MEXICO.

Austrian Preparations to Defend Vera Cruz After the French Evacuation.

Arrest and Deportation of Prominent Citizens.

Maximilian to Expose Napoleon's Intrigue Against the United States.

&c. &c. &c.

The Evacuation of Mexico—Departure of French Troops—Preparations to Defend Vera Cruz—Occupation of Cordova and Orizaba by the Liberals—Matters in Mexico City—Maximilian with 15,000 Men at Queretaro—Escobedo with 20,000 Men Preparing to Move—Reported Promotion of Colonel Dupin, &c.

VERA CRUZ, March 1, 1867.

The departure of the French hurriedly continues. The number of troops which have sailed is now swelled to 16,630, and large quantities of ammunition and field pieces, as well as clothing, &c. I append a list of the vessels which have arrived since last writing and departed; also the number of troops which have embarked. The weather has been most favorable for the evacuation, we having had no norther since the arrival of the transports from France. In addition to the troops which have sailed about 2,500 are expected down by the trains to-day. General Douay left for France by a late steamer.

The rear of the French army retiring is now at Paso del Macho. Marshal Bazaine arrived this morning at nine o'clock at Vera Cruz, and leaves with the rear of the army. Madame Bazaine and child accompany him.

The following vessels arrived since February 21:—The transports Tartare, Charante, Durana and Ceres; the ships-of-line Ville de Lyons and Castiglione, and the steamers Migen and Adonio.

Below is a table of departures of vessels with troops:—

Vessel.	Date.	No. of Troops.
Previous departures	—	8,230
Steamer Tampico	Feb. 14	1,050
Transport Ardèche	Feb. 25	1,250
Transport Calvados	Feb. 26	1,000
Transport Tam	Feb. 27	1,100
Transport Vera Cruz	Feb. 27	1,000
Averym and others	—	3,000
Total		16,630

The people of this city, and especially the merchants, are decidedly in Micawber's situation, and are fearful that when things do turn up bad results will follow to their business and possibly their personal comfort. The imperialists, under the lead of the Prefecto Politico, are endeavoring to establish themselves so firmly than when the last of the French leave, they shall fully possess the city, and with sufficient men, arms and ammunition to stand a siege. General Mariana Camacho has been selected as the military commandant, to enter upon his duties on the final departure of the French. A foreign legion is also being organized here for the imperial or reactionary Mexican party. Posters are about the streets offering $1 per day, &c., for soldiers. The Eleventh imperial Mexican regiment is now encamped outside the walls of the city, and the Marine Guard are to be pressed into service as artillerists to man the guns upon the outer walls. Several light field pieces, howitzers, &c., were moved hastily last evening after dusk in order to be used in the streets in case the walls are forced or scaled. All the indications are of an attempt to hold the place against the liberals, who are advancing from below Alvarado, and the advance guard of whom are now only a dozen miles distant—under General Benevidez.

Orizaba and Cordova were occupied by the liberals on the 27th of February.

The following decree relative to military lodgings was reissued on the 25th of February; however, no American residents have yet been asked to comply therewith:—

DECREE RELATING TO MILITARY LODGING.

VERA CRUZ, Feb. 25, 1867.

To the COMMANDANTE OF THE PLAZA:—

Señor COMMANDANTE—It being obligatory on all the residents of this city to receive quartered in their houses, as determined by the law relating thereto, being amended, the law which established a contribution for the pay of military quarters, you will please arrange the tickets issued by this Alcaldia be enforced, in case of those to whom directed refusing to supply the lodging, admitting no excuse or pretext whatever. FRANCISCO P. DE ROSAS, Municipal Alcalde.

The two steam vessels from New York with freight for the French have been compelled by the French to pay the six per cent duty on their freight money, notwithstanding the written contract made at New York that it should be put on board of their vessels free of duty. These transactions will probably result in claims upon France for restitution. The proofs of bad memory and bad faith on the part of the French towards the United States and her citizens have now become a multitude. Have the words contract, truth and honor lost their significance in the French language?

The question as to the disposition to be made of the custom house at the port is partially solved by the following order, which, although dated a few days back, appeared to the public two days since:—

CONSULATE OF FRANCE AT VERA CRUZ.

ARTICLE 1. The effects of the convention signed at Mexico on the 20th July last remain suspended until the French and Mexican governments are placed in harmony. Each of these two governments reserve in the most absolute manner that which it considers as its rights relative to the said convention.

ART. 2. The French agents will deliver the administration of the custom house of Vera Cruz to the Mexican agents on the 1st of March next, after the framing of a formal process verbal and a close of accounts.

ART. 3. The Mexican administration of the custom house of Vera Cruz will pay at the end of each month from the 1st of next March a sum of $50,000 in specie into the hands of a French agent specially appointed, or in default of that agent, to the Consul of France at Vera Cruz; a sum which will be comprised in the definite liquidation of accounts between the two governments.

ART. 30. This arrangement will be immediately executed, and will remain in force until the two governments are agreed relatively to the convention of 3d July, conformably to what is said in the first article, without prejudice of the usual exchange of the ratifications in which the present arrangement will be stipulated. DANO MURPHY, Inspector General of the French Finances.

DE MAINTENANT, Chief of the Financial Mission.

MEXICO, Feb. 22, 1867.

The very latest from Mexico, through private sources, represents "all quiet" at Mexico city and Puebla. Porfirio Diaz is not confronting Mexico, but is between Puebla and Orizaba. Maximilian is at Queretaro, and with him Miramon, Marquez, Mendez and Mejia. They are said to have, combined, nearly fifteen thousand men. Escobedo is at San Luis Potosi, Rivas Palacio at Toluca, Regules at Morelia, Garcia at Colima, Guzman at Guanajuata, Corona at Guadalajara—all liberals, and forming two thirds of a circle around Queretaro, and with forces which combined will number a best twenty thousand. It is expected that Escobedo will order an advance of these forces from their respective positions, with a view to concentrate and consolidate the commands at some point near Queretaro and an immediate general engagement with Maximilian.

MARCH 1—2 P. M.

The city is full of rumors that Colonel Dupen has been made a general, and is to remain in Vera Cruz, &c.—*cum grano salis*. The French are said to have just excluded six hundred imperial Mexicans from the train for Soledad, as they wanted the use of cars for their own troops.

Continued Excitement in Vera Cruz—Preparations to Defend the City—Hatred of Foreigners—Arrest of Prominent Citizens—Scandalous Conduct of the French Authorities—The French War Vessels to Remain After Evacuation, &c.

VERA CRUZ, March 2, 1867.

The excitement increases at Vera Cruz. It is reported that the marines from the Austrian war vessels, the Dandolo and the Elizabeth, are to be transferred to San Juan d' Ulloa to-day, to man the guns there. Ammunition, provisions, &c., were to be immediately transferred there in sufficient quantities to ensure a somewhat protracted defence. The strictest surveillance is placed upon all the gates of the city and the approaches. Within twenty-four hours it is fully expected that a conscription of men (citizens) will take place. A rigid search for arms throughout the city has been made, and last night and early this morning the imperial forces and authorities took from their beds about twenty of the prominent citizens who are supposed to sympathize with the liberal cause, placed them on board of a schooner and have either incarcerated them in San Juan castle or have removed them down the coast. Much anxiety prevails, especially among foreigners, as the policy of the reactionary or imperial party is not known here.

The hatred which the Mexican entertains for the French has extended to all foreigners alike, Americans as well as others. The Mexican arrogates to himself that he has driven away the French and can drive away all other people who dare invade them. Both parties here have the same feeling in this particular. They desire no intervention. Poor Mexico! No country has richer soil nor wealthier mines; but anarchy and bloodshed will be her future history as it has been that of the past, unless some efficient intervention shall teach the people that peace, not war, should be their policy. The United States must consent that Mexico shall continue to be revolutionized and re-revolutionized, or must intervene by offering military aid, or by establishing a protectorate.

Whatever may be the policy of the government, or of the Secretary of the Navy, an error has been made in sending the small steam war vessel Tahoma here. In the first place the protection of Americans here may require enforcement, such are the present indications; but the puny Tahoma inspires no nation represented here in the harbor with fear or even respect; and in the second place, from this vessel, French, Austrian, English and others, who have not travelled in the States, or are familiar with our navy, have formed a poor opinion of our naval establishment, prejudicial to our status among nations. No longer ago than yesterday the French authorities, when reminded by the captain of the American freight steamer, bringing freight to the French, upon their refusal to fulfil their contract and pay for the freight, when reminded, I say, that "his (United States) government must see him righted," insolently laughed at him and referred him to the "petit" Tahoma, whose presence they only tolerated for the reason of her inability to do harm.

The conduct of the French authorities in the case of the New York vessels bringing their freight has been most scandalous and would hardly bear ventilation to the world, without producing the impression that they are void of all honor or probity. Mr. Probst, the agent of General Friant, French Commissary, was sent to New York to purchase stores, hay, &c. He chartered in all five steamers, freight money to be paid on board of vessel, free of Custom House duty, on delivery of goods in the harbor. The French received the goods, but subjected them to payment of duty, by violent seizure, and in the case of the Cortez kept back money for damaged hay after giving the captain a receipt for cargo in good condition. They next refused to pay in silver dollars, as per agreement, but in Mexican gold, and finally threatened not to pay at all, ignoring the authority of Mr. Probst, &c. At last, one of their own officers shamed them into payment by presenting them with a view of their perfidy when exposed to the world, as it was sure to be, on the arrival of the Cortez in the United States.

This villainous transaction has detained the captain four or five days, and passengers on board of his vessel are no longer [illegible] New Orleans every moment. Let us rather let us talk of French insolence and egotism, but more than that, French hatred.

I am informed that the French are determined to leave two war vessels in the harbor after the final evacuation, which will take place within one week.

The insecurity of foreigners is talked of more and more. The arrival of Marshal Bazaine here yesterday was not accompanied by any demonstration. Upon leaving the cars he quietly went to his new quarters here, and awaits the rear of the French army, which is now on its way down from Paso del Macho. The Marshal and wife made their appearance upon the Muelle last evening. She is young enough to be his daughter. He appears to be about sixty-two years of age, of full habit, decidedly unintellectual countenance. In his choice of a young wife he showed a happy appreciation of Mexican dollars, and generally is posted on the value of money. This, however, is now an important element in the French character, and can no longer be monopolized by "so called" Yankees—a term or appellation which the French have learned to use with evident gusto. Any information relative to a Frenchman's love of money, could be amply supplied by the late French Custom House authorities.

Max Virtually Abdicates—His Reported Arrival at Queretaro—At Loggerheads with Miramon—French Deserters between Puebla and Mexico—Maximilian's Probable Intentions in Going to Queretaro—Confab with Juarez Probable—Napoleon's Treachery to be Shown Up by Max—Important Documents in London, and More on the Way to the United States—Raiding Around—The Capital—General News, &c.

MEXICO, Feb. 21st, 1867.

On the 11th and 12th, it was confidentially whispered that his Majesty the Emperor would very shortly issue an important proclamation which was to announce a policy decisive of the fate of Mexico and the Empire. But no one, despite the logical deductions, that might have astonished Aristotle or Bishop Whately, was prepared for the decree advising the capital of the Emperor's departure for the wars, to do or die for his crown. Careful of the well being of his subjects, Maximilian left everything provided for, though artlessly innocent of supplying the men who were to carry out the articles that follow:—

MAXIMILIAN, Emperor of Mexico:—From a desire to be present at the operations of the army in the interior, and to obviate meantime delay in the dispatch of the business of government; we decree:—

ARTICLE 1. During our absence in the interior the ministers will, with the concurrence of the President of the Council of Ministers, dispatch the business of their respective departments.

ART. 2. The President of the Council of Ministers, alone or in council with his colleagues, as he may deem proper, shall dispatch all business of gravity and importance.

ART. 3. The ministers, the Council of State and all the authorities and functionaries of the empire, civil and military, shall execute the orders of the President of the Council of Ministers.

ART. 4. The business of the government shall be dispatched in our name.

ART. 5. Neither laws nor decrees shall be issued or abrogated save in cases of an urgent nature, and with the concurrence of the President of the Council of State, and, should the emergency permit, of the said Council. The laws and decrees shall be issued in our name, and shall be signed by the President of the Council of Ministers and countersigned on his own responsibility by the minister of the respective department.

ART. 6. We reserve to ourselves the business of our house and court, with all others expressed in our note of instructions.

Our ministers are charged with the execution of the provisions of this decree, in so far forth as to each of them it appertains.

By the Emperor. TEOFILO MARIN, Minister of the Interior.

Given at MEXICO, the 12th day of February, 1867. MAXIMILIAN.

Having done on paper right royally all that human foresight could do for his anxious people, except leaving the country, his Majesty sallied forth with an army of from thirty-five hundred to five thousand men, under command of the gentle Marquez. Dressed in full Mexican costume, broad hat, leather breeks and jingling spurs, Maximilian harangued the troops as they defiled through the gate that opens the road to Our Lady of Guadalupe's shrine, and, as the official journal reports, "was frantically cheered" by his newly caught soldiers. The following day, the 14th, a flaming letter from General Marquez to the Minister of War communicated to the public that on the road to Cuantitlan a band of six hundred of the enemy had attacked the column, been repulsed with the loss of he did not know how many killed and wounded, and all in the presence of his Majesty, Maximilian, who gave an example to his enthusiastic troops of valor and serenity. The last paragraph, dwelling upon the behavior of the Emperor, has annoyed not a little both liberals and conservatives, as though there was so little courage in the Mexican army that an Austrian had monopolized the whole stock on hand in order to bring it forth for exhibition on urgent occasions. The scanty rumors which reach the capital report the arrival of the army at Queretaro on the 19th, after skirmishing along the entire line of march. There Castillo, with his troops to the number of one thousand; Mejia, *hors de combat* from discontent and an affection of the spine, and Miramon were awaiting Maximilian's arrival. Miramon, after the defeat at San Jacinto by Escobedo, was flatly refused the command of another division by Castillo, who is under the orders of Mejia, to go out and again try the fortune of war. This has given occasion to some sharp correspondence, which ended by the Emperor's refusal for the present to employ Miramon in any high military position. Whether distrust of his fidelity has ripened into conviction, or whether his boyish rashness or Maximilian's jealousy of the reputation for valor enjoyed by this game chicken be the cause of the ex-President's disgrace, it can produce no benefit to the empire. For Miramon, from his pluck, activity and quickness of action—qualities so singular in Mexico—has won the confidence of all the young blood of his party. It is, therefore, indispensable that at all hazards he be conciliated.

Shreds of information are dropping in upon us of the battle of San Jacinto. Joaquin Miramon, brother to the General, was taken prisoner and shot, in reprisal for the death of several liberal officers shot by Castillo on the field of battle, with Aureliano Rivera. One hundred and thirty French soldiers, taken by Escobedo on the defeat of Miramon, were drawn up, questioned and informed that they were to be shot at once for having voluntarily enlisted against the cause of Mexico, though Marshal Bazaine had invited them to return to France, which they confessed had been communicated to them through the Marshal's circular addressed to Mejia. It is more probable, however, that these men were executed on account of the murders and robberies committed by them on the entrance of the imperial army, under Miramon's command, into the streets of Zacatecas, when this general reported to the government here that Juarez had escaped only by the velocity of his coach.

One thousand French deserted on the march of the army from the capital to Puebla, a distance of but thirty leagues. As most of these men joined the liberals, a fine opportunity will come day or other offer for retaliation by the imperialists. Thus a more brilliant exit from Mexican territory, amid noise and confusion, so dear to French nature, may be afforded to Napoleon's soldiers than the conveyance of his lazy transports. The remark might, to those who have not witnessed the oppression, brutality and cruelty indulged for five years by officers and soldiers of the French army, appear cold blooded and heartless. We, who have seen and heard from undeniable authority of outrages which made the blood boil with indignation, feel that Frenchmen are but undergoing the consequences logically of their own conduct. That the children of a nation which arrogates to itself the lead of modern civilization commit such excesses, can only be attributed to the spirit engendered by the teachings of the accursed spirit of international intervention, a spirit which has been slowly undermining the true prosperity of France, and is only another development of the First Napoleon's idea that war must support war.

Maximilian is supposed by many to have the intention of making propositions to D. Benito Juarez for an armistice, that he might the better learn the true will of the Mexican nation, and thereupon resign the situation at once into the hands of the Liberal party. The Emperor's labors are all directed to one single end, that of completing the history of the intervention by his own acts, as flowing from the engagements made with him by Napoleon, so that the entire onus shall rest upon France of the initiation, conduct and abandonment of the Empire. He owes this to the United States, he repeats, in behalf of Mexico, and his Mexican friends. The documentary proof has been safely lodged in London to the beginning of the present year—what is yet wanting to show up Napoleon's intrigues against the government and people of the United States is guarded most sacredly and will be securely taken out of Mexico. The Custom House Convention makes a portion of this forthcoming work. By a letter written to Marshal Bazaine, the French Emperor authorized his commander of the expeditionary corps to promise, on condition that the customs at Tampico and Vera Cruz were delivered to his agents, the revenues of all the ports on the Pacific coast to the Empire, which ports were to be held by French ships of war for that purpose. In sight of this letter Maximilian concluded the Convention, and the honorable gentleman who for so many years has cheated Europe into a belief of his greatness concluded that there was no necessity of fulfilling an engagement authorized merely by letter to a marshal of the empire, which did not bear the broad seal of France.

Mendez, the imperial General-in-Chief, has been giving the people of his district a rare example of the amenities of monarchical government. Finding himself in extreme need of money, a forced loan was imposed by his orders upon the entire population, the brunt of which was borne, as usual, by the merchants and other capitalists. The house of Oruña, Spanish merchants, resisted the payment of the quota allotted to them, when orders were given for the imprisonment of the head of that firm. Having had timely warning, Mr. Oruña concealed himself and his funds, but Mendez was not thus to be baffled. Mr. Oruña's young children were carried off to prison, his house searched and the walls probed, all which operations produced some $25,000. The political prefect having incautiously observed that General Mendez should have at least $50,000 left in hand of a former forced loan, was on the instant deposed, and one of the General's officers installed as Political Prefect. This is but a solitary instance of the arbitrary administration of these satraps of the empire. General Mendez a few days after these exploits abandoned Morelia, with the object of joining his forces to those of the Emperor at Queretaro. With the three thousand men he takes the imperial army amounts to ten thousand men of all arms, ready to meet the liberals, who, at last accounts, were sixteen leagues distant, with fifteen thousand, awaiting the enemy. Should the expected battle be in favor of the empire its dissolution will be retarded for some months, to the heavy detriment of the best interests of the country, and the ruin of commerce. The loss of the battle settles the question of the empire and opens up a new career for Mexico.

During the last week the garrison of the capital has been kept on a continual run from gate to gate, by the approach of the guerillas to the walls of the city. Skirmishing is kept up at Tacubaya by General Velez' forces, who still [illegible] always have not been allowed to run beyond the Castle of Chapultepec. General Berriozabal reached the Cruces, on the road to Toluca, last night with about two thousand men and six pieces of artillery. The people of Diego [illegible] at Tlalnan, four leagues from the city, within the valley, while Cuellar, at Ayotla, keeps the highway to Vera Cruz, stops the diligences and intercepts the correspondence.

These movements are all designed to keep the imperialists in check while Porfirio Diaz is operating upon Puebla, which was evacuated by the French some five days ago. No formal attack against this capital is to be expected until the success of the operations in the interior and about Puebla is declared in behalf of the liberal cause. Riva Palacio, the Juarist general, upon his entrance into Toluca, gave to his partisans an admirable example of moderation and regard of constitutional government by steadily refusing to recur to military trials and confiscation against the unfortunate adherents of the empire. Many of these, panic struck on the withdrawal of the imperial troops, migrated with their families for Mexico; though warned by Colonel Lalanne, formerly chief of Ortega's military staff, that he would attack the troops on the route, they persisted in accompanying the soldiers, and paid dearly for their obstinacy, in the loss of many wives and children, who in the confusion of the flight were killed by bombs and balls. This calamity has caused a deep sensation in Mexico, and Lalanne was execrated generally until full proofs appeared of his provident humanity. Another little incident has gone far to moralize the reputation of the liberal party. On the road between Mexico and Puebla a party from Porfirio Diaz's army brought into camp $25,000, taken from Marshal Bazaine's private train. As soon as the report was made to the general he ordered the return of the money to be made to the Marshal, with a minute statement of the facts of its capture and delivery into his hands by the soldiers of the liberal army. The following note, the authenticity of which is beyond all question, will give a clearer outline of Diaz's moral features than any other trait of his character that has hitherto been presented to light:—

MEXICAN REPUBLIC,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY LINE OF THE EAST.
[Private Correspondence.]

Mr. E. Burnouf has presented himself in this town as an envoy of Maximilian, with the object of offering me command of the forces, which are concentrated in Puebla and Mexico; that Marquez, Lares and Company will be stripped of power, and that Maximilian himself will shortly retire from the country, leaving the situation in the hands of the republican party. However vain these offers may appear, if from no other view, than a recollection of the indignation with which I rejected them in Oajaca towards the month of November, 1864, and in my dungeon at Puebla in the first part of the year 1865, the estimation is certainly so humble which these Europeans hold of us, that they are not take the trouble to proceed with due prudence, and in the manœuvrings of their arduous diplomacy forget even the most usual precepts of common sense. Making a real effort to reply with gravity, I have done so, saying that as General-in-Chief of the army corps, with which the supreme government has been pleased to entrust me, I can have with the Archduke no other relations than those which the ordinance and military laws permit with the chief of a hostile force; but as the presence of Mr. Burnouf in this camp to-day, and perhaps to-morrow, for he says his health does not permit him to return immediately, may give occasion to unreasonable comments, I comply with the duty of reminding you with the foregoing facts, and offer you anew the assurances of my esteem. Independence and Republic.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Citizen Governor of the State of Puebla, &c.

ACATLAN, February 14, 1867.

General Diaz has either instinctively or by design made the question one of continent against continent. Has he so far penetrated the spirit of the United States that he recognizes the participation of individual Europeans in the affairs of America as citizens duly naturalized, but rejects intervention on the part of their governments as national filibustering. If so General Porfirio Diaz has expounded fully and completely the Monroe doctrine, and laid the corner stone of the continental balance of power by interposing North America as the future highway between Europe and Asia, a theme which duly expanded, may cause us to congratulate ourselves upon Napoleon's blundering intervention, and suggest sad thoughts to the French Emperor.

The Diplomatic Corps has been full of troubles; our hospitable Minister of Finance discovering that the capitalists did not respond freely to his invitation to lend him a round million, had recourse to a contribution of one per cent upon capital, values and industrial establishments little and big; this crafty invention proved to be another form of forced loan only made general in its application and impenetrable to verbal objections, so nicely was the phraseology of the decree put together. Beset by their compatriots, the foreign representatives got at last to thinking, and gave in, after much deliberation and wisdom expended, their protest as a body, against the decree imposing said contribution. The relentless minister continues to put in execution the provisions of his invention, and defers a reply to the protest until the tax collectors shall announce that everybody has paid up from whom anything can be squeezed. The parties, however, upon whom the tax falls have adopted the practical measure of compounding with the collectors by certain processes of cooking tax returns, known only in Mexico, which would make the reputation of any ambitious spirit in the United States, and secure him a patent from the office at Washington. It should be said, to the credit of his Excellency the French Minister, that he took no active part part in this affair of his colleagues, but sent the Secretary of Legation to approve of the resolution which might be come to by the diplomats in meeting. Content to protect his newly made father-in-law against the effects of the minister's decree, his Excellency Mr. Dano probably felt some remorse about interfering against the Mexican imperialists with a lady from whose ranks he was then enjoying the innocent pleasures of the honeymoon upon a dowry of $1,800,000, Mexican coin. The French Minister has, of all the high French functionaries, done the most honorable business by his marriage with a rich heiress on the rising slope of forty years.

Some pitiless wag of a liberal has concocted and sent off to Europe the following protest, purporting to be printed at Guanajuato from a copy of the original. The corps of diplomats, individually and in a body, have repudiated the document as apocryphal, but the more loudly they assert their innocence the louder is the laugh against the perplexed nullities:—

[Protest.]

MEXICO, Feb. 4, 1867.

SIRE—We, the undersigned representatives of the nations friendly to Mexico, have the honor of addressing ourselves to your Majesty in the discharge of the sacred duty which rests upon us of watching over the lives and interests of our compatriots and the foreigners resident in this country.

Your Majesty will find the form of this note rather novel, but when you know the object every cause of admiration will cease.

In the moments when the painful crisis appears to be about to resolve itself, which the premature termination of the French intervention created in this unfortunate nation, it is indispensable to say it, we have to complain from the government of your Majesty in favor of the subjects whom we must respectively protect. Our hopes could be founded only upon the strictest morality for respect towards lives and property in the dark days, the first threats of which already begin to appear, and unfortunately the reports most trustworthy, furnished by impartial and honorable foreigners, for many years established in Mexico, corroborated by acts of public notoriety and authentic documents, convince us unhappily that your Majesty is surrounded by men upon whom heavy responsibilities weigh for proceedings of the most flagrant and shameful character.

The licentiate D. Teodosio Lares presides over the ministry of your Majesty, who presided over that likewise of General Santa Anna, which succumbed towards the close of 1855. There were then ministers with Mr. Lares the licentiates Manuel Diaz de Bonilla, Ignacio Aguilar y Marocho and Joaquin Velazquez de Leon. The administration subsequent to that of General Santa Anna proceeded judicially against the aforesaid Ministers for usurpation and abuse of power, figuring among other charges, that Messrs. Lares and Aguilar had abstracted from the public Treasury $30,000 on account of salary, which could in the three following years be due to them; that Mr. Bonilla had disposed of, to his own benefit, the sums paid by foreigners for "letters of security" and passports, and had made away with certain jewels used in the department under his charge, and that Mr. Velazquez y Leon removed to his private residence the funds dedicated to public works, and even a piano, property of an individual who was seeking a patent as inventor. The proceedings are yet open, the accusation subsists, and nothing has been said in vindication of the parties accused.

The command of the arms of the empire is confided to Generals Marquez and Miramon. Your Majesty cannot have forgotten, because the memorials yet exist in Europe and the victims yet suffer the consequences of the attempt committed by these two chiefs in the end of 1860 to the violation of the seals of the British Legation and the breaking open of the boxes to abstract $660,000 remitted by the liberal government, then resident at Vera Cruz, for the payment of the dividends of the English debt, which heavy amount disappeared on the instant, and none others than General Marquez and Miramon, actively seconded by General O'Horan, who also figures in your Majesty's government, are responsible for the cold blooded murders committed in Tacubaya, during April, 1859, of inoffensive youths, of humane physicians and pacific inhabitants dragged from their hearths in the neighboring towns. The painful review, which the gravity of the occasion and our duty compel us to present for the consideration of your Majesty, furnish motives sufficient for the distrust of the countenance and protection which we have a right to expect from your government, and likewise explain why we dispense with in this note the usage established in international relations.

It does not belong to our position to discuss whether it be proper and humane to prolong a vain resistance, that endangers interests worthy of consideration—it pertains to us solely to demand of your Majesty, as we formally and solemnly demand in the name of the law of nations, effective security for the subjects of our several governments, which can consist only in the removal of the functionaries aforesaid, and should this process be impossible, to protest, as we do now protest, against every act of violence and extortion, as the imposition of one per cent upon capital is claimed to be, effected to upon the property and person of our subjects. You will be pleased to accept our respects.

Alfonse Dano, Minister Plenipotentiary of France; Adolf Magnus, Charge de Affaires of Prussia; Marquis de Rivera, Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain; Frederick Hoeweler, Charge of Belgium; C. R. F. Middleton, Charge of Great Britain; Francisco Curtopassi, Charge of Italy.

The Charge d' Austria of course could not protest against the Ministers of his master's brother.

Reported Occupation of the Capital by the Liberals—Ortega Not Shot, &c.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 12, 1867.

The Mexican Consul has information, derived from the secretary of the Governor of Mazatlan, that the city of Mexico was occupied by the liberals on the 17th of February, and that Juarez with his Cabinet and suite was at Querétaro, three days' journey from the capital, on the same date.

The report that General Ortega had been shot by order of President Juarez is untrue.

Joaquin Miramon, a brother of the imperial general, had been taken near Zacatecas, and shot as a traitor. In the last engagement Miramon had one hundred and fifty Frenchmen, who were captured by Escobedo. They had left the service of France to join the imperial cause. They were ordered to be shot at the hacienda of San Jacinto.

Morelia had been evacuated by the imperialists and occupied by the liberals under General Regules. The fall of Morelia left no garrisoned place to the imperialists in all Mexico.

EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN EDUCATION.

Lecture By John Francis Maguire, M. P.

A large audience assembled last evening in the hall of the Cooper Institute to hear a lecture by John Francis Maguire, M. P., on "European and American Education." The object of the lecture was to raise funds to further the purposes of the Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children in this city, the institution being burdened with the support of nearly six hundred inmates.

At eight o'clock the lecturer made his appearance on the platform and was greeted with enthusiastic applause. He was introduced by Mr. L. Silliman Ives, president of the society, who remarked that he had always esteemed it a pleasure to contribute in any way to the cause of education, but particularly when it was in behalf of these peculiar objects. The lecturer, he remarked, was specially adapted to enlighten a New York audience on this subject from the fact of his experience in the cause of education in Ireland, his record as a member of the British Parliament and his claims as a Catholic and a scholar. His work, "Rome and its Rulers" had been commended by the Holy Father himself, and his life of Father Mathew, the great apostle of temperance in Ireland and this country, was adverted to by the chairman, who also alluded to the presence of the most Reverend Archbishop at the meeting, who assisted the lecturer in his travels, and to other high representatives of the church.

THE LECTURE.

The lecturer stepped forward at the close of the introductory remarks and, after the enthusiastic applause which greeted him had subsided, spoke substantially as follows:—

I am rather taken aback at the solemnity of my introduction to you. It is very true that I have been arrested by the command of the Archbishop, but I am not inclined to sue out a writ of *habeas corpus*, but shall simply pray for a good delivery on this occasion. (Laughter and applause.) Now, my time and yours is too valuable to trifle with. It is not my intention to speak to you on the general question of education. In fact it would be a very idle and bootless mission on my part if I came to New York for the purpose of telling the people of New York, which is the brain of America, that education was necessary, was useful and beneficial. I am not going to indulge in a spoken essay on the benefits of education. You understand those quite sufficiently. The many noble institutions which are a glory to this country, and which are the pride of all denominations that go to form this great nation, which is perhaps now one of the greatest and vastest in the world, and which has the mightiest and grandest future before it—these speak with a sufficiently eloquent tongue of the appreciation by the American people of the value and the advantages of education. (Applause.) Therefore I shall rather endeavor to point out to you what is the principle upon which education is based in Europe, and slightly refer to to the system as I understand it in this country, and I shall then address myself for a short time to the object which more immediately concerns us here and which is the impelling motive of your charitable presence on this occasion. (Applause.) Now, I myself have been a member of the House of Commons for fifteen years, and during that time the subject of education has forced itself on my mind far more than it ever did at any previous period of my life. I have heard the question debated by the most eloquent men, and I have seen the manner in which different men have endeavored to deal with that difficult question. But I believe most solemnly now, from a thorough conviction arising from observation and experience, that there is only one system that is consonant with justice, and that eventually must be acceptable to all classes in the community who really respect freedom of thought and who also desire to respect the consciences of others. (Applause.) I have myself, in the House of Commons, witnessed the most absurd, and, I would almost venture to say, ridiculous contradictions exhibited within the course of one night. For instance, I have heard the Minister of Instruction, as I will call him, for he represents that department in England, advocate the denominational system, and the very same night the Irish Secretary assured them that a mixed system was alone the salvation of Ireland. Now, I am of opinion that the denominational system is the right system. (Applause.) It is the one, in my opinion, most consistent with the principles of liberty. I believe it should be eventually the system that experience and a sense of justice will force upon this country. And those who are the advocates of that system here only to look to Europe, in order to feel the ground strong under their feet and to derive from experience the practice of Europe, the best justification for their advocacy of a system of education which can offend no man and give justice to all men. Now, this country is, so called, a Protestant country, though I beg leave to have some little difference of opinion on that point; for I have heard—of course I might be badly informed—that there are some few Catholics in this great republic. (Laughter and applause.) But those who are the majority are very much inclined to Europe for guidance or lessons derived from the experience of European countries. Then America is very much inclined to take a lesson either from England or from Prussia, two orthodox Protestant countries. These will just answer my purpose for the present moment. Now, in the year 1850 there was a certain constitution—the constitution of the kingdom of Prussia—which was promulgated in that year, and in that constitution, among other things was laid down what was called "the rights of Prussian citizens in reference to education." It was distinctly understood that the educational system of that country ought to be, should be, and must be denominational. In fact there was a provision (article 21) providing that the youth must be educated by public schools—that if the father did not educate his child the State should educate him. In fact, the people of America never held a more exalted opinion of the value of education than the people of Protestant Prussia did. An adequate provision was to be made for the education of all classes by public schools. But by article 24, in the management of these public schools "the confessional relations were to be kept in view as much as possible." By these "confessional relations" were meant the religious denominations of the parties. Now let us see how this was carried out. There were three classes of schools in Prussia. I am now speaking rather of Prussia up to the year 1859. The population of Prussia was under 18,000,000 at that time. There were about 7,000,000 Catholics and 10,000,000 or 11,000,000 Protestants. Well, there were three descriptions of schools—the elementary schools, the gymnasium and the normal schools. The elementary, of course you can easily understand what these mean, were for giving the elements or rudiments of education to the younger portion of the population. The gymnasiums or gymnasia were of a higher class. They afforded a more advanced character of instruction, and the normal schools were for the training of teachers. All those schools were strictly denominational. Now let us say something, for instance, of the normal school. There were at that time, and there are now, Catholic normal schools for the training of Catholic teachers, and Protestant normal schools for the training of Protestant teachers. In the Catholic school all the teachers were Catholic, and the president of that school was the parish priest. He was appointed by the King through the Minister, but unless approved by the bishop of the diocese no appointment was made; for no recommendation would have been ventured upon. (Applause.) Now, the religious books were proscribed by the bishop. All the class books in which anything might appear dangerous to faith or morals were examined by the bishop, and he had the veto upon their selection. And the pupils, although successful in competition, would not receive their patents or diplomas unless with the concurrent approbation of the minister representing the crown and the bishop of the diocese. (Applause.) Now, as for the elementary schools, there is no mixed school in Prussia, save in an instance of this kind, where the locality is thinly populated or there is not a sufficient number of people or of children to form separate schools. Every school has a local inspector and a school committee. The local inspector is invariably the parish priest. There are districts of schools, and forty or fifty schools in a district. These districts are identical with the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the dean, and the Catholic dean is the head inspector of the circle of Catholic schools. Now, as for gymnasia, it is only necessary for me to say that they are still more strictly Catholic than the others. In 1859 there were eighty or ninety Protestant gymnasia and forty Catholic. At that time there were something like seventeen normal schools for the training of Catholic teachers, masters and mistresses, with an attendance of between fifteen and seventeen hundred. There is a defect in the Prussian system, no doubt, that is that there are not separate universities; at any rate there were not at that time. But if there be defects in the system, or if the system be not fully carried out, Catholics may well hope in the wisdom and beneficence of that country for giving them full and ample justice, such as are acceptable to the liberty and consciences of Catholics as well as Protestants. (Applause.) Now, let me first ask you if you have heard of any evil arising from the prevalence, or rather the universal application, of the denominational system in Prussia—that fair, honest system—that each Church have opportunity to guard its own young; that there shall be no meddling, no interfering, no constant squabbling in the prostituted name of enlightenment, of right, or charity, or of God. None. Take the last test. We never heard that Catholics, taught in their own creed, were bad subjects, bad citizens, disloyal or unfaithful to their flag. Why, you all know the wonderful campaign which changed the whole surface of Europe and raised Prussia to the very culminating point of European power; far now, possibly with the exception of France, she is the first military power in Europe, as I venture to say America is the greatest military power on the face of the earth. We did not hear of any treachery on the part of Catholics in those terrible conflicts where they were arrayed against a Catholic monarchy and Catholic soldiers. No; they fought shoulder to shoulder, and did quite as much to turn the tide of battle in favor of Prussia as the needle gun. Let us now go to another Protestant country. If there be any country in the world that boasts it is a Protestant country, it is England, though I have heard there are a few Catholics there also, and I believe some of you must have heard so also. Did you ever hear of Oxford converts? You may perhaps have heard of some gradual tendency among them Romewards, and of some great and holy men going out of that old cloister and adoring God in the same manner as great and holy men did centuries ago. But what is the system in England? Purely denominational. Why, in London, under the very shadow of the towers of Westminster, I know a Catholic school, with crucifixes on the walls, and the children are not afraid to wear a medal or scapula, and are not punished if they make the sign of the cross when the clock strikes. There are numerous other Catholic schools in all parts of England which are subsidized by the State, and I have never heard a word against them, unless from one of those miserable bigots, who are rather objects of ridicule than subjects for controversy. But, curiously enough, we have the mixed system in Ireland. You know the idea the mixed never can be regenerated, unless the lion Ireland lamb lie down together, though I think the lion is very dangerous company for the lamb. There is an idea that we must be pampered and nursed and treated in some extraordinary way in order to prevent our cutting each other's throats. It is singular, however, that the only part of Ireland which has been disgraced by the deadly conflict of her own sons is that part in which the mixed system obtains. That part of the country is not, at any rate, a very peaceable or loving part of the country, and we find that there are men in other parts of Ireland, that love each other quite as well, if not better, than in Ulster. The evil of the mixed system was not so apparent, however, in Ireland as that which might arise under yet more unfavorable circumstances. The reason is that the mass of the population is Catholic. Mr. Maguire then gave statistics to show the large preponderance of the Catholic over the Protestant population of Ireland. He continued:—Now, leaving these counties for a moment, let me come to Austria, which is by enlightened Englishmen and enlightened Protestant Irishmen, and perhaps enlightened no-church Americans, regarded as a priest-ridden country, where there is no liberty for the Protestant. Austria is a Catholic country, with a small minority of Protestants. Does it interfere with the education of Protestants? Does it offend the consciences of the minority? Does it despotically say to them "Such a system of education you shall