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MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Roll 125

March 1-May 31, 1851



THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Washington: 1963

Logan Hunter  
3. From the Same to the Same 17 May

(to) (ccy)

Office U. S. Attorney  
New Orleans, March 1831

Hon Daniel Webster

Secretary of State

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Jury impaneled a few days since, in the case of the U. S. against John Henderson, were unable to agree upon a verdict - and were this morning discharged by the Court. It is understood that eleven of the Jurors were for acquitting the accused, and one for finding him guilty.

After the Jury were discharged a Melle Prosequit was issued in the case of Henderson. I then stated to the Court, that, as I could adduce no stronger testimony against any of the persons indicted for participating in the Cuban Expedition, than had been offered against Henderson, and could not, therefore hope a different result in the other cases - and in view of the great difficulty in obtaining and impartial jury in consequence of the Act of Congress respecting the Manufacture of Arms District to the Parish of Orleans surrounding New Orleans, I should, with consent of the Court, defer the trial of the cases pending in Court, growing out of the Cuban Invasion, and the entry, for according made.

I am, sir, with high respect  
Yr obedient Servt  
J. S. Logan Canton  
P. L. S. Atty.

the 11th April.

Warren Elihu  
April 15

(Confidential) (BARTOW COUNTY).

Lassville, Ga.

April 5<sup>th</sup> 1851.

Sir,

I hope you will pardon me not consider me  
 officious, the liberty I now take of letting you know  
that efforts are now being made in this part of the  
State to get volunteers to make another attack on the  
island of Cuba. I have received suitable information  
that several persons in this and adjoining counties  
have agreed to join the expedition. I learn that a  
man, who was captain of a company in the last  
war with Mexico, is at the head of this unlaunched  
undertaking here, and has in his possession their plans  
of operation prepared in the most plausible manner  
showing what proportion of the people of the island  
will join the invaders, and how they will obtain money  
in the island as soon as they take possession of it. There is no doubt of the truth of our information and  
 as a law-abiding citizen I feel it to be my duty  
 to put you upon it.

I have the honor to be,

Yours very sincerely

Warren Elihu

Rec'd 18 April.

46.8.1004  
44.10Private.

Columbus Ga. April 10, 1851.

My dearest,

It is proper that I should advise you that I shall not be ready to leave for Havana on the 15<sup>th</sup>. A long absence from Georgia has called for more time to arrange my affairs than I had supposed would be necessary. I shall leave Charleston S.C. in the Isabell 1<sup>st</sup> prox<sup>o</sup>. which I trust will meet your approbation.

It would be very gratifying to me to have an opportunity of seeing you for an hour to state more in detail than I can through this medium what I have learned about the intended, or contemplated invasion of the Island of Cuba. I have not a doubt but that as many as 1600 men have promised to go as an invading force - that the leaders own a number of steamers - that they have sold Bond, & raised money by the sale - that they have purchased arms & ammunition, & that they rely on some 13,000 or more of the Cubans to raise the standard of rebellion when these men shall have set foot upon the island. I ought to have to add that I believe that a part of the men & money has been raised (in

in Georgia. I was shown to day a letter from one of the leaders dated late in March giving details which greatly astonished me & from it the present month to about this time or a little later is fixed for the undertaking. The letter was intended to urge a Captain in the first attempt (1849) to join the present attempt which it seems he had declined because the probability of success was not great enough. The gentleman who had the letter assured me that the ladies of Cuba had sent over to the U. S. for the purchase of arms &c. jewelry to the value of \$102,000 & that he had himself seen a very large part of it.

I have felt it to be my duty to mention these things to you & yet I do not know that it will be of any advantage that I do so.

I have the  
honor to be  
with great esteem  
Yrs. obt servt  
A. J. Owen

To  
The Honble

Daniel Webster  
Secty of State  
of the U. S.

Recd 16 April.

Isaac Scott

13 Ap[ri]l

and Wilson Geo. April 1857.

Hon. Daniel Webster, Mr. Garrison,  
Secretary & Co., a number  
Washington City, and General Ad-  
ministrators, Dear Sir, and Friends,

After the Battle of Bull Run, Gen. Lee  
doubtless heard it announced that an  
other effort was soon to be made  
by General Cooper and his friends  
to revolutionize the Island of Cuba.

Companies of men from different  
sections of the South are drawn  
rendezvousing at some place on  
the coast of Florida. whom Major  
says. are on their Steam Boats  
are in readiness to convey them to  
Cuba, certain this that one  
company of about forty men arrived  
here this evening by Rail Road from  
the interior of this State or there  
way to the place above referred  
to, and several Boxes of fire  
arms have also arrived here  
from the interior. Shipped by Rail  
way as merchandise consigned to  
Capt. John Larva. Saratoga, N.Y.

It is said here, and the truth

of it is both doubted. Both Generals  
Hartman & Dr. David who was arris-  
ed and tried at New Orleans, General  
Quinton a Mississipian, Genl. Mc-  
Intosh, Balmer, and perhaps the four  
other Generals of this State are all  
that headed the expedition.

With this respects  
and the St. Lawrence you will  
see you soon. Good Scott.

Yours affecly  
John C. Frémont

H. Brown.

## Executive Department Florida

To His Excellency Millard Fillmore  
President of the United States

Sir

Having recently visited  
the Island of Key West, I have an opportunity  
of observing the disquietude manifested by the  
People of that Island, on account of their  
exposed position, in the event of another expedition  
against Cuba; which was believed by many  
to be in contemplation. And some of the most  
influential and intelligent gentlemen of the  
place urged me to write to your Excellency  
and request that a War Steamer from the  
Squadron at Pensacola may be ordered to  
stand by at that place - which I would  
respectfully advise.

Since my return to Jacksonville, rumors  
have served to confirm me in the belief  
that the project of another descent on Cuba  
is in foot. Strongly are about our City  
without any avowed object; and it is reported  
that men in detached parties are moving  
from this vicinity - in Miles from Georgia  
towards the Coast.

I have the honor to be very respectfully  
Yours Mo: Ch: S: H. Brown

## ANOTHER CUBA EXPEDITION.

{OFFICE OF FLORIDA SENTINEL,  
Tallahassee, Wednesday, April 16, 1851.}

We have this morning the following interesting intelligence from a very reliable and well informed source, that another Cuba expedition is on foot! The Captain General of Cuba is proved to be better informed on this subject than Mr. Clay. It will be recollect that, at their recent meeting in Havana, the Spanish functionary asserted that a second invading expedition was in progress, but Mr. Clay thought it a mistake.

With regard to the suggestion thrown out by our correspondent, that more is going on in Florida than in Georgia, in reference to this expedition, we need not say he is mistaken. There have been plenty of talk and negotiation here, but no "*movement*," so far as we are advised.

A large Spanish fleet, including two or three war steamers, now guards the Spanish coast, and the United States steam frigate Saratoga is cruising in the Gulf. Late intelligence from Havana shows that the Spanish authorities are wide awake, and the military force on the island has been nearly doubled since the Lopez invasion. Increased difficulties and dangers must, therefore, attend this second attempt on the island, and, whether successful or not, it can scarcely be a bloodless expedition.

"CUBA is the exciting topic here. Individuals (not soldiers yet) have been passing here for the seaboard for the last four days, from our Cherokee Counties. On Wednesday last, fifty-five passed by the railroad to a rendezvous near Savannah. Thursday, Friday and to-day, about 20 each day.— They openly avow their object.

"It is understood that a large company left a county in this vicinity yesterday, headed by a General of the Militia: The matter has been managed quite secretly, as no one seemed to believe that such a thing as a Cuba expedition was actually on foot, until the men commenced leaving. From what I see and learn, I should judge that a large number will embark from Georgia. I must presume, however, that matters pertaining to this expedition are better known to you at this time than to myself."

Rec'd 19 April.

Jas. Tolger  
1851Cincinnati April 15<sup>th</sup>

Sir

At the request of several of the men who were imprisoned by the Spanish authorities at Cuba, usually called the "Convoy prisoners" (being myself one of them) and by the advice of the Hon D. S. Disney, I write to you for information regarding a claim for damages, referred by us, for false imprisonment, together with our depositions taken by the District Attorney at Mobile. We wish to know if such a claim has been forwarded to you and if so, what has been done or is likely to be done with regard to the matter. An early answer will oblige

Your most

Obed't servant

Jas Tolger

To the Hon Secretary of State  
Washington city  
D.C.

Butter St

Cincinnati  
Ohio

Rec'd. 16 April.

Wm. H. Graham  
16 April.

Navy Department,

April 16<sup>th</sup> 1851.

Sir:

By direction of the President,  
I have the honor to transmit herewith,  
copies of telegraphic despatches,  
relative to an expedition, supposed  
to be meditated, from the Coast of  
the United States, against the Island  
of Cuba, and the orders issued there-  
upon, from this Department, to pre-  
vent its prosecution, and to enforce  
the law against those engaged in  
it.

I am very respectfully,  
Your obed. servant  
Wm. H. Graham

Telegraph

Atlanta W<sup>th</sup> U.S.

To President of the U. States

Our rail-roads are crowded  
with an army of advertisements destined for Can-  
ada by way of Savannah beyond all doubt.

(Signed) J. Remond  
Editor Republican

Navy Department  
Washington April 11<sup>th</sup> 1851

To the Collector  
of the port of Savannah,  
Georgia.

The President has been informed  
by Telegraph, that an army of adventurers  
has passed - & is now destined for Cuba by  
way of Savannah. He requests that you  
will immediately inform him, if they have  
arrived, and if preparations are making  
to embark. Also that the Marshal will  
advise with the District Attorney, and if  
possible prevent any violation of the Law.

(Signed) Wm. A. Graham  
Sec. Navy

Missed.

Savannah 12<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Wm. A. Graham

I much fear that there are per-  
sons congregating in this vicinity who are  
suspected as intending to go on an expedi-  
tion to Cuba. I have taken precautionary  
steps, so far as being vigilant in concerned  
and

and will arrest any steps to carry from this  
port a suspicious vessel.

(Signed) William Roberts

Collector

Per Telegraph.

Confidential

Navy Department  
April 12<sup>th</sup> 1851

(Signed)  
The President is informed that an ex-  
pedition is in progress against Cuba, probably  
from Savannah. Should you discover that  
such an expedition is in fact from any port  
of the Southern Coast, you will use all law-  
ful means to prevent it. And if the party  
has sailed you will repair immediately  
to Cuba and endeavor to prevent its  
landing. Be therefore ready to sail at  
any moment.

Very respectfully

Yrs obt Lt

(Signed) Wm A Graham

Colonel M H Parker

Comdg. U S Home Squadron

Pensacola - via Mobile

Cmdr of Comdg't off Navy Yards

Navy Department.

April 12. 1851

(Sgt.)

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

Yrs. obt. st.

(Signed) Wm A Graham

Commander William Greer

Cmdg. U. S. S. Decatur, Portsmouth, N.H.

Navy Department.

April 12. 1851.

Sir:

Orders have this day been transmitted to Commander Greer to proceed forthwith with the U. S. S. Decatur under his command to Havana in the Island of Cuba, and there await your further instructions. I am respectfully, Yours obt. st.

(Signed) Wm. A. Graham

Commander W. A. Graham

Cmdg. U. S. S. Decatur, Portsmouth

Per Telegraph.

Confidential

Navy Department.

April 14. 1881.

Command W. Green,

M. S. Ship Decatur,

one of Commandant Navy Yard, Portsmouth N.H.

An expedition is suspected to be on foot  
from some Southern port against Cuba. Until  
you receive orders from Commodore Parker,  
you will be vigilant and active in preventing  
any American vessel of such expedition from  
Landing on that island.

(Signed) Will Graham

Telegraph

Savannah 11<sup>th</sup>

The Society of the Navy:

Runners are full of news referring  
to the Cuba Expedition - none as yet con-  
fible. Also authorized to employ a steamer  
to fly off the district. Will write par-  
ticulars by mail.

(Signed) Hiram Roberts

Postmarked Macon, April 18

W.H. CALHAN

Rec'd 24 April 1851.

W.H. Calham

Georgia, Newton County, April 18

Frame 418

To the Secretary of State: There is a camp 15 miles below  
Macon in the valley between the N. & S. Mts. graced with  
~~Bonaparte~~ & friends and they do not deny that there was bound  
to be by the fire committed by Capt. Nelson from that  
upper part of said State they are same what treason  
has taught them will remain is uncertain they are waiting  
for orders they are young men & as is joined that  
they say they object to whether General Scott  
had through this Country a sword. Since going  
to regard the lower part of this State their  
whole countenance has changed and are a proslavery  
organized company that are to meet there  
by so good to inform you faithfully of your  
with respect yours etc. William H. Calham

Rec'd 28 April.

Logan Atenton  
17th 18

Office of United States Attorney  
New Orleans April 18 1857

Hon. Daniel Webster

Secretary of State

Sir

I have recently received from the Spanish Consul at this place two communications in reference to another contemplated Invasion of the Island of Cuba.

These communications contained expression of a belief or apprehension that such a movement is about being made, rather than a statement of fact which might call for the interposition of the Civil Authority of the Government to arrest it. Without delay, however, I caused searching inquiries to be directed to the quarter (the vicinity of Lafayette) to which the suspicions of the Consul pointed, and am satisfied that those suspicions were not well founded — at least, so far as they look to any movement to be made about this time from the City of New Orleans or the vicinity of Lafayette. No such unlawful assembly of men destined for Cuba, as that reported by the Consul to me, as collecting in, or near Lafayette could be found.

Without giving a detail of the facts upon which my opinion is founded, I deem it proper to communicate

to you, briefly, the result of my inquiries, in relation to the subject referred to.

I believe a second Expedition against the Island of Cuba is contemplated — that efforts are being made by persons in the United States to induce the people of that Island to revolt — that the same persons are engaging and enlisting men in this Country to proceed to Cuba as soon as a demonstration of revolt shall have been made on the Island — that the leaders and projection of this unlawful expedition will not make this City the principal theatre of their operations or the place of rendezvous.

I do not believe that an Expedition will move from the United States, shortly, unless a revolt can be first effected on the Island.

And here I may be allowed to express the opinion that the Military and Naval force of the Government, rather than the Judiciary, must be relied on to meet any future expedition that may be attempted from the quarters of the United States, against the Island of Cuba.

The result of the recent "Cuban trials" in this City, fully justifies, I think, this conclusion.

I deem it not improper to add the suggestion — that it would be well that the Federal Officers of the State of Mississippi should be advised of the contemplated Expedition, and be directed to keep watch

on the shores of Lake Borgne in that State, with  
reference to the military preparations which it  
is supposed will be made there.

I am, Sir, with high respect  
Yr obt Servt  
Logan Houston  
U. S. Attorney

*Sam'l. Webster*  
Apr. 23  
**The Magnetic Telegraph Company,**

Between New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington,  
(AND INTERMEDIATE STATIONS,) .....

Connecting with the Southern, Western, Eastern and Northern Lines of Morse's Telegraph.

TO THE TELEGRAPHING PUBLIC.

Please write plainly; answer quickly; *pre-pay*; use no figures, except dates, they cost more; give name, street, and number of the party addressed, to insure prompt delivery; also your own address under your signature; no charge for address and signature. The above is for your safety as well as our convenience.

**OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, No. 6, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,**  
North side, between 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 6th streets.

Office in BALTIMORE, ..... No. 2 Merchants' Exchange, South Gay-St.  
Office in PHILADELPHIA, ..... Quincy Granite Building, No. 101 Chesnut-St.  
Office in NEW-YORK, ..... No. 5 Hanover Street, Cor. of Beavet-St.

By Telegraph, Dated Boston, Apr. 23<sup>d</sup>, 1851.

Received, Washington, Apr. 23<sup>d</sup>, 11 A.M., 3 min. S. M.

To President U. S.,

I regret to have been so long delayed, it has been unavoidable, I go tomorrow, what will be in New York, please write me there.

*Sam'l. Webster.*

Received 23 April.

J. L. Hall

Southern District of New-York,

U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1851

Sir,

The Marshal of this District has received information in detail of a projected expedition of some four hundred or five hundred men who are to take part in the meditated invasion of Cuba, and are to depart from this port in the steamboat Cleopatra for a general rendezvous on our Southern Coast. The precise date of which shall be put upon this information it is difficult to determine, but upon this notice conveys to the offices of Government here I have deemed it prudent to send Mr. Attorney the bearer to Washington to apprise your department of the facts as alleged to exist.

Upon an examination of the sum-

July 1st of 1818, I am satisfied that  
the only effective proceeding which  
can be taken to arrest this expedi-  
tion from this port, is by the exer-  
cise of the authority of the Presid-  
ent under the 8<sup>th</sup> section here to be  
delegated to some person here. It was  
upon such authority committed to the  
District Attorney by the late President  
that the former expedition was so suc-  
cessfully arrested in this Port.

As the exigency of the case may re-  
quire instructions to be transmitted  
by telegraph, a message by that line  
from the Minister in these words  
"Ordered by the President's authority un-  
der the 8<sup>th</sup> section" will be acted  
upon by that officer as circumstances  
may require to arrest the projected  
expedition.

I have the honor to be

Your obt servt

J. Presente Held  
U.S. Atty.

Hon Genl Webster  
Secy State

W. F. Denwick

23 April

To the President.

I this morning requested  
Mr. Ridgway, (who brought the  
letter received from Mr. Hale  
(this morning) to hand me a  
memorandum or statement of all  
the information he had on the  
subject of the new expedition  
against Cuba. He has just  
handed me the enclosed, which  
I have the honor to submit for  
your perusal & consideration.

W. F. Denwick.

23 April, 1831.

Rec'd 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Frame 461

At a personal interview which I had yesterday morning in New York with Dr. Burtnett (who made his communications under the assumed name of American Smith, and desires that his name be disclosed to none but officers of the Government) I learned that he was deeply interested in a projected invasion of the Island of Cuba by a force about to embark for that destination at the Port of New York: that the Steamboat Geophorus (of about 900 or 1000 tons burthen) had been chartered for this purpose; that she was to proceed as far as the Horse Shoe, at Sandy Hook and there remain at anchor

until 400 men could be shipped  
on board the vessel made &  
ready for sailing; that in the  
morning of to-day (April 23)  
75 men were to arrive by the  
~~southern~~<sup>southern</sup> train at  
ambey and remain <sup>until night</sup> secreted;  
that the sloop William Roe  
was this evening or tomorrow  
evening at about 9 or 10  
o'clock to put on board the  
Cleopatra 200 men - 200  
of whom are Hungarians -  
which said 200 men she was  
to carry from the City of N.Y.  
about dusk; that the  
little Steamboat C Durant  
was on the same evening  
to convey from Jersey City  
75 additional men, which  
she was to put on board said  
Cleopatra at about 10<sup>1/2</sup> P.M.  
and then, all things being  
ready, the Cleopatra was  
to set mister weigh from

her anchorage at the "Horse"  
Shoe, inside of Sandy Hook,  
and pass out about the  
hour of midnight.

Mr. Burnett alleges that  
he chartered the William  
Roe & C Durant in direction  
of the Cuban Junta, sitting  
in New York, and that  
he is in possession of nearly  
all the secret intentions  
of said Junta regarding the  
threatened invasion. He  
stated me that he was  
fully acquainted with the  
names of the principal  
persons concerned; that he  
knew what signals had  
been fixed upon, the place  
of rendezvous (which he  
said was on our Southern  
coast), the number of  
men and arms to be engaged  
and where they were to  
start from; that ten  
Steamboats besides the Cleopatra

were to be employed in conveying troops from various American ports to the rendezvous come in possession of.  
He further says that Capt Wilson goes out in the Cleopatra as commander, and Capt Lewis (who commanded the Creole on Lopez' expedition to Cardenas) is to accompany him as a passenger & afterward take command of one of the steamers.

Directly after communication of this information, Burnett left me with the intention of proceeding to Amboy and perfecting his arrangements, agreeing to return to New York last evening at 10 o'clock. Immediately thereafter to call on Mr Tallmadge, the N.Y. Marshal, at his home place in his hands several of the expeditionary charts & directions, together with such further intelligence as he might in the interim come

Washington April 23<sup>d</sup>. 1857

James P. Ridgway  
Regt Clerk A.G. Atty's Office for  
the Co. Dist. of N.Y.

Read & May.

Noratus Adams

23 April

Frame 465

United States Attorney's Office,  
Rockburg, Miss. April 23, 1851.

Sir:

For some time past, rumors of a new  
expedition against the Island of Cuba, have  
been in circulation.

I have not been able to ascertain, that  
any movements, directed to that object, have  
been made, by citizens or residents of this  
district; nor is it probable that any organization,  
such as the government would be  
authorized to interfere with, will take place  
in Mississippi.

If and I come into possession of any facts,  
which may be important, connected with this  
matter, they will be promptly communicated.

I am respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Noratus Adams,

U.S. District Attorney.

Atm. United States,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Read & Ruled by A. F. Brown  
24 Apr

Dear Sir,

He confidently asserted that Genl Lamor former President of Paraguay is the leader of at least the Georgia portion of those who propose to invade Cuba.

I have heard since I wrote you last that about 70 persons left Columbia (32 miles distant) to join this

expedition, and among them the Gentleman of whom I spoke of having been educated at West Point.

Subsequent developments prove that what I had heard was true.

They man have money & they have some steamers.

I think if Mr. Clay looked around him in New Orleans he had occasion to change <sup>the opinion</sup> he expressed to the Capt. General. I am with great  
TALbotton his master's team  
apl 24'57. A. F. Owen

[Owen was from Talbotton, Ga.]

Rec'd 25 April.

J. Russell Hope  
Ap' 24

Southern District of New-York,

U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

April 24<sup>th</sup> 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a telegraphic despatch from your Department yesterday in reply to my letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. and confirming the authority therein asked for. It reached me only after two O'clock P.M. of that day, tho' Mr. Ridgway since his return has informed me that it was despatched from Washington much before that time. I am also in receipt by the hands of Mr. Ridgway of the letter from the Department of 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. confirming full authority upon me to act under the 8<sup>th</sup> section of the Act of 1818.

Immediately after the receipt of the telegraphic despatch, I sent to the Navy Yard with a view of ob-

turning some force from there to assist the Marshal in case of necessity, but was met by a refusal on the part of Capt. Salt to furnish such additional instructions to that effect from the Secretary of the Navy. Capt. Salt is stated that he had been specifically directed by the late Secretary of the Navy not to allow any men or arms from the Navy Yard upon such requisition from civil officers until directed so to do by the Navy Department.

The Collector of the Port placed the Revenue Cutter under the orders of the Marshal and that officer proceeded in person, with a sufficient additional force in view of the crew of the Cutter, the latter being under command of a steamer, to Sandy Hook prepared to arrest the crew of the "People's" if she should make her appearance and take her expected freight on board. From sources which

reliance this morning, that steamer did not leave the wharf last night. These causes were the nonpayment of a sum of money which was required by a certain party before he would allow the steamer to leave, and the arrest by the Collector of Port Albany of a steamer which was to transport one hundred & fifty men from there to the blockade at Sandy Hook. Of this latter fact I was informed early this morning by a special messenger from the Collector at Port Albany, but the circumstances have no notice of it by signals or telegraph last evening.

The immediate plans of the expedition having been thus frustrated, the only actual intervention I have had occasion to make has been the direction this morning at the wharf of the "People's" she was getting ready to leave, and as her entire cargo of cargo, and the number of supplies of water and provisions for at least five hundred men con-

set the proper information we have received concerning her, I deemed it a proper exercise of authority under the Act to detain her until proper explanations on the part of those interested in her should relieve the suspicions now thrown upon her intentions and destination.

I have today transmitted copies of your letter of yesterday to Capt. Settle and the Commanding Officer on Governor's Island with an inquiry whether I can rely on the forces under their command and their own civil authorities to the authority conferred upon me by that letter. I have as yet received no answer and cannot therefore say whether they will act upon my requisition without instructions from Washington from their respective departments. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of a suitable communication to those offices, that in any future or

case there may be no misunderstanding between us.

I am now fully satisfied that the information upon which I acted in addressing my letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> Inst. to the Department was correct, tho' I was at the time distrustful of it. Unjustified faith in the working of this circle and ill-conceived propensity was where here prompted us from bypassing the "Bureau" with all the authorities on board.

I shall communicate to the Department any matter of interest in the premises that may arise.

I have the honor to be  
Yours obt servt  
Hon. Sart Webster  
Supt State L.

J. Penrett Hall  
A. S. Atty.

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## TO THE TELEGRAPHING PUBLIC.

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OF E IN WASHINGTON, NO. 6, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,

North side, between 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 6th streets.

Office in BALTIMORE, ..... No. 2 Merchants' Exchange, South Gay-St.  
Office in PHILADELPHIA, ..... Quincy Granite Building, No. 101 Chesnut-St.  
Office in NEW-YORK, ..... No. 5 Hanover Street, Cor. of Beaver-St.

By Telegraph, Dated

New York April 25 1851.

Received, Washington, 10 M. o'clock, min. M.

To

Wm J Derrick Esq  
Actg Secy State

Say to the President that Mr Hall is sick - that I saw Mr Evans last Evening that this affair is important & ramified that I hope to get through what is necessary today Telegraph the United States Officers at Charleston

& Savannah request them to write to St Augustine

Frame 184

Recd 2 May.

file

Baltimore Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 1857

Dear Dan'l Webster

Dear Sir

Key West &c. that the ex-  
pected place of rendezvous  
is some where on the Atlan-  
tic Coast of Florida.

Telegraph also to Mobile &  
New Orleans I write the  
President by mail

Daniel Webster

Post \$3.00

Permit me to intro-  
duce to you my young friend Mr. Geo.  
Wm. H. Hunt with his  
brother is on his way to London to  
attend the World's fair; and is very  
desirous of being made acquainted  
with Mr. St. John our Minister at the  
Court of St. James

I am aware that letters are not  
generally given by the Secy of State  
but hoping, if you feel bound to ad-  
dress to the rule, that you will in  
some way furnish Mr. Hunt with  
some information he leaves Washington  
I know no one, or that City to whom  
I could refer Mr. Hunt, & Thompson  
have taken the liberty, as a friend  
to trouble you and hope you pardon  
me and believe me very respectfully

and truly your friend  
John M. Gray

Dear Dan'l Webster

Dear Sir

I am respectfully

desired the pleasure of troubling you  
in favor of my friend Col Jones, and  
being anxious to have a letter from  
you send it by mail, - hoping your attention  
to it as soon as convenient & am desirous  
of receipt your obd servt

George T. Churchill

P.S.

If I should you favor me please  
direct the letter to New York to the  
care of Hopkins, Allen, and Co. I shall  
leave New York on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Yrs

J. Russell Hale  
26 Apr.

New York April 26<sup>th</sup> 1857.

To the Honbl. D Webster  
Secretary of State  
Sir,

I find myself well enough to be at my office for a short time this morning; and hope in the space of a few days to be entirely restored to health. In the course of the morning Mr Evans will have occasion in all probability to make some communications of importance in relation to the Cuba expeditions, and it seems as if we had at all events struck upon the means of ascertaining the plans of the adventurers and probably of communicating their objects. The Government may rely upon the due exercise of all vigilance both in this office and in that of the Marshal.

By request of Mr. Leaige

Pibbi encloses to you a letter from him which will disclose its own objects; and I can only say that if the Department of State can do a thing to forward his views it will afford me much gratification.

With great respect

Your obedient servant

P. Prescott Hall

U. S. Dist. Attor.

The rendezvous of General Lopez and others is at or in the neighborhood of Savannah or within a day's sail of that Port. Warrant for the arrest of Chilivian, Rogers, Chalenger, Ulson, Lewis and Sand are now in the hands of the Marshal. P. Prescott Hall

Rec'd 28 April.

Custom House, Perth Amboy

Collector's Office, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 1837.

Sir

During my temporary absence of two or three hours from this place on the day before Yesterday, information was received that a body of Emigrants was to arrive at South Amboy from Philadelphia, to be thence taken to New York by a Sloop Chartered for the purpose. Such an arrangement appearing strange, the Deputy Collector for this District accompanied by an Inspector proceeded at 5 P.M. to South Amboy. The Sloop was boarded and after some conversation, the Captain was ordered to cross the River and make fast. This was promptly obeyed. After some time spent in observation of the Party &c. the Deputy Collector returned, leaving an Inspector to watch their movements, a letter to the Collector, U.S. District Atty, & U.S. Marshal at New York, was immediately prepared and placed in the hands of Special Messengers, of which the following is a Copy — See Paper A.

To this, the U.S. Atty returned the following reply, —

— See Paper B.

In order to the exercise of due vigilance it will be necessary to increase the force of Inspectors or Marshals, the presence of a Revenue Cutter in the Harbor may not be altogether without its use. Full instructions with regard to this affair, and for future guidance are most earnestly solicited, as events have proved this to be, for the present at least, an exposed point.

I have the honor to be

Your most Obedient Servt

C. Mc Knight Smith

Collector

Hon. Daniel Webster

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Copy

Custom House, Porte Amboy  
Collector's Office; 10. A.M., 23 Apr. 1851.

Sir,

I have to inform you that the Sloop William Rose, of Frederica, Delaware, came to South Amboy yesterday afternoon on a Charter, to carry 150 Emigrants to New York, who were to arrive this Evening from Philadelphia. To day, the Master of the Sloop was informed by the Charter party, that he wished the men taken to Sandy Hook this Evening, where a Steamer would be in waiting to take them to Baltimore. Later in the day, the Captain was told that every thing must be kept secret, that part of the men were to come down from New York in the John Potter, & the remainder were to arrive at 11. this Evening from Philadelphia, & that the party was bound for Texas, that if the Inquisition were asked where he was bound, he was to reply "New York" -

Accordingly, this P.M.; about 50 fine looking men landed from the Potter, and are now waiting for the Philadelphia party. There are Spaniards, French, Germans and Americans among them, many of whom converse with equal readiness in the English and other Languages.

Most of them have the air of Gentlemen, which they cannot disguise. That they form part of a Secret Expedition of a lawless character, I have little doubt. Their instructions to the Captain were to anchor before the Hook if the Steamship should not be ready, in case tide or wind were unfavorable signals the Steamer would understand were to be fired, a quantity of rockets &c were given in charge of the Captain which he has given up -

As there is no Revenue Cutter at this Port, & the Marshal of this District cannot be reached until 36 hours, I have taken the liberty of communicating these facts to you, as you have facilities for an immediate investigation of the matter.

It may be well to add that the Stock has been detained, and will not be allowed to depart from this Port until morning. The only means left the "Emigrants" of reaching Sandy Hook is by the Steam Transport which leaves at 3. A.M. for New York. This will reach you by Mr Sanford, an Inspector of this Port, who will come up in the Transport. If you have any suggestions, Mr Sanford will bear them with all despatch, as instructed -

New York April 26, 1851

His Excellency  
Millard Fillmore  
My Dear Sir

I enclose an extract from a letter from a very highly intelligent gentleman, who has been passing some time at the South. It may not communicate any information of which the Government is not already in possession -- and although the writer says it is positive only so far as it deduces his conviction that a plot tending utter violation of the Nation's Neutrality & Honor is on foot. I have deemed it proper to lay it before you even though it may not give any facts of which you are not already apprised.

The writer is well known to me -- a gentleman in honor, intelligence & patriotism -- observant & shrewd -- he has been a casual sojourner at the South when the information which he gives has been as it were forced upon him -- he does not desire his name to be communicated, but I know that he is moved by no other consideration than the good of his Country in giving this information.

His suggestion of the employment of an agent at the place designated appears worthy of consideration.

I will in haste to save the mail.

With [...] regard  
Your obdt svt.  
Hamilton Fish

Hamilton Fish

26 Apr<sup>o</sup>

New York April 26. 1851

His Excellency  
Millard Fillmore

My Dear Sir

I enclose an extract from a letter from a very highly intelligent gentleman, who has been passing some time at the British. It may not communicate any information which the Government is not already in possession. and although the writer says it is positive only so far as it relates his conviction that a plot tending to the violation of the Nation's neutrality & honor is on foot. I have deemed it proper to lay it before you, even though it may not give any facts which you are not already apprised.

The writer is well known to me, a gentleman of sound intelligence, & patriotic & disinterested character - he has been a casual sojourner at the British where the information which he gives has been, as it were forced upon him - he does not desire his name to be communicated, but I know that he is moved by no other consideration than the good of his Country in giving this information.

His suggestion of an interview or an Agent at the place designated appears worthy of consideration.

I write in haste to send the same with his signature  
Yours very obedtly  
Hamilton Fish

At Savannah it is asserted, with the utmost confidence that an invading expedition will sail for Cuba in the course of the Spring--perhaps in the first half of May. There can be no doubt that a project of that sort not only is entertained but in [*torn*]stive course of organization and there is reason to believe that their organization is very extensive, branching into Georgia, Alabama, [...] and West Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi.

MIDDLE

The prime mover at least in Savannah, is a person known a Genl. Gonzales who was one of the notorious Lopez' staff. He is of good dress, class, and accomplished, circulates in good society in and near Savannah, and is probably favored by some of the large planters. His instrument with the rank and file, is a man known as Harry Titus a celebrated fighting man. These men and these filibusters frequent the Pulaski House, Savannah, and any person of ordinary observation cannot fail to see that there is a mysterious relation existing between them and many of the frequenters of that hotel. Gonzales is said to have much money at his command, and to have enrolled as many men as he wants for his purpose. Three large steamboats it is said are at his disposal. What is inconsistent however with the suscription of so much money [*torn*] Gonzales is the allegation that Bonds of the *Provisional Cuban Government* have been offered for sale in Savannah.

The leading personages in the contemplated expedition are [*torn*] with great confidence by those who profess to be acquainted with the subject. They are said to be (besides Gonzales) Gen. Quitman, and Gen. Henderson and that [...] sub-agency is said to be exercised by a Mr. Delperoe or Deperoe<sup>1</sup> chief of the Municipal Police of N. Orleans who was employed in secret service by Gen. Scott in Mexico, and to whom are attributed [...] and address. Apalachicola is spoken of as the probable point of embarkation -- Then going out of this so much in advance may be a [...] and [...] to the [...] that some other point will be selected perhaps one of the Sea Islands which are much secluded from the [...] of [...] & may be the *rendezvous*.

---

<sup>1</sup> Possibly Captain Alphonse Duperu.

The business of the association will be transacted in New Orleans, but  
a general organization will not be made until the end of the  
Meeting perhaps in the first half of May. There can be no doubt  
that a majority of that party will only be entitled to call you an  
other name of organization than the last. To believe that  
the organization is yet extensive, branching out from Georgia, Alabama,  
Tennessee, and Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

The friend recently at New Orleans, is Captain Kinnaird  
and Longhorne was one of the visitors to Major's staff. He is of good  
descent, above, and according his late associates in good, possible in and  
not Louisiana, such as probably favored by some of the boys of the  
Regiment, and in the late past General Lee, or other known  
to have been a hot fighting man. His present and other  
affiliates frequent the White House, Sacramento, and any  
person of military position cannot fail to know that there is a gathering  
there, & a long list of visitors to him. Their usual meeting place is the Provisional of  
the hotel. Longhorne used to hang about, serving at his command,  
it is said, as many men as he wanted for his use  
now. The large, strong body of it is seen at the different Hall  
conventions, and houses, with the exception of so much money  
expended in the collection that consists of the Provisional Com-  
mittee, and some men offered for sale, are known to it.

The leading persons are the most prominent in the city  
and with great confidence in their party profess to be acquainted with the  
subject. They are the Captains, Lieutenants, Ensigns, and the like, and  
that the police force engaged is not to be expected by the Rebels, or the  
Confederate Government. It is known, however, that the  
Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns are not in command of the  
army. The last has to do, of course, with the right of command to be had in the  
army, and the payment, in addition, made to a first and second class, and so on, that  
they, a little, from time to time, will be collected, if any sum of the like amount  
is collected, from the like a sum of money, may be taken, for the benefit of the

The Researches he has made give him almost confidence, that  
an interesting opposition will make for Cuba in the course of the  
Year, perhaps in the first half of May. There can be no doubt  
that a project of that kind will only be undertaken by men and  
statesmen of organization and their resolution to show that  
the organization goes out of town, branching into Georgia, Alabama,  
Tennessee and West Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

The project amounts to nothing less than, as Mr. Brown and  
Genl. Gonzalez who was one of the notorious legal staff, say of good  
sense, cheer, and according to fact, calculates on great popularity in and  
out Savannah, and so probably founded by some of the large plan-  
ts. The poor down east on the back roads, as in other States  
Valley States a dedicated fighting man, then friend and then  
opposite project to the Whistleblower, Savannah, and any  
man of military education cannot fail to see that there is a pro-  
tective relationship existing between them and many of the projectors.  
But both Gonzalez is said to have much money at his command,  
and to have enlisted as many men as he wants for his pur-  
pose. Then come those facts of it reported as at his disposal \$200,  
incorruptible horses with the exception of so much money  
Gonzales is the allegation that Blanche of the Provisional Con-  
cressant have been offered for sale via Savannah.

The leading characters on the contemplated opposition are  
most worth mentioning. There who prefers to keep quiet with the  
object of the object to be left voice (Engels) Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Franklin and  
that the political sub-agency is said to be exercised by the Professor of Physics  
of the Municipal College of St. Louis who has implied in his last publication  
to Sam Houston Texas, and to whom are attributed numerous writings on the  
subject. He appears to be a man of no great reputation, but a man of  
the most advanced mind in a quiet and modest life. He does not  
know or that point will be particular. The form of the organization  
doubtless from the character of Brown will give the best idea.

Rep't to the State W<sup>t</sup>.  
May 1.

Steam. Robert  
Recd. 26 April  
Mo<sup>2</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>

Custom House  
Collector's office  
Savannah 1<sup>st</sup> April 26<sup>th</sup> 1883

I have the honor to communicate  
in response to the Contingent Corps, especially  
that to judge from Circumstances thus far  
already manifested, the intention for an  
expedition to leave this city to the  
fixed fact, about three hundred men collected  
twenty miles from this City on the Central Rail  
Road, and from thence went they say - Marched  
in a sand-hill ditch and a number of persons  
have been seen in this City, who were suspected  
of being connected with this expedition, have left  
to the South bound for Florida, General Capo  
Gonzales and two other persons come within  
two miles of this city last evening and their stop.

The movements of  
these persons are such as to make it  
impossible to say exactly what are intended, they  
are moving about especially with out  
any organization, without tents, arms or money  
and having very little baggage, The probability  
exists only that these persons will take vessels  
in the coast of Georgia or Florida and  
have been as yet absent within thirty or fourty

and his bouday called upon him  
Commanded Maffett, of the Schooner Gallat  
for the news of this vessel, who says  
that he is desirous to hinder any assistance  
that he can bouday but does what he can  
at liberty to have his present Captain  
I desire the news of this vessel to be given  
along the Coast, South, and give  
information in reference to any movement  
that might be discovered. Considerate of the  
his application; I sent a Telegraph message  
in this subject, to which I have had no  
Reply - from you.

Very truly yours  
John C. Kellogg

To W. L. Seadye Esq.  
Comptroller of the Navy. William H. Ward  
Washington City.

Rich. St. John.

W. M. Evarts  
26. Apr.

Southern District of New-York,

U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

April 26<sup>th</sup> 1851.R.  
M.

Since Mr. Hall's letter of this date and its postscript were written, I have secured the persons of Schlesinger, Lewis and Rogers who are the only persons of whose escape there was ground for apprehension. The other parties interested in the movement will without doubt be arrested in due time. The information, supposed to be reliable, that the undersigned is within a day's ride of Savannah is the only matter of interest which I have to communicate.

I have this form to be  
given at first

Mr. Denl. Webster      Oppn. Mr. Griggs  
Secty State &c.      Acting Dist. Atty.

Roc'd "So April.  
M<sup>o</sup>. 1 May.

E. D. C. A.

J. J. Hall

Southern District of New-York,

U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

April 28. 1857

Sir,

On Saturday after the mail  
by which my letter of that date  
was despatched the Marshal ar-  
rested Sanchez and O'Sullivan, thus  
seizing by these and the previous  
arrests on the same day, the per-  
sons of all, whom, upon present  
information, I am desirous of de-  
taining.

The importance of this matter,  
the amount of attention which it  
requires, and the necessity of de-  
voting my own time in great  
part to the current business of the  
District Attorney's office, have in-  
duced me to retain the profes-  
sional services of Mr. Ogden Hoffman  
for the Government in the investi-  
gation and prosecution of these ob-.

ges in relation to the Cuban exp-  
dition. I would have consulted the  
directions of the Department of State  
on this point, had I not been con-  
vinced that upon his recent visit  
to this city, the Secretary of State  
had become informed both of the  
importance of this Embassy, and  
of the ill condition of Mr. Hall's  
health which had obliged him to  
leave the city for a few days for  
its restoration.

Praying that this step may meet  
the approval of the Department,

I have the honor to be

Your obt servt  
W<sup>m</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Evans.

Hon. Danl Webster

Acting Dist. Atty.

Secy State

Rec'd 28 April.

W L Hodges  
28 April

Reading Department  
28 April 1837

Mr

I have the honor to transmit three telegraphic dispatches received by cutter last night from the collector of Savannah in the New Gallatin alluded to in one of them is attached to the Coast Survey & is not fitted or armed so as to afford any assistance in capturing or detaining any vessel with armed men on board - The Revenue Cutter which you ordered should be despatched from New York, sailed early on Saturday morning, being a very fleet vessel will probably reach Savannah on 4 or 5 days.

To the General

She has just been thoroughly  
overhauled & repaired & is now  
afloat at the greatest efficiency  
with the highest respect  
to Ohio Lent  
Wm. Moore  
W. H. Stevens

The President.

WASHINGTON AND NEW ORLEANS  
Telegraph Line.

The following communication was received  
Washington 27. 11 o'clock, 16 min., A.M.  
Dated Savannah, 24. 4 o'clock, 30 min., P.M.  
For W. G. Hodges.....  
actg Secy -

Circumstances are many  
and strong going to show  
that another expedition  
will leave for Cuba along  
the coast of Georgia or  
Florida. A large number  
of men have come within  
twenty miles of this city  
and have made their way  
from thence towards the  
sea. A steamer left Cover

this port for New Orleans  
suspicions and has put in  
Key West from injury.

Hiram Roberts  
Collector.

H

WASHINGTON AND NEW ORLEANS  
Telegraph Line.

The following communication was received  
at Washington 2<sup>2</sup> o'clock, min., M.  
dated Savannah 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, 12 o'clock, 40 min., P.M.  
for Wm G Hodge.

Actg Secy.

~~Lopez arrived last  
night with three others who  
have left for the South~~

Hiram Roberts  
Collector,

WASHINGTON AND NEW ORLEANS  
Telegraph Line.

The following communication was received

Washn Apr 27 11 o'clock, 32 min., A.M.  
Arrd. Savannah 23 4 o'clock, 47 min., P.M.

Mr. W. G. Hodge,

Actg. Secy.

I have called upon  
Genl commanding Maffitt  
of the U.S. Schooner  
Galleon for the Service of  
that vessel to aid in sup-  
plying the Cuba Expedition  
he does not feel authorized  
in present occupation without  
instruction from the Department

Hiram Roberts,  
Collector

Recd 30 April.

J. J. Hall.

W. D. 1 May.

Southern District of New-York,

U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

April 29. 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to state for the information of the Department that all the persons arrested upon charges of being engaged in the projected expedition against Cuba, have been let to bail each in the sum of three thousand dollars, an amount sufficient, in my judgment, to secure their attendance to decide the action of the Grand Jury upon this case.

If the complicity of the parties arrested in the expedition on which the "Cleopatra" was to set out, and that such expedition was to form part of a military enterprise against the island of Cuba there will probably be sufficient proof of the misconduct in the characters of the grand jury.

which the offense will rest, will be  
that the crime punishable by our  
Statute is not complete unless the  
enterprise assumes its military form  
and organization within our Territory.  
Any orders which it may be  
in the power of the Department at  
Washington to furnish of movements  
organizations or projects looking to-  
wards the invasion of Cuba from oth-  
er portions of our Territory, would as-  
sist the case of the Government  
against the prisoners here, and I  
would respectfully request that no  
correspondence or other means of infor-  
mation on this subject from other  
parts of the country, in the posses-  
sion of the Government, if properly  
communicated, may be communi-  
cated to the District Attorney here as  
early as may be practicable.

I respectfully request instructions  
from the Department as to the min-  
imum period of the further delin-

tive of the "blockade" and her landing. They are not under the provisions of the Act of Congress subject to any proceeding in law for judicial consideration, nor made subject to forfeiture or confiscation upon seizure or detention by the direct act of the President. The intervention of the President seems authorized only for the purpose of "preventing the carrying on of" the unlawful exaction; if such intervention be continued beyond that effect attained, a question may be raised whether persons acting in such detention may not be subject to an action.

Mr. O'Sullivan has applied to me for permission, first, to land and dispose of the cargo of the steamboat, and second, for him to take the boat himself for employment in regular and lawful trade. If his wishes should be acceded to in these respects, he proposes to give up any reclamation he may

him against the Government or its  
officers by reason of any proceedings  
thus far, and intimates his intent-  
ion to institute suits in mainten-  
ance of his supposed rights in case  
of the refusal of his requests.

I have deemed it my duty to  
place this matter before the Depart-  
ment of State as it has been pre-  
sented to me, and shall await your in-  
struction. If you should decide to retain  
possession of the Boat & her Lading  
for the present, or an indefinite pe-  
riod, in the opinion both of the Na-  
tural Officers at Brooklyn and of the  
Marshall it will be more prac-  
tical and less expensive to the Gov-  
ernment that the vessel be tak-  
en to the Navy Yard for safe-  
keeping.

I have the honor to be  
Yours very servt

Hon. Danl Webster      Attn Mr. Gants  
Secretary of State.      Acting Dist. Atty.

Read & agree.

N. J. Tallmadge  
29. April

Frame 545

U. S. Marshals Office  
for the S. D. of N. York  
April 29. 1851

To the Honorable Daniel Webster  
Secretary of State  
Sir

I beg leave to  
acknowledge the receipt of a copy of  
the Presidents Proclamation in relation  
to a military expedition about being  
fitted out in the U. States with intention  
to invade the Island of Cuba.

I remain, Sir, your obd Servt

N. J. Tallmadge

U. S. Marshal &c

Rec'd 30 April.

N. F. Talmadge

29 April

Frame 548

to S Marshals Office

for the S. D. of N. Y.

April 29. 1851

(To the) Honorable Daniel Webster  
Secretary of State  
Sir

I beg leave to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter dated the 25 April  
instant authorizing and empowering me, in  
virtue of the 8th Section of the Act of 20th April  
1818, to take all proper measures, and employ  
such part of the land or naval forces of the United  
States, or of the militia thereof, as may be  
necessary for the purpose of preventing the carrying  
on of any expedition or enterprise 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 U. States are at peace.

I am Sir respectfully

Your obed Servt

N. F. Talmadge

n. Marshall

Last of May.

Logan, Huntington.

1 May 1857

Office U. S. Attorney  
New Orleans, May 1 1857

Hon W. S. Derrick

Acting Sec. of State

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Confidential communication of 23<sup>rd</sup> ult referring to rumors of another Military Expedition to be carried on from the United States against the Islands of Cuba.

I have not yet found a trustworthy Agent for the purposes indicated by you — One, having the requisite qualifications; not being easily procurable, as you may well imagine: for however rash, imprudent and reckless the leaders of this unlawful enterprise may be in other respects, yet they are very cautious about disclosing their plans, to any others than those who have some claim to be ranked among the Chiefs of the Expedition. They very willingly disclose the object to those whom they wish to enlist in the adventure — but their means and plan of operations are carefully concealed.

I expect within a few days to be able to engage the services of some one fit for the delicate trust.

In the meantime I would say, that I still entertain the opinions expressed in my Communication addressed to the Department of State, of date 18<sup>th</sup> ult. I am quite sure that New Orleans will not be the place of rendezvous or Head-quarters, and that engagement of individuals for the Expedition cannot be made in this City to any very considerable extent.

I have had frequent Conferences with the Collector of the Port on this subject and have advised him to send out persons in his employment to make inquiries - he has done so, and informs me that he has duly reported the result of those inquiries to the Treasury Department.

It is proper for me to assure you that though the Spanish Consul exhibits a commendable zeal in behalf of his Government, yet his reports, whenever he speaks of details, cannot implicitly be relied on. He is Credulous, timid, easily deceived. His employers deceive him, and he reports to the Spanish Minister, as I have reason to suspect, mere rumors, as facts.

Some of those engaged in fitting out the late Expedition against Cuba, invested considerable sums of money in Cuban Bonds: their only hope for realizing anything from

those bonds is from a successful renewal  
of an expedition of like character. They will  
not therefore cease to make efforts to renew  
the enterprise. Tho' they may be baffled they will  
aspale and still agitate, and will find  
reckless and bad men ever ready to  
join them.

I will take occasion to address  
you again shortly on this subject.

I am, very respectfully  
Your obt. servant  
John Houston  
U. S. Attorney

Treas. Dept.

1 May

Treasury Department  
1 May 1857

I have the honor to transmit  
herewith a letter from the  
Collector of Savannah on the  
subject of the Cuba expedition

~~with the highest respect~~

Yours very  
affectionately  
W. H. Moore

The President

Custom House  
Collectors Office  
Savannah May 3d 1851

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27 of April, also your despatch dated 2d May, and herewith state the substance of information received during the trip of the Steamer chartered. On Sunday night [27 April] the Steamer Welaka left this port with the United States Marshal and one deputy, the Surveyor of this port and one Inspector, together with the officers clerk and crew of the boat with an understanding with the charter party that in case the services of the clerk was wanted it would be had. The instructions was to proceed to St. Mary's and should information there be received which was thought worthy to be trusted to proceed to Jacksonville in Florida and on the return to call at some other points. I have been informed by Thomas Burke Surveyor of this port, and who was placed in command of this expedition that after the arrival at St. Mary's he learned from tumors that there was from 500 to 1500 persons collected at Jacksonville, hence they proceeded on to Jacksonville. On arriving there however but few persons other than the citizens of the place could be seen, and from the best information that could be got, there had been no such gathering together of persons as had been spoken of when in St. Mary's. Under this appearance of things, the expedition returns again stops at St. Mary's and there was informed that an express man had passed through the County to Jacksonville. From St. Mary's the Steamer went up the Satilla River near to Jefferson and passed burnt Fort (Burnt Fort is spoken of as a place of rendezvous). The information there received was that some sixty or seventy persons was encamped about the country in the vicinity of Burnt Fort without arms except a few of those passing, some with rifles and others with pistols and Buoy Knives. From thence the Steamer went into Darien, and there heard that a number of persons had crossed the Altamahaw river some distance above Darien and that nine persons had arrived in Darien and had taken passage for this city stating that they was dissatisfied with the expedition and was going to return. Thence the Steamer returned to this City arriving 8 OClock Thursday morning. The morning that the Steamer arrived here [1 May] I received information that General Gonzalez and some other persons, Genl Lopez supposed to be one, was on Wilmington Island and that these persons would probably endeavor to take the Florida boat which left that morning at 10 OClock. This information was received about half past nine OClock. The necessary arrangements could not be perfected by 10 OClock, and I had the boat detained until the Marshal was ready and placed on board. During this time there was an apparent uneasiness discovered when the parties was supposed to be in possession of the movements of the Cuba expedition and I immediately went to Thunderbolt, there intersected the Steamer that had left. When proceeding on the way and arriving opposite the residence of E. B. Barstow on Wilmington Island the Steamer Bell was rung and a number of persons appeared at the landing, where a boat appeared to be in readiness and waiting to convey passengers to the Steamer. Under these circumstances my attention was drawn towards the shore and in a few minutes I discovered the steamer's small boat rowing toward the shore. Immediately on its arrival the Mate of the Steamer jumped out and went to this group of persons, was seen to hold communication with them, and they immediately dispersed. Observing this feature in the Scene I called on the Marshal and one other person, lowered down the Steamer's other small boat, and with one oar sculled ashore and went to the dwelling of Mr Barstow, asked for the gentlemen who accompanied him at the landing, and in return was asked if we had any authority to enter his private residence, to which the Marshal answered he had none.

From observations made after this it was apparent that there had been a lunch prepared for persons who had partaken of it, as the table was still furnished with the remainder of the collation. I will further remark that after I had detained the Steamer at the wharf in the city I saw Mr. Barstow in the city, and when I arrived at his house he was there. Under these circumstances I believe that Generals Lopez and Gonzalez are in the vicinity as so stated to you yesterday by telegraph--and in company with the Marshal I spent yesterday in search for their persons-- and from the circumstances here detailed I have been prevented from giving you an account of the discovery made on the trip of the Welaka, which I hope will be satisfactory.

I have been called upon this morning to furnish one hundred dollars by the District Attorney and he has sent officers to arrest some of these persons who appear to be in command of these parties who are going Southwardly across this State. The person I sent through the country to look after this matter returned this morning and states that the persons who left the Central Rail Road have continued their march, dividing their number however into many squads, and one portion went on towards burnt Fort and another towards Florida.

I have the honor to remain  
Very respectfully your obt. servt.  
Hiram Roberts  
Collector

W. L. Hodge Esq  
Acting Secretary of the Treasury

Custom House  
Collector's office  
Savannah May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1851

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> of April  
also your despatch dated 2<sup>d</sup> May, and herewith  
state the substance of information received  
during the trip of the Steam Charter, on Sunday  
night the Steam Welaka left this port, with 110  
invited guests Marshall; and our Deputy, the  
Surveyor of this port and our Inspector, together  
with their officers Clerk and Crew of the boat.  
With an understanding with the Charter party  
that in case the services of the Clerk were  
wanted at Callao or Valparaiso, the vessel was to  
be proceed to St. Marys, and obtain information  
there in regard which was thought most likely to  
be obtained to proceed to Jacksonville in  
Florida, and on the return to call at San  
Juan, I have been informed by Thomas  
Wardice Surveyor of this port, and who was placed  
in command of this expedition, that after  
the arrival at St. Marys, he learned from some  
of those men from 500 to 1500 persons collected  
at Jacksonville, since they, however, on  
the Jacksonville, or attacking them however

but from persons other than the citizens  
of the place, could be done, and from  
the best information that could be got  
the habeas-burn No such gathering to get up of  
persons, as made him suspect of who  
in St. Marys, under his appearance of  
being the Upshur County Sheriff, again took at St.  
Marys, and that was informed that an officer  
was made passed through the County to  
Jacksmouth, from St. Marys the Sheriff  
went up the Satilla River River to Dug  
and passed Burnt fort, (Burnt fort is  
spoken of as a place of rendezvous)  
the information that he had was that  
some six or seven persons were encamped  
about the County seat the County of Burnt  
fort, white shirt area, & left before of them  
persons, some with supplies and others with  
rifles and bows. However, from there  
the Sheriff went in to town, and there he  
had a number of persons, he had crossed the  
Altamaha River down stream about 10 miles  
and said these persons had been at town  
in town and had taken passage for  
this side of state that they were the soldiers for  
West Virg. if possible roads, was going to  
be taken, then the Sheriff turned to the Sheriff  
of way 8 o'clock yesterday morning

The morning that the Sheriff obtained his  
recent information that General Jones  
and other officers, General Depeaz supposed  
to be one, was on Wilmington Island  
and that these persons were probably  
enroute to take the Florida Roads,  
which left that morning at ten o'clock,  
this information was about half  
past nine o'clock, the Sheriff arrangements  
could not be perfect by ten o'clock, and I  
had the boat cleaned until the Marshall  
was ready and placed on board, during  
this time there was an apparent commotion  
described when the parties was supposed  
to be on passage of the Monmouth off  
the Cuban opposite to us and I immediately went  
to thunderhead, there in the water the boat thus  
made off, when passing on the way  
and away opposite the Western of E. B.  
I started for Wilmington Island the sky  
still was high, and a number of persons  
appeared at the landing, when at length  
appeared to be in number and waiting to  
come, four being to the Sheriff, under whom  
certain letters my attorney was drawn to  
him, and in a few moments I found  
the Sheriff small boat being to meet the shore  
immediately on its arrival the head of the Sheriff  
jumped out and went to this group of persons

Was soon to hold common audience  
With them and they immediately disappear -

Observing this spectacle

in the house I called upon Mr. Marshall  
and Mr. Oldfield, who looked down at the  
steamy old small boat and with one  
or two pulled a short, and went to the  
dwelling of Mr. Brewster, asking for Mr.  
Garrison who accompanied him at the landing  
and in return was asked if we had any  
Authority to take his private vessel, which  
Mr. Marshall answered he had none.

From observations made  
after this it was apparent, that Mr.  
Brewster had been a lunatic for some time  
now, who had forgotten of it, as  
his talk was still familiar and worth the  
immediate of the Captain - I will quote  
immediately after I had obtained the story  
at the wharf in the City I saw Mr. Brewster  
in the City, and when I asked at his house  
no one knew him under that name. On inquiry  
I learn that General Saenger and Gonzales  
~~are~~ in this Paragon, and its stated to you  
in the ~~newspaper~~ by Telegraph - and in company  
with Mr. Marshall & Spirit last night in  
such a position as this - and from this

Circumstances here dictated, I have  
been induced from you give an  
account of the idea carry made on  
the top of the Wellcock - which  
I hope will be satisfactory -

I have just called up  
this Morn to furnish our bound and  
by the Distt. Atty; and he has kindly  
offered to meet Sam of this Person,  
who appears to be in command of  
persons who are very handsomely accept the  
state,

The person I don't  
know the Country to have of the  
Meth. about this Morn, and stay the  
other Person who left the Central Rail  
Road, have concluded the Man who, the  
few months, have been in to many grand  
and our plan was on towards his  
part, and that towards Glendale,

I am to have to say very  
this probably known  
at the instant

P. R. Dodge Esq  
acting Secretary of the  
Treasury -

Attn: Polk's  
Cattle

Aft. State Sup.  
May 3.

Miss. Dept.  
3. May

Dear Mr. Webster  
3<sup>d</sup> May 1857

Sir -

The following is a list  
of just received from  
the Collector at Savannah  
dated yesterday.

4. Your despatch of to day  
Received in the mean  
We have had you to day and and  
discharged in Georgia Naples  
4 & Gorgalat it is expected one  
or more of the Islands will soon  
Efforts are making to arrest  
them & the sandbars.

Yours,

In the highest respect  
J. W. Barber  
Wadleigh,  
at Albany

relinquishing

Rec'd 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr. Secy of State  
Mr. President

Reading Clerk.  
May 1857

Gov'

I have the honor to  
transmit herewith a letter  
from the Collector at Savannah  
on the subject of the Cuban  
invasion in a copy of it has  
sent to the President -

Very respectfully  
John C. Calhoun  
W. H. Sedge  
and others

Mr. Webster  
Secretary

Hiram Roberts.

Copy sent to the Acting Custom House  
9th May, 1851. Collector's Office  
Savannah May 5<sup>th</sup> 1851.

Sir,

I have the honor to communicate that, to judge from circumstance, the Cuba expedition is at an end, at least for the present, about this place, as numerous persons have returned from the south, whose appearance indicated that they had been engaged in the expedition. General Lopez, report says has gone to Mobile, and Gonzales this likely is wending his way towards Florida, of his whereabouts however there is nothing certain there has been a great change in the march of this expedition, from the time that the subject was taken hold of by the Government, in a few days I will render an account of the expedition at this office.

Very respectfully

Your obt. Servt.

Hiram Roberts  
Collector.

To

Wm. L. Hodge Esq.  
Actg. Secretary of the  
Treasury.

Frame 623

Neamy Sept  
7 May 1851

Sir

I have the honor to  
transmit copy of a letter  
received this morning from  
the Collector of Savannah  
relative to the Cuba movement  
and am with the highest respect

Yrs. obedtly

Wm. Moore  
att'd Secy

Resident

The enclosed is respectfully referred to  
the Secy. of State. William Moore

May 8. 1851

Custom House

Collectors Office

Savannah May 3<sup>d</sup> 1851.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, also your despatch dated 2<sup>d</sup> May, and herewith state the substance of information received during the trip of the steamer chartered. On Sunday night the steamer Melaka left this port with the United States Marshal and one deputy, the Surveyor of this port and one Inspec-  
tor, together with the Office's clerk and crew of the boat with an understanding with the chartered party  
that in case the services of the clerk was wanted it  
ould be had. The instructions was to proceed to St Mary's and shoued information thind he incord which was  
thought worthy to be trusted, to proceed to Jacksonville  
in Florida and on the return to call at some other  
ports. I have been informed by Thomas Burke Surveyor  
of this port, and who was placed in command of this  
expedition that after the arrival at St Mary's he learned  
from rumors that there was from 500 to 1500 persons

collected at Jacksonville, hence they proceeded on to Jacksonville some other persons, Genl Lopez supposed to be one was on  
Arriving there however but few persons other than Mr. Wilmington Island and that these persons would probably  
Citizens of the place could be seen, and from the endeavor to take the Florida boat which left that morning  
best information that could be got, there had been no one 10 o'clock. This information was received about half  
gathering together off persons as had been spoken of at Darien nine o'clock. the necessary arrangements could  
in St. Marys. Under this appearance of things, the rapidit not be perfected by 11 o'clock, and I had the boat  
returns again stops at St. Marys and there was informed detained until the Marshal was ready and placed  
that an express man had passed through the County to on board. During this time there was an apparent  
Jacksonville. From St. Marys the steamer went up the measures discovered when the parties was supposed to  
Satilla River near to Jefferson and passed Burnt Fort in possession of the movements of the Cuba expedition  
(Burnt Fort is spoken of as a place of rendezvous). The informed immediately went to Thunderhead. There intimated  
there record was that some sixty or seventy persons was the steamer that had left. When proceeding on the  
encamped about the country in the vicinity of Burnt way and arriving opposite the residence of E. B. Rector  
Fort without arms except a few of those passing, some Mr. Wilmington Island the steamer Bell was running  
some with rifles and others with pistols and they heard a number of persons appeared at the landing.  
From thence the steamer went into Darien, was there a boat appeared to be in reading and waiting.  
heard that a number of persons had crossed the Atlantic convey passengers to the steamer. Under these circum-  
stances some distance above Darien and that instances my attention was drawn towards the shore  
persons had arrived in Darien and had taken passage in a few minutes I discovered the steamer small  
for this city stating that they was dissatisfied with boat running toward the shore. Immediately on its  
the expedition and was going to return. Hence the arrival the mate of the steamer jumped out and  
steamer returned to this city arriving 8 o'clock. Immediately to this group of persons - was seen to hold  
morning. The morning that the steamer arrived had communication with them, and they immediately  
I received information that General Gonzalez and dispersed. Observing this feature in the scene

I called on the Marshal and one other person, landed down the steamer's other small boat, and with an oar shodded ashore and went to the dwelling of Mr Barstow - asked for the gentlemen who accompanied him at the landing, and in return was asked if we had any authority to interfere in private residence, to which the Marshal answered he had none.

From observations made after this, it was apparent that there had been a lunch prepared for persons who had partaken of it, as the table was still furnished with the remainder of the collation. I will further remark that after I had detained the steamer at the wharf in the City I saw Mr Barstow in the city, and when I arrived at his house he was there. Under these circumstances I believe that Generals Lopez and Gonzalez are in this vicinity, as stated to you yesterday by telegraph, - and in company with the Marshal I spent yesterday in search for these persons - and from the circumstances detailed I have been prevented from giving you an account of the discovery made on the trip of the Billacka - which I hope will be satisfactory.

I have been called upon this morning to furnish one hundred dollars by the District Attorney and he has sent officers to arrest com-

of these persons who appear to be in command of these parties, who are going southwardly across this state. The person I sent through the country to look after this matter returned this morning and states that the persons who left the Central Rail Road have continued their march, dividing this number however into many squads, and one portion went on towards Burnt Fort and another towards Florida.

I have the honor to remain  
Very respectfully your obedient  
" Abram Roberts  
*Collector*

H. L. Dodge Esq  
Acting Secretary of the Treasury

Rec'd 20 May  
1851  
Capt. John S. Scott  
Agent to the American  
Government in Europe.

1851

J. S. Scott

Mobil May 13. 1851

To the Hon Daniel Webster  
Secretary of State  
Washington City

Sir

I have the honor

to enclose a claim of the master, owner and  
crew of the Schooner Rosine of New Orleans  
against the Government of Spain for salvage  
services performed in saving her War Steamer  
Colon on the Coast of Cuba.

The Commander  
of the Colon having denied their right to claim  
salvage for saving the vessel of a Government,  
and having refused to pay the sum of Twenty  
five thousand Dollars, named by the master  
as a compromise of his claim, the master  
considers the proposition to receive that amount  
unjust, and desires that his claim  
may be decided upon its merits, taking it  
for granted that a Salvage claim against  
a Government is based upon the same principles  
and entitled to as much respect, as a claim  
of the same nature against against a  
Merchant vessel.

I am very respectfully  
Yours Obed Servt  
J. S. Scott

Declaration of Philo F. Smith, master, Chinese Books  
Master and Peter Graham, William Crumble,  
Joseph Harden and Edward Fleming Steamer  
of the Schooner Rosalie of New Orleans.

The Schooner Rosalie sailed from  
Rattan Island for Savannah on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of  
April last, and on the 26<sup>th</sup> made Cape Antonio  
(west end of the Island of Cuba). at 3 p.m.  
Saw a Steam Ship ashore on the Colorado Reef  
and about seven miles east <sup>ne</sup> of Cape Antonio  
Light, and in nearer approach saw that  
the ensign was displayed at half mast. This  
Steamer was afterwards found to be the  
Spanish Government Steam Ship Colon. at 7  
P.M. hoisted the ship and enquired of the  
wanted assistance. They were answered that  
she did, and were requested to come alongside  
the night being dark; and there being a  
heavy swell of the sea on the reef the master  
considered it unadvisable to come along side  
and brought the Schooner to an anchor.  
at this time the ship's sails were all out  
her spars and topmasts had been sent down  
her yards and booms were lashed together  
in a raft alongside the ship, having nothing  
standing but her lower mast, and standing  
rigging. The ship was in but eleven feet water  
with her armament and provisions on board.  
She drew about sixteen feet. She appeared  
to be laying easy, the swell not being heavy  
enough to make her thrash, but rolling  
considerably, and had no anchor out to  
prevent her drifting up on the reef and into  
shallow water. altho she went and went  
over continually, laying her further ad-

On the 27<sup>th</sup> at 5 o'clock a.m. a Lieutenant and an Interpreter came on board the Schooner. The Lieutenant stated that he was sent by the Commissioner to enquire if the Schooner would give the Ship assistance, and on what terms. That the Commissioner did not want the Schooner to leave the Ship on any account, that her aid was indispensable to the safety of the property. The Master replied that he was ready to give the Ship any aid in his power, but not knowing what service his vessel would be engaged in he could not fix a value on his services, but that the compensation must be in proportion to the benefit the Ship derived therefrom, taking into consideration the perplexity in which his vessel would be placed, and the risk of life on the part of himself and his crew. The Lieutenant returned to the ship and almost immediately thereafter a signal was made for the Schooner to come along side, and she was dropped under the Ship's starboard bow. The Commissioner required the Master to lay out the best lower anchor; and an anchor weighing about 280 pounds, and a chain were taken in hand and the anchor laid out about eighty fathoms off the Ship's starboard bow. A strain was then given to the anchor to prevent the Ship's bow from driving up in the reef; getting a boat the Commissioner sent a boat for the Master to go in and the Ship. When on board the Master discovered that the Ship had no difficulty in laying out an anchor, that she had drifted further on the reef than

where she first went ashore; that the bad  
clayey feet of water in her holds, it being on  
a level with the water outside; that the  
gains, shot, part of the coal, and other heavy  
articles had been thrown overboard to  
lighten the ship; that the ship's Pilot (who  
was then kept on board) after the ship was  
ashore examined the water and reported that  
she could not be got off, and that a Coast  
Pilot who had been on board expressed the  
same opinion. The Commander, through his  
Interpreter, told the master that he believed  
the ship was bilged and that he had no  
expectation of saving her; that he was  
anxious to get every thing movable belonging  
to the ship and the trunks and clothing  
of the officers and crew ashore without delay,  
and requested the master to undertake their  
transpiration. He also repeated the request  
that the Schooner would not leave him  
while he could render any assistance  
to the ship. At this period the ship had  
been ashore two or three days and no  
attempt had been made to free her of water.  
After examining the ship the master told the  
Commander that he believed the ship had  
not bilged, and that by will directed efforts  
she might be saved if the weather continued  
favorable, and recommended that all the  
pumps he mounted, and as many buckets  
employed as could be used to advantage  
in bailing her, and that at the same time  
she be lightened of all her dark provisions &c  
believing that when free of water and

bring it to her lighted draft she might be  
hove off the reef without much difficulty.  
The Commander adopted these recommendations  
and they at once commenced preparing for  
pumping and bailing the ship. At 10 a.m  
Commander loading the Schooner with such  
provisions &c and in the course of the day she  
transported two Cargoes to the shore, a distance  
of five miles. At night she anchored near  
the shore to avoid the swell on the reef.

April 21<sup>st</sup> At 5 a.m the Schooner got under  
weigh and beat up to the ship. The ship's crew  
having been engaged at the pumps and with  
buckets during the night, the depth of water in  
the ship's hold had been reduced more than  
two feet, and appearances were favorable  
to the ship's being got off. The Commander  
ordered every thing to be taken ashore and  
in the course of the day it was accomplished  
the Schooner having made three trips. Nothing  
now remained in the ship but her lower  
masts and standing rigging and about one  
hundred tons Coal. At 11 a.m a Spanish Brig  
of War came to anchor about three fourths  
of a mile from the ship. Her crew being  
sent on board the ship were employed in  
assisting to receive her of water and in hoisting  
on the anchor. The Commander agreed  
arranged of the Master what amount he  
should claim for the service being rendered  
to the ship, who replied as before, that he  
expected to be rewarded in proportion to the  
value of property saved and the benefit the ship  
received from his exertions and skill. He also

requested that the Schooner should be anchored near the ship at night, that in case of a blow or any accident to the ship, the Schooner could take the officers & men off her.

April 29<sup>th</sup>. In the morning it was found that the ship required a heavy anchor laid out off the starboard quarter to hold her up to the wind and sea, which were drifting her stern further in the reef. The Schooner proceeded to the Brig took on board an anchor weighing about 2800 pounds and one hundred & twenty fathoms chain and laid out the anchor as instructed. During the remainder of the day she was employed in weighing and shifting anchors, as occasion required, and in other service, and the men on the ship were employed in getting the water out of the ship and in heaving on the anchors, and eventually succeeded in getting her free of water. At 1 P.M another Steamer, name not known, with a Schooner in tow came to anchor about half a mile from the ship.

On the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> the Steamer was made fast to the ship and tried to pull her off, but could not succeed, and the Roseau went alongside to take coal on board. After getting out about forty tons, the united efforts of the crews heaving on the anchors, and the steamer putting on the ship, took her off the reef and into deep water. After she was astern she hauled about four inches per hour.

The Schooner then returned the coal on board the ship, after which she weighed the Brig's anchor, took the chain on board, and proceeded towards the Brig, but having a head wind

she could not get to her, and at 11 o'clock PM  
came to anchor.

May 1<sup>st</sup> got the Schooner under way and  
at 8 AM delivered the anchor and chain on  
board the Brig. The relief Steamer having  
taken on board from the ship a part of the  
property of the Colon also got aground, and the  
Schooner was employed in lightening her astern  
by taking the property on board and returning  
it on board the Colon.

The ship being now astern and in safety,  
and being provided with all the aid she  
required for recovering her anchors, guns, shot  
&c which had been thrown overboard the  
Commander told the master of the Rosina  
that he could dispense with the services of  
himself and ~~his crew~~, and asked him what  
amount he claimed for the services rendered.

Taking into consideration all the facts, that  
the ship and property saved was of great  
value, having cost as he was informed  
about two millions of Dollars - that when  
he first saw the ship she was in a coral  
reef, at the mercy of the wind and sea,  
which were beating her into shoaler water,  
and that she was without the means of  
laying out an anchor to hold her - that  
when he went on board the idea of saving  
the ship had been abandoned by his officers  
and that she was nearly dismantled -  
that by laying out the anchor he was  
probably the means of saving her from  
being broken to pieces on the reef, at any  
rate of saving her from much greater injury

Show she received - that no efficient aid came to the relief of the ship until the Pilot had been engaged nearly three days in securing her from further damage, and in saving her movable property from danger - that the ship being free of water when assistance did arrive, was the result of his experience and skill in such matters - that altho the weather was favorable to the ship being saved, yet three days delay in freeing her of water, waiting the arrival of the tugs, would in all probability have been the means of a total loss of the ship - that the saving of the ship if not wholly, was mainly effected by the use of his vessel, and the skill and exertions of himself and of his crew - and the additional fact that it is an universally admitted principle that the reward for service of this nature is not measured by the exact amount of service performed, but is intended to comprehend a reward for the risk of life and property, as well as an inducement to great exertions on the part of sailors; the Master told him that altho he was aware that twenty five Pounds and Dollars was a much less amount than was ever awarded by Courts for saving a like amount of property under its jurisdiction, that he would receive that amount, in full consideration for said services. The Commander replied that the services rendered had been very beneficial in saving the property of the Government, that he considered them meritorious; but

that he was not authorized to pay claims on  
the part of Salvaged; that five hundred dollars  
was as much as he would be authorized to  
pay on account of his Government, to which  
he would add two hundred dollars of his own  
private funds, and if those amounts were  
not received in full satisfaction of all claims  
the master would have to make application  
to the Government of Spain for a more liberal  
reward. . . . The master refused to accept less  
than the sum named, returned to h. vessel  
got her under weigh, and proceeded on his  
voyage.

The Company of the Schooner Rose  
consisted of the Master, the owner and four  
men

Mobile May 12. 1851

Ephraim Cooke  
Philo S. Smith  
William Cramell

Peter Graham

Joseph Hardin

Sworn to and Acknowledged Edward Fleming  
before me the 12th May 1851

B. D. Bent. Notary

Comr. of the U. S.  
for the District of Alabama

Rec'd 23. May.

W. P. Ballinger

Office U. S. Atty. Dist. of Texas,  
Galveston, May 13. 1851.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive, by yesterday's mail from your Department, the Proclamation of the President of the 25<sup>th</sup> April, in relation to the fitting out of a military expedition from the United States against Cuba.

Having seen Galveston spoken of in the public papers, as a rendezvous for those engaged in this expedition or having designs against Cuba; and also the name of a former citizen and president of Texas, Gen<sup>l</sup>. Lamar as its supposed leader, I take occasion to say, that I am well convinced that none of our resident citizens have ever been or are now implicated in the movements; and that the schemes of those engaged in it have not been carried on within this State. If such has been the fact, however, it has been done without giving rise to any suspicion, so far as I have heard.

I shall hold it to be "my bounden duty to adopt every means in my power as an officer of the Government" to suppress any movements of the kind should any such come to my knowledge within the limits of this State.

I have the honor to be,  
With high respect,  
Your affec son.

W. P. Ballinger,  
U. S. Atty., Dist. of Texas.

Hon. Daniel Webster,  
Secretary of State;  
Washington City.

Rec'd. 21 May

Boston &amp; Insights

Lincolnville (Me.) May 15, 1851

To the  
Hon. Daniel Webster, Secy. of State,

The undersigned, in behalf of himself and associate Owners of the Bark Georgiana of Lincolnville, begs leave to submit, for your consideration and official action, the following statement of facts.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 1850 the Georgiana, under the command of Rufus Bowron, Master, cleared from New Orleans for Chagres, with a load of passengers whom the said Bowron had contracted to convey to the place last named. After being at sea about seven days, he was compelled by adverse winds and a strong current against him, to stop at the Island of Goutey, where he lay two days waiting for a change of wind. At the expiration of that time he got under way for the Island of Margarita, but after being at sea about three days, was compelled by head winds and adverse currents to return to Goutey.

While laying at anchor the Spanish Don Steamer Victoria came into port and captured the Georgiana, carried her to Havana, where she was condemned by the Maritime Tribunal, and sold, and subsequently sailed for Cadiz under the Spanish Flag. The owners have been unable to regain possession of her, or to obtain any indemnity from the vicissitudes previously affecting upon her, and have thereby sustained loss to the value of the bark and the profits which they would have realized from her employment, had she not been taken from the possession of her Master as before stated. The amount of that loss they estimate at not less than five thousand dollars.

The undersigned is under no necessity of setting forth the reasons assigned by the Government of Spain for the capture and condemnation of said Bark, as they are already well known to the Government of the United States through the official correspondence of the authorities of the two governments; which reasons, as he learns from the published correspondence, have not been regarded as affording justifiable cause for the capture and condemnation referred to.

But the undersigned would state for the information of Government, that at the time the Master of the Georgiana took the passengers on board and cleared from New Orleans, he had no reason to suspect, and did not suspect, that their destination was any other than the port for which he cleared; this fact appears in the affidavit of the mate of said Bark which is hereunto annexed, and could be made further to appear by the affidavit of the Master, which affidavit by reason of his absence from the State they are unable, at this time, to produce. He would further state that at the time of the capture of said Bark there were no supplies of arms or ammunition on board, and that the only passengers on board were those who had agreed to proceed to engage in any hostile invasion of Cuba; all which appears in the affidavit of the Mate before referred to; and that neither said Bark nor her Master had any other connection with such invasion than what is hereinbefore stated.

The undersigned would further represent that said Bark was built in 1850, as appears by the duly authenticated copy of the Enrollment hereto annexed, and at the time of her capture was the property of the persons named in said Enrollment as owners, all of whom are citizens of the United States. For the value of said Bark, the undersigned would refer to the affidavit of the Master ship builder hereto annexed.

In view of the unjustifiable capture of said Bark by a foreign Power, the inability of her owners to indemnify themselves, and the loss which they have sustained, the undersigned in behalf of himself and the other owners of said Bark, would respectfully solicit the attention of Government to the subject matter, and its interference in their behalf.

The undersigned has the honor to be very, respectfully,

Yours affly servt.,

Austin D. Knight.

I Henry E. Carter of Belfast in the county of Waldo & state of Maine on oath deposes and say that I am a Master ship builder by trade and have been engaged in that occupation for the last sixteen years.

I further say that I sold to Austin S. Knight of Lincolnville in said county the frame of the Banque Georgiana of Lincolnville.

I further say that I am well acquainted with the value of vessels of her class, and that in the year 1850, the value of such a vessel, rigged and fitted for sea, was not far from sixty dollars per ton. In my opinion that sum is as low, if not a little lower, than such a vessel, of that class and age could be purchased for.

Henry E. Carter

State of Maine

Belfast. } April 13, A.D. 1857.

Subscribed and sworn to by the above named Henry E. Carter, before me,

T. G. Foster, Just. of the Peace.

Complaint

I<sup>o</sup> Joseph A. Graffam of Lanesborough in the county of Franklin and State of Maine, on oath deposes and says, That I was Master of the Barque Georgiana of Sinteville, at the time of her capture by the Spanish Man Steamer Porano. Rufus Benson, who is now absent from the States, was Master.

In the month of April, 1850 we took on board, all Steamer Georgiana, a load of passengers and cleared for Chagres, the first port we supposed we were bound. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of said April we left the Bahia, and after being at sea about seven days, we were compelled by head winds and a strong current against us, to stop off the Island of Contoy. We stopped at that place two days, waiting for a change of wind. At the expiration of that time, we got under way for the Island of Margarita, and after being at sea about three days, were compelled by continue head winds & adverse currents to return to Contoy.

We had but just arrived there when the steamer Creole came and took from us two men, who as I had learned, were officers connected with the proposed invasion of Cuba. She then left us, as we were informed, for Margarita, from which place she returned on a day or two and took from us all our passengers, except a few who refused to go in her, and at the same time left a number who came in her and who refused to continue in her.

Soon after the Creole left, the Spanish Man Steamer Porano came in & took possession of the Georgiana, with all on board of her, and carried her and them to Cuba. On our arrival there, I, together with the others captured, were put in prison, and, as I have understood, the Georgiana was subsequently condemned or confiscated by the Spanish authorities. The log book and ship's papers were all taken possession of and retained by our captors.

I further say, that at the time of the capture of the Georgiana, there was no ammunition, nor arms on board of her, with the exception of two or three guns and pistols, which belonged to some of the crew or passengers.

First of affirm

State of Maine,

Balaustre,

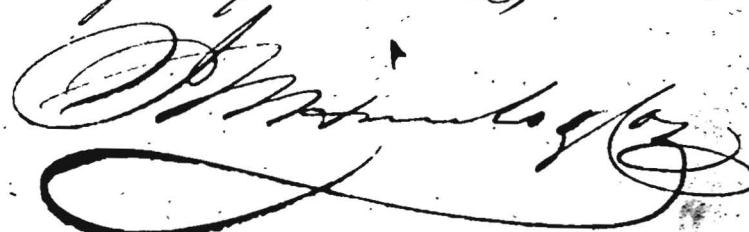
May 13, 1851. Subscribed and sworn to by the above named Joseph A. Graffam, before me,

D. Grosby, Justice of the Peace.

District and City of New Orleans

I, John W. McIntrye, Deputy Collector, do hereby certify that the  
sum of One Thousand and fifty three  $\frac{68}{95}$  dollars (\$1,053  $\frac{68}{95}$  dms) Bonsu, master, cleared hence for charges  
the Twenty fifth day of April 1806, as per clearance book in  
my office -

I do under my hand and seal of Office, at the Customhouse, this  
twenty ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand  
one hundred and fifty six.



## Consulate of the United States.

Havana 12 February 1851.

I, John Morland, acting Consul of the  
United States of America for the city of Havana  
do hereby certify, that the American Bark  
"Georgiana" of Lincolnville, Maine, some time  
in May or June was brought into this port  
a prize to Her Catholic Majesty Steamer  
"Pizano" and was subsequently condemned  
by the Marine Tribunal, and advertised  
for sale - and did sail from hence for  
Cádiz under the Spanish flag - That  
these facts were published in the Spanish  
Official Paper of this city at this time.

In testimony whereof I have  
hereunto set my hand and affixed  
the Seal of my office at Havana,  
on the day of the date, above written.

John Morland



PERMANENT.

# ENROLMENT.

Number Five

No. 5

## ENROLMENT.

IN CONFORMITY to an Act of the Congress of the United States of America,  
entitled "An Act for Enrolling and Licensing Ships or Vessels to be employed in the  
Coasting Trade and Fisheries, and for regulating the same,"

Rufus Benson  $\frac{4}{16}$  of Barnard  
in the State of Maine

having taken and subscribed the oath required by the said Act, and having sworn that  
he together with

Israel Deesow Jr.  $\frac{3}{16}$  Austin D. Knight  $\frac{3}{16}$   
Hugh Colman  $\frac{2}{16}$  Sam<sup>r</sup> Packliff  $\frac{2}{16}$   $\frac{1}{16}$   
of Lincolsville State aforesaid. Nicholas  
Berry  $\frac{1}{16}$  Archibald Buchanan  $\frac{1}{32}$  Ellridge  
G. Knight  $\frac{1}{16}$ . Horatio Alder  $\frac{1}{32}$  of  
said Barnard are

Citizens of the United States, and sole owners of the ship or vessel called the  
Georgiana, of Lincolsville whereof  
Rufus Benson is at present Master, and, as  
that the said ship or vessel was

Citizens of the United States, and sole owners of the ship or vessel called the  
~~Georgia~~  
of ~~Lincolsville~~ <sup>Rufus Benson</sup> whereof  
he hath sworn is a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, and that the said ship or vessel was  
built at ~~Lincolsville~~ State of Maine in the year  
eighteen hundred and fifty, as appears  
by Certificate of Master Carpenter  
and Surveyor filed in this office

A. Stetson

Dy: Collector.

And said Certificate

having certified that said ship or vessel has one deck and ~~three~~ masts  
and that her length is one hundred & two feet ~~inches~~ <sup>inches</sup>; ~~inches~~  
her breadth is twenty five feet nine <sup>1/2</sup> inches;  
her depth is ten feet four <sup>1/2</sup> inches;  
and that she measures two hundred forty three <sup>6495</sup> tons;  
that she is a Bark ~~has a~~ stern; no galleries,  
and a Bilge head; and the said Rufus Benson  
having agreed to the description and admeasurement above specified, and sufficient  
security having been given, according to the said Act, the said Bark  
has been duly enrolled at the Port of ~~Cambden~~

Given under my hand and Seal of Office, at the Port of ~~Cambden~~  
District of Belfast, this <sup>leven</sup> ~~first~~ <sup>fifth</sup> day of  
February — in the year of our Lord one thousand eight  
hundred and fifty

Belfast House Post of Cambden May 10<sup>th</sup> 1857  
I certify that the foregoing is a true  
copy from the Record in this office

J. C. Stetson Dy: Collector

Recd 17 May.

H. A. Graham  
C. W. Conrad  
16 May

Navy Department

May 16. 1851.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, accompanied by a translation of a Note from Mr. Baldwin, Her Catholic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, in regard to the discrimination in the quarantine charges in the port of Havana.

The Department will forward a copy of the translation of the Note, to Commodore S. A. Packard Comdg. U.S. Home Squadron for his information and guidance.

I have the honor to be  
With high respect

Your Obedt Servt.

C. W. Conrad  
Acting Secretary of Navy

W. H. Donisthorpe  
Dealing Secy of State

Rec'd 4 June.

J. Andrews

New Orleans. 25 May 1857

To the Hon<sup>r</sup> James Walker

Secretary of State

Dear Sir.

I am informed  
that a Mr. Scott, Broker, of Mobile has forwarded  
to the Department of State, in behalf of Mr. Capt.  
& Comr. J. P. L. Smith representing himself as owner  
of the Steamship Pisces of this Port, a Statement  
of their having captured the Spanish Steamer  
of War Celio in getting off the reefs in the  
Havana Roads of Cuba on or about the 27<sup>th</sup> ulto  
and to make a demand of the Spanish Government for  
a reasonable Indemnity for losing the Steamer,  
which the Commander of the Spanish referred to  
pay.

The Captain of the Pisces will meet with  
the Captain that I am the owner of the  
Steamer and have been given the 11<sup>th</sup> of June  
as his enclosed Certificate & Register of this  
Port, Therefor I request that the amount that  
may be received from the Spanish Government as  
the Indemnity for the Steamer and the crew may  
be subject to my order being given.

Respectfully yours

J. P. Lane let me have from the  
Department in the Subject.

J. Andrews

CUSTOM-HOUSE, New-Orleans,

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, 17<sup>th</sup> May 1851

This is to Certify that there is no Mortgage  
hypothecation or other incumbrance recorded in this Office  
against the Schooner Prison in the name of  
Jos. Andrews, owner of the said Schooner Prison  
and  
as the Second day of April  
A.D. 1851.

and that according to the said Schooner, Jos.  
Andrews is owner of said Schooner.

  
D. W. Nichols  
Collector.

State

Recd 15 July

Juan Garcia Rey

27 May

ay S. J. C. M. S. in the case of  
Consej. St. de los Estados Unidos de Am.  
versus United States

que habiendo llegado a la Propiedad  
 Hispana, y siendo llamado a declarar en su nombre  
 el Dr. José Francisco que no concuerda con lo que se me  
 dice con respecto a lo que se dice que no me  
 dieron pruebas ni se retractó de ello en su declaración  
 a mí, que él jamás recibió mi oposición en su declaración  
 a mí. Dijo D. Juan García que a él, Simón Bolívar le respondió  
 que D. José Olaz se había negado por no querer que él tomase  
 la guinda que el gobierno de su mandado tuviese al fin  
 de su administración. Sabía esto que me dijo el Dr. García  
 en español. Dijo: "¿por qué?" por que tenía que to  
 mar la guinda, porque él no se dio cuenta de  
 lo que pasó. Dijo: "¿y si yo le dije que tenía que  
 tomar la guinda?" Dijo: "yo fui el que le puse  
 la guinda. No te formaron una procedencia, sabes esto  
 que lo sabes. Dijo: "Sí" Dijo: "Porque yo que  
 soy un jefe, tengo que mandar por el mundo. Yo  
 no tengo más que yo que trate, y de este modo que  
 D. José Olaz se ha puesto mi guinda de Juan García".

Dijo: "que me recuerden a Juan García. Considerad que  
 yo no sé para qué me pongo la guinda cosa que no es otra  
 que olvidar. Yo no sé si Dijo: "no tengo más que yo que  
 trate, y de este modo que Dijo: "yo no me pongo la  
 guinda que no me importa en nada" nada a  
 Juan García porque no es otra cosa

Con un lento y fatigoso que me dejan aburrido  
y sin fuerza. De lo contrario me olla que con aguila  
volar.

Dijo el Presidente que este levantó con alegre  
comunicación para que suyo es constante deseo de la  
Academia en su labor que en la intención que me im-  
pone para que sea el me haga pagar como el Dr.  
mi fuerte publico por el Dr. el mundo que yo pague  
una cantidad que no tiene medida da heredad de mi  
hacienda de mis ojos jamas que no se me ha  
de pagar. Esto no que me agrade mas que  
que sepa de que soy rico y puro esto no se ha  
propósito para mi culpa que fue por el constante apro-

El presidente de los estados Unidos,

Washington D. C. Mayo 27 1855  
S. Johnson a los Estados Unidos, me consta que  
en la oficina de Correos de Washington D.  
C. Villa Polonia en D. D. no ha sido

S. Johnson

S. Johnson

H. Sr. presidente de

los Poderes

Sra. María del Pilar

Rec'd 2 June.

N. F. Tallmadge  
307 May

U. S. MARSHALS OFFICE,  
 Southern District of New York,  
 New York, May 30 1851.

To the Honorable Daniel Webster  
 Secretary of State

Sir

I beg leave to enclose you a copy of letter I have this day received from J. P. McCall Esq U. S. District Attorney in relation to the delivery of the Steamboat Cleopatra to its lawful Owner and claimant and would respectfully request your instructions in the premises

I remain your obedt Servt

N. F. Tallmadge  
 U. S. Marshal

P. S. Having, in conformity to your verbal directions to me this day, delivered up possession of the above named vessel to Mr O'Sullivan the claimant I enclose

respectfully suggest that your written  
instructions should bear date this day -  
I have paid the expenses of the Officers &  
Marines who were placed on board the  
Cleopatra, Please inform me to what amount  
I shall charge them.

I remain

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt  
W. J. Gibbons  
W. P. Marshall,

Southern District of New York  
U.S. District Attorneys' Office.

May 30 1857

Sir

The purpose and object of the Government in the detention of the Steamboat "Cleopatra" viz., the prevention of the carrying on of an illegal military enterprise against Cuba, having been answered by the frustration and abandonment of that enterprise there exists no impediment to the delivery of the "Cleopatra" to its lawful owner and claimant.

Mr O'Sullivan has heretofore made application for the surrender of this Boat to him as its owner and has now produced to me his affidavit of such ownership and given me in writing his present intentions in regard to her employment, there can therefore be no objection to the removal of the present restraint upon the vessel.

Yours very respcy  
(Signed) J. Prescot Hall

U.S. Atty

26 Wall Street  
New York City  
U.S. Marshal