

ANSON BURLINGAME.

Official Correspondence Relating to the Death of the Ambassador of China.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The following correspondence is made public:

MR. CURTIN TO MR. FISH.
[Copy of Telegram.]
Mr. Fish, Secretary of State:
Distressed to announce Mr. BURLINGAME died this morning. A. G. CURTIN, St. Petersburg.
[Received at 9:25 A. M. Feb. 23, 1870.]

MR. FISH TO MR. CURTIN.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }
WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1870. }
SIR: Your announcement, by cable telegram, of the death of Hon. ANSON BURLINGAME was yesterday received at this Department with mingled feelings of surprise and grief. Stricken down as he has been in the midst of a career of usefulness and distinction, which has won the grateful admiration of the civilized world, I am sure that those feelings will be experienced, as widely as will the benefits of the noble and generous mission in which he has been engaged as the representative of the great Empire of China. I beg that you will convey to Mr. BURLINGAME'S afflicted family, and to their Excellencies his distinguished associates, CHIH-KANG and SAN-CHIA-KU, an expression of the profound sorrow and sympathy with which this sad dispensation has inspired the Government and people of the United States, who cherish with pride and gratitude the memory of his services to the country of his birth, and those he was rendering to mankind in founding an intercourse between the Western Powers and China, based upon the principles of justice, peace, and good-will.
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HAMILTON FISH.

ANDREW G. CURTIN, Esq.
MR. CURTIN TO MR. LOW.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }
WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1870. }
SIR: The painful announcement of the death at St. Petersburg of Hon. ANSON BURLINGAME, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty, the Emperor of China, was yesterday morning communicated by a cable telegram to this Department by Mr. A. G. CURTIN, the Minister of the United States at that Court. I now inclose for your information a copy of an instruction of this date, which I have addressed to Mr. CURTIN upon the subject. I will thank you to communicate a copy of it to His Imperial Highness Prince KUNG, and to assure him that the Government and people of the United States have been profoundly grieved by the afflicting event to which it relates. You will, at the same time, state to his Imperial Highness that this Government, which was the first to enter into treaty stipulations with the Mission, has, from the time at which it learned of the appointment thereof, entertained a lively interest in its success, and is gratified to know that Mr. BURLINGAME had so far completed negotiations with the principal maritime Powers, that the important objects of the Mission may now be readily accomplished by the Governments and people of the several countries, and that the name and fame of a citizen of the United States have thus become associated with international compacts that will, it is hoped and believed, inaugurate the new era of harmony, friendship and commercial intercourse between China and the Western Powers which he labored so long and earnestly to establish.
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HAMILTON FISH.

F. F. Low, Esq., &c.
MR. CURTIN TO MR. FISH.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, }
ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 23, 1870. }
SIR: I telegraphed to you this morning of the sad death of Mr. BURLINGAME, and will now give you the particulars. Mr. BURLINGAME was apparently in the possession of perfect health, though Mrs. BURLINGAME says now that he was complaining a little even before he left Berlin until Friday, when he had a severe cold and was confined to his bed. An English physician, Dr. CARRICK, was called in. By Saturday night the ailment had developed into a congestion of the right lung, and a congestion of the liver, accompanied by very acute rheumatic pains. Although I did not then deem the situation dangerous, I suggested that other physicians be sent for, and during the night Dr. ZDEKAUER, physician to the Empress, was consulted. When I saw Mr. BURLINGAME on Monday, he seemed very bad, and the opinion of Dr. BODKIN, the highest authority here, was that the case was critical. Up to Tuesday evening (last night) Mr. BURLINGAME remained about the same, and from the fact that he was not appreciably worse, we were not more alarmed, and hoped that he would pass the crisis, which was predicted for last night, safely. During the evening he was a little delirious, but when I went to inquire, immediately after the dinner, he was about the same. He was unconscious during the night, passed the crisis about 6 o'clock in the morning, and soon after had a paroxysm of the lungs and died calmly about 7 1/2 o'clock this morning. I was sent for, but arrived just as all was over.

Mrs. BURLINGAME and the eldest son were present at the death, and the other son has arrived this evening. Not only myself, but all, and especially those who dined with me last night to honor Mr. BURLINGAME, are shocked at this sudden death. The Emperor and the Empress sent through Prince GORTCHAKOFF the expression of their sympathy and regret, to which the Prince added his own, and various members of the diplomatic body have called on Mrs. BURLINGAME with offers of service. The body is to be embalmed and sent to America, and there will be a funeral service at the English Church on Saturday, at which I am informed the Emperor will be present. The Chinese Ministers and their suite are deeply distressed at Mr. BURLINGAME'S death, though they announce that they will continue the mission, SUN-TAJEN and TCHIH-TAJEN now taking the head of it. Unfortunately Mr. BROWN is not here, and cannot arrive before Sunday night. Gen. VLANGALLY, the Russian Minister at Peking, who was in daily consultation with Mr. BURLINGAME up to his illness, fears that the Chinese may construe Mr. BURLINGAME'S death as the hand of Providence working against them, and that the beneficial results of the mission may be at an end. I have done all I could in the matter, and shall continue to cultivate as friendly and intimate relations as possible with the members of the mission, but I have apprehensions that, on account of the great success of the mission, its direction will fall into foreign hands, and that European Governments may seek to control the policy of the Chinese Government unless wise measures are taken to counteract them.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,
A. G. CURTIN.
Hon. HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

MR. CURTIN TO MR. FISH.
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, }
ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26, 1870. }

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches, Nos. 17, 18 and 19. The funeral services over the body of Mr. BURLINGAME took place today. At 11 o'clock the burial service of the English Church was read by the Rector of the British Chapel at the Hotel Kloe, in the presence of Mrs. BURLINGAME, her two sons, myself, and some more intimate friends. The body was then taken to the British chapel, under an escort of mounted Police. At 2 o'clock there was a funeral service at the chapel, according to the English form, in the presence of the sons of the deceased, the diplomatic body, and various members of the Court and high officials, in full uniform. (The English Ambassador, Sir ANDREW BUCHANAN; the French Ambassador, Gen. FLEURY; Mr. DE WESTMANN and Mr. DE SREMAOUKOFF, of the Foreign Office; Gen. VLANGALLY, Russian Minister at Peking; Mr. DE CHAMPS, Secretary of the Chinese Legation, Gen. POMUTZ, United States Consul, and myself, officiated as pallbearers. The body was subsequently deposited in the vault of the church, where it will remain until it is taken to America. The death of Mr. BURLINGAME has called out a general expression of sympathy from all classes of people. Many have called on me proffering their condolences to Mrs. BURLINGAME and offering their services. I wish to mention particularly the good offices of Mr. THOMAS MICHELL, the British Consul and Second Secretary of Legation, who, besides great assistance in many things, kindly took charge of the funeral. The Emperor intended at first to be present at the funeral service, but finally decided not to do so, but made a call of condolence on Mrs. BURLINGAME. Among the sympathetic telegrams from all parts of Europe is one from the Queen of Prussia, expressive of her sad feelings at Mrs. BURLINGAME'S bereavement. I inclose a very pleasant obituary notice taken from yesterday's *Journal de St. Petersburg*, the official organ of the Foreign Office.
I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. G. CURTIN.
Hon. HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

MR. FISH TO MR. CURTIN.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, }
March 18, 1870. }

SIR: Your dispatches of the 23d and 26th ultimo, numbered respectively No. 25 and No. 26, and relating to the death of Mr. BURLINGAME, have been received. The kindness and sympathy exhibited by the Emperor and distinguished officers of the Imperial Government, the Diplo-

matic Corps, and others, referred to in these dispatches, toward the family of Mr. BURLINGAME in their great bereavement, are gratifying to this Government. You may embrace a favorable opportunity to express yourself in that sense, and to convey to Mr. THOMAS MICHELL, the British Consul and Second Secretary of Legation, for his friendly attentions and assistance in connection with the obsequies, the thanks of this Department.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HAMILTON FISH.
A. G. CURTIN, Esq.

MR. CURTIN TO MR. FISH.
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, }
ST. PETERSBURG, March 28, 1870. }

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipts of your dispatches, numbered 20 and 23, both inclusive. In answer to your dispatch No. 22, I beg to say that I transmitted a copy of it to Mrs. BURLINGAME, as the best expression I could make of your sympathy. I also addressed to their Excellencies, CHIH-KANG and SUN-CHIA-KU, a letter, of which I inclose you a copy marked "A," and received in reply a letter in Chinese, accompanied by a translation, of which I send you a copy, marked "B."

I am, Sir, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,
A. G. CURTIN.
Hon. HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.

MR. CURTIN TO THE CHINESE EMBASSY.
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, }
ST. PETERSBURG, March 13, 1870. }

The undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, desires, in accordance with the express direction of the President of the United States of America, to convey to their Excellencies, CHIH-KANG and SUN-CHIA-KU, Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Emperor of China, the expression of the profound sorrow and sympathy with which the sad death of their colleague, his Excellency ANSON BURLINGAME, has inspired the Government and people of the United States, who cherish with pride and gratitude the memory of his services to the country of his birth, and those he was rendering to mankind, in founding an intercourse between the Western Powers and China, based on principles of justice, peace and good-will. In conveying to their Excellencies these sentiments of the Government of the United States, the undersigned cannot omit again expressing to their Excellencies his own deep feelings of sorrow at the loss of their colleague and his friend—feelings which only increase with lapse of time. The undersigned takes this occasion to renew to their Excellencies the expression of his high esteem and profound consideration.
A. G. CURTIN.

CHINESE EMBASSY TO MR. CURTIN.
CHI and SUN, Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, make a communication in reply. We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's dispatch, conveying to us, by the direction of the President, the expression of the profound sympathy and sorrow with which the death of our late colleague, Mr. BURLINGAME, has inspired the Government and the people of the United States, and also expressing your Excellency's own deep feelings of sorrow for the loss we have sustained. We receive with due respect the expression of sympathy on the part of the President of your honorable country, and we, personally, fully share in your Excellency's deep feelings of sorrow; Mr. BURLINGAME was one of China's truest friends. He had established the closest relations of amity between our two countries, and it was his ardent desire and object to unite the nations of Europe in the same bonds of friendship and good will toward China. For this reason we, as well as all our countrymen, felt for him the sincerest affection. We now join with your Excellency in profound regret for his loss; but if we can cause the bonds of friendship with which he has united our countries to become daily closer and closer, though he himself be dead, his work and his fame will still live. It is this thought which must be our consolation in our present sorrow. We are forwarding copies of the dispatch under acknowledgment, and of this our reply, to the Board of Foreign Affairs in Peking, to be laid before the Emperor our Sovereign. We have the honor, in the meantime, to request that your Excellency will have respectfully conveyed to the President of the United States these our thanks for his gracious expression of sympathy and condolence.

A necessary communication addressed to ANDREW G. CURTIN, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America at the Court of Russia.
Fung Chih, ninth year, second moon, 18th day, (March 19, 1870.)

MR. BANCROFT TO MR. FISH.
AMERICAN LEGATION, }
BERLIN, March 3, 1870. }

SIR: The telegram will have communicated to you the news of the death of Mr. BURLINGAME, at St. Petersburg, on the morning of the 23d of February. The loss is the more grievous since he occupied at the time a position that insured him an honorable place in the history of the world. He was fulfilling his great duty of introducing China into the circle of civilized States, and placing it under the protection of international law; and his death is a loss, not to the Empire alone by which he was employed, but to humanity. He was conducting his great business with prudence, suavity and courage, and was winning for himself more and more a place in the esteem of the public men of Europe. He possessed the qualities which fitted him for his high position in so eminent a degree that I know of no one who could replace him, and that is the universal opinion. The further he proceeded, the more his reputation and his influence increased, and the Government of Italy was, in a particular manner, ready to extend to him the heartiest welcome and the most cordial co-operation. He would have embodied in so great a degree the public opinion of Europe in favor of the policy which he represented, that it was sure to become established. In Berlin he gained the good opinion of all with whom he had to deal, and I hear on every side, from scholars and from statesmen, the strongest expressions of regret at the premature close of his career. The historian, RANKE, said to me that he looked upon his death as a loss to the human race. During the stay of Mr. BURLINGAME at Berlin I was constantly with him, and can bear witness that his exemplary fidelity to the Government, into whose service he had transiently entered, only increased his affection for the country of his birth. It had been his intention to return to us in about two years, and the extraordinary extent of his political experience in Asia, and at so many courts in Europe, would have eminently prepared him for future honorable usefulness at home.

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,
GEORGE BANCROFT.
Hon. HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.