

THE EXECUTIVE DOCUMENTS,

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS,

1858-'59,

AND

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SENATE OF 1859.

IN EIGHTEEN VOLUMES.

- Volume 1 contains No. 1 part 1, (President's Message and Report of Secretary of Interior.)
Volume 2 contains No. 1 part 2, (Report of Secretary of War, 1st part.)
Volume 3 contains No. 1 part 3, (Report of Secretary of War, 2d part.)
Volume 4 contains No. 1 part 4, (Reports of Secretary of Navy and Postmaster General.
Volume 5 contains No. 1 part 5, (maps.)
Volume 6 { (part 1) contains No. 2 (Finance) and No. 1 special session.
 { (part 2) contains No. 3 to No. 6, and No. 2 special session.
Volume 7 contains No. 7 to No. 28, except 14 and 22, parts 1 and 2.
Volume 8 contains No. 22 part 1.
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Volume 11 contains No. 47 part 1, Patent Office—Mechanical.
Volume 12 contains No. 47 part 2, Patent Office—Mechanical.
Volume 13 contains No. 47 part 3, Patent Office—Mechanical.
Volume 14 contains No. 47 part 4, Patent Office—Agricultural.
Volume 15 contains Report on Commerce and Navigation.
Volume 16 contains No. 14, in quarto.
Volume 17 contains No. 37, in quarto.
Volume 18 contains No. 46, in quarto.

WASHINGTON:
WILLIAM A. HARRIS, PRINTER.
1859.

REPORT
OF
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

COMMUNICATING

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, the correspondence between the President of Nicaragua and Commodore Paulding in relation to the capture of Walker and his command in December, 1857.

DECEMBER 23, 1858—Read; motion to print referred to the Committee on Printing.

JANUARY 12, 1859—Reported in favor of printing the usual number.

JANUARY 14—Considered and agreed to.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
December, 23, 1858.

SIR: In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, of the 21st instant, I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of all the letters or correspondence on file in this department between the President of Nicaragua and Commodore Hiram Paulding in relation to the capture of Walker and his command at San Juan de Nicaragua, in December, 1857.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISAAC TOUCEY,

Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,

Vice President of the United States, and

President of the Senate.

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND,
New York, May 5, 1858.

SIR: I have the honor, herewith to enclose a communication made by order of the president of Nicaragua, and a letter from General Jerez, of that republic, relieving me from all blame or responsibility in landing at Point Arenas for the arrest of William Walker and his lawless followers.

For the information of the country, and in justice to my public

character, I most respectfully request that you will be pleased to cause these papers to be translated and published, and that they may be placed on the records of the department.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

H. PAULDING, *Captain.*

Hon. ISAAC TOUCEY,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

[Translation]

LEON, *March 29, 1858.*

SIR: I did not receive until the 27th instant your esteemed favor, dated at Havana on the 16th of January last, in which you are pleased to request of me, in writing, the message which, in the name of his excellency the President of this republic, I delivered to you when I visited you on board of the Wabash in the Bay of San Juan, in the beginning of January last.

The intelligence of the capture of William Walker and the adventurers who accompanied him, effected at Punta de Castilla by the American forces under your command, was received by the government of this republic and by all the people of Nicaragua with much satisfaction, because the act was a signal rebuke of an aggression so bold and unjust on the rights and territory of Nicaragua. I had the honor of being the organ of the sentiments of the government of Nicaragua on the occasion referred to. I knew how to appreciate at their just value the noble motives which actuated you, and in its name I gave you the thanks due to those motives.

I avail myself of this occasion, commodore, to renew to you the assurance of the distinguished respect and esteem to which you are entitled, and to subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

MAXIMO GEREZ,

General of the Nicaragua forces.

Commodore PAULDING,

Of the United States Naval forces.

LEON, *Marzo 29 de 1858.*

SEÑOR:—Hasta el 27 del presente, llegó á mis manos la estimable carta de V. escrita en la Havana con fecha 16 de Enero ultimo, en que se sirve pederme por escrito el mensaje que a nombre de S. E. el Señor Presidente de esta republica lé dirigé en la visita que le hize abordo del Wabash en la Bahia de San Juan al principio del propio mes de Enero. Por el Gobierno de esta republica y por todos los

Nicaragüenses fué recibida con mucha satisfaccion la noticia de la captura de William Walker y de los aventureros que le acompañaban, verificada en Punta de Castilla por fuerzas Americanas bajo el mando de V., por que con este acto quedo escamentada una tan injusta y temeraria agresion al territorio y derechos de Nicaragua. A mi en particular en la ocasion referida mi tocó el honor de su del mismo Gobierno, que supe apreciar en ser verdadeu valor los nobles motivos que impulsaron la conducta de V., á quien por ellos dé en su nombre las debidas gracias.

A provecho esta oportunidad para renovar al Señor Comodore las demonstraciones de la distinguida estimacion y respetos que se merece, y subscribir me,

Su muy attento servidor,

Genl. MAXIMO JEREZ,
De las fuerza de Nicaragua.

Señor Comodoro PAULDING,
De las fuerzas navales de los Estados Unidos, Havana.

Numero 1.

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE NICARAGUA,
Managua, Marzo 31, 1858.

SEÑOR COMODORO: Cuando en diciembre próximo pasado se recibió la noticia de que U., inspirado del honor de su país y de los sentimientos humanitarios, que solo abrigan las almas grandes y generosas, habia reducido á prision al bandido Wm. Walker que infringiendo las leyes de los Estados Unidos habia llegado á Punta Arenas con una turba de facinerosas con objeto de conculcar todos los principios de humanidad y de justicia, en que descanza el derecho de las naciones, mi gobierno comicionó al Sr. Grat. Don Maximo Jerez para espresar a U. la mas profunda gratitud por aquel hecho tan esclarecido; y al mutro plenipotenciario en Washington se le ordenó expresamente que hiciese saber al gobierno de aquella republica, que Nicaragua aprobaba con bastante satisfaccion el que en su mismo territorio hubiese verificadose la captura de aquellos traitornadores por las fuerzas navales que se hallaban bajo las órdenes de U. Asi mismo se mandó que en todos los periódicos del país se publicase el asentimiento á aquella introduccion; y en efecto la preusa Centro Americana lo ha repetido con el mayor entuciasmo.

Sin embargo de todo uto, mi gobierno ha vista con honda pena que los partidarios del filibusterismo han procurado denigrar la conducta de U., y que han elevado mil quesas infinida das al gobno. y al Congreso Norte Americana, á las enales habia rerpuesto el último que solo Nicaragua tenia etro á quesarse. Será posible que aquel Hustrado Congreso no haya oido la voz agradecida del gobno., de los Nicaraguenses y de los Centro Americanos todos, vindindiendos las

gratias al Comodoro Paulding y prodigando mil y mil elogios a la represion del crimen en Punta Arenas.

Poco importa Sr., que las pasiones estraviadas hagan prorumpie a algunos pocos hombry en denuestos contra V., porque les impidio consumir nuesvat atentados. El mundo entera y lo que es mas, la humanidad y la cibilizacion han pronunciado yá el falla mas honrosa para V., y la posteridad repetera ese falo con mas brillanter y con mas admiracion, por que la historia unicamente es la que juzga las acciones de los hombres en todo su valor. Fales sentimientos, que como interprete fiel de los Nicaraguenses S.E. el Sr. Presidente de la republica me ha dado órden de trasmitir á V., se los imparta, añadiendole el alto aprecio con que me suscribo de V.

Muy atento servidos.

ROSALIO CORTEZ.

COMODOBO H. PAULDING,

De las fuerzas navales de los Estados Unidos, Havana.

[Translation.]

OFFICE OF MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF NICARAGUA,

Managua, March 31, 1858.

COMMODORE: When the news was received in December last that, inspired by a regard for the honor of your country, and by those sentiments of humanity which great and generous souls only entertain, you had made a prisoner of the bandit, William Walker, who, in violation of the laws of the United States, had arrived at Punta Arenas with a mob of highwaymen, for the purpose of trampling under foot all the principles of humanity and justice upon which the public law reposes, my government commissioned General Maximo Gerez to express to you the most profound gratitude for an act so illustrious; and the minister plenipotentiary in Washington was expressly directed to make known to the government of the United States that Nicaragua approved with full satisfaction the capture on its own territory of those revolutionists by the naval forces under your orders. Directions were also given that its assent to that incursion should be published in all the periodicals of the country, and, in fact, the Central American press has reiterated it with the greatest enthusiasm.

Notwithstanding all this my government has seen with deep pain, that the partizans of filibusterism have endeavored to blacken your conduct, and have preferred a thousand unfounded complaints to the American government and Congress, to which the latter has replied that Nicaragua alone had a right to complain. And is it possible that that enlightened Congress has not heard the grateful voice of the government, of the people of Nicaragua, and of all Central Americans rendering thanks to Commodore Paulding, and lavishing thousands of eulogies on the repression of crime at Punta Arenas?

It is of little importance, sir, that the erring passions of a few men have caused them to burst out into invectives against you, because you prevented them from consummating new outrages. The whole world, and, what is more, humanity and civilization, have already pronounced the judgment most honorable to you, and posterity will repeat this judgment more effectually and more admiringly, for it is history alone that judges of the actions of men with a full appreciation of their value.

These sentiments, which as a faithful representative of the feelings of the people of Nicaragua, his excellency, the President, has directed me to convey to you, I now communicate, and add the high esteem with which I subscribe myself,

Your very obedient servant,

ROSALIO CORTEZ.

H. PAULDING, Esq.,

Flag-officer, commanding United States Home Squadron.