

Legation of Nicaragua
New York Sept 4th 1856

Hon. John A. Quitman
Washington D.C.

Dear General

I have been waiting anxiously to hear from you in regard to my last advice. The steamer for Nicaragua sails on the 9th inst - in 5 days - and I am very desirous of getting a definite reply from the US Government before that time.

Gen. Goconria has gone to Washington under the pretext of conferring with Mr. Lowe, who it is rumored, has power from the English government in regard to the Uruguayan question. I expected to hear my opinion that it was hardly in keeping with diplomatic usages and with his peculiar limitations to have anything to say upon that subject in the United States except through me - and that the fact of his visiting Washington and having interviews with parties connected with the government of the United States or semi-official, delegates by England to confer with said government, would injuriously affect my position. But in spite of this he has gone. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss have struck up a sudden intimacy and from various circumstances I am convinced that there is an undercurrent working against me. The letter in the Times which attacked me I am satisfied never came from Granada.

Several of the leading members of the Democratic party in this city are anxious to get up a meeting to voice the feeling of this community upon the subject.

in the event that the Administration refuses to receive me.

Mr. Weiss has refused to turn over the archives of the Legation to me. I sent him a note by Don Pedro G. Silva, Secy of Legation, after having had several unsatisfactory interviews with him, requesting him so to do, which he refused to answer. Under these circumstances I have thought that my proper course would be to take decided steps to assert my position, and if he interferes at all with my duties I shall publish a copy of my credentials and warn all parties from treating with him in behalf of the government of Nicaragua in any way. I represented to him that a persistence in the views which he seems to him taken would place him in a position antagonistic to the administration of President Walker, that his authority was derived from a representative of Rivas who was now a traitor to the government of Nicaragua - and his pretending to hold diplomatic powers derived from Rivas who still claims to be President of Nicaragua, would offend the United States a plausible excuse for refusing to receive a Minister of President Walker until the question was decided by the overthrow of Rivas. The fact of his visiting the President and claiming to be 'Chargé d'Affaires' of Nicaragua under Rivas' authority I am satisfied has had a very unfavorable effect - I begged him if he had any regard for General Walker or his cause not to go to Washington, but in vain.

His only excuse is a groundless one, and if he is sincere in it, argues but poorly for -

his diplomatic ability or judgement. He claims that
he gives up his position as Charge d'Affaires
relations would be suspended between the United
States and Nicaragua. Of what use are relations
unless they exist through President Walker's administration?
Have the relations which have already existed
amounted to anything? — Would the United States deal
with Mayor Heiss any sooner than with me, and
if they would could President Walker acknowledge
any acts of one not bearing his authority? —
I am at a loss to understand the matter as I can
not think Mayor Heiss a man of so little pen-
etration and discernment as to be actually ignorant
of all these considerations, and of the effect which
his conduct would be likely to produce.

My private and confidential advisers from
my government inform me that powers are now
on the way to the Minister of Guatemala at Washington
empowering him to represent Rivers near the govern-
ment of the United States. These powers cannot
reach this country within two weeks and whatever
is done must be done quickly. The United States
will be in a worse position after their arrival than
now and the only way to prevent it will be to
receive one at once.

The execution of Mr. Livingston by the allied
forces of San Salvador and Guatemala under the Guate-
malan leader Belloso calls for the immediate
action of this government.

Please make such use of this information

as you think proper bearing in mind that the matter
concerning the Guatemalan Minister is confidential.

Have the kindness to Telegraph me tomorrow
the prospects - whether favorable to immediate
acceptance or not - and also when you leave Washington.

I am my dear General

Very truly,

Your obedt friend & servt

Appleton C. Smith

Minister of Kerougan

A. C. Appleton

Jan 1856