



Carlos Bosch García

Documentos de la relación de México con los Estados Unidos (1 de diciembre de 1843-22 de diciembre de 1848) Jc'i a Yb' IV. De las reclamaciones, la guerra y la paz

México

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México,
Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas

1985

992 p.

(Serie Documental, 16)

ISBN 968-837-237-4

Formato: PDF

Publicado en línea: 6 de mayo de 2016

Disponible en:

<http://www.historicas.unam.mx/publicaciones/publicadigital/libros/docsmexeu/04reclama/guerrapaz.html>

DR © 2016, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México-Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas. Se autoriza la reproducción sin fines lucrativos, siempre y cuando no se mutile o altere; se debe citar la fuente completa y su dirección electrónica. De otra forma, requiere permiso previo por escrito de la institución. Dirección: Circuito Mario de la Cueva s/n, Ciudad Universitaria, Coyoacán, 04510, México, Ciudad de México

ments to the twelfth article. In that event you are authorized to conclude a new treaty with the Mexican Government adopting either the first or the second mode of payment of the 12 000 000 prescribed by the twelfth article as it stood originally, *provided that Government shall have first ratified the original treaty with all the amendments adopted by the Senate.* In case you should conclude such a treaty, it ought immediately to be ratified by Mexico and a ratified copy be brought to Washington at the same time with the ratified copy of the treaty which you shall have received in exchange from the Mexican Government for the copy ratified by the President.

It is not doubted by the President that the Senate would immediately advise and consent to the ratification of the new treaty which may be concluded by you. By this expedient, in case it should become necessary to resort to it, a delay of six weeks or two months in the final conclusion of peace may be avoided.

A full power to you or either of you to conclude such a treaty is herewith furnished.

According to my instructions of the 18th instant, Mr. Sevier, after the exchange of the ratifications is directed to return to the U. S. with the copy of the treaty ratified by the Mexican Government. In that event, Mr. Clifford will not accompany him, but will remain in Mexico until he shall receive further instructions.

J. Buchanan

Mexico. Instructions. November 10, 1845-April 6, 1854. Department of State. Vol. 16, doc. núm. 2. p. 98-99. NAW.

351

2 de abril de 1848. Veracruz. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Anuncia que saldrá para México con escolta, que ya estaba preparada, al día siguiente y que trajo consigo el archivo de la embajada que estaba en Nueva Orleans desde cuando Black lo depositó allí.

I am happy to be able to state that the opinions of the most intelligent persons whom I have met here would au-

thorize the belief that there is every disposition in the Mexican Government to ratify the treaty without delay. From Colonel Wilson the military governor in town, I learn that General Santa Anna is now at a village in the neighborhood under an escort of our troops and is expected to embark immediately for the island of Jamaica.

Nathan Clifford

Mexico. J. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 2. NAW.

352

12 de abril de 1848. México. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

The prevailing opinion here is that the treaty will be ratified soon after the meeting of Congress. A quorum has not yet been assembled but will now it is believed, be speedily collected. The amendments to that treaty, as published in *New York Herald*, were translated a few days since into the principal journal of the city, and appears not to have excited the least opposition.

Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 3. NAW.

353

17 de abril de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a L. de la Rosa.

The undersigned, commissioners of the United States of America have the honor to apprise His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic, of their arrival in this city, and of their readiness to enter upon the duties of their mission so soon as they shall have been duly accredited by the Mexican Government. To prevent unnecessary delay it is deemed proper to communicate the information that they are fully authorized to exchange the ratification on the part of their Government of the treaty between the United States of America and the Mexican Republic concluded and signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo on

the second of February last by the plenipotentiaries of the respective Governments in the form in which it has been amended by the Senate of the United States for the like ratification on the part of the Mexican Government of the said treaty. They also transmit herewith a sealed communication from the Secretary of State of the United States addressed to His Excellency the Minister . . . explanatory of the said amendments. It is presumed that this communication embraces all the information which may be desired by the Mexican Government in regard to the amendments to the treaty of peace. If however further explanations are wished, the undersigned will be prepared to give them promptly to the minister of Foreign relations or other authorized agents of the Mexican Republic at such convenient place as the Mexican Government may designate, wishing to avoid all mere questions of form and to enter at once upon the subject of their mission, the Undersigned enclose herewith official copies of their respective letters of credence, the originals of which will be delivered in such mode as may be agreeable to the President of the Mexican Republic. Should it become advisable in the opinion of the Mexican Government for the Undersigned to visit the city of Queretaro, they cannot doubt that it will be deemed both expedient and proper that they should travel there and remain under a protection of a suitable escort of American troops. The undersigned avail themselves of the opportunity to tender to His Excellency the expression of their distinguished consideration.

A. H. Sevier, N. Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 29, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo 1, al doc. núm. 5. NAW.

354

18 de abril de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier a J. Buchanan.

Le explica cómo llegó a la ciudad de México el día sábado 15 de abril y, como Clifford supo de su arribo a los pocos días, no se hizo nada en la misión que les trajo al país.

On yesterday we addressed our first note to the minister of Foreign Relations of this Republic, to which we anticipate

an answer in a few days. A copy of the note, with the answer when we shall receive it will be sent to you...

Todas las comunicaciones que harían serían firmadas por ambos a partir de ese momento, pues consideran que estaban comisionados juntos y en el mismo lugar.

A. H. Sevier

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 4, NAW.

355

19 de abril de 1848. Querétaro. L. de la Rosa a A. H. Sevier y a N. Clifford.

El infraescrito, ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de la República Mexicana, ha tenido el honor de recibir la nota, que con la fecha 17 del presente mes le dirigen sus excelencias los señores Ambrosio H. Sevier y Nathan Clifford, co misionados de los Estados Unidos de América, en la que le comunican su llegada a la ciudad de México, y la disposición que los anima de llegar con prontitud a los deberes de su misión, luego que estén debidamente acreditados ante el gobierno de la república.

El infrascrito se ha impuesto por la nota referida de que los señores Sevier y Clifford están plenamente autorizados para canjear por parte de su gobierno la ratificación del tratado de paz concluido entre la República Mexicana y los Estados Unidos de América fir ado en Guadalupe Hidalgo el 2 de febrero último por los plenipotenciarios de los gobiernos respectivos, en la forma en que ha sido modificado por el senado de los Estados Unidos.

El infraescrito ha recibido igual ente una nota de su excelencia el señor secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos y se ha i puesto de las explicaciones que en ella se dan sobre las modificaciones hechas al tratado por el Senado de aquella república. El infraescrito queda entendido de que los señores Sevier y Clifford están dispuestos a dar más explicaciones sobre esta materia, si se creyesen necesarias.

El infraescrito ha recibido también con la nota de los señores Clifford y Sevier las copias que sus excelencias se sirven acompañar de sus respectivas credenciales. El excelentí-

UNAM - IHH

simo señor presidente tendrá mucha satisfacción en que los señores Sevier y Clifford pasen a esta ciudad y presenten personalmente a su excelencia las credenciales referidas. Para la seguridad de sus personas en el viaje a esta ciudad se situará en Arroyo Sarco una escolta competente de tropas mexicanas que releven allá la escolta americana.

El infraescrito se complace en asegurar a los señores Clifford y Sevier, que durante su permanencia en esta ciudad, la seguridad de sus personas será inviolable bajo el pabellón mexicano como lo sería si estuviesen custodiados por una fuerza numerosa del ejército norteamericano.

El infraescrito aprovecha la oportunidad...

Luis de la Rosa

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo 2 al doc. núm. 5. NAW.

356

30 de abril de 1848. Washington. John Crampton a J. Buchanan.

Sir:

I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to call the attention of the Government of the United States to that part of the 5th article of the Treaty of Peace between the United States and Mexico, signed on the 2nd February, by which the boundary line between the two republics is defined as commencing in "the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande".

As the tenor of this article appears to Her Majesty's Government to involve an assumption of jurisdiction on the part of the United States and Mexico, over the sea, beyond the usual limit of one marine league (or three geographical miles), as is acknowledged by international law and practise as the extent of territorial jurisdiction over the sea that washes the coast of States, I have been directed to state to the United States government that, in order to prevent future misunderstanding, Her Majesty's Government think it right to declare that they cannot acquiesce in the

extent of maritime jurisdiction assumed by the United States and by Mexico in the article in question.

I am further instructed to remark that this step is the more necessary on the part of Her Majesty's Government because the Gulf of Mexico is a great thoroughfare of maritime commerce, and is not like a Bay or Creek which can, by nature, be susceptible of being subjected to exclusive dominion.

Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Mexico has been instructed to inform the Mexican Government.

I avail myself of the opportunity...

John F. Crampton

Great Britain. Notes, John F. Crampton, January 3, 1848-December 1848. Department of State, Vol. 25. NAW.

357

7 de mayo de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Sir:

You will receive herewith copies of the several notes addressed by us to the Minister of Foreign Relations, and of his answers to the two first, which comprise all the correspondence between us to this date. We regret that it is not in our power to communicate more definite information as to the result of our mission. The delay has been occasioned by causes which were not fully understood in the United States at the date of our departure and over which we have been able to exercise but little influence. When we arrived here, the deputies had not been chosen in this city, and the election was not completed until the 23rd ultimo. The same remark is applicable to Puebla and one or two of the other departments. The first step taken by Mr. Clifford was to institute an informal inquiry of the Government at Queretaro, through general Mora y Villamil, as to the most acceptable mode of announcing the arrival of the commission and of their wishes in regard to the place of consultation, if any were desired. A verbal answer to this

was received on the morning after the arrival of Mr. Sevier. Having collected the best information as to the wishes of the Government, we addressed our first note to señor Rosa which led to the residue of the correspondence. The preliminaries of our contemplated visit to Queretaro are happily arranged as you will perceive; and we only await the appointment by the President of the day of departure. Anxious as we are to expedite the business entrusted to our charge, we have deemed it unwise to go to Queretaro in anticipation of the wishes of the President, who appears to be sincerely in favor of peace and, being on the ground, can judge best of the fit momento for our arrival at the place. It is understood that all the members of this city are favorable to the ratification of the treaty. Of the four senators selected from this district, the two are on the way to the seat of Government, and the other two, of whom the Archbishop is one, leave today.

Since our arrival here we think we discover a growing feeling favorable to the restoration of peace. Thus far, our presence in this city has been productive of much more good than it would have been in our power to accomplish at Queretaro in the absence of a quorum of Congress. Now that the members from this section have nearly all left, we shall report to that place as soon as we can do so in conformity with the views of the Government. It is highly probable, however according to information received from general Mora today, that our presence there will not be desired until after the ratification of the treaty.

If Congress acts at all, which we are confident it will, we have little doubt of the result. Both branches are now organized and the members are entering upon business with commendable industry. We are assured that as soon as the president is elected, the treaty will be considered. It is supposed that Herrera will be chosen, as he has a plurality of the votes of the people. The amendments made by our Senate do not appear to attract much attention, and it is not supposed that they will constitute any serious obstacle to the consummation of the treaty. While we anticipate that the treaty will be ratified, yet considering the uncertainty, we deem it proper to prepare for the reverse. In such event, we are of opinion that our presence here could not be productive of any good and would request to have

leave to return — remarking at the same time that we are ready to obey instructions.

A. H. Sevier, Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 5. NAW.

358

9 de mayo de 1848. Mazatlán. Wharfs. Thomas A. P. Jones a los comisionados N. Clifford y A. H. Sevier.

I have the honor to inform you of my arrival at this port on the sixth instant when I found a confidential communication from the Honorable Secretary of the Navy directing me to await here your instructions.

As on all similar occasions, various are the rumors and many the doubts expressed by the best informed inhabitants, native and foreign, residing in Mazatlan, as to the fate of the treaty of Peace recently ratified by the Senate of the United States; although I can scarcely entertain a doubt of the ratification being finally consummated, though perhaps at the eleventh hour of the armistice, I nevertheless conceive it to be an imperious duty to despatch a special messenger with the enclosed official documents. Any comment from me upon the singular omission of our commissioner to make provisions for oblivion of violated allegiance or other state offences, committed by the inhabitants of the Californias under all the circumstances of the case, can only be accounted for by the supposed fact of a want of knowledge of the true state of things in those provinces.

I do not of course know the full extent of your powers, but as it is possible that the Mexican Congress may reject the Treaty now before them, and thereby force us into negotiations, I ascertain a hope that, in that event, or by some other means, you may have the power of redeeming our common country from the false position in which the treaty as it now stands places her, as regards that portion of the Californias, compromising all the intelligent and wealthy, who took sides with the United States, by remaining altogether neutral, or by fighting in the ranks with our own soldiers.

It may not be amiss for me to assure the honorable Commissioners that whether viewed in a commercial or military aspect, Lower California possesses intrinsic value to the United States, if not superior certainly nothing inferior to the Upper California and perhaps Oregon combined. Its numerous and very capacious harbors on the Ocean as well as the Gulf side, its mild climate, with its projecting point, terminating with Cape Saint Lucas in Latitude 22°44' North long and 109°54' West of Greenwich, gives its possessor a full command of all trade and commerce on the West coast of Mexico, South of Acapulco and if we must purchase a peace, Lower California would be a bargain even at ten or fifteen millions of dollars.

I respectfully solicit your advise or instructions as to the propriety of employing the ships of the United States in transporting *disaffected citizens* of Lower to Upper California, *after the ratification of the Treaty as it passed our Senate.*

I have . . .

Thomas A. P. Jones, Flag Ship "Ohio"

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo al doc. núm. 11. NAW.

359

14 de mayo de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Le comunican que el mensaje del presidente en el congreso fue favorable a la paz y que había causado muy buena impresión; la lectura del tratado de paz hecha por el ministro de relaciones también tuvo lugar hasta el punto de que piensan que ayudó a que los opositores de la paz cambiaran su actitud.

The committee to whom the treaty was referred are to make their reports tomorrow; and there is no doubt that it will be in perfect unison with the views of the executive. Definite action will, it is understood, be immediately taken upon it by Congress, so that a conclusion of the business may be hoped for in the course of ten days. We have re-

ceived, unofficially, through General Mora y Villamil, information that our presence at Queretaro will not be desired until it becomes requisite for the exchange of ratifications.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 6. NAW.

360

14 de mayo de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Saben de buena tinta que el gobierno espera que el tratado pasará con seguridad por el Senado el día 17 del presente y por el Congreso, a más tardar, el día 25 del mismo mes.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 7. NAW.

361

19 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. L. de la Rosa a N. Clifford y A. H. Sevier.

Los invita para que vayan cuando gusten a Querétaro con el fin de presentar sus credenciales al Presidente, haciéndolo con el rango de ministros plenipotenciarios de los Estados Unidos, mismo que tienen concedido por su gobierno.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo al doc. núm. 9. NAW.

362

21 de mayo de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Le comunican que el tratado ya pasó por la cámara de

diputados el día 19 del corriente y que el voto fue a última hora de la noche, siendo aprobado por 54 contra 36 votos. No había ninguna sospecha de que el Senado no lo aprobara.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 8. NAW.

363

25 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. N. Clifford y A. H. Sevier a J. Buchanan.

Le comunican que esa misma tarde habían llegado a la ciudad y que el tratado con las enmiendas del senado, de los Estados Unidos, había sido aceptado en el senado mexicano por 33 votos contra 5, después de haber pasado por la cámara de diputados y sólo quedaba el intercambio de las ratificaciones.

Les habían tenido todas las consideraciones y deferencias, y De la Rosa expresaba el placer que había tenido al conocer y los emisarios de paz de los Estados Unidos.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 10. NAW.

364

26 de mayo de 1848. A las doce del día. Querétaro. Discurso al presentar las credenciales A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford ante el gobierno mexicano.

Dijeron que presentaban sus credenciales como comisionados de los Estados Unidos para intercambiar las ratificaciones del tratado firmado en Guadalupe Hidalgo con las enmiendas hechas por el Senado de los Estados Unidos. Habiendo sido ya aprobado por el congreso mexicano sólo quedaba que las ratificaciones se intercambiara para restablecer la paz entre las dos naciones.

Se alegraban de haber sido los instrumentos para que este paso se llevara a cabo y el presidente de México podía

estar seguro de que los Estados Unidos tenían los mejores deseos para que se llevara a cabo en prosperidad de México pues también ésta era de su interés.

Esperaban que las instituciones libres de las dos repúblicas llevaran su grandeza hasta la cima donde las piedras claves serían la educación y la inteligencia que se desarrolla en los pueblos, como característica de las naciones civilizadas en esos días.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo al doc. núm. 11. NAW.

365

26 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. Contestación del presidente de México al presentar las credenciales los comisionados norteamericanos.

Les dijo cómo recibía, con la mayor satisfacción las credenciales que le entregaban, que autorizaban el intercambio de las ratificaciones del tratado de Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Agradecía los sentimientos de gratitud que le habían demostrado existían hacia la República Mexicana y aseguraba que México correspondía a esos sentimientos y esperaba que el tratado fuera la base inmutable para la armonía y el buen entendimiento entre las dos naciones.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo al doc. núm. 11. NAW.

366

30 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. N. Clifford y A. H. Sevier a J. Buchanan.

Le hacen el relato de cómo, el día 26 a las doce de la mañana, fueron recibidos por el presidente para que le presentaran las credenciales, con asistencia de funcionarios del gobierno y militares.

Several conferences afterwards took place between Mrs. De la Rosa, Cuevas and Couto and ourselves, which it is

not thought necessary to recapitulate as we enclose a copy of the protocol, which contains the substance of the conversation. We have now the satisfaction to announce that the exchange of ratifications was effected today. Some delay occurred among the confirmers in the preparation of the Mexican copy of the treaty. That was finally accomplished within the last hour, when the exchange of ratification was duly made by Mr. De la Rosa in behalf of the Mexican government and ourselves on the part of the United States.

Having accomplished our duties here we shall return immediately to the city of Mexico for the purpose of paying over the three millions according to the stipulations of the treaty. It is expected that the Mexican Government will appoint a commissioner, to repair to the city in company with us, to receive the payment. No circumstances are foreseen by us to render it necessary to use the papers furnished by the Treasury department in regard to the remaining twelve millions.

In one of the conferences, Mr. Rosa urged with much force the dangers of disorder in the city of Mexico in case our army would retire, before the Mexican authorities had taken the necessary precautions. He also expressed some fear that their authorities might be interfered with by our army, should they find it necessary to arrest and try certain individuals who, it is said, are plotting the overthrow of the government; and to quiet these apprehensions, as far as possible, are addressed in a communication to general Butler, of which the enclosed is a copy...

A. H. Sevier, N. Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 11. NAW.

367

30 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford sin destinatario.

Sir:

We have the honor to inform you that peace is definitively settled between the United States and the Re-

public of Mexico. The ratifications of the treaty signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo on the second of February last as amended by our Senate were exchanged this afternoon in this city.

We have [etc.]...

A. H. Sevier y Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. sin núm. NAW.

368

30 de mayo de 1848. Querétaro. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford al comandante A. P. Jones.

Se dan por enterados de su comunicación y avisan de que el tratado de paz entre México y los Estados Unidos se había concluido y ratificado en esa ciudad y precisamente en el día en que le turnan una copia del mismo para su conocimiento, informe y consejo.

We are not less sensible than yourself of the danger that injustice may be perpetrated by the Mexican authorities upon such of the inhabitants of the Lower California as have taken sides with our arms during the war; but we have no power to give you any instructions upon the subject and we hesitate to advise an experienced naval commander upon a point over which we have no jurisdiction. That there is a strong moral obligation resting upon the United States to protect those who have sided them in that distant service all, we think, must agree. So strongly are we impressed with the correctness of the views presented by you, in your letter and papers accompanying it, that we have transmitted them to the city of Washington for the consideration of the Government. It is not in our power to anticipate what reply, if any will be given to them. In the meantime you will be compelled to form your own conclusions as your duty upon the subject from your own instructions and the terms of the treaty.

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, anexo al doc. núm. 11. NAW.

4 de junio de 1848. México. A. H. Sevier y N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Sir:

We arrived here yesterday after a journey of four days. Before leaving Queretaro we addressed a note to the Minister of Foreign Relations upon the subject of the payment of and the receipts for three millions, a copy of which we send you. This morning we received an answer to our last note, a copy of which, together with a copy of our reply this day is sent to Queretaro, we also enclose you.

The Government of Mexico expressed a great desire to have the San Patricio prisoners released and we promised to see general Butler on the subject. The general had determined to release them before we saw him. This act, we think, will have a good effect with the Mexican authorities.

The Government of Mexico intimated also a strong wish that our army should remain for a short time in this city but we informed the Government that upon the subject we had no powers to act. That it was a matter solely for general Butler to decide. We made known the wishes of the Government to general Butler; but having made his arrangements for the withdrawal of the army he did not feel authorized to change them. The army are now retiring from this place daily, and, by Thursday next, it is expected that general Worth's command, which will be the last to leave, will be on their way to Veracruz.

Mr. Sevier is now detained solely for the purpose of getting the necessary receipts for the three millions and we hope that they may be obtained before general Worth's command shall retire. As soon as they are procured he will depart with the treaty and the receipts.

A. H. Sevier y Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 12. NAW.

12 de junio de 1848. México. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

At six o'clock this morning the flag of the United States was taken down from the national palace in this city, and that of the Mexican Republic was hoisted. The customary honors were paid to both, and the ceremony passed off in perfect quiet, although the great square was thronged. The last division of the army then evacuated the place, General Butler and Mr. Sevier accompanied it. The latter will proceed with all despatch to Washington with the treaty and exchange of ratifications. The receipt for the three millions he does not take with him as the Government here insisted upon counting the money, an operation which will consume much more time than it was advisable for him to wait. All arrangements, however have been made in regard to the payment, and when the receipt is given to me it shall be immediately and safely forwarded. Apprehensions were entertained that the departure of our forces would be the signal of tumult, but the energetic measures adopted by the authorities have kept everything tranquil, and there is no probability of order being disturbed. If the Government perseveres in a course of activity and firmness, we may hope for its success in putting the affairs of the country upon a footing of permanence. The most patriotic spirit has been manifested by all the better classes of society in forming a National Guard for the preservation of public peace, and the resident foreigners also, by invitation of the Government have associated themselves for the same purpose.

The president and his cabinet are now at Mixcoac, a small village about two leagues distant, where they arrived on the 9th. They will enter the city tomorrow not being able to do so today on account of the repairs made in the palace.

Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 13. NAW.

27 de junio de 1848. México. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Scarcely had the treaty of peace been ratified when the noted guerrilla chief Padre Jarauta, raised the standard of revolt in Aguascalientes, with the cry of "war and death to the Americans". It was well understood that he was but the instrument of general Paredes, who had been for some time wandering about the northern provinces; and in a few days that incendiary threw off the mask, published a manifesto denouncing the treaty and the government, and marched upon Guanajuato, where there was a large accumulation of money and arms, with a band of four hundred men he succeeded in taking the town, and drove out the governor and legislature who refused to countenance his "pronunciamiento". By the defection of part of the troops sent against him, his force was increased some eight hundred followers, and he has taken up a position and fortified himself in the neighborhood of Guanajuato. The United States have all declared against him, and in some of the national guard have risen and joined the regular troops under general Bustamante, who is to attack him, according to the last accounts, today. If the regulars continue faithful, there can be little doubt of a favorable result, but unfortunately there is not much dependance to be placed upon them.

One of the first acts of the present administration was the patriotic one of striking a blow at the army which has ever been the curse of the land, but which is still potent for mischief and has been generally exasperated by the curtailment of its privileges. It is hoped, however, that the presence of the national guard and the universal execration of Paredes, may keep it in control. A day or two more will solve the problem; and should the Government be successful, they may be able to sustain themselves and afford a chance to this unhappy people to begin a new era of tranquility and improvement. If they fall, chaos is literally come again, and it will hardly be possible for the United States to avoid being once more embroiled in the affairs of Mexico, with what consequences to our country, it would be futile to predict. Under these circumstances, the Government is anxious to obtain such aid from our Union as may enable them to ward off the impending danger and prevent the disaster which may ensue. The details of the arrangement contem-

plated, will be stated to you by Mr. Arangoes, and I doubt not that every assistance which the president may deem himself authorized to grant, will be promptly and cheerfully given. The present crisis is the turning point in the fate of this country and, for good or for evil, its results will be permanently operative.

Without any definite knowledge either of the precise character or of the extent of the powers entrusted to señor Arangoes, I understand generally from the Minister of Foreign Relations that he is authorized and instructed to negotiate an arrangement with the United States for a military force of four thousand men, to be placed under the direction of this Government, to aid in suppressing insurrection and rebellion as well as to protect the white inhabitants from the horrors of the Indian massacre to which, in several places they are exposed. The proposition is an important one and well deserving, as it seems to me, the favorable consideration of yourself and the president. Torn by factions and demoralized by a long series of revolutions and experiencing several of the consequences of the war with the United States now happily terminated, Mexico must have assistance for a time to enable her to reanimate the patriotism of her people and in the meanwhile to preserve public order, and even her very nationality, from the evil machinations of the reckless and treasonable ambition of some of her military chieftains. The present government which is worthy of the confidence of the United States, needs assistance, and must have it, I fear, to meet with success all the difficulties and embarrassments with which it is surrounded, and to fulfil the just expectations of those who have placed them in power. If that assistance cannot be obtained in the United States, to which general Herrera is first inclined to look as to a sister republic, I think it highly probable that it may be sought where ever it may be found. It will be borne in mind that the present administration is republican in the strictest sense, and the first Constitutional Government that Mexico has enjoyed for many years. General Paredes who is plotting its overthrow, is monarchist in principles and an enemy, I believe, to all free institutions. Should he succeed, destitute as he is of administrative qualifications and attainments, it is not supposed that any administration he may form will be able to stand for any considerable time. The consequence will be that revolution will succeed revolution rendering life and property insecure, and prostrating the best interests of commerce and

every thing like social order, until the impulse of humanity shall compel foreign nations to come to the relief of the country...

Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 14. NAW.

372

28 de junio de 1848. México. Mariano Otero al ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de los Estados Unidos.

El infraescrito, ministro de Relaciones de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, tiene el honor de manifestar a su excelencia el ministro de Relaciones del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América, que el excelentísimo señor presidente de la República Mexicana, lleno de confianza en el patriotismo y distinguidas cualidades que adornan al señor don Francisco Arrangoiz, ha tenido a bien encargarle: pase secretamente a Washington con carácter de comisionado del Gobierno de México para que trate con el de los Estados Unidos de América de un negocio de la mayor gravedad y reserva y altamente interesante para las dos naciones.

El Gobierno de la República Mexicana aguarda en consecuencia que el señor don Francisco Arrangoiz sea recibido y considerado con ese carácter, y en vista de la disposición que su excelencia el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América mostrare sobre el asunto de que se trata y lo que acerca de él se adelante, el mismo señor Arrangoiz recibirá los plenos poderes e instrucciones que se necesitare para su arreglo.

El infraescrito...

Mariano Otero

Mexico. Notes. February 4, 1837-June 28, 1848. Department of State. Vol. 3, doc. sin núm. NAW.

373

2 de julio de 1848. México. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the arrangements made by major general Butler under the advice to colonel Sevier and myself for the payment of the first installment of three millions due to the Mexican Government by the treaty of peace, was amicably completed by me on the 30th of June last. The receipt is executed in triplicate, one of which I have enclosed together with a translation of the same. Of the two remaining, one I have deposited in the archives of the legation, and the other I shall bear with me to Washington when I return to the United States. The manner in which three millions have been produced will be seen by the following statements:

Memorandum

Amount received and paid by Major General Butler on drafts transmitted to him from Washington from L. Davidson. 900 000.

Amount paid by Major Steward by order of Major general Butler being cash on hand belonging to the army 769 650.

Amount allowed since the departure of Major General Butler for arms sold by him to the Mexican Government 87 655 90.

Contribution levied on the federal district by Major General Scott and assumed by the Mexican Government 49 712 28.

Twelve drafts negotiated by N. Clifford to L. S. Hargous amounting to 1 151 874 16.

Premium allowed by said Hargous 41 107 66.

3 000 000 00.

The drafts negotiated to L. S. Hargous are numbered from one to twelve inclusive. Eleven are for the sum of one hundred thousand dollars and the twelfth for the sum of fifty one thousand eight hundred and seventy four dollars sixteen cents. The endorsements respectively bear date June 30, 1848, and are in the words following to wit "pay, the within, to L. S. Hargous on order on account of value received by the United States in payment of the first instal-

ments of the treaty of peace to Mexico, and signed Nathan Clifford Commissioner". I also enclose the original receipt of L. S. Hargous for the draft preserving in the archives of the legation a true copy...

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 15. NAW.

374

6 de julio de 1848. México. N. Clifford a J. Buchanan.

Enclosed I send you copies of three notes received from the minister of Foreign Relations in reference to the delay that has taken place at certain ports, on the part of the American authorities in delivering the maritime custom houses, and a copy of my answer to the second note together with copies of two letters addressed by me to general P. F. Smith upon the same subject. The first was marked confidential at the request of Mr. Otero, as it relates in part to other matters. Considerable dissatisfaction has been occasioned by the delay and, I must say that I regret the occurrence for several reasons and trust that it will not be continued a moment beyond the period where it ceased to be unavoidable. No doubt is entertained of the disposition of general Smith to do every thing in his power to remove all grounds of complaint, and it is not unlikely that the object will have been accomplished before this reaches Washington.

In consequence of the irritation that has grown out of this delay, I am induced to regard it as somewhat probable that additional duties in some form will be levied upon goods imported since the exchange of ratifications, and I now ask, in anticipation of such an event, the views of the president upon the point. One or two questions of considerable importance have already arisen respecting the practical operation of the 19th article of the treaty upon merchandize imported under the American tariff. Being in the way of adjustment in perfect accordance with my views of the treaty and in manner I believe to be entirely satisfactory to the parties interested, I deem it unnecessary at this time to enter more fully into the subject.

Nathan Clifford

Mexico. N. Clifford. March 26, 1848-February 2, 1850. Department of State. Vol. 13, doc. núm. 17. NAW.

7 de agosto de 1848. Washington. J. Buchanan a N. Clifford.

Le comunican que le habían nombrado enviado extraordinario y ministro plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos en México y que le incluían las cartas de credencial. Le pedían que informara cuando hubiera presentado el original de esa credencia al presidente de México y dejaban a su discreción la fecha de salida hacia su puesto. Esperaba que presentaría al Sr. Walsh como encargado de negocios de su embajada en México.

The President knows that you will absent yourself from your post no longer than may be consistent with your duty to make "suitable provision of the permanent comfort and happiness of your family". There has been as you are aware, no period in the history of our relations with Mexico when it was more important than at the present moment to have your country ably represented at the capital of that Republic. The irritation of feeling arising out of the late and to the Mexican disastrous war, ought to be soothed; the machinations of foreign governments injurious to the United States ought to be counteracted, and the Mexican Government ought to be persuaded to abandon their absurd and unreasonable tariff. These are important objects of your mission, requiring your personal attention. If you can succeed in accomplishing them, you will acquire and deserve the gratitude of your country.

In the present distracted state of Mexico, the Department will expect to learn regularly the progress of your legation and you will enjoin the performance of this duty on Mr. Walsh during your absence.

Your despatch number 14 of the 27th June, was not received from señor Arrangoiz until the 3rd instant.

Arrangoiz presentó sus credenciales e informó del propósito que tendría en su misión.

He said it was the desire of the Mexican Government that the United States should furnish to Mexico three or four thousand troops, to be employed, in the first place, against the Indians of Yucatan, and if need be, against the Indians of other portions of Mexico. In case of necessity, they would, also, be employed to sustain the present Government against the revolutionists.

He proposed that they should receive from Mexico the same pay and rations as troops of the United States, and

in all other respects should be placed on the same footing, and is willing that the next installment of three millions under the treaty due on the 30th May 1849 should be applied to this purpose.

His verbal propositions have been submitted to the President in Cabinet Council, and after full consideration they were decided to be impracticable. Such an arrangement, in order to bind Mexico, must assume the form of a treaty and be submitted to the Senate: and it is very certain that two thirds of that body would not at present advise and consent to its ratification. But even if their concurrence were probable, there is no time before the close of the session (Monday the 14th instant) to have the question discussed and decided by that body.

The president himself, as you are aware, does not possess the power to employ the army beyond the limits of the United States in aid of a foreign country, without the sanction of the treaty making, or war making power: and it is morally certain that neither the one nor the other could be obtained under existing circumstances.

Besides, to employ the army in this manner would be contrary to our established policy not to interfere in domestic concerns of foreign nations, and this ought not to be violated unless under extraordinary circumstances.

Even if all other difficulties could be overcome, congress would have to raise additional troops for the purpose. The present army of the United States, since the discharge of the ten regiments and the volunteers, is barely sufficient for the necessary services at home.

I have this morning had a conversation with señor Arrangoiz and communicated to him these views of the President on the subject of his mission. He appeared to be satisfied that it was impossible to accomplish the object during the present session of Congress; but he expressed a hope that something might be done at the next session in case the situation of Mexico should then require our aid.

The President and the people of the United States sincerely desire to maintain the most amicable relations with Mexico. They cordially wish that the present Government may be able to sustain itself against its enemies, and they deprecate the success of Paredes. This would again commence the unfortunate career of revolution, which Mexico has so long pursued with such disastrous consequences and I fear would end in dismemberment and total anarchy. The Pacific and eminently patriotic character of President He-

rrera affords a sure pledge for the prosperity of Mexico, should he be able to retain his power, and all our feelings are enlisted in his favor. It is therefore with painful reluctance that the President feels himself constrained to decline his request, at least for the present. You are instructed to explain in the most friendly manner the reasons of this refusal, and make them as acceptable as possible. It is hoped from the news received this morning of the defeat of Paredes and the capture and execution of Jaranta [*sic*] that Mexico may not require foreign aid.

I am...

James Buchanan

Mexico. Instructions. November 10, 1845-April 6, 1854. Department of State, Vol. 16, doc. núm. 2, p. 100-104. NAW.

376

18 de agosto de 1848. Washington. J. Buchanan a N. Clifford.

The bill for the appointment of a commissioner and surveyor to run and mark the boundary line under the fifth article of the treaty with Mexico, after having passed the Senate, was lost in the House for want of time and amidst the pressure of business which always attends the close of a session. Congress will, beyond question, pass this bill very early in December next; and it is the desire of the President to carry into execution this article of the Treaty with the least possible delay. In the meantime, you are instructed to make this explanation to the Mexican Minister for the Foreign Affairs, and it would be advisable for the Mexican Government at once to appoint their commissioner and surveyor. A knowledge of the fact would hasten the action of Congress. You might also, ascertain at what season of the year it would be most proper to commence the survey and when commissioner and surveyor on the part of Mexico can be at San Diego. The civil and diplomatic act approved on the 12th. instant, contains the following provision: "For the expenses of running and marking the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, and paying the salaries

of the officers of the commission, a sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars".

This appropriation was doubtless made with a view to carry into effect the act which failed in the House; but it is far from being certain that the President may not, under the treaty, nominate a commissioner and surveyor to the Senate on their meeting in December. Should this course be deemed proper, these officers may be appointed during the first week of the session, and the appropriation may be applied to cover their expenses.

The British Government have objected to that clause of the late treaty by which it is declared that "the boundary line between the two republics shall commence in the gulf of Mexico, three leagues (instead of one) from land opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande". To this I shall answer civilly, that the stipulation can only affect the rights of Mexico and the United States, and for this reason third parties can have no just cause of complaint.

I am...

J. Buchanan

P. D.

Le comenta que la ley que posibilitaba nombrar una comisión para ajustar reclamaciones de los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos en México, tampoco pasó por la cámara de representantes, por las mismas razones que la de la frontera.

Mexico. Instructions. November 10, 1845-April 6, 1854. Department of State. Vol. 16, doc. núm. 5, p. 110-112. NAW.

377

10 de octubre de 1848. Washington. J. Buchanan a N. Clifford.

I enclose you a copy of a circular addressed by this Department on the 30th August, last, to the district attorneys of the United States, in relation to the alleged project said to be entertained by certain American citizens of revolutionizing the Northern States of Mexico and establishing the so called

UNAM - IHH

republic of the Sierra Madre. From the answers to this circular and from other sources of information, I think I may venture to assure you that the design, it if ever existed has exploded. The vigorous and successful efforts which we have made to defeat this expedition, are the strongest evidence of our desire to execute the late treaty in good faith. As these efforts cannot fail to [be] justly appreciated by the Mexican Government, it is proper that you should communicate the facts to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mexico, Instructions. November 10, 1845-April 6, 1854. Department of State. Vol. 16, doc núm. 7, p. 113-116. NAW.

378

19 de noviembre de 1848. Washington. J. Buchanan a L. de la Rosa.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of this date addressed to him by señor don Luis de la Rosa, accompanied by a copy of his latter of credence as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic to the United States and of a letter to the undersigned from señor don Mariano Otero, Minister for Foreign Affairs of that Republic. In answer to Mr. de la Rosa's request to be informed of the day when he may deliver the original of Mr. Otero's communication, the Undersigned has the honor to state that he will receive him for that purpose at twelve, O'clock tomorrow Wednesday the 20th instant.

The undersigned will take an early occasion to submit to the President the copy of Mr. de la Rosa's letter of credence, and will inform him of the day and hour when the President will receive him for the purpose of presenting the original.

The undersigned embraced this opportunity to offer to Mr. de la Rosa the assurance of his very high consideration.

James Buchanan

Mexican Legation. Notes to. July 1, 1834-October 26, 1854. Department of State. Vol. 6, p. 193. NAW .

22 de diciembre de 1848. Washington. J. Buchanan a N. Clifford.

The President has nominated to the Senator Ambrose H. Sevier of Arkansas as commissioner and Andrew B. Fray of Texas as surveyor under the 5th article of our treaty with Mexico, to run and mark the boundary line between the two Republics. As soon as these nominations shall be confirmed, by the Senate, suitable officers of our topographical Corps of Engineers will be designed to accompany the commissioner and surveyor and to take charge of the scientific department of the work. No time will be lost in making the necessary preparations for the meeting of the commissioners at San Diego on or before the 30th May next.

The fifth article provides that "the two Government will amicably agree regarding what may be necessary to these persons (the commissioners and surveyor), and also as to what respective escorts should be necessary".

The Mexican Government will doubtless send scientific engineers with their commissioner and Surveyor, and it is proper you should inform the Mexican Minister for foreign affairs that such is the intention of the President, and have an amicable understanding with the Mexican authorities on this subject. An escort will also undoubtedly be necessary for the security of both parties against attacks of hostile Indians, and you might agree with them that each party may send an escort not exceeding one hundred men. It is believed that this number will be required. The President desires that this affairs may be arranged by you with the Mexican Government in the most frank and friendly manner.

En un despacho número 9, de 23 de diciembre de 1848, dicen que han decidido enviar 250 hombres en la escolta a la frontera y que debe comunicarlo al gobierno mexicano.

Mexico Instructions. November 10, 1845-April 6, 1854. Department of State. Vol. 16, doc. núm. 8, p. 116-118. NAW.