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HARRISON SPEAKS.

The Message of the President Concerning Chile.

Review of the Incidents that Led to The Present Critical Condition of Affairs.

THE PRESIDENT GIVES HIS VIEWS OF THE SITUATION.

THE MATTER LAID BEFORE THE NATION.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

A Comprehensive Document Submitted to Congress and Referred.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In my annual message delivered to Congress at the beginning of the present session, after a brief statement of the incidents in the progress of the government touching the assault in the port of Valparaiso, Chile, upon the sailors of the United States while on shore leave, on the evening of the 16th of October last, I said:

"The government is now awaiting the result of the investigation which was being conducted by the criminal court at Valparaiso. It is reported informally that the investigation has been completed, and it is expected that the result will soon be communicated to the government, together with such other and adequate and satisfactory response to the note by which the attention of Chile was called to the matter, as the facts and the law shall be disclosed, or further delay intervene. I will, by special message, at the earliest date, cause the attention of Congress to be drawn to the subject, if it shall seem to me to be necessary."

In my opinion the time has now arrived when I should, in this manner, present to the country the correspondence between their government and that of the Republic of Chile, from the time of the awaking out of the revolutionary spirit in the navy of Chile, and of the other facts in connection with the case as they are disclosed in the official papers. The diplomatic correspondence between Chile, transmitted, together with such other papers as may be deemed material, from time to time as they come to hand, relating to the Chilean affairs, from the outbreak of the revolution until this time, discloses no action on the part of Chile inconsistent with its position, or that could justly be construed into a cause of serious and substantial complaint or criticism. He has, I believe, on the whole, borne himself in this trying situation, with dignity, firmness and courage, and with patriotic zeal and fairness.

It is worth while also at the beginning to say that the right of Egan to give shelter to the refugees to certain dwellings in the city of Valparaiso, and to apply to him for asylum, has not been denied by the Chilean authorities, nor has any demand been made to surrender those refugees. But there was an urgent need of asylum, as shown by Egan's note of August 20, 1891, describing the disorders that prevailed in Santiago, and by the evidence of Captain Schley as to the danger and violence that prevailed at Valparaiso. There is no question, I hope, however, that the request of Egan for safe-conduct from the country, to behalf of those refugees who sought asylum, was a necessary and acknowledged exercise of asylum. The refugees have very recently, without hostile conflicts, but by the acquiescence of the Chilean authorities, been put on board a British steamer, and are now being conveyed to Callao, Peru.

DISREPUTE MANIFESTED.

This incident might be considered very closely not for the disrespect manifested towards this government by the crude and offensive police service of Chile, if the legation premises had been invaded, and the refugees forcibly taken from the protection of the flag of the United States, and the asylum thereby violated. In the note by which the attention of Chile was called to this incident, I think it right to say, that I should be disappointed, or further action delay intervene, I will, by special message, at the earliest date, cause the attention of Congress to be drawn to the subject, if it shall seem to me to be necessary."

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