

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

The War Between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

We gave yesterday, in our Central American correspondence, particulars of the outbreak that has recently occurred between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Among the official documents sent us by our correspondent were letters from Col. CACTY, commander of the River San Juan, demanding, on the part of Costa Rica, the surrender of that river and its forts from the Nicaraguan authorities. The following additional documents will throw some further light on the subject, and will be read with interest. We subjoin, in the first place, the Nicaraguan acceptance of the Costa Rican declaration of war:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA.

MANAGUA, Oct. 19, 1857.

To the Prefect of the Department of Leon:

The Supreme Executive has directed me to announce through this office the following decree: Considering that the concessions of the Government of this Republic have not been sufficient to satisfy the expectations of that of Costa Rica, and to prevent hostile operations which have for their end the expropriation of the River San Juan, the Lake, and the Isthmus between San Juan del Sur and La Virgen, and which have been put in execution so that the whole line of the Transit may fall into its power.

In view of the dispatch dated Aug. 5, directed to the Minister of Relations of that Republic, conceding to his Government the District of Guanacaste, and of the right bank of the River San Juan, from two miles below Castillo to Point Castilla (Graytown).

And the Captain of the steamer San Carlos, Mr. G. CACTY, having threatened the blockade of the Fort of San Carlos, and demanded the surrender of the public force which has the custody of it, by order of the Commandant-General of the Republic of Costa Rica, as appears from the official note of said Captain, directed to the commander of that fort, a copy of which accompanies this; it is therefore decreed:

ARTICLE 1. Nicaragua will accept the war which the Government of Costa Rica has made against her, and will vindicate her outraged rights, perfidiously violated by the conduct of that Government.

ART. 2. The Government of Nicaragua will preserve intact its rights to all the line of the transit from San Juan del Norte, by the river and lake, to San Juan del Sur; as also those which it holds in the District of Guanacaste, its lands, woods and rivers.

ART. 3. The Government will proceed to raise the necessary force to carry into effect the directions of the present decree.

ART. 4. Communicate the foregoing to the proper officers. Dated in Managua, Oct. 19, 1857.

TOMAS MARTINEZ, MAXIMO JEREZ.

The following are the proclamations of General MARTINEZ upon the Costa Rican declaration of war:

TOMAS MARTINEZ, General of Division, and in Chief of the Army of the Republic.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: Inasmuch as the views of the Government of Costa Rica cover designs easily penetrated, the Government of this Republic had abstained from offering explanations that might offend the delicate susceptibility of its friend and ally. But the press has exposed these views, the Governments of Her Britannic Majesty, and of the United States of North America, have revealed these designs, and the acts of the actual Costa Rican Government have placed them beyond doubt.

The Government of Costa Rica, with the ostensible view of assisting Nicaragua in the defence of the independence of the country, possessed itself of Castillo Viejo; it dismissed from that point the fiscal employe of the Nicaraguan Government; it assumed the sovereignty of the waters of the river and the lake, under the trust of the Republic, for the purpose of blockading the Fort of San Carlos; and lastly, it captured the Nicaraguan passenger boats to San Juan del Norte. It placed forces in Portuga, and it threatens to occupy the neighboring towns to consummate the complete usurpation of the Transit line, and hand it over to WEBSTER, HARRIS and MORGAN, the filibusters, fast friends of WALKER.

The Governments of the other States, becoming aware of these circumstances, that of Salvador has offered its mediation, which Nicaragua accepts, with the hope of arriving at a pacific termination of the present question; and the Commissioner is momentarily expected. He, doubtless, to a certain extent, will be listened to by the Government of Costa Rica, as all the States have an equal interest in preventing all disturbances that might afford filibusterism the desired opportunity to strike a decisive blow against the independence of Central America.

But if Costa Rica does not restrain herself at the imperious voice of reason and national polity, it is necessary that the Nicaraguans repress her audaciousness and arrogance, and defend the integrity of the Republic.

The fratricide which the Government of that Republic seeks to commit, will cover it with approbrium; the defence which you ought to make of your rights will cover you with glory—but if you falter, they will be the glory, yours the shame.

For my own part, placed at the head of the army of the Republic, by a decree of the 20th Inst., I march to Granada to engage seriously in the operations of the war, which, notwithstanding our sentiments of fraternity, we have accepted as the only means of salvation which remain to us after the late events. Union will make us strong, and justice will give us the victory over the unjust aggressor. Such is the conviction of your countryman and friend,

TOMAS MARTINEZ.

MANAGUA, Oct. 22, 1857.

THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA.

COUNTRYMEN: Recent unfortunate events, which have covered Central America in mourning, had destroyed the prosperity of our unfortunate country; and when saved from the momentary danger, we undertook to repair as much as possible the immense evils under which we had suffered—when a united people sought with patriotic endeavor to reconstruct our social and political edifice, and to unite ourselves more strongly with the other States of Central America, to assure our independence and sovereignty—an act highly offensive to the dignity of the Republic and which sought to diminish our territorial integrity, diverted our attention from these important and interesting subjects.

The Government of Costa Rica, regarding but little its own honor and dignity, and the incontestable rights of Nicaragua, and forgetful of the common danger which from abroad threatened both it and us, pretends to appropriate the dominion of the line of the transit, established by way of the river San Juan and Lake of Nicaragua, and to that end has ordered a blockade of the fort of San Carlos, and a demand to the officer in charge of it to surrender or perish from hunger. An act so oppressive and unjust towards us, consequent upon the disorder and calamities in which our people have been involved, can only elicit a sentiment of indignation in the heart of every good Nicaraguan; and the Government, profoundly offended, has not hesitated to accept the war she has so inexcusably provoked, well assured of the ardent enthusiasm which animates you for the honor and interest of our common country.

I have taken the command of the army in order to vindicate with arms our rights, attacked by a Government whose unhalloved ambition is not arrested by the principles of justice, by the sanctity of truth, by the ties of fraternity and common interest, by the idea in fine, the supreme idea of the misfortunes which overwhelm us, and towards which is pointed, as towards us, the terrible threat of filibusterism, and whose consummation is made easier by its misguided proceedings.

The Government of Costa Rica can scarcely harbor the idea that our people have become so debilitated by a war so prolonged and devastating, as to have sunk to that depth of degradation which will tolerate outrage upon our most sacred rights.

Nicaragua will prove to the world that the detraction from her wealth, that the revolutions from which she has suffered, that the disorder in which she has lived, that the many and great misfortunes of which she has been the victim, have not extinguished the sentiment of national honor, of independence and liberty; and that she will a thousand times rather disappear from the catalogue of nations, than to humiliate herself by receiving the law from—by admitting the tutelage of—any one who presumes upon her impotence to force her to surrender the most valuable portions of her territory.

We have ample means for war and for peace. Our Government does not deny and is not ungrateful for the important services of the people of Costa Rica in the struggle that has just ended. It does not deny the imperious necessity that calls upon the two countries to unite and identify their interests to preserve their political existence; it does not deny, in fine, that the people of Costa Rica may be forced by their unjust Government into a fratricidal war, without adopting the sentiments which conduce to this unpardonable wrong; and with this conviction I have been invested with full faculties, so that, in case it be possible to come to an understanding, I can bring about a union on a basis most advantageous to both countries; but this union must spring from the defence of Nicaragua, and from her benevolent sentiments towards Costa Rica. It can never be the result of the aggressions of the actual Government, which infringes upon the most sacred rights of nations, inflicting upon our country the great humiliation of seeing the most valuable portion of her territory usurped, and which takes so much pains to dishonor and vilify us in the ears of the world, to justify its pretensions, that now give rise to our just indignation.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The moment has arrived to prove that we yet have life and being; and that we cannot be vilified and insulted with impunity; that we cannot with impunity be robbed, and subjected to the shameful condition of the abject and imbecile. Our cause is holy. Central America and the whole world will justify us; and even the people whom it is proposed to use against us will acknowledge our rights and perceive in the attempt of their Government against us another motive to subtract from its fatal power, and to fraternize with us, in order to secure their future safety.

The war, then, is against the Government of Costa Rica, and not against the people who groan beneath its tyrannies. Let us counsel them to accept our desire for union, as also the defence with which we desire to recompense them for their sacrifices in our behalf, and to prevent the shedding of blood and the ravages of war.

NICARAGUA. The campaign is opened. Gather

about the Government which counts upon your cooperation, your patriotism, your strength and your resources.

CHIEFS, OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS: Fly to defend with your blood the national honor and the most sacred rights of your country. She expects from us her salvation. I shall accompany you everywhere, and guarantee in your name, constancy, subordination and valor.

TOMAS MARTINEZ. GRANADA, Oct. 26, 1857.

THE SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE ARMY.

To the Inhabitants of the Department of Leon: FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: The Republic is perfidiously invaded. The Government of Costa Rica has resolved to take possession of the Transit line from sea to sea, to place it at the disposition of the Morgan Company; and with incredible perfidy has directed its operations against our military posts. Neither our defenses, nor the cordial sentiment which obtains of uniting our two countries in a single Republic, have sufficed to prevent the Government of Costa Rica from harboring the idea of usurpation, interpreting, no doubt, our generosity as imbecility and impotence.

The Government of Nicaragua does not seek war. It detests it, but it does not fear it. It accepts it because the war is provoked. It accepts it, because it is her duty to preserve intact the territory of the Republic, and not to see snatched from her with impunity, and with unheard-of abuse of confidence, rights that have never been disputed.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: Only an imperious necessity induces us to appeal to arms. The country exacts new sacrifices from us. You are the witnesses of the steps that have been taken to establish union and peace. MORA alone is the author of the war. Costa Ricans have no part in his perfidy and ambition. They are only the victims.

CHIEFS, OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY: Gen. MARTINEZ, Commander in Chief of the Army of the Republic, and your comrades of the other departments, expect us with anxiety on the field of honor. They have confidence in your valor and patriotism, to hasten to the defence and vindication of the rights of the nation.

MAXIMO JEREZ. LEON, Oct. 25, 1857.

The Treaty Between the United States and New-Granada.

We find in the *Lima Comercio* an extract from the Convention signed at Washington on the 10th September by the Secretary of State and the Plenipotentiary of New-Granada. It was probably furnished the *Comercio* by the Peruvian Minister at Washington. As the reports of this treaty heretofore published were not very full, we translate the document from the *Comercio*:

ARTICLE 1. New-Granada acknowledges her responsibility for the damages caused by the riot at Panama on the 15th of April, 1856, a responsibility as well out of an obligation as from an attribute of her sovereignty; and all the reclamations originating in this riot, as well as others which are pending between her and citizens of the United States, shall be submitted to a commission, which shall assemble in Washington, composed of two persons, one to be named by New-Granada and the other by the United States, settling all the cases of discord by an arbitration, named by themselves, before commencing their labors, or by the Minister of Prussia in the United States, if the Commissioners cannot agree in the selection.

ART. 2. The Commission shall examine and decide upon the claims that shall be presented by the Government of the United States, fix the sums which shall be paid, in cases which they shall consider it just to indemnify the claimants; issue to each one the respective certificate, and the total shall be paid to the Government of the United States at Washington, in equal quantities semi-annually. Each sum shall gain an interest of six per centum (payable also half-yearly) from the day when the respective claims shall be admitted.

ART. 3. To meet these payments, New-Granada shall especially designate one-half of the whole sum which she shall receive from her per centage of the Panama Railroad, and if this shall not suffice, she shall pay the balance from other resources.

ART. 4. The decisions of the Commission shall be definitive in respect to all the claims that shall be presented, and its decisions shall be a complete discharge for New-Granada from all the claims of citizens of the United States against her, that have their origin previous to the signing of the Convention.

ART. 5. Each Government shall pay the cost of its commission, and the arbiter and the incidental charges shall be divided between the two nations.

ART. 6. The exchange of ratifications shall be within nine months from the signing of the Convention, or before if possible. The commission shall assemble within ninety days after the exchange of ratifications, its labors lasting nine months; six months after the day of their cessation shall be the date of the first payment, and the total shall be completed in eight years from the same date.

ART. 7. As the United States may desire to purchase or rent a portion of the land of one of the Islands in the Bay of Panama, for the purpose of establishing a depot there, for coal, the Government of New-Granada being solicitous to favor in this desire a friendly nation, concedes to the United States the privilege of purchasing or renting said portion of land, which shall not exceed one hundred English acres in extent, in which the United States may construct wharves, quays, and whatever constructions may be necessary for the enjoyment of this privilege with the above-mentioned object; and whilst the United States shall occupy this land, no contributions of whatever nature shall be exacted from her, nor upon the wharves, quays, or other constructions erected by her, nor upon the property of the United States which shall be employed or deposited there. But it is understood and expressly stipulated that the anterior concession shall not impair or affect in any manner the territorial sovereignty of the Republic of New Granada upon the portion of land taken, which it is stipulated to sell or rent to the United States.

Panama Items.

Our Panama correspondent in a letter dated the 19th of November, sends the following:

Col. G. M. TORREN, the builder of the Panama Railroad, goes to New-York on this steamer. His unflinching attention to his onerous duties for seven years, on this Isthmus, has somewhat injured his general health, and he is now suffering much from a dimness of sight, occasioned, I believe, by a nervous attack some weeks since. But a few months of the fresh air of the North will restore his accustomed elasticity, when he will return to his post.

The *Aspinwall Courier* died last week from lack of cash. This paper had been established for about four years, and was of great benefit to such of the New-York and New-Orleans press as could not afford to maintain a correspondent on the Isthmus.

I passed over the Railroad with the United States troops and a portion of the New-York passengers on Sunday, the 15th. Notwithstanding that we are in the height of the rainy season, the running time, 49 miles, occupied only two hours. Most of the magnificent iron bridges are now up, and the road the whole length has been so solidified the past year, as to make it equal to many of the best roads in the Atlantic States. The Company have kept about 800 men constantly employed on the road since it was opened in 1855, the expense of which has served to keep down the dividends to 12 per cent. a year. But now that the bridges are up, a fine stone depot built at Aspinwall, and convenient depots all along the route, the stockholders will no doubt commence to receive greater profit from the enterprise.

Considerable feeling exists here among a certain class of speculators in money, on account of a notice from the Chief Engineer of the Railroad, that the Company would no longer receive English, French, Central and South American gold at four or five per cent. above its real value. They thought a notice of three or six months should have been given, in order that they might get rid of the amount already on hand, and addressed Colonel TORREN remonstrating against his decision. But the Colonel remains firm. As of course, if the time asked had been given, the big capitalist would have pained all the depreciated gold of or to the railroad and the little capitalists, Colonel TORREN is to be applauded for his decision. Those who complain most at now losing a few hundred dollars by this decision, have made many hundreds by the coin slave.

Affairs in Chili.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE—THE NEW CABINET—PROJECTS FOR REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT—ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION OF GOV. BIGLER—THE "SPORTSMAN" CASE—MISCELLANEOUS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

VALPARAISO, Friday, Nov. 16, 1857.

The last fortnight has been eminently barren of such news as can interest your general readers. There are many Chilians, however, who are constant readers of the *TIMES*, who will find in the letter I am about writing you much that will please them. Among you are many of Chili's best citizens in the enjoyment of an honorable exile, and in their letters home your columns often give them eloquent subjects of interest for their readers here.

Chili has redeemed herself, and I recall all the predictions I have made to you in my former letter. When I last wrote you everything looked gloomy, and specks on the horizon were fast becoming clouds. The President was unable to find four men who would take Cabinet office under him but a change has come over the spirit of the political dream of this little star of the South. The Cabinet is formed, and is composed of the bone and sinew and intellect of the Republic. URMENETA takes the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs; SOLAS of Hacienda; SAN FRIENTES of Public Instruction, and GARCIA of War and Marine. Their very names are household words among the several conflicting parties, and all dissensions have been healed with the announcement of their acceptance of office.

It will be something of assurance of how libe-

ral will be the conduct of the new Administration when I tell you that the Premier was educated during long years in the United States. Among the first acts of the new Administration have been the convening an extra session of Congress and the submitting to them the following questions. The budget of supplies which had been refused a passage by the late Congress, and which has been voted *non. con.* by this. A project for an entire reform of the manner of conducting elections, substituting instead of the old customs, of making candidates of those only whom the Government designated, the choice of the people, constituting a Congress which will give every opportunity to Chili of showing to the world how ably she can administer her Constitution when untrammelled and unbiased by fear or political favor. A project for the establishment of a broader system of public instruction, which has become a pet idea among the better classes of Santiago and Valparaiso. A loan of seven millions of dollars to aid the Government to carry on the Valparaiso and Santiago Railroad, and to perfect certain internal improvements already projected or under way. In short, a number of great strides forward have been taken by Chili in the last fortnight.

The opposition journals are hushed, and rather lend their voices to congratulate the country that the political *El Dorado* has been reached, and that the Hydra-headed monster of revolution, which threatened to devastate their country, has been crushed.

In the interim all who have until now been exiled from their families and homes have been recalled, and the year 1857 will be long remembered at many a fireside in Chili.

Among the events of the last two weeks has been the presentation of Gov. BIGLER, late of California, as Minister Plenipotentiary near this Government. I send you a copy of his speech as translated from the papers of this city, as well as the reply of the President. [These were published in the *TIMES* of yesterday in the letter of another correspondent.—Ed.]

The Governor has only entered upon his official duties. He will have abundance of work to employ him for months to come, and among other interesting items he will find the *sportsman* case, in which many of our citizens and one of the first houses in the City are interested. What has been done in the matter has not transpired yet, but that the prosecution of a claim against the Government, in consequence of it, is actively going on, I have no doubt.

We have had throughout the country most copious rains, and will have probably the most abundant wheat crop known for years.

Among the American vessels now in port we have the *Red Rover*, *Reliance*, *Peru*, *Mariana* and *Emelina*.

Trade is particularly dull and exchange very high. The loan, however, about being made, will lower the rate of the latter.