The New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 31.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday beyond Washington.

THE ARREST OF GEN. WALKER.

We have waited, with whatever of patience we might possess, until some explanation could be had from Washington of the monstrous proceeding in reference to the captured Gen. WALKER and his forces by Commodore PAULDING. The dispatches received by the press of New Orleans are by no means consistent or satisfactory. Some of them state that the administration, through the Secretary of State, repudiates the conduct of Commodore PAULDING, and declares that he exceeded his instructions. Others ascribe these sentiments to our government simply as *data*, or rumors. Our own telegrams give us the statements of the correspondents of the New York *Times* and the *Herald*, both of which concur in representing the administration as denouncing the arrest of WALKER and his illegal, unauthorized and inexcusable, if not disclaiming and disapproving the acts of the commander of the *Wabash*. With respect, therefore, to the question of responsibility nothing is settled. The fact, however, is patent and undeniable. Commodore PAULDING landed an armed force on a foreign soil, and captured Gen. WALKER, with one hundred and fifty of his followers.

Whatever may be the real sentiments of the administration touching this extraordinary infraction of the laws of nations, and unjustifiable exercise of power, the seizure of Gen. WALKER has created intense excitement and indignation in every part of the South where the news has been received. In New Orleans and Mobile it is the absorbing topic of conversation and denunciation, and, doubtless, we shall soon hear the reverberation of the popular wrath kindled in Mississippi, Georgia and the Carolinas. And this indignation springs from obvious considerations, for whether Commodore PAULDING received secret instructions to arrest WALKER even on the shore of Nicaragua, or whether he acted without due warrant of authority, the act itself is equally indefensible. If Commodore PAULDING assumed an arbitrary and lawless power to violate the sovereignty of a sister republic, he justly merits dismissal and disgrace. If Mr. BUCHANAN presumed to invest that officer with specific instructions to take possession of WALKER wherever he might be found, then the President has transcended his constitutional functions, and must be prepared to confront the odium attached to a tyrannical and most censurable policy. We are loth to believe that Commodore PAULDING would have ventured on so bold a measure as the landing of his marines and sailors on foreign soil, in defiance of the clearest rights of Nicaragua derived from international law, without the express sanction of our government, since he bears the reputation of an intelligent and prudent commander, who would be unapt at any time to exceed his instructions. The case must, however, rest either on him or the President, and from the partial information received, it seems likely that Commodore PAULDING has either misconstrued his instructions, or that Mr. BUCHANAN will select him as the victim to appease the storm of anger which the South is raising about his ears.

Of the illegality of the invasion of Nicaragua by an armed United States force there cannot, we think, be two opinions. Look at the act, divested of all bias either for or against filibusterism, and tell us where the administration or its functionaries find the right to make war upon Gen. WALKER in a foreign land? The neutrality laws do not extend to such cases. A latitudinous interpretation of that code might justify the interference with WALKER while he was still upon the high seas; but the moment he touched the shore of Nicaragua, the duties of our navy, as regards him, were at an end. Suppose Commodore PAULDING had captured a slaver laden with Africans, even to the coast of Cuba, and that the slaver, eluding his pursuit, had contrived to land her living freight, and store it safely on shore. Would that officer have dreamed for an instant of infringing the sovereignty of Spain, by sending a detachment of marines into the island, for the purpose of rescuing the captured? Every one knows that he would have scouted the idea as preposterous. Yet he has committed a precisely analogous deed, without the slight extenuation which the question of humanity might have furnished in the other case. The potency of our flag has its limits. It covers and protects the American citizen—or should do so—in every country under heaven; but it cannot screen from censure, or entitle to commendation the officer who carries an armed band into a republic with which we are at peace, under the pretext of preventing an infraction of the neutrality laws.

Perhaps, though, after all there may be an explanation of this disgraceful business, and it is suggested by our cotemporary of the Mobile *Tribune*. That journal says:

> Our readers are aware that a man named Yrasari, some two months since, after many futile attempts, concluded a treaty with our government in relation to the transit route through Nicaragua. The treaty has not been made public. It may give the United States full authority to invade Nicaragua, and make summary arrests as it pleases within that country.
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> But the question is, by what right did Yrasari proffer and make this treaty? At the time it was made, there was no government in Nicaragua. There was no legislature or administration within it. Yrasari himself, if we are not misinformed, is not even a citizen of Nicaragua. It is a notable fact, too, that our government refused this pseudo-minister of Nicaragua, until it became almost certain that Gen. Walker would return to his country, and that the treaty was finally patched up. Under it, perhaps, our government is made the protector of Nicaragua, and is fully empowered to put down opposition of whatever manner men whom it may suspect of any thing it pleases.
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> The ways of the administration are so tortuous; its policy so opposite to the frank and fearless one enunciated in the Ostend manifesto, that it is hardly safe to predict its course of action on any prominent topic of foreign or domestic interest. It is certainly within the limits of possibility that the President may, in his new-born zeal against filibusterism, have signed a treaty authorizing him to extend armed assistance to Nicaragua, in case of invasion; but we harbor strong doubts of the truth of the surmise. Had this been true, the telegraph would have disseminated all over the land the exculpation of the President, on the ground of compliance with the provisions of this treaty, and we should not now be told that the arrest of WALKER is condemned by the administration, and that Commodore PAULDING has exceeded his orders. Moreover, a treaty—open or secret—with without legal force until submitted to and ratified by the Senate. All things considered, we must reject the hypothesis of the Mobile *Tribune*, and fall back upon one of the two presumptions—either that Commodore PAULDING went beyond his authority, or that his conduct was in virtue of at least implied instructions. It is highly probable that, under either supposition, he will not be allowed to escape unscathed. If he exceeded his authority he will be justly punished; if he acted upon implied instructions he will be made to suffer the consequences of a blunder. It will not be the first time that Mr. BUCHANAN has shielded himself from assault by offering an appropriate victim as a vicarious and opportune sacrifice.

P. S.—The latest phase in this casteth imbroglio will be found under our telegraphic head, and the reader is referred to it. If he can solve the mystery involved in the proceedings of the government, his ingenuity surpasses ours.

MAYOR WATERMAN will be pleased to see his friends and fellow citizens to-morrow, 1st January, at the St. Charles Hotel, Parlor F between the hours of 12 and 4, P. M.

CAPT. H. A. DE RIVIERE.—It will be seen by the announcement in our columns that Capt. DE RIVIERE will deliver his first lecture, in English, on Monday evening, January 4th, at Lyceum Hall, and his second, in French, on Wednesday, the 6th, at the same place. The lecture will commence at 8, P. M., promptly.

☞ COST PRICE.—It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that P. M. RIVERA, No. 196 Royal street, offers for sale at cost prices his splendid assortment of fine Surgery, watches, clocks, and other articles in this line of business. Mr. RIVERA's stock is imported from the first Parisian houses, and is in every respect worthy the attention of amateurs.

STATIONERY, BLANK BOOKS, &c.—Messrs. P. DUREL & Co., No. 37 Chartres street, have received an extensive stock of blank books, of different sizes and bindings, manufactured of the best possible paper, warranted of first quality, and which they offer for sale at extremely low prices. Merchants and traders from who usually open a new set of books at the beginning of the year would consult their own interest by examining the stock of Messrs. DUREL & Co. before making their purchases elsewhere.

By Telegraph.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE *ARAGO*.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The steamship *Arago*, from Southampton on the 16th, has arrived.

COMMERCIAL.

SOUTHAMPTON, Dec. 16.—Cotton closed very dull at Liverpool.

Prices were rather easier, but quotations were nominal.

Flour has advanced 6d. Wheat is 3d. lower. Corn is a little better.

Consols closed at 91¼ to 91¾d.

SPECIE BY THE *ARAGO*.

The *Arago* brings $15,000 in specie.

ARRIVED OUT.

The R. M. steamer *Niagara* arrived out at Liverpool on the 14th.

MORE FAILURES.

Several large failures are announced and among others H. & M. Toldorph & Co., Row, Prescott & Co., Hey & Co.—Swedish houses in London; Richards, Miller & Co., silk merchants, London; J. C. Lester, woolen goods, Halifax.

ENGLAND.

Parliament had adjourned to the fourth of February.

John Edward Stevens, of the late London and Eastern Bank, has failed, and appears before the bankruptcy Court at Edinburg. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Henry Smith Bright, a large corn merchant at Hull, has been sentenced to ten years' penal servitude for forgery.

No further progress has been made in launching the *Leviathan*.

SWEDEN.

A proposition has been made to the Swedish Chambers to contract a loan of $10,000,000 for the support of commerce.

At Stockholm five prominent houses had suspended.

NORWAY.

Norway has contracted a loan for the same purpose.

HAMBURG.

The Austrian government has loaned Hamburg ten millions of florins at six per cent.

The loan to be employed in giving aid to the large mercantile houses.

Six or eight more Hamburg houses have stopped.

The Hamburg savings banks were crowded with outdrawing depositors.

The military had been called out to preserve order.

NETHERLANDS.

An Ambassador has been sent to England to obtain the hand of the Princess Alice for the Crown Prince of the Netherlands.

INDIA.

Nothing important has been received from India.

SMYRNA.

The commercial crisis is more aggravated.

BELGIUM.

The Belgium elections have resulted in a large majority in favor of the Liberals.

TURKEY.

It is rumored that the Porte, with the consent of the Powers, would sign the treaty of Paris.

It had issued a firman for the dissolution of the Danubian Principalities, but the statement requires confirmation.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Paulding's Letter—Walker Before the Cabinet. He is to be Released, and Afterwards Prosecuted by Government.

LATE NEWS FROM KANSAS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Com. Paulding's letter to the Navy Department refers the Department to Congress letters, &c.

He says that he could not regard General Walker and his followers as other than outlaws, who had escaped the vigilance of our officers, and who had left our shores for the express purpose of rapine and murder.

He saw no other way open but to send them home.

He says he was aware of the responsibility he took, and asks for a justification of his conduct left by our government.

WALKER'S ARREST BEFORE THE CABINET.

To-day the Cabinet had the subject of WALKER's arrest under consideration.

The Cabinet thinks that Paulding's conduct, though not strictly justified by his instructions, is palliated by circumstances detailed in his dispatches.

WALKER TO BE RELEASED.

It is generally expected that Gen. Walker will be released from arrest.

HE WILL THEN BE PROSECUTED.

After he is released, he will be rearrested and prosecuted for violation of the neutrality laws.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ARREST.

Capt. Engle to-day had an interview with the President, in which he detailed the circumstances of Gen. Walker's arrest.

WALKER'S ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Gen. William Walker arrived here yesterday evening, accompanied by Marshal Rynders, of New York.

HIS RECEPTION.

As Gen. Walker entered Brown's Hotel, he was met by a large concourse which was in waiting, and which received him with cheers and honors.

KANSAS NEWS.—THE ELECTION.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—We have dates from Leavenworth to the 25th.

The vote in Leavenworth stood 238 for the slavery clause and 9 against it.

There was great excitement.

Many missionaries were present, and some took the oath there, but they were inhabitants of the Territory, and were afterwards arrested.

Judge Lecompton issued writs of habeas corpus for their release.

Calhoun was burned in effigy.

Ely Moore was shot in the leg.

It was rumored that Gen. Denver had issued orders for the arrest of Lane.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The Indian Bureau has received official information denying the disaffection of the Indians in Utah Territory.

The rumor was gotten up by the Mormons.

MORMON WAR IN CALIFORNIA.

Letters received here from California state that two regiments of volunteers are already raised and are ready on call to march against the Mormons.

They further state that ten regiments could be raised in sixty days for the same purpose.

STEAMBOATS COMING.

VICKSBURG, Dec. 30.—The Great Western passed at midnight, and the Diana and Twichell at 8 this morning.

EASTERN MAIL.

MOBILE, Dec. 30.—The Northern letter mail as late as due has arrived, but no newspapers.

NICARAGUAN MEETING.

MOBILE, Dec. 30.—The Nicaraguan meeting has been postponed.

COTTON MARKET.

MOBILE, Dec. 30.—Middling cotton is quoted at 9c.

WALKER IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Capt. Engle, of the *Wabash*, expects to return to the home squadron next month.

It is positively asserted that Commodore Paulding will be recalled.

Walker means to ask the government to reinstate him in the position from which Paulding removed him.

Walker was surrendered to Cass, Secretary of State, but Cass refused to have any thing to do with his arrest, except by order of the judiciary.

UTAH AFFAIRS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Washington correspondent of the *Times* says that intelligence from Utah, subsequent to the 6th of November, states that the Mormons had destroyed Fort Bridger, burning all of the buildings on the approach of Col. Johnston.

KANSAS AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—If the Kansas Constitution had come to us without the slavery clause, Mr. Stephens was to move its reference back to the people.

THE LIVERPOOL STEAMER.

HALIFAX, Noon, Dec. 30.—There are no signs yet of the steamer *Niagara*, now considered due.

EDWIN FORREST.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A dispatch from Cleveland denies that Edwin Forrest is seriously ill. It says that he will be in Philadelphia in a few days.

DEPARTURE OF THE CANADA.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—The R. M. steamer *Canada* sailed to-day, with $70,000 in specie.

KANSAS NEWS—CIVIL WAR.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—Kansas advices to the 24th say that a civil war was raging in Bourbon county.

Several conflicts between the pro-slavery and anti-slavery men have taken place, and a number of prisoners have been taken on both sides.

The United States Marshal, with a force of eighty men, had demanded the surrender of the free State party.

He was answered by a volley of musket balls. The fire was returned, and the fight lasted an hour, after which time the pro-slavery men returned with the loss of one killed and two mortally wounded.

The United States Marshal was dangerously wounded.

Lane had entrenched Sugar Mound, and was determined to fight if the dragoons attacked him.

A battle was regarded as inevitable.

An exciting debate had taken place in the Lawrence Convention.

The speeches were radical and revolutionary.

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Lieutenant Beale writes to the War Department, from California, that a fine wagon road has been established from New Mexico to California. The camels did efficient service, and are in good condition.

KANSAS NEWS.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—Denver gives up the Territorial arms to the militia.

MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Flour dull at $4 35 to $4 75. Corn is quiet. Oats 41 to 42c. Whisky 21 to 21½c. Lard 8½ to 9½c. Mess Pork $13 00 to $16.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—Flour $3 85 to $3 75. Whisky 14 to 14½c. Hogs nominal at $4 75 to $5. Mess Pork $13. Lard 8½c. Linseed Oil 56c.

It is said that a conference of the maritime powers of Europe will shortly be held in London, to discuss the African emigration scheme, and its bearings upon the African slave trade.

ARRIVAL OF THE PHILADELPHIA.

The steamship *Philadelphia*, from New York, via Havana, reached our city yesterday, with the Havana and Pacific mails. She brings the following transfers:

Cramer & Co., $12,000; Borrio & Rendier, $12,000; Fatio Galpi, $8,864; L. A. Middleton, $800; Puig, Mir & Co., $12,000; Roman & Rodriguez, $2,500; Yates & Hobart, $6,775—total, $53,139.

The inhabitants of Havana are in a great state of excitement on account of the magnificent which has just been presented to the nation. In other matters there is nothing of interest to report.

Left at Havana U. S. sloop of war *Decatur*, Commander Robb, for Norfolk, and steamer *Fashion*, Capt. Coughlin. Thursday, 24th instant, 9.30 A. M., passed steamship *England*, *City*, steering North. Monday, 9.45 A. M., passed steamship *Columbia*, for Havana.

Died at sea, on the night of Dec. 21st, Henry Snyder, from Germany, aged 45 years.

Havana papers report sugar crop at 600,000 boxes; prices slightly advanced. Freights in no better demand, and rates unchanged. Exchange—London, 15 to 16 prem.; New York sixty days, 9 prem.; New York sight, 5 to 6; New Orleans do, 6 to 7; U. S. gold coins, 3 to 4 prem.; Mexican dollars on ship board, 10 prem.

The health of Havana is good.

The *Philadelphia* brings the following passengers:

FROM NEW YORK.—W B Reifeld and lady, L A Fuentes, Capt J Cook, Miss Cavin, Rosalie Cavin, Capt J Cook, Miss Cavin, Rosalie Cavin, Capt J Cook, Miss Cavin, Rosalie Cavin