DORCHESTER AURORA.

"PRINCIPLES AND MEASURES, AND MEN BY THEIR PRINCIPLES."

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DORCHESTER AURORA,

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

On the Relations between the United States and the Mexican Republic.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 2, 1837.
(concluded.)

The duplicate copies sent to the diplomatic corps were obviously intended to give the most extensive circulation to the matters contained in the pamphlet; and no doubt one was expected to be transmitted to each foreign Government represented in the United States, and the other to adorn the archives of its legation in Washington. From the equivocal circumstances under which the pamphlet was prepared, and the assertions contained in the preface, it was supposed that the writer sought to evade official responsibility, by representing the publication as his personal act; thus giving to himself and his Government the benefit he hoped to derive from his defamation of the United States, with all the Governments of Europe, and with his own countrymen, among whom it was widely distributed as soon as he reached the Mexican territory, as a prelude to his last report to his own Government, without exposing that Government to a demand for redress for the injury sought to be inflicted by its representative.—The slanders of a private individual could not be of importance to the United States; but as the position of Mr. Gorostiza was equivocal, it was deemed necessary that this subject should be so presented to his Government, that the distinction made between his acts, as a mere citizen, and as the representative agent of Mexico, should be marked and recognised. Occasion was taken, therefore, in giving instructions, on the 10th of December last, to Mr. Ellis, to make the explanations previously promised in regard to the movement of the troops under General Gaines, to direct him to bring the act of their Minister to the notice of the Mexican Government in these words:

"It would be gratifying to the President if this communication which you will have to make to the Mexican Government, was limited to these explanations. Unfortunately, the conduct of its late Minister Extraordinary has made it necessary to touch upon even a more unpleasant topic. You will learn with astonishment that Mr. Gorostiza while enjoying his diplomatic privilege, although after he had declared his mission at an end, published, on his own authority, a pamphlet, (a copy of which is herewith sent to you,) containing parts of his unpublished correspondence with this department, and extracts from his letters to the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations, with a long introductory preface. The publication of his correspondence with the Department without authority of his government, is believed to be unexampled in the history of diplomacy, and was not decorous to the Government of the United States. The extracts from his correspondence with his own Government and his introduction to the whole, contain statements and comments defamatory of the Government and people of the United States, and obviously intended to injure the character of both for honor and good faith in the eyes of the world.

This pamphlet, although not circulated generally among our citizens, was in the hands of editors of newspapers, who have published extracts from it, and the President has been informed that two copies of it were sent by its author, at the moment of his departure from the United States, to some, if not to all, the members of the foreign diplomatic body accredited here. This act, still more extraordinary because it almost immediately followed the communication of the President's intention to direct that explanations, which he believed would be satisfactory, should be made to the Mexican Government, has excited but one sentiment among those to whom it is known. In directing you to make known the publication of this pamphlet to the Mexican Government, the President does not doubt the truth of the declaration made by its author, that this publication was his own personal act, for which he had no authority from his Government; nor will he permit himself to suppose, for an instant, that it will adopt or sanction conduct so glaringly violating all the decorum of diplomatic usage, so disrespectful to the Government and people of the United States, so unworthy the representative of a respectable Government, and so well calculated to interrupt the harmony and good will which ought to subsist between the United States and Mexico.

"How far the character of the Mexican Government for decorum and justice, and an honorable desire to maintain a respectable rank among the civilized nations of the world, requires a distinct manifestation of its just displeasure at such an extraordinary step, are questions that belong to itself alone to consider and decide.

"In giving you this instruction to make known to the Mexican Government the conduct of its Envoy, without a demand for reparation at its hands, the President is influenced as well by the explicit disavowal of the Envoy of all participation on the part of his Government, in the act complained of, as by the sincere conviction, already expressed, that a step so reprehensible will not be countenanced by it. But if, contrary to all just expectation, the Mexican Government shall adopt that act, or give sanction to it by approving of their Minister's conduct, the continuance of diplomatic intercourse between the two countries can no longer be either useful or reputable to the United States. However painful may be the consequences, the honour of the American people requires of the President to instruct you, as I now do, in that event, to demand your passports, and to return forthwith, bringing with you all the archives of the legation to the United States."

The answer of the Mexican Government, now received, defends the conduct of its minister; Mr. Martinez asserts, in conformity with his instructions, that the Minister did nothing which was not required by the dignity and interests of Mexico. By the note of Mr. Martinez, these facts are admitted on the part of the Mexican Government; that the pamphlet was prepared by its Minister, and printed in Philadelphia, in the Spanish language; that *some copies* were left to be *used* in the United States, with a *recommendation* as to the time only when they were to be used, and the time recommended was, as soon as there should be a publication of it in Mexico; that the pamphlet was extensively circulated on the coast of Mexico as soon as he arrived, and on his journey to the capital by the returning Envoy Extraordinary. On these admitted facts, the Government declares that Mr. Gorostiza acted conformably to what was required by the dignity and interests of Mexico. Keeping out of view, as entirely unimportant, the offensive character of the pamphlet, and the use made of it in the United States, the Mexican Government has attempted, argumentatively, to prove that it did not appear that their Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary intended to offend the United States, or to jeopard his diplomatic character, by violating established usuage.

To sustain the first allegation, it is said the pamphlet was necessary for vindication; in relation to a past transaction—a negotiation, not pending, inasmuch as his mission was terminated; that it was in the Spanish language—if it had been intended offensively it would have been printed in English, for circulation among the people of the United States; and that he did not circulate it among his colleagues of the diplomatic body, because he did not send it to them officially, or confidentially, with an explanation of his object. The character of the production, and the use made of the copies left, with the recommendation as to time, are unfortunately, the best evidences of the intention of the author. The pamphlet is a labored effort to prove that the United States, for a series of years, sought unjustly to obtain possession of the territory belonging to a friendly power, till the year 1818, when, the Executive of the United States pretending to nothing but what was reasonable, the Florida treaty was negotiated, the negotiators being both men of talents and good faith; that, subsequent to that treaty, the want of good faith and integrity produced new pretexts to acquire possession of the territory, the pretended claim to which they had been thereby abandoned; that while the Government was fostering the sinister design of violating all the articles of their treaty with Mexico, the President and all his minister were pouring into the ears of the Mexican Envoy Extraordinary professions of affection for his Government, and of strict neutrality in the Texas contest, that this Government was destitute of good faith; and that the people in mass, with the exception of a minute fraction, described as belonging to the school of Washington and Madison, were necessary ignorant; and having every thing in their power, could be blindly led by dishonest, greedy, unprincipled, and consequently unbridled flatters, wherever they pleased.

The assertion that such a pamphlet was not intended to offend the United States, is so extraordinary that it is to be hoped that the Mexican Government has omitted to examine it. Such a declaration, in regard to its intention, cannot otherwise be rationally accounted for, unless it be supposed that the Government means to make this singular distinction, this a production intended to impeach the character of a Government and people, for honor and good faith, and to degrade them in the eyes of the world; was not intended to offend. The argumentative denial of the act of sending this defamitory pamphlet to foreign ministers, that the calumny against this Government and people might be made known to all the Governments with whom they hold diplomatic intercourse, which has been made for Mr. Gorostiza, amounts to this: that he did not send copies to them at all, because he did not send them with an official explanation. He left them here to be used; they were used—sent to foreign ministers. It is for the Envoy Extraordinary to explain how they came there. His Government, which has approved his conduct as conformable to its dignity and interest, is responsible to those whose honor is involved in the inquiry. The contents of the pamphlet show, also, that the intention of it was not self-vindication.

The responsibility of the auther for act on which it is alleged he designed to enlighten his country, was to his Government, & through it to the people of Mexico. His pamplet is written for all places, and for all times; a part is especially for the meridian of the United States, as will satisfactorily appear by a reference to its contents. But it is also said that it related to past transactions—not secret, as some of the correspondence had been made public. A part of the correspondence between the two Governments had been published by the United States. In addition to the residue of that correspondence, the pamphlet contains the Envoy's extracts from the secret and confidential letters to his own government, in which he calls in question the good faith of the Government of the United States. His extraordinary mission was terminated by the act of the Envoy, but was still in the enjoyment of his diplomatic privileges, and the subject of which he wrote was then pending with his Government. After his return, that Government looked for explanations which had been promised by the United States, and complained they were not received; which explanation, having been delayed by accident, were subsequently given to it.

The conduct of this Extraordinary Envoy is also to have been conformable to diplomatic usage, and two instances are brought forward to sanction this allegation, assumed to exist in the history of the diplomacy of the United States. It is asserted in the note of Mr. Martinez that the Commissioners of the United States published their correspondence pending the negociations at Ghent. During *a war* with Great Britain, the correspondence of the commissioners of Great Britain and the United States, who were negotiating terms of peace, was published in Washington by the Government of the United States, there were no libels in it upon Great Britain. The Commissioners of the United States never published any thing during the negociation of Ghent.

The relations of the United States and Mexico, therefore, as they now stand, are these: The demand of the United States for justice for past injuries has been made in conformity with the treaty between the two nations, but apparently no public complaint has since been examined by the Mexican Government, except the conduct of Mr. Gorostiza. The printing and distribution of his offensive pamphlet is approved by his Government, & justified as conformable to what was required by its dignity and interests.

To the other demands of a public nature, existing at the adjournment of the last annual session of Congress, after five months' delay, no answer has been given. On three cases of private claims presented for final answer, answers have been given. The justice of two of them is denied, although one of them rests on a decree of the Mexican Government. Satisfaction for the one admitted to be just is not made. The Congress of Mexico, who have been considering the subject for eight or ten years, be *'incited'* to pass upon, when they meet.

Since the last session of Congres an embargo has been laid on American vessels in the ports of Mexico. Although raised, not satisfaction has been made, or offered, for the resulting injuries.

From these facts a judgment may be formed of the value of the assurances that have been received from the Mexican Government, and the probability of their ever being fulfilled.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN FORSYTH.

To the President of the United States.

A case of importance was decided at the last court of Quarter Sessions of Delaware county Pa. by Judges Darlington and Myers, relative to small notes. A man was arraigned for stealing a pocket book containing two fifty cent notes. He was convicted of stealing the book, and a verdict of not guilty was rendered as to the notes, it being decided that as they were issued in violation of law, it was not an offence against the law to take and carry them away.—*Phil. Gaz.*

TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1837.

Mr. Coffin, member elect from the State of Ohio, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Pope was appointed on the Committee of Ways and Means, to fill the vacancy therein.

Mr. Cushman moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, on the resolutions to refer the different subjects embraced in the Psesiden't Message to appropriate standing committees: lost.

The first business in order was the motion made by Mr. Slade, on Monday, to refer two memorials, presented by him on that day, praying for the abolition of slavery and slave trade in the District of Columbia to a select committee.

Mr. Slade addressed the House at great length on the subject. He commenced by remarking that the business of the country was transacted here, by a reference of all subjects to their appropriate committees, and that matters of the most trivial nature met with no opposition to such reference. But no sooner was any member present a memorial relating in the slightest degree to a certain subject, the abolition of slavery, that it was directly attacked & placed under prohibition. He said that were he to present a petition from a constituent involving the small sum of twenty dollars, even that would not be denied a reference, inasmuch as it might involve an important principle; but here were a large class of petitions, signed by hundreds of thousands, asking the action of Congress on a subject of the greatest interest, and yet they were disposed of with no ceremony at all. He then alluded to the course pursued by certain members in opposition to such petitions, and expressed his belief that all the movements in relation to the subject had been preconcerted with the regularity of clockwork.

Mr. Wise explained that, as he had hitherto taken upon himself to oppose the reference of such petitions, he would say, once for all, that as far as his knowledge was concerned, there had been no preconcert in relation to the opposition to this subject, neither had he received any intimation from the speaker, or any one else, as to the mode of proceeding.

Mr. S. then made the motion to refer the memorials to a select committe, with instructions to report a bill providing for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Wr. Wise interposed, and said that the gentleman had been discussing slavery in the South, slavery in the state of Virginia, slavery in his district; and he now asked his colleagues to retire with him from that hall.

Mr. Holsey made the same request to his colleagues from Georgia, and expressed a hope that the whole Southern delegation would retire.

Mr. Grantland also joined in the same wish.

Mr Rhett. The whole of the delegation of South Carolina has already signed an agreement.

Mr. Robertson. One remark, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Slade. I claim the floor

The Chair. Does the gentleman from Virginia rise to a question of order?

Mr. Robinson. No, sir. I wish to make one observation.

Mr. Rhett. I rise to a point of order.

Mr. Robertson. I wish simply to propose to the Southern delegation—

Mr. Rhett. I rise to a point of order.—The question of order is, whether the member from Vermont has a right to go into the consideration of slavery in the State of Virginia? I say he has not; and it is insisted upon, I request the whole southern delegation to go into the room of the Committe for the district of Columbia.

The Chair reminded the House that he had repeatedly interposed when the gentleman from Vermont had been going into the question of slavery in the States. He was not permitted to give his own opinions, but they might readily be inferred by the House. He felt it his duty to state, that if it were possibly in his power to allay excitement, and to prevent discussion of this sort, he would do it.

Mr. McKay. Mr. Speaker, has not the member from Vermont been declared out of order?

The Chair. He has.

Mr. McKay. Then has he a right to proceed?

The Chair. No gentleman has raised that question.

Mr. McKay. Then, sir, I make that question. I object to his proceeding. I object to his resuming his remarks, and I hope the House will not permit him.

The Chair then, under the rule, directed Mr. Slade to take his seat, and pronounced the gentleman out of order for discussing the question of slavery in the State of Virginia. Referring to the 22d rule, the Chair added that the gentleman could no longer proceed without the leave of the House: and he was about to propound the question, when

Mr. Slade said he wished to state the position in which he stood. I propose, said he, to read a single paper ——

Mr. Turney. I object to the gentleman's proceeding at all.

The Chair said the rule was imperative. The gentleman could not proceed, under the question made by Mr. McKay, without leave of the House.

Mr. Slade, (who was still on his feet) Mr. Speaker—

The Chair. The gentleman will take his seat.

Mr. Slade then pledged himself, if the House would permit him to resume, not to discuss the question of slavery in the States.

The Chair then propounded the question to the House that the gentleman from Vermont leave to proceed.

Mr. Allen asked for the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Mr. Beecher moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Slade asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered, and were—yeas 106, nays 63.

Mr. Campbell then gave notice that the southern delegations were then assembled in the room of the Committee for the District of Columbia, and he said he was instructed by their committee to request the attendance of all gentlemen representing slave holding interests on that floor immediately.

The house then adjourned.

THE DEAD MONARCH AND HIS BEER.—The following amusing anecdote is extracted from a paper by Burton, in a late number of the Gentleman's Magazine.

'Grant's last engagement was at the Surry Theatre, when that establishment was managed by that glorious compound of talent and eccentricity, Elliston. Grant was selected by that worthy to play King Henry, in his curious version of King Richard the Third. By the manager's direction, the ghosts were not to appear in the usual orthodox manner at a chasm in the back drapery of the monarch's tent, but were to stud the front of the stage by popping up their heads from the various traps and sliding pannels that are scattered about the scenic floor. Grant, who knew that King Henry has a long wait, as it is technically termed, from the end of the first act to the middle of the fifth, had removed his black and kingly robes for his citizen's attire, and with a pipe of mild tobacco and a pint of porter, sat at the back door of the theatre, puffing sorrow away, and awaiting the prompter's call to the scene of action. When he received it his white wig was hastily put on, his coat and vest removed; and the black jacket of the unfortunate monarch donned, retaining the well-splashed white trowsers, because, having only to poke his bust above the level of the stage, there was no necessity for any farther change. Grant knew that all stage carpenters have a propensity for porter; he was aware that while he was speaking the ghostly warning to the naughty tyrant, the carpenter employed to turn the windlass of the trap, would demolish the remainder of his pint; so like a prudent and a canny Scot, he placed the pewter vessel on the two feet square that sustained his ghostly corpus, and laid the ambrosial pipe length ways across the top—the trap was not to come within sight of the audience, therefore his precaution could not interfere with the scenic effect—but the carpenter saw his motive, and in revenge, pretended to misunderstand his instructions, and rolled poor Grant completely up till the top of the trap attained the level of the stage. The audience burst into convulsions of laughter—there was 'the buried majesty' of England, the spirit of the murdered Henry, in a black jacket, and dirty white trowsers of modern cut, gloriously splashed with London mud. A pewter pot and tobacco pipe stood by the side of his dirty Wellington. The bothered actor looked confusedly at his brother and sister ghosts, who were peeping from their appropriate holes. To complete the joke, which, by the way, is strictly true, Elliston, who enacted the crookod-back tyrant, opened his eyes when he heard the shouts of the audience, started from his coach, and ran furiously at Grant, brandishing his drawn sword. Grant knew that it was useless to 'chase the lion in his mood,' and 'with his pipe in one hand, and his pot in the other,' as the old song says, the royal ghost vanished at the wing. Enthusiastic peals of approbation crowned his exit—the remaining ghosts were *rung down*. Catesby was beckoned on, but the audience clamored loudly for the reappearance of the monarch and his beer, and continued their uproar till the fall of the curtain.'

From the Nantucket Inquirer.

Peruvian Antiquities.— Capt. Benjamin Ray, of this town, commander of ship Logan, recently arrived at New Bedford from the South Seas, procured while on the coast of Peru some singular relics, the circumstances under which they were found rendering them peculiarly curious and interesting. His ship touched at the port of Guarmey in Truxillo, about lat. 10. S. the inhabitants of which have discovered in their immediate vicinity, the subterranean remains of an ancient city, from which they have dug out many remarkable vestiges of former generations—and concerning whose history or fate no remembrance or even tradition survives. He visited the site, where the excavations were still in progress, and personally examined such portions of the ruins as had already been penetrated. The walls of numerous edifices were still standing, several human bodies had been exhumed, and many household implements and other articles of various descriptions brought to light

The bodies were in a wonderful state of preservaion, the hair, the nails and integuments remaining entire as in life, and the muscular structure but little shrunk, though perfectly exsiccated, the effects, possibly, of the nitrous properties of the circumjacent soil. The positions in which these mummies were found, leave no doubt that the population, who are supposed to have numbered some 30,000, were overwhelmed in the midst of their ordinary occupation by some sudden and terrible convulsion of nature. The corpse of a man was found in an erect attitude, amidst whose dress were sundry coins, which were sent to Lima, where it was decided after minute inspection, that at least two hundred and fifty years must have transpired since the occurrence of the fatal catastrophe.

In one of the buried houses Capt. R. saw the body of a female in a sitting posture, dressed in a loose cotton robe, who, when overtaken by the common calamity must have been engaged in weaving, with the materials of her vocation in her hands and around her. A small piece of cloth, partly woven, was stretched before her upon a sort of reed frame, and in one hand she held a sharp thorn 8 or 10 inches in length, on which was wound a quantity of fine cotton thread, of a light brown color; parcels of cotton and worsted yarns of various colors were also lying near. Capt. R. procured the unfiinished fabric, the thorn or spindle and several samples of the threads. The finished portion of the cloth is about eight inches square, and apparently embraces just one half of the originally intended dimensions

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The manner in which the "Journal of Commerce" treats its compeers, may be seen by the following:—

When Rogues fall out, &c.—A correspondent inquires, *why* we "think the Whig party would be stronger with the *Evening Star* opposed to us than with that paper in our ranks?" We answer, simply because the Whig party is based upon fixed *principles*; and just as certain as "truth is mighty and must prevail," so certain is it, that every attempt to sustain our cause by falsehood, not only reflects dishonor upon all engaged in it, but seriously impedes our success.—*New N. Courier and Enquirer.*

So, so, Mr. Courier, you mean that you took the whole principal of fifty two thousand yourself, and poor Noah got none of it. That we knew before. But it is hard now, since you were both bought together by Mr. Biddle, that you should kick him back to the Jackson party because he got neither principal nor interest by the sale.

Riches the test of Merit.—Nothing daunted by the opprobrium which the promulgation of this of this anti republican doctrine has elicited from the intelligent and the liberal, the whigs are determined to be consistent in support of this one favorite measure, at least.—Every one who has accepted nomination, in this city and elsewhere, has bound himself, hand and foot, to sustain this *liberal* principle. The federalists of Troy (according to the Budget) have publicly declared that no man should be allowed to vote who is not worth $250 in freehold property. "This is the old federal doctrine, and our opponents would be very glad to enforce it just now.—Let the honest, hard working, but poor man think of this—let the young man who inherited nothing but a good character and a sound mind, and who by his daily toil is striving to get an education to qualify himself for business and usefulness—let the industrious mechanic, whose means are limited, and who depends on his labor for support, think of this doctrine and ponder well and long before they help to elevate men to power, who would crush and grind them in the dust if they only had the opportunity and ability.—N. Y. Daily News.