

EL NICARAGUENSE.

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El Nicaraguense.

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OFFICE IN FRONT OF THE PLAZA.

DECREE.

THE Supreme Government of the Republic of Nicaragua to encourage the immigration of persons of thrift and industry to become settlers and inhabitants within its territorial limits, to the end that its resources may be fully developed and its commerce increased, and to promote the general welfare of the State, has decreed;

Art. 1. A free donation or grant of 250 acres of public land shall be made to each single person who shall enter the State (during the continuance of this decree) and settle and make improvements upon the said tract, the same to be located by the Director of Colonization hereafter to be named, and immediate possession given.

Art. 2. Each family entering the State and settling upon its territory shall receive 100 acres of land in addition to the 250 granted to single settlers.

Art. 3. A right to occupy and improve shall be issued to applicants, and at the expiration of six months, upon satisfactory evidence being presented to the Director of Colonization of compliance with the provisions of this decree, title will be given.

Art. 4. No duties shall be levied on the personal effects, household furniture, agricultural implements, seeds, plants, domestic animals, or other imports for the personal use of the colonists or the development of the resources of the land donated, and colonists shall be exempt from all extraordinary taxes, and contributions, and from all public service except when the public safety shall otherwise demand.

Art. 5. The colonists being citizens of the Republic cannot alienate the land granted to any foreign government whatever, and shall not alienate the said land or their rights thereunto until after an occupancy of at least six months.

Art. 6. A colonization office shall be established and a Director of Colonization appointed, whose business it shall be to attend to the application from the emigrants, to collect and dispense seeds, plants, &c., and to keep the Registry Books of the Department.

Done in Granada, the 23d of November 1855.

PATRICIO RIVAS,
President of the Republic.

AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE.

G. H. WINES & CO.

ARE now prepared to carry on the Auction and Commission Business in connection with their Express. Duties on goods consigned will be advanced and custom house business attended to for parties who entrust business to the company. Liberal advances by drafts on New York and San Francisco will be made on receipt of merchandise in the custom house. The building occupied by Wines & Co., is capable of storing ten thousand barrels bulk and general merchandise will be received on storage.

J. A. RUGGLES, Agent.

Granada—Don Patricio Rivas; San Francisco—C. K. Garrison & Co. New York—Chas Morgan & Co.
Granada, April 12th, 1856.

OFFICE OF INTENDENCIA GENERAL,
Granada, April 12th, 1856.

ALL persons who have advanced either money or effects for the Army are hereby required to present the voucher or documents for the same at this office to form the general liquidation of all standing accounts. By order of

Brig. Genl. DOMINGO de GOICOURIA,
Intendente General.

Thos. F. FISHER, Col. and 1st Asst. of the Intendente General.

IMPRENTA DEL NICARAGUENSE
frente á la casa de Gobierno.

Picture of Central America.

The following letter is from General Walker to a friend in Washington, and was not intended for publication:

GRANADA, Jan. 10.—My Dear Colonel: I have lately taken a tour through one of the most interesting sections of Nicaragua—that of the department of Rivas—and have seen enough of the fertility of the soil, the agreeable climate and fine scenery there, to satisfy me that in a very short time this portion of the State must be a point of great attraction to the immigrant who comes here to follow agricultural pursuits. The entire route from Granada to the capital of Rivas or Nicaragua is through a very fine and fertile country, but not much cultivated between Granada and the river Gonzales. There are, it is true, a few cocoa estates, but they are quite neglected, and at most of the haciendas along the route may be seen ruined indigo vats, some of which must have been built at a very great expense. The little Indian village of Nin daime is the only town of consequence between Granada and the river Gonzales, a distance of nearly twenty miles. The village is situated in the midst of a vast and fertile plain, but the people pay no attention to the cultivation of the soil beyond the raising of corn, and this they raise only in small patches.

The old haciendas of Ochomogo, San Francisco and others along the route have been allowed to go to decay almost entirely, and the business of cocoa raising and indigo making, which was formerly the great business of these estates, is now wholly neglected, and for no possible reason, except that the proprietors have from time to time been robbed by the Government of all they earn, and have become disheartened. Many of these proprietors would now recommence working their estates, but the revolution has so impoverished them that they have no funds to commence with, and they are anxious to sell their lands for money enough to commence again upon new lands. Estates that three years ago were held at sixty thousand dollars, can now be had at from five thousand to ten thousand dollars; and the same estates will pay back the purchase money in two, certainly three years. I have arrived at this latter conclusion from statistical calculations which I think are correct, and which are based on the best and most reliable information I can obtain. For instance a cocoa estate will produce—so the cocoa growers here tell me—nearly if not quite eight thousand pounds to the acre. The cocoa of Nicaragua is the finest in the world, and though it is unknown in the American market, would certainly command as high a price as the best article from any other country—say ten cents per pound.

According to this calculation, each acre would produce eighty dollars worth, which would amount to eight thousand dollars, if a hundred acres were cultivated. Now the labor of ten men is more than enough to keep the estate in order, gather and prepare for shipment the entire crop. One hundred and fifty dollars each would be a very high rate for the wages of these men per year—say at fifteen hundred dollars for labor. The other charges: freight, custom dues, &c., could not exceed fifteen hundred dollars more. This would bring the Nicaragua cocoa into the New York market at 10 cents per pound, and leave to the raiser a clear profit of five thousand dollars yearly from one hundred acres thus cultivated. There are very many estates that will produce results similar to those above calculated now for sale, at such prices as I have before named, and which are in bearing condition, nothing more being wanted than the removal of the underwood which has

accumulated during three years of neglect. The cocoa tree retains its vigor after it once arrives at maturity as long as the oak or the pine—much longer than the apple tree.

I have said that the cocoa of Nicaragua never finds its way to North America. This is because of the fact that it is consumed in the States of Central America, and it is sold in prices varying from twenty to thirty cents per pound. The people of Central America would not drink such chocolate as is called the best in New York at any price.

During a few years, doubtless, all the cocoa that can be raised in Nicaragua would find an immediate market at home and at much higher prices than could be obtained for it in the United States; but should the business of growing it be gone into extensively, as I have no doubt will be the case soon, the local markets would become overstocked, and a foreign market would have to be found. Should the prelates of the North Americans ever become acquainted with the flavor of the delicious chocolate we have here, they would never give up the luxury at any price; but I have endeavored to show that Nicaragua can compete with other countries in producing this delicious beverage, even at the prices which are now paid in the United States for very inferior articles, and therefore I conclude that the purchase of these estates will be a very popular speculation on the part of immigrants to this country.

“From the Gonzales river to Rivas, a distance of about two miles, the entire land along the road is under cultivation—but in a most rude and primitive manner. Corn—common Indian corn—is sown broadcast, not planted in hills or rows, and yet it seems to flourish. I do not know how much is produced per acre by this mode of cultivation, but the ears are large and the grain fully developed—hence I conclude, the produce must be very great. There is not such a thing as a grist mill in the entire country; and the only corn bread, such as is common in the United States, that I have ever tasted in Nicaragua, was made of meal imported from New York. We cut the young corn for horse feed—it is the only fodder for horses in Granada—cut the ears, cob and all, when very young; after boiling, make it into tortillas with cheese, and tortillas without cheese; but cannot make that delicious article “Hoosier bread.” I wish some body would come out here with a corn mill, make a fortune for himself and make us happy at the same time. I am sure such would be the result of such a speculation. We would not be very particular about fine flour, if we could only have our corn broken into pieces without the process of boiling it in ley. We would not grumble much if the hulls were not taken off, or the flour were a little coarser than that your corn bread is made of at St. Louis or New York. There are plenty of water privileges here; there is plenty of Americans to eat corn cakes. All we want is a mill. Who will come out here and make us happy in this respect? If you know the man who will give us good corn meal, I pray tell him there is a fortune for him here in Nicaragua, and bid him to come and put it in his purse.”

A nail in the inkstand, or some old steel pens that the acid of the ink can eat upon, will prevent steel pens in use from being rusty.

A FLOATING CAPITAL JOKE.—When may a man be said to be literally immersed in business? When he's giving a swimming lesson.

If you want enemies excel others—if you want friends let them excel you—in other words give them the preference—occupying the highest seat.

DIPLOMATIC DIFFICULTY.—Information was received by the last steamer from Europe of a misunderstanding between Col. Jackson, our Minister resident at Vienna, and the Austrian Government. A correspondent of the Washington Star says:

“The misunderstanding has been caused by the arrest and imprisonment of an American citizen named Spears, who, after seven months' close confinement during which he was not permitted to communicate in any way with even his minister or consul, was tried on the 31st of March, 1854, by a secret and unknown tribunal, convicted of treason and sentenced to ten years' labor in irons in the trenches at Therisientadt in Bohemia. Mr. Jackson, on the 4th of February, demanded a properly certified copy of the testimony said to have been used in the conviction of Spears, and informed Count Buol in his note that unless he received an affirmative reply within four weeks, he should, at the expiration of that time, withdraw from a court where he could no longer remain with honor to his country, or advantage to its citizens. As there is no probability that the desired answer will be forthcoming or that any testimony really existed against the man, Mr. Jackson may be expected to leave Vienna shortly after you receive this.”

MODEST REQUEST.—The philosopher Anaximander effectually provided for his not being forgotten, when, being asked by the magistrates at Lampsacum, where he had resided, what they should do to honor his memory, he made the seemingly small and simple request, that the boys might have leave to play on the anniversary of his death.

NOT UNWISE NOR UNTRUE.—Hiram Fuller says: “There is no such thing as absolute freedom below the Almighty God. The Omnipotent alone is free; all his creatures are the subjects of irrevocable Law—the slaves of inexorable Necessity.”

“There he goes again,” said Mrs. Partington in the Legislature, as a member stood up for the fifth time to speak on a question. “There he goes like a fountain, and just as fluidly as water. Now, Isaac, mind him, and see if you can't become a speaker of the house of representatives sometimes. I declare!” continued she as a new burst of eloquence reached her ear, “it does seem as if the mantlepiece of Daniel Webster had fallen onto him, he is so bright!”

“Landlord,” said an exquisite, “can you enable me to realize from your culinary stores the pleasure of a few dulcet murphies, rendered innoxious by igneous martyrdom?” He asked for baked sweet potatoes.

“You are a little bear, madam.” “Sir!” “About the shoulders I mean.”

THE FIGHT OF COTTON.—Peace has its battles as well as war; it engenders competition, and that gives rise to many a Mill.

Nothing ever touched the heart of a reader that did not come from the heart of the writer.

The humblest thing in the world—a clock, as it is always running itself down.

Never speak ill of any man. If a good man it is impiety; if a bad man, give him your prayers.

There are more lies told in the brief sentence, “I am glad to see you,” than in any other single sentence in the English language.

The best college for a young man to graduate in, is that of Adversity.

Why is the letter U an uncertain letter? Because it is always in doubt.

El Nicaraguense.

Saturday Morning, May 3.

PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.

TAKEN FROM THE GENERAL ORDERS OF THE ARM.

Surgeon S. C. Coleman, promoted Surgeon, with the rank of Major.

First Lieutenant J. C. Jamison, promoted Captain, Company D, First Light Infantry.

Second Lieutenant D. Barney Wolfe, promoted First Lieutenant, Company D, First Light Infantry.

P. H. Truly, appointed First Lieutenant and attached to Second Light Infantry.

Wm. Clarendon Young, appointed First Lieutenant, and attached to Second Light Infantry.

SANTOS GUARDIOLA.

On the breaking out of the present war with Costa Rica, we were led to expect, from the assertions of Gen. Mora, as well as from other sources, that Honduras would join her forces with the other states against us, in a war upon Democracy—a crusade against principles that are indistructable as the eternal hills. We had reason to doubt, however, that President Guardiola, who had just been elevated to the chair of state, and who had expressed himself so warmly in favor of peace with all the neighboring states in his inaugural, would for slight and transient cause, involve his people and state in a war, which, to say the least, could not end otherwise than disastrously to himself and ruinously to his country. The result has shown our opinions to have been correct, and the present position of Honduras towards Nicaragua and Costa Rica, is such as does honor to him who has had the prescience to determine, and the firmness to hold her in her peaceful and proper line of conduct towards the belligerent powers. In the inaugural referred to, Gen. Guardiola says, "The wars and revolution which have but recently afflicted our state, have brought her to the verge of ruin, and it is only by an immediate return to the path of peace and order that will save us from anarchy." This is a bold, but certainly a manly declaration; and it seems that one who had the courage to openly declare the truth to his people, has also the wisdom to direct them in the path that will lead them out of their miseries and misfortunes. The whole tenor of the address is advisory and peaceful, though couched in firm and decided language. This, together with other facts, induced the opinion that Gen. Guardiola would not allow himself to become embroiled in this contest, and his recent actions confirm the opinion, as well as raise him still higher in our estimation as a wise and patriotic chief executive. When the government of Nicaragua declares to the world that it wishes peace, and will eschew war if it can do so honorably, it puts forth no deceptive declaration, nor asserts what it does not mean. The Democratic party is now too firmly fixed in this state ever to be overturned again or seriously disturbed by wars from without, or civil commotions within; and while it can afford to be magnanimous towards its enemies, it can arise a strong and terrible arm in its vital defence upon its own soil, and send forth a powerful force if need be in aid of its friends. At the same moment that Nicaragua is magnanimous she is also just and forgiving; and though the act of friendship be tardily and but coldly extended, she will warmly clasp the proffered hand and truly maintain every obligation she takes upon herself to perform; and Honduras will find our wise and patriotic provisional government as frank to accede to every demand of national honor and courtesy, as her own chief can be in declaring to her people the true and proper line of policy to adopt and pursue.

Frank and friendly relations between states, can only be obtained by frank and manly avowals of each other's wishes and intentions; and no state can descend to protestations of peace and friendship only to deceive, without losing its real dignity and self-respect and compromising its honor. We cannot, therefore, go let the hope that President Guardiola will be as open and manly in his policy towards the neighboring states, as he has been in declaring the internal policy of Honduras; and that from him, at least, Nicaragua need have nothing farther to fear by way of attack, but much to hope by way of peace and lasting friendship. The internal discords that have torn and distracted these states should cease, and it will not be the fault of Nicaragua, if she is compelled to preserve a hostile attitude towards those who should be her best friends. She seeks nothing but what is right, and will submit to no wrong.—She will not allow her territory to be the nursery

of internal commotions and discords for the other States of Central America, but if called by the necessities of the times to declare war, she will do so fearlessly and fight the battle openly.

LETTER FROM VIRGIN BAY.

[Correspondence of El Nicaraguense.]

VIRGIN BAY, April 30, 1856.

Friend Tabor—The expedition left Granada at 11 o'clock last night and arrived off this port about sunrise this morning. The force consisted of the Infantry Battalion, under Col. Piper, and the whole of the Rifle Battalion, under Col. Saunders—all under command of Gen. Walker himself, accompanied by Gen. Hornsby and Col. Natzmer.

As the Virgin rounded to at the wharf, every eye was strained to catch a glimpse of the enemy, and many a good rifle was examined and re-examined to make sure that every person could be seen in or about the streets, and as no sign of the presence of any force could be detected, a visible shade of disappointment came over the countenances of our men; but this was quickly removed by the appearance on shore of a small party, who came down to the flagstaff standing in front of the Transit Company's building, and ran up the American flag, the sight of which drew forth from our boys three hearty cheers.

Col. Piper, with a small party, was immediately despatched in a small boat on shore to learn particulars. He returned and reported that the Costa Ricans had abandoned Rivas and Virgin Bay, and were probably in force at San Juan del Sur. Orders were immediately given to debark, which was done, Company B, of the Infantry, Capt. Farnham, in advance. As soon as this company landed, strong picquets were detailed and posted well out upon the approaches to town, and the balance of the company took charge of the town and one canon, which had been mounted by the enemy, but which they had left behind ready loaded for service. By 10 o'clock the whole party was landed, and the several companies had selected quarters in the deserted buildings.

A heavy discharge of musketry was suddenly heard down the San Juan del Sur road, and being detected by the quick ear of the General, orders were given to "fall in," and in a very few moments the two battalions were under march for San Juan. It appears that the picquet fired upon two persons who were coming into town, but who, when hailed, turned and fled, followed by a volley from the whole picquet.

We had marched about three miles from town when Gen. Walker was met by a courier, with despatches for himself from Cañas, the Costa Rican General. The courier informed the General that the entire force of the enemy had left San Juan the day before, and that the whole country was clear of them. There was now no necessity for going to San Juan, and the order to counter-march was given, and in one hour more we were all again in quarters at Virgin Bay.

The Transit route is again free from all obstruction, and, God willing, it will not be closed by Costa Rica until she is able to do something better towards "exterminating los Americanos" than she has done this time.

We learn that President Mora was highly incensed at and disgraced the officer in command at Virgin Bay by whose orders the wharf was burned. He is reported to have said it was an act of vandalism and a disgrace to his army. In fact, we hear that the Costa Ricans proper were far more civil and humane in their conduct and treatment of prisoners than the "Serviles" from this State, who were in their army. All the wanton and barbarous acts done by the Costa Ricans are laid to the charge of the Chamoristas, and shows that between them at least and the Democrats there can be "no peace," but "war to the knife"—a war of extermination.

Two companies have been sent to occupy San Juan; the balance of the army will remain here. What is the next move? *Quien sabe.*

CYRUS.

MEDICAL BOARD.—All applications for rank in the Medical Staff must hereafter undergo a regular examination before a Board of Medical Examiners, appointed by the Surgeon General.

THE WOUNDED.—The wounded officers and soldiers of the army, now in the hospital or under medical treatment, are now in a condition of convalescence.

CAVALRY.—The Expedition to Chontales brought back 100 horses and mules, and the Volunteer Rangers are now mounted. The new company numbers forty men.

ELECTION IN NICARAGUA.

On Sunday last, a large table, covered with a red cloth and surrounded by officers, attracted considerable attention from the Americans, as they walked up and down the colonnade of the row of buildings on the west side of the plaza. Papers were thrown loose upon the cloth, and every other while the clerks would seize their pens and write. The people of the country, the simple market women, the beggars on the corners, the leper of the infirmary, all knew what it meant, but we, the editor of the newspaper, the great factotum of a country town, were completely in the dark as to the import of the red table, its officers and papers.

It was the solemn election of the Republic.

The people were exercising their greatest prerogative of electing the officers that shall rule them for another term of office. In this country the elective franchise extends to every male inhabitant of eighteen years, against whom there is no criminal prosecution, and who is not charged with being a dissolute and vicious man. The voters elect delegates, who assemble in the capitals of the different departments and elect Representatives, Senators and a President. A man must be twenty-three years old to be a delegate, twenty-five to be a Representative, and thirty to be a Senator or President.

The election on Sunday last, as most public days in the Republic come on Sunday, was concluded with the greatest decorum. The candidates for the Presidency were all of the same political faith, the only dispute being between the Democrats of Leon and those of Granada. Don Patricio Rivas, the present popular President, was supported by the people of Granada, and Gen. Mariano Salizar, a great favorite, by the people of Leon. A few votes have been cast for Don Nordeste Ramirez, of Leon. The struggle is between Rivas and Salizar, and it is impossible to determine at present who will be the next President of Nicaragua.

The election in Granada proceeded by cantons, or wards, each ward of 4,000 persons electing one delegate. The people generally took great interest in the result, and the number of votes ran larger than at any election held in Granada. To the governments and people abroad, this significant fact cannot be avoided, that the Republic of Nicaragua expresses the will of the people. All its actions emanate from their silent expression, and every movement has made has been undertaken by the concurrence of the great body of the people. To ignore, then, the fact of our absolute independence, is to deny to the inhabitants of Nicaragua the right of self-government.

The following is a copied translation of the letter referred to in our correspondent's letter, and explains itself. It will be seen from this that some twenty Americans who we have heretofore supposed to have been taken and killed by the enemy, have only been retained as prisoners of war and they may yet all return in safety to their friends and country.

[Translation.]

RIVAS, April 26, 1856.

WM. WALKER, General-in-Chief of the Nicaraguan Army:

Obliged to abandon the plaza of Rivas on account of the appearance of the cholera in the most alarming manner, I am forced to leave here a certain number of sick men, whom it is impossible to carry away without danger to their lives; but I expect your generosity will treat them with all the attention and care their situation requires.

I invoke the laws of humanity in favor of these unfortunate victims of an awful calamity, and I have the honor of proposing to you to exchange them for more than twenty prisoners, who are now in our power, and whose names I will send you in a particular list for making the said exchange, when they may be quite re-established from sickness.

Believing that this my proposal will be admitted, according to the laws of war, I have the honor of subscribing myself, with the feelings of the highest consideration, your most obedient servant,

(Signed.) JOSE MA. GANAS,
General-in-Chief Costa Rican Army.

RECOVERING.—Levi Woodbury Wheeler, the youngest son of the American Minister, who was so sadly wounded by a gun shot wound, accidentally given on the road to Leon, has been brought to this city, and is fast recovering. The little fellow is around in good spirits, and promises to suffer no material damage from his wounds.

LOST LETTER.—The person who took a letter out of the office at Granada, directed to Wm. J. Hutchins, will please return it to the Post Office of this city, directed to "Wm. G. Hutchins, Virgin Bay," and oblige a man who has not heard from home for three years.

EXPEDITION TO CHONTALES.

Some ten days since Gen. Goicouria, with Capt. Raymond's Company of the Light Infantry Battalion, left Granada to suppress the movement of the Servilists in Chontales. The expedition landed at Santa Baldo where they discovered a party of Lancers. The latter were immediately fired upon with effect when they quickly dispersed in every direction. Proceeding to Acoyapa they found the town deserted, but after some search a few persons were found and a proper example was made of one who was known to be deeply implicated in the rising. After levying a contribution of one thousand dollars upon the town, an amount long due to the government—the party proceeded to Juigalpa, where they met and quickly defeated a large force of the Legitimists. Here, too, an example was made, and the contributions due from certain parties in that region were collected. Proceeding down to San Lorenzo Hacienda, several prisoners were taken, and one body of Serviles of considerable number was dispersed. From San Lorenzo the party proceeded to Comolapa, where another example was made, and where the party made collections of money and effects to a considerable amount. From Comolapa the Company came gradually to Granada without meeting any serious resistance from the Serviles, and upon the whole the party was highly successful in the objects of their expedition, as well as fortunate in their escape from loss in killed or wounded, only one man of the party, Lieut. Wm. Lewis being hurt and he was but slightly wounded in the cheek. The killed of the Servilists amounted in all to ten, their wounded being quickly concealed by their friends.

The success of the party was greatly promoted by the presence and counsel, as well as energy and perseverance of Gen. Goicouria, the Intendencia General, and the troubles in Chontales may be said to be ended for the present. The bravery and good conduct of each and all of the command is highly praised, and the Serviles have received a lesson for their future behavior which they will do well to remember. The present wise and provisional government of Nicaragua is too strong to be shaken by any effort that the Legitimists can make to overturn it and they can only bring destruction upon their own heads by their unwise and treasonable combinations.

DIED AT THE HEAD OF THE COLUMN.—When the American army first entered Nicaragua, a cream-colored dog, about five years old, very rough in appearance, but "plucky" every inch of him, joined our troops and continued with them all the while. He was called "Fillbuster," and always acknowledged the compliment of the name with a wag of the tale. When our troops entered Granada, the first sight was "Fillbuster" whipping a cur with a white, or chamorista, ribbon on his neck, and constantly afterwards he "walked the cock of the walk" in the garrison, and was the pet of all the soldiers. "Fillbuster" never patronized any particular company, but would mess to-day with one and to-morrow with another. At "guard-mount" he always attended punctually, and when the soldiers fired off their muskets, he testified his appreciation by loud barking and genuine canine applause. All the soldiers loved "Fillbuster," and he deserved their confidence. Whenever a party left this city, "Fillbuster" went along, and his right to march in the company was never disputed.

Last week, when Gen. Goicouria's party left this city for Chontales, "Fillbuster" went with it and continued along until the fight of Juigalpa. At that place, when the troops charged the enemy, "Fillbuster" headed the column, and while thus gallantly charging the town, was shot down. The cruel shot struck him in the shoulder, and after a few revolutions he fell dead—not a soldier but paused to grieve, and as they saw their friend, no doubt their appetite for war was greatly whetted!

EXPRESS FAVORS.—We are indebted to G. H. Wines & Co., for late papers from Honduras and Guatemala. We find nothing of importance in our Central American exchanges. Holy week was celebrated with considerable spirit in Comayague, the capital of Honduras, but nothing like the ancient pomp attended the ceremonies.

COL. RANDOLPH.—We understand that Mr. Randolph has recovered from his illness at Leon, and gone to Realejo, in order to signal and board the California steamer, when he will go down to San Juan del Sur.

U. S. MINISTER.—We have every reason to believe that the reported recall of Colonel Wheeler, U. S. Minister to this Republic, and the appointment of Mr. Hiss to fill his place, is altogether without foundation.

UNIVERSAL DEMOCRACY.

There exists throughout the five States of Central America two principles of strength—two forces that have divided the people, and through these divisions struggled for exemplification. In fact, in all nations that have at any time within the last half century enjoyed the benefits of frequent commercial intercourse with Europe or North America, the same condition of affairs is evident. Everywhere Democracy is asserting its privileges against Aristocracy—the many are becoming equal with the few. In the States of Central America, under the old Spanish conquest, the Government was vested in the conquerors, and subsequently in an aristocracy, created by the Spanish Government to stand as a faithful guardian between the people and rebellion. This nobility of rank owed its existence and preservation to the court of Madrid, and therefore it was bound by gratitude and self-preservation to uphold the rule of European regality; for with the decline of foreign authority, it must necessarily go down. If the Aristocracy of Central America was the offshoot and support of Spanish authority, as a sequence, with the fall of the latter it must fall. This feeling of dependence nurtured the spirit of aristocracy; and when the revolution of independence took place in Mexico and these Spanish American colonies, as a matter of course the greater portion of the Aristocrats, or, as they were called, Serviles, took the side of European politics.

The revolution, however, succeeded, but Republicanism did not necessarily triumph with it. The Aristocrats next sought to establish a monarchical form of government; and as the wealthy nobility, with all their strength of purse and planning, joined the monarchical faction, it was considered doubtful if the people would reap the benefits of their struggle and battles. Guatemala, the richest State in the confederation, favored aristocracy, and urged the adoption of a monarchical form of government for the six States. San Salvador opposed with all her force, and war was the last resort. The democratic element of Nicaragua, then and now in the ascendancy, asserted its opposition and joined San Salvador. The aristocratic element of Honduras coalesced with Guatemala, and armies met and fought again the great fight of freedom. Thus the coalition of this section of North America continued until the present day, and will continue so until a strong hand concentrates the opinions of the people in favor of some patriotic sentiment.

As an evidence of the strength and power of these opposing elements in all the Central American States, it is found necessary to disarm the people. In Costa Rica, certain departments are not entrusted with weapons, because the people thereof are strongly in favor of a democratic government, responsible directly to the popular mind for its actions. In the other States the same regulation prevails, except in San Salvador, which is the only true and unsullied democratic commonwealth in Central America. Even while Mora was invading our soil with the army of Costa Rica, he felt that he was insecure at home, and report says that he was somewhat actuated in his precipitate flight from Rivas by alarming rumors of a pronunciamento against his authority.

All these facts but demonstrate one great truth, that the mind of this people is throwing off the shackles which two

hundred and fifty years of tyranny and darkness have not served to rivet. Equality struggles upward in every mind, and the most benighted soul fixes its gaze, through the obscurity, upon the sparkling diamonds that crown the head of power and influence. The throbbing brain of two millions and a half of people continually beats beneath the severe task of its disproportions—the Aristocrat and the Democrat—the ruler and the ruled. Its restlessness breaks out in revolutions, and displays itself in constant changes. Society is disorganized, because the restless mind of the laborer is constantly upheaving against the barriers that confine him to toil. His birth was equal with the greatest; then who chartered the special few to rule the State? Who made him inferior in social position to his neighbor?

All through the world this great problem, expressed and defended by the liberal minds of free countries, and upheld by the martyrs of despotism, is making itself felt beneath the surface. It is irregular in its exhibition and sometimes desperate in its methods of vindication; but wherever light has shown, wherever the great Bible is read, it is pronouncing in favor of democracy. The refinement to which it is brought in the Republic of North America cannot be expected here more than we could look to see the machinist bring his invention to a condition of absolute perfection at the offstart. It must be improved by frequent and repeated trials, and thus alone can democracy adapt itself to the condition of the people of Central America.

It is impossible to close our eyes to the daily increasing respect and confidence of our people to the existing government of Nicaragua; and it is equally evident that the influence of Nicaragua will effect the most cheering results in her sister States. The statesmen of adjoining Republics will perceive the benefits of a free government—free not alone in name, but in fact; and the pent up element which has heretofore been found so dangerous, will be allowed to demonstrate that it is only patriotic. Revolutions will then be bloodless, and result only from the will of the majority, quietly and reasonably expressed. In this, too, there is a complete security for this Republic against any unanimous demonstration by the adjoining States. The republican element is awake throughout Central America; and when aristocracy declares against it, the battle must not be fought alone in Nicaragua, but it must be waged in every town and house in all the five States. We can, therefore, caution our neighbors against the power of that universal democratic sentiment which now agitates the world; for the shadow of its strength may fall across the threshold of their power when least expected. The terrible eruption of a volcano is not more sudden or powerful than that of the majority of the people, when it swells into an expression of opinion backed by the force of the popular muscle.

EL NICARAGUENSE.—Wines & Co. inform us that at least fifteen hundred issues of El Nicaraguense were sent to the Eastern States by the last express. Pretty good circulation for a new paper. Besides these, one thousand copies were forwarded to different parts of the Republic and the neighboring States.

EXPRESS.—Wines & Co. forwarded by the steamer of Friday eight hundred letters for the Eastern States.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.—The principal currency of Granada is small coin, mostly francs, dimes and half dimes. Thousands of dollars are paid from hand, to hand and never a higher denomination of coin than a two franc piece, and but few of them. Of every hundred dollars in circulation, seventy-five dollars will be found to consist of dimes. Ten of them pass for a "strong" dollar, while eight pass for a dollar of the country. A decree of the government, however, makes a dollar in all cases to consist of ten dimes; still in trading the "strong" dollar or "dinero fuerte" must be expressed to make it ten dimes for a dollar. Francs and Mexican quarters all pass for the same amount, twenty cents; and only the United States twenty-five cent piece is recognized as of more value than two dimes.

A singular feature in the local currency is the existence of a large number of dimes with holes punched in them. It is impossible to pass one of these on the market women in the plaza, or a native laborer. Some say that this repugnance originated considerable time ago, when a shrewd fellow introduced a great many counterfeit dimes into the country and passed them off; and when the cheat was discovered, government collected all the spurious coin and made small holes in them as an advertisement of their unworthiness. Others say the objection is made by the Indians, because by that small hole the value of a cuartillo has been subtracted from the money. We do not pretend to decide which of these reasons is the true one, but we do say, and "say it boldly, too," that certain dimes in our possession have been indignantly refused by the market people, because the money was thus disfigured.

RIVAS.—The enemy, before leaving Rivas, filled all the wells with dead bodies, and otherwise injured the town to such an extent that it will hereafter be almost impossible to live there. The greatest evil thus done falls on the opponents of the present Government of Nicaragua, and is a just punishment inflicted on the people who deserted their own soil to unite with a foreign foe to invade the State.

MACHINERY FOR THE ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—We understand that machinery will soon be brought out from New York for the use of the Ordnance Department, and on the reception of which the Government will be prepared to supply the army with many things in which it is now sadly deficient.

MAN KILLED ON THE ISLAND.—Last week a party of "Serviles" connected with the Costa Rican army went across the lake to the Island of Ometepa, and destroyed a large quantity of wood belonging to private individuals, which had been cut for the steamers. They also killed one white man whose name we could not learn.

ARRIVAL OF ARMS.—Two wagons came down from Leon on Tuesday, with a large number of muskets for the new recruits. An escort of twenty men came down with the wagons, and also two sick Americans, who had been left in the hospital at Leon.

MONEY REGULATION IN HONDURAS.—The government of Honduras has published a decree ordering the Minister of Hacienda to receive francs at the rate of five for eighty seven and a half cents.

WHARF AT VIRGIN BAY.—We understand that the wharf at Virgin Bay, constructed at so much expense and labor by the Transit Company, which the traitors in the camp of the Costa Rican army attempted to destroy by fire, was not injured so much but that it can be repaired at a slight cost. As President Mora said, it was truly an act of vandalism; and when we consider that the act was the work of people who claim Nicaragua as their home, there is no language sufficient to condemn it. What plea can the incendiary urge to justify the destruction of a piece of property which reflected so much credit on the State? We could as easily forge a reason for the man who would tear down the monument to the "Father of his Country" erected in Washington City. Men who do such acts are not rational to themselves.

CHONTALES DISTRICT.—Attention is directed to the report of Mr. Sounens-tern, of the Department of Chontales. It was accompanied by a drawing of the district, and those who are conversant with the country award great praise to its accuracy. The imperfection of the report must be attributed to the author's want of acquaintance with the American language, and to have corrected which would have required us to re-write it altogether, thereby spoiling its faithfulness in many respects.

NICARAGUA TRUE DELTA.—We have received the first number of the above paper printed expressly for circulation in Central America. The enterprise is well timed and popular, and should the proprietor continue the project, no doubt it will pay well. The vignette is a very appropriate design, comprising the volcanic range of this State, with other devices representing the present and future character of Nicaragua.

OBITUARY.—Judge J. Caleb Smith, well known in California and Virginia, died in this city on Friday, after a short attack of fever. The best of medical advice and attention was rendered to Judge Smith, but the disease could not be stayed, and another gallant and honorable gentleman has given his life to make memorable the grave-yard of Granada.

GOOD BRANDY.—Don Señor Max. Thoman, of Gotham notoriety, has favored us with a specimen of Cognac equal to the best drank in the locality where brandy is made. We are authorized to state that he has a few more left at his institution on Hospital street, fronting the San Francisco convent.

MOVEMENTS OF THE ARMY.—We have dispatched a regular correspondent with the army, who will report from headquarters the various movements that may be undertaken by the Commander-in-Chief.

THE NEXT STEAMER.—The steamer from New Orleans for San Juan del Norte was advertised to leave New Orleans on the 27th ult., and from New York on the 24th.

DEPARTURE.—Gen. Walker and his staff, together with Capt. Raymond's company, left the city yesterday for Virgin Bay.

PRUSSIAN CONSUL.—Mr. Chas. Wasseman has been appointed Consul of the King of Prussia for this city.

MAIL TO LEON.—The Postmaster will despatch a mail to the city of Leon once a week regularly, leaving this city every Sunday, at 4 o'clock P. M.

Saturday Morning, April 26.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

It will be perceived that the enemy have evacuated the State, and are now in Costa Rica. The most reliable reports estimate the loss of Gen. Mora at 1200 men, in those who were killed in battle, wounded and since died, and taken off by disease.

Gen. Walker, with a larger part of his army, left this city for Virgin Bay, on Tuesday evening, and arrived at that place at daybreak next day, just six hours after the enemy left San Juan del Sur. He found at Rivas, a large number of the enemy sick and wounded, together with a letter from Gen. Jose Maria Cañas, commander of the Costa Rica forces, entrusting these men to the generosity of Gen. Walker, and proposing, at some future time to exchange American prisoners for them. They were taken care of by the General. Gen. Walker returned to Granada Thursday, and after remaining in this city two days again departed this morning for Virgin, where the head quarters of the army will be temporarily fixed. It will be a matter of congratulation to our friends in the United States to learn that the Transit Route across from San Juan del Norte to San Juan del Sur has been re-opened, and will be continued so hereafter. The almost entire strength of thy American force is now stationed on the line of the Transit.

Brigadier-General Fry will command in the department the garrison consisting of the Second Light Infantry Battalion.

The family of Col. Wheeler, U. S. Minister, will leave for the Atlantic States in the steamer this morning. Col. Wheeler accompanies his family to San Juan del Norte, from whence he will return immediately.

In another portion of the paper will be found an interesting account of Gen. Goicouria's expedition to Chontales, and his engagement with a force of Legitimists. The enemy fled without doing any damage to our force. The command is spoken of as gallant and very worthy. The disaffection in Chontales was confined to a few extreme Ser-viles, who had heretofore refused to pay their taxes.

Lieut-Col. Brewster, of the First Rifle Battalion, died in this city on Tuesday night, after a short illness of three days. His sick bed was soothed by a lady's kindness and his funeral honored as a soldiers should be.

The Government still continues at Leon, and its stay there is yet of uncertain duration.

Don Ferman Ferrer, Minister of Hacienda, is in this city.

The annual election has just passed off with great interest and quietude. Don Patricio Rivas and Gen. Mariano Salinas were the opposing candidates for the Presidency, and were both Democrats. It is impossible to conjecture at present who is elected.

Several prisoners of State are now in the guard house, but what their ultimate disposition will be we are unable to determine.

COMING BACK.—After the return of Gen. Walker from Rivas, when it was known the Costa Ricans had again occupied Rivas, it was considered probable the enemy might advance upon this city. The General halted about two weeks, waiting to be attacked, during which time many families in this city were granted passports, and left for the country to escape the evils of a general fight.—Within the week just past most of these families have returned, and the city is again filling up with bright eyed senioritas.

MARKETING.—For the past week the plaza has presented a more than usually animated appearance, and the quantity of vegetables and fruits for sale has been augmented by a number of different kinds. The market place has been filled to such an extent with women, that it was almost impossible to pass through the crowd.

UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION.—We have received accounts from almost every section of the State, and the universal sentiment applauds the late letter written by Col. Wheeler to President Juan Rafael Mora, of Costa Rica, under date of April 15. In Leon, where the democratic element is strongest, it created great enthusiasm, and is recognized as a just reflex of American sentiment.

U. S. MINISTER.—We have every reason to believe that the reported recall of Colonel Wheeler, U. S. Minister to this Republic, and the appointment of Mr. Hiss to fill his place, is altogether without foundation.

TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL NOTICES OF THE Department of Chontales.

BY M. SOUNENSTERN.

GRANADA, March 31, 1856.

To His Excellency Gen. William Walker, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Republic of Nicaragua:

The undersigned takes the liberty to deliver his traveling notices and geological examinations of the Department of Chontales, with a collection of minerals, and with a sketch of the said department, drawn by the Civil and Military Engineer, A. Schwartz, to your excellency, hoping that the trouble made to him by this expedition will be rewarded by an early colonization of the proposed part of the department.

Always ready to be of some service to your excellency, I remain, most respectfully,
MAXIMILIN SOUNENSTERN.

The Department of Chontales runs from the Estero Panaloja along the Nicaragua Lake to San Carlos and the San Juan river, and has undefined boundaries on the east and north-east sides.

The main chain of the Cordilleras, which run about parallel with the shore of the Nicaragua Lake, will be the natural and climatical boundary on the east side of the district. On the east side of this chain of mountains we find immense and uninvestigable wood mountains, belonging to the Department of Mosquitia, of the Republic of Nicaragua, and inhabited by half-wild Indians, who find the necessities of life in fishing and hunting, and who are constantly moving from one place to another.

We have no volcanoes in this chain of the Cordilleras Mountains, but we find many remains of a large volcanic activity. Single particles of lava and the figures of the rock combs are the witnesses of a volcanic formation of the Cordilleras Mountains; and it is further witnessed by the results of a thousand yearly influences of the water after the volcanic activity which has formed the mountains.

Eleven large rivers and a number of small brooks, of which the springs and origins are situated near the Cordilleras Mountains, stream from northeast to west south-west through Chontales. The large rivers have water the whole year, but in the rainy season their currents must be larger and very rapid.

The water vortex of Chontales will be at the comb of the Cordilleras Mountains one part of the rivers and brooks run from there to the Nicaragua Lake, and the other part to the Atlantic ocean; but a regular line of mountains; does not form this comb, rather a composition of irregular volcanic formations.

Near the Nicaragua Lake, in the lower parts of the district, we find that sometimes the regular direction of a river disappears, and two rivers here form a large uninterrupted marsh. This formation will be found particularly in the southern part of Chontales, where the main chain of the mountains decreases to the San Juan river, and the marshes extend some hundred square miles along in a northeast direction into the country.

The formation of the Cordilleras Mountains all over bear a tolerable resemblance; but never could we find an uninterrupted chain, only bodies of mountains, lying one behind the other and running in curves, as will be seen on the sketch.

The southwest part of the Cordilleras Mountains is composed of different formed hills, dales, plains, &c., and extend from the lake about nine to ten leagues in breadth.

The plains on the lower parts of the district are favorable for cultivation and give good opportunity to manage agriculture in a large and profitable style; but, nevertheless, no where have we found large farms under cultivation; and in the whole district of Chontales there are only four or five large towns, of which Acojapa, with one hundred houses and huts and 600 inhabitants, is the largest.

No where have we found land under cultivation more than was necessary for the livelihood of the people. The roads in these low parts, only practicable at any season for mules, cannot be travelled in the rainy season at all. The whole district, excellent for agriculture, is only used for an irregular breeding of wild cattle; and the lines of demarcation between the immense farms are only marked by brooks and chains of mountains, without any regard to titles.

The superficial extent of the district of Chontales will be about 2,800 square miles, with about 20,000 inhabitants, living partly in towns and villages, and partly scattered over the country.

Handicrafts-men cannot be found in the whole district, and only women perform sewing and weaving.

The Spanish Indian population of the district of Chontales is not capable of improving this splendid country, because of the large disproportion between the superficial extent and the number of inhabitants. It is to be hoped that a large number of Americans and Europeans will emigrate to this beautiful part of Central America, and that with the multiplication of hands the cultivation and civilization of this country will be improved and elevated.

A colonization of North Americans and Europeans, located in a favorable portion of the country, supported for a time by the Government, will make a vast change in the private life of Chontales and in its relations to the Government.

Description of the Rivers, Towns, Ground and Minerals of the Department of Chontales.

The Estero Panaloja forms the demarcation line

of the district, and the adjoining part is a plain and fertile region, which runs two leagues, partly wooded and partly unwooded, to the Malacatoya river. This river, the most northern in the department, has flowing water the whole year. It rises in the mountains, north of Ghocoyat, where the Cordilleras are elevated about 2,800 feet, and runs from north to south, and three leagues east from the Panaloja river empties into the Nicaragua Lake. On the lower mule road, two and a half leagues from the lake, where the road crosses the river, we found on the right and left shores some farms, (*haciendas*.)

The road leads on the left shore in a southeasterly direction, three leagues from the lake, through a beautiful woodland, with a good kind of ground; but in a short time the road enters a meager, black ground, swelled through a succession of years from the lake, with a deep bed of sand-stone, supposed to have been an old bed of the lake. This ground is partly overgrown by low trees, partly by grass, and partly not. In some places, particularly near the Masapa river, four leagues from the Maticatoya, the traveler finds pieces of lava.

The Masapa river, coming from the comb of the Cordilleras Mountains, has a very low bed where the road crosses it; but during the whole year it has some flowing water. One and a half leagues from the lake it receives the water of the Acota river, a stream which becomes dry in the summer.

The hills of the Cordilleras Mountains near the Masapa river are about five or six leagues distant from the Nicaragua Lake, but near the Tecolostote river they run near to the lake.

The Tecolostote river is about one league from the left shore of the Acota river, coming from the Cordilleras Mountains, near the town of Lorenzo, and running from north to south. It has but little water in the dry season, but forms a large and rapid river in the rainy season. About four leagues distant from the lake, it runs west and empties into the lake near the Masapa river. Three leagues from the lake, near the farm of Santa Rita, the road is divided into three parts, all leading to the hills of Chontales: one, from south to north, crosses the Tecolostote twelve times, and leads to the town of San Lorenzo, and three and a half leagues from there to the town of Boaco. Another goes east to the town of Comolapa, and the third, in a southeasterly direction, runs through the farm of San Lorenzo to Juigalpa. The east road from Santa Rita, one league from Comolapa, commands a beautiful prospect of the Cordilleras Mountains, and of the extraordinary formation of the dales, hills and mountains of the aforementioned part of the Cordilleras, and in which we find a striking likeness of one part to the other.

Comolapa is a town of about forty houses, with a church and 250 inhabitants. It is situated in a hollow, surrounded by hills about 500 to 600 feet high, and is crossed by a dale of a small brook running to the Majale river, which gives the necessary water to the inhabitants.

The surrounding country is very poor, and the inhabitants have but little agriculture and no breeding of cattle. The mountains have but little soil, and are composed of limestone, sandstone and quartz. On the top of the mountains are some natural walls of granite. From Comolapa, in a western direction, was a very poor vein of silver-brass.

Juigalpa, six leagues distant from Comolapa, is the first remarkable town. At the foot of the mountains we find the Majale river, about five leagues northerly from Comolapa, coming out of a large deep valley, and running to the Nicaragua Lake, in a southern direction. On the left shore of the Majale river, we find some good land, but generally the plains consist of sandstone, covered with a few inches of meager ground.

A half league before we reach Juigalpa, we have to cross the Salto river, which empties into the Majale, from which the grounds are more elevated.

Juigalpa has about eighty or ninety houses and huts, one church, and about 500 inhabitants. It lies on a small elevated plat, free and airy, about five leagues distant from the lake and four leagues from the comb of the Cordilleras Mountains.

The Majale river, running southwesterly, the Salto, northeasterly, and the Garza, in an easterly direction, all unite with the two others one league southward from Juigalpa, and the Majale river becomes a large stream. The Majale and Salto rivers have in the dry season a few inches of water, about ten or twelve yards wide, but the Garza river is completely dry.

Agriculture and industry cannot be found at Juigalpa, although near this town the ground is very good, a large quantity of minerals have been found, and the rivers afford sufficient water to make use of it as a power for machinery.

Three roads for mules have been made from Juigalpa to other places—one northerly to the town of Libertad, eight leagues distant from Juigalpa; another easterly to Acojapa, six and a half leagues; and the third over the largest farm in Chontales—Alto Grande—to the lake, five leagues distant. On the eastern road leading to Acojapa, through the Salta river, we cross a group of mountains running between the Majale and the Paderose rivers, in a southerly direction, to the lake.

This section is not favorable for agriculture, as the sandstone covers the ground, except on some small tracts near the lake, which have loam ground, mixed with black earth.

Trees and woodland can only be found in small quantities along the rivers and on the higher tracts of the mountains.

Acojapa has 100 houses and a church, and about 650 inhabitants. It is situated on a small elevated plat, and is enclosed by hills. Near Acojapa are situated two old but small Indian villages, Lovago and Loviguisco, each with twenty to twenty-five huts, with churches and 149 to 150 inhabitants.

From Acojapa run three mule roads to other places—one southeasterly to the port and town of San Miguelito, eighteen leagues distant; the other northerly to the village of Libertad, seven leagues distant, and the third southwesterly to San Ubalto, four leagues distant from Acojapa.

San Ubalto has only one house, and is situated on the lake. It has much importance, because of the large quantity of gold, silver and brass which are passing on mules from the mines near the Mico river, through Acojapa to Europe.

Southeasterly from Acojapa are large plains, with fine fodder, and the ground is composed of loam ground and black earth. Along the road from Acojapa to San Miguelito we have to cross the rivers Amiscuto, Ojate and Topanaguaspe. The first has no water in the dry season.

San Miguelito, the only port on the east of the Nicaragua Lake, is situated one hundred yards from the shore, at an elevation of from ninety to one hundred feet. It has about thirty-five houses and huts, and 160 to 170 inhabitants. We found there a little agriculture, but the main occupation is the breeding of cattle.

The products of the larger farms of the southeasterly part of Chontales, such as cheese, skins, &c., are sent from San Miguelito to other parts of Nicaragua, and the town must consequently be of some importance.

From San Miguelito runs a bad mule road to the Las Marias river, about two leagues, but from there the traveler has to go in a boat to San Carlos, because the mule road ceases on the said river. Two leagues north from San Carlos is the Mario river, running into the lake.

San Carlos has about fourteen huts, with nearly sixty inhabitants, and must eventually be of much importance, because of its favorable situation on the Nicaragua Lake and the San Juan river. Near the town we find the ruins of an old fort.

The grounds near Miguelito, easterly and southeasterly, consisting of black loam earth, is not good, for agriculture, and only the hills and low mountains of this part of Chontales will be found at all fertile. The dales and low parts of this district are marshy the whole year, and only low down on the San Juan river are there any woodlands with large luxurious trees.

To travel more in the interior of this country is impossible at present, and a long time must elapse before we have the necessary and desirable knowledge of the country.

If the traveler wishes to go back to the northern part, he must go about six or seven leagues on the above road, after which he can take, in the dry season, a westerly leading road, running along the shore of the Nicaragua Lake. Near the Ojate river we find some roads leading easterly and northeasterly to the farms of the narrows. Traveling by different small mule roads northerly towards the mountains, we reach, after much trouble, to the north of Acojapa, the town and the mines of Libertad, where the road runs through one of the most fruitful and best watered countries of the whole department.

Libertad, about eight leagues north northwesterly distant from Acojapa, is situated on the Mico river, and has about thirty-five houses and huts, with nearly 300 inhabitants. We find more activity and business at Libertad than in any other town of Chontales, and a part of the inhabitants are occupied in the gold and silver mines of the town.

One of the first colonists at Libertad is Jose Antonio Conrado, who settled there three years ago—a very hospitable man.

Some of the mines near Libertad were commenced about seven years ago, and yield a large quantity of silver and gold when the necessary machinery is used. The Mico river, running from northwest to southeast, is at this place, in the dry season, about two feet deep, and is twelve to fifteen strides in width.

The left shore of the Mico river is a fine woodland, with large trees and of an immense extension, and the grounds of this part are very useful for agriculture and rich in minerals. On the right shore of the Mico river, south of Libertad, we find very fertile ground, grown over with high grass and watered by brooks rich in water. The temperature on the Mico river is moderate, and the water much cooler than in any other part of the district of Chontales.

Eight leagues southwest from Libertad is Juigalpa, to which the road leads through a fertile valley, where we find large farms, with numerous herds of cattle. Directly the road crosses hills and mountains to the water vortex between the Salto river and some of the small streams of the Mico river. This section is distant about four leagues from Juigalpa.

The Salto river, running from the said water-head, goes through a deep valley and separates the proposed chain of hills so, that it suddenly takes a northerly direction towards the Mico river. On the left side of the Salto river, near its beginning, the wood-covered mountains extend about two leagues in the same direction and of the same height as before; but after this they descend in different directions to the lake, and form sparsely wooded hills.

From the water-head the road runs part of the way through compact wood lands, and through a plain, near the foot of the Cordilleras mountains, through the Salto and Majale river and over the hills of Chontales, to Lomoapa, which is an old Indian town, situated on an elevated plain of about twelve square miles.

Lomoapa or Lomoapan has from seventy-five to eighty huts, with a fine church, erected in the year 1815. The inhabitants have no agriculture, although the ground is very good and well watered. The only road from Lomoapa, we find a small lake, which creates a good stream during the dry season. Lomoapa is situated on the northwesterly end of the large plain, and a half league from the largest mountains of the proposed hills of Chontales, called by the natives "Monbacho."

Different bad mule roads lead from there to the village of Boaco, at the distance of four leagues, but the better road is seven leagues long.

Boaco, situated on a small elevated plain surrounded by hills, has about eighty houses and huts a large church and about 500 inhabitants, who live from breeding cattle.

The whole country surrounding Boaco is wooded or naked hill lands, but with a soil incapable of cultivation. Three leagues northerly from Boaco, and one league from the Cordilleras Mountains is the Indian village Buenaventura, consisting of about twenty or twenty-five huts. Between the village and the Cordilleras we find an old gold mine, worked about ten years ago. The mine has only a little gold and silver quartz, but more lead and sulphur, iron in quartz and limestone.

In this part of Chontales, I saw the first weaver's frame, managed by an Indian woman, and at the farms some little sugar-cane plantations, and orange trees.

Thence a half league distance in a southerly direction, on a bad mule road, we reach the village of San Lorenzo; west from Boaco we find the village Zeuste and from there about south Juguilite. The best road goes to San Lorenzo, which is situated in a deep valley, with a road on the south side.

San Lorenzo has about twenty of twenty-five houses with a little church and about 120 to 150 inhabitants. The pastor of San Lorenzo, Jogen Gonzales merits to be named as a very hospitable man. From San Lorenzo the road runs in the dry season along the Tecolostote, through the shady and beautiful valley of this river, to a plain, from which the traveller has a fine view of the Nicaragua Lake, and the Monbachó near Granada.

In the valley of the Tecolostote river, and of the Masapa and Malacatojo, and in the woodland east and northeast we find the best quality of coloring wood in large quantities; but always we witness the want of hands, to bring the natural products, of which the District of Chontales has a large quantity, into the commerce of the State.

The main resting place of the metallic minerals in the district of Chontales is situated in the middle of the district, about four or five leagues from north to south, and from the waters west of the by-river of the Mico and Bluefield river (so much as we know in this time), and west to the proposed hills of the Cordilleras Mountains, where we find evidences of its existence, (for example at the farm of Alta Grande.) All the resting places of metallic minerals of Chontales run directly from east to west, mostly beginning on the surface of the earth. The sections richest in silver and brass will be found east from the Bola river. West from the Tigeri to the Mico river, we find gold and silver dust in quartz.

It is the opinion of myself, that the volcanic revolutions have destroyed the metallic mineral resting places on the hills of Chontales, in which we find composition of different minerals mixed, with lava; and that this volcanic activity has not had any effect in the mountains near the Mico river, where we find the deposits of the minerals in their original formation.

The silver and brass on the Bola river has about 7 1-2 to 8 per cent. silver, and one small part of the silver mines has 65 to 70 per cent. The silver in these mines will be found in quartz, mixed with black and white lime earth.

The best way to mine the metal out of these minerals, and to have a sufficient profit, will be, when a good and large machine crushes the stones with the metal, and when this powder shall be melted in iron crucibles.

The mines near the Mico and Tigeri river have minerals with about 1 1-2 to 1 3-4 ounces of gold to 100 lbs. mineral; and with 1 7-8 to per cent. silver.

The gold and silver in these minerals is very finely sprinkled in quartz, and mixed lime earth. The metals can be rendered very profitable by crushing and washing the minerals with machinery.

With good and complete machinery can be received from the ton of minerals out of the mines near the Mico, Tigeri and Baldo river and from the eastern parts, \$500 to \$520.

Gold can be found in the Mico river and in its tributaries, by washing the sand of this water; and it is possible, that the results of a regular and constant examination will be very favorable, because in a series of years a large quantity of quartz, mixed with gold dust, will be broken away from the shore, and must have been washed out during the rainy season from the large and strong running water.

Project of Colonization in the District of Chontales.

This project for a colonization in the district of Chontales is made by taking into consideration, that the emigrants and settlers are born in a temperate climate, that they shall have a likely temperature, united with a good ground for agriculture, with sufficient running water, and with wood, minerals and other products of nature in the southern parts.

The land for the Colonization of North Americans and Europeans in the Republic of Nicaragua is situated along the Mico River, about thirteen leagues north-east from the Nicaragua Lake. It has a temperate climate (70 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit,) and a very fertile ground.

The newest medical observations, made by the best physicians, witness, that this part of Nicaragua will be very healthy; and that universally a complete inactivity and abstinence from physical labor, can be the only source of sickness to North Americans and Europeans, living in the tropical countries. But moderate work done by the body, and in the day time, is very healthy for the emigrants from a colder climate.

The district proposed for a Colonization is one of the most fertile parts of Chontales and of the whole Republic of Nicaragua. The fruits, neces-

sary for the livelihood of the settlers and his cattle, can be planted in a short time, and the nature of this climate favor the increasing and the ripeness of the plants and fruits without any work done by hand.

The minerals in this district, the color wood and other natural products will soon lead the new settlers to industry and to commerce, the advantages of which will be much enhanced without large expenses, when the communication of this district with other parts of this Republic and with the other civilized world shall be improved.

The water in the proposed colonization is cool and plentiful, and the rain is frequent in the dry season, wherefore the luxuriance of the plants and fruits is beautiful.

The ground is composed of fertile loam, mixed with black and red earth, and is sometimes two and three feet deep.

The Mico river traverses this proposed colonization from northwest to northeast. On the right shore we find a large parrie about 9 miles wide and forty to forty-five miles long; on the left of the Mico river is a large woodland, with different kinds of wood; and on both sides run by-rivers rich with cool waters in the Mico. The water of the same has force enough to drive any machinery necessary for mining purposes.

To have the necessary emigration for the proposed wild and natural colonization, it is necessary to have communication between the colony and the lake, to survey and lay out the colony, and to examine the grounds of the same. This has to be done by the government, like it was done in the United States, to commence emigration and to satisfy the first settlers, which will give occasion to enlarge the colonization, and to have an intelligent, permanent and industrious settlement. Thus it can be accomplished in the said district of the Mico river, and the interests of the Republic much advanced.

GRANADA, April 28th, 1856.

To his Excellency General Wm. Walker:

The undersigned would most respectfully submit, in addition to his former report of his geological researches in Chontales, a plan and sketch of expenses for working the gold and silver mines on the Rio Mico, and should the government think favorable of this plan, and be willing at any time to execute it, the undersigned would furnish it with plans and drawings for the necessary machinery. I have been enabled, through the different chemical operations made by me, to find out the real value and richness of these gold and silver veins, as well as the best method of working them, and I am convinced it will be for the benefit of the government to consider this plan, to establish proper mills, etc., to work these veins to advantage. Before I submit to you, however, a specification of the necessary expenses, etc., I would remark that the richest gold and silver ores are to be found between the Rio Tigre and Rio Bolla—both branches of the Rio Mico, and where a sufficient water power can be found to work even in the driest season. The annexed amount for machinery, etc., includes all expenses of transportation to the mines, and is sufficient to work in a small but profitable way. By the specifications which I beg leave to annex, and which I have made with the greatest caution and with the least expectations you will at once perceive the immense advantages the government and the State will derive from this undertaking. To the former it will be a source of revenue and probably the means of establishing a mint, the existence of which will in itself be of importance, and it must exercise a certain influence towards other countries. To the State it will be the means of directing the attention of the world to the rich mines of this, as yet but little known district, and to encourage an influx of emigration not alone for mining, but also for agricultural purposes, who will in a few years settle this district to the advantage and benefit of the State.

With these few remarks I would submit my report to your favorable consideration, and have the honor to be your excellency's

Most obedient servant,
MAX SOUNENSTERN.

SCHEDULE.

No. 1.

SPECIFICATIONS OF MACHINERY AND ITS PROBABLE COST.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1 double quartz mill with 1 water wheel | \$900 00 |
| 1 stamping machine do do do | |
| 12 stampers and a washing apparatus | 650 00 |
| 12 smelting pots to burn the ore and a conductor for the quicksilver | 250 00 |
| A forge and utensils | 260 00 |
| The necessary working tools | 300 00 |
| Houses and furniture | 800 00 |
| Ten mules and saddles at \$20 each | 200 00 |
| | \$3360 00 |

No. 2.

PERSONS REQUIRED TO WORK THE MINES AND THEIR ANNUAL EXPENSES.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 1 Chief Overseer | \$1000 00 |
| 1 Chief Engineer | 800 00 |
| 1 Book-keeper | 600 00 |
| 1 Blacksmith | 400 00 |
| 1 Wheelwright | 365 00 |
| 8 Men to work in the mines at \$1 day | 2920 00 |
| 6 do do on the machines do | 1190 00 |
| 2 wood choppers at \$1 per day | 730 00 |
| 1 Coal burner at \$1 per day | 365 00 |
| 1 Cook | 200 00 |
| 2 Porters | 400 00 |
| Repairs for machines and tools at \$5 day | 1825 00 |
| Board &c., for 25 persons at \$50 p day | 4562 50 |
| Total expenses for one year | \$16,357 50 |

The average amount of profit to be gained by

working these mines with the above mentioned machinery and men will be as follows, by working weekly 2 tons of gold and 1 ton of silver ore:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 100 lbs. of gold ore contain in the average 1 1/2 oz. of gold or 20 oz. per ton—2 tons per week, 60 oz. at \$15..... | 900 00 |
| 100 lbs. of silver ore, containing 5 per cent of silver or 100 lbs. of silver per ton at \$15 per pound..... | 1500 00 |
| Amount received per week..... | \$2400 00 |

RE-CAPITULATION.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Gross amount of silver and gold per week \$2400, 50 weeks at \$2400, per an'm | 120,000 00 |
| Deducting yearly expenses as estimated under No. 2..... | 16367 50 |
| | \$103,642 50 |
| Leaving a total net profit for one year of the above sum. | MAX. SOUNENSTERN. |

THE KING AND QUEEN OF GREECE.—

The present reigning sovereign of Greece is said to be a remarkably fine looking man upon horseback. His tall, thin figure and a certain air of wearied majesty which he always wears, render him to say the least, an interesting figure to the eyes of foreigners. But it is said that his mind is timid and vacillating.

"When he wishes to study an affair, he has all the papers brought him, scrupulously reads them from one end to the other without forgetting anything; he corrects the fault of spelling, alters the punctuation, criticises the writing; and when he has examined everything, he has learned nothing: after that, still less has decided on anything. His last word in every business, "We will see." The Queen is for prompt resolve; she possesses the qualities of a general commanding an army. We do not know whether she reflects long; every year affairs would remain in suspense if the King reigned alone; but he makes over the regency to the Queen. The Queen takes a pen and signs, without examination, all the laws which the King has examined without signing. The King has, they say, an excellent heart. The Queen's reputation for kindness is not so well established. Nothing is more easy as to offend her; nothing more difficult than to get her favor again. We have been told of one man whom she will never forgive, having dined with her without having a good appetite: she thought that he wished to despise her cuisine.

A lady made a complaint to Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. "Your Majesty," said she, "my husband treats me badly."

"That is none of my business," replied the King.

"But he speaks very ill of you," said the lady.

"That," he replied, "is none of your business."

Lately a lady in New York, who is a very expert skater, offered the prize of a kiss to any one who could catch her. This offer spread like lightning—she started off—dozens started in pursuit, and she was, after a good run, captured by a negro, who good mannerly and politely declined the forfeit.

The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to your opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity.

An Irishman, giving testimony in one of our courts, a few days since, in a riot case, said, "Be jabbers, the first man I saw coming at me when I got up was two brickbats."

Prosperity is the only test that a vulgar man can't pass through. If a man has anything mean in his disposition, a little good luck is sure to bring it out.

What did Napoleon mean when he said that "bayonets think?" The meaning is obvious. Every polished bayonet is capable of reflection.

The Phrenological journal says that the most healthful position to sleep in is with the head in a line with the body, allowing the throat and lungs the fullest play.

If you would be pungent, be brief, for it is with words as with sunbeams—the more they are condensed the deeper they burn.

ORATORY—A celebrated lawyer, many years ago, at the bar of Erie county, concluded an eloquent harangue to the jury against the prisoner, with this appeal: "He bared his arm, gentlemen; he bared his arm, I say, to Heaven, and—stole the sugar!"

The learned counsel for the defense arose and addressed the court:

"May it please the court and gentlemen of the jury, 'Silenus has spoken!'" and took his seat with great gravity of countenance.

This brought up the orator:

"Who is *Silenus*!"

The counsellor arose, with a sarcastic smile on his face, and replied:

"My learned friend, counsel for the prosecution, asks me who *Silenus* is: will tell him. He was the foster-father and companion of Bacchus, and (like my friend the orator) lived in Arcadia, and rode on an ass and was drunk every day."

The court and jury were in a roar of laughter in about a minute. The case then went to the jury.

HAILING AND SEARCHING.—According to documents sent to the Senate to-day the instructions to Com. McCauley, commander of the Home Squadron, issued in April last, after the Spanish frigate Terrolina had fired into the United States steamer El Dorado, were to the effect that when similar outrage will be committed on any vessel rightfully bearing our flag, he must promptly interpose and resist the exercise of the assumed right of visitation, and repel the interference by force; the executive taking the ground that the conduct of the authorities of Cuba in hailing and searching our vessels cannot rest on any territorial jurisdiction on the high seas and in the vicinity of the Island of Cuba, this Government denying the existence of any state of facts to warrant the exercise of belligerent rights.—This matter was promptly brought to the attention of the Spanish authorities by the State Department.

Col. Rawlison is said to have discovered the mummy of Nebuchadnezzar, in the sepulchres of Babylon. Barnum fished up the wheels of Pharaoh's Chariot from the Red Sea, some years since, to exhibit in his Museum.

SHE WOULD BE A GOOD CANDIDATE.—A Fillmore paper at Washington says Banks declines being considered a candidate for the Presidency, but hopes are entertained of the Hon. Abby Kelley. It is cheerfully magnanimous on the part of Banks to decline what he probably could not get, but Abby will do very well with Blair, of Jackson's organ, at the tail of the ticket.

THE HOPEFUL SON.—*Mother.*—"Did I not tell you not to trouble those pies again?"

Hopeful Son.—"I ain't had no trouble with 'em: I'm a eaten 'em as peaceable as can be."

Grant graciously what you cannot refuse safely, and conciliate those you cannot conquer.

DIED.

At Granada, April 27, NATHANIEL PARKER POTTER, aged 27 years, First Lieutenant of Company D, First Rifle Battalion. Lieut. Potter was a native of Albany, N. Y. He emigrated to California in 1848, joined Gen. Walker in the Lower California Expedition, was among the first to follow him to Nicaragua, was an active participator in the capture of Granada, and received the wound from which he died while gallantly charging the enemy in the second battle of Rivas.

It will be some consolation to his many friends at home and in California to learn that, all the care sorrowing companions and a brother's unremitting attention could give, he received.

Reduction in Subscription.

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Se permite la reproducción sólo para estudios académicos sin fines de lucro, y citando la fuente. - FEB

THE RENEGADE.—We understand that Pedro Arguello, the traitor, who left Nicaragua to join the forces of Costa Rica, and who was there rewarded with an important command, has since been disgraced from his position by President Mora, and is now a prisoner with the enemy. We do not vouch for the truth of the report, but the cowardly retreat of Arguello from the field of Rivas before the fight was half finished, was enough to justify Señor Mora not only in disgracing him, but in the Crimea he would have been shot.

FROM THE RIVER.—We have received accounts from San Juan river confirming in every particular the account we gave of the fight of Sarapiquí. We also learn that Capt. Baldwin, with one hundred men, has fortified his position at the mouth of the Sarapiquí in such a manner as to be capable of withstanding an attack from a thousand men. It is not probable the enemy will make a demonstration against that point again.

EUROPEAN IGNORANCE.—A French newspaper, pretending to give news from the United States, gravely informs the people of France that Nathaniel P. Banks, the present Speaker of the American Congress, is a negro. The papers this side of the Atlantic called Mr. Banks a Black Republican, and therefore the Paris editor writes him down a nigger.

LONESOME.—The town of Granada is remarkably lonesome at present. The streets look deserted, and market place has fallen away in the number of merchant women at least one half.

SICKNESS.—Considerable sickness prevails at present among the native population. We have heard of two cases of small pox.

GONE AGAIN.—Gen. Goicouria, with the newly mounted ranging company, left the city last evening, but the destination of the expedition has not transpired.

FOR CALIFORNIA.—The mail for California has not closed yet, but will remain open until Monday.

We have observed several wonderful stories of late, respecting the skill of the Chinese executioners, who, it is said, can strike off the head of their victims so skillfully that the poor fellows themselves never discover their loss until a moment or two after they are dead. We recall to mind, however, the story of a German executioner, who far surpassed the Chinese in professional dexterity. Upon one occasion it happened that a criminal, who was condemned to death had a singular itching to play at ninepins; and he implored permission to play once more at his favorite game before he died—then, he said, he would submit to his fate without a murmur. The judge, thinking there could be no harm in humoring him, granted his last prayer; and, upon arriving at the place of execution, he found everything prepared for the game—the pins being set up and the bowls all ready. He commenced his favorite sport with enthusiasm. After a while the sheriff, observing that he showed no inclination to desist, made a sign to the executioner to strike the fatal blow while he stooped for a bowl. The executioner did so, but with such exquisite dexterity that the culprit did not notice or feel it. He thought, indeed, that a cold breath of air was blowing upon his neck, and drawing himself back with a shrug, his head dropped forward into his hands. He naturally supposed that it was a bowl which he had grasped, and seizing it firmly, rolled it at the pins. All of them fell; and the head was heard to exclaim, as it rebounded from the farther wall, "Hurrah! I've won the game."—*Portfolio.*

THE POWER OF MAGNETISM.—Eugene Guizot gives us an incident in Parisian life, which he regards as romantic, and which is at least amusing.

The scene is laid in the pavilion attached to a country house in the neighborhood of the great city; the time a few minutes past 11 P. M. Mons. Armand awaits with patience Madame X., with whom he has arranged an interview at that hour, quite innocently, but in secret.

Close to the appointed time Mons. Armand hears foot-steps. Is it the lady? The door opens. He stands stupefied in the presence of her husband. Mons. X. has returned from Paris, and deeming it too late to awaken the sleepers of the house, comes to share the room of his friend in the pavilion.

The conversation between the lover and the husband is amusing, and as the hour approaches, the perplexity of the former increases. His agitation leads him to the most inconsistent remarks and the most inexplicable questions.

"What is the matter with you?" asks the husband.

"Nothing at all."

"I discompose you. How strangely you look. Have I interrupted something serious?"

The lover stands, his hands pressed upon a little table, weak and nervous with agitation.

"Ah!" exclaims the husband, "I see you were about to try an experiment in table-turning."

The suggestion saved the lover. Gradually recovering, he admits the fact. The whole public was then in a rage of table-turning, and the most marvelous effects were attributed to the mysterious process.

"Yes," exclaims Mons. Armand, I admit it. You smile at me. You doubt! Shall I explain to you, by an exhibition of true science, one of those miracles of magnetism of which I speak? Will you deny the evidence of facts?"

"No; I ask only actual proof."

"You shall have it. My will can traverse space and overcome distance. Name some one at the chateau, and I will summon him here in a moment. Shall it be your aunt?"

"Oh, no! She is too old, and the experiment would ruin us."

"Your wife, then?"

"Very well, my wife."

Mons. Armand, with an air of intense thought, leans on the table and inwardly exercises his magic will.

In a few moments Madame X. enters and perceives her husband, stands mute, pale, with dilated eyes and outstretched arms and an air of stupor wholly unaffected.

"Prodigious!" exclaims the husband.

"Hush, silence," says the magnetizer. "Do not awake her. Do you at last admit the power of magnetism? Do you acknowledge the mystery of somnambulism and the magnetic currents?"

"I am indeed convinced," murmured the astonished husband.

Fearful of awakening the somnambulist, the magnetizer forbids the husband to speak or to approach, and with a few words and gesture willed her departure, and the sleeping medium walked off.

All learned a lesson by the experiment, and the husband was thereafter a firm believer in animal magnetism.

A SHREWD EDITOR.—At a Welsh celebration in New York, Dr. Jones told the following amusing anecdote:

The speaker said that editors were like other shrewd men who had to live with their eyes and ears open. He related a story of an editor, who started a paper in a new village at the West. The town was infested by gamblers, whose presence was a source of annoyance to the citizens, and who told the editor if he did not come out against them, they would not patronize his paper; he replied that he would give them a "smasher" next day. Sure enough, his next issue contained the promised "smasher," and on the following morning the redoubtable editor, with scissors in hand, was seated in his sanctum cutting out news, when in walked a large man with a club in his hand, who demanded to know if the editor was in. "No, sir," was the reply, "he has stepped out; take a seat and read the papers; he

will return in a minute." Down sat the indignant man of cards, crossed his legs with his club between them, and commenced reading a paper. In the meantime the editor quietly vamoosed down stairs, and at the landing below he met another excited man with a cudgel in his hand, who asked if the editor was in. "Yes, sir," was the prompt response, "you will find him seated up stairs reading a newspaper." The latter, on entering the room with a furious oath, commenced a violent assault on the former, which was resisted with equal ferocity. The fight continued until they had both rolled to the foot of the stairs and pounded each other to their heart's content.

TAILOR SHOP.—Public attention is directed to the advertisement of Mr. Means, Merchant Tailor, in another column.—The elegant "fits" made by this gentleman for the officers of the army, should recommend him to every person who desires a neat piece of clothing.

A QUEER CENSUS RETURN.—A Western friend send us the following as an extract from the census statistics return of the town of H—, in Iowa: "What is the population of your town?" The answer was: "Irish, 175; Amsterdam Dutch 190, other dam Dutch, 200; whites, 7. Total population 491."

EL EJERCITO DE COSTA-RICA.

El 27 del mes próximo pasado se dijo aquí que el Sr. Mora con la plana mayor del ejército y toda la tropa que ocupaba á Rivas habían salido de aquella plaza. Nadie sabia por de pronto á que atribuir semejante resolución, mas últimamente hemos llegado á comprender las varias causas que han debido influir, en este feliz resultado para las armas nicaraguenses. Es evidente y fuera de toda duda, según los datos últimamente recibidos, que el enemigo perdió sobre 600 hombres fuera de los heridos, en la memorable campaña del 11. Sabido es tambien que los Costaricenses no solo estaban desaminados por los terribles efectos del pasado desastre, sino porque decian haber sido engañados por los miembros del partido legitimista que les habían hecho creer que todo Nicaragua se les uniría apenas empezasen la campaña, y que viendo lo contrario durante la ocupación de Rivas, muchos muchísimos desertaban diariamente del ejército. Agrégase á esto que la noticia de la llegada de unos 400 americanos por el último vapor, la de que en Masaya había 500 leoneses, prontos á incorporarse con las fuerzas reunidas en Granada, la convicción de que los demás estados no tomaban parte alguna en la lucha y últimamente el estrago que el cólera estaba haciendo en la fatigada guarnición de Rivas, todas estas causas combinadas, parece motivaron ese resultado satisfactorio que por ahora ha devuelto la calma y la seguridad á este desolado país. Tambien se ha dicho por acá aunque no sabemos qué crédito merezca semejante asercion, que en Alajuela, pueblo de Costa Rica, había estallado una conspiración contra el injusto gobierno del invasor.

Sea pues de ello lo que fuere lo cierto es que todo le ha salido contraproducente al Presidente Mora y á los de su pandilla; que han quedado bien escarmentados; y que hasta el cielo parece haberse conjurado contra ellos. Así vemos confirmado aquel principio de que "el mal jamás puede hacerse impugnemente," ó en otros términos "que: en el pecado va la penitencia."

PROCLAMATION.

JUAN RAFAEL MORA, the sanguinary President of Costa Rica being, (according to his own statement) about to exterminate the Democracy of Nicaragua, I deem it proper to announce for the "cause of suffering humanity" that I am now, and continue at all times, ready (until the great event comes off) to "clothe the naked" and "improve the appearance of the outer man."—Having constantly in my employment an efficient corps of workmen, I am thus enabled to supply my patrons with despatch, having just concluded arrangements with an extensive importing house in New Orleans, I will be constantly in receipt of the latest styles and most improved fabrics. I most respectfully solicit the officers of the Army and citizens in general, when in want of anything in the clothing line, to call at the "Pioneer Merchant Tailoring establishment" of

JAMES H. MEANS, and I will guarantee to afford them every satisfaction. Particularly observe my store, **SIGN OF THE GOLDEN GOOSE.** may3.

DIED.

At Granada, on the 28th inst., **GRIFFITH GRAY**, of Kentucky, aged twenty-seven.

Kentucky and California papers will copy.

NOTICE.—The business affairs of the late Judge **J. CALEB SMITH**, having been entrusted to the undersigned, any information his friends from abroad may desire, will be furnished, on application.

J. A. RUGGLES,

may3 Agent of Wines & Co., Granada.

Max. A. Thoman,
WINE AND LIQUOR DEALER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
Hospital street, fronting San Francisco Convent.
GRANADA.

Sells by the Bottle or Gallon. may3

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DECREE.

THE Supreme Government of the Republic of Nicaragua to encourage the immigration of persons of thrift and industry to become settlers and inhabitants within its territorial limits, to the end that its resources may be fully developed and its commerce increased, and to promote the general welfare of the State, has decreed;

Art. 1. A free donation or grant of 250 acres of public land shall be made to each single person who shall enter the State (during the continuance of this decree) and settle and make improvements upon the said tract, the same to be located by the Director of Colonization hereafter to be named, and immediate possession given.

Art. 2. Each family entering the State and settling upon its territory shall receive 100 acres of land in addition to the 250 granted to single settlers.

Art. 3. A right to occupy and improve shall be issued to applicants, and at the expiration of six months, upon satisfactory evidence being presented to the Director of Colonization of compliance with the provisions of this decree, title will be given.

Art. 4. No duties shall be levied on the personal effects, household furniture, agricultural implements, seeds, plants, domestic animals, or other imports for the personal use of the colonists or the development of the resources of the land donated, and colonists shall be exempt from all extraordinary taxes, and contributions, and from all public service except when the public safety shall otherwise demand.

Art. 5. The colonists being citizens of the Republic cannot alienate the land granted to any foreign government whatever, and shall not alienate the said land or their rights thereunto until after an occupancy of at least six months.

Art. 6. A colonization office shall be established and a Director of Colonization appointed, whose business it shall be to attend to the application from the emigrants, to collect and dispense seeds, plants, &c., and to keep the Registry Books of the Department.

Done in Granada, the 23d of November 1855.

PATRICIO RIVAS,

President of the Republic.

AUCTION AND COMMISSION HOUSE.

G. H. WINES & CO.

ARE now prepared to carry on the Auction and Commission Business in connection with their Express. Duties on goods consigned will be advanced and custom house business attended to for parties who entrust business to the company. Liberal advances by drafts on New York and San Francisco will be made on receipt of merchandise in the custom house. The building occupied by Wines & Co., is capable of storing ten thousand barrels bulk and general merchandise will be received on storage.

J. A. RUGGLES, Agent.

Granada—Don Patricio Rivas; San Francisco—C. K. Garrison & Co. New York—Chas Morgan & Co.

Granada, April 12th 1856.

OFFICE OF INTENDENCIA GENERAL,
Granada, April 12th, 1856.

ALL persons who have advanced either money or effects for the Army are hereby required to present the voucher or documents for the same at this office to form the general liquidation of all standing accounts. By order of

Brig. Genl. **DOMINGO DE GOICOURIA,**
Intendente General.

THOS. F. FISHER, Col. and 1st Asst. of the Intendente General.

IMPRENTA DEL NICARAGUENSE
frente á la casa de Gobierno.

Parte Española.

Sábado, Mayo 3 de 1856.

SE PUBLICARA

TODOS LOS SABADOS,

TERMINOS DE SUSCRIPCION:

Por una copia, el año,\$ 8 00

Por una copia suelta, 20

TERMINOS ADVIRTIENDO:

Por una cuartillo de ocho lineas, primera

insercion,\$2 50

Cada insercion consecuente, 1 50

EL TRABAJO DE CADA DESCRIPCION será ejecutado con limpieza y despachado en los términos mas razonables, en la oficina del Nicaraguense, hacia la parte, Nordeste de la plaza, (directamente opuesto a la casa de Cabildo.)

AJENTES.

En la Bahía de la Virgen... W. & J. GARRARD
En San Juan del Norte... W. N. Wood & Son.
En Punta Arenas, Don DIONISIO TIRON.

DE OFICIO.

INTENDENCIA GENERAL DE EJERCITO.

Granada, Abril 12 de 1856.

Todos los que hayan hecho suplementos en efectos ó efectivo para el ejército se presentarán en la oficina de esta Intendencia General con los comprobantes necesarios, á fin de proceder á la correspondiente liquidacion.

De órden del

Brig. Gral. Domingo de Goicouria.

Intendente General.

Thomas F. Fisher,

Col. y primer asist. Intendente General.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.

MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA.

Casa de Gobierno,

Leon, Abril 14 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del departamento de

EL S. P. E. se ha servido emitir el acuerdo siguiente:

EL GOBIERNO.

Considerando: que por acuerdo de 2 del corriente se han mandado anticipar dos mensualidades de empréstito, admitiéndose en pago de ellas ganados, quesos y otras especies, y que bien puede ser que convenga á varios prestamistas hacer los enteros en metálico, una vez que se abone en su favor alguna suma de las que tienen que satisfacer: en uso de sus facultades

ACUERDA:

1.º Los prestamistas que enteren en metálico las dos mensualidades mandadas anticipar, se les abonará un veinte por ciento en las sumas que tengan que satisfacer.

2.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponden.—Leon, Abril 14 de 1856.—Rivas.

Y de órden supremo lo transcribo á V. para su inteligencia y efectos.—BACA.

REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA.

MINISTERIO DE GUERRA.

Casa de Gobierno.

Leon, Abril 21 de 1856.

Sr. Prefecto del Departamento de

El S. P. E. se ha servido emitir en esta fecha el decreto siguiente.

“El Presidente provisorio de la República de Nicaragua á sus habitantes.

En atencion á estar invadido el territorio de la República por fuerzas de Costa Rica, y amenazada su independencia y libertad; y á que los desnaturalizados que se adhieran al enemigo de su patria, cometen el delito de traicion; en uso de sus facultades

DECRETA:

Art. 1.º Son traidores: 1.º los que tomen armas ó formen conspiraciones en favor del enemigo: 2.º los que le den avisos ó le faciliten recursos de cualquiera especie: 3.º los que se pasen al enemigo ó hiciesen que otros lo verifiquen: 4.º los que le sirvan de espía ó correos: 5.º los que de hecho ó de palabras le animen ó presenten facilidades para que ocupen algun pueblo, plaza de armas, almacén ó fortificación, ó de cualquiera otro modo promuevan su progreso: 6.º los que divulguen noticias ó especies con objeto de favorecer al enemigo: 7.º los que rehusen defender y cooperar á la defensa de la pa-

tria en estas circunstancias, sin justo impedimento para escusarse.

Art. 2.º Los delincuentes de que habla el presente decreto, serán juzgados militarmente como traidores; y castigados con las penas de ordenanza; pero á los comprendidos en las dos últimas fracciones del artículo anterior, se les aplicará la de espatriacion ó presidio, de seis meses á dos años.

Dado en Leon, á 21 de Abril de 1856. —Pátricio Rivas.—Al Sr. Ministro de la guerra Dr. D. Máximo Jerez.

Y de órden supremo lo inserto á V. para su inteligencia y efectos.—Jerez.

CUARTEL JENRAL EN RIVAS.

Abril 26 de 1856.

Sr. D. William Walker, Jeneral en Jefe de las fuerzas Nicaraguenses.

Obligado á abandonar la Plaza de Rivas á consecuencia de haberse desarrollado aquí el cólera del modo mas alarmante me veo en la precision de dejar cierto número de enfermos que es imposible transportar á otro punto sin peligro de la vida. Espero de la generosidad de V. que serán tratados con toda la atencion y esmero que requiere su situacion.

A mas de las razones de humanidad que militan en favor de estos infelices víctimas de un terrible azote, tengo el honor de proponer á V.: que cuando se hallen enteramente restablecidos, se verifique su cargo con mas de veinte prisioneros que se hallan en nuestro poder, y cuyos nombres remitiré á V. en lista separada.

Confiado en que será admitida esta proposicion conforme á las leyes de la guerra, tengo el honor de suscribirme de V. con sentimientos de distinguida consideracion. —Atento y obediente servidor.

(Firmado,) JOSE MARIA CAÑAS,

Jral. en Jefe del Ejército Costa Ricense.

ESPEDICION DE CHONTALES.

Hace unos diez dias que el Jeneral Goicouria con la compañía del capitán Raymond, del batallón de infantería ligera, partió de Granada con la mira de sofocar el movimiento de los serviles en Chontales. La expedición desembarcó en San Ubaldo donde descubrieron una partida de lanceiros, que fueron batidos inmediatamente, y al punto dispersados en todas direcciones. Despues marcharon hacia Acoyapa, cuya poblacion estaba abandonada; pero hechas algunas indagaciones se descubrieron unas pocas personas, entre las cuales se castigó ejemplarmente á uno que se averiguó estar grandemente complicado en la conspiracion. Despues de imponer una contribucion de mil pesos á la poblacion, cuya suma se debía desde mucho tiempo al gobierno, la partida se dirigió á Juigalpa, donde encontró y derrotó prontamente una gran fuerza de legitimistas. Allí tambien se hizo un castigo ejemplar, y se recolectaron las contribuciones correspondientes á ciertos individuos de aquella comarca. Continuando hasta la hacienda San Lorenzo se hicieron varios prisioneros, dispersando un cuerpo considerable de serviles. De San Lorenzo seguimos á Comolapa, donde se hizo otro castigo ejemplar, y donde la expedición recojió una suma considerable en dinero y efectos. De este lugar la compañía vino gradualmente á Granada, sin encontrar notable resistencia de parte de los serviles, y toda la partida obtuvo un triunfo completo en los objetos de su expedición, y fué no poco afortunada en los varios encuentros que tuvo, porque solo el Teniente Wm. Lewis fué levemente herido en la mejilla. Diez fueron los muertos de la parte contraria, ocultándose los heridos prontamente bajo la proteccion de sus amigos.

El triunfo de la expedición fué grandemente promovido tanto por la presencia y consejo, como por la energía y perseverancia del Jeneral Goicouria, Intendente Jeneral de Hacienda, y creemos que por ahora está de todo punto terminada la conspiracion de Chontales. La bizarría y buena conducta de todos y cada uno de los individuos que componian la expedición, merecen los mas justos elogios, y los serviles han recibido una leccion para su conducta futura, que deberán siempre recordar. El presente gobierno de Nicaragua, á la par que es prudente, es bastante fuerte para

que puedan trastornarle los esfuerzos que puedan hacer los legitimistas, que solo pueden atraer la destruccion sobre sí mismos por sus imprudentes y traidoras combinaciones.

Efectos naturales de la intervencion de Costa-Rica en los negocios domésticos de Nicaragua.

Derrotado el partido legitimista de Nicaragua por las fuerzas reunidas del partido democrático de esta República y demas fuerzas á las órdenes del Jeneral Walker, los dispersos miembros de aquel partido empezaron á minar el nuevo orden de cosas que se habia establecido por un convenio entre las partes beligerantes, para acallar antiguos resentimientos, funestas venganzas y otras mezquinas pasiones que alimentara el espíritu de partido durante la guerra civil que empezó en Mayo de 1854 estableciendo la paz del país sobre bases sólidas, promoviendo su progreso y prosperidad, y asegurando el porvenir de esta infortunada república.

Diseminados los miembros de aquel partido, y sin los elementos necesarios para obrar ni poderse reunir en el país para combinar sus planes desorganizadores, ocurrieron á los poderes inmediatos de los diferentes Estados de Centro-América, donde al principio parecían haber hallado la mas decidida proteccion. Honduras, San Salvador, Guatemala y Costa-Rica, todos parecían simpatizar grandemente con el partido legitimista; y unirse cordialmente á él para echar por tierra el partido democrático de Nicaragua, ofreciendo algunos, armas, y municiones, y soldados y recursos de todo jénero para llevar á cabo la colonial empresa.

Alhagados con vanas apariencias deslumbradoras, instigados por un loco espíritu de partido, y siempre ajitados por la finesta pasión de la venganza, algunos malos hijos de este desventurado suelo olvidaron que el estado de Costa-Rica no era mas que el miserable instrumento de la nacion poderosa que hace tanto tiempo se opone al progreso y á la prosperidad de Nicaragua; olvidaron que en su maquiavélica é infernal política, no solo le emplea contra esta infortunada república, sino tambien contra la colonizacion y amistosas relaciones de los Norte-americanos en este país, porque prevé la grande influencia que deben ejercer en los Estados de Centro-América, y en el comercio de ambos mundos, verificada que sea la comunicacion inter-oceánica proyectada por Nicaragua asociada al pueblo Norte-americano; olvidaron que bajo de esa fatal influencia, Costa-Rica ha hecho siempre la mas decidida oposicion á la referida comunicacion, considerándola como imposible, y hasta combatiéndola por la prensa periódica, para satisfacer la ambiciosa política de esa nacion egoista que quisiera como Jérfes encadenar el océano, para que nadie pudiese atravesarle sin su permiso; olvidaron hasta lo que jamás olvidar debieran; que tenían una patria, y que la fértil, la hermosa y rica Nicaragua, iba á ser inmolada á su torpe ambicion, á sus bárbaros resentimientos y demas pasiones feroces, que un amor patrio bien entendido les hiciera mantener á raya, para no atraer indignamente contra los suyos, sobre todas las calamidades de la guerra, la odiosa influencia de esa nacion instigadora, cuyas violentas usurpaciones é indelebiles agravios se resiste á trazar la pluma, porque el corazón brota sangre al recordarlos.

Formidable era á la verdad el peligro que amenazaba la libertad é independencia de Nicaragua; pero esto no intimidó en manera alguna al Jeneral en Jefe del ejército, ni á los miembros del S. P. E. de la república, que procuraron parar el golpe por todos los medios que pudo sugerir la prudencia y el deseo constante de asegurar el bien del país. Públicos y notorios son los pasos amistosos y conciliadores que ha dado este gobierno para evitar un rompimiento con los demas estados de Centro-América; públicos y notorios han sido los desaires que recibieron los ministros de Nicaragua ante algunos de sus vecinos, contestando Costa-Rica con una declaracion de guerra, y con la invasion sucesiva del país. Invariable este gobierno en la marcha enérgica á la par que prudente que se trazó desde el principio, ha repellido la fuerza con la fuerza siempre que la

ha creído necesario, escarmentando no poco á sus temerarios enemigos, como lo comprueban las dos últimas victorias de Rivas y Sarapiquí, y ha continuado siempre promoviendo medidas pacíficas y conciliadoras con los demas estados, que al fin han entrado en las vías de la paz y de la amistad, quedando solo el estado de Costa-Rica en su obstinado empeño de fomentar una guerra fratricida entre hombres y pueblos de un comun origen, que debían conservar las antiguas relaciones de amistad en que ántes habían vivido.

¿Y qué es lo que han conseguido hasta aquí? Solo inundar en sangre los campos de esta república encendiendo una guerra destructora de funestos principios y desastrosas consecuencias. ¿Y cuál sería el resultado si Costa-Rica triunfase del partido democrático de Nicaragua? Esta es la cuestion importante que me propongo desenvolver en la continuacion de este art.

Torpemente imagina el partido legitimista que vencido y derrotado el partido democrático por las fuerzas de Costa-Rica, este estado nada exigiría del de Nicaragua, apareciendo ante el mundo como un dechado de moderacion, desinterés y jenerosidad que carece de ejemplo en la historia de las naciones. ¿Y cuáles son los antecedentes de Costa-Rica para esperar semejante resultado? ¿No ha manchado nunca ese país su nombre como nacion, con ningun acto violento de usurpacion contra el derecho de los demas? Lo contrario nos dice la historia de Centro-América en la invasion y escandalosa usurpacion del hermano y rico territorio de Guanacaste; y si esto hizo ántes sin otro derecho que el de la fuerza, y sin otro título que su voluntad ¿qué no haría mañana ó luego si por desgracia sucumbiese el partido democrático de Nicaragua y viniese á tierra el orden de cosas existente? Entonces quizás aspiraría á poseer el Istmo de Nicaragua tan ambicionado por las mas poderosas naciones de Europa y América, y acaso no contento con esto reclamaria tambien una indemnizacion por los gastos de la guerra; y dejándolos á Nicaragua tan solo como el esqueleto de vuestra infortunada república, ó como la víctima inmolada á vuestras eternas guerras civiles, vosotros ¡oh nicaraguenses! de todos los partidos, pues con todos hablo, vosotros instigados de nuevo por el Jenio infernal que ha guiado siempre el adverso destino de vuestra patria, vosotros volveríais bien presto á disputaros ese cuerpo espirante, ese infortunado esqueleto de vuestra desolada república, haciendo renacer vuestros antiguos odios, vuestros partidos encarnizados, y vuestras discordias domésticas que tanto mal os han traído, hasta que un poder extraño, quizás el mismo que ahora finje protejerlos, aprovechándose de vuestra debilidad y de vuestras discordias intestinas, os diese la ley á su antojo, y hollase para siempre vuestra constitucion, tratándoos como miserables esclavos, en castigo y espiacion de vuestras eternas discordias y desastrosas guerras civiles.

Uníos pues ¡oh nicaraguenses! porque no queda otro medio de salvacion para vosotros. Uníos con los sagrados vínculos que establece entre los buenos ciudadanos el amor puro y sincero de la patria. Uníos y dejad esas funestas pretensiones de partido y de preferencia que os estravian, alejándoos del recto sendero de la justicia. Uníos de corazón, y el mas honrado, el mas virtuoso y benemérito de entre vosotros, ese sea el que merezca vuestra confianza, y ese el que os guie para llevar adelante la grande obra de vuestra rejeneracion social. Uníos si es posible como un solo hombre, y la bendicion del cielo vendrá sobre vosotros y sobre vuestros hijos. Sacrificad vuestros agravios personales, vuestros odios y resentimientos políticos en el altar sagrado de la patria, y tendréis derecho á alcanzar el bienestar y la felicidad de Nicaragua, que debéis esperar siempre de vosotros mismos, y nunca jamas de la intervencion de Costa-Rica en vuestros negocios domésticos.

PENSAMIENTOS.

El pedantismo es la polilla de la literatura.

La firmeza es el distintivo de las grandes almas: mas ella dejenera en temeridad cuando se aparta del sendero de lo justo.

De la comunicacion mercantil entre el mar Atlántico y el Pacifico por el Istmo de Nicaragua, segun el proyecto Rouhaud presentado al gobierno de Nicaragua en 1837; traducimos los siguientes extractos.

PRIMERA PARTE.

Antes de demostrar las ventajas inmensas que reportará el comercio, de la comunicacion mercantil entre el mar Pacifico y el Atlántico por el Istmo de Nicaragua, haciendo navegable el rio San Juan y el rio Tipitapa por medio de calzadas ó empujadas, y mejorando el camino carretero del lago Managua al puerto de Realejo, así como los beneficios no menos considerables que obtendría la compañía que se hiciese cargo de la empresa, suponiendo que aceptase el contrato bajo las condiciones que el gobierno nos ha encargado proponer á los capitalistas franceses, procuraremos probar que para esta empresa los obstáculos no son tan grandes como se cree á primera vista, y que nuestro proyecto no es por decirlo así, sino reducir las cosas á su antiguo estado; es decir al mismo en que se hallaban antes de 1685, hace 155 años, tiempo en que el rio San Juan abrió una segunda desembocadura que se llama el rio Colorado, cerca de 4 leguas del mar de las Antillas, por donde se escapan mas de 4 quintas partes de sus aguas y no deja sino un fondo bajo de arena y fango en la travesía hasta el puerto de San Juan, en el cual se hallan, solo 4 pies de agua en la estacion de la seca.

Es una tradicion entre las jentes del pais, que el rio San Juan era navegable en otro tiempo; que las fragatas, bergantines, goletas &c remontaban el rio, y venían á anclar al puerto de las islas de Granada (las isletas) donde se ven todavia los vestigios de un fuerte cerca de la misma ciudad que se llama el fuertecito, y otro que habia sido construido sobre uno de los islotes, cerca de los cuales anclaban los navios y en cuyo ancladero hay todavia cuando las aguas están mas bajas de 5 á 6 brazas de profundidad.

El gobierno español jamás construyó ninguna fortaleza en el puerto de S. Juan sino sobre el rio, en un lugar que se llama Castillo Viejo, cerca de 20 leguas de distancia del puerto que está todavia en pié, y otro en la entrada del rio San Juan, en el lago de Nicaragua, que se llama el fuerte San Carlos, y donde habia en tiempo de los españoles una guarnicion de 500 hombres, y algunas veces de mas.

Reflexionando sobre la defensa del pais adoptada por los españoles, es fácil concebir que en otro tiempo naturalmente el rio San Juan no debia hallarse en el estado en que se halla actualmente, por que en San Juan era donde debia mas bien haberse construido el fuerte San Carlos, y no en las márgenes del lago. Esta idea nos condujo pues á registrar los archivos de Granada para indagar si la tradicion sobre la antigua navegacion del rio San Juan era verdadera ó falsa; y á fuerza de indagaciones, efectivamente hemos descubierto que este hermoso rio fué navegable hasta 1685. Tenemos en nuestro poder documentos que comprueban que en Granada habia todos los años una feria á donde se veian concurrir de 14 á 18 buques de comercio, que solian venir de Europa y hacian escala en Cartajena de Indias y en Portobelo, ó bien pertenecian á negociantes de estas dos plazas. Tambien hay documentos que dan algunos pormenores sobre las mercancías propias para el pais, así como los retornos que de él se extraian.

El 16 de Noviembre de 1648 la fragata española nombrada *El Dulce nombre de Jesus y Nuestra Sra. del Rosario*, mandada por el capitan Fernando Mejia, llegó al puerto de las Islas de Granada, á donde fué á hacerle la visita de costumbre el gobernador de la provincia de Nicaragua D. Miguel de Albisú. En esta misma época y el mismo dia, el gobernador hizo tambien la visita á la fragata *Nuestra Sra. del Carmen y El Espíritu Santo*, Capitan Lorenzo de Panyaguas.

El 14 de Agosto de 1694; es decir, el año siguiente, la fragata *Nuestra Sra. del Rosario y Santa Cruz* anclada en el mismo puerto, fué igualmente visitada por el gobernador Albisú.

El 14 de Enero de 1667 la fragata española llamada *El Apóstol Santiago*, se hallaba en el puerto de las Islas de Granada con un cargamento para Portobelo y Car-

tajena, al mando de Antonio de la Cerda. La navegacion del rio San Juan continuó así para las fragatas bergantines y goletas, pero mas para los primeros que para los últimos, hasta 1685 (segun lo hemos manifestado antes,) época en que un bergantin español que pertenecia á D. Tomas Gomez de Portobelo, salió de este puerto para Granada, con un cargamento de anclas, cables y preparativos de guerra para la escuadra española del mar del Sur, remontó con su cargamento hasta Granada, donde le depositó, y á la vuelta no pudo bajar sino descargado porque la desembocadura del Colorado se habia abierto y habia falta de agua en el rio. Despues de este año el espacio del rio San Juan, comprendido entre el Colorado y el puerto de San Juan, ha minorado su profundidad, se ha llenado de arena y cieno, no teniendo como se ha dicho ya, sino 4 pies de agua en los tiempos de seca. La causa de la abertura del brazo llamado Colorado, que tiene 412 varas de ancho en su ramificacion con el rio San Juan, fué el haber obstruido este rio.

Cuando los filibusteros hacian la guerra al comercio español en el mar de las Antillas, estendieron sus estragos hasta las costas de la América-Central, y amenazaron invadir la hermosa provincia de Nicaragua. Las autoridades del pais temiendo una invasion de estos malhechores que habian difundido el terror hasta Granada, hicieron obstruir el rio cerca de 4 leguas del fuerte San Juan, arrojando en él árboles y todo lo que podia impedir el paso de los grandes buques. En la estacion de las lluvias este rio acarrea muchos árboles que caen de sus márgenes ó que el desarraiga, reforzando esta barrera no solo con los árboles, sino tambien con la arena, el cieno &c. que arrastran siempre las crecientes, y transforman la barrera en una especie de calzada ó dique, que detuvo las aguas, y que no teniendo ya salida por el obstáculo que se les habia puesto, se abrieron otro paso, que es el brazo llamado hoy rio Colorado, lo que acaeció en 1685; como lo hemos dicho ya, y lo cual ha impedido que los grandes buques de comercio hayan podido desde entónces remontar este rio.

Cuando los filibusteros no fueron ya de temer, las autoridades de la provincia de Nicaragua quisieron destruir la barrera que se habia construido, y abrir de nuevo el paso para los buques de comercio; pero como no se cerró el Colorado, de allí proviene que toda la fuerza de la corriente se lanza por este brazo del rio, y que en el San Juan que va al puerto, las aguas y por consiguiente la corriente siendo mucho menor, y teniendo ménos fuerza, no han podido llevarse la arena y el cieno hasta la mar, lo que hasta nuestros dias ha ido llevando insensiblemente el cauce del rio.

Muchas veces tambien los árboles acarreados por las avenidas llegan á encallar en los bancos de arena en el brazo de S. Juan; y alteran así la profundidad del rio; muchas veces forman tambien pequeñas islas en las cuales se ven pronto crecer hermosas praderas.

En todo el brazo del Colorado hay mucha agua hasta el mar, y sin la barra que se halla á su entrada, los navios pudieran remontarle; pero esta barra no permitiria sino á los pequeños buques, tales como goletas el ir adelante y como todo el comercio se introduce por San Juan, esto es lo que hace que desde 1822 que el Capitan Cooker de New-York tomó el Colorado por San Juan y atravesó la barra en una goleta de 70 toneladas, hasta hoy nadie lo haya intentado.

En el mes de Octubre de 1826 el Capitan Peter Shepherd de Jamaica, remontó hasta Granada en una goleta de 65 toneladas; pero entró por el puerto de San Juan, y no por la embocadura del rio Colorado.

No obstante la abertura del brazo del mencionado rio, y aunque los grandes buques no podian ya remontar hasta Granada, el comercio continuó todavia por muchos años despues, pero no haciéndose ya sino en bergantines goletas, &c. y no en fragatas, por que tenemos documentos que comprueban que la balandra llamada *nuestra Sra del Valle*, comprada por el Capitan Carlos Gallo de Granada á los herederos del Capitan José Garbanzo de la misma ciudad, por la suma de 1600 pesos, estaba anclada en el puerto de las Islas de Granada el 22 de Junio de 1697, y que un brick llamado Jesus María y José, de

la propiedad del Capitan Tomas Gomez, estaba anclado en el mismo puerto el 14 de Julio de 1699. Otro buque llamado *Nuestra Sra. de la Encarnacion* que pertenecia á un Capitan de Portobelo llamado Francisco Ruis, se hallaba anclado tambien en el mismo puerto de Granada el 23 de Octubre de 1810.

En los documentos que tenemos á la vista se dice que el comercio de Granada continuó tambien por el rio San Juan hasta 1713 en que la guerra que la España tenia que sostener en Europa habiendole pedido el arribo de los buques de la Península á Portobelo, no fué posible dar salida á los productos de Nicaragua que se habian conducido á ese puerto, y las comunicaciones se hicieron poco á poco ménos frecuentes, hasta que en 1729 D. Justo Salazar de Granada, armó un navio que mandado por el capitan D. Antonio Silva, hizo viajes á Portobelo hasta el año de 1733. Este comercio ha sido despues abandonado; las mercancías de Europa para el consumo de la provincia de Nicaragua y la de Costa-Rica, se compraban en Guatemala, á donde enviaban en retorno sus productos, lo cual les costaba muy caro, pero venia á ser muy lucrativo para los comerciantes de Guatemala, que era la capital de la Capitanía del mismo nombre. hoy América-Central.

Continuóse de esta manera hasta 1798 que el Sr. Zavala, negociante español acaecido en Granada; trató de establecer relaciones directas con la Península por el rio San Juan, lo que consiguió pero con mucho trabajo, á causa de las intrigas de los negociantes de Guatemala, y por prueba citaremos una espresion de uno de los miembros del Tribunal consular, que se oponia á ello, alegando que era en perjuicio de la Capital, y que el quisiera que uno de los mas altos picos volcánicos que rodean la ciudad; pudiese estar colocado en la embocadura del rio San Juan, para impedir para siempre la comunicacion de la hermosa provincia de Nicaragua con la Europa.

A pesar de esta oposicion de parte de los negociantes de Guatemala, el rey de España, accediendo á la peticion de Don Juan Zavala, espidió una orden dada en Aranjuez con fecha 12 de Mayo de 1798, por la cual fué habilitado el puerto de S. Juan, y se le concedió derecho á D. Juan de Zavala, para mantener comercio directo con la Península. Hasta entónces la hermosa provincia de Nicaragua, no comenzó á tener relaciones con la Europa, y aun estas fueron de poca duracion á causa de la guerra de la Independencia que estalló tanto en Méjico como en Colombia, y que vino á plantar su estandarte en la ciudad de Granada en 1811, donde muchos de sus habitantes habiendo sucumbido bajo las fuerzas realistas pagaron los unos con la vida, y otros con la pérdida de su libertad por muchos años que pasaron en galeras ó desterrados, el haberse sublevado contra la Metrópoli.

Mas tarde Méjico, habiendo podido defender su independencia, proclamó emperador de Méjico y de la capitanía de Guatemala al Jeneral Iturbide, que estendió los límites de su imperio hasta Costa-Rica á fin de comprender en su territorio el Istmo de Nicaragua cuya importancia conocia para la union de los dos mares.

Los Centro-Americanos hallando que de la dominacion de los españoles á la de Iturbide, no habian hecho otra cosa que cambiar de amo sin mejorar de condicion, levantaron de nuevo en 1822 el estandarte de la independencia en San Salvador y en Granada, triunfando su causa por esta vez. Derrotado Iturbide en Méjico la América-Central declaró su independencia en 1824, que fué reconocida por Méjico y Colombia, y despues por la Francia en 1830. Así es que solo despues de 1824 fué cuando este pais se halló realmente abierto para los extranjeros. Esta razon y la no ménos poderosa de las revoluciones y la anarquía que sobrevinieron en muchas provincias de la América-Central principalmente en la de Nicaragua hasta 1834, alejaron de aquí á los negociantes; y esto es lo que nos explica porqué la hermosa provincia de Nicaragua, hoy estado del mismo nombre, es tan poco conocida en Europa, porque no ha sido frecuentada sino por muy pocos negociantes que se ocupaban mas bien de sus negocios particulares que de estudiar el pais para hacerle conocer á las demas naciones.

(Continuará.)

Descripcion de la horrorosa matanza acaecida en Francia la noche de S. Bartolomé en el año de 1572, bajo el reinado de Carlos IX.

(Traduccion libre de la Genriada.)

¿Quién espresar pudiera los estragos
De aquesta noche cruel, en que las sorbras
Do quier nos presentaban las imágenes
De luto, de orfandad y de esterminio?
La muerte de Coligny fué el preludio,
Un ensayo no mas, débil, funesto,
De tantos crímenes, de horrores tantos....
Un pueblo de asesinos,
En la feroz matanza encarnizado,
Vuela desenfrenado,
Por un celo insensato compelido;
Y el furor en los ojos centellantes,
Los aceros vibrando fulminantes,
Marchaba por do quier encrudecido,
Sobre cuerpos de hermanos palpitantes.
Y en sed de humana sangre enfurecido
La lista de sus crímenes llevando,
Y sus víctimas tristes señalando,
Del popular tumulto los furores,
Los gritos y el fragor pintar no puedo.....

Paris nadando en sangre de sus hijos;
El hijo sobre el padre asesinado;
Con la hermana el hermano; y la doncella,
Sobre el cuerpo espirante de su madre;
En la cuna los niños, y entre ruinas
Perecer abrumados los esposos,
Bajo techos ardientes, ponderosos....
Y en tanto de lo alto de su alcázar,
Médicis (1) la tormenta concitaba,
Y en ella se gozaba

Cual si fuese una fiesta deliciosa....
Los torrentes de sangre allí veian
Sus crueles favoritos, con miradas
Curiosas á la par que satisfechas;
Y eran para estos héroes de esterminio,
Solo pompas triunfales
Las ruinas de Lutecia funerales....

Dijérase que á un tiempo á Francia toda
De le alto del Louvre (2) Médicis diera:
La funesta señal de muerte fiera....
Todo imitó á Paris... Sin resistencia
La tremenda matanza, despiadada,
Dejó á Francia luctuosa y desolada.....

Todo lo echó por tierra el fanatismo;
Que esta furia inhumana, fraticida,
Que abortara el abismo,
De cien mil asesinos fué servida....
Y al ver de los humanos los furores,
Al ver tanta crudeza,
En tan horrible caos parecia
Su curso suspender naturaleza....
Y los rios de Francia ensangrentados,
Solo muertos llevando en sus corrientes,
Pueblos, comarcas, mares diferentes,
Quedaron á su vista horrorizados.....

(1) Catalina de Médicis, madre de Carlos IX.

(2) Pronúnciese Luver.

PENSAMIENTOS DE MASSINI.

La libertad es un don de Dios que bendice, fecunda y alimenta todas las facultades del hombre.

La Omnipotencia divina que rije los destinos del mundo, y las masas que forman la base sólida y son el fundamento de la Sociedad, serán los únicos que dirijan á los hombres por la senda del porvenir.

La religion y la política son inseparables. Sin religion, la ciencia política no puede crear mas que el despotismo ó la anarquía.

Nuestro deber consiste en encaminar la Sociedad de modo que ella se acerque á ese bello ideal que todos anhelamos.

Dios nos ha creado para la vida, y es preciso obedecer el decreto de la Providencia que nos manda adelantar.

La Sociedad se encamina directamente á la emancipacion, de consiguiente todo poder absoluto, toda concentracion de mando es incompatible con las tendencias y el espíritu del siglo.