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WHOLE NO. 79.

EVERY DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IS NOT A DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE.

Advertisements for one month... Terms of Advertising

Miscellany

THE WIFE OF AUDUBON.

Mr. Audubon married early, a daughter of the Bakers of England. The family name, so well known in this country, is a sufficient proclamation of her probable worthiness to share the fortunes of such a man.

So far from this being the case, she appears to have been so entirely identified with his successes, that it would be impossible to separate her from our pleasing recognition of them.

How many a dark hour amidst the deep shadows of savage woods has such a trust made forests luminous with joy to him.

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

[The United Service Journal gives the following anecdote of the Emperor of Russia, illustrative of his character and habits.]

It is frequently met on foot in the streets, absolutely alone, and the immediate contact in which he comes with his subjects of every degree, is sometimes the occasion of drawing forth his affability, and proving the kindness of his nature.

He happened once, as he was thus walking alone, that he came up with a Frenchman newly arrived at St. Petersburg, who, ignorant of the reciprocal considerations due from man to man, was smoking his cigar.

"You appear, Monsieur, to possess a large acquaintance." "That is a fact," said the Emperor.

"I have been happy to afford information to a stranger, but you are mistaken in supposing me to be the Governor-General."

"Why then do all persons whom we meet salute you?" "Because I am the Emperor."

A SHORT LOVE STORY.

A young attorney who was desirous of entering the holy state of matrimony, and had turned his attention to the "gilded" beauties of the day; selected, at length, for particular address, a young lady who was reported rich, as well in the matter of "lure" as in mental and personal attractions.

Yankee Doodle in Mexico.

"Mustangs" favors his renders with the following graphic picture of "Yankee Doodle in the theatre."

October 8.—Last night we had an eccentric scene at the theatre. Between the pieces the orchestra, which is really a very fine one, gave us two or three beautiful airs, and concluded with a Mexican national air.

It is sufficient on the present occasion to say, that the wanton violation of the rights of person and property of our citizens committed by Mexico, her repeated acts of bad faith through a long series of years, and her disregard of solemn treaties, stipulating for indemnifying to our injured citizens, not only constituted ample cause of war on our part, but were of such an aggravated character as would have justified us before the world in resorting to this extreme remedy.

Though the United States were the aggrieved nation, Mexico commenced the war, and we were compelled, in self-defence, to repel the invader, and to vindicate the national honor and interests by prosecuting it with vigor, until we could obtain a just and honorable peace.

On learning that hostilities had been commenced by Mexico, I promptly communicated that fact, accompanied with a succinct statement of our other causes of complaint against Mexico, to Congress; and that body, by the act of the 13th of May, 1846, declared that "by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that government and the United States."

Anteports.—A celebrated lawyer in this State, riding through a country town, stopped at a cottage to inquire his way.—The old woman at the house told him he must keep on straight for some way, and that turn to the right; but said that she herself was going to pass the road that he took, and that if he would wait a few minutes till she could get her horse ready, she would show him the way.

Reveling in the Halls of the Montezuma.—An officer of the South Carolina volunteers writes from the National Palace of Mexico, under date of Oct. 16th, as follows:—"Much has been said about reveling in the Halls of the Montezuma, but we have seen but little of it."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives:

The annual meeting of Congress is always an interesting event. The Representatives of the States, and of the People come fresh from their constituents to take counsel together for the common good.

No country has been so much favored, or should acknowledge with deeper reverence the manifestations of Divine protection. An all-wise Creator directed and guided us in our infant struggle for freedom, and has constantly watched over our surprising progress, until we have become one of the great nations of the earth.

It is in a country thus favored, and under a government in which the executive and legislative branches hold their authority for limited periods, alike from the people, and where all are responsible to their respective constituencies, that it is again my duty to communicate with Congress upon the state of the Union, and the present condition of public affairs.

During the past year the most gratifying proofs are presented that our country has been blessed with a wide spread and universal prosperity. There has been no period since the government was founded, when all its industrial pursuits of our people have been more successful, or when labor in all its branches of business has received a firmer or better reward.

No change has taken place in our relations with Mexico since the adjournment of the last Congress. The war in which the United States were forced to engage with the government of that country, still continues.

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Our army pursued its march upon the capital, and it is approached it, was met by formidable resistance. Our forces first encountered the enemy, and achieved great victories in the severely contested battles of Contreras and Churubusco.

The doctrine of no territory is the doctrine of no indemnity; and if sanctioned, would be a public acknowledgment that our country was wrong, and that the war declared by Congress, and should be abandoned, an admission unbecoming in fact, and derogatory to the national character.

The terms of the treaty proposed by the United States, was not only just to Mexico, but also to the honor and interest of our country, the establishment and preservation of our Union, and the well-being of our people.

The rapid and brilliant successes of our arms, and the vast extent of the enemy's territory which had been overrun and conquered, before the close of the last session of Congress, were fully known to that body.

While every patriot's heart must exult, and a just national pride animate every bosom, in beholding the high proofs of courage, consummate military skill, steady discipline, and humanity to the vanquished foe, exhibited by our army, the nation is called to mourn over many brave officers and soldiers who have fallen in defence of their country's honor and interests.

Shortly after the adjournment of the last session of Congress, the gratifying intelligence was received of the signal victory of Buena Vista and of the fall of Vera Cruz, and with it the strong castle of San Juan de Ulloa, by which it was defended.

Care was taken to give no instructions to the Commissioner which could in any way interfere with our military operations, or relax our energies in the prosecution of the war.

The Commissioner was also directed, on reaching the army, to deliver to the General in command of the army, the despatch which he bore from the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and on receiving it, the general was instructed by the Secretary of War to cause it to be transmitted to the commander of the Mexican forces, with a request that it might be communicated to his government.

Many weeks elapsed after its receipt, and no overtures were made, nor was any desire by the Mexican government to enter into negotiations for peace.

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The object was to gain time to strengthen the defence of their capital, and to prepare for fresh resistance.

The General in command of the army deemed it expedient to suspend hostilities temporarily, by entering into a truce, with a view to the opening of negotiations. Commissioners were appointed on the part of Mexico, to meet the Commissioner on the part of the United States.

It is well known that the only indemnity which it is in the power of Mexico to make in satisfaction of the just and long deferred claims of our citizens against her, and the only means by which she can reimburse the United States for the expenses of the war, is a cession to the United States of a portion of her territory.

A state of war abrogates treaties previously existing between the belligerents, and a treaty of peace puts an end to all claims for indemnity—for tortious acts committed, under the authority of one government against the citizens or subjects of another, unless they are provided for in its stipulations.

A treaty of peace should settle all existing difficulties between the two countries. If an adequate cession of territory should be made, by such a treaty, the United States should release Mexico from all her liabilities, and assume their payment to our own citizens.

He was not directed to make any new overtures of peace, but was the bearer of a despatch from the Secretary of State of the United States to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, in reply to one received from the latter of the 22nd of February, 1847, in which the Mexican government had refused his appointment, and of his presence at the headquarters of our army, and that he was clothed with full powers to conclude a definite treaty of peace, whenever the Mexican government might signify a desire to do so.

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volok commencement of hostilities by the expenses of the war to which we have been subjected, and the success which has attended our arms, were deemed to be of a most liberal character.

The Commissioner of the United States was authorized to the establishment of the Rio Grande as the boundary, from its entrance into the Gulf to its intersection with the northern boundary of New Mexico, in north latitude about thirty-two degrees, and to obtain a cession to the United States of the provinces of New Mexico and the California, and the privilege of the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

That it might be manifest not only to Mexico, but to all other nations, that the United States were not disposed to take advantage of a feeble power, by insisting upon wresting from her all the other provinces, including many of her principal towns and cities, which we had conquered and held in our military occupation, but were willing to conclude a treaty in a spirit of liberality, our commissioner was authorized to stipulate for the restoration of all our other conquests.

As the territory to be acquired by the boundary proposed might be estimated to be of greater value than a fair equivalent to our just demands, our commissioner was authorized to stipulate for the payment of such additional pecuniary consideration as might be deemed reasonable.

The terms of a treaty proposed by the Mexican Commissioners were wholly inadmissible. They negotiated as if Mexico was the victorious instead of the vanquished party. They must have known that their ultimatum could never be accepted.

It contains no provision for the payment by Mexico of the just claims of our citizens, for injuries they may have sustained by our troops in the prosecution of the war; it demanded the right for Mexico to levy and collect the Mexican tariff of duties on goods imported into her ports while in our military occupation during the war, and the owners of which had paid to officers of the United States the military contributions which had been levied upon them; and it offered to cede to the United States, for a pecuniary consideration, that part of Upper California lying north of latitude thirty-seven degrees. Such were the unreasonable terms proposed by the Mexican Commissioners.

The cession to the United States by Mexico of the provinces of New Mexico and the California, as proposed by the Commissioner of the United States, it was believed, would be more in accordance with the convenience and interests of both nations, than any other cession of territory which it was probable Mexico could be induced to make.

It is manifest to all who have observed the condition of the Mexican government, for some years past, and at present, that if these provinces should be retained by her, she could not long continue to hold and govern them. Mexico is too feeble a power to govern these provinces, lying as they do, at a distance of more than a thousand miles from her capital, and if attempted to be retained by her, they would constitute but for a short time, even nominally, a part of her dominions.

It should especially be the case with Upper California. The sagacity of powerful European nations has long since directed their attention to the commercial importance of that province, and there can be little doubt that the moment the United States shall relinquish their present occupation of it, and their claim to it as an indemnity, an effort would be made by some foreign Power to possess it, either by conquest or purchase.

If no foreign government should acquire it in either of these modes, an independent revolutionary government would probably be established by the inhabitants, and such foreigners as may remain in or remove to the country, as soon as it shall be known that the United States have abandoned it. Such a government would be too feeble long to maintain its separate independent existence, and would finally become annexed to, or a dependent colony of some more powerful State.

Should any foreign power attempt to possess it as a colony, or otherwise to incorporate it with itself, the principle avowed by President Monroe in 1823, and reaffirmed in my first annual message, that no foreign power shall, with our consent, be permitted to plant or establish any new colony or dominion on any part of the North American continent, must be insisted in maintaining their principle, and in resisting its invasion by any foreign power, we might be involved in other wars more expensive and more difficult than that in which we are now engaged.

The provinces of New Mexico and the California are contiguous to the territories of the United States, and if brought under our laws, their resources—mineral, agricultural, manufacturing and commercial—would be developed.

Upper California is bounded on the north by our Oregon possessions; and if held by the United States, would not be settled by a needy, enterprising and intelligent portion of our population. The Bay of San Francisco, and other harbors along the California coast, would afford shelter for our navy for our numerous whaling ships, and other merchant vessels employed in the Pacific Ocean, and would, in a short time, become the theatre of extensive and profitable commerce with China and the East Indies.