

# BELLIGERENT RECOGNITION OF CUBA.

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**Official Recognition of Cuban Belligerency by Peru and Chile—Their Ministers at Washington Instructed to Use Their Good Offices With Our Government—Interesting Letters on the Subject.**

The following are the official documents from the governments of Chile and Peru acknowledging the Cuban patriots as belligerents:—

## RECOGNITION OF CHILE.

**OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, }  
Republic of Chile, 30th April, 1869. }**

Sir—His Excellency the President of the republic has carefully considered the contents of your despatch of the 9th December, 1868, which was forwarded to him on the 14th January last by the agent of the provisional government of Cuba at Kingston, Jamaica, and he has directed me to give your Excellency the following reply:—The said despatch of your Excellency, after having shown the origin, the object and the progress of the Cuban revolution, solicits of the government of Chile that it should recognize the patriots of Cuba as belligerents, and that it should lend them all the support to which the identity of the two countries point. Also that it should use its influence with other nations to prevent the Spanish government from continuing to burn the properties, destroying the cities and imprisoning families. Above all, I would assure your Excellency that the government of Chile has witnessed the recent events in Cuba with that lively interest which they merit. Not alone on account of the firm bonds which exist between two American peoples like those of Chile and Cuba, but likewise that the object of the insurrection of that island is

completely analogous to that which at the commencement of this century resulted in the independence of Chile and the other States of this continent.

In view of the immense proportions which the insurrection of Cuba has assumed and the organization upon which it is based the government of Chile believes that the patriots of Cuba are entitled to be recognized in the capacity of belligerents, and it accordingly recognizes them as such.

In regard to all which concerns the mode of regulating war, your Excellency will inform yourself of the measures which my government has taken in this respect by the copies of the despatches addressed to the representative of the republic in the United States of North America and in Peru, which I have the honor of enclosing and forwarding to your Excellency.

I am glad at being enabled to avail myself of this opportunity of offering to your Excellency the expression of my respectful consideration, with which I have the honor to subscribe myself your Excellency's respectful and sincere servant,

MIGUEL LUIS AMUNATEGUI.

To His Excellency the Chief of the Provisional Government of Cuba.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, }  
REPUBLIC OF CHILE, }

SANTIAGO, April 15, 1869. }

The government of Chile has witnessed with the liveliest interest the political events which have lately transpired in Cuba. From the intelligences we have received of these events it seems beyond a question of doubt that the insurrection undertaken by those who are proclaiming the independence of that island acquires daily additional force, and everything tends to indicate that the struggle of the Spanish authorities against the insurgents will be prolonged and bloody. Eyewitnesses worthy of credence agree in asserting that this war has assumed an inhuman character, which civilized people cannot view with indifference, the similarity of origin, of religion, of language which exists between the Chilean and Cuban people, no less than the sentiments of humanity, would have induced my government to promote the regulation of this war; but the position of our relations with Spain prevents Chile exercising her good offices to such end.

It is not thus with the people and the government of the United States. The amicable relations which it cultivates with Spain, inspires us with confidence that the latter will not be indifferent to the prestige of the influence of the former and its amicable intervention. The vicinity even of the scene of the war offers the North American government a title, and a motive, too, for endeavoring to insure the more humane conduct of the combatants.

I request you then, under such impressions, to seek an interview with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and through him to place before the government at Washington the desires of Chile of which I now inform you.

I have pleasure in believing that the American government will lend to this suggestion of mine a reception so much the more kindly, as you ought not to forget that the cause which the insurgents of Cuba fight for is that same noble cause on behalf of which the people of the United States, and of all the republics of America made, at another epoch, so many and such great heroic sacrifices.

I request you at the same time to make such arrangements as will always keep this office well informed of the events of this war, forwarding us by each opportunity intelligence which you deem most credible.

To the CHARGE D'AFFAIRES for Chile at Washington.

True copy for the principal officer, Chief of Section.

EMILIO BELLO.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, }

REPUBLIC OF CHILE, SANTIAGO, April 15, 1869. }

By the enclosed copy you will be informed of the despatch which I to-day address to our Minister at Washington, with the view of directing the attention of the government of the United States to the subject of the war undertaken by the insurgents of Cuba, proclaiming the independence of that island and desirous too of inducing that government to exercise its good offices with the object of regulating this war, to which, it appears, the colonial authorities have commenced to give an inhuman character.

With respect to the despatch to which I refer you will solicit the concurrence of the government of Peru, so that by the aid of its representative at Washington it will associate itself with our request, and thus enable us to work together with greater efficacy, in the matter which for numerous grave considerations (will not conceal themselves from your discernment) cannot be indifferent to us.

MIGUEL LUIS AMUNATEGUI.

To the CHARGES D'AFFAIRES for Chile at Lima.

True copy for the principal officer, chief of section.

EMILIO BELLO.

RECOGNITION BY PERU.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, }

REPUBLIC OF PERU, LIMA, May 13, 1869. }

SIR—His Excellency, the President of Peru, has received with particular satisfaction the note which your Excellency has addressed to him under date 10th December last, in which your Excellency after having explained the origin, the object and the progress of the Cuban insurrection against the government of Spain, solicits that the Peruvian government will recognize as belligerents the Cuban patriots who are fighting for their independence, and lend them the support which our identity of origin demands, and, that we should interpose our influence with other nations in order that the Spanish government should regulate the operations of war.

His Excellency the President of Peru, faithful interpreter of the sentiments of his country, sympathizes deeply with the noble cause of which your Excellency constitutes himself the worthy champion, and he will do his utmost to mark the interest which that island, so worthy of taking its place with the civilized nations of the world, inspires him with. The Peruvian government recognizes then as belligerents the party which is fighting for the independence of Cuba, and will strive its utmost to secure their recognition as such by other nations, and likewise that the war, which unfortunately continues, should be properly regulated in conformity with international usages and laws. To such end I write by order of his Excellency to our Legation at Washington.

Please accept for your excellency the consideration of his Excellency the President of Peru and the very respectful and distinguished sentiments with which I have the honor to subscribe myself. Your Excellency's very humble and very devoted servant,

J. A. BARRENECHEA.

To His Excellency the Captain General of the Liberating Army of Cuba, CARLOS MANUEL CESPEDES.