

The New American State Papers



NAVAL AFFAIRS

Volume 2

Diplomatic Activities



Edited by K. Jack Bauer

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Leadership of the Navy Department 1798–1861

Secretaries of the Navy¹

Benjamin Stoddert ²	18 June 1798—31 March 1801
Robert Smith	27 July 1801—7 March 1809
Paul Hamilton	15 May 1809—31 December 1812
William Jones	19 January 1813—1 December 1814
Benjamin W. Crowninshield	16 January 1815—30 September 1818
Smith Thompson	1 January 1819—31 August 1823
Samuel L. Southard	16 September 1823—3 March 1829
John Branch	9 March 1829—12 May 1831
Levi Woodbury	23 May 1831—30 June 1834
Mahlon Dickerson	1 July 1834—30 June 1838
James K. Paulding	1 July 1838—3 March 1841
George E. Badger	6 March 1841—11 September 1841
Abel P. Upshur	11 October 1841—23 July 1843
David Henshaw	24 July 1843—18 February 1844
Thomas W. Gilmer	19 February 1844—28 February 1844
John Y. Mason	26 March 1844—10 March 1845
George Bancroft	11 March 1845—9 September 1846
John Y. Mason	10 September 1846—7 March 1849
William B. Preston	8 March 1849—23 July 1850
William A. Graham	2 August 1850—25 July 1852
John P. Kennedy	26 July 1852—7 March 1853
James C. Dobbin	8 March 1853—6 March 1857
Isaac Toucey	7 March 1857—6 March 1861

Board of Naval Commissioners, 7 February 1815—31 August 1842

Comm. John Rodgers ³	25 April 1815—15 December 1824
Comm. Isaac Hull	25 April 1815—30 November 1815

¹Prior to 1798 naval affairs were administered by the War Department.

²George Cabot, appointed 3 May 1798, declined.

³President

Explanation of Abbreviations

The New American State Papers—Naval Affairs is based upon four sources: the original American State Papers, published by Gales & Seaton between 1832 and 1861; the serial volumes of the official documents of the U.S. Congress, printed continuously after 1817; the Navy Department records preserved in the National Archives; and printed collections of documents.

To assist readers and scholars, the original source for each document is listed in the Calendar of Documents according to the following abbreviations:

I. **ASP**—*American State Papers* (Washington, DC: Gales & Seaton, 1832–61). All references are to the *Naval Affairs* (NA) or *Military Affairs* (MA) series and include both volume and page citations. Thus the reference ASP NA III 455 indicates *Naval Affairs* series, volume III, page 455.

II. **Congressional Documents**. Each document is identified by Congress, session, document number, and the volume in the serial set in which it appears. Hence, SD 53 23:2 (267) means Senate Document number 53, 23d Congress, 2d session, serial volume 267. The abbreviations for the various congressional documents include:

HD	— House Document
HED	— House Executive Document
HMD	— House Miscellaneous Document
HR	— House Report
SD	— Senate Document
SED	— Senate Executive Document
SMD	— Senate Miscellaneous Document
SR	— Senate Report

III. **NA** — National Archives, Washington, DC, Military Archives Division, Navy and Old Army Branch. Material is indicated as follows:

AF — Area File of the Naval Records Collection, Record Group (RG) 45. Microcopy 625. Citation will be to the area number and roll, e.g. AF (7/75) indicating Area 7, roll 75.

- BSL = Brazil Squadron Letters, RG 45. Microcopy 89, rolls 14-30. Citation will be to roll.
- DIR = Directives, 1776-1863, RG 45.
- EISL = East India Squadron Letters, RG 45. Microcopy M 89, rolls 1-13. Citation will be to roll.
- ESL = Eastern Squadron Letters, RG 45. Microcopy 89, roll 113.
- FW = Records Relating to the Service of the Navy and Marine Corps on the Coast of Florida, 1835-43, RG 45.
- GO&C = General Orders & Circulars, 1798-1875, RG 45. Microcopy 977, rolls 1-2. Citation will be to volume and page.
- LEA = Letters of the Secretary of the Navy to Executive Agents and the President, 1798-1824, RG 45. Citation will be to volume and page.
- PL = Private Letters of the Secretary of the Navy, 1813-1822, RG 45. Citation will be to volume and page.
- RCL = Records of Confidential Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Navy, 1843-1879, RG 45. Citation will be to volume and page.

IV. Published collections of documents.

- Brannan = John Brannan. *Official Letters of the Military and Naval Officers of the United States During the War with Great Britain*. Washington, 1823.
- BW = Office of Naval Records and Library. *Naval Documents Related to the United States Wars with the Barbary Powers*. 6 vols. Washington, 1939-44.
- Haswell = Charles H. Haswell Pamphlet Collection, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Archives. Citation will be to volume and item number.
- M&P = James D. Richardson. *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents*. 20 vols. New York, 1897-1922.
- QW = Office of Naval Records and Library. *Naval Documents Related to the Quasi-War between the United States and France*. 7 vols. Washington, 1935-38.

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**North America
Antifilibustering Activities**

[Orders Warning of Forces
Gathering to Attack Cuba]

52

Strictly Confidential.

Commodore D. A. Porter
Commanding U. S. Steam Squadron
Pascagoula, (Mo.)

Navy Department
August 7th 1879.

Sir: Though the Government has no precise information yet, it has been informed by a communication from Daniel Morgan Higgins, that 600 men raised in New Orleans, landed on the 31st ult. on Grand Island, three miles from Pascagoula; that they are unarmed and uncamped under their commander, Col. White. General Surry was informed by Col. White, that it was a party of immigrants destined for California. The General further states, that large as was the body of men, he should have given the subject no consideration but for the popular belief that an expedition is being fitted out in the Southwest and West, for the invasion of Cuba or to revolutionize the Mexican States of the Sierra Madre. Rumor, however, (the General remarks) "and in the city of New Orleans points to this body of 600 men as a portion of the band to be employed and which is to receive large reinforcements from the western States." Other information, less authentic, has been furnished, in which it is alleged, that Col. White is preparing an expedition against Cuba, that on the 21st ult. he had raised 200 men in New Orleans, that he expected to raise in that city, in all, 800, and corresponding numbers in Boston, New York and Baltimore, that the recruits at New Orleans are to be drilled at Cat Island, from which point, they are to embark in the steamer Hannu about the 20th or 25th instant, for the south side of Cuba, and that a considerable number of the military in Cuba are said to be in communication with them. Colonel Prisco, of New Orleans and Charles C. Campbell are to be officers in the expedition; that Whiting Esq. of New Orleans have \$250,000 to forward the expedition.

Any such invasion of Cuba or Mexico is a violation of our obligations of Neutrality, as we are at peace with both Governments.

The United States are bound to respect the rights both of Spain and of Mexico, and no person is permitted, within the Territory or Jurisdiction of the United States to begin or to set on foot or provide or prepare the means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against the territory of any foreign Prince or State or of any Colony, District or people with which the United States are at peace.

You are therefore directed by the President to repair forthwith, with the force under your command, to the vicinity of Cat Island, and the mouth of the Mississippi river, and co-operate with the District Attorney of the United States, and the Collector of the Customs at New Orleans, and act in concert with them, awaiting yourself of all such information and of all such means as they may have at their command and obediently and

actively observe the movements and operations of any bands or assemblages of people; for the purpose of ascertaining whether any hostile military expedition or enterprise is begun or set on foot or any means provided against the territory or dominions of any prince or State, or any colony or district or people with whom the United States are at peace.

Should you discover and ascertain any such attempt by any portion of our citizens to invade either Cuba or Mexico, you will employ the force under your command to prevent it.

If you should receive any information, or discover any fact with regard to said movements you will not only take prompt measures to arrest it, but you will give early notice to the Department.

Should you, on reaching that Island and its vicinity ascertain that a hostile movement is on foot and has proceeded against the Island of Cuba, you will repair with the force under your command to that Island, and use all proper means in your power, by preventing their landing, so as to avert and prevent the violation of your obligations of amity and peace with Spain.

The duty assigned to you may become highly delicate and important. The Department relies upon your prudence, your sagacity and your discretion for the successful accomplishment of the service to which you are ordered.

Very respectfully, Yours &c
Wm. Willard Parker

Strictly Confidential

Lieut W. H. Hunter

Comd. U. S. Steamer Alleghany

Potomac River, Washington

War Department,
August 14, 1849.

Sir: Information has been received by this Department which induces the belief that a body of our citizens, within the jurisdiction of the United States, has begun and set on foot, and are now preparing a military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against Cuba or the Mexican States of the Sierra Madre for the purpose of invading or revolutionizing the same. An order was issued on the 9th inst. to Commodore Parker, commanding the Steamer Albatross, directing him to proceed to the point at which the Dept. is informed a force is probably assembling, with directions to arrest and suppress any such hostile and illegal movement against any people or country with which the United States are at peace.

I enclose with this order, a copy of that of the 9th inst. addressed to Commodore Parker; and you are hereby ordered by the President of the United States to proceed with the U. S. Steamer Alleghany under

Printed in U. S. Senate, Ex. Doc. 57, 31st Cong., 1st Session, 69-70

your command, so soon as she is in readiness for service, to Cat Island and the mouth of the Mississippi river, and then report to Commodore S. A. Parker, for further instructions.

On your way to join Commodore Parker you will vigilantly and actively observe the movements of such vessels as may fall in your way for the purpose of ascertaining whether any such hostile movement is begun or set on foot or in progress of preparation against the territory of either Cuba, Mexico, or any other country with which the United States are at peace.

Should you, before joining Commodore Parker, discover and detect any such attempt, you will use all proper means in your power to avert and prevent any violation of our laws of neutrality or treaty stipulations, and in the execution of this order you will confine yourself to the instructions and orders of the 9th inst. addressed to Commodore Parker.

Major Starnum will remain on board the *Alleghany* until her return to this or some northern port, when the transfer of his accoutrements will be made. Requisitions for the wants of the *Alleghany* must be drawn in the usual manner, but the Department expects that you will not approve any requisition for money not required for actual expenditures.

The Department relies upon your prudence, your sagacity, and your discretion for the successful fulfilment of the orders with which you are intrusted.

Very respectfully, yours
Wm. Wallcut Poston

[Orders Warning of Sailing of Lopez Expedition
Against Cuba]

Confidential

Captain Josiah Fallmuller
Comdg U.S. Steamer Saracen
Norfolk, Va

Navy Department
May 15, 1850

Sir: Though the Government has no precise information, yet it has been informed from sources entitled to great respect and consideration that a military organization has been effected in the interior of the United States, formidable both in numbers and from the character of those engaged in it, for the purpose of attacking the Island of Cuba and of revolutionizing the Government. This force is represented to consist of between six and ten thousand troops of the best kind and material to render the assault formidable, and as it is believed is sufficient, with other means and resources at command, to emancipate Cuba from Spanish rule. Large numbers of those engaged in the enterprise departed, as it is alleged from the city of New Orleans, accompanied by Generals Lopez, Gonzales and others. It is represented that they expect to effect a landing upon the Island about this time. All accounts concur in representing that it is a military expedition or enterprise begun and set on foot within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States to be carried on from thence against the Island of Cuba and the Government of Spain.

Any such invasion of that Island is in violation of our obligations of neutrality to the government of Spain.

The Government of the United States is bound to respect the rights of the inhabitants of Cuba and of the government of Spain, and no person is permitted within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States to begin, or to set on foot, or provide or prepare the means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against the territory of any foreign Prince or State or of any colony district or people.

You are therefore directed by the President of the United States to repair forthwith, with the United States Steamer "Saracen," under your command to the port of Havana in the Island of Cuba and vigilantly and actively observe the movements and operations, of all vessels approaching the harbor of Havana on the Island of Cuba, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any military expedition or enterprise has been begun or set on foot.

or any means provided, to be carried on from the United States against the territory or dominions of Spain.

Should you ascertain that such hostile movement is on foot and is proceeding against the Island of Cuba, you will use all proper means in your power, to prevent a landing or the carrying out such expedition or enterprise, so as to avert and prevent the violation of our obligations of amity and peace with Spain.

Should the expedition have effected a landing and a revolution be in progress, you will prevent the landing of any reinforcements or of any arms or provisions, under the American flag. To the citizens of the United States who may be there in the prosecution of their peaceful and lawful pursuits and who may be in danger either to their persons or property, you will extend the protection and aid to which they are entitled as American citizens.

An order has been given to Commodore Thibault to dispatch each of the vessels of the Home Squadron to co-operate with you in the fulfilment of this order as may be within his reach.

Should you upon your arrival at Havana ascertain satisfactorily that no such expedition is on foot, you will return to the harbor of Norfolk and report to this Department, in the mean time keeping it fully informed of all occurrences connected with the duty herein assigned to you.

The service to which you are ordered is one of great delicacy and importance. The Department relies upon your promptness, your discretion and your decision for the successful accomplishment of all its objects.

I am respectfully

Yr. obt. Serv

Wm. Ballard Ruston

Confidential

Capt. Isaac M. Kacer
Comdg U. S. Frigate, Congress
Norfolk, Va

Navy Department
May 27. 1850

Sir: Though the Government has no precise information, yet it has been informed from sources entitled to great respect and consideration that a military organization has been effected in the interior of the United States, formidable both in numbers and from the character of those engaged in

it, for the purpose of attacking the Island of Cuba and of revolutionizing the government. This force is represented to consist of between six and ten thousand troops of the best kind and material to render the same formidable, and as it is believed is sufficient with other means and resources at Command to subvert Cuba from Spanish rule. Large numbers of those engaged in the enterprise departed as it is alleged from the City of New Orleans accompanied by General Lopez, Gonzales and others. It is represented that they expect to effect a landing upon the Island about this time. All accounts concern in representing that it is a military expedition or enterprise begun and set on foot within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States to be carried on from thence against the Island of Cuba and the Government of Spain.

Any such invasion of that Island is in violation of our obligations of neutrality to the government of Spain.

The Government of the United States is bound to respect the rights of the inhabitants of Cuba and of the Government of Spain, and no person is permitted within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States to begin or to set on foot or provide or procure the means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against the territory of any foreign Prince or State or of any Colony, district or people.

You are therefore directed by the President of the United States to repair forthwith, with the U.S. Frigate 'Congress' under your command to the Port of Havana in the Island of Cuba and vigilantly and actively observe the movements and operations of all vessels approaching the harbor of Havana or the Island of Cuba for the purpose of ascertaining whether any military expedition or enterprise has been begun or set on foot, or any means provided, to be carried on from the United States against the territory or dominions of Spain.

Should you ascertain that such hostile movement is on foot and is proceeding against the Island of Cuba, you will use all proper means in your power to prevent a landing or the carrying out such expedition or enterprise, so as to avoid and prevent the violation of our obligations of amity and peace with Spain.

Should the expedition have effected a landing and a revolution be in progress you will prevent the landing of any reinforcements or of any arms or provisions under the American flag. To the citizens of the United States who may be then in the prosecution of their peaceful and lawful pursuits, and who may apprehend danger either to their persons or property, you will extend the protection and aid to which they are entitled as American Citizens.

An order has been given to Commodore Parker to dispatch such of the vessels of the Home Squadron to co-operate with you in the fulfillment of this order, as may be within his reach.

The U. S. Steamer 'Serrano,' Capt. Farnall, has been ordered upon the same service.

Should you, upon your arrival at Havana, ascertain satisfactorily that no such expedition is on foot, you will proceed in the execution of your sailing instructions for the Coast of Brazil, of the 17th April ultimo. In the mean time you will keep the Department fully informed of all occurrences connected with the duty herein assigned to you.

The service to which you are ordered, is one of great delicacy and importance. The Department relies upon your prudence, your discretion and your decision for the successful accomplishment of all its objects.

I am respectfully, your obed. servant
Wm. Ballard Preston

U. S. Flag Ship *Saranac*.
Harbor of Havana.
March 21. 1857.

Sir

I have the honor to inform the Department that the '*Saranac*' arrived at this port on the 19th instant.

I yesterday had an interview with the Captain General, who informed me that an expedition for the invasion of this Island was certainly fitting out near New Orleans, under the Command of General Lopez.

I told him, I thought he was misinformed, as I had late advice from my Government, and no mention was made of such an expedition.

He replied, that he was aware that the Government at Washington knew nothing about the matter, but, nevertheless, he seemed to think that it was true, and the force to be employed would be two thousand men.

It has caused no excitement here.

Whilst at Port au Prince we had several cases of fever, among the Officers and Crew, but I am happy to state that all are now convalescing.

Captain Sittall has been afflicted with Rheumatism during the greater part of our cruise, caused I fear, by being compelled to sleep in a room under the wheel house, which

Respectfully

William A. Graham
Secretary of the Navy.
Washington.
D.C.

is always damp at dead.

We shall leave here in a few days for Ponce de Leon, for the purpose of Coaling and provisioning the ship, but on our way will run into the harbor of Portugal to exercise the crew at target firing &c, not having had an opportunity of doing so, since we left the United States.

I will thank the Department to inform me what vessels belonging to the Home Squadron have sailed since I left the United States, and whether they are acting under the instructions I sent to the Commanders, through the Navy Department.

I will dispatch one of the vessels of the Squadron to Venezuela as soon as they can be spared from more important services.

I have not fallen in with the *Water Witch*, and, if she goes direct to Port au Prince it will be some time before we shall.

The *Vixen* would be very serviceable on the Coast of Guatam and Mexico, and I hope the Department will send her out as soon as possible.

The only vessels of war here besides Spanish, is the French Steamer *Mugadore* of 2000 tons.

I propose (with the sanction of the Department) to go north during the summer months.

It is not prudent to cruise in the West Indies in the Hurricane months, and the health of the Crews will be better preserved by cruising on the Atlantic Coast, than lying at Ponce de Leon.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant.

Foxhall A. Potter
Commanding Home Squadron

[Telegram Warning of Expedition Expected to Sail
from Savannah]

Per Telegraph

Confidential

Commr. S. A. Parker

Comdr. U.S. Home Squadron

Pensacola via Mobile

Care of Commandant of Navy Yard,

Navy Department
April 12. 1857.

Sir, The President

is informed that an expedition is in progress against Cuba, probably from Savannah. Should you discover that such an expedition is on foot from any part of the Southern Coast, you will use all lawful means to prevent it. And if the party has sailed, you will repair immediately to Cuba, and endeavour to prevent it from landing. Be therefore ready to sail at any moment.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt. servant
Will. A. Graham.

[Order to Proceed to Havana]

Commander, William Green
Comdr. U.S. Sloop
Portsmouth N.H.

Navy Department
April 12. 1857.

Sir,

You will proceed to sea forthwith, with the U.S. Sloop under your commands and make the best of your way to Havana in the Island of Cuba, and there await further instructions from Commander Parker.

The Department cannot assign an additional Lieutenant to your ship. Your complement will therefore consist of three Lieutenants for the present.

I am Respectfully
Your Obedt. servant.

Will. A. Graham.

Navy Department
May 5. 1851.
Commodore
J. A. Parker
Comd'g U.S. Home Squadron
Pensacola Fla.

Sir, The President has —
received information, that a body of men, destined for
the invasion of Cuba, is now marching southeastwardly
through the State of Georgia, designing to land on, probably
at Jacksonville, Fla., but more probably on the western
side of the Peninsula at Cedar Keys near the mouth of
the Suwannee river. You shall not be informed
of the assembling of persons for this expedition, at points —
West of Pensacola, such as Mobile or New Orleans, which
may require you to cruise in that direction. You will
dispatch at once one of the vessels of your Squadron to
examine Cedar Keys, and the Coast adjacent, and if you
discover any ship or vessel which is used, or in reasonable
probability is to be used, in transporting men or munitions
of war in such expedition, you will take possession of
such ship or vessel, and detain the same from being
employed in such expedition; and you will use all lawful
means to prevent the departure of any persons belonging
thereto, according to the provisions of the Act of Congress
approved April 20th 1818, entitled "An act in addition
to the act for the punishment of certain crimes against
the United States; And you will dispose the vessels
under your command so as to prevent the said expedition
from departing from our shores, by all lawful means
within your control; And in the event of its actual
embarkation, you will endeavour to arrest and prevent
its landing on the Coast of Cuba, or other Territory of
a friendly power.

I am with great Respect,
Your Obedt. servant
Wm. A. Graham.

Confidential

Commodore

J. A. Parker

Commanding U.S. Home Squadron
PhiladelphiaNavy Department
August 5, 1857

Sir

In consequence of information received at Washington of movements tending to an insurrection in the Island of Cuba, and of the assembling of persons within the United States (United; for the invasion of that Island), your attention is hereby directed to the instructions given you under date of the 2^d of July last, by which you will be governed.

You will issue the necessary orders to the Commanders of vessels of the Home Squadron under your command to be active and vigilant— And you will proceed in the U.S. Steam Brigate Sarawac, at the earliest day practicable to the Harbor of Norfolk, and there await the further instructions of the Department.

I am respectfully
Your Obedt. servt.
Wm. A. Graham.

Navy Department
Washington, August 23^d 1897

Commodore F. A. Parker,
Comdg. U.S. Home Squadron
U.S. Fr. Saranae
Norfolk, Va.

Sir,

In consequence of recent intelligence from the Islands of Cuba, it becomes necessary, in some degree, to modify the orders you have heretofore received for the destination of the Saranae.

With this, you will be put in possession of instructions from the Department of State, appointing you a special Commissioner to communicate on the subject therein mentioned, with the Governor and Captain General of Cuba.

You will therefore immediately proceed in the Saranae to Havana in execution of this trust, and make a report in the premises to the Secretary of State, at the earliest practicable period.

You will however understand that your orders received from time to time, heretofore, for preventing hostile expeditions from this Country from fitting out, or landing on the Islands of Cuba, as well for stopping any vessel embarking in such expeditions, remain in full force, and you will dispose of the vessels under your Command, so as best to effect these objects.

Should his Excellency M. Litcher the American Minister to Mexico, have reached Norfolk before your departure, you will in pursuance of former instructions, receive him on board the Saranae, for a passage to Havana, and thence to Vera Cruz. You will cause him to be taken in the vessel, if it shall be your judgment to be necessary to detain the Saranae at Havana or if he shall arrive there in a Mail Steamer, after your reaching that port. You will furnish him the passage to Vera Cruz as above required.

The fate of the unhappy individuals who have recently been sent to death in so summary a manner by the Authorities of Spain, as well our Treaty obligations, and the laws of our Country, render it peculiarly necessary, that the vessels of the Home Squadron shall be vigilant, and

active in the present Crisis in arresting expeditions from
our Shores, for the invasion of that Island — and in
the execution of your delicate and important duties,
both Civil and Military, herein referred to, much reliance
is placed in your great firmness and discretion.

I am with high respects
Your Obedt. Servt.
Wm. A. Graham.

Navy Department
September 3d. 1857

Lieutenant
John M. Livingston
Appointed to Command
the U.S. Steamer John Hancock,
New York.

Sir:

So soon as the
Steamer John Hancock shall be in all respects ready for
Sea, you will proceed in her directly to the Coast of
Georgia, calling at Savannah, if you deem it advisable,
to obtain information, and also at St. Augustine, and
if necessary for the purposes of your Cruise, going into the
St. Johns River to Jacksonville, and down the Coast of
Florida as far as Key West.

The special object with which
you are charged in this Cruise, by direction of the President
is, by all the means in your power to prevent the carrying on,
of any Military expedition or enterprise, from the territories
of the United States, against the Island of Cuba, a terri-
tory of the Government of Spain, with which the United
States are at peace.

If therefore you shall discover any
Vessel engaged in carrying on such an expedition, by trans-
porting troops and arms or otherwise, which you shall have
reason to believe has been fitted out in the territories of
the United States, you will prevent her proceeding therein, by
seizing such Vessel, and taking her to the most convenient port.

and delivering her over to the Marshal of the District in
which the Lamo is situated.

It may possibly happen that Spanish Cruisers off the Coasts
aforesaid, may attempt to pursue suspected Rebels into our
waters, or even to follow their inmates on land, in every such
event you will promptly interfere to prevent trespass, as well
as to give protection to American Ships, persons or property
against any violation, in contravention of the Law of Nations.

At Key West or in its vicinity you
may meet the Sloop of War (Slocator) Commander Green —
who will cooperate in the service above set forth. And
you will report your Report to Commodore Parker Command-
ing the Home Squadron as a part thereof, to his orders —
directed by a more minute knowledge of the state of affairs
in relation to the expedition in question. You will obey implicitly
and to whom you will show your instructions.

I am very respectfully
Yours Obedt. Servt.
Wm. A. Graham

U. S. Flag Ship Saranoa
 Havana. September 5. 1857

Sir,

In my communication of yesterday's date, I neglected to state that the Captain General has released, before my arrival here, Colonel ~~James~~ Scott Haynes (of Tennessee), one of the leaders of the expedition, and Captain James C. Kelly of New Orleans, a Captain in the same.

I also understand that he provided each with a suit of clothes, and money to defray their expenses home.

From the best information I can gain, there seems no doubt but that the whole invading force have been shot or taken prisoners.

All the latter are confined here, to the number of about 150 men.

At the request of Commander Platts, a young man from Albany N.Y. was liberated, and is now on board the 'Albany'.

The lives of those here are secure, but they will probably be sent to Spain for the disposition of the Queen.

I shall, as soon as possible, make a report in full to the Department, of all the matters pertaining to my mission here.

I had a long and free interview with the Captain General last evening, a full report of which I shall make to the State Department, as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be
 Very Obed. Servant

The Hon.

William C. Graham

Secretary of the Navy,
 Washington.

D.C.

Forrest A. Parker
 Commanding Home Squadron

U. S. Flag Ship Saranac.
Havana. Sep. 6. 1859

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, for the information of the Department, a copy of my report to The Hon. Secy of State, upon the subject of his instructions to me, of the 28th ultimo.

I also enclose a copy of my note to the Captain General, together with his reply, from which it will be seen that he received me as Commander in Chief of the Squadron only?

Although the Captain General did not accede to my request to see the Prisoners confined here, as will be seen by the letter enclosed to The Hon. Secy of State on the subject, still, in my interview with him today, he stated that if there were any among them whom I knew, and I could give him their names, he would have them separated from the rest of the Prisoners, and he rendered very comfortable in their passage to Spain. I could select none, as I did not know any among them, nor did I know who were the most worthy?

I have understood that the rumor of the two Steamers, being at Key West, with some men on board, was false, and expect the "Albatross" here shortly.

So soon as one of the vessels of the Squadron arrive, I shall get underway, and cruise around the Island, and endeavor to intercept the Steamers reported to be on their way from New Orleans, returning here in a few days, should I hear nothing of them.

The Hon. Wm. A. Graham
Secretary of the Navy
Washington D.C.

In consequence of the excitement here, it is necessary to keep one of the Vessels of the Squadron, in the Harbor.

I shall keep the Department regularly informed of all my movements, and the disposition of the Squadron.

I am Sir, with great respect
Yr. Obed. Servant.

Isaac H. Parker
Commanding Home Squadron

The original, with enclosures, together with this report
to the Hon. Sec. of State, were sent in the American
Ship "Albatross" for New York, Sept. 7, 1857.

U. S. Flag Ship Porpoise.
Off Havana. Sep. 12. 1857

Sir,

Several violent and sudden cases of dysentery having broken out among the crew of this ship on the 10th, determined me to put to sea yesterday, and ~~steer~~ off this harbor, in the hope that the disease would be checked by the sea air.

All was quiet when we left Port, but I shall communicate with our Consul every day or two, and return into port on the 15th or 16th instant, to meet the mails.

The "Albatross" returned from Key West yesterday. Commander Platt reports all quiet in that quarter. He has heard that the steamer Tampaw was in the St. Johns River (Florida) blockaded by Revenue Cutters. If I had a vessel of any draft, I would send her to ascertain the truth of this report.

It would appear from a New Orleans paper of the 6th Inst, that the Steamer Alabama is still running on her regular trips between Savannah and New York; so the information received by the Captain ^{General} in relation to these vessels was incorrect.

I earnestly hope you will see proper to increase the Naval force on this station, as soon as practicable.

Even if no attempts of invasion should be made, the Squadron is too small for the protection of our Commerce and Citizens in the West Indies.

It cannot be disguised that the inhabitants of Havana are ill disposed towards the people of the United States, on account of the recent invasion, and, it is reasonable to suppose that the same feelings exist in other parts of this Island and Porto Rico.

It would therefore be prudent to send one of the Squadron occasionally to visit the different ports.

Besides, our Commerce wants looking after in other parts of the West Indies, as well as on the Coast of Venezuela, & Nicaragua &c.

The 'Albany' is now cruising in company, and has a good many of both officers and crew sick.

I shall be compelled to send her in a week or ten days to Pensacola, for provisions.

I have heard nothing from the 'Director' since Commander Green reported to the Department, that he should sail from Pensacola, for Havana, on the 21st ultimo.

I shall send orders by the next steamer to Commander Green, to proceed to Havana immediately, to relieve the 'Albany'; unless he is under orders from the Department.

Commander Platt sent the 'Viper' from this place to Pensacola on the 16th ultimo, with orders to return immediately.

Nothing has been heard of her since, except that she has

The Hon.

William A. Graham

Secretary of the Navy.

Washington.

D.C.

arrived, after a fair passage, at Pinar del Rio. I fear some of his machinery has again proved defective.

The non-appearance of the 'Reclut' I cannot account for. I am, therefore, left with but two vessels ('Caracas' and 'Albany'), and I deem it prudent that both should, for the present, remain near Havana.

I labor under great disadvantages whenever I have business with the Captain General, for the want of an interpreter.

None of the Officers speak Spanish, and the interpreters employed from the shore, are not always to be depended on.

About 135 of the prisoners sailed on the 5th fortnight in a large, conveyed by a ship of war and steamer.

I learn that 25 were left in the hospital, and that about 16 remain in prison, there not having been room in the transport for them all.

Two days before the prisoners sailed, a collection was made, to provide comforts for them on the passage to Spain.

Mr. Thrasher, an American gentleman, said it was necessary to get permission to put them aboard the transport, which I readily obtained, on application to the Captain General.

The morning before the prisoners sailed, I requested Mr. Owen (Mr. Owen) to visit them (being prevented from doing so myself) which he did, and found they were cheerful, well clad, and clean, and that the wounded had proper medical attendance.

My mission to the Captain General was known here several days before we arrived, and I have reason for believing, that the Council intended to be present to meet me, decided on.

Personally, the Captain General's conduct towards me, has always been courteous, and I am conscious of no possible reason for his refusing to let me visit the prisoners, after Commander Platt, Mr. Owen, and several other Americans had been permitted to do so.

Perhaps it was to avoid correspondence in regard to them. I have not been able to find a single American who witnessed the execution of the prisoners on the 16th August. Several prisoners die, and I shall send their statements to the State Department.

I have reasons for believing that the Crews of this Island are not prepared to throw off the Spanish yoke, however much they may wish it; and any invading force, no matter from whence it may come, will not meet with the least aid from the Cubans, unless the force should be overwhelming; and, even then, there would be some doubt about it.

We shall be compelled to home a good many of the Sick from the different vessels of the Squadron at the Hospital, Pinarcola; and I ask authority from the Department, to send Officers to New Orleans, & Mobile &c, for the purpose of shipping men to supply their places.

Mr. Van Vleeten, the young man who was released at the request of Commander Platt, was put on board the Steamer "Winfield Scott", bound to New York, on the 8th Inst.

I have the honor, to be
Very respectfully,
Yr. Obed. Servant.

Frederick A. Paulke
Commanding Home Squadron.

Navy Department
September 29. 1857.

Commander

John Stone Paine

Appointed to Command

the U.S. Sloop of War *Keyano*

Norfolk, Va.

Sir,

So soon as the U.S. Sloop of War *Keyano*, under your Command, is in all respects ready for Sea, you will proceed in her to the Island of Cuba, and on meeting with the Commander in Chief of the Home Squadron, you will report to him as forming part of his Command.

One of the principal objects of your mission, and in which it is expected you will exercise all proper vigilance, is by all means in your power to prevent the carrying on of any Military expedition or enterprise from the territories of the United States against the Island of Cuba a territory of the Government of Spain, with which the United States are at peace.

If therefore you shall discover any vessel engaged in carrying on such an expedition, by transporting troops and arms, or otherwise, which you shall have reason to believe has been fitted out in the territories of the United States, you will prevent her proceeding therein, by seizing such vessel, and taking her to the most convenient port, and delivering her over to the Marshal of the District in which the same is situated.

It may happen that Spanish Citizens may attempt to pursue suspected vessels into our waters, or even to follow their inmates on land, in every such event, you will promptly interfere to prevent trespass, as well as to give protection to American vessels, persons or property against any violation in contravention of the law of Nations. And you will at all times bear in mind your general duties as the Commander of a vessel of War of the United States to protect American Commerce and interests to the fullest extent in your power.

The Orders of the Commander in Chief of the Home Squadron directed by a more minute knowledge of the state of Affairs within his Command, you will

implicitly obey, and to whom you will show your instructions from the Department.

Before sailing, you will transmit to the Department a Complete Muster Roll of the Officers and men who have been transferred to the service, as directed by the 20th Article of the Act of Congress "for the better government of the Navy of the United States" approved April 23, 1800, which must show the date of entry, time, term and expiration of service of each individual of the Crew.

A separate list of the Officers must also be transmitted agreeably to the blanks with which you will be furnished.

Wishing you and those under your Command health and prosperity,

I am

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. servt.

Wm. A. Graham
Secretary of the Navy.

[Order Warning of Expedition Against Mexico]

63

Commodore

Foxhall A. Parker

Commandg U.S. Home Squadron
Pensacola, Fla.

Navy Department
October 17. 1851

Sir,

Information has been received by the President of the United States of the existence of Revolutionary movements in some of the States of the Republic of Mexico bordering upon Texas, and it is apprehended that Citizens of the United States may in violation of our laws fit out expeditions or enterprises either by sea or land to aid the insurgents.

You are therefore directed by the President to be vigilant and active in cooperation with Brevet Major General Briggs of the U.S. Army in preventing any expedition or enterprise being carried on from the United States against the territory of Mexico.

(You will observe the movements of all vessels approaching the shores of Mexico, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any military expedition or enterprise has been begun or set on foot, or any means provided to be carried from the United States to be used against the territory of the Republic of Mexico, and should you discover any vessel engaged in carrying on any such expedition or enterprise, whether by transporting troops and arms and munitions of war or otherwise, which you shall have reason to believe has been fitted out in the territories of the United States, you will prevent her proceeding therein, by seizing such vessel and taking her to the most convenient port, and delivering her over to the Marshal of the District in which she is situated.

You will dispose of the vessels of your Command in such manner as will be best calculated to secure the objects of this Order.

The Texan Commander Paine has been ordered to join your Squadron, and is probably at this time in the harbor of Matamoros.

The Department desires prompt information of your movements, and in relation to the matters herein embraced.

I am respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant
J. M. Leonard
Act. Secretary of the Navy.

ment of every movement made by the different vessels under your Orders.

Before sailing you will cause a complete Muster roll of the Officers and Crew of the Independence to be transmitted to the Department as directed by the 29th Article of the Act for the better Government of the Navy of the United States approved April 23^d 1800 and a separate list of the Officers. Subsequent returns will be forwarded as required by the Circular of this Department of June 10th 1806.

With the best wishes for a successful cruise and a happy return to your friends,

I am very respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servt.
Wm. A. Graham.

[Order Warning of Expedition Against Cuba]

66

Navy Department.
October 19th 1832.

Commander

George A. Mollins

Commanding U.S. Sloop of War

Osage

Pensacola, Fla.

Sir,

The special object with which you are charged in your present cruise by direction of the President, and in which it is expected you will exercise the utmost vigilance, is, by all the means in your power, to prevent the carrying on of any military expedition or enterprise from the territories of the United States against the Island of Cuba, a territory of the Government of Spain with which the United States are at peace.

No person is permitted within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, to begin or set on foot, or provide or prepare the means for any military expedition or enterprise, to be carried on from thence against the territory or dominions of any foreign Prince, or State, or of any colony, district or people, with whom the United States are at peace. If therefore you shall discover any vessel engaged in carrying on such an expedition by transporting troops and arms, or otherwise, which you shall have reason to believe has been fitted out in the territories of the United States

you will prevent her proceeding thereon, by seizing such vessel and taking her to the most convenient port in the United States, and delivering her over to the Marshal of the District in which the same is situated.

For the execution of this duty you will take for your guide the provisions of the Act of Congress approved April 30. 1818, entitled an Act in addition to the Act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States and to repeal the Acts therein mentioned; and you are especially empowered by the President to use the force under your Command, to prevent the carrying on of any such expedition or interference from the territories or jurisdiction of the United States, against the territories or dominions of any foreign Prince, or State or of any Colony, district or people with whom the United States are at peace.

The Orders of the Commander in Chief of the Home Squadron, directed by a more minute knowledge of the state of affairs within his Command, you will implicitly obey, and to whom you will show your instructions from the Department.

You will also be governed in the movements of the Regent, by such reliable information as may be conveyed to you by the Collectors of ports of the United States within the Gulf of Mexico.

The Department desires prompt information of your movements, and in relation to the matters herein embraced.

I am very respectfully,

Yours Obedt. Servt.
John S. Kennedy.

Commodore Charles Morris

U. S. Navy Washington.

Navy Department,
June 29. 1850.

Sir: You are hereby directed to take passage in the U. S. Steam Viper, and you will proceed to Havana in the Island of Cuba. On reaching Havana you will enter upon the execution of the special instructions of the President of the United States through the State Department, with which you have been furnished.

When your mission shall have terminated, you will return in the Viper to the port of Washington and report to this Department.

I am, very respectfully,

Yr. obt. St.

Wm. Ballard Preston

Lieutenant William Smith

Commanding U. S. Steam Viper

U. S. Navy Yard, Washington.

Navy Department
June 29. 1850.

Sir: As soon as the U. S. Steam Viper under your command is ready for sea, you will proceed without delay, touching at Norfolk to complete her outfit to Havana in the Island of Cuba.

On arriving at Norfolk, you will report to Commodore Strat who has been instructed to furnish you promptly with the number of men required to fill up the Viper's complement, to accomplish which you will remain at Norfolk no longer than may be absolutely necessary.

Commodore Charles Morris has been ordered to take passage in the Viper to Havana. He is charged with special instructions from the Government of the United States, in the execution of which you will afford all the facilities he may require of you. When his mission has been terminated, or when instructed so to do by Commodore Morris, you will return to the Port of Washington and report to this Department.

I am, very respectfully,

Yr. obt. St.

Wm. Ballard Preston

Naval Department

March 22: 1854.

Sir,

Your dispatch, in relation to the *Black Warrior*, has just been received. It makes its appearance at the same time in the *New York Daily Times* of the 21st instant, copy of which is herewith enclosed. Can you make any suggestion to the Department as to the manner in which this official communication has found its way into the public prints?

The Department is gratified that you were at Havana at the time of the seizure of the *Black Warrior* as also with the prudent course pursued by you.

Very respectfully

Jr. 016 St.

J. C. Dutton

Lieutenant J.

*James M. Watson
Commanding U.S. Steamer Fulton
Havana, Islid of Cuba.*

Naval Department

April 17: 1854.

Sir,

Since the 24th of February last, your despatches numbered 194-196 to 199, inclusively, and 200 to 212 inclusively have been received. Number 200 has not reached the Department.

The visit of the *Fulton* to the ports of St. Domingo and Matanzas was opportune and the general cruising of that vessel and the *Silbany*, to which your despatches 203-4-5 and 8 relate is satisfactory.

Your report, No 202 of the condition of the *Columbia*, *Silbany* and *Fulton* for active service, is gratifying.

You state in your number 201. that immediately upon an-
choring at Havana. I got, first from our Consul, Mr. Robertson,
and from him obtained the first intimation of any kind in relation
to the recent difficulties of the Steamer "Black Warrior", upon hear-
ing which; and after reading our President's views of the matter as
expressed in his message and communication of the affair to Con-
gress, and after seeing in the "Gaceta de la Habana" the Govern-
ment organ in which nothing is published save by authority of
the Captain General, articles of the most abusive and scandalous na-
ture against my Country and President, I got, I deemed it advisable
and proper, not to salute the place, or pay the customary visit of cour-
tesy and respect to the Captain General. I regret that any circum-
stances should have occurred calculated to cause for a moment
the suspension of courtesy to any power. Its practice and mainten-
ance always tend to promote harmony and generous sentiments among
nations. Our Government, however, having taken the position
that in the case of the "Black Warrior" a wanton wrong was commit-
ted upon the rights of American Citizens, not merely discriminations,
but positively offensive, and the authorities of Havana instead of dis-
avowing the outrage, having rather, thus far, defended it, I cannot
disapprove of the feelings of national pride, which prompted you
to decline saluting the place.

It is, however, hardly necessary for me to admonish you
of the importance of avoiding every thing calculated to excite and
incite ill feeling. Not a defeat - but a lofty and dignified
bearing compares best with the honorable feelings of a proud people.

Very respectfully

Commodore
J. S. Newton
Commanding U. S. Home Squadron
Hampton Roads
Chesapeake Bay.

Wm. H. G. Lottin

Confidential.Navy Department
April 3^d 1855.

Sir, Events have recently occurred which constrain me, most reluctantly, to change for the present (and merely temporarily I trust,) the destination of the Jamestown. The yellow fever unfortunately has deprived the Government of the services of the Frigate Columbia, which very materially weakens the strength of the Home Squadron. So great is the difficulty of procuring substitutes, that we have no prospect whatever of very soon supplying their place.

The course pursued of late by the Spanish authorities at Cuba, is of a character, if persisted in, unquestionably very likely to disturb the friendly relations of the two countries.

I need not recite to you all the irritating incidents occasioned by those authorities which have attracted the attention of the Government, but call your attention chiefly to the recent firing into the Mail Steamer El Dorado, and subjecting that vessel to delay, visitation and search. This act is regarded as an exercise of power which the United States have ever firmly refused to recognise, and to which they will never submit. In the absence of a Declaration of War, which alone entitles, to Congress, our Officers in command of Ships of War would have no right to pursue and retaliate for such an act. But, if present, when the offence is perpetrated upon a vessel rightfully bearing the flag of our country, the Officer would be regarded as derelict in his duty, if he did not promptly interpose. Notice the arrested American Ship - prevent the exercise of this assumed right of visitation or search and repel the interference by force.

I have considered it proper merely to throw out these suggestions. The United States seek no collision with Spain. Her Officers in command of Ships of War are desired scrupulously to observe the Law of Nations and to extend all courtesy and respect to the flags of other Powers. But these rules do not require submission for a moment, to the deliberate violation of principles held as sacred by our Statesmen and our people, and without the observance of which, Peace, however desirable, cannot be maintained.

I enclose you a copy of Mr. Murray's letter to Mr. Cuetto, the Spanish Minister. That lays down, very clearly, the principles which will guide the Officers of the Navy. You will, however, receive special instructions in due time from Commodore McCanley, who will succeed in the San Jacinto, to Cuba and its vicinity, on special duty, for a short time, and being the Senior Officer, with you that period, be in Command of the Home Squadron, of which the Jamestown will constitute a part, for but only a few weeks.

You will now proceed immediately on receipt of this despatch to Key West, touching at Havana, not delaying there, however, longer than to call on the Consul, and inform him, confidentially, of your destination, listening however to suggestions he may have to make. At Key West you will await instructions from Commodore McCanley.

I trust, Captain, that this little interference with your regular duties in charge of the Squadron of the Coast of Africa may be brief, very brief, and that you may soon be on your way from the West Indies to your Station. The emergency will be appreciated and I mistake you much if you are not ready, cordially to go where the interests and honor of your Country invite you.

Yours, respectfully
J. C. Dobbin

Captain
Thomas Crotty
Appointed to Command
African Squadron
Norfolk, Va.

C. S. McCauley
Sir,

*U. S. Navy Department
Washington April 10th 1855.*

The Department has determined to assign you to special duty and place you temporarily in command of the Home Squadron.

Reposing confidence in your prudence, experience and patriotism, I have selected you for the discharge of certain duties always delicate and responsible, the proper execution of which may involve questions of National Honor and Peace.

Recent events in Cuba and on the high seas in the vicinity of that Island are of a character calculated not merely to attract attention and excite the solicitude of this Government, but to call for constant vigilance on your part in order that the rights of our countrymen and the interest of our commerce may be neither wantonly assailed nor carelessly disregarded. It is thereby necessary that I should undertake to invite with particularity all the circumstances which are worthy of your consideration - but I deem it proper to call your attention to the conduct of the Commander of the Spanish frigate *Turana* in firing at the United States Mail Steamer *El Comodo* and subjecting that vessel to delay, visitation and search about eight miles from Cape San Antonio on an occurrence which if approved by the Spanish authorities, is likely to disturb the friendly relations between the two Governments - and a course of proceeding, which if persisted in cannot but provoke collision.

I need not remind you, Commodore, that the right of visitation or search of our vessels on the high seas is one, the existence of which the United States have steadily refused to recognize, and the exercise of which they will with equal firmness ever refuse to tolerate.

The President instructs me to say to you that if any officer in command of a ship of war be present when an outrage of the character heretofore mentioned is perpetrated on a vessel rightfully bearing our flag, he will promptly interfere - relieve the wronged American ship - prevent the exercise of the assumed right of visitation or search and, if the interference be by force. The President is not unmindful of the present disturbed condition of Cuba. But, whatever weight may be attached to these considerations - the excited apprehensions of the authorities of

that Island, - raising it is believed out of the condition of its internal affairs and not from any movement in this country in violation of our neutrality laws - can work no suspension of national law, nor reconcile a submission to the violation of any right resulting from the Law of Nations or treaty stipulations.

The United States seek no collision with Spain. The Officers of our Navy are desired and expected, scrupulously to observe the Law of Nations and uniformly to extend all courtesy and respect to the Flags of other powers. But these rules do not require consent for a moment to the deliberate violation of principles held sacred by the United States, and without the observance of which, peace, however desirable, cannot be maintained.

The conduct of the authorities of Cuba, in overhauling and searching our vessels cannot rest on the ground of territorial jurisdiction, and this Government denies the existence of any state of facts to warrant the exercise of belligerent rights. Your instructions are confined to cases arising on the high seas, because as at present advised, the offensive acts which have been committed are of that character. Other offensive acts, however, undoubtedly might occur within the proper territorial jurisdiction of Cuba, to which this Government could not and would not submit for a moment. Should such a case arise, you will immediately report the facts to this Department, and await further instructions, unless some prompt interposition should become necessary for the preservation of the lives and property of citizens of the United States.

Accompanying this despatch, you will receive a copy of the recent letter of Mr. Marcy, Secretary of State, to Mr. Cuetos, the Spanish Minister at Washington, to which your attention is specially invited, as setting forth with distinctness and force the views entertained by the President on this subject.

The vessels constituting the Home Squadron, under your command, for the present, are the San Jacinto, Captain Shubling, the Jamestown, Captain Crotte, the Salmon, Commander Shaw, the Princeton, Commander Eagle and the Fulton, Lieut Commr. Mitchell to which other vessels will be added at the earliest practicable moment.

The Jamestown, Captain Crotte, having been originally assigned as the flagship of the African Squadron, is designed, only temporarily, to form a part of the Home Squadron, and is now, probably, on her way to Key West, at which point after touching at Havana, she will await your instructions. I enclose you a copy of my instructions to Captain Crotte.

The Department desires you to proceed immediately to Philadelphia, where the Steam Frigate *San Jacinto* is now lying, and designed as the flag-ship of the Home Squadron, and after hoisting your Broad Pendant on board of that vessel, you will direct your course first to Havana, at which place you will seek an interview with our Acting Consul - procure from him all the information bearing upon the duties of the Home Squadron and then regulate your cruising and the movements of the Ships under your command with a view to the protection of the rights and interests of your country.

I deem it unnecessary, Commodore, to multiply suggestions, to one of your long experience and excellent judgment, or to enlarge upon the importance of doing every thing in your power to preserve discipline and to promote a cheerful and elevated spirit among the Officers and men under your command.

You will avail yourself of every opportunity to keep the Department advised of your movements and the condition of affairs within the limits of your Station.

Wishing you an agreeable and successful cruise,

I am
Very respectfully
your obt. Servt
J. C. Hobbs
Act. Secy.
Comm^dg
Chas. S. McEnulty
Off. in Command
Home Squadron
Washington
D. C.

Flag, ship Constellation
at Sea Sat 22.9 Sep 1855
Sept. 27. 1855.

Wm

I have the honor to acknowledge that on the 25th inst
when between these and four hundred miles from
Washington, a boat from this Agency, loaded and
American, arrived four days from the Cape of this
country. The commander informed the landing
officer that our Government was sending all the
ships of war to Cuba, and gave him a file of news
papers in which he was to believe that the Navy
Department is particularly desirous, at this moment,
to assemble all its available naval forces in this
immediate neighborhood of Havana.

Under the full conviction that by
restoring to this fleet, I would anticipate this
order of the Department, I determined without
delay to bring up for the consideration of the
Senate on my way that their interest to sustain this
constitution in the quarter to which I believe the
would have been directed by the Department had
it been in its power to communicate with me.

It is my most earnest desire
to convey out the wishes of the President and to
sustain him, as far as I can, to the utmost extent
of my ability with this view I cheerfully forego
the pleasure of returning to my home.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully,
Yours
Wm. Lloyd Garrison
Secretary of the Am. A. S. Society
Washington D. C.

Navy Department,
May 31st 1855.

Sir,

The Department has received with great satisfaction your despatch numbered 6. and written at Havana on the 22nd instant, in which you announce "the raising of the state of siege in which the island of Cuba has for some time been placed," "the removal of the blockades of its ports," and that "every thing is quiet" there.

The peculiar circumstances which induced me to call for your services by assigning you to special duty and placing you in temporary command of the Home Squadron, having now ceased to exist, and it being your desire "to return home after making such a disposition of the ships of the Squadron as will insure adequate protection to our commerce," I do not deem it necessary to continue for a longer period the present organization of the Home Squadron. You will, therefore, on receipt of this communication direct Captain Beatty to proceed in the *Gloria* of war "Jamesstown" to the Coast of Africa in execution of the orders of the Department, to him dated April 3rd 1855.

The cruising of the other vessels, you will so arrange as best to subserve the interests of the United States in the Gulf of Mexico and among the West India islands, sending to the Department a copy of each of your orders to their respective Commanders;—after which you will return in the Steam Frigate *San Jacinto* entering the port of New York.

I need not remind you further of the circumstances under which you were temporarily assigned to the command of the Home Squadron.

On reaching New York you will inform the Department of your arrival and await orders in reference to yourself and Successors.

I am gratified that affairs have moved on so quietly and satisfactorily under your command.

Very respectfully

Commodore
Charles C. The Cauley
Commanding U. S. Home Squadron
Havana
Island of Cuba.

Wm. C. C. Smith
J. C. Dobbin