



AND
ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES.

CHILLI.

Our relations with the sister Republic are in general so cordial and interesting, that we regret to see any misunderstanding, that may debilitate or endanger them. And our regret is the more intense in the present instance, from an intimate conviction, that the error of the Chilean Government does not originate in bad faith, or crooked policy, but from an involuntary misapprehension of its position, prerogatives, obligations and means of action, as an independent and sovereign State; an illusion that cannot possibly survive the lucid demonstration embodied in the recent official correspondence of the Argentine Government.

The point at issue hinges on the interpretation, or rather the practical application of the *ius de liti*; and a succinct narration of the particular case under discussion; may be advantageous to a clearer comprehension of the general question.

D. F. Sarmiento, an Argentine by birth, after a career of dubious notoriety in his native land, sought asylum as a political refugee, in the territory of Chili. Hopelessly lost as his cause must long have appeared to every reflecting and impartial observer, he endeavored it with the energy of desperation; and with a sort of egotistical hallucination, modestly regards and announces himself, as the *Tell* or Wallace of the Confederation.

Unlike his great prototypes, however, in one very essential respect, Sarmiento has carefully kept aloof from all scenes of personal conflict; and contented himself with distilling the subtle poison, in which Lavalle, Rivera, Paz, La Madrid and others were allowed and directed to dip their venomous weapons. The covered record in Sarmiento's case appears to be, not "the night that slumbers in a possessor's arm," but the night that slumbers in an author's pen.

To do him justice, Sarmiento has been indubitably in his anarchical vocation. In his private correspondence, by incidental pamphlets, and through the periodical press of Chili, he has labored for years to vilify and oppress every thing Argentine; not merely General Rosas, and his political rivals—but the country that gave him birth.

The audacious intrigues, the overt acts of conspiracy, the mis ignominious misrepresentations, and the scurrilous abuse of Sarmiento, naturally called forth the reclamations of the Argentine Government. The Chilean authorities, admitting and deploring the reality and aggravation of the facts against Sarmiento, and consequently the perfect justice and reasonableness of the Argentine requisitions, still decline to act, on the unprecedented plea, that the laws and constitution of Chili, authorize such outrage, and deprive the Executive of all means of preventing or redressing them!

To acquiesce in such a decision, would be to seal the ignominy of the South American Republic; and offer a direct bounty on slander, discord and anarchy.

Ranking as Chili deservedly does, in the category of free, independent, sovereign and civilized States, she enjoys all the privileges, and is subject to all the obligations, of international law. Whether or not specifically recognized, her general principles are embraced in her Constitution, and form a consistent and necessary part of her private legislation. Without this she would not be entitled to the immunities and prerogatives of sovereign and civilized States.

In fact it is upon the prescriptions of said law that the Argentine reclamations are founded; and in Chili we look for, and may certainly find, the means of redressing and preventing the injurious conduct complained of. It is highly incumbent, therefore, to bring forward as speedy a protest.

And the laws of asylum, fairly interpreted and applied, would accomplish the same object. On dispensing to a political refugee, the benefits of an enlightened hospitality, it is on the extreme and indispensable condition, that he remain quiet and inoffensive, with his pen as much as with his sword. By violating these conditions, Sarmiento has forfeited all right and claim to shelter and protection; and, if dead to friendly admonition and remonstrance, may and ought to be expelled from the territory of his asylum. This the Argentine Government, as the party aggrieved, has a perfect right to demand; and with this the Chilean Government is under a perfect obligation to comply, as the party compromised by the turbulent and anarchical conduct of its guest.

Not a few respectable and authoritative precedents wanting. We have a recent one in the conduct of the Government of His Sardian Majesty. Count Apponyi, Austrian Ambassador at Paris, reclaimed against certain articles published in the *Opinion*, reflecting on the Austrian Generals, and demanded that Bianchi-Giovini, judge and Jury, should take an oath over the Sardian territories; otherwise, he requested his passports. In defence to said reclamations, intimating he made to Giuvini to quit the Sardian territories within eight days.

The case of Pelier, tried in England in 1838, for a libel on Napoleon Bonaparte, the 1st Consul of the French Republic, is still more in point. On charges infinitely less aggravated than those of Sarmiento, Pelier was found guilty by a British jury. Even though the National antipathies were the cause of French Republicanism, and the person of its Representative, he was considered for a time, the representative both of France and of the world, and the offender from the stern verdict of law; the very international law we invoke in the case of Chili.

To multiply examples on a point so trite and palpable, were a work of supererogation; as we may safely refer the Chilean Cabinet to any treaty in jurisprudence, who follows the adopted text of Sester Heil; or if they decline that authority, they fairly lay themselves open to the antithetic and caustic critique formerly applied to the former and the latter. They manage with displaced skill. The master will, the master is!

They make the best, and preach the worst.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

The onward fate of the Austrian brig *Antonio Alessandro*, has called into action two noble traits of character, Generosity and Gratitude; and we cheerfully lend our columns in giving publicity to an example, in which self-serving humanity is so deeply interested. It is no doubt, "more blessed to give than to receive;" but genuine gratitude in the recipient, cancels to a certain extent the debt of obligation, and restores him to a kind of equality with the benefactor. Our sympathy and respect for the *Antonio Alessandro* are both enhanced, by the just and noble sentiments to which Señor Premuda gives utterance.

The details of this lamentable occurrence are brief and interesting. The *Antonio Alessandro* of Venice, property of Señor Antonio Luigi Vianich of said city, and uninsured in the present case, sailed from Rio Janeiro on the 15th May, with a cargo of coal for Montevideo. Driven on shore by violent tempestuous weather, in the latitude of Cape San Antonio, she became a total wreck; and the crew, consisting of 15 or 16 persons, with difficulty, landed on the desert coast in their boats, with a scanty provision of some 20 lbs. of biscuit. After wandering through our trackless pampas for a long, long week, without food, without shelter, and almost abandoned by hope—they were destined to expiation, that "man's extremity is God's opportunity;"—and guided by his providential care, "without whose knowledge not even a sparrow falleth to the ground," our foreman

pilgrims fished some human dwellings on the coast of the Tyre; and we willingly resign the remainder of our tale, to the eloquent and gratitude-inspired pen of Señor Premuda.

To His excellency Don Juan Manuel de Rosas, Honored and distinguished Sir, Amidst the mournful misfortune which befell me, on the 11th of June of the present year at Cape San Antonio, by the total loss of the Austrian brig "*Antonio Alessandro*," confided to my charge, an ineradicable design was reserved for me.

After struggling with perseverance against the most painful vicissitudes of a dire calamity, I was not a little fortunate in saving the lives of all the crew, the latter, however, only with the clothes they had on.

Wandering for the space of six days through a desert Country, wearied and oppressed by the extreme misery which encompassed us, a proposition was preparing to mitigate our bitter afflictions. Y. E. has been from that moment the anchor of our hopes.

The noble influence of Y. E. and your protecting hand, were destined to alleviate the deplorable condition of a few shipwrecked mariners. There, in the most remote part of the country, Excellency Sir, we received a friendly reception, the generous gifts of your noble philanthropy; we were thro' with the most lively emotions of pleasure the echo of your laudable bounty; and there in short Sir, we have found a refuge, which was sweetened by the flattering attentions of your exalted magnificence, rendered still more striking by the liberal donations of provisions, clothing, lodgings and money—in a word we wanted nothing.

Three traits of unlimited generosity and proceedings far from common, dispensed by Y. E. to myself and my companions in shipwreck, have impressed on our minds a duty never to be forgotten, and a gratitude of lasting duration. During our stay in the country, let us be allowed to mention it, we were attended to in a most kind manner on our mind a duty never to be forgotten, and a gratitude of lasting duration. On the part of all the public authorities, both civil and military, of the districts where we were entertained, in return for such noble conduct we beg to express our deep and sincere feelings of affection and esteem towards them.

Our wishes fulfilled for beyond our expectations, it only remains for us to comply with a strict duty; as shipwrecked strangers in a foreign country, which has so much favoured us, and in whose affections we participate, we cannot overlook the duty of conveying to the knowledge of the Government of H. M. the Emperor of Austria a respectful avowal of the noble benevolence with which Y. E. has bestowed on us our eminent liberality.

Another and still more imperative duty to wards Y. E. yet remains. Delgn, therefore, to accept the genuine testimony and homage of the most deep felt immense gratitude which, in my own name as well as in that of the Captains, Officers and Crew I address to you, and be convinced that neither time nor distance can ever efface from our memories the noble recollection of your noble, eminent and humane benevolence.

In order that the present letter I may oblige all the public which it deserves I beg Y. E. will grant me leave to have it inserted in all the public journals of this capital.

With the greatest devotion and respect, I am, Your Excellency's most humble admirer and obedient servant, Vincenzo Luigi Premuda, Supercargo of the brig "*Antonio Alessandro*."

Buenos Ayres, November 5, 1850.

In conformity with the ritual of the Church, high masses are performed in this City on the 2nd November, All Souls day, on behalf of the deceased. The custom hitherto has been to usher in the solemnity, by a most continuous mournful reminiscence, as an almost continuous tolling of bells, commencing at noon of the preceding day. It is easy to imagine the painful impressions occasioned to some, and the positive distraction and annoyance caused to others, by a practice that can only plod the sanction of time in its favour.

In the case of His Excellency the Governor, the two causes combine. The memory of a "loved and loved parent," harrows up his sensibilities, and distracts his attention; requiring urgent and paramount obligations, requiring absolute concentration of mind, and that cannot be deferred, without serious prejudice to the public service.

Judging of others by himself, "similar in kind, though less in the degree," the idea of a practical reform was suggested; and some observations to that effect were made by H. E. in 1849, in presence of the Intendant Chief of Police; and if we bear in mind that the British Contention was signed in November, and was especially on the occasion referred to, receiving a full scrutinizing investigation, we have a very palpable cause for the annoyance experienced, and a cogent reason for the determinations announced.

Accordingly on the 20th October last, the Chief of Police reminded His Excellency of what had transpired on the former occasion; and was in consequence instructed to call on His Reverend Diocesan Bishop, in the name of His Excellency, and to request that the tolling of bells on the occasion in question,—which he confined to the winter period of time, was indispensably necessary for accommodations, the Sacred religious object, to which it was devoted.

In deference to this suggestion, and expressing his cordial concurrence therewith, Our Most Illustrious and Reverend Diocesan Bishop, Doctor Don Mariano Medrano y Cabrera, notified the 31st October, notified the Curates and Church-Wardens of the City—to take care that on the following day the bells should be tolled only for the space of two minutes, at five in the afternoon, at the hour of vespers, and nine at night, and the following day, only during the morning, and for the same space of time.—adding, moreover, that the custom of soliciting alms through the streets was to be discontinued, as well as the custom of going out on that day round churches to beg for alms.

We cordially congratulate the community on the prompt and unambitious execution of secondary importance in itself by the Church, but happily indicative of a frank and cordial understanding between the Temporal and Spiritual Authorities of the Country.—Our most esteemed, candid, and in private language, let those who can profit by the example.

A note from the Chief of Police, published in the *Gaceta* of the 16th inst, gives the details of an alarming occurrence, fortunately unaccompanied by any serious consequences, that had taken place during the representation at the Victoria Theatre on Sunday the 10th inst. A dense smoke from behind the scenes announced the presence of fire, and served as the signal of a simultaneous excitement in the audience.

The commission of offence immediately proceeded to the stage, and on inquiry found that the accident had arisen from a lighted candle that had come in contact with a towel and some loose paper in the room of one of the performers. A general panic might have been attended by the most disastrous results; and was principally prevented by the presence of mind displayed by Miss Maria Eleonora who remained tranquil in her box, inspiring the more mild with a portion of her own courage and self-possession, until the audience allowed by the non-existence of any danger, permitted the representation to proceed.

SURGE.—It is our painful duty this week to record another instance of this abhorred crime. The victim and culprit is one Agnes Masardi, an Italian itinerant, apparently from 35 to 40 years of age. It is said he had formerly been engaged in the slave-trade on the coast of Brazil; and having lost all by the capture of a vessel by the British cruizers, came to this city to follow up his original profession; and it appears that the antecedents of

