

paved with stone, upon which sometimes two and sometimes four stones of three or four hundred pounds weight each, are caused to revolve, somewhat in the manner of the upper mill stone. Into the irregularities and crevices of the pavement is put quicksilver, which readily amalgamates with gold whenever in contact with it, and into the tub is thrown the ore, after being broken into fragments the size of a hen's egg. I understand that the *arastras* in use at Libertad will pulverize about five tons of the ore daily. There are about half a dozen of these *arastras* at work in Chontales, are propelled by water power, and all situate on one or the other of the rivers above-named. One belonging to Padre Sosa, of Boaco is the best, and this is by no means a perfect machine.

It would be useless to name all the mines that have been "denounced" in the neighborhood of Libertad, as a description of one will answer very well for all.

They are quartz veins of from six inches

to four feet in thickness—very soft, being much decayed, and more friable than most of the quartz rock of California, North Carolina or Georgia.

This is quite apparent, not only from the appearance of the rock itself, but from the fact that a single *arastra* can pulverize five tons daily.

The veins of ore at Libertad are not wrought in the most convenient or economical manner. All are opened by shafting from the top of the vein, and all the ore has, consequently, to be raised to the surface at the highest point.

The custom is to break out as much ore with an iron bar as a man can carry in a leather bag, on his head, up a notched log set on end, to the surface, and then to pack it on a mule or an ox to the *arastra* for reduction to powder. By this slow process is done all the quartz mining in Chontales.

I took great pains to ascertain the amount of gold usually produced from a given quantity of rock,

and in answer to my inquiries on this point, was sometimes amused with most extravagant stories of the immense richness of this or that mine. I carefully noted all the information gathered from a series of diligent inquiries, and then it fully safe to set down the average amount of gold to the ton of ore, as at least two ounces. I desire it to be understood that I believe the rock, by proper working, will yield more than two ounces to the ton, and am fully convinced that the amount above-named is about the average obtained from all the mines that are under operation and obtained, too, by a manner of working which is unnecessarily wasteful.

Having found the quartz mines to fully sustain the report I had heard of them at Granada, I set about making inquiries for surface mining. A gentleman who had been a trader at Libertad, informed me that some years ago he purchased several ounces of coarse *placer* gold, which, the persons who brought it in said they had dug on the Bola river, some miles below the town. Another person had heard of placer diggings on the same river, above the town, but neither could inform me of the precise localities in which surface gold had been found. The river was too high to admit of a "prospect." I was satisfied from what I had seen of the quartz veins that there was surface gold in the neighborhood, and that the reports concerning *placers* on the Bola were not without foundation; yet it was impossible to produce any further proofs than these reports, and I set about examining the dry ravines. Having selected a spot where I deemed it advisable to "sink a hole," I began a search for proper tools to work with, but could not procure either a pick, a shovel, a spade or a washing pan in all the town of Libertad; and as an addition to these annoying circumstances, the inhabitants insisted that no gold would be found where I desired to dig. I, however, succeeded in procuring a pointed iron bar and a horn spoon that would contain about a pint of earth, and with these went to work in a spot where the bed rock could be more easily reached than elsewhere. Scraping up a spoonful of earth from the ledge, I washed it, and the result was about three cents' worth of fine gold, a "prospect" sufficiently rich to satisfy

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nences we had encountered, and almost regretted that we were not to continue our adventure.

The road from the Malacotoy to Granada is nearly level, and is a good bridle path. With a very trifling expense, it might be made a good wagon road. Such is indeed the case from Granada to Jigalpa.

My conclusions are, finally, that the District of Chontales, which I was especially directed to examine, is rich in mines of gold and silver; that the entire hilly region is a gold country, and that silver mines exist not only in the gold country proper, but in the region bordering Lake Nicaragua; that enterprise and capital are only wanted, not only to develop these resources alone, but to exhibit agricultural wealth which will astonish those who are not familiar with the luxuriant growth of vegetation that exists in some parts of this District, and which can only be borne by a most fertile soil.

Having as fully complied with your instructions as it was possible for me to do, I respectfully present this report of my proceedings.

GEO. H. CAMPBELL

To Hon. J. W. Fabens, Director of Colonization, Grenada, Dec. 28th, 1855.

We have been forced, from want of room, to leave over our weekly market report.

#### DECREE.

THE Supreme Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, to encourage the immigration of persons of thrift and industry to become settlers and inhabitants within its territorial limits, to the end that its resources may be more fully developed and its commerce increased, and to promote the general welfare of the State, has decreed:

Art. 1. A free donation or grant of 250 acres of public land shall be made to each single person who shall enter the State (during the continuance of this decree) and settle and make improvements upon the said tract, the same to be located by the Director of Colonization hereafter to be named, and immediate possession given.

Art. 2. Each family entering the State and settling upon its territory shall receive 100 acres of land in addition to the 250 granted to single settlers.

Art. 3. A right to occupy and improve shall be issued to applicants, and at the expiration of six months, upon satisfactory evidence being presented to the Director of Colonization of compliance with the provisions of this decree, title will be given.

Art. 4. No dues shall be levied on the personal effects, household furniture, agricultural implements seeds, plants, domestic animals, or other imports for the personal use of the Colonists or the development of the resources of the land donated, and colonists shall be exempt from all extraordinary taxes, and contributions, and from all public service except when the public safety shall otherwise demand.

Art. 5. The colonists being citizens of the Republic cannot alienate the land granted to any foreign government whatever, and shall not alienate the said land or their rights thereto until after an occupancy of at least six months.

Art. 6. A Colonization office shall be established and a Director of Colonization appointed, whose business it shall be to attend to the applications from emigrants, to collect and dispense seeds, plants, &c. and to keep the Registry Books of the Department.

Done in Granada, the 23d day of November 1855.

PATRICIO RIVAS,  
President of the Republic.

W. TELLER.

On the Northwest Corner of the Plaza, Granada.  
COMMISSION MERCHANT and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in FOREIGN GOODS, and Produce of the Country. Is constantly receiving fresh Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Flour and Provisions, etc. From New York.

d 29 tf

WIEDEMAN & BESCHOR

# Parte Española

GRANADA, DICIEMBRE 29, 1855

## DOCUMENTOS OFICIALES

Contestación del Gobierno del Salitrado  
la nota que con fecha 3 del p.d.o. se le dirigió, participándole la inauguración del Gobierno Provisional de esta República.

Señor Ministro

Cojutepeque, noviembre 22 de 1855.

Tengo el honor de acusar y recibo de su estimable carta oficial de US. fechada el 3 del corriente mes, en que al incluirme copia auténtica del tratado ajustado en 23 de octubre entre las fuerzas norteamericanas y letonesas, se dirige hacer saber a mi Gobierno que, en consecuencia las estipulaciones de aquel convenio instaló en esa ciudad el 30 del mismo octubre el Supremo Gobierno Provisional de la República de Nicaragua, habiendo poseído de su alto destino el Sr. Presidente don Patricio Rivas, de cuyo acontecimiento se espera la seguridad goce de los invaluables beneficios que por que ancianos esos pueblos.

Impuesto de todo el Sr. Presidente Salvador me ordena contestar á US.

conocimiento de ese Supremo Gobierno

que siendo tan notorios los esfuerzos por parte de este Estado, se han hecho antes de ahora y en repetidas veces para traer un acomodamiento á los pueblos que se hacían la guerra en esa República; no puede menos de serle grato al fin esos pueblos pústean ya entradas en reposo y proveer por si en el servicio de US. atento y servidor—D. U. L.

(Firmado) Manuel Colindres.

Conforme—República de Nicaragua. Ministerio de Relaciones exteriores—Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855.

ción á su ciudad, ofreciéndole los votos de mi aprecio—D. U. L.

SELVA.

## Contrato sobre el establecimiento de una casa moneda,

Fernando Ferrer Ministro de Hacienda del Supremo Gobierno de la República de Nicaragua y C. J. Macdonald subdito inglés residente en esta ciudad, han convenido en el tratado siguiente.

1.º Deseoso el Gobierno de Nicaragua de establecer una casa de moneda en esta ciudad de Granada, concede al Señor C. J. Macdonald el derecho y privilegio exclusivo de acuñar por vapor las monedas de esta República por el período de diez años.

2.º El Señor C. J. Macdonald se obliga á establecer en esta ciudad de Granada, la maquinaria de vapor, prensas, tipos y el laboratorio ó ramo de Química necesario para la disolución y análisis de los metales para acuñar las monedas de esta República; debiendo constar éstas del peso y ley que tiene la moneda de oro y plata de la República Mejicana, por ser de la mayor estimación en los mercados del mundo. En el alboroto deben aparecer cinco volcanes de forma conica, con un sol naciente á la mitad del lado izquierdo, bañando con sus rayos el emisario del círculo en esta forma [aquí el modelo]. En el reverso habrá una aguja en actitud de volar llevando entre sus garras un ramo de olivo.

Ruego al Sr. Ministro dé cuenta con lo espuesto al Sr. Presidente de ese Estado, comunicarle su resolución y admitir las respetuosas consideraciones con que soi de US. atento y servidor—D. U. L.

(Firmado) Manuel Colindres.

Conforme—República de Nicaragua. Ministerio de Relaciones exteriores—Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855.

SELVA.

N.º 93.  
REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA.

Granada, diciembre 18 de 1855.

Señor

EL S. P. E. se ha servido dictar el acuerdo siguiente.

"El Gobierno

Estando vacante el destino de la Tesorería general, y siendo necesario proveerlo en persona de instrucción y probidad, en uso de sus facultades

ACUERDA;

1.º Nómbrase Tesorero general de la República al Señor don Carlos Thomas, con el sueldo que la ley designa.

2.º El Señor Ministro de Hacienda

es encargado del cumplimiento del presente acuerdo, y comunicarlo á quienes corresponde—Granada, diciembre 18 de 1855—Rivas.

Y lo inserto á U. de orden supre-

me that the ravines of Liberia can be wrought to good advantage, as any one acquainted with placer mining will at once see from the result of my experiment.

The District of Chontales is not only a gold country, but is also rich in mines of silver. All the gold mines before referred to contain more or less silver; but in the immediate vicinity of Libertad is a mine belonging to the Padre Sosa, and which is now being wrought by an intelligent French miner, lately from San Salvador. Much of the ore contains sixty to seventy per cent. of silver, as well as considerable gold. There are no furnaces at the mine, nor other conveniences for reducing the ore, but it is of such excellent quality that the operator intends to send it to Europe for reduction, believing it will pay him well to do so, as it can there be done in a proper and economical manner, which is not the case at the mine. There are also mines of silver, tin, copper, and at points near the Lake, which are reputed to be very rich. As I had not an opportunity of visiting these mines, and know of them only by report, I do not deem it advisable to set forth the rumors that reached me, from time to time, of their great wealth. That they are, however, worthy the attention of the enterprising miner is beyond a question.

Having concluded my observations at Libertad, on the 21st of December, we procured animals and took up the line of march for Granada, stopping that night at Juigalpa. The next day we reached the hacienda San Lorenzo, and here remained over night. The distance from Juigalpa to San Lorenzo is said to be twenty-four miles, but it is probably not more than twenty, and the road is mainly over a level plain, covered with rich grass, upon which we saw many fine cattle grazing. From San Lorenzo we proceeded to the Malacotoy river, and remained over night at a point about five miles beyond El Paso. The ground from San Lorenzo to the Malacotoy is covered with a heavy growth of timber, much of it Brazil wood. Its proximity to the Lake must render it exceedingly valuable at no distant day. The valley of the Malacotoy is also heavily timbered, not only with Brazil wood, but great trees of mahogany, and other trees which would make excellent timber. There are a few clearings on the banks of the river, and in them I observed the finest plantain patches, cane and corn fields that I have met with anywhere in the State:—cane such as a Louisiana planter never dreamed of, and such corn as would be a marvel in Kentucky. The distance travelled this day was about twenty-five miles, over a road generally level and good.

We left the Malacotoy at 4, a. m., on the morning of the 24th, and arrived at El Paso a little after sunrise. About an hour's time was consumed in crossing in a bongo, and swimming over our animals, when we were again on the road, and in a short time heard the welcome roar of the surf on the shore of Lake Nicaragua. Our route lay down the shore, between the beach and the border of the little Lake Granada, until near the city, when it bore off to the right, and in a short time our day's work and our journey were ended. The distance traveled was about twenty miles.

The last day's travel was to me one of continued interest and novelty. Notwithstanding it rained when we left the Malacotoy, and we were wet to the skin, objects of interest presented themselves in such variety that we forgot our discomfort and rode on merrily through the plantain and corn fields, and among the great trees, from the branches of which bands of chattering monkeys would look down upon us with apparent wonder. In the branches of a tree with many trunks, of the banyan species, several of these animals had congregated, and seemed to be deliberating on some important matter, as we passed under them. Pelicans were searching the beach for their breakfasts, and from time to time, huge alligators would slide lazily into the water as they became alarmed at our approach. The whole was new and strange, and as our journey was about to end, we forgot the hardships and the inconven-

## GRANADA. WHOLESALE & RETAIL DEALER.

BROAD CLOTHS;  
CASSIMERES;  
CASINETS;  
VESTINGS;  
VELVETS;  
SATINS;  
SHIRTS;  
DRILLINGS;  
PRINTED CALICOES, of every kind;  
LINEN;  
BOOTS;  
SHOPS;

FANCY GOODS;  
SADDLES:

TOYS, IN GREAT VARIETY. WINES.

A general assortment of Soft Goods.

Wiedemann & Beschor are in constant receipt of voices from the United States and Europe, and are prepared to supply purchasers at a small advance of home prices.

Inland traders will please call and examine the stock.

An invoice of Boots, Shoes, and Ready Made Clothing expected immediately.

Catayagua, noviembre 28 de 1855.  
Señor

Convencido mi Gobierno de la necesidad de asegurar á los pueblos que rige la paz y tranquilidad, que para conseguir tan inestimable e y la base fundamental está sirvada en las buenas e inalterables relaciones de amistad con el Gobierno de esa República, no ha vacilado en dictar todas las leyes que á su juicio ha creido convenientes para su adquisición; y á este efecto nombrado Comisionado cerca del de la Hacienda Sr. Lic. don Manuel Colindres, que ajuste con él, un tratado de amistad y reciproco interés para ambos países.

No duda mi Gobierno que

se preste á dicho efecto, pues tiene pruebas nada equivocadas de los buenos sentimientos á este respecto; y que por consiguiente se sirva recibir al mencionado Sr. Colindres, en su carácter de Comisionado del Gobierno de Honduras, pues

el igual reciprocidad está obligado este.

Sírvase U.S. elevar lo expuesto al alto

conocimiento de S. E. el Sr. Director Supremo de esa República; y admitir nuevamente los votos de mi particular aprecio

y consideraciones—D. U. L.

(Firmado) José Meza.

Al Sr. Ministro de Relaciones exteriores del Supremo Gobierno de la República de Nicaragua.

Conforme—Ministerio de Relaciones exteriores del Gobierno Provisorio de la República de Nicaragua—Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855.

SELVA.

Yuscarán, diciembre 9 de 1855.

Señor Ministro de Relaciones exteriores de la República de Nicaragua.

Señor:

Por el oficio ministerial que con estra ordinario violento dirijo á V.S., se informará, que el Supremo Gobierno de este Estado me ha acreditado su ajente público cerca del de Nicaragua.

No dudo que el ilustrado Gobierno de V.S. comprenderá como el mio la imprescindible necesidad que hai de establecer las reglas invariables que dé hoy mas afianzen las fraternalas relaciones entre dos pueblos que tienen unos mismos intereses, y á quienes debe animar un

mismo pensamiento: mayormente cuando conseguida la paz despues de los últimos acontecimientos obrados, casi aun tiempo, en ese y este Estado, se siente con mas vivesa la conveniencia y el deber de conservarla en el porvenir. De otra manera Sr. Ministro, los ultimos restos de vitalidad con que aun cuestan estos paises para aspirar á ser prósperos y felices, se aniquilarán sin el honor siquiera de haber perecido en defensa de sus verdaderos in-

tereses.

D. U. L.

FERRER.

N.º 103.

REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA MINISTERIO DE GOBERNACIÓN.

Granada, diciembre 22 de 1855.

Señor Prefecto del departamento de El S. P. E. se ha servido emitir el acuerdo siguiente.

"El Gobierno.

En consecuencia de tener que ausentarse temporalmente el Sr. Ministro de Relaciones Doctor don Máximo Jerez; en uso de sus facultades

ACUERDA:

1.º El Sr. Ministro de la Guerra se encargará durante dicha ausencia, del despacho de Relaciones y Gobernación.

2.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponden—Granada, diciembre 22 de 1855—RIVAS"

Y lo inserto á U. para su inteligencia, publicación y circulación en el departamento de su mando.

JEREZ.

SEÑOR MINISTRO DE RELACIONES DEL GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA.

D. U. L.

Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855.

Prefectura del departamento

El domingo 23 del corriente, fué instalada la junta de instrucción pública de este departamento, en cuyo acto nombró por su Presidente al Sr. Lic. don Buenaventura Selva, por vice Presidente al Sr. Bachiller don Justo Lugo, por su Srio al Sr. don Francisco García y Calonge y por vise Secretario al Sr. don José Ansúategui; lo que aviso á U. para que se sirva elevarlo al alto conocimiento de S. E. el Sr. Presidente; acompañándole las firmas de los nombrados.

Trinidad Salazar.

Buenaventura Selva—Justo Lugo—Francisco García y Calonge—José Ansúategui.

CONTESTACION.

REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES Y GOBERNACIÓN.

Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855.

SEÑOR Prefecto de este departamento

He puesto en conocimiento del Sr. Presidente de la República la estimable comunicación de U. de esta fecha en que participa la instalación de la junta de instrucción pública de este departamento; que tuvo lugar el domingo 23 del actual; y aquel alto funcionario me ha dado orden de contestar á U. de enterado, manifestándole al propio tiempo lo satisfactorio que le ha sido la aparición de ese cuerpo destinado á objetos tan laudables y de notoria utilidad general.

Lo digo al Sr. Prefecto en contesta-

les en la casa de moneda, para lo cual podrá emitir los reglamentos y leyes que juzgue convenientes á fin de evitar todo perjuicio que pudiere ocurrir, y debe así mismo dar la custodia de tropa armada para la seguridad de la misma casa de moneda, toda vez que en ella se necesita.

6.º El Señor C. J. Macdonald se obliga á establecer la maquinaria de vapor en esta ciudad de Granada, en el término de los seis meses precisos de la fecha de este convenio; pasado este tiempo, no se entenderá concedido el privilegio si el empresario no huiese cumplido con lo estipulado.

Concluido y firmado en la ciudad de Granada, á los veintiocho días del mes de diciembre de mil ochocientos cincuenta y cinco—Fermín Ferrer—C. J. Macdonald.

NUMERO 110.

"El Presidente Provisorio de la República de Nicaragua, á sus habitantes,

Con presencia del contrato celebrado en esta fecha entre el Sr. Ministro de Hacienda don Fermín Ferrer y el Señor C. J. Macdonald subdito inglés, concediendo á este, derecho y privilegio exclusivo para establecer en esta ciudad una casa de moneda; en uso de sus facultades

DECRETA:

Artículo 1.º Apruébase el referido contrato en todas sus partes, y en consecuencia obsérvese y cumplase religiosamente.

Art. 2.º Comuníquese á quienes corresponde.

Dado en Granada, á veintiocho de diciembre de mil ochocientos cincuenta y cinco—Patricio Rivas—El Secretario de Estado—Buenaventura Selva.

Es Conforme—Granada, diciembre 26 de 1855—SELVA.

CASA DE MONEDA.

Mucho tiempo ha que se sentía la necesidad de este establecimiento en el país, y ahora tenemos la esperanza de que dentro de pocos meses estará planteado conforme al contrato que sobre el particular ha celebrado el Supremo Gobierno y se publica en el presente número. Conocidas son por todos las ventajas positivas que el pueblo reportará, siendo entre ellas la de aumentarse el numerario que tanto se necesita para el jiro de los negocios, y la de darse impulso á la explotación de minas que se encuentran en la República.

SARAO.

EL Lunes 1.º de Enero, los oficiales de las fuerzas Nicaraguenses tendrán un baile militar en casa de los Lacayos.