



Daily Alta California, Volume 17, Number 5452, 8 February 1865 — THE POLISH REVOLUTION. [article]

EDITORS ALTA: In the last Wednesday's number of the Evening Bulletin, its New York correspondent, "J. W. S.," speaking of the actual position of the Southern rebeldom, indulges himself in making reference to the last Polish revolution in the following terms: "In short, the rebellion is not a popular revolution. It is the creation of the slaveholding aristocracy, and does not command the hearty support of the people. It is a bogus revolution, like the recent outbreak in Russian Poland, where the Polish nobility sought, in the sacred name of freedom, to obtain power only that they might adjust around the people's neck a yoke far heavier and more burdensome than that imposed by the Czar. The latter insurrection failed; for it was not founded in justice, and so, at an early day, and for a similar reason, must the attempt to establish a new government upon the corner stone of human slavery," etc.

The reading of such calumny upon one of the most sacred struggles a nation ever sustained against its oppressors, produces painful impressions upon every noble mind, and every Polander's heart fills with indignation. The Polish revolution is bogus! I would have no objection against the correspondent's personal opinion in the matter, but when he tries, through the columns of a leading paper, to mislead the public mind, and put in false light facts too well known, and duly appreciated by all intelligent men, it is my duty, as a Pole, to protest by my present writing against such a falsity, and give him severe admonition not to interfere with matters which he understands perhaps less than I do, in reference to the inhabitants of the moon. Having no proofs, I do not want to imply any relation between the Bulletin's correspondent and the Russian Government, which is notorious for employing spies and literary men to promote its interests in foreign countries; I am rather inclined to take such absurdities on account of the correspondent's complete ignorance of the facts that I intend now to explain.

The last Polish revolution was not a deed

The last Polish revolution was not a deed of any person whatever, or of the Polish nobility only, as the correspondent states, but was necessitated by the suffocating and insupportable foreign rule, which overwhelm equally all classes of Polish society, checking all breathings of national life. To suppose that the unrefined Polish peasant felt less, or did not feel at all, the iron yoke of the Russian Government, and did not want to overthrow it, is not to know his true sentiments, nor understand Polish history of latter days, nor the dramatic scenes of the last struggle. It is true that the leading men of the revolu-

tion were not peasants, but it could not be otherwise, on account of the low state of the peasant's mental culture, caused by too long servitude. That part, of course, must have fallen on a class of Polish society more intelligent, more capable to oppose such a formidable foe; and that class comprised mostly the inhabitants of the towns and cities, i. e., merchants, tradesmen, mechanics, and the lower nobility. Moreover, the first deed upon the outbreak of the revolution was the long expected decree of complete emancipation of the peasants, (22d of January, 1863,) issued by the Polish National Government, previous to that granted by the Czar, Alexander II., (1864.)

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Now, let me ask, where Mr. "J. W. S." sees the intention of the Polish nobility, in the sacred name of freedom, to obtain power only for the purpose of adjusting around the people's neck a yoke far heavier and burdensome than that imposed by the Czar? Though it is a great problem for me to understand how a citizen of this free country can embrace the cause of Czarism, but as it is a matter of individual taste, I would feel rather reconciled with it, if, at the same time, the correspondent would not blame and stigmatize, with the name of bogus, the very same principles for which the fathers of this Republic so intrepidly fought. Our Polish revolution failed, that is true, not because it was not grounded in justice, not because it was not grounded in justice, not because it was not popular, but because bereft of all material support—our gallantry, courage and sacrifice could not stand against the crushing power of colossal robbers banded together. A favorable time will come, however; we entertain the strongest hope, that the people, tortured and decimated as they are now, will rise once more to accomplish, not anything bogus, but the independence and freedom of their country.

DR. L. P.

San s bancisco, 6th February, 1865.

Concerning the crops in Napa county the Reporter says: Much apprehension is entertained among farmers in Napa Valley, that the late severe rains have drowned out all the grain planted on low lands which had not germinated at the time of their commencement. herey exertion had been made, during the continuance of the three or four weeks of fine weather, to plough the land, and get in wheat before the expected spring rains, and a large area of soil has been planted, much of which likely will have to be resown. There are thousands of acres of land in Napa Valley which are so saturated with water as to prevent the possibility of plowing them for one or two months, and some land that will be too wet for any but a grass crep. All the rolling lands and hill-sides will turn out splendid crops of grain this season, but much of the wheat on low, level lands, it is feared, will turn to cheat. Owing to the high price of seed wheat, much of the area usually sown in that cereal will be cultivated in some other crep, or left for pasturage and hay purposes.

RELATIVE to the Virginia City Charter bill, which is so obnoxious to the people of that silver city, the Gold Hill News says: Murmurs that frequently assume the tone of curses are to be heard everywhere. Citizens curse the abrogation of what they deem the usurpation of the rights of suffrage. Firemen dama the \$10,000 appropriation provided, as too little. Offici is swear they have been swindled by smarter wire-pullers than themselves. The women growl at their missing the opportunity to electioneer. Dimmicrats declare that it is another infringement of constitutional rights by Line la's hirelings, and all in all, the scheme meets with general disapprobation.

ONE day last week a whale came ashore on the beach, somewhere near Sequel. It measured about thirty-five or forty feet in tength.

GRASS, on the hills in Sonoma and Napa coun-