

No. 1.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MR. ROMERO ON MAXIMILIAN.

*Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.*DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *April 6, 1867.*

Mr. Seward presents his compliments to Mr. Romero, and will thank him to countersign the accompanying passport, and return the same by the bearer.

*Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.*WASHINGTON, *April 6, 1867.*

Mr. Romero presents his compliments to Mr. Seward, and has the pleasure of returning to him, countersigned, the accompanying passport of Frederick Hotze, esq., bearing despatches from the State Department to the President of Mexico.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c. &c. &c.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Department of State.

No. 525.]

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Know ye, that the bearer hereof, Frederick Hotze, esq., is proceeding to Mexico, bearing despatches from this department to the President of that republic. These are therefore to request all whom it may concern to permit him to pass freely, without let or molestation, and to extend to him such friendly aid and protection, as would be extended to citizens and subjects of foreign countries, resorting to the United States, bearing despatches from their governments.

In testimony whereof I, William H. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States of America, have hereunto set and caused the seal of this department [L. S.] to be affixed at Washington, this sixth day of April, A. D. 1866, and of the independence of the United States the ninety-first.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

[Endorsement.]

LEGACION MEXICANA EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Visado en esta legacion con esta fecha. Washington, Abril 6, de 1867.
[L. S.]IGNO MARISCAL,
*Secretario de la Legacion.**Mr. Diaz to Mr. Romero.*

(With compliments of Matias Romero.)

NEW ORLEANS, *April 30, 1867.*Mr. M. ROMERO,
Mexican Minister, Washington City, D. C.:

Miramón dead, imperial forces disbanded, Marquez defeated, Queretaro taken, Maximilian hidden.

RAMON S. DIAZ,
*Mexican Consul.**Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.*DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 4, 1867.

The Secretary of State has the honor to thank Mr. Romero for the unofficial copy of the telegram of the 30th ultimo, from the Mexican consul at New Orleans, relating to the late news from Mexico.

*Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.*WASHINGTON, *May 13, 1867.*

MY DEAR MR. SEWARD: I enclose to you a map* showing the position of the Mexican army around Queretaro, which I received by the last mail from San Luis Potosi.

I am, sir, very truly yours,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

*Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.*DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 15, 1867.

Mr. Seward presents his compliments to Mr. Romero, and has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Romero's verbal note of the 13th instant, enclosing a copy of the military position at Queretaro. Mr. Seward thanks very much Mr. Romero's kindness in sending the map to the department.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Memorandum.—Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 20, 1867.

Mr. Romero called on Mr. Seward to-day to inform him that he received a communication yesterday from his government, enclosing a copy of Mr. Lerdo de Tejada's reply of the 22d of April last, to Mr. Campbell's letter to him from New Orleans on the 6th of the same month, in accordance with instructions from the Department of State, to intercede for the ex-Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian and his partisans in Mexico. A Spanish copy of said reply is appended to this memorandum.

Fearing that the government of the United States might be misinformed in regard to what had occurred in Mexico concerning the shooting of certain persons, Mr. Romero said he was instructed to inform Mr. Seward of the antecedents of the war, of all that had occurred during its existence, and what might be considered the duties of the Mexican government; that although Mr. Romero

*Map retained at Department of State.

was satisfied that the government of the United States was aware of all, as he had taken particular care to communicate events in writing, even to minuteness, he thought proper, in fulfilment of his instructions, to make the following explanations :

The government of Mexico has not adopted the system of shooting the prisoners it takes from its enemies. Laying aside the question of the right to shoot them under peculiar and aggravating circumstances, such as have occurred during this war, and especially after the departure of the French, up to the present time, they have not been shot from the mere fact that they are fighting against Mexico.

While the French carried on the war, they shot most all the prisoners they captured, either by court-martial, by executing them secretly, or in virtue of the so-called decree of the usurper Maximilian of the 3d of October, 1865. The government of Mexico never desired to make reprisals; on the contrary, it often expressed its willingness to accept a system of exchange, to be extended to all prisoners captured on both sides. The French would never agree to this, and only when they wished to exchange a particular person, would they make application for a partial exchange, which was never refused by the Mexican generals. In the correspondence which Mr. Romero has sent to the Department of State are several cases where the Mexican government treated its prisoners of war with great lenity, particularly French and Belgians.

Mr. Romero has no knowledge of the execution of prisoners of war, except those at San Jacinto, and a few chiefs and officers at Puebla. In regard to the first it is known that the number of prisoners taken at San Jacinto was five or six times as many as were executed, and of course the majority were not executed, and those that were killed were not killed merely because they were making war against Mexico, but because they had committed crimes of all kinds in Zacatecas during the three days they remained there.

In regard to the executions at Puebla, although Mr. Romero has received no official information to confirm them, supposing them to be true, he believes, taking into consideration the well-known integrity of General Diaz, they were visited upon military chieftains who deserved the penalty by the laws of war, as for instance, if, belonging to the army of the republic, they betrayed their flag, and carried their forces over to the enemy. When persons of that sort are captured by the forces they desert, it is not strange they are treated with all the severity of military law common to all nations.

Mr. Lerdo de Tejada to Mr. Campbell.

SAN LUIS POTOSI, MEXICO, *April 22, 1867.*

SIR: Yesterday I had the honor to receive your communication of the 6th from New Orleans.

In it you gave the reasons why you were prevented from presenting your credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the President of the republic of Mexico, and why you remained in New Orleans since December last. The government of the republic regrets that those reasons prevented you from presenting your credentials and commencing official relations, for it would be very agreeable to the government to receive you in your character as representative of the United States.

You also informed me that the satisfaction of the government of the United States at the withdrawal of the French forces from Mexico, and the advance of the government army towards the capital, was disturbed by the report of cruelty to the prisoners of war taken at San Jacinto. You also expressed the desire of the government of the United States, in case the Archduke Maximilian and his partisans were captured, that they would be treated humanely as prisoners of war.

The enemies of the republic, wishing to injure it as much as possible, were eager to exaggerate facts, and circulate untruthful reports concerning the prisoners in San Jacinto. The greater portion of them were pardoned, and those that were executed by the chiefs of the republican forces were not shot as prisoners of war, but as guilty by the law of nations and by the laws of the republic. They had given themselves up to untold crimes in the city of Zacatecas, because they were fighting as rangers without country or flag, as mercenaries hired to shed the blood of Mexicans who were defending their liberty and their institutions.

No small number of these foreigners taken in San Jacinto were carried to Zacatecas and there treated with as much benevolence as those taken in Jalisco who were not near so guilty.

It has been the constant practice of the government of the republic, and the commanders of its forces, to respect life and treat the French prisoners with great consideration, while they, by supreme command, assassinated the prisoners taken from the republican forces. French prisoners were often set at liberty without being exchanged.

Many of the principal French chiefs had entire towns burned. Inhabitants were murdered by courts-martial, and often unarmed persons were executed from mere suspicion, without form of trial. Boys and old men, unable to bear arms, were ruthlessly butchered; yet the government of the republic and its chiefs did not resort to reprisals, though sufficient provocation was offered, but have always observed a humane conduct, with examples of the greatest generosity. For that reason the republican cause of Mexico has excited the sympathy of all civilized nations.

After the withdrawal of the French forces, the Archduke Maximilian persisted in his useless attempt to shed more Mexican blood. With the exception of two or three cities which he holds by force, he has seen the whole republic rise up against him. Notwithstanding this, he wants to continue his work of ruin and desolation by an aimless war, surrounded by men well known for their robberies and assassinations, and the deepest dyed in crime of any in the republic. When such persons are captured it is not reasonable to suppose they could be considered as simple prisoners of war, for they are responsible to the law of nations and amenable to the laws of the republic.

The government, which has given numerous proofs of its humanitarian principles and of its sentiments of generosity, has also the obligation to consider, according to the circumstances of the cases, what is required by the principles of justice and its duties to the Mexican people.

The government of the republic hopes that, by the justification of its acts, it will preserve the sympathies of the people and government of the United States, that have always had the greatest esteem for the people and government of Mexico.

I have the honor to be, your most respectful and obedient servant,
LERDO DE TEJADA.

His Excellency Hon. LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,
*Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary from the
U. S. of America to the U. S. of Mexico, New Orleans, La.*

SAN LUIS POTOSI, *April 22, 1867.*

A true copy :

JUAN VALDES,
First Official.

WASHINGTON, *May 20, 1867.*

A true copy :

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 17, 1867.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your memorandum of the 20th of May last, in reference to the treatment of prisoners of war, and also a copy of Señor Lerdo de Tejada's reply of the 22d of April last, to Mr. Campbell's note of the 6th of the same month, for which you will be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, sir, the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c.,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 27, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the enclosed telegram has been received this morning from Mr. Plumb, at New Orleans.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Plumb to Mr. Seward.

[Telegram.—Received at Department of State, May 27, 1867—9.35 a. m.]

NEW ORLEANS, May 26, 1867.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD:

I have this moment received the following despatch by telegraph via Galveston, dated at Matamoras, May 21:

"I have the honor to transmit the following official letter:

"SAN LUIS POTOSI, May 15.

"MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: Vive la Patria! (*the republic lives.*) Queretaro has fallen by force of arms this a. m. at 8 o'clock. Maximilian, Mejia, Castillo, and Miramon are prisoners.

"BENITO JUAREZ.

"General BERRIOZABAL."

"Yours truly,

"M. B. MARSHALL.

"E. L. PLUMB."

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Unofficial.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 27, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of to-day, enclosing for my information copy of a telegram received this morning

at your department, in which the capture of Queretaro by the troops of the Mexican republic is officially announced.

Allow me, my dear sir, to express to you my sincere thanks for your kind and prompt communication of such important news.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.—Unofficial.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, 28th May, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to remit you a translation in English of various fragments of a letter from General Diaz, chief of the eastern military division of the Mexican republic, dated in Guadalupe Hidalgo, the 3d instant, containing various important details of the recent events that have occurred in Mexico.

In reference to the treatment of the Mexican forces to the prisoners they take from the enemy, I think proper to inform you that in one of the copies of the "Boletin de Oriente," which I received with the letter of General Diaz, dated in Guadalupe Hidalgo, on the 29th of April last, I saw an account of the operations of that general, which, in speaking of the prisoners which he captured in Puebal, it is said as follows:

"The general-in-chief ordered all those taken at Miahuatlan and Carbonera, those at the surrender of Oaxaca, and in the assault on Puebla, and those at the forts of Guadalupe and Loreto, to be set at liberty. Among them were more than six hundred Europeans, of various nations. But this release did not imply a pardon, only the leave to reside where they pleased, till the supreme government should definitely decide what was to be done with them."

I am, sir, your very respectful and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

GUADALUPE HIDALGO, May 3, 1867.

MY DEAR FRIEND: When I was besieging Puebla I learned that Marquez was marching upon me with 5,000 men from the city of Mexico. I must candidly confess that at first I hesitated as to the course I should pursue; whether to raise the siege and march to meet Marquez, or await his arrival, or assault the city immediately. I decided on the latter alternative. Success favored the impetuosity of our troops, which, without the necessary training, but moved by their great courage, stormed the fortifications and carried their lines successfully, regardless of the galling fire of their musketry and murderous hand grenades, showered upon us from the balconies and housetops. When the trenches had been carried the defenders of the houses, fearing they might be cut off or attacked in the rear, abandoned them and were made prisoners. The heights in the vicinity were still held by the enemy, but their garrison surrendered on the 4th. I was then free to go and encounter Marquez, which I immediately did on the 5th. The cavalry division harassed him much, barring

him the road to Vera Cruz, in which direction it seemed he desired to proceed; but he countermarched when about three leagues distant from Huamantla, and declining battle, which I offered him on the heights of the San Diego mill, he took the road leading to Mexico. I continued the pursuit of Marquez, though I deemed it difficult to overtake him, as he had the advantage of one day's march over me. General Escobedo, however, had detached General Guadarrama with a division of cavalry in pursuit, to which other forces operating in the valley of Mexico were added, and I sent him orders to cut off Marquez's retreat to Mexico, which he did so successfully that Marquez was compelled to seek shelter at the hacienda De San Lorenzo. When everything had been prepared to attack him he fled by the road leading from Calpulabpam to Texcoco, and he was completely routed.

The defeat of Marquez occurred on the 10th of April, the fourth anniversary of the Austrian's acceptance of the crown. I was determined to attack Mexico at once, and marched upon it, intending to establish my headquarters at Tacubaya; but General Escobedo having recalled the Guadarrama division, I was obliged to change my plan and come to this place. Soon after my arrival, Father Fischer, Maximilian's confessor, came to make me some unacceptable propositions, which I at once rejected. Then the Prussian Princess Salm-Salm, the wife of one of Maximilian's aides-de-camp, came to see me to solicit a safe-conduct to get into Queretaro, saying she would explain to Maximilian the situation of Mexico, and she had no doubt he would surrender Queretaro. I also rejected this proposition; for, in truth, I have no confidence in such proposals.

Before my arrival in front of the city of Mexico, Portilla, who styles himself the minister of war, offered to surrender the city to me if I would give him personal guarantees; and O'Haran sent me the same proposal, adding that he would deliver Marquez to me provided I spared his own life and gave him a passport to go abroad. The villains are treacherous, even towards each other.

We have now all our batteries planted, which protect the approaches to our works, say some two hundred metres from the enemy's fortifications, and we continue our advances in such a manner that the capital of the republic will shortly be in our possession, either by direct assault or capitulation. Within the city there is no violence or extortion that is not resorted to by Marquez in order to raise money and increase his forces. The foreign merchants have all closed their establishments, and are now under the protection of their respective ministers, who have entered their protests against the acts of Marquez; and the newspapers of yesterday state that he was about to issue a severe order against them. The diplomatic corps, it seems, is desirous of leaving the city and going to Tacubaya. As a matter of course, I shall not recognize them in their official character, but as private individuals. I will not prevent them doing so.

Our present situation is an excellent one, since only three places—Mexico, Queretaro and Vera Cruz—are left the Austrian, and these are all closely besieged. Within this month I expect all will be decided in favor of the republic. Distrust and dismay are rife among the traitors; no encounter or skirmish takes place in which they are not worsted, even when they have the advantage of numbers. This increases the *morale* of our soldiers, inspiring them with confidence in every battle, in which our half naked and destitute recruits have vanquished the well trained and better provided troops of the Austrian.

General Bazaine, through a third party, offered to surrender to me the cities which they occupied, and also deliver Maximilian, Marquez, Miramon, &c., into my hands, provided I would accede to a proposal which he made to me, and which I rejected, as I deemed it not very honorable. Another proposition was also made me, by authority of Bazaine, for the purchase of six thousand muskets and four million percussion caps; and if I had desired it he would have sold me both guns and powder, but I declined to accept it. The intervention

and its results have opened our eyes, and hereafter we shall be more cautious in treating with foreign powers; particularly with those of Europe, but especially so with France.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Hon. MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c., *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *May 28, 1867.*

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, June 13, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 28th May last, enclosing a translation of extracts from a letter to you from General Diaz, containing details of recent events in Mexico.

While thanking you for the information thus communicated, I improve the occasion to tender to you the assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Unofficial.]

WASHINGTON, *May 30, 1867.*

MY DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request of yesterday, I enclose to you copy of a telegram from General Escobedo to General Diaz, confirming the capture of Queretaro and Maximilian, which I have just received by the way of Havana.

Most truly yours,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.—Forwarded from Guadalupe Hidalgo, May 16, 1867.—Received at Vera Cruz (Casa Mata) May 16, 1867.]

General BENAVIDES:

General Escobedo telegraphed to me yesterday as follows from Queretaro:

“REPUBLIC OF MEXICO, ARMY OF OPERATIONS,
“*Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief.*

“General DIAZ:

“I have just received at this 7½ p. m. the report which I have the honor to transmit to you. Fort La Cruz was surprised and carried this morning at 3 a. m. The enemy was thrown in great disorder, but reformed on the heights of La Campana, our artillery playing upon them during their retreat and increasing their confusion. The entire garrison, with all its material of war, has been captured. Maximilian has surrendered at discretion with his generals, Castillo

and Mejia. Be pleased to communicate this glorious event to all the governors within the line of your command, with my most cordial felicitations.

"Independence and liberty. In front of Queretaro, May 16, 1867, at 11 a. m.

"M. ESCOBEDO."

And I transmit it to you for your information.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Forwarded :

RAFAEL BENAVIDES,
Brigadier General in command.

WASHINGTON, May 30, 1867.

A true copy :

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

[Unofficial.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 31, 1867.

DEAR SIR : I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your unofficial note of yesterday, enclosing a copy of the telegram from General Escobedo to General Diaz, confirming the capture of Queretaro and of the Prince Maximilian.

I am, sir, truly yours,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Unofficial.]

WASHINGTON, June 4, 1867.

MY DEAR MR. SEWARD : In accordance with our conversation of this morning, I enclose to you a copy taken from my private letter-book, of a letter addressed by me to Mr. Hiram Barney, on the 31st ultimo, and which was published in yesterday's New York Evening Post.

I am, my dear sir, most truly yours,

M. ROMERO.

Mr. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

WASHINGTON, May 31, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR : I have been favored with your esteemed letters of the 22d and 29th instant. I am very glad to hear that you returned safely and well from your long trip southwards.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your kind congratulations on our success in Mexico. It has been, indeed, most complete and gratifying to us. We have accepted no humiliating terms from the French; we are not embarrassed by treaty stipulations with any foreign power which would be likely to give us trouble; all our leading enemies are conquered and in our hands; we will have,

so to say, a new start in life. We have achieved our victory with our scanty means, without any material assistance (physical aid) from any foreign nation, and having, on the contrary, against us the moral influence of all Europe and the material strength of France and other continental powers. To this gigantic combination we have only been able to oppose the endurance and patriotism of our people, and the steadfast sympathy of the people of the United States.

The remembrance of that enlightened sympathy will be everlasting in Mexico. I will try to do full justice to it in a memorandum of my sojourn in the United States during the war, which I intend to write at some future day, as a contribution to the history of that eventful period.

I have perused with interest your remarks about the way in which we ought to treat the enemies of Mexico. I do not know what disposition President Juarez will make of Maximilian, but I am afraid that if he is allowed to go back to Europe with impunity, he will be a constant menace to the peace of Mexico. He will keep on styling himself, to our shame, *emperor of Mexico*; all dissatisfied Mexicans will keep up an active correspondence with him about his supposed popularity there, and even may induce him to return at some future time, as they did with Iturbide; such of them as can afford it will go over to Austria and form a Mexican court for Maximilian at Miramar, and he will have enough of them to organize a legitimate *Mexican government* there, as the ex-king of the Two Sicilies did at Rome, after he was expelled from Naples; some European powers will keep recognizing him as the *emperor of Mexico*, as Spain did with the ex-king of the two Sicilies; whenever we may be likely to have complications with any European nation, the first step taken by the interested party will be to intrigue with Maximilian, and to threaten us with giving *aid to our lawful sovereign to recover his authority from the hands of the usurpers*, if we decline to accept their terms.

Besides, if Maximilian is pardoned and allowed to go home, nobody in Europe, I am sure, will give us credit for magnanimity, as weak nations are not supposed to be magnanimous; but, on the contrary, it will be said that we did so through fear of public opinion in Europe, and because we would not dare to treat harshly *our sovereign*.

I do not mean by this to say that Maximilian must necessarily be shot; what I mean is that his power to do any further mischief in Mexico must be utterly destroyed before he is allowed to depart.

The United States are a great country and a perfectly well organized power, and therefore they can afford to do what would not be prudent for a country like Mexico.

I have full faith in President Juarez's ability to treat Maximilian in the way most convenient to the interests of Mexico.

We have sacred duties to fulfil towards our own country, and their discharge should be the first consideration that we should have in view in attempting to resolve any question.

In great haste, I am, my dear friend, most truly yours,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. HIRAM BARNEY, &c., *New York City.*

Annexed to Mr. Romero's letter of June 4, 1867.

[Copy of the letter as printed by the New York Evening Post of June 3, 1867.]

"WASHINGTON, May 31, 1867.

* * * * *

"Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your kind congratulations on our success in Mexico. It has been, indeed, most complete and gratifying to us. We have accepted no humiliating terms from the French; we are not embarrassed

by treaty stipulations with any foreign power which would be likely to give us trouble; all our leading enemies are conquered and in our hands. We will have, so to say, a new start in life. We have achieved our victory with our own scanty means, without assistance from any foreign nation, but on the contrary against the moral influence of all Europe, and the material strength of France and other continental powers. To this gigantic combination we have only been able to oppose the endurance and patriotism of our people, and the steadfast sympathy of the people of the United States. The remembrance of that enlightened sympathy will be everlasting in Mexico. I shall try to do full justice to it in a memorandum of my sojourn in the United States during the war, which I intend to write at some future day, as a contribution to the history of that eventful period. I have perused with interest your remarks about the way in which we ought to treat the enemies of Mexico. I do not know what disposition President Juarez may make of Maximilian, but I am afraid if he is allowed to go back to Europe with impunity, he will be a constant menace to the peace of Mexico. He will continue to style himself, to our shame, emperor of Mexico. All dissatisfied and designing Mexicans will keep up an active correspondence with him about his supposed popularity there, and these people may induce him to return at some future time, as they did with Iturbide. Such of them as can afford it will go over to Austria and form a Mexican court for Maximilian at Miramar, and he will have enough of them to organize a 'Mexican government' there, as the ex-king of the Two Sicilies did at Rome after he was expelled from Naples. Some European powers will continue to recognize him as the emperor of Mexico, as Spain did with the ex-king of the Two Sicilies. Whenever we may have complications with any European nation, the first step taken by the interested party will be to intrigue with Maximilian, and to threaten us with 'giving aid to our lawful sovereign, to recover his authority from the hands of the usurpers,' if we decline to accept terms. Besides, if Maximilian is pardoned and allowed to go home, nobody in Europe, I am sure, will give us credit for magnanimity, as weak nations are not supposed to be magnanimous; but, on the contrary, it will be said that we did so through fear of public opinion in Europe, and because we would not dare to treat harshly an European prince and 'our sovereign.' I do not say by this that Maximilian must necessarily be shot. What I mean is that his power to do further mischief in Mexico must be destroyed before he is allowed to depart. The United States is a great country and a perfectly organized power, and therefore they can afford to do what would not be prudent for a country like Mexico. I have full faith in President Juarez's ability to treat Maximilian in a way most beneficial to the interests of Mexico. We have sacred duties to fulfil toward our own country, and their discharge must be the first consideration that we should have in view in attempting to solve any question.

"In great haste, I am, my dear friend, most truly yours,
"M. ROMERO."

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

[Unofficial.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 10, 1867.

SIR: Your note of the 4th instant, marked unofficial, enclosing copy of your letter of 31st ultimo to the Hon. Hiram Barney, of New York city, has been received.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO, &c., &c., &c.

Memorandum of an interview between Mr Seward and Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 15, 1867.

Mr. Seward said that he had asked an interview with Mr. Romero for the purpose of saying what follows:

Mexican public journals of both the republican and the intervention parties seem to dwell with great pleasure upon any incident or circumstance that can be perverted into a proof that the government of the United States seeks, or is willing to obtain, some undue advantage in Mexico, or some undue influence over the administration there. These expressions do not surprise Mr. Seward, although they are entirely without reason or color of reason. They are an inevitable form of partisan warfare in Mexico.

Mr. Seward is desirous that the administration of President Juarez should know that, besides the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of France and the Queen of England have severally, and in a confidential manner, appealed to the United States to use any legitimate good offices within their power to avert the execution of the Prince Maximilian. The United States have already expressed themselves on that subject with frankness and profound respect to the government of President Juarez. To reiterate its opinions and wishes in a formal manner, in compliance with the wishes expressed by the Sovereigns of France and Great Britain, would, perhaps, embarrass the government of President Juarez, and might tend to defeat the humane purposes entertained. At the same time Mr. Seward, assuming that the question may still remain an open one, is desirous that President Juarez should be informed of the interest in the person of the Prince Maximilian thus expressed by the last-named European powers.

Mr. Seward also thinks it proper to say that he apprehends no possible contingency in which any European power will attempt either invasion or intervention hereafter in Mexico, or in any other republican nation on the American continent. For this reason he does not think that Mexico has to apprehend any attempt at retaliation by European powers as a consequence of whatsoever extreme decision the Mexican government may make; but at the same time Mr. Seward also thinks that a universal sentiment, favorable, conciliatory, and friendly, towards the republic of Mexico and the other American republics would be likely to follow from such an exercise of clemency and magnanimity as the United States have thought proper to recommend.

Mr. Seward requests Mr. Romero, if compatible with his convictions of duty, to make these sentiments known in a private and confidential manner to the republic of Mexico.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

WASHINGTON, June 19, 1867.

Mr. Romero presents his compliments to Mr. Seward, and has the honor to enclose to him translation of extracts from a letter dated at Casa Mata, on the 7th instant, containing information about the trial of Maximilian.

[Translation.]

CASA MATA, June 7, 1867.

MY DEAR SIR:

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From the interior we hear that the government ordered a suspension on Maximilian's trial, with a view to give time to Baron Magnus and Maximilian's

Ex. Doc. 20—2