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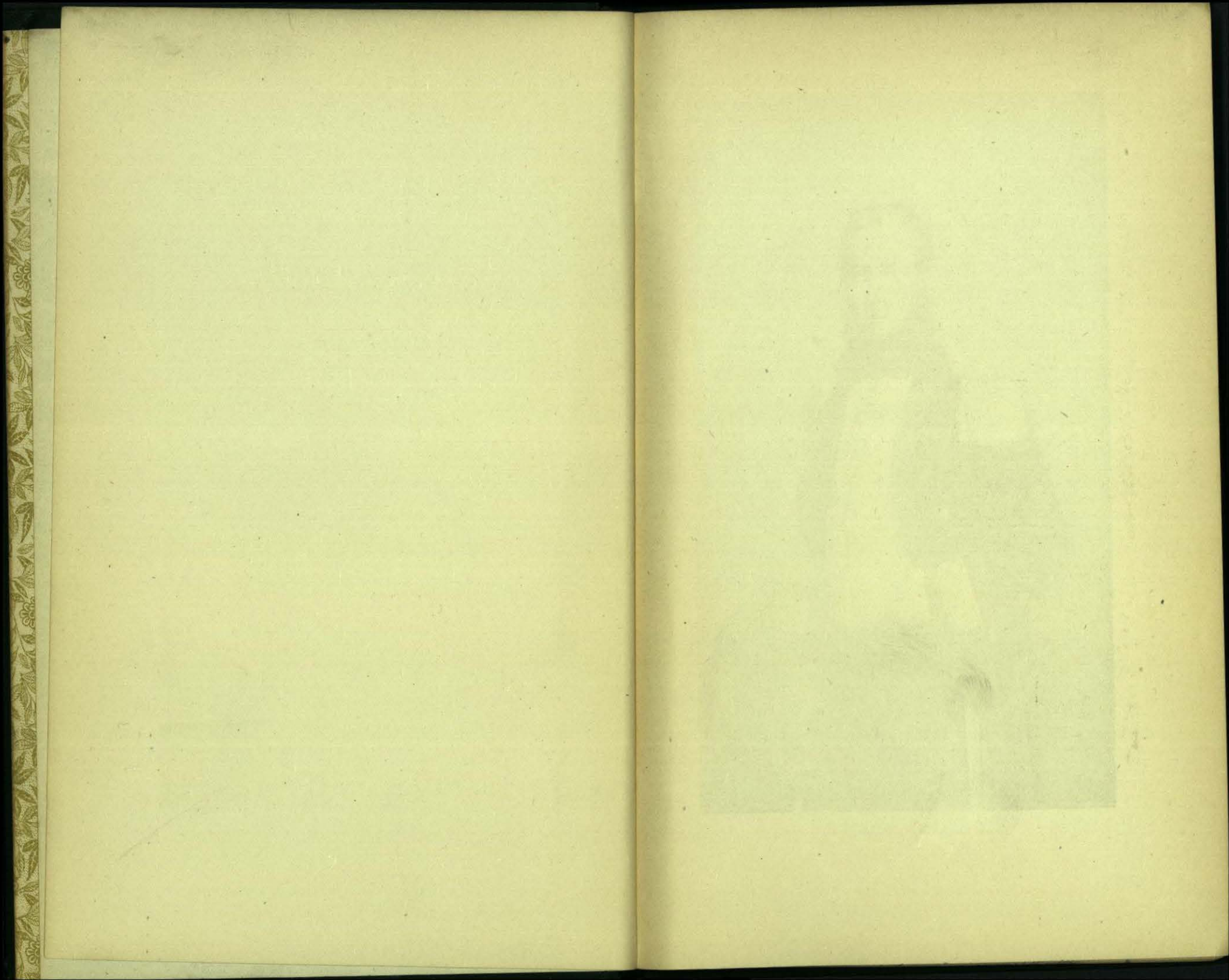
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"I have gathered a posy of other men's flowers, and nothing but the thread that binds them is mine own."

A LETTER-BOOK and a log-book are the foundation upon which the fabric of this narrative rests. By reading between the lines, and with kind aid, in the way of correspondence and conversations, from some of the officers that were present, it has been possible to unfold the creditable drama of the "Tacony's" short cruise. Furthermore, a scrutiny of various executive documents, departmental files, and volumes of diplomatic correspondence, has elicited from those musty sources certain interesting matter, not presented in any history, connected with the closing scenes of Prince Maximilian's short reign in Mexico.