, y vomitando sangre y fuego, y llevando por todas partes la muerte y el esterminio y elve á llevar de luto y desolacion los infortunados campos de Nicaragua.

El gobierno de Costa Rica tuvo á bien decretar en Marzo último que todos los prisioneros de guerra de cualquier nacionalidad que fuesen, cogidos con las armas en la mano, y al mando del Jeneral Walker, serian fusilados inmediatamente.

El dia 25 del mismo mes, el gobierno de aquella república fusiló bárbaramente diez y nueve prisioneros de guerra habidos en la memorable accion de Guanacaste; y claro es que el Jeneral Walker y los suyos no se quedarán contentos en este punto, cuanto les llegue su vez.

Centro-América será pues el teatro sangriento de una matanza horrible y de una guerra fratricida, solo porque las pasiones de los hombres mas bien que los consejos de la prudencia, deciden casi siempre de la suerte de los pueblos. ¿Y quién será responsable de tan deplorable y atroz carnicería? El que con su conducta altanera provocativa é insultante, ha repellido todos los medios prudentes de paz y conciliación, dando al mundo tan funesto ejemplo, y obligando así á sus enemigos á la represalia. Dignos hijos de los españoles, ellos han seguido siempre la senda que les han trazado sus bárbaros proyectores afluente y aqueando los mares.

Centro-americanos, la guerra civil es terminadora que habia desolado á Nicaragua llegaba á su término, y á vosotros tocaba precever todo insulto y defender vuestras fronteras de ulteriores ataques; pero no atizar de nuevo la discordia aun no bien apagada entre vuestros vecinos, ni intervenir á fuerza armada en el arreglo de los negocios domésticos de Nicaragua.

La intervención del Jral. Walker fué solicitada por una gran mayoría del pueblo de Nicaragua, puesto que triunfó del partido contrario que estaba en el pleno ejercicio del poder; ella fué un mal, si se quiere, pero un mal necesario para poner término á la anarquía, á la guerra civil, y al en-

carnizamiento de dos partidos destructores; ella produjo un gran cese de las hostilidades, y la creación de un nuevo orden de cosas que mejoró la situacion aflictiva y desconsoladora del pais, y que era una garantía de prosperidad y de progreso para el porvenir. La vuestra ha encendido de nuevo la tea de la discordia, y ha renovado la guerra civil con todos sus horrores, solo por satisfacer vuestro orgullo nacional, y la torpe ambición, y otras malas pasiones de algunos hijos de este desventurado suelo, y lo que es peor, por rendir este sangriento homenaje á las exigencias de la opulenta Albion que os instiga y os da armas contra los americanos.

Asi es ¡oh pueblos de Centro-América! como habeis abierto la puerta á un torrente espantoso de males. Las pasiones, aun mal sufocadas, estallarán con nuevo y mas terrible furor, las venganzas y los resentimientos que tan imprudentemente habeis fomentado, llevarán á todas partes su fuego destructor, y mientras que todos sufrirán las consecuencias de una guerra fratricida nadie puede prever cual será su término, una vez desencadenadas las pasiones de un pueblo que lleva estampada en su frente con caracteres indelebles, la negra mancha y el funesto baldon de sus eternas guerras civiles.

En vano queréis detener las grandes ideas de progreso social, y la marcha del siglo en que vivimos. Las ideas irán adelante, y el siglo no puede retrogradar.... En vano queréis contrariar los instintos nobles, generosos y hospitalarios de este infortunado pueblo que jamás conoció la libertad sino de nombre; y que agobiado bajo el peso de la desdicha, busca un remedio á los males y desgracias de todo jenero que le legó la conquista y dominación española, en la alianza al progreso, á la civilización y á la libertad de la Joven América. ¿Porque queréis privar á este pobre pueblo, con su pereza y apatía seculares, con su fanatismo y afezas supersticiones, con su inveterada ignorancia, con sus hábitos guerreros y destructores, fruto maldito de sus eternas guerras civiles, porque queréis privarle, decimos, de la civilización pacífica y bien hechura de la imprenta, del vapor y el telégrafo; de esa civilización que hace fraternizar á todos los pueblos de la tierra bajo la égida santa de la libertad; que llena las ciudades como por encanto, de escuelas y periódicos y salones de lectura, difundiendo la luz y el progreso por todas partes; que hace florecer los campos con los bienes inmensos de la agricultura y los transforma bien presto en puestos comerciales y ciudades populosas; que tiene su apoyo en el trabajo, en el comercio y la industria; que pobla los rios de vapores que son el vehículo de la riqueza industrial y mercantil, y poniendo en activa comunicación los lugares mas distantes por medio del vapor y del telégrafo, asegura la dicha y la prosperidad de los pueblos?

¿No escucháis la voz de los ancianos de Nicaragua que deploran las desgracias de su infortunada patria durante medio siglo de ruina y desolacion permanentes bajo el azote de la guerra civil? ¿No veis esos esqueletos de ciudades arruinadas, solitarios escombros, que mas que habitación de vivos, parecen sepulcros de los desolados pueblos?

¡Centro-americanos! Al fin conoceréis vuestro error.... La guerra que habeis fomentado dará por do quiera frutos de maldición que vendrán sobre vosotros y sobre vuestros hijos y algun dia deploraréis sus terribles consecuencias; pero quizás demasiado tarde.

## VANAS PRETENSIONES.

Sabemos que el Sr. D. José María Estrada residente en Honduras, ha manifestado allí pretensiones de ser presidente de la república de Nicaragua para alarmar á su antiguo partido concitándole á la rebelion contra el actual gobierno de Nicaragua. Por lo tanto nos creemos en el deber de demostrar con datos irrefragables, que no siéndolo antes del tratado de 23 de Agosto último, mucho menos podrá serlo en las actuales circunstancias.

En efecto, si el gobierno del Sr. Chamorro era ilegítimo, porque holló la constitucion vijente de 1853 desgarrando así su título de director del Estado, porque si presidencia de la nueva república de Nic-

agua no nació ni de aquella constitucion, ni de la que el mismo proyectara en 1854. ¿Cómo puede ser que la del Sr. Estrada que fué creada en medio de las hogueras, de las violaciones y depredaciones de la guerra, haya podido adquirir legitimidad? Asi es como se engañan los mismos hombres que inventan el error.

Si pudo hacerse al pueblo la primera usurpacion del poder electivo que es inherente á los gobiernos representativos, despues que la asamblea constituyente habia declarado terminantemente que á ella correspondia nombrar el primer presidente de la república ¡porque violó hasta la misma ley que habia emitido la asamblea refractaria? ¿Porqué si ella dijo que los demas presidentes debian ser electos por el pueblo en el modo y términos que estableció su constitucion proyectada y no publicada, no se cumplió con este precepto, sino que la misma asamblea aun diminuta por no haber concurrido á ella toda la representacion del Estado, vuelve á nombrar segunda vez el presidente para hacer habitual la usurpacion?

Se ha dicho que esa asamblea diminuta nombró al Sr. Estrada en virtud de facultades que tenía para el caso que faltase repentinamente el presidente Chamorro; mas esto afianza mas y mas nuestras convicciones para negarle aun los visos ó apariencias de legitimidad. Es muy claro que la referida asamblea constituyente convocada solo para emitir la ley fundamental, no pudo establecer la de eleccion de presidente que debia ser creatura de la constitucion que se iba á dar, y que entre tanto esto sucediera, estaba naturalmente en chervancia la carta de 1853, mácsime en lo de pura organizacion, sin la cual no debia permanecer el Estado. Luego si el Sr. Estrada fué electo presidente á consecuencia de dicha ley inconstitucional, fué nula, de ningun valor ni efecto su eleccion bajo este respecto. Lo fué tambien, por que suponiendo de alguna existencia la precitada ley, no se le puede atribuir alguna á la vez que la facultad de ejercer el poder ordinario estaba limitada hasta el mes de Enero próximo á la emision de aquella ley.

Ahora bien, si la eleccion del Sr. Estrada fué hecha, como realmente sucedió, en un año despues de la citada fecha, no se le puede dar que con doble dosis de impotencia, si así puede decirse el poder constituyente violó las instituciones del Estado, para darle un presidente de partido que no pudo ser ni provisorio.

Por otra parte, conforme al art. 128 de la constitucion vijente, muerto Chamorro debieron abrirse los pliegos de los senadores insaculados, para repocer por el orden de sus números la falta absoluta de director. Estrada no era un senador de los insaculados, y los pliegos los dejó perdidos Chamorro en su fuga repentina de Leon. Luego ni en este concepto pudo ser legalmente director; luego fué un gobernante intruso de los pocos pueblos que tuvieron la debilidad de reconocerle. Con esto cree haber demostrado cuan vanas son las pretensiones del Sr. Estrada.—Un fiel democrata nicaraguense.

## A ULTIMA HORA.

Se acaban de recibir cartas de amigos de San Miguel, Estado del Salvador fechas del presente informando que los comisionados de este Gobierno habian llegado á esa ciudad y que faceron recibidos con la acostumbrada hospitalidad de los Salvadoreños.—Se nos informa que toda hostilidad de aquella República acerca de esta se habia desvanecido.—Que las reclutas se habian mandado suspender y que pusieron en libertad, todos los soldados que se habian acuartelado á consecuencia del temerario de invasion.—Se ha revocado la orden que se dió para que se entregara al pretendido Presidente de Nicaragua, don José María Estrada, doscientos fusiles y quinientas paradas. Que nuestros comisionados, serian cordialmente recibidos por el gobierno del Salvador en Cojutepeque, no debiendo creerse que habra guerra de los otros Estados bajo ningun pretexto. De esto se deduce, que los demas gobiernos de Centro-América han sido mas enteros y sabios; que el gobierno de Costa Rica.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.  
MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACION.  
Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.

Señor Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido emitir el decreto que sigue:

El Presidente Provisorio de la República de Nicaragua á sus habitantes.

En atención á que no debe tener efecto el decreto dictado en esta ciudad el 25 de Mayo de 1855, contraído á que los Alcaldes Constitucionales de las cabeceras de algunos distritos ejerzan indistintamente las funciones de jueces de 1.ª instancia; en uso de sus facultades.

DECRETA.

Art. único.—Queda derogado en todas sus partes el citado decreto de 25 de Mayo de 1855, y en consecuencia, videntes las leyes anteriores.—Dado en Granada, á 22 de Marzo de 1856.—Patricio Rivas.—Al Sr. Ministro de Gobernacion.

Y de suprema orden lo inserto á V. para su inteligencia y demas efectos, esperando recibo.—Salinas.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.  
MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACION.  
Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido dictar el acuerdo siguiente:

EL GOBIERNO.

En atención á que las circunstancias demandan la separacion de los mandos políticos de la Hacienda de este departamento para que la accion de uno y otro sea mas expedita, en uso de sus facultades

ACUERDA:

1.º Nómbrase Prefecto del departamento Oriental al Sr. coronel D. Trinidad Solazar con el sueldo de ley.

2.º En consecuencia, el actual Prefecto continuará en el ejercicio de la subdelegacion de Hacienda.

3.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponden.—Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.—Rivas  
Y lo comunico á V. para su inteligencia y demas efectos; esperando recibo.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.  
MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACION.  
Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido dictar el acuerdo siguiente:

El Gobierno, en uso de sus facultades

ACUERDA.

1.º Su encarga al Sr. D. Francisco Agüero Estrada de la impresion de los documentos oficiales en el periódico Nicaraguense con la gratificacion de cincuenta pesos mensuales que se le satisfarán del Tesoro público.

2.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponden.—Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.—Rivas  
Y lo comunico á V. para su inteligencia, esperando recibo.—Salinas.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.  
MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACION.  
Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido dictar el decreto que sigue:

“El Presidente Provisorio de la República de Nicaragua, á sus habitantes.

Siendo necesario en las actuales circunstancias que durante la ausencia del Gobierno quede en esta ciudad un Comisionado especial suyo para proveer á los casos urgentes; en uso de sus facultades

DECRETA.

Art. 1.º Se nombra al Sr. Ministro de Hacienda Ldo. D. Fermín Ferrer Comisionado del Gobierno en los departamentos de Oriente y Mediodía, para que durante su ausencia, se ocupe de los objetos y obre con arreglo á las instrucciones que por separado se le comunicarán.

Art. 2.º En consecuencia todas las autoridades de los departamentos espresados obedecerán sus órdenes.—Dado en Granada

Marzo de 1856.—Patricio Rivas.—Al Sr. Ministro de Gobernacion.  
Y de orden suprema lo inserto á V. para su inteligencia y demas efectos; esperando recibo.—Salinas.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.  
MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACION.  
Granada, Marzo 22 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido dictar el decreto siguiente.

El Presidente Provisorio de la República de Nicaragua; á sus habitantes.

Considerando: que las urgencias del momento demandan ocurrir á un empréstito forzoso en calidad de indemnizarlo con seguridad lo mas pronto que sea posible; atendiendo á que para obrar con la justa proporcion, es conveniente que de entre los mismos propietarios salga la calculacion; en uso de sus facultades

DECRETA.

Art. 1.º Se exigirá en esta ciudad un empréstito forzoso de ocho mil pesos derramado entre los propietarios, cuyo capital productible esceda de dos mil pesos.

Art. 2.º Una Junta compuesta de tres individuos que al efecto se nombrarán, procederá hoy mismo á hacer el derrame, y formada la lista, la pasará al Subdelegado de Hacienda para que intime á los comprendidos en ella la entrega de la proporcion que les toque, por terceras partes, la primera de presente, y las dos restantes con intervalo de cinco dias cada una.

Art. 3.º El Subdelegado es autorizado para usar de los apremios que juzgue convenientes, atendidas las necesidades públicas.

Art. 4.º Los prestamistas serán reembolsados con órdenes sobre la mitad de los productos de la Aduana marítima de San Juan del Norte.

Art. 5.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponde.—Dado en Granada, á 22 de Marzo de 1856.—Patricio Rivas.—Al Sr. Ministro de Hacienda.

Y lo inserto á V. para su inteligencia y demas efectos esperando recibo.—Salinas.

POLITICA.

EL JENERAL WALKER

ANTE EL MUNDO CIVILIZADO.

Al trazar estos renglones, y al ver que tantas veces prevalece el mal contra el bien estariamos tentados á creer que el principio y el deseo del bien han desaparecido de la faz de la tierra, si no estuviésemos preparados contra las sujestiones de la malicia, y si nuestras mas profundas convicciones no nos hiciesen ver lo contrario.

En efecto algunos papeles Centro-americanos, otros de los Estados-Unidos, y no pocos de la prensa europea, no se cansan de proferir calumnias contra el Jeneral Walker, considerándole cual otro Atila, y llamándole á él y á los suyos una horda de bandidos, usurpadores de la autoridad pública de Nicaragua, que roban, asesinan y vilipendian bárbaramente á sus vecinos, afirmando que es necesario aniquilarlos ó echarlos fuera del país para asegurar su libertad é independencia.

Mas no hay que estrañar esta conducta y este lenguaje, por que tal ha sido siempre la suerte de los hombres que en cualquier tiempo se han distinguido por que se han separado de la senda comun, aun cuando se hayan consagrado con heroica abnegacion al bien de la humanidad, por que han tenido que chocar con envejecidos abusos, errores funestos, preocupaciones é intereses arraigados.

Sócrates fué condenado á tomar la cicuta porque combatió los errores de su época con las armas de la razon y la filosofia; Colon fué tenido por un loco visionario, y como tal despreciado por sus contemporáneos, por que concibió la existencia de un mundo ignorado hasta entonces; Galileo fué tratado como un ímpio por haber sostenido la teoria del movimiento de la tier-

ra; y el mismo Jesucristo sufrió una muerte de cruz ignominiosa, por haber predicado y enseñado la Santa doctrina que desde entonces ha rejenerado el mundo.

Al Jeneral Walker, pues, le ha tocado en suerte el ser el mártir de la libertad é independencia nicaraguense. Llamado por el partido democrático de esta república, que ya empezaba á desesperar de su triunfo contra el partido legitimista de Chamorro, que habia hollado la constitucion del Estado, él vino de California al socorro de Nicaragua cual otro La Fayette en favor del jeneroso pueblo americano. ¿Y por qué inexplicable anomalia, ese mismo pueblo que tan justos honores tributó al héroe de la Francia, poniéndole siempre á la par del inmortal Washington, porqué inexplicable anomalia, digo ese mismo pueblo, ó mas bien ese gobierno, se complace en difamar y considerar como un mero usurpador á un hijo suyo que no ha hecho otra cosa que volar á la defensa de un pueblo libre oprimido, con tanta gloria, abnegacion y desinterés como el héroe de la Francia? ¿Porventura los hijos de Washington y de Jefferson han degenerado ya del noble carácter y elevadas ideas de sus mayores? ¿Y será posible que así abandonen á sus hermanos, cuando las fuerzas reunidas de los estados de Centro-america quisieran anouadarlos, porque con ánimos jenerosos han venido al socorro de un pueblo libre que combatia heroicamente para derrocar el despotismo y recobrar sus usurpados derechos? ¿Mengua sería y baldon eterno para el gran pueblo americano, si solo oyendo la voz del egoismo, y envuelto en el tenebroso manto del interés nacional desatendiese la voz del paisanaje, de la justicia y la libertad!

Ahora bien, si el gobierno actual de Nicaragua se ha constituido despues de terminada la lucha, por un convenio entre los dos partidos beligerantes, cuyo artículo 2.º nombró presidente provisional de la república por catorce meses, al Sr. D. Patricio Rivas; si el 5.º previno el olvido de todo los agravios y ofensas políticas; y el 12.º v último, que los gobiernos anteriores y existentes durante la guerra cesarían totalmente despues del referido tratado; si por artículos adicionales el Jeneral Walker fué reconocido Jeneral en jefe de los ejércitos de la república etc. etc.: si este gobierno así constituido terminó la guerra y restableció la paz de la república: si él marcha de mejora en mejora, por las vias del progreso y la legalidad; si ha nombrado su ministerio compuesto de hombres que por su sensatez, buenos antecedentes y acendrado patriotismo, inspiran la mas alta confianza al país: si ha publicado libremente el decreto de 19 de Marzo inmediato pasado para convocar el pueblo á fin de que ejerza su soberanía en el acto sagrado de eleccion, y en el agosto de la instalacion de los SS. PP. de la república para poner término al gobierno provisional que habian reclamado las circunstancias, ¿cómo se pretende sostener con el mas impudente descaro á la faz del mundo, que el Jeneral Walker ha usurpado todos los poderes públicos, que oprime tiránicamente al pueblo nicaraguense y le tiene reducido á la mas completa y vergonzosa servidumbre? Los actos libremente ejercidos por el S. P. E. de la república evidencian lo contrario.

Digan pues lo que quieran los enemigos del progreso de esta república, públicos son los actos de su gobierno como Jeneral en jefe del ejército nicaraguense. Justo é imparcial con todos á la par que firme y enérgico, el no conoce otras distinciones que las del mérito, los talentos útiles, y los servicios hechos á la patria; y nada mas lejos de la verdad, que la asercion de que el Jeneral Walker escluye á los hijos del país de los empleos de la república, por que dicen quiere dominarlo todo como un tirano de Nicaragua... ¿Falsedad, calumnia, impostura...! Diganlo si no, los empleados civiles y militares hijos del país, que hay en los diferentes ramos de la administracion pública, desde el presidente y demas altos funcionarios del S. P. E.; desde los jenerales, oficiales y demas empleados, hasta los agentes subalternos del último grado, en ambas administraciones civil y militar... Diganlo si no, los estranjeros de diferentes nacionalidades, empleados tambien en el ejército y en otros destinos al servicio del Estado...

Al trazar estas últimas líneas en honor de la verdad y de la Santa causa del pro-

greso, de la libertad, é independencia de Nicaragua, me complace muy mucho en hacer mencion del honroso nombramiento que de Jeneral de Brigada é Intendente jeneral de Ejército, acaba de obtener nuestro amigo y compatriota el Sr. Domingo de Goicouria, que con tanto celo como abnegacion y patriotismo, ha trabajado siempre por la libertad de Cuba nuestra infortunada patria. Este nombramiento como el de algunos otros de mis compatriotas para desempeñar diferentes puestos de honor y de confianza en el ejército y la administracion pública, acabarán de demostrar hasta la evidencia, que el Jeneral Walker en la parte que tan honrosamente desempeña en el gobierno de esta república, no busca otra cosa que el progreso y el bien del país, que en gran parte le confiara sus destinos cuando en los dias aciagos de la tribulacion invocó su proteccion para poner término á la opresion del partido legitimista, y á los horrores de la guerra civil.

En fin, exentos del espíritu de partido, y de los intereses mezquinos que animan á los enemigos del progreso y de la independencia de Nicaragua, nosotros que vemos en la union y concordia de ambos pueblos un gran bien, no solo para Nicaragua, sino para otros muchos pueblos de la América; nosotros que hemos contemplado con placer indefinible, la marcha progresiva que ha emprendido Nicaragua en los pocos dias de paz que le han dejado sus enemigos bajo el régimen actual; nosotros declaramos á la faz del mundo, que consideramos como un hecho providencial la venida del Jeneral Walker; y la inmigracion estrajera en este país, como necesaria para asegurar su rejeneracion social, y con ella los bienes inmensos de que le ha privado hasta aquí su adverso destino.

¡Honor pues al digno Jeneral Walker! ¡Honor á la democracia y á la union nicaraguense! ¡Honor á la libertad y á la independencia de la república!—El Editor.

ACTO DE CLEMENCIA.

Eran las 6 de la tarde del dia 1.º del corriente: un inmenso jentío estaba reunido ante los muros de la nueva iglesia, que á medio construir se vé en la plaza principal de Rivas. Dos hombres estaban parados al pié de dichos muros, el rostro vuelto hácia el concurso, y á su lado estaba un sacerdote que ejercia su sagrado ministerio, ya con el uno, ya con el otro, preparándose, al parecer con una calma y serenidad ejemplares, para recibir el golpe mortal y comparecer ante el Eterno. A la distancia como de unos diez pasos estaba un piquete de soldados con sus fusiles, como quien aguarda el momento de la ejecucion.

Terminada ya la triste mision del ministro, este se retiró del referido lugar, ocupando su puesto un hombre que llevaba dos lienzos blancos en una mano. Al acercarse, uno de ellos se levantó el cabello, despejó la frente con serenidad, y apoyó la cabeza en el muro, como quien espera resignado la ejecucion de la fatal sentencia. Acto continuo el de los lienzos hizo su oficio, vendando á uno y otro, como es costumbre en semejantes casos.

Esperábase ya solamente el fatal mandato que habia de lanzar dos desgraciados á la eternidad, cuando una voz que parecia venir del Cielo clamó: ¡Perdon! ¡Imajine el lector cual sería el júbilo y el alborozo del pueblo, que identificado con los reos, esperaba triste y cabizbajo el término del sangriento drama que iba á presenciar. En un momento resonaron por toda la plaza mil vivas y aclamaciones en honor del Jeneral Walker, que es firme y justiciero á la par que benigno y clemente, y mas quisiera tener siempre que premiar, que verse forzado á castigar á cualquiera de sus soldados.

IMPRESA DEL NICARAGUENSE.

Frente á la casa del Gobierno.