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Commander José Joaquin de Herrera

Constitutional President of the Council of Government, charged with the Executive Power of the Republic and General of the Division, to the inhabitants of Mexico City.

Mexicans, yesterday you enjoyed a spectacle worthy of a great and civilized city which lives, not in the person or will of an individual, but in the laws and spirit of society. We had seen great commotion, tumult which we mourned, fearing public upheaval, hoping to come to an understanding without reaching a violent crisis. The crisis finally came; but now that it has passed, we are able to recognize it as a great favor of Providence, which endeavored to purify us in a burning crucible, leaving us united.

Mexicans, write in your annals of this most glorious day; a great glory unknown to us until yesterday. Do you understand it in all its extension? Will you be able to defend it in the future? I must not doubt it. On several occasions, you have proven yourselves to be free and enlightened men; but on this occasion, you should be even more proud, some of you for leading, others for supporting, and all for witnessing, in the strictest order, a grand day for our nation.

I have always depended on your virtue: today I also depend on your courageous spirit and I do not believe there is anyone so foolish as to resist the will of the nation or attack the sovereignty of the law.

Mexico City. December 7, 1844.

José Joaquin de Herrera

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