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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1846.

Papers from the Department of State,
Accompanying the President's Message.

CONSULATE OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA,
Mexico, April 26, 1846.

Sir: I have the honor to enclose herewith a printed plan, and copy of a communication of Gen. Santa Anna, addressed to a friend in Mexico, dated 8th of March, to which is added a note under date of the 8th of April last, relating to the political regeneration of Mexico. The plan has been secretly circulated amongst the leaders of the federal party, and adopted by them: a resolution to put this plan into operation was to have been commenced in Vera Cruz on the 1st of this month; but owing to some difference of opinion, which took place among the chiefs at the time, the thing failed to be carried into effect. Notwithstanding, Gen. Alvarez, who was in the plan, and who was to have acted simultaneously in concert with the movement intended to have commenced in Vera Cruz, afterwards made a pronouncement in the south of this department for the re-organization of the present government, and for the re-organization of the present government, composed of Generals Santa Anna, Herrera and Razon, to occupy the seat of government until a free election could be made a President by the people. If this pronouncement intended to have been commenced at Vera Cruz, had gone into effect, it would have been followed by nearly all the departments; and the thing to take place, the departments were not moved in this affair; although a very great majority of the people are strongly opposed to the present order of things, and would willingly by any means in their power to lead to the destruction of the present government, and are anxious to see working for the establishment of a monarchy, and intend to call foreign intervention to secure and maintain the same.

It is the opinion of many of the liberals, that the Congress meet (which is to be the 1st of the month) will establish a constitutional form of government, and call in foreign aid. This they think will have the semblance of a monarchy, and therefore, their desire that a monarchy be put down is a mere pretext to call in foreign aid, and intend to call foreign intervention to secure and maintain the same.

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every thing connected with the question of Texas, and the other frontier departments.
Art. 3. Within four months after the occupation of the capital of the republic by the liberating forces, the Congress mentioned in the preceding article shall be assembled: to which end it shall be the duty of the general-in-chief to issue a decree of summons in the terms herein indicated, and to take other measures for the conduct of the elections, with the utmost freedom possible.

Art. 4. The existence of the army is guaranteed, giving to it all the attention which is due to the meritorious military class of a free people.
Art. 5. All persons shall be declared traitors to the nation who shall attempt to impede the assembling of the said Congress, or to attack it by placing obstacles to the liberty of its members, by dissolving or suspending its sessions, or who shall endeavor to oppose the constitution which it may establish.

Translation of a letter from General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.
March 8, 1846.

To Sr. D. *****—My esteemed friend: As the situation of the republic is daily becoming more critical, and envolved as it is by serious wars, no order of things could be as yet established sufficient to meet its exigencies, and to restore its force, so as to preserve it from the scorn of all foreign nations, the occasion is now offered, my esteemed friend, for making a strong effort, by uniting all good Mexicans in the re-establishment of its system, agreeably to the wishes and the interests of the masses.

The love of provincial liberties being firmly rooted in the minds of all, and the democratic principle predominating everywhere, nothing can be established in a solid manner, in the country, which does not conform with these tendencies; nor without them, can we attain either order, peace, or prosperity, or respectability among foreign nations.

To draw everything to the centre, and thus to give unity of action to the republic, as I at one time considered best, is no longer possible; my more, I say it is dangerous: it is contrary to the object which I proposed for myself, to the unitarian system, because we thereby expose ourselves to the separation of the northern departments, which are the most clamorous for freedom of internal administration.

Seeing always what seemed to be most advantageous to the nation, I have resolutely maintained views which, if they have not led to favorable results, have been the offspring of sincerity and good faith. Facts have since convinced me, that by following them longer, nothing could be settled, and the co-operation of the people could not be secured, in order to preserve us from the terrible invasion with which we are threatened from the north; because, not content with any of the institutions given to them since 1834, they oppose at last a force of inertia, which renders every proceeding difficult and ineffective.

I have nevertheless persuaded myself of the necessity of changing the course of things, and returning to the track from which we have strayed, and by so doing, I have succeeded in removing aside all that could embarrass their action. In two words, I become persuaded, that, without leaving the republic at liberty to organize its own system in the manner which it considered best, and submitting to the ideas of the age, according to which all the branches of our administration should be adapted, we should never attain prosperity, nor should we preserve our national existence from the ambitious efforts of our northern neighbors, which can only be restrained by principles, and by principles which they themselves have set before us with the happiest results.

To this subject I was directing my efforts when the events of December, 1844, came upon me, in which the liberals also took part, probably, but not having comprehended me. They should not have been so precipitous; for they had the guarantee of those by whom I was surrounded in my last administration; and if I was not explicit as to my designs, they should reflect that my position being then very embarrassing, I could not have declared myself fully without hazarding the success of my enterprise.

having opposed the free organization of the republic by the people, I am anxious, on retiring forever from the political scene, to mark this solemn act of my life by authorizing, with my signature, the fundamental code of the nation. After giving to the people a decisive proof of my respect and devotion to their sovereign will, and having concluded this act by which I desire to reconcile myself with my country, I will not remain twenty-four hours in power; it being my irrevocable determination never from that moment to return to the exercise of authority, limiting myself wholly to my service as a soldier in support of the constitution thus established by me, and in defence of the rights of the republic against foreign nations.

It will, however, be necessary, in all respects, to proceed with the utmost caution; for if our project should be discovered by the army, which is adverse to the federal system, we should find great difficulty in establishing it; and much address will be therefore required to prepare the minds of the republic by adopting a plan in which that name should appear, and which may yet lead us to our proposed end—which end, so far as I am concerned, is, repeat on my word of honor, none other than the re-establishment of what was overthrown in 1834, strengthened by such improvements and additions as experience may have suggested to us. You may, however, proclaim the assembling of a convention, composed of deputies elected by the nation, with the utmost possible freedom, for the organization of a system of government on the terms which the nation may prefer, excluding only the monarchical form which it detests.

In conclusion, it is material that no time should be lost, as we may thus lose the most brilliant occasion which could be presented. Send me an agent, active and exact, to communicate to me your ideas, and let me know the resources which you can command in your own as well as in other departments, so that with all the circumstances before us, we may arrange our first measures. For my own part, I have made many preparations, and I feel confident of the aid of Yucatan; but I wish nothing to be undertaken unless with the concurrence of the most influential persons among the people.

Let our device in the future be the union of the people and the army, as it was in 1832; considering that we are now to defend the same cause; and upon this point, one of the persons on whom we should in my opinion rely, is his excellency Gen. Don Juan Alvarez, who will never compromise with the monarchists. If you should have an opportunity to write to him, in my name, and show him the necessity for our union, in order to destroy the advancement of tyranny, which alarms me more as I see and feel the preparations now in progress among the old masters of our country, to support the designs of Paredes, Alaman, and the others of that faction. This keeps me constantly uneasy; and, indeed, I feel so little assurance of safety here, that I am prepared to quit this island.

The manifestations which you may have recently seen in the newspapers have alarmed these gentlemen here. Let General Alvarez be assured, that in political matters I am superior to all personal considerations. I say to him, whose merits and services render him worthy of the consideration of all patriots, no more than I say to the humblest Mexican, that I will receive him with open arms. Write to him, and assure him that I shall be most happy to see his letters, as well as to continue with him our ancient relations.

Farewell, and command your most affectionate friend and servant, &c.
A. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
[He, (General Santa Anna,) sent a plan conformable with his ideas, as manifested in this letter; and some intrigues, instigated by General Almonte, added to it in every part, and disguised it throughout in its sense and its object. Thus the revolution which was about to be commenced at Vera Cruz was rendered vain. Santa Anna was informed of the circumstances, and he reprobated such conduct, sending his own plan with the following note: "It will be understood that this explanatory memorandum is by the person from whom the copy of General Santa Anna's letter and note was obtained by Mr. Black."]]

NOTE.—This plan being the only proper one for the regeneration of the republic, and for placing it in the way of preservation, I could not, and should not conform to the fourteen articles which I have seen printed, and which not only modify, but almost destroy the preceding ones. I, therefore, now write to my correspondents, requesting them to urge my friends, and those who are sincerely attached to our country, adhere strictly to this plan for promotion of the regeneration of our country; with the understanding that neither my honor, solemnly pledged, nor my patriotism, allow me to accept the slightest alteration either in his letter or in its spirit. I make this frank and honest explanation because I do not wish my patriotic intentions to be abused, nor to have myself placed in contradiction with myself, by the presentation of different plans. In consequence of this writing, to which I give authority by my signature.
A. L. DE SANTA ANNA.
HAVANA, April 8, 1846.
P. S.—The person who delivers this letter, through whose agency it is sent, is not informed of its contents.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 27, 1846.

Sir—The President of the United States, no less anxious to terminate than he was to avoid, the present unhappy war with the Mexican republic, has determined to make an effort to accomplish this purpose. He has accordingly instructed the undersigned, Secretary of State, to propose, through your negotiations, to the Mexican government, that negotiations shall forthwith commence for the conclusion of a peace just and honorable for both parties.—Should this offer be received and responded to by the Mexican government in the same frank and friendly spirit by which it has been conveyed, he will immediately dispatch an extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the city of Mexico, with instructions—and full powers to conclude a treaty of peace which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between the two republics. If the Mexican government should prefer to send a minister to Washington to conduct the negotiations here, he shall be received with kindness and respect, and every effort shall be made to accomplish the object of his mission with the least possible delay.

In the present communication it is deemed useless, and it might prove injurious, to discuss the causes of the existing war. This might tend to delay or defeat the restoration of peace. The past is already consigned to history; the future, under Providence, is within our power.

The occasion may, however, be embraced to state that the President has ever cherished the kindest feelings for Mexico, and that one of the first wishes of his heart is, that she may be a powerful and prosperous republic, in perpetual amity with the U. States.

Commodore Conner will transmit this despatch, for your excellency, to the Government of Vera Cruz, under a flag of truce; and you are respectfully invited to adopt the same channel for communicating your answer.
I avail myself of this occasion to offer your excellency the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.
JAMES BUCHANAN.

To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic.

[TRANSLATION.]
NATIONAL PALACE, Mexico,
August 31, 1846.

Sir: The undersigned, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic, has submitted to his Excellency the General-in-Chief of the liberating army, charged a *littera* with the supreme executive power of the nation, your excellency's note of the 27th of the past month of July, in which you propose, on the part of your government, to open negotiations which may tend to the conclusion of peace just and honorable to both countries.

His excellency, on being made acquainted with the terms of the said note, could not but fix his attention strongly on the circumstance that, refusing discussion upon the causes of the war existing between the two republics, it is desired at present to consider those causes merely as a thing that is past, and belongs to history. For the executive to accept such a proposition, on that basis, when dealing with a subject which concerns the honor of the country and the integrity of its territory, and endangers its nationality for the future, would be to waive the question of its justice, and to complete the irritation of public opinion, already highly alarmed, as is proved by the discussions which have taken place on the subject, through fear that the question might receive the solution now suggested. Thus it is that the affairs of the republic, having been brought, by those same causes, to the situation in which they now are with regard to the United States, it has been necessary to call upon the nation, in order that, through representatives elected with the fullest liberty, her fate may be deliberated upon, her security, her honor, and her future welfare provided for. A congress having been convened for this object, which will commence its sessions on the 6th of December next, and that body will charge itself, among other important matters, with all that relates to the war with the United States, it will be the above mentioned note from your excellency be submitted, in order that it may determine upon what it shall judge to be proper for the interests of the nation. The government of the undersigned, in consequence, awaits the determination of that assembly, in order to give the best coming answer to the essential part of the said communication, the relations of Mexico with your republic remaining meanwhile in the same state in which his Excellency, the General-in-Chief of the liberating army, found them when he assumed the charge of the executive power of the nation.

The undersigned, in transmitting this answer of his government, dispatching it to your excellency through the channel which you indicate, avails himself of this opportunity to assure you of his distinguished consideration.
MANUEL CRISTÓBAL ROMERO,
To His Excellency the Minister Foreign Relations of the United States of America.

To His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the U. States, has had the honor to receive the communication of his excellency, the minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican republic, dated on the 31st of August, in answer to the proposition made by the undersigned to the Mexican government in his note of the 27th July last, that negotiations shall forthwith commence for the conclusion of a peace just and honorable for both parties.

This note declared, in express terms, that it was the desire of the President to conclude a treaty of peace which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between the two republics. These questions had all existed before Mexico commenced hostilities, and to adjust these questions was the avowed object of the proposed negotiation. It is, then, with no little astonishment that the President has perceived from the communication of his excellency, that the Mexican government had so far misapprehended the meaning of the undersigned as to suppose that this government either desired or intended to withdraw from the negotiations for peace the causes, on either side, which led to the existing war, and to consider them merely "as a thing that is past and belongs to history." Very far from it. This would have been to abandon the just and acknowledged claims of our injured citizens, for violations of their personal liberty and seizures of their property, continued throughout many successive years, and which, in the opinion of President Jackson, so long ago as February, 1837, would have justified "in the eyes of all nations immediate war."

markable as it is an inference drawn by them from that part of the note of the undersigned which was intended as a mere preliminary to the opening of negotiations, it was desirable to avoid all irritating topics. For this reason the language employed was: "In the present communication, it is deemed needless, and it might prove injurious, to discuss the causes of the existing war. This might tend to delay or defeat the restoration of peace." The past is already consigned to history; the future, under Providence, is within our own power. And yet it is from this last sentence, disconnected from all which precedes it, that the Mexican government have inferred a disposition on the part of the government of the United States to avoid, in the progress of the negotiation, the discussion of the questions out of which the war originated. It is most certain that no such disposition exists; and the undersigned feels assured that he need add nothing more to convince the Mexican government that, in this particular, they have placed an erroneous construction on his language.

Conscious that in making the overture for peace he has performed his duty, the President will now await with patience and with hope the final decision of the Mexican government. In making this overture thus early, he was in no small degree influenced by the consideration that the longer the war shall last, the greater will be the difficulty of concluding a satisfactory peace, on account of the heavy increased expenditure which its continuance will render indispensable. He will, however, hold himself always ready to terminate it upon principles of impartial justice. Having, in the first instance, used all proper efforts to avoid hostilities, and having now proposed to open negotiations for the conclusion of a just and honorable peace, nothing is left for him but to acquiesce in the decision communicated by your excellency, that until changed by the act of the Mexican Congress, the relations between the two countries will remain "in the same state in which they were found by his excellency the commander-in-chief of the liberating army when he took charge of the executive power of the nation."

In the attitude thus assumed by Mexico, the U. States can appeal to the whole world that alternative remains for them but to prosecute the war with vigor, until the disposition which they have so signally manifested to bring it to a speedy termination shall be met by a corresponding sentiment on the part of Mexico, and the negotiation which they have invited shall be brought to a happy conclusion.

The undersigned avails himself of the present occasion to offer to his excellency the minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican republic the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.
JAMES BUCHANAN,
Department of State, Washington, 28th Sept. 1846.

Old Fellows.

We like the Old Fellows on many accounts—though not of their number, ourselves. If there is childlessness in their ceremonies, as some allege, there is dignity, too, in the manner of performing them, and something even more beautiful than mere dignity in their moral bearing and influence. As an association, Old Fellows accomplish something—and something frequently, worthy of men—something tending to raise up humanity, and make it respect itself and have confidence in its strength, as well as to do as to resist—as well to remove upward as onward.

They understand or appear to understand human nature—a thing not any too generally understood, we fancy, by those who would give direction to human thought. Thus they mix poetry with their prose—recreation with their labor—and blend the beautiful with the substantial in their exertions. They bury their dead—not the "Town" buries its pauper—but as the king buries his subject—not as puffed-up wealth buries crushed-down poverty—but as brother buries brother—as humanity commits humanity to dust and to its God. They minister to the afflicted—to the sick and poor. Some say they do it, not in charity—not in the spirit of gift from a fortunate to an unfortunate man—but as an insurance company pays over to the insured the value of his lost property. So much the better; for now the recipient feels that he is only getting his due; his right. Charity, as it has got to be understood in this selfish world of ours, might enslave him, or make him blush for his poverty; it might be turned to base uses by the dispenser of it, and make a tyrant of no one.

The regular Old Fellowship, the sashes, collars, aprons, crooks, and banners, are deemed objectionable by some, because they are resorted to all appearances. So are the rings, pins, and brooches of a fashionable lady, useless, in the same sense. So is very much of the ornamental in our churches and parlors. They, in this restricted sense, is that we pay our money for—half we live for. The surplus of the priest, the uniform of the soldier, the crown of the king, all these might be dispensed with; we wish to become Quakers or ascetics; but we should find it hard while human nature remains as it is, to dispense wholly with ornaments, or with distinguishing marks quite as needless as those employed by Old Fellows. Human nature is not made up of rough rocks and unshewn stones.

Old Fellows may have their little differences—their bickerings, for aught we know—but they keep them to themselves, and settle them amongst themselves. The community has never been excited or divided with any quarrel of theirs. They never attack any one, or any sect, or any party, that we know of. They do not, that we know of, violate the laws of the land, or the rules of right, or the ordinary proprieties of life. They build halls, and decorate them tastefully—hold frequent meetings, parade in the streets, go on excursions, and have celebrations, just as any association of the kind must do, or die. For our, we make no objection to it; we rather think well of it. *Philadelphia Sentinel.*

The Slave's Dream.
BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

Beside the ungathered rice he lay,
With sickle in his hand;
His breast was bare, his matted hair
Was buried in the sand,
Again, in the mist and shadow of sleep,
He saw his native land.
Wide through the landscape of his dreams
The lordly Niger flowed;
Beneath the palm-trees on the plain
Once more a king he strode;
And heard the tinkling caravans
Descend the mountain road.
He saw once more his dark-eyed queen
Among her children stand;
They clasped his neck, they kissed his cheeks
They held him by the hand!—
A tear burst from the sleeper's lids
And fell into the sand.
And then at furious speed he rode
Along the Niger's bank;
His bride-reins were golden chains,
And with a martial clank,
At each leap he could feel his scabbard of steel
Smiting his station's flank.
Before him, like a blood-red flag,
The bright flammeos flew;
From morn till night he followed their flight,
O'er plains where the tamarind grew,
Till he saw the roof of Caffre huts,
And the ocean rose to view.
At night he heard the lion roar,
And the hyena scream,
And the river horse, as he crashed the reeds
Beside some hidden stream,
And it passed, like a glorious roll of drums,
Through the triumph of his dream.
The forests, with their myriad tongues,
Shouted of liberty;
And the Blast of the Desert cried aloud,
With a voice so wild and free,
That he started in his sleep and smiled
At their tempestuous glee.
He did not feel the driver's whip,
Nor the burning heat of day;
For Death had illumined the Land of Sleep,
And his lifeless body lay,
A worn out fetter, that the soul
Had broken and thrown away.

A DYING MOTHER'S LOVE.—The plague broke out in a little Italian village. In one house the children were taken first; the parents watched over them, but only caught the disease they could not cure. The whole family died. On the opposite side of the way lived the family of a poor laborer, who was absent the whole week; only coming on Saturday nights to bring his scanty earnings. His wife felt herself attacked by the fever in the night; in the morning she was much worse, and before night the plague spot showed itself. She thought of the terrible fate of her neighbors.—"She knew she must die, but as she looked upon her dear little boys, she resolved not to communicate death to them. She therefore locked the children into the room, and established her bedchamber, lest they should keep the contagion behind her, and left the house. She even denied herself the sad pleasure of a last embrace.

O think of the heroism that enabled her to conquer her feelings, and leave home and all she loved, to die! Her eldest child saw her from the window. "Good bye, mother," said he, with his tenderest tone, for he wondered why his mother left him so strangely.—"Good bye, mother," repeated the youngest child, stretching his little hand out of the window. The mother pines; her heart was drawn towards her children, and she was on the point of returning back; she struggled hard, while the tears rolled down her cheeks at the sight of her helpless babes. At length she turned from them. The children continued to cry, "Good bye, mother." The sounds sent a thrill of anguish in her heart; but she pressed on to the house of those who were to bury her. In two days she died, recommending her husband and children to their care with her last breath.
O that mothers were as careful not to impart the worst contagion of sin to their children!

COMPLAINTS OF LIFE.—Those who most complain of life are those who have made it disagreeable. Some men stuff their beds with thorns of remorse instead of the down of repose, and when they lie on them they roar with agony they have inflicted on themselves. As reasonably might the ass complain of the thistles which wound his mouth when he persists in chewing them. Those who most feel the load of life complain the least of it.

There are virtues which admit of no description, which inspire on the first mention of them but little interest. Great faults and heroic qualities may be portrayed; but those milder merits, which contribute so much to the comfort and happiness of life, that sweetness of disposition, to which every hour that passes by bears an approving testimony, can be only felt, enjoyed and regretted. Benevolence that never fails, patience under the heaviest calamities, firmness in friendship, under every trying change—these are among its characteristic features.

END OF THE STRIKE.—The carpet weavers at Thompsonville, went to work last week.—The prices were compromised between them and the employers, and fixed at 15 1-2 per cent reduction from the old prices.

A German paper advertises a trotting match to come off on Sunday, immediately after divine service.
How expressive is that sentiment of an infant Apollo on a winged mat of conscience—"Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."