

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 318

February 1-14, 1870



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

Washington: 1964

The British Gunboat Dart Takes Her to Havana - A Clearance Denied Her - American Ships Overhauled by a Spanish. NASSAU, Jan. 30, via HAVANA, Feb. 2. - The British gunboat Dart discovered the steamer Anna anchored near Berry Island, on the 25th inst., and brought her to this port, where an investigation was held. It was found that her papers were regular and that she had no coal on board, so she was released.

On the following day her consignees applied for a clearance for St. Thomas, but it was refused. The American Consul then demanded a clearance for the United States, and it was again refused. Yesterday a guard was put on board the Anna, and the American flag was lowered.

The Spanish war steamer Vandalia stopped and searched the cargo and covers of the American vessel Henry Perkins, hence for Harbor Island.

OBITUARY

Office of PHILLIPS & BROWN,
Nassau
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,



No. 155 SOUTH STREET,

NEW YORK, Feb 9th 1870

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

The morning papers have a report that the Steamer "Anna" has been seized by the British War Steamer "Dart" and taken to Nassau and there detained. A clearance refused after request was released. American flag hauled down.

I would respectfully ask if the Department has any official information concerning the Anna.
I hope the Steamer to be
Yours Obedt Servant,
Geo W Brown
Owner Steamer Anna

Box 8056
N.Y.C.

Treasury Department,

Jan. 6. , 1870.

Sir:

Your letter, dated Jan. 3^d 1870
relating to Payment of interest in
Spanish indemnity certificates
and requesting instructions to Messrs. Riggs & Co.
has been received, and the same has been referred to The
Honorable Secretary of State

I am, very respectfully,

J. H. Muncey

Assistant Secretary.

To Peter V. King Esq.
New York



and 21 Feb

71st Congress
2nd Session.

Mr. Clayton

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

In the House of Representatives.

February 7th 1870.
On motion of Mr. Orth
Resolved, That the President be requested,
if not incompatible with the public interest,
to communicate to this House, so much of
the correspondence between our government
and the government of Spain, and be-
tween the United States Legation at Madrid
and the Department of State, as relates
to affairs connected with the Island of
Cuba; and also (under like reservation)
such information as may be in his pos-
session in reference to the present struggle
for independence in that Island.

Attest:

Comm. Clerk

Clark

Treasury Department,

M. - Chilton



February 7, 1870

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, to the Secretary, requesting the admission, free of duties and charges, of five cases Cigars, Marmalade and Wine marked 'to His Excellency, the Spanish Minister in Washington' and in delivery of same to Spanish Consul at New York.

imported for the use of the Spanish Minister in the 'Eagle' at the port of New York from Havana

The Collector of Customs at that port has been instructed accordingly. The enclosure of your letter is herewith returned.

I am, very respectfully,

J. D. Harrison

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Washington. Feb. 7. 1870.

Senator Carpenter wth case of

Gregorio Gonzalez.

Cuban Conscription

Jan. 1872.

New York. Feb. 8. 1870.

C. de Aguiro.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872.

Havana Mr. J. Smith
Treasury Department.

February 9. 1870



Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, transmitting the official bond, approved by you, of Thomas Biddle Esq. appointed Consul General of the United States at Havana Cuba and to inform you that said bond has this day been referred to the Asst Comptroller of the Treasury to be placed on file in his office.

I am,

Very Respectfully,
O. J. Mendenhall
Assistant Secretary.

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

Philadelphia. Feb. 9. 70.

Ex. H. Gilpin rel to case of

A. J. Summons

Cuban Commission

Jan'y. 1872

New York. Jan. 10. 70.

John Foster.

Cuban Commissioner

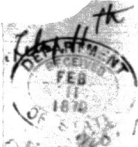
Jan'y 1872.

Havana. Feb. 10. 70.

Fernandez & Co.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872



Havana

Forty-First Congress.

Second Session.

Havana

✓

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

In the House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. Banks,

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not inconsistent with public interest, to transmit to this House any information which may have been received by the Government in relation to the recent assault upon and reported murder of one or more American citizens in Cuba.

Attest:

Clerk

Clerk

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

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**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 319

February 15-28, 1870



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

Washington: 1964

New York Feb. 15, 1870.

Jose Gervasio Pando

Cuban Commissioner

Jan. 1871.

New York. Oct. 15. 1870.

Codwise, Hewlett & Co.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872

February 19. 70.

J. G. Angarica

Cuban Concupiscence

Jan. 1872

acknowledged - despatches sent to Consul at Havana
Feb 18.



Mr. J. Smith Havana ✓
New York 17th Feby 1870

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington

Sir

We have the honor to enclose herewith a Telegram dated in Havana the 7th and a letter dated the 12th, both to the address of R Murray Jr of New York. the subject matter of which we call your attention, also enclosed a paragraph clipped from the New York Herald of 13th which is all the information we have relative to the same.

This Steamer, the "Col Lloyd Aspinwall" belongs to us, is in the name of Oliver Cutts of New Rochelle and has been used in connection with the Hayti business. she was expedited from Port au Prince on the 16th Jan'y immediately after the Capture Trial and Execution of Ex President Salnave with important despatches of a Political as well as business character to be communicated by Telegraph from Havana and the same should have reached here at the latest in five days after the occurrence.

The seizure and detention has rendered entirely useless the mission upon which the Steamer was sent. Not only this but causing to us the greatest anxiety regarding her safety and attended with all the expense of the delay which has been now nearly one month. This Steamer has made such voyages previously was well known in Havana and was properly expedited from the Spanish Consul at Port-au-Prince. She had nothing on board but Coal and a few men to navigate her. Her appearance her everything would show conclusively that she was on a legitimate voyage. The Captain was instructed to make all possible haste

to Havana and had no letters to our knowledge
except those addressed to R Murray Jr and Mess
Whitman & Co and such despatches as were sent
by the Hon Minister Bassett and from the U.S. Steamer
Tennet

That she should have been seized and detained is
most remarkable and you can readily comprehend
our astonishment when we received the Telegram as
within

In the absence of any communication from the Captain
we are unable to give instructions regarding her. You
will please demand by Telegraph the immediate re-
lease of Captain and Crew as well as the Ship.

As soon as we can get any of the particulars and
the Protest of Captain we shall forward same to your
Department with our claim for damages accruing
from this uncalled for seizure.

Close confinement and insufficient food may seriously
affect the health of Captain and Crew. The former
has a family here depending upon him for support
and most likely the latter also.

We have the honor to be

Obidient Servants

J. M. Regua & Co.
Commission Merchants
23 South Street.

J. M. Regua
& A. A. Ltd.

New York.

J. M. Regua & Co.

The affair of the steamer Captain James W. Smith, recently from Haiti and captured by the pirates, was brought before the Admiralty, and has attracted the attention of the Admiralty, and she will probably be released. The vessel was seized by the Spanish Consul at Port-au-Prince, and carried to the port of Port-au-Prince, and the report was in every paper. The vessel was captured by the pirates, and the captain, Mr. Carey, was taken to the pirates' headquarters, and his detention and treatment has been placed under the protection of the Admiralty, and is being treated with respect to the crew, and otherwise being treated.

insert

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

No. 19 Cuba

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

O. H. PALMER, Secy. T. T. ECKERT, Gen. Supt., New York. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres.

8.08 am

Dated, Havana 7 Feb

Rec'd at 145 Broadway,

To R. M. Mearns Hundred Thirty Two
Front St N.Y.

Feb 7 1870.

Col Aspinwall taken by Spanish men of
war twenty first (21) ultimo here since
twenty ninth (29) and likely to be released
tomorrow

Whitman

21 34 po 1460

Columbia

Harvard 12th Feb 1870

R. Murray, Esq.
New York

Dear Sir
We have received none of your valued
favours since we last had the pleasure on the
5th inst. (undated 25th)

The enclosed copy of telegram sent you on the
7th. To our great surprise we discovered by the
that the ship-brought in here on the 29th ult. was
the "Colony" & "Kempall" & the communication is
yet allowed with the Capt and crew, and we are
consequently unable to give you any particulars.
Only yesterday the Consul received notice
from the authorities that he might communicate
with the Captain on board the ship. This the
Consul refused to do, demanding that the
Captain be released and permitted to come
on shore.

On the 8th we received thro the P.O. together
with dispatches for the Department of State
the enclosed telegram, from Mr. Oliver Ledyard,
we thought it useless to send it on after
great a delay

When we telegraphed you on the 7th the
"General de Harina" gave us to understand
that the ship would be released next day

a few he says in a few days, and we fear
unless your Government take some decided
action in the matter the ship may still
be detained for a long time

— the remain Dear Sir

Yrs. obedient Servant

Wittman & Co.

Washington. Feb. 17. 1870.

Henry Triloh

Cuban Commission

Lang. 1872.

Mr E. P. Smith. Mr. C. P. Smith

The case of Mr. Tritot does not
appear to have been the subject of
any previous correspondence with
the Dep^t.



2 July 8 Havana Dr. J. Smith
No 111 Nassau St.,
New York, Feb'y 17th 1870.

Sir:

I beg to enquire if your records afford any information respecting the death, about August 14, 1864, of John M. Gowan otherwise John Denver, in Hospital, at Savannah, Cuba. He joined the merchant service under the name of Denver, but may have given either name in the hospital. His widow is unable to give the name of the vessel he was connected with. I write in her behalf.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Ernest P. Brook

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State



Havana Mr. A. Smith
Treasury Department, ✓

February 18 1870.

Sir:

I am directed by the Secretary to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant transmitting the official bond, approved by you, of Joseph A. Springers, Esq. appointed Consular Clerk of the United States at Havana, Cuba, and to inform you that said bond has this day been referred to the First Comptroller of the Treasury to be placed on file in his office.

I am

Very respectfully
L. D. Harvey
Assistant Secretary

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

Admission

Copy to Council in Havana to inquire.

Mr. J. Smith

Havana

Ans. 7 July
1870

New York
Feb. 18th 1870

Sir:

On the 29th day of November last, I went to the Spanish Consulate of this city to clear the American Brig *Quero* of the South Capt. J. N. Burns for Manzanillo Cuba, and had four manifests with me, but was told by the Consul that three were all that was necessary, one he kept at his office, another he sent by mail to the Custom House at Manzanillo, the third he certified to, and gave to the Captain to present to the boarding officer on his arrival.

When the Brig arrived at Manzanillo, she was boarded by the Spanish officials, and the Captain presented his certified manifest, bill of health, clearance, and crew list as customary, but the boarding officer asked him for another manifest - the Captain told him he had no other, but would make one in five minutes, as all the cargo he had on board was two Sacks Salt and 250 Boxes Oil - but the officer refused to let him do so, and told him he would fine

him Five hundred Dollars, which they did, and he paid it under protest, a copy of which the acting U. S. Consul forwarded to your honor.

Since the Briggs arrival here I have been with the Captain to see the Spanish Consul about it - he still says the Captain had all the papers the law requires.

I have sent to Cuba and Pato Rico in the last two and a half years, at least seventy five vessel, and none of them were hurt but the certified manifest, and no other was called for, and none were ever fined before - therefore knowing this fine to be unjust I pray you will take immediate steps to have the money refunded.

If you will have the kindness to inform me what course you will pursue in this matter you will oblige.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. Winchester

21 South St.

To Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State.



Mr. Jefferson
Treasury Department,

Third Auditor's Office,

Sent Feb. 13 *Feb 19* *1870.*
Hon. Hamilton Fish *" 28*

Secretary of State
Sir,

I will thank you to furnish this office with a certified copy of the act appropriating \$30,000 for the relief of the Poor of the District of Columbia, if the same has been approved by the President of the United States.

Very respectfully
AM Gangwer
Acty Auditor

mailed

DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED
FEB
21
1870
Atdy. 22.

Advantage
upon Comm. General
don. Feb 22

M. A. Smith

Navy Department.

Washington, 19th July 1870

Hon. Hamilton Fish.
Secretary of State.
Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your communication of the 16th.
Inst, enclosing extract from despatch from the U.S.
Vice Consul at Havana.

On receipt of your commu-
nication the Department telegraphed to the senior
officer at Key West, directing him to send the iron-
clad Saugus to Havana to remain there until
further orders, and is to day in receipt of a
reply stating that she would sail for that port
at an early hour this morning.

Very Respectfully
Darius D. Porter
for Secretary of the Navy

In the Senate of the United States.

February 22. 1870.

Papers referred to
are ~~the~~ letter of Governor P. Bowrey, of 15 Dec. 1869,
and signatures.
Ordered, That the original affidavits submitted
to the Attorney General by the Counsel for the Cubans
and communicated to the Senate by the President
on the 20th December last past, with other papers
relating to Cuban Affairs be taken from the
files of the Senate and returned to the Department
of State.

Attest:

Wm. B. E. B. B.
Secretary.



Mr. Jefferson free

Office of the Congressional Printer, ✓

Washington, Feby 24th 1870.

My Dear Sir:

Your requisition for the printing of 500 Copies of the Correspondence relating to Cuban Affairs, which was transmitted to the House of on the 21st inst. in answer to a resolution of that body, & for the binding of 200 Copies as per sample sent, is received. It is a matter of doubt whether the State, or any other Executive Department of government, has any authority in law to order Congressional documents to be printed. I have consulted with Senator Anthony on this point, and he thinks it best that all such orders should come through the joint action of the two houses of Congress, to obviate the doubt. He agrees me that if you will address him a note to that effect, he will at once introduce a joint resolution authorizing this printing, and see that it passes.

Respectfully, &c

Hamilton Fish
Secy of State

A. M. Clapp, Cong. Printer



Treasury Department,

Mr. Chilton

✓

February 25, 1870

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, to the Secretary, requesting the admission, free of duties and charges, of two cases and one cask containing Cigars, Marmalade and Wine - marked 'Exmo Sr Ministro de España en Washington '13' as per bill of lading herewith returned.

imported for the use of the Spanish Minister
in the "Columbia" at the port
of New York, from Havana
The Collector of Customs at that port has been instructed
accordingly

I am, very respectfully,

J. P. Mearns

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

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

New York, Oct. 25. 1870.

Joe Govey & Purb

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872.

New York. Feb. 25. 1871.

Ramon Fernandez Curiado y Gomez.

Coutan Commission

Jan. 1872

Miss - Dec 28



Louisville Feb 28 - 1870

Mr. Jefferson

Hon Fisk

Fisk

Dear Sir

Suffer me to call your attention to a matter of much interest to the friends of the administration in this city. A new charter has passed our Legislature within a few days past for this city whereby the election of all our City officers is made to come off on the 5th day of March next. We understand this election has been hurried up to have the election before the proclamation of 15th Amendment. Our friends here are confident that we can carry the election. In all the City officers of colored men are allowed to vote. These officers hold for three years when elected. If we could carry this city we can control the politics of the State in less than three years. The object of this communication is to urge you to hurry up the proclamation as soon as the law will allow. - Very Respectfully

W.E. Riley