

WASHINGTON.

The Relations Between Spain and Peru.

VIEWS OF THE SPANISH MINISTER.

The Instructions to Minister Motley.

Negotiations in the Alabama Matter to be Deferred.

OUR MISSING MINISTER IN PARAGUAY.

WASHINGTON, June 15, 1862.

A Cable Telegram Denied—Minister Motley's Instructions—Temporary Postponement of the Alabama Question—No Proposition to be Submitted by Mr. Motley.

It is not true, as announced in a recent cable telegram, that, in an official communication Minister Motley intimated that the American administration concurs in the reasons which led the Senate to reject the Alabama treaty. Such was not the tenor of his instructions concerning his intercourse with her Majesty's government, and it is not, therefore, considered probable that he would make that assertion. It is, however, certain that he was instructed to explain the circumstances attending the rejection of the treaty, without committing this government to any line of policy, but at the same time standing by the rejection of the treaty. Minister Motley is not instructed to make any proposition for the settlement of the claims, but to say that in view of the irritation in England, owing to the rejection of the treaty, the present is not an auspicious time to propose the reopening of negotiations. In other words, the temporary postponement of the question is desirable, with the hope that when the excitement shall subside her Majesty's government will invite a reopening of negotiations. He is not authorized to announce the readiness of our government to make any proposition on that subject nor to demand the payment of the amount of damages, national as well as individual, but to assure her Majesty's government of the sincere desire of our own to have all matters of dispute adjusted on terms honorable and satisfactory to both nations. Another point in the instructions is in effect that the mere proclamation declaring the rebels entitled to belligerent rights is not in itself a cause for demanding damages or a separate ground of complaint; but this, taken in connection with subsequent acts, was unfriendly and showed a spirit of hostility against the United States during the late war, resulting in losses which required reparation. The instructions were prepared at the Department of State about ten days before Minister Motley left this country. Having been slightly modified at the instance of President Grant himself, they were carefully considered by the Cabinet, to whom they were acceptable, and were soon thereafter handed to Motley without further amendment. The only specific instructions to Motley as to treaty negotiations are with reference to naturalization and consuls, and it is supposed by this time he has entered upon that duty.

Spanish Views of the Cuban Question—The Revelation Virtually at an End—Vigorous Policy to be Pursued by the New Captain General.

The contradictory reports sent from Cuba with regard to the respective power and prospects of the Spaniards and the insurgents are not the only illustrations of the wide difference of opinion which exists on that subject. The other day I sent you the opinions of Secretary Fish and the Cuban agents on the prospect of the success of the Cuban. It will be remembered they thought the Spanish power was about gone. In conversation with the Spanish Minister to-day I said, "What about Cuba, Mr. Roberts?"

"Oh, it is virtually at an end," he said, with a satisfactory shrug of his shoulders.

I was at a loss to know whether he meant the insurrection or the effort of Spain to suppress it, so I said, "Which is at an end, the insurrection or the Spanish power in Cuba?"

"Oh, the insurrection," he replied. "There is very little left of it," he continued, "and it will soon be put down—that is, if no new political complications should arise."

By political complications I understood him to mean favorable action on the part of the United States towards Cuba. Mr. Roberts seems well satisfied that the policy of our government towards Cuba will not be changed, and he therefore gives himself little trouble on that score. He denies that the Spanish volunteers in Cuba are disposed to be mutinous towards the civil representatives of the Spanish government and does not believe that they contemplate a counter revolution among themselves. The new Captain General Rodas, Mr. Roberts expects to reach Havana about the 24th. He thinks he will be installed in his office without difficulty, and will set about in good earnest to put down the insurgents and restore peace to the island. Of course Mr. Roberts put little faith in what he terms the Cuban stories about the landing of filibusters. He does not believe there is any considerable number of them on the island, nor does he think it possible for them to land in respectable force at any point where they could effect a junction with the insurgents before the Spanish forces would be upon them.

The Spanish Minister Exercised Over the Recognition of Cuba by Peru.

The Spanish Minister, M. Roberts, who has been absent from the city for some days, returned on Sunday evening. Yesterday he was at the State Department seeking an interview with Secretary Fish relative to the new complications which have arisen in Cuba. Owing to the fact that Mr. Fish was detained at his house by illness M. Roberts did not see him. Soon after the recognition of the belligerent rights of the Cubans by the Peruvian government the Spanish Minister called upon Secretary Fish about the matter. It appears that since the acceptance by both Spain and Peru of the friendly intervention of the United States in their late quarrel all diplomatic business between the two governments has been carried on through the United States. The Spanish Minister here does not recognize the Peruvian Minister officially, nor does the latter recognize the former. The business of their respective governments with each other is transacted through our State Department. When M. Roberts first spoke to Mr. Fish about the action of the Peruvian government towards the patriot Cubans the Secretary of State did not credit it. He had not at that time received any official notice of it. M. Roberts, however, gave full credence to it. Mr. Fish asked him what he thought of it. The Spanish Minister replied that he looked upon it as a breach of good faith and honor with the United States. He did not care and he did not suppose his government would care for the action of Peru. It could not, in his opinion, affect the Cuban insurrection one way or the other. Peru was too far away from Cuba, and, besides, had neither money, men nor munitions of war to spare. Of course, it was, as far as it went, an act of hostility towards Spain, and did Spain regard Peru as of any account in this business would be sufficient cause for reopening hostilities; but both parties had put their old quarrel into the hands of the United States government for settlement, and both of them were in honor bound not to do anything to cause a revival of hostilities without first apprising the United States of their intention. M. Roberts does not think Spain is bound, under the circumstances, to observe the arrangement of arbitration entered into by herself and Peru, now that the latter has ceased to respect her part of the contract. Nor does he think that the United States ought to have anything further to do with Peru, inasmuch as the latter is guilty of a breach of good faith towards our government. It is said M. Roberts in illustrating the matter compared it to two gentlemen quarrelling, and one in whom both

belligerents have confidence, steps in, and both the parties say they are satisfied to leave the matter in his hands, and the quarrel ends with this understanding. Subsequently, however, one of them renews the quarrel, without consulting this mutual friend. What would the mutual friend say? He ought to say, "You have not kept your word with me. You do not have confidence in me, and I want no more to do with you." Secretary Fish, to be sure, had no remedy in the premises, except to adopt the course pursued by the "mutual friend" in the Spanish Minister's illustration. It is not ascertained, however, that he has notified the Peruvian government of the refusal of our government to continue longer as an arbitrator in the settlement of her difficulty with Spain.

The Late Sale of Iron-Clads—The Monitor Still in the Market.

None of the bids offered at the Navy Department yesterday for the purchase of the iron-clad Nanseet, Waxsaw, Chimo and others have been accepted on account of being under appraised value. The highest bid, it will be remembered, was from Richard Wallach, of this city, offering \$160,000 each for any two, but this amount was under the appraisement, consequently the proposal was rejected. The monitors are still in the market and bids will be received for them at the Bureau of Construction and Repair at any time.

Diplomatic Rumors—Canards Exploded—Transfers of Ministers.

There is the best authority for stating that Minister Thornton is not to be transferred to Madrid. The report that he had been notified of promotion to the Spanish mission seems to have no foundation whatever. Mr. Thornton has received no such notification, nor does he believe that any such is contemplated by his government. Perhaps the only ground for the story is to be found in the fact that there is now a vacancy in the Spanish mission, and that one of his predecessors, Sir John Crampton, was transferred from Washington to Madrid, which he has just resigned, on account of ill health ostensibly, but really, as some people say here, because he has found Spanish society very unpleasant since the marriage of his former wife, Miss Balfe, to a Castilian nobleman. The latter cause can hardly be the real one, for Sir John might reasonably be expected to have become used to the thing by mere lapse of time.

No News of Minister McMahon—Refusal of the Allies to Permit an American Escort to Pass Their Lines.

The State Department has received no positive or direct information from Minister McMahon since December last, when he arrived at Asuncion. All other information is rumor or speculation. The latest official despatches are dated April 9 from Buenos Ayres and Rio Janeiro the 24th of the same month.

Mr. Worthington, Minister to Uruguay, writes from Buenos Ayres that he had demanded of the Argentine government either an escort through the allied lines or for permission for a United States escort to pass through them, to enable our government to communicate with Minister McMahon. Both the Buenos Ayres and Brazilian governments have refused the right, on the ground that it could not then be granted without affecting the proposed hostile movements of the government, which were soon to take place, and which would open up the communication desired. Mr. Worthington replied that he had already waited forty days for the movements to be made; that the right of the government of the United States to have the communication made was undisputed, and as the allies would not aid our government it would be driven on its own resources to obtain the communication. Commander Kirkland, of the Wasp, had a sharp correspondence with the Brazilian and Buenos Ayrean governments on the subject.

Sumner Becoming Unpopular with Foreign Diplomats.

Sumner has got to be unpopular with the foreign legations here. He used to be the "white-headed boy" with all of them until he made that terrible speech about the Alabama claims and alluded in secret session of the Senate to some private information obtained during private talks with the legation people. Perhaps the only members of the legations that pretend to relish Sumner's course are the Frenchmen, who in secret gloat over what they consider the anubbing of "perfidious Albion."

Caleb Cushing.

Old Caleb Cushing seems to be looming up here again. He is getting into the confidence of the highest people of the government, and appears to be consulted on the most important matters of policy. What is very strange, too, he is the bosom friend of both Fish and Sumner, who represent widely different interests. One day he is closeted with Fish, congratulating him on his masterly foreign policy, and the next he is in confidential confab with the illustrious Charles, who, it is said, regards his utterances as those of an oracle.

Illness of Secretary Fish.

Secretary Fish has been quite unwell for two days. He has been confined to his house, but his ailment, though unfitting him for attention to business, is not of a dangerous character.

A Fashionable Wedding in Prospect.

It is rumored that M. Le Comte de Turenne, Second Secretary of the French Legation, is about to commit matrimony with a Washington belle. The Comte is a descendant of the great Turenne.

Commotion in the War Department.

The heads of the various branches of the War Office had a sort of caucus to-day regarding the famous Rawlins order dismissing the clerks by wholesale. It is understood that they have agreed to recommend to Secretary Rawlins a revocation of the order. Nearly all of them have written letters to the Secretary representing the impolicy of the order, and declaring that if carried out it would suspend the operations of the whole department. General Meigs has written a particularly strong letter on the subject.

Discharge of Government Employees.

The Pension Bureau has twenty-eight clerks in excess of the number allowed, and consequently that number will be removed by July 1, and the notices to those named for removal will be delivered in a day or two. As the law no longer recognizes female clerks in this bureau, the twelve female copyists employed will also be dismissed. Thirteen dismissals of watchmen in the Interior Department building will take place this week to reduce the force to the number required by law. Forty clerks in the Land Office are soon to be removed.

Authority of Revenue Officers—Important Decision.

Supervisor Ferris, of the North and South Carolina district, informs Commissioner Delano that a case involving the right of internal revenue officials to examine the books of shipment of merchandise subject to internal revenue tax, which he was instrumental in bringing before the court at Raleigh, N. C., had recently been decided in favor of the supervisor in every particular. The case grew out of the seizure by the supervisor of the books of the North Carolina Railroad Company for the purpose of obtaining information concerning shipments of tobacco, whiskey, stills and other merchandise, which seizure was resisted by the freight agent of the company; whereupon the supervisor procured an attachment. Chief Justice Chase was present at the trial of the freight agent for contempt, in having refused to obey a summons to appear with the books of the company at the supervisor's office, although he did not exercise jurisdiction in the case.

More Quaker Indian Agents.

The Society of Friends have presented to the Secretary of the Interior for appointment as Indian agents for the Central Superintendency the names of the following members of their religious order:—Cyrus Beede, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, for the Neosho agency; John D. Miles, of Wabash, Ind., for the Kickapoos; Jonathan Richards, of Philadelphia, for the Pottawatomies; Thomas Miller, of Springfield, Ohio, for the Sacs and Foxes, and Nathan Stubbs, of Kansas, for the Kansas Indians.

Murder of Revenue Officers by Texan Smugglers.

Intelligence was received at the Treasury Department to-day of the murder of Mr. Frank Dupont, Inspector of Customs, near Brownsville, Texas. He is supposed to have been murdered by smugglers on the Mexican border. His body was found in the river. He is the third victim of the smugglers there within the last six months.

Astronomical Observations in Iowa.

Professors Simon Newcomb, William Harkness and John R. Eastman are ordered to proceed to Des Moines, Iowa, or within 100 miles of that city, for the purpose of making observations of the eclipse of the sun on the 16th of August next.