

never mentioned, or ever, he believed contemplated by any person associated with him. Col. Burr was mentioned, as were Gen. Wilkinson and Gen. Dayton, as fit to be placed at the head of the expedition.

The plan was, that such force should march, as to give the adventurers reasonable hopes, that they would beat the Viceroy of Mexico in the field. This force was estimated at twenty thousand men. To put this army into operation two millions of dollars would have been required in the first instance. This money they expected could have been raised by the adventurers, and then expenses. It was expected that mercantile men of property in every part of the United States, would contribute to enterprise, which would hold out to them a lucrative field for commerce. It was expected the heavy wealth and military stores would be transported by their associates, and would be landed at Leganes this side La Vera Cruz—that the march to Mexico might be performed in forty days from Natchez—If the Viceroy should be beaten, the whole country would submit, and with proper management might be separated from Spain.

The plan of government proposed would have depended on circumstances; but it was understood that the military chief would be placed at the head of the government, whatever might have been its form. This chief would have been assisted by such counsellors or advisers as should have been deemed necessary. It was to have been a government of Laws, in which the rights of all citizens were to be respected—the inhabitants were to enjoy, in the full freedom of their religion, laws and customs, no alterations were to be made as possible—the acquisition would have been abolished.

In its foreign relations it was to be placed in strict alliance with England, to ingratiate what Holland was ready to England, as respects its connection with the United States—alliances of commerce and defense, were to have been entered into with the United States; and the present country was always to have been regarded as the bulwark of the new Government.

The Judge rejected frequently, that such talkings were to be done, under the presumption that the United States must inevitably go to war with Spain, and that no motion was to be made without the approbation of the general government. That he never, whatever endeavour he might make, was part of the plan that he was a common link expressing their disapprobation of the Miranda's expedition, all through out the events of Mexico had been grossly misstated. However, he explained that he was taught by general law, that there could be no design of preparation or forward movement in the United States, but that he would, if it could be necessary, appear in his behalf, before the court martial, for which he had been tried.

New Orleans, 31 December, 1805.

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