

directed to translate it and give it to the press of this country, it seemed to me that it could not pass without official notice. It was not only undiplomatic, but grossly insulting to our naval officers and to the executive department, as it directly imputed untruth and insincerity to the reports of the naval officers and to the official communications made by the executive department to Congress. It will be observed that I have notified the Chilean government that, unless this note is at once withdrawn and an apology as public as the offense is made I will terminate the diplomatic relations.

The request for the recall of Egan, upon the ground that he is not *persona grata*, was unaccompanied by any suggestion that could properly be used in support of it, and I infer that the request is based upon the official acts of Egan which received the approval of this government, but, however that may be, I could not consent to consider such a question until it had first been settled whether our correspondence with Chile could be conducted upon the basis of mutual respect.

THE DEMANDS SHOULD BE ENFORCED.

In submitting these papers to Congress for that grave and patriotic consideration which the questions involved demand, I desire to say that I am of the opinion that the demands made of Chile by this government should be adhered to and enforced. If the dignity as well as the prestige and influence of the United States are not to be wholly sacrificed, we must protect those who, in foreign ports, display the flag and wear the colors of this government against insult, brutality and death, inflicted in resentment of the acts of their government and not for any fault of their own. It has been my desire in every way to cultivate friendly and intimate relations with all of the governments of this hemisphere. We do not covet their territory. We desire their happiness and prosperity. We look for no advantage in our relations with them except increased exchanges of commerce upon a basis of mutual benefit. We regret every civil contest that disturbs their peace and paralyzes their development, and are always ready to give our good offices for the restoration of peace.

It must, however, be understood that this government, while exercising the utmost forbearance towards weaker powers, will extend its strong and adequate protection to its citizens, its officers and its humblest sailors, when made the victims of wantonness and cruelty, in resentment, not of their personal misconduct, but of the official acts of their government.

THE SHIELDS CASE.

Upon information received that Patrick Shields, an Irishman and probably a British subject, but at the time the fireman of the American steamer "Keweenaw" in the harbor of Valparaiso for repairs, had been subjected to personal injuries in that city, largely by the police, I directed the attorney-general to cause the evidence of the officers and crew of that vessel to be taken upon its arrival in San Francisco, and this testimony is also herewith transmitted. The brutality, and even savagery, of the treatment of these

poor men by the Chilean police would be incredible, if the evidence of Shields was not supported by other direct testimony, and by the distressing condition of the man himself when he was finally able to reach his vessel. The captain of the vessel says: "He came back a wreck, black from his neck to his hips from beating, weak and stupid and still in a kind of paralyzed condition, and never has been able to do duty since." A claim for reparation has been made on behalf of this man, for while he is not a citizen of the United States, the doctrine so long held by the United States as expressed in the consular regulations, is a principle which is maintained by the government in regard to the protection, as distinguished from the relief of seamen, and is well settled. It is held that the circumstance, that the vessel is American, is evidence that the seamen on board are such, and in every regularly documented merchant vessel the crew will find that their protection is the flag that covers them.

I have as yet received no reply to our note of the 21st inst., but in my opinion, I ought not longer to delay to bring these matters to the attention of Congress for such action as may be deemed appropriate.

(Signed)

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 25, 1892.

The Correspondence.

The following is the concluding portion of the correspondence on the Chilean difficulty:

On December 19, in transmitting to Secretary Blaine copies of the correspondence between himself and Minister Matta, Senator Montt in summing up Senator Matta's reply to Mr. Egan's first protest, made at the direction of Mr. Wharton, says: He promises to inform Mr. Egan of the result of the investigation when it shall have been concluded and states that out of regard for the harmony which it is his duty and his desire to maintain between the United States and Chile, he passes in silence over the

IMPROPER EXPRESSIONS USED BY MR. EGAN

in certain portions of his note." Further on in his note Mr. Montt, reviewing the testimony as to the assault, insists the police did nothing more than quiet the tumult, arrest those who were most drunken and most riotous, and disperse the crowd. The local authorities, he says, could not have done more than they did. He dwells at length upon the peculiarities of the Chilean law in explanation of the secrecy attending the investigation, and says the commander of the "Baltimore" had been informed that Mr. Egan could furnish a list of the names of witnesses of the assault. He says that the criminal judge states that neither the American consul, nor the commander of the "Baltimore," nor any person whatsoever, has imputed before his court to the authorities or the police participation or responsibility for the occurrences of the 16th of October. Neither has any specific or general charge been preferred against them because of their not having endeavored to prevent those occurrences or their deplorable and ultimate consequences.

On the contrary, the greater part of the sailors testify

THE POLICE RENDERED THEM TIMELY AID

and endeavored to protect them by removing them from the action of the populace and conveying them to their own barracks. He reiterates the statement that Senator Matta had vainly sought Mr. Egan to furnish him the names of witnesses. In concluding his note the minister says: "From the documents which I have the honor to transmit you, it clearly appears without prejudice to the result of the criminal proceeding which I hope will be speedily terminated, that the police of Valparaiso discharged their duty in the lamentable occurrence of the 16th of October without having wounded or maltreated any one, and that they gave assistance to the unfortunate sailor who was the victim of a bullet fired from the midst of one of the groups of men there assembled. It appears, moreover, the judicial authorities have been active and zealous in the discharge of its functions in order to proceed against the guilty parties, and that the judicial proceedings have been prolonged by reason of the considerable number of persons whose

TESTIMONY MUST NECESSARILY BE HEARD

and for causes which it did not lie within the Chilean authorities to avoid. From the accompanying documents it appears, moreover, there are no grounds whatever to warrant the assertion that the sailors of the "Baltimore" were attacked in various places in the city at the same time. On the contrary, it is seen the riot took place in one part of the city only, in that part which is well known by reason of the frequent disturbances of this character and that within an hour of the beginning of the tumult and within half an hour after the arrival of the police and of the other forces that were sent to quell it.

TRANQUILITY WAS RESTORED,

those who appeared most compromised in the disturbance having been taken before the judge.

The judicial proceedings which were instituted without delay will throw full light upon the affair and the undersigned doubts not the spirit of justice which animates the government of the United States and that of Chile will be duly satisfied by the judgment which the investigation is to terminate."

On December 31 Senator Montt lays before Mr. Blaine a telegram heretofore made public summarizing the rest of the preliminary trial before the judge of crimes, and asserting all the Americans, with the exception of two, declare the police did their duty and made no charge against them whatever.

January the 4, he transmitted to Secretary Blaine the following telegram he had received from Minister Perella, the new minister of foreign relations: "Inform the United States government that a summary of the attorney general's report relative to the occurrence of October 16, which Chile has lamented and does sincerely lament, will be sent on Monday, the 4th inst."

January 8, Mr. Montt in a note to Mr. Blaine transmits to him the result of the preliminary investigation at