

The government of His Highness, which takes every care to maintain order and to guarantee public safety in the country, and to do justice to all its subjects, without distinction, cannot recognize their right, still less the right of foreigners, to create scenes which disturb public tranquillity, and which are entirely without excuse. It is, therefore, firmly resolved not to tolerate them, and to disperse by force, if need be, disorderly assemblages which may be formed in future under similar circumstances.

I desire, therefore, Mr. Consul, to ask your co-operation to aid the government of His Highness to prevent a recurrence of these scenes, which are so much to be regretted, by giving the Israelites under your protection to understand that they have no right to interfere in cases of this nature.

The Tunisian government alone has the right to try and punish its subjects for crimes committed by them. As to preventing them, that would be asking more of it than of any other government.

Written on the 15th of Rabia Teni, 1293, (9th of May, 1876.)

The prime minister and minister of foreign affairs,

KHÉRRÉDINE.

No. 330.

Mr. Fish to Mr. Cubisol.

No. 120.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 13, 1876.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 12th ultimo, with an inclosure relative to the murder at Tunis of an Israelite by a Tunisian.

The request which is contained in the note upon the subject addressed to you by the minister of foreign affairs, that you give "Israelites under your protection to understand that they have no right to interfere in cases of this nature," is reasonable and justified by the circumstances, and you are therefore instructed to comply with the request. You will also furnish a complete list of all persons to whom any promise of protection has been given by the United States consulate at any time, and of all who now claim to be under its protection.

I am, &c.,

HAMILTON FISH.

URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY.

No. 331.

Mr. Caldwell to Mr. Fish.

No. 25.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Montevideo, October 16, 1875. (Received November 23.)

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that civil war has been formally inaugurated in this republic, and two combats have taken place, attended, considering the forces engaged, with much effusion of blood.

Ever since the accession of the present party to power, Buenos Ayres, whither the principal men of the opposition fled, has been the center of conspiracy against this government. On the return of the leaders who had been banished to Havana, and who actually landed in the United States, large numbers crossed over from Buenos Ayres, and, entering the northern department of the republic, commenced military operations.

The officer commanding for the government in Salto passed over to

the revolutionists with nearly all his command, thus giving them possession of this important town and much material of war. Large quantities of arms and ammunition have been obtained from Buenos Ayres.

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About ten days ago two combats took place on nearly the same day, one at Guyabos, near Paysandu, on the Uruguay River, and the other at Perseverano, in the interior. In the former the revolutionary force, which seems to have been a vanguard, was nearly annihilated, 60 being killed out of a force of about 70. It is currently reported here that these men were massacred after surrendering, and a sentence in the official report of General Borgas would seem to give ground for suspicion. He says: "I regret the affair at Guyabos was so sanguinary, since I was not in time to prevent it." Among the killed was the commanding officer, Major Gurmendez, one of the banished men recently returned from New York.

In the engagement at Perseverano the government force met with a defeat, losing over 50 killed, 70 wounded, and 40 prisoners, besides arms, ammunition, and horses. The insurgents acknowledge a loss of only 5 killed and 17 wounded.

The government has declared the entire republic in a state of siege, and has called out the national guard. It has closed by decree all the ports of the republic on the Uruguay River against vessels proceeding from Buenos Ayres. Troops are being raised with all possible dispatch, and the government is sanguine of putting down the rebellion.

The financial situation of the country remains in the same deplorable condition, and business naturally grows worse from day to day. A new minister of finance, Don Andrés Lamas, has been appointed, but all his measures, which seem to be wise, are rendered nugatory by the universal want of confidence. Señor Lamas, who is at the same time minister of foreign affairs, has the reputation of being the ablest man in the republic.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. CALDWELL.

No. 332.

Mr. Caldwell to Mr. Fish.

No. 26.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Montevideo, December 16, 1875. (Received January 24, 1876.)

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department that the revolution which has been devastating this country for nearly three months has ended. The revolutionary forces, being vigorously pursued by the government troops, (the minister of war himself taking the field,) and finding themselves unable to make head against the superior resources at the command of the government, crossed into Brazil, where they were disarmed by the Brazilian authorities. This government seems inclined to act with moderation, and has already granted amnesty to all who have been captured or who have surrendered.

The President, in a proclamation, announces a speedy end of martial law and a return to the normal condition of affairs. The harvest promises to be one of almost unexampled abundance, and with peace and economy there is hope of a happier future for this afflicted republic.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. CALDWELL.

No. 333.

Mr. Caldwell to Mr. Fish.

No. 27.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Montevideo, March 16, 1876. (Received April 17.)

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department of an entire change of the executive of this republic. The entire want of confidence in President Varela and the legislative chambers, their unwise measures, and the daily increasing financial distress, indicated by gold reaching nearly 900 per cent. premium, compelled the resignation of President Varela, which was made on the 10th instant. We are officially informed that this resignation was voluntary, but it is well understood to have been compulsory. The minister of war, Colonel Latorre, who had secured the support of the army, is known to have put a pressure on the President which he could not resist. The legislative chamber also dissolved, all the members resigning. A mass-meeting held in the plaza marched to the house of Colonel Latorre and offered him the position of executive, which he accepted with the title of provisional governor. He is, in reality, dictator. His rule has been accepted by the whole country with entire quiet. His programme and measures thus far are in the highest degree praiseworthy. He is enforcing the most rigid economy, reducing officials to the lowest possible limit, and promises soon to disband part of the army. Confidence is much greater than before, as indicated by the fall of gold from 830 to 500 per cent.

The following is the executive: Lorenzo Latorre, provisional governor; Joseph M. Montero, jr., minister of government; Ambrosio Valasco, minister of foreign relations; John A. Vazquez, minister of finance; Edward Vazquez, minister of war and marine.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. CALDWELL.

No. 334.

Mr. Caldwell to Mr. Fish.

No. 30.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Montevideo, July 24, 1876. (Received August 25.)

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the political affairs of this republic continue undisturbed. The government established by the movement of March 10 meets with cordial approbation and support.

On assuming power, Colonel Latorre promised to exercise it only one year, guaranteeing the regular elections in November. The government has, however, thus far behaved with so much wisdom and moderation, that there is a general desire on the part of the people to continue its power and avoid the dangers arising from a hotly-contested election. In furtherance of this object, petitions have been circulated in all parts of the republic calling for the prolongation of the dictatorship, and a great demonstration was made in the capital on the national day, the 18th of July.

There is no doubt that the dictatorship of Colonel Latorre will be prolonged, as it is generally supported by all classes, as well foreigners as natives.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. CALDWELL.

No. 335.

Mr. Caldwell to Mr. Fish.

No. 3.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Montevideo, July 24, 1876. (Received August 25.)

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the last of the allied forces left the territory of Paraguay on the 22d day of June. This end of foreign domination has caused unbounded joy in the country, and the National Congress has ordered the day of its accomplishment to be celebrated hereafter as a national holiday.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. CALDWELL.

 VENEZUELA.

No. 336.

Mr. Russell to Mr. Fish.

No. 127.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Caracas, March 25, 1876. (Received May 13.)

SIR: I have the honor to report that the President delivered his annual message yesterday and to give an abstract. It will be recollected that this is the last year of his term, which ends February 20, 1877, and that his immediate re-election is forbidden by the constitution.

The President congratulates Congress on the peace and prosperity of the country, and believes that the era of civil war is ended. The State of Táchira is fast recovering from the effects of the earthquake. It is aided greatly by a new road, which also helps to solve one of the vexed boundary questions with Colombia.

Much has been done to develop the resources of the territory of the Amazons; and new territorial organizations are proposed with a like object.

It is proposed to extend the appellate jurisdiction of the Alta Corte federal, so that there may be the same interpretation of the laws in every State, and to give to this court cognizance of cases where property is taken under the right of eminent domain.

Four telegraphic lines are to unite all the chief points in the republic. A printing-press has been sent to each State that was without one. All political prisoners have been released, and all political exiles are free to return home.

It has been hoped that the Pope would have ended the church question by procuring the resignation of the exiled archbishop, but his action is postponed till April 19. If the desired solution does not then come from Rome, a law is asked, "which shall make the Venezuelan church independent of the bishoprick of Rome, and direct that the priests shall be chosen by the faithful, the bishops by the priests, and the archbishop by the Congress." "This," says the message, "was the discipline of the church founded by Jesus and his apostles." It seems to be implied that, if the archbishop's resignation is obtained, Venezuela will not seek this primitive discipline.

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I inclose a transcript of that portion of the message relating to foreign claims with a translation.