

Letter from the Intendente, Humberto Vaglio

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March 31st 19

Mr Charles Robinson,

Margana.

Sir:

To day that I shal have wished writo to you so as to find out some informations about the march of the villages that I commended to you and Claudio together for its Administration. I am sorry to do it not owing to your informations but by means of the private people.

When I arregned with you and Iglesias in a method of Administration adequated to the Islands of Margaha and Corazon de Jesus, I believed that you was going to fulfil tha promise that you made to me and that you so publicly exposed in your night speech; but with great surprised I see that you only not do what you offered but continue still as a leader of rebels, fomenting disagreements between the parties of these villages.

I know you promote meetings from which you exolude the youngmen adherent to Claudio's party and inculcate in yours adepts the desobedience to the orders of the Government and also I know that you wanted that the old-men (e.i. your party) go up to the river to found an other village in which you hope to be the only chief; nothing of the sort Mr Robinson, any where you go, there shall be the Government that I represent in this Coast, observing and spying your steps, not permitting to let you carry out your crazy and absurd projects.

I also know that you, as your old habit, - acostum to offer and not to perform, have nominated again Charles San Lewis as Sagula, although you made this nomination secretly and his adepts have him such as chief of Corazon de Jesus, just for the pure spirit of pleasing you and to oppose against what I have dispose already. This action reveal evidently that you are always what I insisted to believe, that you are a man changeble and without character and therefore you shouldn't offer nor show publicly in speeches what you don't mean if you don' have the intention of performing it.

Why did you agreed with me that was really innecessary Charles San Lewis as Sagula in Corazon de Jesus - an indian that his short knowledge is not prepared to be Sagula - if you

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could rule easily the two Islands because of their situation so near one to another?

You have also said - and by what I see you are very fond of speaking nonsense, that I was imprisoned and that Dr Ferras kept me in Panama because I ill-behaved with you. You believe truly that you can gain confidence between your friends, saying to them such clownish and uncivil news, wanting in respect so much for the Chief of the Nation as for myself? Believe sir Robinson, who excessively talk excessively mistake himself. What would you say to your friends now that I am in Forvenir again ready to prosecute my labour, which is no other but what indicate to me my illustrious Chiefes his Excellency the President of the Republic and his most distinguished collaborator the Honourable Dr Alfaro, Secretary of Government and Justice?

Tell me sir Robinson, have I done any harm to you? Is it because I indulged all your faults before all the people in the meeting of Margana, where you accepted and promised humbly not to backslide? Understand sir Robinson, that according to the Laws of the Republic, any employee that accept to have done less than what you did, is enough reason for its destitution and yet to indict him. Nevertheless, are you not still in your position of Sagula, after what you promised about your future conduct? Many others things I know, for you shall understand that I receive punctually in my office all the informations desired, concerning the Administration of the whole Coast, behaviour of the people and specially the actuation of the Sagulas in the different villages.

Sir Robinson, the Government have with you attentiveness and considerations to which you should be sincere. You think that the Government is disposed to stand any longer that hypocritical conduct of yours? No sir. You only hinder the plan of civilization of the indians but you don't have sufficient character to head against the Government face to face and that's why you only keep on putting obstacles in its good wishes for the good harmony to reign in all the villages, so that prosperity and progress be the happiness of its inhabitants.

I am truly surprised: I thought that you was a friend of the Government as you have said it and promised so much, but it ishat so. You are the only one that gives all the troubles in a whole part of the Coast and that is why you make the Government think that is much better to have a declared enemy than a friend

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like you. When I went to Margana, I came to think that the whole reason of disagreement between the inhabitants of Margana and Corazon de Jesus was just a misunderstanding of the two parties caused by its antiquated way of ruling; although when I left those Islands, I lodged in my mind the firm belief of the reconciliation that was done of the two said parties and the well-being that could be rejoice with the new government system, which is the most just, equitable and rational.

But what have you done since then? In the shadow, having secrete meetings, undoing all that was push ahead, and sheded between your partisan - without a justified reason, gall and more gall against the opposit party and inculcating into them the rebellion against the Supreme Government of the Republic hindering its benefactor action for those villages and desobedience to the orders given by your Chiefes.

You sir Robinson, would agreed with me that this actual condition of things can not continue like that for a longer time. Time is now for you to take the measurements that I believe necessary so as to let reign a peaceful and good Administration in those villages.

Your promises for me worth nothing since you haven't try to fulfil them with good will and sinceretty. I am tired of so many words: to be or not to be, sir Robinson. Nothing like two faces, frankness and loyalty is what I demand from the Saguilas; otherwise it is impossible for me to continue the task that I have proposed myself to do, faithfully to the swearing which was taken to me at the acceptance of this honourable appoinment that I was called for by the Government of his Excellency Dr Porras. As the Government would not stop from carrying out its plans in this region of the Republic, is necessary to cut off all the subversive element and fainly additected to the Government, that only work for the ambition of command or other causes, nulling all the efforts that the Government do in favor of the civilization of the tribes of San Blas.

Let me tell you plainly, that the Government don't need of the help of Saguilas to Administrate the Coast; he can easily do it when he think it necessary, by means of his Agents; and if to the present moment haven't been done so, is because of the wish of respecting many old customs which you people have, no to easy to extirpate and that requiere patience and steadiness, as it was thought that the Saguilas, as natives Chiefes of the villages would help the Government in benefict of his townsmen in this meritourious and merciful labour of civilazation of the

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Indian tribes so as to give them in future a wide open field in the commerce of the Republic and to give them also by means of great expenses of the Treasure of the Nation a good and honest Administration, to whose protection live all the tribes in peace with all kind of guaranties and school as a primordial requisite for the intellectual development.

I don't know what you would have to tell me in regard to the charges that I make to you by this present note; not be that you may accept them as you have done before, with feigned-humility or deny every thing with the same freshness that you speak and make meetings:

You have said that you will go to Panama to speak with Dr Porras and that you will make destitute and to appoint - according to your wishes, all the employees and that the only person that can take off your command is Dr Porras. You are mistaken sir Robinson if you think that my acts are sons of a mere caprice; all I do is a faithful interpretation of the wishes of his Excellency Dr Porras and his Minister of State in the Despatch of Government and Justice. Therefore the day that I loose the confidence of my Government, I don't have to be destituted because I know how to resign my position and in regard to the employees that collaborate with me, all of them deserve up till now my approval of good conduct and at any moment that any one fall back in his obligations I don't need you to show me when to ask for his destitution.

Believe me with the sincerity that characterize all my official acts, how much I feel sorry in sending you yhis note full of reproachess to your conduct, when I thought that after our interview in Nargana, our relations so much officials as particulars would have been of the most cordial ways in benefict of the villages that haven being commended to my care and Government.

It is truly sensible for me to find myself forced in attention to my duty, to use with a way of acting different to my wishes, but I don't vallate one moment in giving my aid to the well-being that reclaim the villages that of Nargana and Corazon de Jesus, assuring you also the imperious necessity which I have in persintin with firmness in the plan already conceived for the commercial development and civilazation in the Coast of San Blas.

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Have you ever thought sir Robinson in the great satisfaction that afford the remembrance of the well-doing made in a town as an honest and equanimous commander and to have a sure conscience knowing that you have fulfil your duty sowing amidst the villages the seed of the wright and to join them together in a fatherly laced of peace and work? Make a sincere examination of conscience and tell me if your conduct don't reproach you nothing: if hollowing out more and more the path that separate the two parties is more meritourious than to level that paht and to see those men, brothers of the same village, give one an other's hand of friendship and to make them forget their animosities and settle in friendly terms so as to live in peace and work, that fountains of prosperity and richesness.

I don't want to be more extensive in this letter, although I have plenty more to tell you, but I spect you to pay all the attention necessary to it, so that you may see no the justified feelings of the Chief but a sincere advice, as I believe that you haven't lose yet the notion of what is wright or you have to accept the consequences that I may think necessary in performing in performing my duty so as to establish peace and good order in those islands cutting off your commandry and commending the administration of the place to an employe competent, honest and apt from this head-office.

Yours very truly,

Geo. H. Taylor