

Carson April 7th 1859

Wm Coaleb Lusk

Dear Sir,

I addressed a letter to you on the 4th of last month from my house, enclosing protest & other documents relating to the seizure of the Black ~~Warrior~~

This unfortunate business has increased the hatred of the Spaniards & particularly the officials to the Americans residing here, and especially marked toward us, which subjects us to so many annoyances, and threats that seems almost impossible for us to continue our business in this city. I have been established here nearly seventeen years, in commercial business in this city - and have succeeded in getting along without any difficulty - or incurring the hostility of the Government officials - but since the seizure of the Black Warrior, and particularly since the receipt of the President's message, there is a constant determination on the part of the Govt officials to injure us. Already we have suffered a very large loss in our business & credit & the prospect before us is anything but promising - owing to remarks made by the Administrador our credit has been so much injured that we find difficulty in negotiating our paper, and of disposing of our bills of exchange. It is but a few days since, the "Comandante Res Guardas" - an official of high grade in the "Real Hacienda" came to our counting room in a great passion, on account of Capt Bullen's having sent to the Collector through us, a list of stores, wines &c, which had been taken from

the Steamer whilst under seizure, he made use of the most insulting language, threatening us with personal injury and using his utmost endeavours to break up our business.

This person officed high in power will no doubt be of great injury to us. A few days since I received a note from the Secretary of State, requesting me to come to the office, at an appointed hour, I went at the time - he called in two officers of the Government and the Escribano & ordered the doors to be shut, he then showed me the Herald of the 11th of March published in New York in which appeared the letter we had written to the owners of the S. W. stating to them what had occurred, and asked me if we wrote that letter. I told him that I was not certain that it was an exact copy - as it was a month since it was written - but the tenour of it was the same - he then asked me if I acknowledged the three lines next to the three last, I told him I was not certain, without being permitted to see the copy in our counting room - This all being recorded by the Escribano, I was directed to sign it, which I did.

The object of this proceeding is unknown to me, and what use they intend to make of it I have no idea. On the 31st of March, the Government paper published the President's message, with insulting remarks, also various documents - giving false statements of the seizure of the Steamer, to which I made an affidavit & gave it to the Consul to be sent to Washington, that probably will find its way into the papers at the north & if so will be seen here, & most probably I shall be

Taken to task by the Government. Am I responsible to the Authorities here for what is done in the United States? is it a crime against this Government, for me to send my affidavit, stating certain errors in published papers here, connected with myself to Washington? - I have been told that most probably I should be sent away - in case the authorities should see it published - others say I may be imprisoned - this would be rather the worst of the two - however I cannot be in a much worse position than I am now placed in - I wish you would write to me, your advice, what I had better do - I do not request this from you, as an officer in the Government, but as an old acquaintance, & friend - and one in whom I have the utmost confidence, as a lawyer, & by whose advice I should be governed. I shall therefore consider it a favor to be remembered - if you will think over my case & let me know your opinion - whether if I am sent away - leaving my business, if I have no claim for damages - & even if I have to leave in account of the many annoyances to my business - what steps I should take to place myself in a position to recover damages

in case I should be entitled to them
With much respect I remain
your Obedt Servt
Che Tung

Che Tung
1882

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