

19
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60
Granada, Nica. Jan 22. 1860.

Dear General

I address you these lines, at the request of many of your friends in the land, which has been the scene of your glorious and your misfortunes. The military despotism, established in Nicaragua, after your defeat, has at length become insupportable. It has opposed every plan of progress, suppressed the masses, proscribed every liberal name in the Republic, and in short, reduced the state to such a condition of poverty and wretchedness that the clamor for its overthrow is universal.

Your return has long been anxiously looked for by thousands, but the continued disaster which have befallen you have caused hope to die in many a bosom. Yet many there are, who still believe your return is feasible, and look to you for deliverance for their country. You have today more adherents in Nicaragua than in the most prosperous days of your career, and their past experience, particularly their guaranty of their loyalty to you if you should once more place yourself at the head of affairs. The whole party looks to you for assistance, and if it is not given, they will alone attempt, & that too shortly, to annihilate the servile power.

With the exception of two or three, also the leading men in the detachment of Leon, who are connected with politics, would rejoice at your presence, and you would

first inquiry, who before abandoned you, standing firmly
by your side, as the only means for the salvation of
their country, from the sway of anarchy and servileism.
If you were to land with but a small force, at the
bay of Tamarind, about ^{nearly} twenty miles south of Kalefo, you would
easily make a junction with your native allies. By
giving a proper notice of your intended arrival, ~~the~~
Baller (Chillat) would be ready to meet you with a
force of five hundred men. The port of Tamarind
is but five leagues from Pucallpa, with telegraph
connections by a good boat road. From thence, it would
be easy to act upon Managua, for all eyes would
be turned to your favor on the reception of the
news of your landing. One hundred men which you
would land at this point, would be all sufficient
for the successful exit of the enterprise in this
direction, whilst one hundred fifty acting with the ~~pro-~~
military of the department of Rivas, landed at ~~San~~
Inocent, would make Francisco and the other points in this
part of the State an easy conquest. For the lake above a ~~little~~
strategy would accomplish all. The two steamers, "La Virgen" and "La
Guadalupe", on the lake, can be taken any moment if you
could bring out a small party to take the river, as much
the better, but if not it could with facility be done
from this side. Your return to this country, by the San
Juan, for many reasons, is deemed difficult, whilst, by
the Pacific it is deemed perfectly feasible by your friends.
For all this, cooperation with your Peruvian
allies is needed. If you could state definitely, where
you could make your appearance at the points designated,

on the Pacific, ~~providing~~ could be made in the department
of Leon and Rivas, the steamers seized, and everything accomplished ~~with~~
the taking of Managua and the two forts on the river before
your arrival.

Two hundred fifty men which you might bring from
California, and the Saddle, via Panama, would be a
sufficient number to ensure the success of the enterprise.
If therefore, General, you care to lend a sober ear
to my words, send at once to this country, an agent,
who will arrange the details with your friends, and on his
return you can decide as to the course you will
take. The above ~~mentioned~~ ^{enunciated} are the ideas communicated
to me by your friends in Leon and which have the
 hearty cooperation of your partisans in the entire state. I
need not add that I endorse them. I am willing to
join my fate to yours, and if their plans, which I
conceive to be well matured, perish, to perish with them.
If I once faltered, I shall not again falter. As
I walk, day by day, over the graves of your brave com-
panions, who died for the glorious cause of which you
were the leader, I feel a burning desire to see the hour
when I may retrieve the good name I tarnished by
weakness.

I should have written to you frequently of late, had
it not been that letters of mine, directed to you and
Mr. Sola, in July last, were intercepted by the traitor Louis
Schleffinger, which caused me to be cautious as to
addressing you, more, as Schleffinger gave out that this
correspondence had been placed in his hands by persons
in your confidence, with a view to injure me. How-
ever, I have lately received a letter from Mr. Sola,
which has convinced me, that Schleffinger, true to his

instructs to take the letters from on board the steamer ~~which~~
I should be grateful for a line from you, ~~but~~
but would beg you to use the precaution of not
signing your own name to your letters and also
to adapt commercial phrases to the extent of
your ideas. In case I should have to write to
you by mail, not finding a secure private conveyance
I shall then address to "William W. Phelps" "N. Orleans".

I have forgotten to mention that there are
hundreds of fifty Americans in the country. They
will join you almost to a man. They have
had enough of Secedism.

The cause you have adventured in, and
maintained so nobly as a great one. Be "bold
& resolute" & future ages will honor you.

Though we are now unhappy I do not despair
but still hope, early or late, that through the dark
clouds of disappointment will yet break the sunshine
of success.

Faithfully Yours,

James Thomas

In writing direct to
Care of Wm. W. Phelps
Salem Mass del Norte
or of Wm. W. Phelps
Salem Mass

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