

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 314

December 1-15, 1869



**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

Washington: 1964



OFFICE OF
THE ATTORNEY OF THE UNITED STATES,
FOR THE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

✓
1869.

No enclosures rec'd in Polle office

41, CHAMBERS STREET,

Dec 1

Hon Hamilton Fish

Secretary of state.

Dear Sir,

Herewith
I send affidavits in the Cuban
Gunboat cases to be used on the
motion to discharge the vessels.
It would seem proper that the
Peruvian Minister reply to them
if he so desires.

Yours Respectfully
Edwards Pierpont
a Attorney.



State of South Carolina, *W. L. Garrison*

Executive Department.

ACK + file
Attn 17 Jan. 1870

Columbia, December 6th 1869

[Enclosure, see letter I, case 41.]

His Excellency

The President of the United States:

Sir:

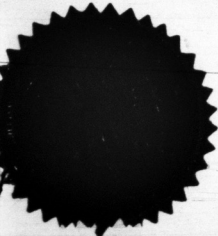
I have the honor to transmit for your consideration the accompanying copy of Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina relative to the recognition of the Republic of Cuba by the United States Government.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Robert M. Scott

Governor.



F. L. Cardozo
Secretary of State

DEPT. OF STATE
REC'D
DEC 15
1869
TATE

Mr. Jefferson

Executive.

ack + file Dec 13 1869
Case of Scott Robt K
Govt of S. C.

Dec. 6, 1869.

Copy of resolutions relative
to the recognition of Cuba

Respectfully referred to the Hon.
the Secretary of State

By order of the President,

Amos Porter
Secretary.

ansd
Dec 31. 1869



Dr. Jefferson ✓
N. 85 Strohaus, Hamburg.

December 6, 1869

Received by your office
of communication
and allowed by the Empire
July 6, 1868.

Honorable

Hamilton Fish.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D. C.

Sir:

Whilst returning in 1862 as
Consul of the United States from Maracaibo
in the American barque "Clara R. Lute", this
vessel stranded on the Goahira coast, over
which the government of Venezuela assumes
sovereignty. By the violence of the Indians
the crew and passengers were driven to the
boats and the vessel stripped.

In consequence of this outrage I
lost much valuable property and your prede-
cessor, the Hon. W. H. Seward laid my claim
before the Mixed Commission at Caracas
and as I have understood, that the claims
have been settled, I take the liberty of asking
you for information, if my claim has been
allowed.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Frederic Wispermann.

late Acting U. S. Consul at Hamburg.

✓ *Mr. H. Van Hook & Smith*
First Congress *1869*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Washington, D. C. Dec. 7. 1869.

Dear Sir,

One of my Constituents is in-
terested to know whether the
accounts of H. H. de La Huerta,
late Vice Consul General at Havana,
are closed.

If consistent please advise me.

Respy.

W. A. Wheeler

The Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Washington. Dec. 7. 69.

Strombus Cacaova (R.D. Murex)

Putan Communifera

Jan. 1872.

2

U. S. Marshal's Office,

Southern District of New York.

New York December 7

1869

file

V

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State,

Sir,

The "Sun" of this morning states, that an Expedition numbering 450 men, sailed from this Port for Cuba, on Saturday last.

This report is without foundation. Mr. Davies, Superintendent of Detectives, informs me, that no men could have left without his knowledge, as the closest watch is kept on all the movements of the "Junta", and on the straggling parties of Cubans who are scattered throughout the City.

From information based upon the best authority, however, I believe that an effort will soon be made to get off another expedition, and I have enjoined the strictest

vigilance upon Mr. Davies and his subordinates.

We have thrown such a net work around the Cubans and their sympathizers, that I am positive no expedition can be fitted out without the knowledge of this office.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully
Your obedient servant,

S. R. Harlow

U. S. Marshal.

Dr. J. Smith

✓



Nov 2. Dec.

In the Senate of the United States,

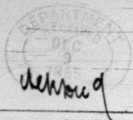
December 8. 1869.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Senate, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interest, any information he may have in his possession in regard to the progress of the revolution in Cuba and the political and civil condition of the Island.

Attest:

Geo. Graham
Secretary

Santiago de Cuba Mr. J. Smith



Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,
Washington, December 8th, 1869.

Sir: Mr. E. P. Wallau, late United States
Consul - at Santiago de Cuba having
transmitted to this Office, for adjustment, his Account for time occupied
at his post of duty

I have the honor to inquire for what period I am to credit him therefor?

He charges from April 1, 1869, to April 10,
1869, 10 days.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Henry D. Barron,

Auditor.

To Hon. HAMILTON FISH,
Secretary of State.

Refer to Sept letter of 19th Aug 69 & state
that Mr Wallau is entitled to 10
days charges for which Mr Phillips has our paid
charge the same to Phillips

Santiago de Cuba R. - J. Smith

received

Treasury Department.

Fifth Auditor's Office,

Washington, December 8th, 1869.

Sir:

Mr. *O. J. Wallaw*, late United States
Consul - at *Santiago de Cuba* having

transmitted to this Office, for adjustment, his Account for time occupied

making the transit from his post to his place of residence

I have the honor to inquire for what period I am to credit him therefor?

He charges from *April 10th, 1869, to April 27th*
1869, Seventeen days.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Henry D. Barron,

Auditor.

To Hon. **HAMILTON FISH,**

Secretary of State.

Santiago de Cuba

Treasury Department.

RECEIVED OFFICE

Washington

Dec 9 1869

Dec 9
Sir: I have the honor very respectfully to enquire for what period Compensation shall be paid to Mr. Sleadman, late United States Consul at Santiago de Cuba, for time occupied receiving his instructions, making the transit to his post, and while at his post of duty, no accounts having been rendered. Therefor by the said late Consul.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,
W. D. Barron
Auditor

Wm. Hamilton Esq.
Secretary of State.



OFFICE OF

M. Chilton

THE ATTORNEY OF THE UNITED STATES,

FOR THE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

✓

41 CHAMBERS STREET.

Dec 10 1869.

Hon. Hamilton Fish.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D. C.
Sir.

By order of the
Court this day, ~~made~~ the Spanish-
Cuban Limboats are released.

I have directed the Marshal
to keep them no longer in custody;
he will surrender them forthwith.

Yours very respectfully,
Edwards Pierpont
U. S. Attorney

Mr. Jefferson
file

City & County 3
of New York Sp. 3

11 Dec. 69

The undersigned, Frank B. Coppinger, a captain in the Cuban army and on the staff of General Paratta, now residing at the St. George Hotel, corner of Broadway and 2nd St. New York; Captain Horgo Aris, in General Canada's division of the Republican army of Cuba, at present residing at 1240 South 5th Street, Williamsburg, and E. Toralla, soldier in the army of Cuba, now residing at 5 Ansony Place, New York, declare that they have heard read the affidavit of William C. Tucker, and that they have personal knowledge of all the matters therein spoken of concerning the organization of the Republican Government in Cuba, and of its army and the distribution of the forces and the execution of the laws, and the general circumstances and condition of the revolution, and that said affidavit in respect to those

circumstances is true to their
own knowledge.

Sworn and subscribed }
to this 11th day of ~~March~~
1869 before a J. Hopfinger
Richard P. Bushman
Attest Public with Honor & true
Clerk & Consul of
New York - Eduardo Joralla

New York. Dec. 11. 69.

Wm. Tucker (Cottoning)

Cuban Commission

Aug. 1872.

Recd H. Sen
and H. C. "First Congress.
Second Session.

Wm. Jefferson

✓

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

In the House of Representatives.

December 13, 1869.

On motion of Mr. Wood,

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested, if not inconsistent with the public interests, to communicate to this House copies of any correspondence with the American Minister at Madrid referring to Cuba, together with the letter of instructions to that Minister, and copies of any correspondence with the government of Spain relating to the same question.

Attest:

Wm. Jefferson

Clerk.

Washington Dec. 13. 1869

John Shannon. (H. A. Starkweather)

Cuban Commission

Jan'y. 1872

The Revenge Of The Jews On The President.

An event has just transpired which deserves attention on more accounts than one. The Jews of this country, a body whose influence begins to make itself felt in every department of the republic, had a grudge against General Grant, on account of a real or supposed injury which the General had done them several years ago, when he first made his debut as a Commander of the federal troops, and this injury they determined to revenge whenever fortune shall favour them with power, and give them an opportunity to carry out their intention. The ground of the spite against the General, was the obnoxious order which he issued when Commander of Division, whereby ^{all} the Jews were ordered to leave the lines of the Union army within twenty four hours time of the promulgation of the order, and were forbidden to reenter ^{them} ~~the zone~~. The General farther ordered to use force against any ^{of them} who shall be found within the lines of his command, after the time specified. The General, a long time after that order, explained the reasons that moved him to adopted such harshness towards the Jews, and these were, the impossibility he found in preventing them, the Jews, from giving aid and comfort to the enemy. They were smuggling in cloths, corn, and other necessary things into the Confederate lines, and no vigilance of the guards could prevent the mischief. They were too smart to be caught, and generally carried on their business on a sure basis without risk, namely by bribing the guards, and corrupting those whom they could not evade. This latter mischief was even greater than the former, because it demoralised the army. Finding that vigilance did not cure the evil, the General resorted to the harsher measure of expulsion, hence the order already referred to. At this the Jews in, and out of America, and not a few of such as were not Jews, felt greatly enraged, not because the smugglers were deprived of their gain, but because they were designated as Jews. This was indeed a blunder, but a mere technical one, committed by the General who manifestly had something else to do, than to take care that every word of his dispatch should be such as Addison might approve, and Pope would find no fault with. Had the word Jews been omitted from

to order, and the wording been more general, embracing indiscriminately all smugglers without particularising any race or religious creed, no one could have found fault with either the commander or the measure, though no one else but the Jews might have been the sufferers; but the racial word being superadded to the dispatch, the General was abused and accused of bigotry, and spite against a persecuted race; and the measure was considered harsh and unjustifiable. It is at present hard to ascertain whether there were any other smugglers in the camp beside the Hebrew race; if there were, and they were left to monopolise the trade, the General deserves to be blamed for other reasons than bigotry. But that must first be proved, and without proof, he is entitled to the benefit of the doubt, and all we can blame him for is, for writing a superfluous word in one of his orders. This was the cause of ^{for the} spite the Jews had against the General. As the offence was one of public notoriety as well as individual loss, so the punishment must be one which some public record should be made; hence, the Jews were not satisfied with merely voting against General Grant at the last Presidential election, for then, the culprit neither was made to feel the weight of the avengers, nor were the acts those of a Corporation: they therefore hid their time, which did not come till within the last few days; but when the opportunity did come, the time was not lost, and the President of the U. S. had received a castigation worthy of the office he held, the persons who administered it, and commensurate with the offence for which it was inflicted.

As the case is yet unknown, and the sufferer as yet unaware of his own injury, we hasten to publish the facts, and if we can thereby in any way stay a part of the mischief yet in store for the President and the nation whom he represents, we shall rejoice in having done the duty of a citizen of this Republic.

A few days ago, a cable message was flashed across the Atlantic, informing us of a great outrage committed by the Rumanian Government on some two thousand Jewish families living on the Bessarabian frontier, who being ordered to remove with their and kin into the interior of the empire, were made wretched, miserable and homeless. The telegram farther stated that the act was not a new one.

but was the revival of an old usage. As soon as the news reached this country the humane and enlightened Jews of America held a meeting to consult on the best means how to avert the evil from their co-religionists in the north of Europe, and decided to draw up a memorial, praying for ^{the} executive interference of this country, on behalf of the oppressed and persecuted. Accordingly a memorial was prepared, forwarded to Washington, and presented to the President. Not suspecting any wrong, the President ^{promptly} received the memorial, assured the delegates of his own, and the Country's sympathy for those who suffer for conscience's sake, and pledged his administration to make such representations to the Czar, as would lead to the revocation of that ukase. It is evident that the President acted in accordance with his own humane feeling, rather than with what Statesmanship would have dictated. 1st The telegram might be as false as the one lately received about the meeting on board of the U. S. man of war. 2nd If true, private representations ought first to be tried, before one Government interferes in the affairs of another. And 3rd, No friendly power ought to be accused of tyranny or any other crime, on a mere ~~base~~ hearsay. Is it likely that a Government would order thousands of people to be removed from one place to another, because they wear perinees, and eat no pork? How would the change of locality cure them of those evils? Had the President given lip to the goodness of his heart, and placed lip confidence in the words of the memorialists, and allowed himself time of reflection, he would have discovered at once that as a Statesman it was his duty to wait until all the facts of the case were before him, and other remedies were tried but failed. But the President acted hastily, placed too much confidence in the words of the memorialists, and condemned a friendly power unheard. Again, if the memorialists were as unsuspecting as the President, they were still guilty of involving the Government of this country in an affair of which they knew nothing of. Are there no other reasons why people should be punished with expulsion than those of despotism and tyr-

Why did they not first ascertain the causes of the harsh measure, before they wrung out a pledge of executive interference from the President? We do not believe in the ignorance of the memorialists, and no matter how much we may admire the ingenuity of their revenge, we condemn it as unpatriotic, ungrateful, and cruel.

We will give the facts of the Russian ukase.

About twenty four years ago, the late Emperor of Russia found it to his cost, that the revenues of his empire were in a very sad condition, because a nefarious traffic was carried on in smuggling goods in, and out of the country, all along the Prussian, and Moldavian frontiers. Notwithstanding that the Cossack guards were troubled, and severe punishments were inflicted on such as were caught in the act, the evil could not be prevented, and the business was carried on whole sale. On a strict inquiry being instituted, it was found that the operators were Jews, who lived in the vicinity of the frontier; who, ^{were} either the smugglers, or the receivers, and disposers of the goods; and that they had the co-operation of the guardian Cossacks. Many of the latter who could not be corrupted, were found frozen in the Pruth or Dniester, with their heads under the ice, and their heels erected heavenwards. The report having been presented to the Emperor, he issued an ukase ordering that all the Jews living within ten miles of the frontier, should quit their places, and remove into the interior. This would have inflicted ^{occasioned} great grief, and inflicted great sufferings on 50,000 Jewish families, among whom no doubt many were guilty of no other crime than that of keeping bad company. Representations were therefore made to the Russian Emperor, who at the expense of his revenues, suspended the ukase, and left the smugglers who were legions, for the sake of the few righteous ones. These are the facts about the ukase which is now said to be removed. It is evident that the enforcement of the ukase can only be ordered on the ^{same} ground for which it was originally issued, namely, on account of smuggling, and that the measure has nothing whatever to do with either race or religion. Had the Cossacks been found to be the smugglers, they, and not the Jews, would have been expelled from the places of their operations.

It is not asserted that all Jews are rogues and smugglers, but
 that some of a particular locality are so. ^{here the question arises,} Ought the Jews of this
 country, many of whom are highly respectable people, make demon-
 strations in behalf of criminals because they happen to be of their
 race and religion? and ought the Government of this country
 to interfere in behalf of smugglers? How will the Russian
 Court receive the representations of the American Ambassador?
 Will it not point to the order of General Grant and say that if
 his order was not one issued by a barbarian despot, but was
 justifiable, then the same crime, committed by the same people,
 and punished by the same punishment, must not be styled
 barbaric? Will the Ambassador not be disgraced by repre-
 senting the memorial which the President in ignorance
 of the facts, pledged his administration to forward to Russia?

The Jews have had their revenge, they have repaid
 the President in kind. By making him to condemn the act
 of the Czar, he had condemned his own act. But if the adminis-
 tration carries out the promise given by the President, the
 nation will suffer a great humiliation in the person of their
 representative at the Court of St. Petersburg, and in that of
 the chief Magistrate. This may yet be prevented. Let the
 Jews plume themselves on their pluck of revenge; it will no
 doubt be admired, ^{as, clever, keen and replete} but no upright man can commend it. The
 President was caught, while he was engaged in shewing the large-
 ness of his heart. He may learn some lessons useful to a
 statesman, and become wiser than his teachers, and therefore
 forgive them for their revenge.



Mr. Post & Mr. Affonso
Bridges at New York City
Dec 13/69 V

The Honorable H. Fish
Secretary of State.

Hon Sir.

I beg to forward to you the accomp^d article which I wrote with a view to sell it to a Newspaper, but which I thought afterwards best to send to you. I was ill, else I should have written it before this.

If the information given will be worth any thing, than you may, if you choose send me its market value, if not, my loss is not very great.

I can assure you Sir, that the fact stated about the Russian ukase, is as I state it, consequently parallel with the case I name.

I remain Hon Sir
Yours respectfully
Isaac Mermelstein

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 315

December 16-31, 1869



**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

Washington: 1964

Copy sent to Congress in answer to
House Resolution of the 7th December.

Attorney General's Office
December 16, 1869.

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.

Sir,

41 Cong. 3 Sess. 1870
House Ex. Doc. 160

In compliance with your oral request, I send you in writing my opinion upon the question, whether it is proper for the United States to cause a libel to be filed, under the third section of the statute of April 20, 1818, entitled "An Act in addition to the Act for the Punishment of certain Crimes against the United States," and to repeal the acts therein mentioned, against the gunboats building in New York for the Spanish government, on the ground that they are procured to be fitted out and armed with intent that they shall be employed in the service of Spain, a foreign state, with intent to cruise or commit hostilities against the subjects, citizens or property of a colony, district

✓
or people" with whom the United States are at peace, namely, a "colony district or people" claiming to be the Republic of Cuba.

The statute of 1818 is sometimes spoken of as the Neutrality Act; and undoubtedly its principal object is to secure the performance of the duty of the United States, under the law of nations, as a neutral nation in respect to foreign powers. But it is an act to punish certain offences against the United States by fines, imprisonment and forfeitures, and the act itself defines the precise nature of those offences.

The United States have not recognized the independent national existence of the island of Cuba or any part thereof, and no sufficient reason has yet been shown to justify such a recognition. In the view of the government of the United States, as a matter of fact which must govern our conduct as a nation, the island of Cuba is a territory under the government of Spain and belonging to that nation. If ever the time shall come when it shall

seem fitting to the political department of the government of the United States to recognize Cuba as an independent government entitled to admission into the family of nations, or, without recognizing its independence, to find that an organized government capable of carrying on war and to be held responsible to other nations for the manner in which it carries it on, exists in that island, it will be the duty of that department to declare, and act upon, those facts. But before such a state of things is found to exist, it is not, in my opinion, competent for a court to undertake to settle those questions. The judicial tribunals must follow and conform to the political action of the government in regard to the existence of foreign states and our relations to them; and it would, in my opinion, be inconsistent with the honor and dignity of the United States to submit to a court and allow to be declared and acted upon in such an indirect manner, rights and duties toward a foreign nation, which

the government is not prepared distinctly and upon its own responsibility to avow and maintain.

It has been brought to my notice, as to yours, by persons who profess to represent the Cuban insurgents, that libels have already been filed in the courts of the United States under the statute of 1818, to procure the condemnation of vessels, on the ground that, they were being fitted out and armed with intent to be employed in the service of a "colony, district or people," namely, the "colony, district, or people" of Cuba, with intent to cruise and commit hostilities against the subjects of Spain, a nation with whom we are at peace; and it is argued that this involves what is claimed to be the converse of the proposition: that, as we assert in those libels that Cuba is a "colony, district or people" capable of committing hostilities against Spain, the law equally applies to an armament procured or fitted out by Spain for the purpose of hostilities against Cuba, and that the executive government by filing those

-5-

libels have virtually recognized the "colony, district or people" of Cuba as belligerents

This argument seems to me to involve an erroneous legal notion, and to be based upon the idea that the statute of 1818 being an act to protect and enforce the neutrality laws of the United States, cannot be applied except where there are independent parties to a contest entitled to equal rights. But this I think is an opinion wholly unsound. Undoubtedly the ordinary application of the statute is to cases where the United States intends to maintain its neutrality in wars between two other nations, or where both parties to a contest have been recognized as belligerents, that is, as having a sufficiently organized political existence to enable them to carry on war. But the statute is not confined in its terms, nor, as it seems to me, in its scope and proper effect, to such cases. Under it, any persons who are insurgents or engaged in what would be regarded under our law, as levying war against the sovereign power of the nation, however few in number and occupying however small

6
a territory, might procure the fitting out and arming of vessels, with intent to cruise or commit hostilities against a nation with which we were at peace, and with intent that they should be employed in the service of a "colony, district or people" not waging a recognized war. The statute would apply to the case of an armament prepared in anticipation of an insurrection or revolt in some district or colony which it was intended to excite, and before any hostilities existed.

But, on the other hand, when a nation with which we are at peace, or the recognized government thereof, undertakes to procure armed vessels for the purpose of enforcing its own recognized authority within its own dominions, although there may be evidence satisfactory to show that they will aid the government in the suppression of insurrection or rebellion, in a legal view this does not involve a design to commit hostilities against anybody. If the illicit distillers of any section of the United States combine together to resist by force the collection of the revenue,

and arm themselves for this purpose, with the intent to set at defiance permanently and by force the laws of the United States, they may be levying war against the government; but when the government sends its officers to disperse or arrest the offenders, although it may find it necessary to employ military force in aid of its authority, it certainly cannot be considered as committing hostilities against the territory over which such operations extend.

The question of belligerency between organized communities is a question of fact, and may be one of the gravest facts upon which a nation is called to decide and act. The concession of belligerent rights to a "colony, district or people" in a state of insurrection or revolution necessarily involves serious restrictions upon the ordinary rights of the people of this country to carry on branches of manufacture and trade which are unrestricted in time of peace. To prevent our mechanics and merchants from building ships of war and selling them in the markets

of the world, is an interference with their private rights which can only be justified on the ground of a paramount duty in our international relations; and however much we may sympathize with the efforts of any portion of the people of another country to resist what they consider oppression, or to achieve independence, our duties are necessarily dependent upon the actual progress which they have made in reaching these objects.

This subject as you are well aware is one to which long and careful consideration has been applied, and the result which I have thus briefly stated and which might receive much fuller statement and illustration, is that upon which the administration have acted. I trust that I have made my view of the law intelligible, and have the honor to be

Very respectfully

E. R. Hoar,

Attorney General

Washington, Dec. 17, 09.

John C. Rozas.
Memorial.

Cuban Commission.

Jan. 1812.

Washington Dec. 20. 69.

J. V. Brit (Sen. Stockton)

Cutau Crumford

Jan. 1872.

OFFICE OF THE

Metropolitan Board of Health,

No. 301 MOTT STREET,

New-York, December 21st 1869.

Hon. Hamilton Fish.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

At a meeting of
this Board held at its office on the 15th day of December 1869, the follow-
ing preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas,

"During the present year the Metropolitan Sanitary District has
"been twice invaded by the small pox in an epidemic form whereby the
"great cities of New-York and Brooklyn have been exposed to much sick-
"ness and death, and the Board of Health has been subjected to much labor
"and expense in suppressing this disease, and preventing its extension to the
"country at large, therefore

"Resolved,

"That the Congress of the United States be informed of the great
"danger of small pox infection, which may arise from immigration, and
"be requested in case any measures should be adopted for regulating immigration
"to require that every emigrant, before embarking for the United States, shall

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
RECEIVED
DEC 22 1869
Copies sent to
Commissioners of Board of Health
and House
23rd Dec.

"present to the Captain of the vessel in which he proposes to take passage,
"a certificate of vaccination."

Resolved,

That a copy of this preamble and resolution, signed by the President and Secretary of the Metropolitan Board of Health, with the seal of the Board attached, be sent to the Secretary of State, Washington, with the request that he will refer the same to the appropriate committees."

A TRUE COPY.

Emmurecent

Secretary

Geo. P. Liscoe

President

ack.
Dec 25 69

Washⁿ Dec 22/69.

J. Hamilton Fish
Sec. of State
Dear Sir

Jas. F. Winters of
Philada. an Engineer on the
Anfuegos Rail Road was on
the 29th. of October captured
by the Cubans. I do not know
that we have any communi-
cation with the Cubans but
beg that you will forward this
letter to our Acting Consul
at Havana asking that he
will if a chance occurs in-
deavour to effect his release.
I have no doubt that Gen

copy in file
Dec 25 1869

Canada's worth at once releasing
him if my request could be
made known, as I well ac-
quainted with him -

Be good enough to do what
you can in the manner that
least to forward this letter.

A reply will oblige

Very respectfully
Leonard Myers.

Mr. C. 3rd Dist
Punna,



Mr. J. Smith

Santiago de Cuba,

Washington, D.C. Dec 22, 1869.

Enclosure rec'd in Rolls office
Hon. J. C. B. Davis,

Assistant Secretary of State,

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a letter from N. C. Sears, Administrator of the estate of Hon William Stetman, who died at Santiago de Cuba. There are several inquiries in the letter which I am not able to answer. If you can afford me any information in regard to them, please enclose it and return the letter. Please mention also where I can find Mr. Parsons, and oblige,

Very Respectfully Yours,
J. A. Garfield



Dec 27

Havana

R. D. Smith

✓

Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,

Washington

December 23rd, 1869

Mr.

G. L. Plumb

United States

Consul General at Havana

having

transmitted to this Office, for adjustment, his Account for time occupied

at his post of duty,

I have the honor to inquire for what period I am to credit him therefor?

He charges from

October 1st, 1869, to November 30th

1869, Sixty-one days.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Henry D. Barron,

Auditor.

To Hon. **HAMILTON FISH,**

Secretary of State.

To the Hon. Howard Crosby Dec^r 23rd 1869,
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

DEC 28. 1869
Council
Sir, We respectfully request a statement
from the State Department, your official sig-
nature, of the fact that there was no
American Consul at Caribarien Cuba, on
the first day of November 1869,
and that there has been none since.

We have given bonds at the New York
Custom House to produce Consular Cer-
tificates of, two Notices of Seizure, shipped
to our address between Nov. 1st 1869, and
Nov. 27th 1869, and need the above
Statement from your Department to release
our bonds.

We Remain

Very Respectfully
Wm. H. Phillips
P.O. Box 683

1869/62.

Brooklyn. Dec. 24. 1869.

Mrs. Tolhams.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872

Santiago de Cuba. J. Smith.

Treasury Department.

December 28 1869.

Sir:

I am directed by the Acting Secretary to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23^d instant transmitting the official bonds, approved by you, of John W. Parsons, Esq. appointed Consul of the United States at Santiago de Cuba, and to inform you that said bond has been this day referred to the Chief Comptroller of the Treasury to be placed on file in his office.

I am

Very respectfully

N. Murray

Assistant Secretary

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.



Office of the Congressional Printer, ✓

am? Dec 30.

Washington, Decr 29. 1869.

My Dear Sir:

I enclose you herewith an affidavit, which forms a part of the copy now in this office relating to Cuban matters, to be printed. The pencil note at the head, as you will observe, asks that this paper be not made public, for the reasons therein set forth. I therefore submit it to you for your decision whether or not it be included in the printed matter. Please return it with such directions as your judgment may dictate.

Very Respectfully &c

A. W. Clapp
Cong. Printer

Wm Hamilton Fish

Secy of State.



~~Howard~~ Mr. J. Smith
No. 57 Cedar St., N. Y.
Santiago de Cuba 29 Dec. 1869.

The Honble

Hamilton Fish,

Secy. of State for Foreign Affairs.
Washington, D. C.

Sir,

The following paragraph appeared in the New York "Sun" a few days since.

"Mr. Plumb June 24, encloses a letter to Secretary Fish from Mr. Phillips acting Consul at Santiago de Cuba, giving information of the summary execution of Charles Speakman and Albert Wjeth, citizens of the United States, and their dying declarations."

The numerous friends of Mr. John Phillips formerly of the United States and the Island of Cuba, (and who has long been missing), are anxious to ascertain if the Mr. Phillips mentioned as Acting Consul of Santiago de Cuba is the individual of whom they are in search, and as important interests are at stake, the undersigned respectfully solicits the favor of any information in possession of your department of the antecedents of the Mr. Phillips named.

The favor of a reply, which may afford some clue however slight to the missing gentleman, will be gratefully received and duly appreciated by

Your very obt. Servt.,

John A. Bennett

Box 5440, N. Y. P. O.