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MEXICO.

Speech by Maximilian on the Evacuation of Mexico by the French.

Concentration of Imperialist Troops at San Luis Potosi Under Marshal Bazaine.

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Cabinet Changes—M. Langlais Appointed Minister of Finance.

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Atrocities Committed by Maximilian's Austrian Mercenaries.

Over Sixteen Thousand Mexicans Executed Under Maximilian's Regime.

More Details of the Engagement Near Papantla.

Reported Defeat of the Liberals and Death of Figueroa at Tehuantepec.

ANOTHER MEXICAN EL DORADO.

&c. &c. &c.

The steamship Manhattan, Captain Dacon, from Vera Cruz on the 6th instant, via Havana 12th, arrived at this port last evening.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Purser Austin for the prompt delivery of our files and despatches.

The news from Mexico by this arrival is not of special importance. The French troops were generally becoming tired of their sojourn in the country. The Manhattan experienced twenty-four hours of very bad weather off Cape Hatteras, commencing with a heavy fog, followed by a severe snow storm.

Our Havana Correspondence.

HAVANA, Feb. 12, 1866.

MEXICO.

It is said that in a speech recently delivered by Maximilian in the House of Representatives he dwelt on the probable expediency of the French forces having to be recalled, in consequence of the pressing representations of the United States government.

The Italian charge d' affaires has met with a serious accident in a railroad train.

The *Estafette* says that Colonel Dupin, at the head of a detachment, left the capital on the 30th to take command of his counter-guerillas, forming part of the forces under General Douai.

Owing to the occurrences at Bagdad General Jeaningros was to leave Saltillo towards Matamoros, and General Douai, in his turn, would advance from San Luis Potosi to Saltillo and Monterey.

It was rumored a few days ago that M. Langlais was to be made Secretary of the Treasury, but the report is, if anything, premature. What we do know for certain is that Don Francisco de P. César has given in his resignation as Sub-Secretary, and that it has been accepted by Maximilian.

VERA CRUZ.

According to the Juarist *Boletin Oficial* of Tlacotalpam, dated the 11th, 13th and 18th January, Vazquez Aldana, the Juarist chief, writes from the Estanzuela farm that on the 9th he had delivered up to justice several bandilli of Olmo's band. General Garcia, of the Oriental line, approves of what he has done with "those miscreants which, under Olmo, have changed the honored title of defenders of the republican cause for that of common highway robbers," &c.

General Carlos Rivas, military commander of Mazatlan, writes, under date of the 2d, that three hundred cavalry, headed by Pintado, having appeared near Palos Prietos, were confronted by the advanced guard quartered there; that he at the head of his brigade marched immediately to said place to attack the enemy; that Col. Roig, the military chief, arrived at Palos Prietos without delay, with 150 men of his force; that the enemy, in view of the combined attack concerted, ran away, and in their retreat killed one officer and six men, while the enemy lost one officer killed, ten men wounded and some prisoners and arms taken.

The Orizaba *Foro Gaviil* of the 26th says:—Yesterday a number of prisoners arrived from Mexico, all criminals, and they have accordingly been sent on towards Vera Cruz, under a strong guard.

M. de Bassegier, sub-director of the navy, has returned from his trip to New York.

The people of Monterey have published in the *Gaceta* the representation submitted to the Emperor, in favor of Col. de la Hayries, for services he rendered on the 28th of November last, and they have made a subscription to get a handsome sword ordered from France.

Advices from Morelia say that the bandit Panton was killed by the populace in Chucandiro on the 24th. He had exacted two thousand dollars of them. The next day another, named Rangel, entered the town with one hundred men, committing the usual depredations.

DURANGO.

Papers up to the 13th say that the Juarista of the Laguna—almost established permanently since the 19th December at Nazas—knowing that the French were marching on to Santa Rosa, deployed violently towards the Laguna, under a convoy of two hundred and fifty horsemen, by way of the Valle del Rio. Captain D'Aigreaux, of the Ninety-9th regiment of the line, aware of all this, immediately attacked them, by which the Juarista lost nine killed and thirty wounded, and all the booty which they robbed from Nazas. The following day Captain D'Aigreaux arrived at Nazas and had the property delivered to its rightful owners.

The *Telegrafo* of the 17th says that according to a private letter of the 13th from La Noria Pedriesna, the Juarista had been dispersed and pursued to the mountains, in consequence of the flight of Jesus Gonzalez Herrera, their chieftain, and that the rancho of Matamoros had been destroyed.

The people of Cerro Gordo had asked for officers and arms to form a force to pursue the Juarista, which was acceded to by the Prefect.

YUCATAN.

The Emperor has decreed that all foreign merchandise introduced into Yucatan, imported into Sisal and Campeachy, shall only pay sixty per cent of the duties prefixed in 1856 and subsequently, and be exempt from all international and counter-register dues; on foreign flour there will be a uniform duty of four dollars per one hundred pounds net. The produce of the country will pay an export duty of five per cent ad valorem, with the exception of logwood, which remains unchanged.

From Carmen the *Periodico Oficial* contains the following disaster:—Seventeen individuals who traded between this city and the frontier of Tabasco in the national canoe Manuelita, which was carrying provisions and men for the steamer Yucatan, were wrecked outside the bar, three leagues from this port, and, according to the statement of one of the two persons saved, it was owing to the want of good sails. With one quarter of six tons burden, with running deck, loaded with hilly articles of light weight, and carried nineteen persons on deck.

Our Vera Cruz Correspondence.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 22, 1866.

THE GREAT QUESTION OF THE DAY IN MEXICO—AN EMPIRE FOR A LOAN.

At the present moment, towering above all other speculations, is the one relating directly to the financial condition of the treasury of the so-called imperial government. Here we find a case of a very extraordinary and deeply interesting character—a case in which the continued existence or immediate downfall of an empire is said to rest on the amount of sympathy, confidence and money which it can obtain from a foreign people living in a remote and favored land. In this instance a government, so-called, has reached an extremity where its own officers assert that its very existence is at stake for $100,000,000, and that the securing of this amount will raise it to vigor and "great expectations," or the reverse—sink it immediately into ignominious death.

It is now beyond dispute that the imperial government has exhausted all the income of the last loan, and that at the present moment it is existing upon the precarious receipts daily collected from all quarters. Indeed, so serious were and are the necessities of the government that but a short time ago Marshal Bazaine, acting, as it is said, upon orders received direct from France, loaned out of the French funds in this country, $500,000 to the Emperor, on the condition of its speedy repayment. Since then the financial condition of the government, instead of improving, has been rapidly growing worse, until at last it finds itself verging on a precipice anything but interesting to contemplate.

MR. LANGLAIS AND THE IMPERIAL REVENUE.

It is well known that when Mr. Langlais first came to this country objection was raised by the Emperor Maximilian to his assuming the office of Minister of Finance, because the Emperor was unwilling to conform to certain retrenchments proposed by Mr. Langlais, among the number being one to reduce the fee of the imperial establishment, estimated at from ten to fifteen thousand dollars per day. Unless these economies were acceded to Mr. Langlais declined to accept. As the Emperor did not depart from his original decision the French financier was allowed to "go by the board."

Very recently the Emperor visited Mr. Langlais at the private residence of the latter. Then and there, according to report, his Majesty proposed to Mr. Langlais to accept the position to which he aspired in time gone by—that of Minister of Finance—and that in addition thereto he also become a member of the Privy Council. Both of these positions, so it is understood, Mr. Langlais declined to accept. The causes which led the Emperor to take this latter step are various. It is possible, indeed it is probable, that Marshal Bazaine made it apparent that he would loan Maximilian an additional sum out of the French funds in this country on the condition that Mr. Langlais be made Minister of Finance, and it is known that the Emperor Maximilian designed, in the move aforesaid, to greatly influence the Emperor Napoleon and the leading men of France. By this concession Maximilian hoped to regain the ground which he some time ago lost with the imperial authority of France, and to get the same so deeply interested in the success of this Mexican scheme that he would be induced to give at once more men and money to support it, if only for a short time longer. That this was the main point in the Emperor's policy there is no question. By placing a Frenchman at the head of the finances it was hoped to produce a feeling in France that would bring to the empire in Mexico a considerable amount of cash.

The further continuance of the imperial establishment, from a financial point of view—and which, after all, is the principal one concerning a war with the United States—is now made to depend on the success of the loan for $100,000,000, which is on the tapis at Paris. Of such momentous importance is this same financial question that the present Minister of Finance announced, not a great while ago, semi-officially, that the very life of the government depended on its success. In addition, it is known that Mr. Langlais held back from immediately accepting the Emperor's offers until such time as he received further information from Europe relative to the loan now projected there.

THE IMPERIAL EXCHEQUER AT A LOW EBB.

There is no definite public knowledge of the amount of money actually in the Treasury at the present time; but it is believed to be so near "dry" that the name is the biggest part of it. In consequence of this the people are becoming afraid that the Emperor will order, as a last resort, in order to meet the liabilities of the government and the increasing, pressing necessities of the same, a general forced loan. This, together with the draft and the thousand and one money-making schemes now in vogue, would certainly have a most disastrous effect against the empire among all classes, and would be more than likely to produce an uprising unequaled "in this country of uprisings" for unanimity of purpose and numerical force.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE EMPIRE.

Here are some figures of interest. The total income to the government per annum is variously calculated at from $17,000,000 to $23,000,000, while the amount estimated as necessary to sustain the government for the last fiscal year was $42,000,000, making a difference of $25,000,000 above the lowest figures of income and $19,000,000 above the highest. The total income at the Vera Cruz Custom House is between $300,000 and $400,000 per month.

Not the least notable expenses of the goverment are incurred for non-practical purposes. Large amounts of money are squandered in receptions and visits of various kinds. For instance, the total expenses incurred while the Empress was in this city amounted to between $50,000 and $60,000. Lately there arrived from Europe one thousand trees, intended to be used in adorning a new road which his Majesty designs to have made from the city of Mexico to Chapultepec—from the imperial residence in the city of Mexico to the Alcazar. All these little things are noted and commented on by the people, who, as a class, where they are in legitimate business, are rather mean and close. They say, "Oh, what sort of a man is this? Why, it would take the treasures of an empire alone to keep him in pocket money. He does nothing but spend money. The Lord only knows what amount he would not spend and what foolishness he would not enter into."

STARTLING DISCOVERIES—THE GREATEST CALIFORNIA OF THE AGE.

The reader will no doubt observe that this letter bears some resemblance to an instrument of which it is said "one turn of the kaleidoscope, and—there, you have something else." By a very simple method of transition we pass from contemplating the necessities, sadnesses and distresses of an Emperor, the poverty of an empire thirsting for riches, and the good will of all mankind, to beholding in imagination such a pile of gold and silver that we sink down under the weight—of the "imagination." In a civilized country like the United States it would be looked upon as an anomaly to see a man dying of hunger while sitting on a loaf of bread; yet here we have the "beautiful" spectacle of "a government" sending its "hat" to Europe to have it passed around among its friends to get it a few pence to keep it alive, while it stands with stolid indifference upon mountains of inestimable treasure. These remarks are prompted, on the present occasion, by a notice which has made its appearance under official authority in the newspapers of this country, and possessing the startling information that mines of the precious metals have been discovered in the State of Michoacan, which render said State at the present time far more wealthy than was the California of the United States in its palmiest days. Without further comment on the subject (other than that of sincerely advising the people of the United States to receive the information with caution, as it may only be a canard put in circulation to give vigor to the speculative emigration schemes), we append the following translation of the original letter of the discoverer:—

MORELIA, Jan. 12, 1866.

EDITORS OF THE SENTINEL:—

In my continuous expeditions to the south of Morelia, and in the neighborhood of Zitacuaro and Tiripitio, in pursuit of the insurgents, notwithstanding I have no professional knowledge of mineralogy, I noticed the existence there of great placers and veins of gold, of such richness that I believe the present century has known none to equal them.

Besides the great importance of these discoveries, I would call your attention to the fact that the climate in the vicinity of the mines is magnificent, and well suited for the explorations of their wealth, and that they can give employment to a great number of persons. Beside the brilliant result of attaining so much wealth, the pacification of the Department of Michoacan will be secured.

In writing to you, gentlemen, the object which I have in view is, through your newspaper, to call the attention of all persons interested in making explorations to the existence of the mines, and also to the fact that they can explore them under the protection of his Majesty. In my conception these mines are "*La California en Michoacan*."

Pardon, Messrs. Editors, this intrusion upon your attention, &c. RAMON MENDEZ, General.

One more change of the kaleidoscope and it is something else. This time it is a military "view." In all these "representations" the "beholder" is requested to bear in mind that the "characters" here exhibited were placed in the positions which they occupy according to the "imperial" taste, and received "colorings" favorable to the newly adopted "customs of the country."

THE ENGAGEMENT AT AGUA DULCE.

Information has been received at Puebla, and officially credited at the city of Mexico, that a column of imperial troops, composed of Austrians and natives in the service of the empire, had an engagement a short time since at Agua Dulce, near Papantla, with a liberal force under the command of General Mendez, in which Mendez was defeated, was himself wounded, had forty-seven killed, two of whom were officers, lost one hundred stand of arms, eight boxes of munitions of war, and his private and official correspondence. Papantla is situated at a distance of about ninety miles from Vera Cruz. The imperialists report a loss of one captain and ten soldiers to the Austrian command, and two officers and twenty privates to the native command in the service of the empire. There are two officers of the name of Mendez in the field, one being with the liberals and the other with the imperialists.

The very latest received by the Prefect of Puebla is as follows:—

SUB-PREFECTURA OF THE DISTRICT OF TEPETLAN, TEPETLAN, Jan. 17, 1866.

There has just arrived here (eleven o'clock A. M.) a despatch from Papantla, from General Thun, announcing the submission of said place and the liberal chiefs to the imperial authority, subsequent to an engagement at Agua Dulce, in which all arms of the service were employed.

* * * *

JOSE MARIA DE LA VEGA, Sub-Prefect.

ADVANCE MOVEMENT—DEPARTURE OF THE AUSTRIAN TROOPS.

The following are the particulars of the defeat of the liberal General Figueroa near Tehuantepec, which was briefly announced in the HERALD of February 1:—

PREFECTURA POLITICO OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC, Jan. 11, 1866.

TO THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:—

YOUR EXCELLENCY—I have the honor of communicating to you that on the 7th inst., at seven o'clock in the morning, the liberals from Juchitan, reinforced by others from the mountains, the latter of whom came down on the 4th, and all of whom were under the orders of Figueroa, attacked this place, being over two thousand strong and divided into three columns. One column moved directly against the fort on the hill, and the other two columns moved from the north and south, so as to flank the fort and gain possession of the breastworks. Being aware of the fact that the possession of the aforesaid hill would be of great advantage to the enemy, I detached a column to drive them back. This column was successful in attaining the desired result, as the fire which it opened on the enemy was so severe that he could not stand it, and therefore broke in all directions. At the same time I ordered a general fire along the whole line of the breastworks, which checked the columns advancing from the north and south. Finally these columns had to retire, after suffering considerable loss.

In this engagement, which lasted little over one hour, and which redounds much to the credit of Tehuantepec, the enemy lost one hundred and eighteen killed, and among the number Figueroa.

* * * * *

LUCIANO PRIETO,
Political Prefect and General Commanding.

MILITARY ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The liberal Generals Regules and Ronda were last heard from to the southward of Morelia.

At last accounts the command of the liberal General Mendez had reoccupied Marravatio.

The liberals have occupied Tianepequila.

"FREEDOM OF THE PRESS."

The editor of the newspaper known as *La Libertad de Mejico* has been arrested, together with some of his friends, and put in jail, for being indiscreet enough to criticise the present condition of his country. He will probably be tried by court martial. Judging from the proceedings in the above case "the liberty of Mexico" is a matter which every person here is not allowed the liberty of dealing with, and the "freedom of the press" is the near neighbor of "the freedom of a prison."

The *Journal* of Orizaba has been suspended by order of the government for "telling the truth."

As many of the newspapers in Mexico are becoming a little bold, the several heads of the respective departments are introducing the editors to the "benefits" of government diet.

MISFORTUNE OF BEING A POPULAR MAN.

In the United States those who desire to be venerable "City Fathers," respected for their honesty and their charity, cry out, make a great noise, and hold "grand rallies" in the third stories of rickety buildings, drink champagne and whiskey, &c.; but here it is quite different, and here, at this time, the "popular men" actually have this honor thrust upon them, and when it is so thrust upon them it is not in every instance that the honored ones can be prevailed upon to accept. In such instances where the gentlemen decline "the honor" they are fined and deprived of the rights of citizenship for one year. Several parties have been so treated within a few weeks past. One gentleman, Senor Don Francisco Hernandez, was fined one thousand dollars for this "offence," and had to "call around" and see the Prefect here and pay the money.

A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

The imperialists are complaining very bitterly against the United States for permitting liberal officers to openly recruit for the liberal army in the State of Texas, and yet these same imperialists do not seem to be aware of the fact that individuals who report themselves to be in the liberal employ are actually recruiting in Vera Cruz, in the neighborhood of the same and at other points now under the arms of "the empire." That this is so your correspondent is perfectly well aware. An individual who was at one time in the Confederate service has secured quite a large number of recruits here and "thereabouts," and will be ready to take the field with them ere this reaches New York. Aside from this, out-and-out Mexican bands are being rapidly organized; and almost nightly meetings are held—where it would not be advisable to say—for the purpose of creating and facilitating conspiracies and arousing the liberal element of the whole country. The principal articles which the people want are arms and ammunition, and these, so it is said, they are being supplied with. In a very short time the agents of the liberal party will have perfected, in the very midst of the imperialists, a general organization of great power. There are some foreigners of note involved in this secret movement. Most of them are adventurers, and some of them are Americans in search of fame and fortune, notoriety and spoils.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

In the issue of *La Ere* of the 17th was the following:—

Admiral Didelot yesterday had a private audience of the Emperor.

M. Langlais has been favored with a long interview with his Majesty, the latter embracing the occasion to give to him a proof positive of the high esteem in which he holds the great financier. Knowing that the health of the eminent Frenchman would not permit him to go out, his Majesty designed to go to his house. The Emperor himself has spoken of important determinations having come to on that occasion respecting the future conduct of the financial operations of the empire.

La Nacion says:—On the subject of the rumored contemplated changes in the Cabinet, it is well to say that none of them hold to old parties, but as great men they profess progressive ideas. This the Emperor knows, and the French are not opposed to it, and hence they are the men for the country.

TROOPS OF DEPARTURE.

It is reported that on the 18th of last month General Rives reached Mazatlan at the head of his brigade, and that General Lozada was preparing an expedition "for the limits of that department."

Several elegant carriages have just been landed at Vera Cruz, intended for the use of Almonte and several of the Mexican nobility.

"A very serious complaint" is being made against the French soldiers. It is said they are eating up all the cats.

La Paz, a newspaper published in Oajaca, says that when the people there experienced the effects of the last earthquake they thought that Juarez was close at hand with the Yankee troops.

The French are becoming rather quiet at Vera Cruz and vicinity. There is not near as much of a desire now as there was some months past to have "Yanks" come along and tread on the tails of their coats.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 23, 1866.

ADDITIONAL CONCERNING THE LATE ENGAGEMENT AT TEHUANTEPEC.

From a private letter received in this city, dated Minatitlan, State of Vera Cruz, Jan. 21, we extract the following:—

There has been a great disturbance in this neighborhood. Figueroa, the great guerilla chief, made an attack with one thousand of his own men and one thousand of the Quichteca tribe of Indians. The Indians were lured on by the hope of plunder. When the light got warm the Indians left Figueroa in the lurch. Figueroa's retreat was anything but orderly. The slaughter was fearful for this country. Figueroa's own men were slaughtered like sheep. It is generally reported that D. Thomas Woolrich, an American citizen, together with his clerk, named Baldmire, were murdered; but I have since learned that Mr. Woolrich is still alive. It is reported that the American Consul was wounded in the arm. Mr. Woolrich's house was sacked, and it is said he lost all his property. Mr. Woolrich held to the imperial side, and had made himself very obnoxious to the liberals. We are all very sorry that the attack was made, because, if having failed, the imperialists will be very proud and boast a great deal over a success which would have been quite the reverse for them had the Indians only remained true to their promises. As it is, the imperialists are trying to make a great fuss over this matter, and are threatening to be very rigorous.

"JUST FOR A JOKE."

Lately two Austrians, soldiers, assassinated Señor Don Ignacio Sologuren in the streets of Orizaba, "just for the fun of the thing;" and so, "just for the fun of the thing," they will "probably" be tried and shot. This is a real "funny" country, and oh! what "funny jokes" we have here. We have all the way from an Emperor who wants "to joke" with the United States about his being the ruler of this country, down to the poor devils of soldiers, who shoot a "feilah" just to see "him do tam feilah die." No doubt these Austrian "gentlemen" heard that there were men in this country who could die with stolid indifference, and so they resolved to see if it was so. It was "a little unfortunate" for Señor Sologuren that their curiosity took such a practical turn.

"THE BARDS IN THE WOODS."

Last evening your correspondent had a long conversation with a "Corn-fed" who had just returned from "prospecting" among the "brethren" who intend, as they say, settling in this country. A portion of our conversation was as follows:—

"So you went up there?"

"Oh, yes. All over."

"You saw the American colony?"

"I did."

"What do you think of it?"

"Nothing. It is a humbug. Those fellows have not got any money; and, for the life of me, I cannot see how they are going to live."

"Did you see Isham G. Harris?"

"I did."

"Has he got anything planted?"

"No. I did not see anything. I believe he has got one man employed in something like gardening. Those fellows are not like the emigrants of olden time. They have no agricultural implements; they do not come here with their families, and they expect to get men to work for them for nothing, while they sit by and smoke their Havana cigars. They are not like the Germans who come here. They are not industrious, and will not work themselves. They want to have large plantations and raise extensive crops, without having money to start on. Those among them who have money know enough not to invest it in this emigration scheme, at least at present. It is true, they have received some favors from the government, but these are of little benefit to them. They are allowed to import all their agricultural implements free of duty, but not a thing has come through this Custom House free of duty yet."

"How is that? Why?"

"Because they have not imported anything yet. In Tampico there is a band of colonists who are going to market. They went there with a little money and six months' provisions, so as to make them independent of the country, and glad to work themselves. They have their families with them. In the course of my travels I saw a country actually weeping for the plough to be put into it; and while I saw fruit of all kinds in perfect abundance, I did not see the slightest sign of wheat, oats or any cereals whatever. Still, I think it is a good country, and that it can be made a great country so soon as it is provided with a government. Now, there is no safety anywhere. It is protection for those who will cultivate the soil which is first needed. Now, how is it? Why, sir, the same articles which are raised fifty miles from here can be shipped from New York and Europe to this port cheaper than they can be transported those fifty miles. Just wait until I get a little time, and if I don't write a letter which will astonish my fellow countrymen, then my name is not ——,"

MUCH TALK BUT LITTLE WORK.

Just at this particular time there is a vast deal of talk about the great and grand enterprises contemplated to be entered into in this country. Yet what does it all amount to? Just this: every third man you meet with has a contract, who wants to sublet it to every second man, the latter of whom, if he takes it, wants to swindle the first man; so two out of every three are interested in puffing up this, that and the other scheme, in the ultimate failure of which they have the strongest belief. And how can this be otherwise? The many who have contracts do not care whether the work is done or not. Their object is to make money "now" and have it all in a "pile." Men arrive here almost daily direct from the capital, puffing the empire solely for the purpose of producing a favorable opinion of the contracts, the "rights" or some other said to be money making scheme with which they are invested, and find it convenient to dispose of at the earliest opportunity, and to anybody, no matter who, as long as the individual has the necessary amount of funds "to pay down" at once. As far as the stories of the newspapers and the assertions of speculators are concerned, nearly the whole of them are far from the truth. Ere long the very many who are being deceived will have to hang their "harps"—their contracts—their engagements—upon the beautiful orange trees of this beautiful country, and lament the misfortune of not being on the "right side up, with care."

INTERESTING FACTS FOR THE COTTON MERCHANTS.

The annual cotton crop of this country—so your correspondent is informed—amounts to ten millions of pounds. It has slightly exceeded this during the last four years. In normal times the whole of this crop, and more besides, is used here; but, as the price of cotton during the last four years paid to export it, twenty-five per cent of the total crop was sent to the United States and Europe. At the present time there is some cotton at several of the ports along the coast. Just at this time the tendency of shipments of native cotton is to the interior, where there are large mills kept constantly at work. At this writing there are less than one thousand bales of cotton in the city of Vera Cruz. In the *Mexican Times* there is a paragraph relative to emigrants having raised cotton in Maratlan; but, on the whole, the assertions of the aforesaid *Mexican Times* must be taken with caution, as its editors are so thoroughly devoted to their own interests first, and to the emigration scheme to benefit these, that they not unfrequently "forget" to tell the truth, and have a strange tendency to meander among idealities, which may be very good in poetry, but which are very unfortunate for those who are foolish enough to take them "in fact."

FRIENDS FOR THE FIVE MINUTES.

But a few weeks ago the imperialists were exulting loudly over their successes in the neighborhood of Huastera, and announcing in long official despatches how thoroughly they had won the people to their side, restored order and opened the channel to prosperity. The latest advices from that quarter give us the information that there were signs of another uprising, and that the people were seriously threatening to do this. The truth of the matter is, these people cannot be relied upon. They only respect force. Any party which has a force greater than theirs can make them "friends" so long as they are in the minority. Every agreement, convention or other arrangement made with them, ought to be marked "Good for five minutes. N. B.—The natives were in the minority when this was drawn."

CONSCRIPTS.

In a letter sent by one of your correspondents from this port last month there occurred a mistake which was made in New York. We did not say that Mr. Lloyd had a contract on the railroad for two millions of dollars worth of work and yet was not worth one hundred dollars, but that we knew a party in association with one or two others, well known in the United States, who had a contract as aforesaid and yet who does not possess any fortune whatever to sustain his pretensions and undertakings. The party immediately interested in this matter, and who has been quite an adventurer and speculator for many years past, has been "chuckling," as we learn, over the mistake, saying that the HERALD, with all its smartness, did not get his name in this little matter. The gentleman is mistaken. One of the several HERALD "smartnesses" at this port knows his name very well, his place of residence in "God's country"—the United States—and much of his past history, and would not hesitate one minute to publish the whole if it was of any particular interest to the world at large. The gentleman must bear in mind that the correspondents of the HERALD do not write merely to interest petty communities, nor even the people of the United States alone. When they write they speak with the pen, as with the tongue—to millions.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 29, 1866.

WOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN CONSUL AT TEHUANTEPEC.

The very latest information received from the neighborhood of Tehuantepec confirms the report received here a few days ago that the American Consul was wounded in the attack made by the liberals upon said place. He was wounded in the arm.

IMPORTANT STATISTICS.

A gentleman who has been residing during the last four years at the city of Mexico, and who has kept as strict an account as possible of the number of Mexicans ordered to be shot by decision of courts martial convened under imperial authority, announces to your correspondent that the total number, up to December 31, 1865, was between sixteen and seventeen thousand persons. This number of persons so killed were tried as robbers, but in nearly every instance they were in reality only partisan rangers serving in the liberal army.

THE STRENGTH OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY.

The total number of foreign troops landed in Mexico in support of the empire has been about sixty-three thousand. Of this number a very large proportion have perished by sickness and been rendered unfit for service from other causes, expiration of term of service included; so that to day the effective strength, all classes under arms included, does not exceed thirty thousand.

A SPECIMEN REPORTED FOR THE DEFENDANTS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, MEXICO, Jan. 18, 1866.

The Imperial Commissioner of the departments of Oajaca, Tehuantepec and Chiapas communicated to this ministry, under date of the 15th inst., that he received information from Lieutenant Colonel Don José Ramirez Acevedo that on the 6th inst. the cavalry command of Don Porfirio Diaz, five hundred strong, moved upon Haxiaco, and was met by the garrison of said place on the hills of San Pedro, and obliged to retire, with the loss of twenty-three killed and wounded.

J. M. MARQUEZ, Secretary, &c., &c.

ONWARD MARCH OF CIVILIZATION.

To-day the first Yankee bootblack of the "educated" class who "patrol" the streets of the large cities in the United States made his appearance on the thoroughfares of Vera Cruz. He looked quite natural; is studying the idiom of the country, and "won't take greenbacks." He says he is only "prospecting" now, and hopes to be able to introduce the profession on a large scale into Mexico as soon as he reaches the capital and has an interview with the Emperor.

We have another "specimen" of civilization here in "a fine old Irish gentleman" who emigrated to this country with a view of "running" an extensive plantation, but unfortunately our Celtic friend was "run off" by the guerillas and soon found himself in a situation where his cash had "run out." So, just for a change, he joined the "emigrant band of brothers on the railroad," and was provided with a wheelbarrow and a pipe. This business not proving very profitable, he next set up as a master of languages and offered to teach good English to the natives at twenty-five cents per lesson, and he secured quite a number of pupils, some of whom progressed rapidly, and now approach every American with "An' faith, how are ye?" "The top of the morntn' to ye," &c., &c. There is some suspicion that the "master" is a Fenian.

CHARTERED.

The bark Ariel, of New York, Captain E. L. Jackson, was chartered on Saturday last to proceed from here to Sisal, and from thence to New York city, with a cargo of *Jolla*—Manila.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 30, 1866.

RUMORS.

Your correspondent, believing the people in the "States" would like to know of the rumors here, gives them now, as follows:—In the first place it is rumored that the liberals are at Monterey, with twenty thousand men; secondly, that General Grant is on the line of the Rio Grande, preparing for war, and thirdly that the French do not intend to retire. These are the principal rumors afloat at the present writing.

ENLIGHTENED AMUSEMENT.

The following advertisement is published in the newspapers of this city:—

THE GREAT FEASTS OF SOLEDAD.

The village of Soledad has the pleasure of making known to the public in general that on the 24 of February next will be the anniversary of their patron saint, on which occasion they will offer grand and surprising diversions, and continue them for several days.

First day—Vespers in the Holy church with grand pomp. At night there will be lights and fanciful illuminations by the citizens.

Second day—Solemn performance of "Our Lady de la Candelaria" in the Parish church, with a procession and grand accompaniments. Afterwards cock fighting, bull fighting, and in the evening agreeable balls.

Third day—Horse racing, cock fighting and public balls.

Fourth day—Grand horse races, bull fights, cock fights and public balls. THE COMMITTEE.

SOLEDAD, Jan. 24, 1866.

LATEST FROM MAZATLAN.

The following has been received from Mazatlan under date of January 3, 1866:—

On the 17th of December the steamer Victoria anchored in our port, having on board General Rivas and about four hundred (political prisoners) soldiers. Rivas has been in this neighborhood before, and it is not now believed that he has come here to plan an expedition, but for the purpose of putting in force yet another order of the imperial *régime*. His force is, indeed, rather small to assume the offensive.

We are informed that Lozado (imperial) is at Tepic; but, as he is short of funds, it is not believed that he can make any movement of consequence. This Lozado is a great scoundrel. He is a Mexican, and yet practices the most cruel barbarities against his own people. Since he has been fighting on the imperial side he on one occasion skinned the soles off of a man's feet because he refused to dance to amuse him. There is no guess work about this; I know it to be a fact.

Business is not good in the North. The liberals Martinez, Corella and Toledo are in San Vincent, nine leagues from Alamos, with six hundred men. The Indians, who have been raiding for some time past, are now engaged in cutting their corn. In Lower California the liberals continue successful. Senor Espinosa, the Imperial Commissioner, is on his way back to Mazatlan. The Custom House here has suspended giving permits for vessels to go to La Paz, as also to ports on the coast of Lower California.

On the 20th of January the imperialist General Ramon Meridez despatched a strong column of cavalry, under Colonel Santa Cruz, from Patzcuaro to Tacámbaro, where several liberal bands were reported to be, and marched with a column of infantry towards Ario where Salgado and Ugalde were stationed with about two hundred men. The enemy fled from Tacámbaro at the approach of the imperial troops, but were speedily overtaken by Colonel Santa Cruz, who routed them with considerable loss in killed and wounded besides capturing a quantity of arms and eighty horses.

The liberal force at Ario was also defeated and dispersed with severe loss.

DURANGO.

The Juarista had evacuated Nazas, dividing their troops into two portions, one of which was met by a French force, and after a short skirmish the Juarista were routed, leaving seven dead, and losing horses, carriages and all their arms and ammunition.

COAHUILA.

There are dates from Saltillo up to the 15th. The detachment sent by General Jeaningros to Santa Catarina, consisting of one hundred and fifty infantry and fifty horsemen, under the command of Sausste, have been ordered to pursue the Juarista in the vicinity of Monterey, and the inhabitants have returned in consequence, but the greater part of the merchants and proprietors remained at Saltillo.

MICHOACAN.

The liberal leaders Huerta and Garnica have been routed near Zamora.

The forces of Mendez were in pursuit of Regales.

SINALOA.

From Mazatlan we have dates received at the *Estafette* office up to the 6th of January, and according to the correspondence of that paper the situation continued to get worse and worse. Corona had been in full possession of the Nayarit district for more than two and a half months; he is master of the whole country from the fort to the vicinity of Santiago, and from Palos Prietos to Durango. Active and immediate hostilities were in contemplation against him. He levies duties on all merchandise imported into Mazatlan, and coins copper money in Culiacan.

VERA CRUZ, Feb. 5—10 P. M.

THE LIBERALS REJOICING.

In every direction that we can hear from the liberals are in very high spirits, and becoming quite enthusiastic. Their movements are generally attended with flattering results.

FINANCIAL.

M. Langlais has finally accepted the position of Minister of Finance. He has commenced by introducing a number of economical measures. One of these is, that he has cut down the Emperor's private pay to three thousand dollars per day. He has done away with several new taxes that were introduced, and has reduced the number of the same to four, namely—of War, State, Finance and Justice, as it was under the republic. The Emigration Bureau will not, so it is supposed, be done away with, as the emigration scheme is looked upon as likely to be very profitable in a short time to come. Such is the consideration in which it is held by the imperialists now.

THE EMPEROR'S MOVEMENTS.

It is reported here that the Emperor "stopped short" in his contemplated trip to Cuernavaca, and returned to the capital in consequence of the alarming news which he received from the frontiers.

FRENCH MILITARY OPERATIONS OF AN IMPORTANT CHARACTER.

Marshal Bazaine has been moving troops in the direction of San Luis Potosi. He has been sending off, as aforesaid, all he could spare from Mexico, and is to follow them himself in the course of a few days. He has also been sending to San Luis Potosi immense quantities of material of war. It is known that the imperialists have now got collected at Queretaro 14,000 men, Queretaro is situated on the main road between San Luis Potosi and the city of Mexico. They have, at the same time, ten thousand men at San Luis Potosi. When Bazaine leaves Mexico he will first go to Queretaro, and, putting himself at the head of the forces there, march the same to San Luis Potosi. He has intimated that his intention is to fight a battle of great importance. Query—With whom?

UNPOPULARITY OF THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

That you may form an idea of how thoroughly unpopular the Emperor has become, your correspondent publishes this incident. A few nights ago, in the capital, at the theatre, a large and fashionable audience were assembled to listen to the celebrated Mexican songstress La Peralta. During the evening one voice was heard to shout "*Viva el Emperador!*" and in response there was such a universal hissing that the "enthusiastic admirer of his Majesty" was brought to silence at once. Marshal Bazaine, who was in the theatre at the time, immediately arose and left it. The Emperor himself was not there. There was no second attempt made to renew the cry of "*Viva el Emperador!*"

PERSONAL.

Senor Hidalgo, lately from Paris, is now in this city. He will leave here on the American steamer Manhattan, which is advertised to go out at eight A. M. to-morrow. It is said he is going to New York. Mr. Hidalgo is the Minister so called to France "from Maximilian." He is accompanied by a gentleman named Larrainzar, who is en route for Russia.

Our City of Mexico Correspondence.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 29, 1866.

The reverses which the imperial forces have met with during the first month of the year, and the loss of territory by the superior manœuvring of "the last and remnants of civil war" to Maximilian, hang like a curtain of gloom over the grand commander of Napoleon's expeditionary corps and his subordinates. These people some way show a tenacity and exercise a patience in their attempts to drive these foreign mercenaries from their land which the Emperor of the French little thought they possessed five years ago, when the priesthood and De Lunda and others called upon the ambitious Third Napoleon for interference in their country's matters; the former pledged the expenses of a campaign from Church property, and deposited the estimated amount in Havana banks, payable to Napoleon's order; De Lunda and his poorer compeers pledged their own and the silver mines of their country to the French as security for further expenses than one campaign. But Napoleon promised to send the veterans of many campaigns and heroes of many battles to make the work of reducing Mexico, then poor in every branch of government, in one season. One year has multiplied into the fifth, and with more men, more arms and a more determined purpose, the intentionally wide scattered army of Mexican nationalists, with a patience that has but few precedents, Fabius like, are tormenting and worsting and harrassing this vaunted French army of selected veterans, heroes of the Alma and Solferino.

CENTRAL LIBERAL ARMY.

By skill and strategy, which not only the world abroad but its nearest neighboring government has not given them the credit to possess, the liberal leaders, in a series of movements made during December and this month so far, have caused Marshal Bazaine, commander-in-chief of the imperial forces, to change his entire campaign programme. He finds the Pintos, under Alvarez and Colonel Diaz, have divided and a portion have made a junction with the army of the central States now concentrating in the northern portion of Zacatecas. These and Morales and Regules and General Diaz, together with Rivas Palacio and Garcia's forces from the north, have compelled the evacuation of the Northern States by the imperial forces.

Should the liberal