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FROM WASHINGTON

Washington, April 29.

The special correspondent of the

Times says:

I am convinced that my theory

of the real purpose of the recent visit

of the French Minister to Richmond, contained

in a recent letter, is not far from the truth.

The developments of the Emperor Napoleon's

policy towards Mexico, which are now

coming to light, will perhaps furnish

a key to the whole mystery. It is evident

that Napoleon intends to prosecute his

designs on Mexico with vigor and dispatch,

and to take possession of a good portion

of the Mexican territory. He is abundantly

able to execute that design. The United

States, if united, could and would prevent

this, for it is a palpable violation of the

principles of the Monroe doctrine, which

doctrine our government is bound in honor

to maintain, and which a democratic ad-

ministration would have maintained. But,

divided by this civil war, and all our en-

ergies absorbed in a war for the restoration

of the Union, we are powerless to prevent

this, or any other similar outrage. For

the sake of giving liberty to a few con-

tented and happy negroes, the republican

party has deprived the nation of the power

of national resistance. It is the duty

of those who are well informed on the

subject, that the complete success of Na-

oleon's designs on Mexico requires, in

some way, the co-operation of the United

States, and that he effect that co-opera-

tion by making a secret treaty with the

rebel government. It is conjectured that

by the terms of this treaty, Napoleon is to

recognize the independence of the Southern

Confederacy, and that they in return are

to give him a complete monopoly of all

his productions, or such commercial ad-

vantages as may be mutually agreed upon.

That such a treaty has been made, or

at least that it is in the course of

negotiation, is firmly believed by those who

are not usually at fault in matters connected

with French diplomacy. Time will show the

correctness, or otherwise, of these views.

Rebel Spies at Yorktown.

Three rebel spies were captured on Sat-

urday last, by the outside pickets of our

extreme left wing, in front of Yorktown.

They were dressed in the uniform of Uni-

ted States soldiers, and said they were

members of a certain Maine regiment vol-

unteers. They had forgotten the Colo-

nel's name, but knew him if they saw him.

Unfortunately for them, they were being

impounded and questioned by said Colo-

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