

# NICARAGUA.

## PROTECTION OF CHINESE INTERESTS IN NICARAGUA.

File No. 14413.

*The Acting Secretary of State to Minister Coolidge.*

No. 114.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, July 15, 1908.*

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of a note from the Chinese minister, in which he requests that the American minister to Nicaragua and the American consular officers in that country be instructed to continue their protection of Chinese subjects and their interests in Nicaragua.

Now that Nicaragua has been made a separate mission, it is proper to renew and confirm to you the instructions heretofore given to Minister Baker for the use of the good offices of the legation and of the American consuls in Nicaragua in behalf of Chinese subjects residing in Nicaragua in the absence of a Chinese representative in that quarter.

You will accordingly take under the protection of the legation at Managua Chinese subjects and their interests in Nicaragua in the way pointed out in instructions Nos. 470 and 535,<sup>1</sup> dated, respectively, July 3, 1896, and February 6, 1897, to Minister Baker. Copies of those instructions are inclosed herewith. You will give the consuls in Nicaragua the appropriate instructions in the premises.

I am, etc.,

ROBERT BACON.

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[Inclosure.]

*The Chinese Minister to the Secretary of State.*

No. 7.]

IMPERIAL CHINESE LEGATION,  
*Washington, July 1, 1908.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the contents of a petition which I have recently received from my people who are residing at Bluefields and other cities of Nicaragua, Central America.

It seems that ever since the year 1894 unfriendly legislation has been passed by the Government of Nicaragua against my people, at first only prohibiting the landing of new arrivals, and subsequently even refusing admission to merchants who had returned to the homeland on visits. A recent law demands the payment of \$100 from every Chinese departing from the country and \$500 on his reentrance. In several other ways the subjects of our Empire have been harassed and unfavorably treated.

At the request of my Government the interests of Chinese subjects residing in Nicaragua have been placed, by permission of your Government, under the protection of your diplomatic and consular representatives in that country, who

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<sup>1</sup> See Foreign Relations, 1897, p. 96.

have exerted good offices on their behalf, but with the lapse of time and the change of officers the relations between the representatives and my people have not been as intimate as they were before.

I shall deem it a favor, therefore, if you will issue instructions to your diplomatic and consular representatives to continue the friendly protection of the Chinese residents in Nicaragua which was so ably and thoroughly undertaken by their predecessors. Whatever steps they may take to remove the harsh legislation against my people and to ameliorate their conditions will be heartily appreciated by my Government.

Accept, etc.,

WU TING FANG.