

those who have followed the opposite party with better sentiments towards their country, should thus be eluded by persons whose first duty it is to respect the acts of the authority which protects them and affords them security. There is no difference between the venders and the purchasers. Both should be prosecuted by all the means requisite to give just effect to the acts to which reference has been made. I submit, general, the following resolutions for your approval.

1. That all sales made since the entry of the French troops into the city of Mexico, that is, from the 10th of June; all sales effected in other places occupied by France since the publication of the decree; finally, all that may henceforward be made, be null and void, and will not hinder the carrying out of the provisions of the decree of sequestration.

2. That the bureau of rental revenue, on assuming the administration of immovable goods, will be held bound to no reimbursement to purchasers.

3. That the prefect will compel purchasers to make restitution to the bureau of such movable goods as they may have purchased, or the value of them.

4. That any individual informing the prefect of a fraudulent act of this nature shall receive a reward, to be ascertained by that functionary in accordance with the importance of the effects recovered.

5. That any public functionary, notary or other, who may, after the publication of the present decree, give his official aid to draw up any instruments of writing to effectuate such sales as are herein prohibited, shall be deprived of his office and fined not less than one thousand dollars, for the benefit of the treasury.

If you approve the regulations which I have the honor of proposing to you, in order to correct the abuse which I have indicated, I request you, general, to sign the annexed decree, which will be put in execution immediately.

Please accept, general, the expression of my respectful consideration.

BUDIN,

Commissioner Extraordinary of Finance.

Certified copy :

BUDIN,

Commissioner Extraordinary of Finance.

No. 6.

Forey, general of division, senator of France, commander-in-chief of the expeditionary army in Mexico.

In view of the preceding communication from the commissioner extraordinary of finance, I have deemed it proper to decree as follows :

ARTICLE 1. All sales of goods, movable or immovable, belonging to persons comprised in the decree of sequestration which may have been effected by the agents of the proprietors since the entrance of the French troops into the city of Mexico, that is, from the 10th of June; all that may have been made in other places occupied by France since the publication of the decree; finally, all that may henceforward be made, shall be null and void and of no effect, and shall not hinder the carrying out of the provisions of the decree of sequestration.

ART. 2. The bureau of rental revenue, on assuming the administration of immovable goods, shall be held bound to no reimbursement to purchasers.

ART. 3. The political prefect of each district will compel purchasers to make restitution of movable goods, or of the value of them, to the bureau.

ART. 4. Any person informing the prefect of a fraudulent act of this nature shall receive a reward fixed by that functionary, and proportionate to the value of the objects recovered.

ART. 5. Any public functionary, notary or other, who may, after the publication of the present decree, afford his ministerial assistance to draw up instruments of writing for sales prohibited by this decree, shall incur the penalty of deprivation of office, and a fine of not less than one thousand dollars, for the benefit of the treasury.

ART. 6. The commissioner extraordinary of finance is charged with the execution of the present decree, which will be inserted in the official bulletin of the acts of the intervention. Given at Mexico, June 16, 1863.

FOREY.

Certified copy :

BUDIN,

Commissioner Extraordinary of Finance.

No. 7.

Decree of Gen. Forey organizing a court-martial.

The general of division and senator of France, commander-in-chief of the expeditionary corps in Mexico :

Considering that it is important to put an end to the acts of vandalism committed by the bands of malefactors who overrun the country, perpetrating acts of violence on persons and property, and paralyzing commercial relations; considering, also, that the ordinary laws are insufficient to repress these disorders and cause delays prejudicial to the prompt suppression of crimes in those same places in which they are committed, I decree as follows :

1. All persons forming part of a band of armed malefactors are outside the pale of the law.

2. All persons of this description who may be arrested shall be judged by a court-martial.

3. Such court shall be invested with discretionary powers

4. It shall be composed of an official superior as president, two captains as judges, a judge advocate, and a sergeant as secretary of the court. An interpreter shall be added to the court. Persons accused may, at their own request, have counsel to defend them.

5. The court shall pronounce sentence by absolute majority of votes at the same sitting.

6. From such sentence there shall be no appeal, and it shall be executed within twenty-four hours from the time of rendering judgment.

7. A court-martial shall be established in every place in which it may be necessary.

8. The duties of each court shall be temporary, and shall begin and cease according to the orders of the commander-in-chief, or of the military commander, to whom the commander-in-chief may delegate his powers to this effect.

Headquarters in Mexico, June 20, 1863.

FOREY, *General of Division, &c., &c.*

No. 8.

Order of the regency to the governor of the district of Mexico in regard to the observance of festivals.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT,
Palace of the Regency of the Empire, Mexico, July 16, 1863.

The gross abuse which, with manifest violation of a sacred precept of religion, has been for a long time committed in this capital, in disregarding the observance of festival days, on which, to the scandal of all good Catholics, labor is carried on in the workshops, and stores are kept open for the sale of articles not necessary to subsistence, nor otherwise excepted in the regulations properly promulgated by the civil authorities, at different periods, has justly called for the attention of the regency of the empire, since such an abuse, which is not seen in other countries, even in those dissenting from Catholicity, demonstrates a relaxation from Christian customs, so much the more notable, as it exists in a society that loudly proclaims itself Catholic and rigorous observer of the precepts of religion.

Wherefore the regency has deemed it proper to resolve that you should issue your orders to prevent for the future this scandalous infraction, and should see that all fulfil strictly the regulations in force in respect to the observance of festival days.

Which supreme order I communicate to you for the purpose expressed.

J. I. DE ANIEVAS,
Sub-Secretary of State and of Government.

No. 9.

Circular from the Department of Foreign Affairs in regard to the sequestration of the property of traitors.

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT.

The newspapers have in a great measure published the names of such bad Mexicans as have committed the heinous crime of treason, by co-operating with the invaders of their country in the erection of a false and spurious government.

Assuredly the nation will destroy this abominable farce; but, for all that, the traitors should not remain unpunished. And when our foreign enemy and his adherents, violating all principle, arrogated to themselves the power of confiscating the goods of worthy citizens who serve the government of their country, it is not just that the action of our laws should be suspended, relative to the sequestration and alienation of property, for violation of the duties of allegiance.

Wherefore, if in the state, which you so worthily govern, such seizure should be intended to have effect, you will issue your orders to have the preliminary formalities immediately arranged, and report to this department, in order that the proper determinations should be made in regard to the alienation of the sequestered property. In view of which, after the period of fifteen days after the receipt of this supreme resolution, information may be received of overlooked or concealed goods, liable to sequestration, and the informer shall, in such case, be rewarded with the fourth part of the amount for which the goods so discovered may be sold.

Liberty and reform.

San Luis Potosi, July 18, 1863.

FUENTE.

The GOVERNOR of the State of _____.

No. 10.

Explanation by Gen. Forey of the law of sequestration of the property of the patriots.

MEXICO, August 19, 1863.

To the superior officers in command of the provinces and districts in the military occupation of the intervention:

M. LE COMMANDANT: I have been informed that the commissions, instituted in conformity with the decree of May 21 last, in regard to sequestration, are accustomed to deviate, in the execution of that measure from the spirit that dictated it. The terms of that decree, and those of the preceding communication on which it was founded, should not give occasion to interpretations that in their very nature originate errors, these being so much the more serious, the more they place in doubt the good faith of the commissioners, in creating certain categories of sequestrations not contemplated in the decree.

In the main, it was not sought to affect any but those persons who oppose the arms of the intervention, and serve either in the regular army or in bands of guerillas. Posterior to the publication of the decree, and in view of the observations of the financial commissary extraordinary, I determined that those persons who take an active part in the government of the ex-president should also be comprised in the sequestration. In fact, it did not appear proper that the ministers and high functionaries, who exert a much greater influence in affairs than military men, should, whatever be their grade, be more favorably treated.

This political measure, thus understood and applied, has for its object what you have doubtless not failed to perceive, and that is, to draw off, by touching their interests, those persons who serve in one or other way, whether in a military or political capacity, the government of Juarez. This distinction made, you now understand that the sequestration need not always be imposed on the goods of those persons who assert that they are neither combatants nor public functionaries, and to whom the measure applies because they happen to be absent from their homes, or because they conceive that their ideas are different from those of the intervention. In regard to the former, it will be proper to demand from them a declaration, in virtue of which they will oblige themselves not to serve either in a military or in a civil capacity against the imperial government which has just been founded. Petitions for relief from sequestration shall not be transmitted by the prefect to the proper authorities, unless they be accompanied by the above-mentioned obligation. When, through mistake or other cause, sequestration has been applied to the goods of individuals of the second class, their petitions shall be attended to without any other requisite than the presentation of the certificate of the authorities of the place of the residence of the parties, in which certificate it shall be stated that they are neither military men nor public functionaries, or that they had retired from public affairs a considerable time previous to the decree of the 21st of May.

I request you, commander, to communicate the contents of this letter to the civil governor of N_____, and recommend to him to proceed, in the way which I have indicated, in the practical details of the commission of sequestration.

Receive, commander, the assurance of my most respectful consideration.

FOREY, *Marshal of France and Commander in-Chief.*

No. 11.

Letter from Marshal Forey.

EXPEDITIONARY CORPS OF MEXICO, CABINET OF THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF,
Mexico, August 22, 1863.

MR. EDITOR: I have read in your paper to-day that three French soldiers have been assassinated in Tlalpan recently, and that you desire to see the authorities adopt rigorous measures with reference to that locality.

There has been only one military victim; but for some time various persons, resident in that village, have perished, cowardly attacked by assassins, who, on account of the debility of the local authority, [this village is within sight of the city of Mexico, so that it is strange, if the French are so well received, order does not prevail that short distance from the principal point occupied by the French.—Translator.] evade the pursuit of justice, and find in the houses of the inhabitants an asylum which effectually conceals them.

For the rest your desires have been already anticipated, and yesterday I dictated, in accord with the government, the necessary rigorous measures to prevent the repetition of crimes which offend the public conscience, as well of French officials as of those Mexicans who have a right to my protection.

The garrison of Tlalpan has been augmented, and a high official will hereafter discharge the functions of prefect. The ayuntamiento (common council) has been removed. The village of Tlalpan will suffer a penalty of \$6,000, which will in part be distributed for the benefit of the victims who have been cowardly assassinated. A certain number of individuals of bad reputation [?] will be arrested and will serve as hostages. If the assassinations continue, these hostages shall respond for them with their heads. If this is not sufficient, the village will be destroyed. It is time that, as the Emperor said when detestable passions raged in France, the good should be tranquilized, and also the bad. The government and myself are perfectly in accord in our measures to maintain order and assure good citizens the enjoyment of their property, and of their lives, which is the first of all; and if we are disposed to forget the past and to act with clemency towards those who frankly adhere to the new order of things which the nation itself has established, we are equally decided to follow with the extremest measures of rigor all the enemies of social order.

Receive the assurances, &c.

FOREY,

Marshal of France, Commandant of the Expeditionary Corps of Mexico.

No. 12.

Tlalpan, August 27, 1863.

The superior military commandant and political chief of Tlalpan, in accordance with the order of the marshal commanding the French army, to the inhabitants and proprietors of this village maketh known as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The civil and administrators' authorities are temporarily suspended.

ART. 2. The superior commandant of Tlalpan will exercise all powers in the district.

ART. 3. In punishment for the assassination of the Zouave Multer, a fine of \$6,000 is imposed upon the village of Tlalpan. This fine must be fully paid within four days following the publication of this decree.

ART. 4. The individuals of this town who have been conducted as prisoners to the capital will respond for the lives of the French and of those honorable persons who have adhered to the new government. For every such honorable person or soldier who shall be assassinated in Tlalpan, a reprisal will be made with the life of one of the aforesaid prisoners.

ART. 5. All the inhabitants of Tlalpan must obey exactly the orders given by the superior commandant.

If there is opposition the marshal will be obliged to adopt measures of rigor.

COUSIN,

Military Commandant and Political Chief.

No. 13.

Lodgings.

MEXICO, June 15, 1863.

De Poitier, lieutenant colonel, commander of the place of Mexico, to its inhabitants, know ye:

That his excellency, general of division, senator, commander-in-chief of the French expeditionary corps, with the object that the lodgings of the army and its officers should be less onerous to the inhabitants of this capital, has regulated the obligations they shall be under, declaring that all owners of houses are obliged to place at the disposal of each lieutenant and sub-lieutenant one room; to captains, two rooms; to superior officers, three rooms, of which one must be a parlor. Colonels must have at least five rooms. The officers of staff must have a number in proportion to the exigencies of the service.

It must be understood that the rooms placed at the disposal of the officers of the army will not be empty ones, but furnished by the owners; that is to say, they must supply them with beds, chairs, tables, and other furniture. Should these obligations be not complied with, the municipal authorities shall see that said lodgings are furnished at the expense of the proprietors if they choose to excuse themselves.

Those inhabitants that should have to lodge mounted officers must reserve in their stables the necessary locality and stalls for their horses.

DE POITIER.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Washington, March 2, 1864.

MR. SECRETARY: To complete the series of documents relating to the important events which are actually taking place in the Mexican republic, which I have had the honor to send to your department, I enclose with this note, translated into English, those relative to the occupation of Puebla by the French army on the evacuation of the city of Mexico by the government and national army, and on the installation of the former at the city of San Luis Potosi. I also enclose a declaration of blockade of the Mexican ports on the Gulf, and some proclamations of the French Generals Forey and Bazaine.

I avail of this opportunity to repeat to you, sir, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

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

General Ortega's announcement of the surrender of Puebla.—Army of the east.—The Commander-in-chief to the Minister of War.

HEADQUARTERS AT ZARAGOZA, May 17, 1863.

With this date and at this hour, 4 a. m., I send the following communication to the commander-in-chief of the French army:

GENERAL: As it is impossible for me to continue defending this city, from the want of ammunition and provisions, I have disbanded the army that was under my command and destroyed its equipments, including all the artillery. The city is therefore at the order of your excellency, and you can direct it to be occupied to-day if you think fit, the measures dictated by prudence to prevent the evils that a violent occupation will bring with it when there is no motive for it. The generals, commanders, and officers of which this army consists, are at the Government House, and surrender as prisoners of war. I cannot, general, continue defending myself any longer. If I could, do not doubt that I would do so.

Please accept, &c., &c.

The above I transcribe for the information of the supreme magistrate of the republic, to whom I hope you will explain that the army—the command of which he was pleased to intrust to me—defended itself as was suitable to the honor and reputation of the republic, and that it would have continued doing so if an absolute physical impossibility had not interposed to prevent it, since some days past it had consumed all the provisions and the small quantity of ammunition which remained to it after the fierce attacks which it lately suffered, and in which, fortunately, it did not lose a single redoubt.

I believe, sir, that I have fulfilled the wishes of the supreme government, and complied with the duties imposed upon me by honor and the office intrusted to me; but if it should not be so I will with pleasure submit to a trial as soon as I am at liberty, for in a few hours I shall be a prisoner.

Liberty and reform.

J. G. ORTEGA.

The MINISTER OF WAR, Mexico.

Proclamation of President Juarez.

MEXICANS: The nation has just suffered a great disaster. Puebla de Zaragoza, immortalized by numerous and glorious attacks, has just surrendered—not because of the power of the French, whom our soldiers had become accustomed to repulse, but for reasons which the government must consider without parallel for their glory alone. None of our generals, or chiefs, who have so greatly distinguished themselves in the defence of that city, have as yet sent to the government information of this deplorable event, but a variety of private accounts accredit the fact, although they are silent or vary on points of the greatest interest. But the occupation of Zaragoza, which could not be taken in any of the repeated assaults of the enemy, nor by the most formidable modes of warfare, does not in any way lessen or tarnish the glory of our brave warriors, who have known how to maintain the name of Mexico in spite of the arrogant invaders. Dishonorable and without glory has been their success, who have always been worsted in the brave combats of which the city of Zaragoza has been the theatre.

Mexicans! this calamity cannot, under any aspect, discourage the holy undertaking which you are carrying out. Prove to the French, prove to all the nations who are watching your actions in this unfortunate situation, that adversity is not a sufficient cause for fainting to the determined republicans who defend their native land and their rights. Our country is vast, and contains innumerable elements of war, which we will use against the invaders. Not only will the capital of the republic be defended to the last extremity with all the elements which we can command, but all places will be defended with like vigor. The national government will urge with energy on all sides the resistance to and attack upon the French, and will not listen to any proposition of peace from them which shall offend in the minutest particular the independence, complete sovereignty, the liberty, or the honor of the republic and its glorious antecedents in this war.

Mexicans! let us swear by the heroes killed in defending the holy walls of Zaragoza, let us swear by those who still live, victors there while able to battle, that we will wage war without ceasing, and under all sacrifices, against the odious army which is profaning the soil of Hidalgo, of Morelos, of Zaragoza, and of Gonzalez Ortega.

BENITO JUAREZ.

Close of the General Congress.

On the 31st of last month the general congress closed its sessions in conformity with the constitution. On this solemn occasion the following discourses were delivered:

The president of the republic arose and said:

CITIZEN DEPUTIES: Notwithstanding the violence and danger of the present situation, you have occupied yourself in the performance of your important duties up to the present day, on which the constitution commands you to terminate them. Although this, indeed, is nothing new and requires no great effort on the part of the worthy representatives of the Mexican people, in whom all the civic virtues are conspicuous, it will be, in truth, one proof the more of the security and firmly established dominion of our institutions presented to the view of our foreign enemy, when not only he but many politicians of Europe prophesied the utter ruin of our government at the very clash of the arms of Napoleon III.

But the influence of the army which that potentate has sent to subjugate us reaches no further than the ground which it occupies, and our enemies have no reason to be proud of an occupation that has left all the honor and the glory on our side.

The events that have transpired in Puebla de Zaragoza have filled the people of Mexico with noble pride, and have intensified their purpose of repelling the invaders of their country, who have already thrown off the mask of deceit to parade their impudence in the face of the world. The defence of Zaragoza and the glorious disaster which terminated that truly sublime drama—a contest in which the French were so often humbled, an exploit unparalleled in its heroism, and only performed under the pressure of the sternest necessity and the noble resolution of never surrendering our arms and our banners—are prodigies that proclaim the greatness of this people, examples that will not, most assuredly, be lost on the people of Mexico.

Your solicitude has been worthily employed in ameliorating the fate of our soldiers wounded and taken prisoners, and in providing for their families. The government has always employed itself in fulfilling this demand of patriotism and of the clearest justice, and the republic makes such provisions in this regard as are in its power.

Adversity, citizen deputies, dismays only contemptible nations. Our people are ennobled by great deeds, and we are far from losing sight of the immense moral and material obstacles which the country will oppose to its unjust invaders.

The vote of confidence with which you have honored me anew claims the warmest expression of my acknowledgment to the assembly of the nation, though it can no longer enhance my honor or my duty in the defence of my country.

You are now going to serve her beyond the precincts of these walls, and your love for her should, on all occasions, be animated by the assurance that the government will sustain the will of the Mexican people, maintaining, at all hazards, their autonomy and their democratic institutions.

Mr. Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada replied in the following terms:

Mr. PRESIDENT: The congress of the union concludes, to-day, the second yearly term of its sessions, on the day designated by the fundamental code.

While some of the representatives of the people have been defending the national honor and independence in arms, others have come from the remotest states, so that congress might not fail to assemble at the time appointed by the constitution. Thus once again has the pretext been belied for the iniquitous war waged against the republic, when it is sought to veil the ambitious purpose of usurping its sovereignty with the assumed desire to afford assistance to the Mexican people in reorganizing themselves, and to give them a protection which they have not solicited.

In these solemn moments an occasion has been presented for the display of the firm adhesion of all the states, and of the general will of the immense majority of Mexicans to sustain the institutions and the government of the republic. In the face of the invading army, in the midst of the perils of war, and in spite of the general confusion occasioned by it, the representatives of the people have come from all quarters, so that the regular course of public power might not be interrupted.

In this session congress has, justly and preferably to all else, engaged its attention in all that concerns the war. In its course it has been able to admire the heroic courage and constancy of the defenders of Puebla de Zaragoza. It justly acknowledges and declares that they have merited well of their country, and that they and the families of those who fell should be cared for with special solicitude.

There they have conquered for the republic a new glory never to be forgotten, and they have given to their fellow-citizens a noble example to imitate. They will ever serve for models to all good Mexicans, to enable them, whatever may be the vicissitudes of war, to continue it without being dismayed by any misfortune or terrified by any sacrifice, until they obtain the invader's respect for the justice of the cause of Mexico.

That the contest may be prosecuted without cessation, congress has granted to the executive a prolongation of the amplest powers that may be required.

The chief magistrate, who has defended the rights of Mexico under the most difficult circumstances, remains invested with all the plenitude of power given him by the free election of the people and the repeated votes of confidence of the national legislature. We doubt not but that, with these testimonials, with the energetic and unanimous co-operation of all the states, and with the patriotism of all good Mexicans, he will omit nothing that may be necessary to prosecute the contest worthily, until a final victory is effected for the rights, the sovereignty, and the independence of the republic.

Benito Juarez, President of the Mexican republic, to his fellow-countrymen.

MEXICANS: For grave considerations connected with the defence of the nation, I ordered our army to evacuate the city of Mexico, withdrawing the abundant materials of war which we had collected there, and I ordered that the city of San Luis Potosi should be temporarily the capital of the republic. The first of these resolutions was immediately put into execution, and the second has likewise been carried into effect by the instalment of the supreme government in this city, which possesses so many facilities for carrying on the war against the enemy of our glorious and beloved country.

In Mexico, as in Puebla de Zaragoza, we would have resisted the French, and yielded at last to invincible necessity. But it was not expedient to choose voluntarily those adverse, though glorious, situations, nor to regard our honor alone, as though we had despaired of our fortune.

Concentrated at one point, as now, the enemy will be weak outside of that; scattered, he will be weak in all quarters. He will see himself compelled to acknowledge that the republic is not confined within the limits of the cities of Mexico and Zaragoza; that life and spirit, the consciousness of justice and of strength, the love of independence and of republicanism, the noble pride aroused against the iniquitous invader of our soil, are sentiments diffused throughout the entire Mexican people; and that the silent and indefinite majority, in whose uprising Napoleon III placed the successful issue and the justification of the most astonishing enterprise which the nineteenth century has seen, will not rise above a chimera invented by a handful of traitors.

The French were mistaken when they thought they could lord it over the nation at the mere sound of their arms, and when they presumed to crown their shameless assumption by violating the laws of honor, and when they considered themselves masters of Zaragoza, because they had occupied the fort of San Javier. Now, they deceive themselves most miserably in flattering themselves that they rule over the country, when they scarcely begin to realize the enormous difficulties of their inconsiderate enterprise; since, if they have consumed so much time, invested so large sums, and sacrificed so many lives to obtain a few advantages in the glorious engagements at Puebla, what can they expect when we shall oppose them the whole people as an army and the territory of the country as a battle-field? Did Napoleon I master Spain because his troops occupied Madrid and several cities of that kingdom? What happened to the French army after having entered the capital of Russia? Were not the invaders of those countries ignominiously driven out? Did it not happen the same to the retrograde faction that held in its possession our former capital? And in what of our towns did we not overthrow the power of Spain?

Believe me, fellow-countrymen, your valor, your perseverance, your republican sentiments, your firm union and adhesion to the government which you have chosen as the depository of your confidence, of your power, and of your glorious standard, will suffice to make your unjust and perfidious enemies bite the dust. Forget your quarrels; lay aside your aspirations, be they reasonable or unreasonable, if on account of them you feel less resolute and determined in the defence of your country, because against our country we have no cause of complaint. Let us be united, then, and let us spare no sacrifices to save our independence and our liberty, those great blessings, without which all the rest are sources of sadness and shame. Let us be united, and we will be free. Let us be united, and we will cause all nations to bless and glorify the name of Mexico.

BENITO JUAREZ.

SAN LUIS POTOSI, June 10, 1863.

Circular to the governors of the states.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT.

The President and his ministers have arrived yesterday in this city. In it the supreme government remains established, and here the chief functions of federal power will be discharged, in accordance with the decree issued to that effect.

I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of the proclamation issued by the President in regard to the aforesaid transfer, and I take the liberty of recommending to you to cause the greatest possible publicity to be given to this important document. With good reason the chief magistrate believes that his voice, on this solemn occasion, will have a faithful echo in the hearts of Mexicans.

The unequivocal and universal marks of enthusiasm with which the President has been greeted on his way and in this city, assure him more and more that the invader of our country is abhorred in all quarters, and that our defence will be terrible, unexpected, worthy of our cause, and worthy, also, of the victory which must necessarily crown our forces.

H. Ex. Doc. 11—25

A people can be conquered only because its aggressor has in his hand an insurmountable superiority, or because discord rends its bosom, or, in fine, because it regards its danger and its future with indolent listlessness. Since the events that have transpired at Zaragoza, the French army cannot boast of its pre-eminence in combat. There remain to be considered our domestic quarrels or our unpatriotic coldness, since the impotent insurrections of the traitorous reaction scarcely merit the name of civil discords; and as to our indolence, the enemy has clearly seen that, since our great civil wars, the whole nation renounces the pleasures of an ignominious peace, to rush against the invaders of their native land.

Union, governor, union with the powers that are its bonds, ought to be promoted and affirmed with diligent solicitude; and a generous oblivion of all that prevents us from devoting ourselves with all the ardor of our nature to the sacred cause of the republic will make us great and invincible.

The President, in order that the virtues recommended in his proclamation may take deeper root with you, has requested me to address you in regard to a matter of great interest on this occasion, the first on which I have the honor of communicating with you outside of the ancient capital.

The law of nations, in treating of *de facto* governments, presumes that they really exist; but it is an evident fact that the spurious authorities imposed by Napoleon III on the people now held or hereafter to be held in subjection by them are not and cannot be the government of the country, and much less when the legitimate government exists in reality. So much for the law of nations. Now, as far as concerns our public law, those false authorities are nothing better than seditious and treasonable. Wherefore, the chief magistrate commands me so to declare, and to protest, as in his name I do protest, that the republic does not and will not recognize in these supposed functionaries any power or authority whatever to bind it by their treaties, agreements, or promises, by their acts, omissions, or other means or manner whatsoever; and that those who execute any authority or commission, conferred or consented to by the French, will most undoubtedly be punished in accordance with the laws of the country.

Please to accept the assurance of my highest consideration and esteem. Liberty and reform!

FUENTE.

SAN LUIS POTOSI, June 10, 1863.

*Circular addressed to the foreign diplomatic body in Mexico.*NATIONAL PALACE, SAN LUIS POTOSI,
June 11, 1863.

I have the honor of addressing to your excellency certified copies of the proclamation just issued by the President, and of the circular addressed by his order to the governors of the states, in reference to the transfer of the seat of government of the republic to this city, now declared the temporary capital of the United States of Mexico.

It appears useless to me to repeat to your excellency what I have already officially said, that is, that whenever you consider it proper to transfer your residence to this city, you will have placed at your disposal all the escort necessary for your person and retinue, which will be stationed at proper intervals along the route from the nearest positions to the city of Mexico occupied by the constitutional government.

I am gratified, on this occasion, to be able to renew to your excellency the assurance of my consideration and esteem.

JUAN A. DE LA FUENTE.

*Circular addressed to the foreign consular agent in Mexico.*NATIONAL PALACE, SAN LUIS POTOSI,
June 11, 1863.

For your information and convenience, I have the pleasure of transmitting to you, by direction of the President of the republic, a copy of the proclamation just issued by him, and also a copy of the circular addressed by his order to the governors of the states, in reference to the transfer of the seat of government of the nation to this city, already declared the temporary capital of the United States of Mexico.

I take this opportunity of renewing to you, &c., &c., &c.,

FUENTE

In view of the state of war existing between France and the government of Juarez, acting by virtue of the powers which belong to us, declare:

That from the 6th of September instant, the ports and their outlets, the rivers, harbors, roadsteads, creeks, &c., of the coasts of Mexico, which are not in the occupation of our troops, and which still acknowledge the power of Juarez, from the lagoon, ten leagues to the south of Matamoras, up to and including Campeche, between twenty-five degrees and twenty-two minutes north, ninety-nine degrees and fifty-four minutes west, and nineteen degrees and fifty-two minutes north, and ninety-two degrees and fifty minutes west, (meridian of Paris,) shall be held in a state of effective blockade by the naval forces under our command, and that friendly or neutral vessels shall have a delay of twenty-five days to complete their cargoes and to quit the places blockaded.

The points excepted from the blockade are Tampico, Vera Cruz, Alvarado, Coatzacoalcos, Tabasco, and Carmen.

Proceedings in conformity with international law and the treaties in force with neutral powers will be taken against all vessels which shall attempt to violate the said blockade.

On board of the frigate Bellona, of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, anchored in the roadstead of Sacrificios, the 5th of September, 1863.

A. BOSSE.

MEXICO, September 30, 1863.

MEXICANS: I have terminated the great mission which the French Emperor intrusted to me, and I am now about to leave for France.

I can assure you that no alteration has been made in the policy of the French Emperor to this day.

In departing from you, I leave you with a general in whom you may have full confidence.

To form a new constitution, that all might be happy under it, was the object of the mission; but the Emperor's intentions were not fully realized, because they are not sufficiently known.

In leaving Mexico, I hope my departure will be the means of opening the eyes of the blind (or refractory) among you, and that the false patriots in your midst will be discovered in the ruin they seek for their country. Then the true Mexican will find out there are but few false Mexicans; and that there are not many who treat with contempt or disregard the existing government. Then the true Mexican will be astonished to see the little number of mock patriots, and their proximity to the mire in which they are rapidly falling.

Be assured that God, whose Providence protects the French arms, will not allow the fratricide of the nation.

Adieu, Mexicans! I leave with full confidence in the welfare of your country. You may be proud, and you may thank Providence that your happiness has been consigned to the French Emperor. In leaving, I can say you will not regret placing your happiness in his hands.

FOREY.

HEADQUARTERS AT MEXICO, October 22, 1863.

MEXICANS: On taking command of the army, I must explain to you that this change of commander does not imply any change of politics.

My mission is to watch over the sincere fulfilment of the manifesto of the 12th of June, 1863, which contains the essential principles in which the provisional government must stand in the direction of public affairs.

These general principles, which belong to our epoch, and proceed from the instructions of the Emperor's government, prove how much our sovereign benevolently interests himself for the regeneration of your fine country.

My task will be easy if you assist me, and I reckon upon it, as you ought to have faith in my earnest wish to bring to fulfilment, when the time arrives, each of the promises contained in the manifesto alluded to.

Have, therefore, confidence in the future. Let every Mexican lay aside the spirit of party; let all unite to establish a stable government in harmony with the ideas of the age, protected by the French flag wherever its glorious colors wave.

BAZAINE, *Commander-in-Chief.*

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 10, 1864.

MR. SECRETARY: Carrying out my purpose of remitting to you the documents which may come into my possession, and may contribute to the elucidation of the grave events which are actually taking place in my country, in the important crisis she is now passing through, I have the honor to send to you, translated into English, the annexed documents relative to the case of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, ex-general in the Mexican army. By these it seems that notwithstanding General Santa Anna had been invited by what in Mexico is now called "the regency," which congratulated him on his arrival in the country, the general-in-chief of the French army made him leave the country upon frivolous pretexts, and the so-called "regency" submitted to this determination, as it submits in everything, to the caprice of the invaders, because it has neither strength nor existence proper to itself, being merely a vile instrument of the French.

For the rest, it appears to me unnecessary to reproduce the web of calumnies against the constitutional government, the patriots, and the people of Mexico, contained in the proclamation of General Santa Anna, and by which he tries to excuse his humiliating submission to the show of government set up by the invaders of his country.

I reiterate to you, Mr. Secretary, the protestation of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

VERA CRUZ, *February 28, 1864.*

On the 27th instant, at 5 o'clock in the evening, I disembarked in this port, proceeding from St. Thomas, where I lived some years, receiving the hospitality which political vicissitude obliged me to seek in a foreign country.

On deciding to return to my native soil, I bring with me the intention of co-operating, in whatever way I may be able, in the consolidation of the institution which the nation has thought proper to adopt, under the beneficent shadow of the throne on which will be seated the illustrious prince designed in the sublime counsels of Divine Providence to raise the nation from the abyss of misfortune into which she has been plunged by anarchy. The regency of the empire may consider my services needless and deliver me the orders it may think proper.

On the installation of the regency I charged General Don Santiago Blanco to declare my sentiments of adhesion, and the satisfaction it gave me to know that a national government had been established under the form chosen by the will of the Mexican people, which commission he had the goodness to discharge according to my desire. Consequently, I now do so directly from this place, to inform the regency that it may rely on my poor services and give what orders it pleases to the dean of the Mexican army.

Please to acquaint the regency with this note, and accept my protestations of consideration.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

The UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR, *Mexico city.*

IMPERIAL PALACE, MEXICO, *March 7, 1864.*

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The regency has received with the most grateful satisfaction your note of the 28th ultimo, in which you were pleased to communicate your safe arrival at that port, on the 27th, from St. Thomas, where you have lived for several years. It is also informed of the noble feelings which animate your excellency on returning to your

country—feelings which were never doubted, both because they demonstrate your patriotism, and because you had made them known through General Blanco when the present government was installed.

The regency congratulates your excellency on your return to your native soil, and views with the deepest interest your decision to lend it your important services.

In having the honor to tell you this in reply, it is a satisfaction to me to offer you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

JUAN DE D PEZA,

Under Secretary of State and War and Navy Departments.

His Excellency General of Division DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

MEXICAN EXPEDITIONARY CORPS, OFFICE OF THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF,
Mexico, March 7, 1864.

MONSIEUR LE GENERAL: His excellency General Almonte has just sent me a supplement to No 68 of the Indicator, of Orizaba, in which I find, *in extenso*, the proclamation given by you to Mexico, which bears your signature.

You have broken the pledge signed by you on board the English steamer Conway, and have not even thought it your duty to address yourself to the commander-in-chief of the Franco-Mexican army, who represents France in Mexico.

You can no longer remain on Mexican soil, and I invite you, as well as your son, to quit it without delay.

I give, in this respect, formal orders to the superior commandant of Vera Cruz, and to the admiral commanding in chief the French naval forces in the Gulf, in order that a vessel may be placed at your disposal.

BAZAINE, *General.*

VERA CRUZ, *March 12, 1864.*

GENERAL: I received with surprise your excellency's communication of the 7th instant, in which you tell me that, because I broke my pledge in causing my manifesto to be printed in Orizaba, and for not having addressed myself to your excellency, who, as commander-in-chief of the Franco-Mexican army, represents France, I must immediately leave my country.

An accusation of such a nature compels me to reply to your excellency that you are mistaken in what you say. First, because I do not remember to have pledged my word to be dumb on returning to my country. I am not acquainted with the French language, and on signing, on board the English steamer, the recognition of the intervention and the Mexican emperor, Ferdinand Maximilian, as I was directed to do by the commandant of this place, I believed myself bound by that promise alone, since I had no intention of doing anything on coming, for the reason that Marshal Forey had arranged, in an order in my possession, that nothing should be required of me on my arrival, and that I should be properly treated in every respect. Besides, it was not I who sent my manifesto to be printed. Friends from the interior who visited me, desirous of knowing my opinion under present circumstances, asked me for a copy of my manuscript, which friends, of their own accord, published it, assuredly with the best intention, since the document contained nothing unfavorable to the new system, but, on the contrary, strengthens it in every respect.

Having been informed that it could not be printed here, I directed the manuscript, signed, to General Almonte, president of the imperial regency, which is the government of the nation, recognized by it and some others, including that of your excellency, and did not direct it to you, it not being upon any military subject, and because I knew that the representative of France is his excellency the Marquis de Montinolen, minister plenipotentiary of the Emperor of the French.

Wherefore your excellency will understand the profound displeasure which the supposition that I had broken my word has produced in me, and that upon this is based, in part, the abuse done me in expelling me immediately from the territory of my country, after eight years and a half of ostracism, and when my health is latterly so altered. In consequence of such a procedure, which I cannot misunderstand, and in use of my right, I protest formally against the said act of violence against my person, as being both unjust and inhuman, and I will appeal to the government of his Majesty Napoleon III, from whose wisdom and equity I do not doubt I shall obtain justice.

This is all I can say to your excellency in reply to your note; and offering you assurances of my high consideration, I remain, &c.,

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, well deserving of his country, and general of division of the national armies, to his fellow-countrymen:

MEXICANS: How many disturbances, how many misfortunes, have occurred in our country since I left you! Like an impetuous torrent, political passions have broken loose, destroying everything and drying up in all directions the sources of our wealth. Never have I succeeded in imagining so painful a scene, nor could I ever believe that in the name of country and liberty the foundations of society could be so deeply disturbed, displaying a flag that inspired fear among its children and mistrust among strangers. The beautiful Anahuac has been torn to pieces and martyred by the frantic ambition of a band who fancied themselves the depositories of liberty and right. It is not the conservative party which has invited to our shores the European intervention, but the error and blindness of the reformers.

Fellow-countrymen: In treading the soil where I was cradled, in incorporating myself with you, it is indispensable that I remind you of the situation in which I left the country in separating myself from the power which, by your will, I lately exercised; I wish the truth to be known by the world.

My government had placed the nation in a brilliant position; the best relations existed with friendly powers; the army was brilliant for its *morale*, arms, numbers, and discipline; the fortresses were taken care of, like all the branches of the public administration; no one presented himself at our ports with demands; the roads were free from robbers, the savages kept under, and the filibusteros frightened; the dangerous questions with the United States of the north relative to boundaries happily terminated; commerce and agriculture flourished; neither forced loans nor expropriations were known; the guarantees of peaceful citizens were not a falsehood; the religion of our fathers was venerated; no one put his hand on the property of the clergy, whose opulence we beheld with pride and credit spring up again. Only those among the discontented who live by insurrections formed mad desires, casting upon my name unjust aspersions, because I prevented them from doing mischief. And what government is forbidden from attempting its preservation, which is likewise that of society, as well as maintaining order, which is the happiness and advancement of nations? Never can I sufficiently deplore that the ambition of an ill-counselled band had reached the supreme power, taking advantage of the ignorance of the unwary.

The misdeeds of the representatives of the liberals have enveloped the church in mourning and filled the hearts of the Mexican people with bitterness; their want of good faith in treaties obliged three powerful nations to arm themselves in demand of the justice that was owing to them. The conservative party is not, therefore, responsible for the late events that have taken place in our country.

It appeared natural that, on finding me at so great a distance from the events, and keeping so profound a silence, it should be considered strange by them; but my opponents, eager to do me injury, lost no time in showing me at times the enthusiastic friend of the intervention, and at other times its enemy, according to the circle in which they acted. It would have been easy to confound them with replies and observations, but I was unwilling to direct voluntarily public attention toward myself, and resolved to be silent until I trod the soil of my country. The long wished for day has arrived, and I am consequently going to explain, so that I may be unmistakably judged in everything relating to the crisis that we are passing.

At solemn moments the good man ought to speak the truth with frankness and sincerity.

It is unquestionable that the excesses of the party who ruled brought about the armed intervention, and that it appeared at a time when our society was disturbed. Honest people feared for their lives and property, and the honor of their families; they sought, like the shipwrecked mariners, any plank whatever to save themselves. That party having proclaimed an exaggerated constitution, which they carried out, despair had reached its climax.

Two of the allied nations now suspended their demands, and withdrew. Then the afflicted people had recourse to the other that remained in the country, and proffered it a friendly hand; the soldiers of the republic by hundreds joined in brotherhood with those whom they looked upon as allies to destroy the domestic tyranny and substitute a better order of things. Mexicans who had always given proofs of their patriotism appeared in the same ranks; and even the capital, despising the prohibitions and penalties imposed by the so-called constitutional government, welcomed the legions of the friendly nation with enthusiasm.

The people, wearied with the anarchy of half a century, with false promises and fine theories, anxious to have a paternal government, just and enlightened, proclaimed with enthusiasm the re-establishment of the empire of the Montezumas by a dynasty of royal extraction, voting at once for emperor the illustrious Prince Maximilian, archduke of Austria.

The demagogues, in their desperation, are exhausting the resources that they are able to use, believing that by combating they are defending Mexican independence; but the day will arrive when they will find out that patriotism was not on their side in the present struggle.

The states that have not yet made any manifestation will certainly make it as soon as they obtain any protection, and the Mexicans who are now with arms in their hands will lay them down on being convinced that nothing is attempted against the nationality, and that they are only aggravating the evils which we all lament.

A government, freely elected by Mexicans, being already installed in the capital, good patricians are under the obligation to group themselves around it, to clothe it with prestige and strength. So sacred a duty brings me here. I come, therefore, to give new proofs of the respect I owe to the national will now so in agreement with my belief and conviction. The orders that may emanate from that supreme power I shall treat with the decision and loyalty with which I have obeyed the nation on all occasions. When peace is re-established, the country settled to its satisfaction, I shall only ask as a favor that I may be allowed to enjoy, in my last days, the quiet that I have not been able to secure in any of the situations of my life.

Fellow-citizens, guard in your memory the magnanimous monarch who has extended to you his powerful hand so opportunely and generously. Without his assistance you would groan under the depressing and barbarous yoke of the most uncontrolled anarchy. Gratitude is a virtue peculiar to noble minds.

The attempts that until now have been made, under the republican form, have only brought discredit and desolation to the countries of the American continent, while constitutional monarchy has given, and continues to give, everywhere, better and more lasting fruit. If the flight of liberty is not so lofty under the monarchy as in the republic, the former has an advantage that the second does not possess, of being away from political disturbances. I am not the enemy of democracy, but of its extravagances. In our history it is shown that I was the first to proclaim the republic. I thought that I was doing a great service to our country, the object always of my adoration, and nothing stopped me until the object was attained. But the illusions of youth having passed, in presence of so many disasters produced by that system, I will not deceive anybody; the last word of my conscience and my convictions is, the constitutional monarchy.

My friends, in August, 1855, I abdicated the discretionary powers with which I was invested by the free will of the people, and emigrated abroad, with the noble view of leaving you at absolute liberty to constitute yourselves as you wished, and not to appear an oppressor; by an act of so much self-denial I wished at once to contradict the imputations of the malevolent. But from my retirement, at whatever distance, I raised my humble prayers to heaven that your passions might be calmed and concord reign among you, without which the happiness of no human society is possible. At last I return to our country, without aspirations of any kind, and I assure you that all the labors of my life will be recompensed if I finish my days among you in the midst of peace and prosperity.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, May 31, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, yesterday, of your note dated the 10th instant, transmitting translations of documents which have reached you relating especially to the case of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, as illustrative of the political condition of Mexico.

I beg you to accept my thanks for this attention, with the renewed assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor M. ROMERO, &c., &c., &c.