

PERU.

Independence of Cuba Recognized by Peru.

PANAMA, August 23, 1869.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer Panama, from Valparaiso 3d August, and Callao 14th, arrived in this harbor on the 20th inst. Her cargo for New York consists of eighty-one bales goat skins, 145 cocoons bark and four packages sundries. •

In addition to your regular correspondence from Callao I find a decree, issued just prior to the sailing of the steamer, by President Balta, recognizing the independence of Cuba, which I translate below:—

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Considering that after the declaration made by the government, recognizing as belligerents the Cubans who are struggling for their independence, the insurrection against the Spanish government has progressed to the extent of having a political organization, the evidences of which are a Congress and government with sufficient material means to carry on the struggle, and in virtue of the justice of the holy cause of independence which gives them the right to conquer;

That the government of Peru, having declared itself a friend to the revolted Cubans, ought, now that they are organized, to recognize as a friend the government of the Cuban republic;

That this cannot have effect without first acknowledging the existence and the character of the government that rules Cuba.

I decree—single article—the independence of the Island of Cuba from Spanish dominion and also the republican form of government therein established are hereby recognized.

The Minister of Foreign Relations is charged with the fulfilment of this decree.

Let it be communicated, published and recorded.

Given at Lima on the 18th of August, 1869.

J. A. BAPTECHER.

JOSÉ BALTA.

The Anniversary Holidays—Revolutionary Movements—The Arequipenians Discontented—Impending Catastrophe—Current News.

LIMA, August 14, 1869.

The anniversary holidays were observed here to-day with unexampled enthusiasm. The festivi-

ties and enjoyments extended over five days, the usual time being but three.

Although not graced with a crown the head of President Balta does not appear to lie easily. It is known that Prado left Chile about a month ago for Europe, via the *Survita*, and on the receipt of the intelligence here it was confidently reported that his voyage had for its destination Rio Janeiro, and its object the capture of the Peruvian monitors, by moral suasion, thus obtaining the means to continue his trip to Cuba, place his vessel at the service of the patriots, in consideration of heavy rewards that had been offered him by the Cuban envoy in Chile. Absurd as this story may appear, it so alarmed the government—dreading the ultimate consequences of Prado's rather dubious success—that the Minister of the Interior, Captain Ferreyros, was ordered to leave his portfolio and take command of the corvette *Union*. This he did, and the vessel, thoroughly provisioned and coaled, sailed from Callao on the 25th. She will probably endeavor to make Rio before the formidable Prado arrives there, and thus thwart his efforts by force.

Mr. Velarde, a very able administrative officer, succeeds to the ministerial post vacated by Ferreyros. The affair may be a canard. The government has no definite information, but acts from precaution only.

In spite of the ruin caused in Arequipa by the earthquake of last year and the general prostration of business in that department, the traditional renown of revolutionary movements enjoyed by its inhabitants seems destined to increase. Never satisfied with the proceedings of the general government, and considering the present administration as sectional, General Balta, the President, being from the North, the Arequipenians have just been discovered in a new plot to overturn the existing order of things and bring more trouble and bloodshed on the republic. A Colonel Gamio, who recently was deposed from the direction of the Callao Custom House for suspicious proceedings, arrived in Callao a day or two since, having been sent by the Prefect of Arequipa, under a close guard, and accused of treason. No one doubts the guilt of the prisoner; but his family, united to that of the Archbishop of Peru, have such influence as to render his punishment extremely doubtful. In Arequipa Gamio had organized a plan of revolt, and only the vigilance and intelligence of the Prefect prevented a serious disturbance of the public peace. Until Peru has a President sufficiently firm to shoot such conspirators the internal political condition of the country will be precarious.

As the readers of the *HERALD* have already been informed, a terrible catastrophe is overhanging Peru. A Catholic clergyman in Leipzig, the Rev. Mr. Falb, editor of a scientific journal called the *Sirius*, predicts that on the 30th of September or the 1st of October of this year Peru and Ecuador will be overwhelmed by the most tremendous earthquake that has yet been experienced. This gentleman is a savant of some European celebrity, and has formed a peculiar theory regarding the causes of these phenomena, attributing them to the influence of the moon and other celestial bodies on the masses of water contained in this planet. Whether the ideas of the reverend gentleman be correct or not is not known, since philosophers as yet not agreeing on any one principle regarding earthquakes, may be confided in indiscriminately or not at all; but the people here are thoroughly alarmed, and Mr. Falb may have the dubious satisfaction of having spread terror through two republics, containing together nearly 4,000,000 of inhabitants. He refers to a number of his journal published two years ago, in which he distinctly predicted the great movement of the earth that was so destructively felt here in August, 1864, and positively affirms the certainty of the coming catastrophe.

The Grand General Mosquera, formerly President of Colombia, and well known in the United States, at present residing here in exile, has been the hero of the last few days. The Minister of Ecuador in Peru informed his government that Mosquera was organizing an expedition to land upon the coast of Ecuador and dethrone the so-called President, but real king of that country, Garcia Moreno. To this accusation Mosquera has replied in a published letter, declaring the attack to be totally false, and bestowing upon his assailant some of the strongest terms to be found in the Spanish dictionary. The General is in good health, and will probably return to his own country shortly, it being considered almost certain that he will be elected President in the coming contest in Colombia.

The government has determined to fix the price of guano in foreign countries at thirteen pounds sterling the ton, thus being a rise of one pound sterling on the old prices. In Europe, where artificial fertilizers are not generally used and where the guano has become an article of indispensable necessity, the sale will not be checked by this decision; but in the United States it is feared that a considerable falling off will take place in the consumption of the article.

Baron Gauldrée Boilleau, the French Envoy Extraordinary accredited to this republic, arrived on the 1st inst. and was immediately presented to the President.

The news of the appointment of a commissioner on the part of the United States in the claim convention about to be held with Peru was gladly received by Americans, and especially by those persons whose claims have been filed in our Legation here for nearly ten years. This government is anxious to have everything adjusted in the most equitable manner, and no doubt the damages done to Americans and their property will be promptly settled.