

PANAMA DOCUMENTS, &c.

CONCLUDES.

With respect to the conquest and annexation of the island of Colombia or Mexico, it should be remarked that, if that be attempted, the whole character of the present war will be entirely changed. Hitherto, on the part of the republics, the contest has been for independence and self-government, and they have had, on their side, the good wishes and the friendly sympathies of a large portion of the world, and those especially of the people of the United States.

ed in the United States. Although, far from giving any countenance to the procurement of those supplies, determined to maintain a faithful neutrality, they have directed a strict enforcement of their laws; the fact, nevertheless, of their being collected within their ports, subjects them to unfriendly and injurious suspicions. And they would see, with much repugnance, resources drawn from themselves applied to the accomplishment of an object to which their policy and their interests are opposed.

more competent than the United States are, at this time, to estimate the difficulties to be overcome. You will receive and transmit to this Government any proposals that may be made, or plans that may be suggested for its joint execution, with assurances that they will be attentively examined, with an earnest desire to reconcile the interests and views of all the American nations.

It will probably be proposed, as a fit subject of consideration for the Powers represented at Panama, whether Hayti ought to be recognized by them as an independent State; and whether any decision taken, in that respect, should be joint, or each Power be left to pursue the dictates of its own policy. The President is not prepared now to say that Hayti ought to be recognized as an Independent Sovereign Power.

The war which has recently broken out between the Republic of La Plata and the Emperor of Brazil, is a cause of more than ordinary regret. To that war the United States will be strictly neutral. The ties to it should feel themselves unoppressed by all the interests which belong to the recent establishment of these dependencies, than by principles of humanity to bring it to a speedy close.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, Your obedient servant.

H. CLAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, 16th March, 1822.

To Messrs. JOHN SERGEANT and J. R. FOLLETT, appointed Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to Tacubaya, &c. &c.

GENTLEMEN: By the appointment of Mr. Serjeant, made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as one of the Ministers of the United States to the Congress of the American Nations, expected to assemble at Tacubaya, you have become associated in that mission. Mr. Serjeant is therefore anticipated; will be disposed to cooperate in the performance of the duties which have been assigned to the Ministers heretofore addressed to Mr. Anderson, Mr. Serjeant, or to either of them, so far as they remain to be executed. And the President, relying, with great confidence, on the zeal and ability of both of you, to promote in this important service, the interests of our country.