

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 316

January 1-14, 1870



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

Washington: 1964-

Philadelphia 3 Jan 1870

Wm. P. Smith

Respectfully
acknowledges receipt
of letter of 21st Dec 1869
from
Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington

DEPT. OF STATE
JAN 3 1870
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

~~Trinidad~~ be Cuba ✓

Enclosed we beg to hand copy of letter
received by last mail from A. M. Morris Consular
agent at Cienfuegos, who considers that under the
circumstances of his appointment, which he claims
to be exceptional, he is entitled to the fees of the
Consulate & has requested us to ascertain from the
Department of State whether he is right or wrong
in the premis.

We may add that we have known Mr Morris
for a long time, he is a person of great respect-
ability & we do not think the Agency is likely to
be placed in better hands.

We are
Sir,
Your obt servants
L. M. Welch



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



COPY. American Consulate
Cienfuegos December 18. 1869
Saturday.

Dear Sir

A question has arisen between the American Consul at Trinidad, Mr. Fox Esq, and myself respecting the fees of the American Consular Agency that I hold here.

Without any solicitation on my part the Agency was unexpectedly offered to me by Mr. Fox and I accepted it, he stated that my salary would be \$5. per month and that he hoped soon to forward to me my official appointment, which I duly received from the Department of State at Washington, previous to my receipt of the "appointment" it was shown to the Captain General of the Island of Cuba who approved of it and caused his approval to be published in the official Gazette of Havana; I have reason to believe that these formalities were not adopted in the case of any one of my predecessors, who simply received their appointments from the Consul at Trinidad.

I hold therefore that my appointment is an exceptional one, and as such, I am entitled to all of the fees of this Consular Agency in accordance with Section 4, page 449 of the Consular instructions; it is not that I need the fees but I claim them on principle.

Mr Fox informed me that he would supply me with blanks etc but that the Department does not allow, Salary

Salary of Secretary nor office rent! now I have a Secretary or clerk if you will, to whom I pay \$34. & mo. for it cannot be supposed that if I write an official note to the Governor or to the Commandante of the Port that I am going to deliver it myself!

The office rent amounts to the moderate sum of \$10 per m. When I took charge of the Consular Agency, on the 12th June last, I found that the books were inadequate to the service, so I sent to the U. States for books ruled in the proper form, & also sent for blanks that are neatly printed; the books I now have could not be obtained here at any price as there is no workmen here capable of making them. My desire is to place the Consulate here on a proper footing.

The "Institute Seamen's Fund" I do not look on as simply applicable to sailors but applying also to destitute Americans but these I assist from the fees of this Consulate. I enclose a copy of a dispatch from H. H. Underhill, 2nd assistant Secretary of State, to Mr. Fox on the subject of the fees. I presume that Mr. Underhill is not acquainted with the special facts of my appointment.

I also enclose a note of the Consular Income and expenses here. If you will represent the facts in the proper quarter you will much oblige
Yours Truly
(Signed) M. St. Morris

Philadelphia Jan. 3. 70.

E. Canada.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1870

I Joseph Smith of Antigua N. I.
do hereby depose and say, that on
the twenty first day of June A. D.
Eighteen hundred and Sixty ^{five} the
American Schooner Village Belle of
Rockland Maine, burthen sixty four
and $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons, Commanded by Capt
Joshua A. Rowe, was seized by the
Spanish Steamer Telegraph, other
wise known as the Steamer Victor
Commanded by the Dominican exile
Genl G. Dupon, and was held under
the guns of the said Steamer, for
forty eight hours, during which
time the said Capt. Joshua A. Rowe
and the crew of the said Schooner Village
Belle, were held in confinement as
prisoners. That the said Schooner
was at the time bound for Inagua
N. I. for the purpose of recovering rail-
road iron from the wreck of the
ship Mermaid, and was laden
with a large amount of provisions
to supply the crews of men at work
on said wreck. That this amount
of provisions was seized and appropri-
ated by the said Genl G. Dupon
and the crew of the said Steamer
Telegraph, and on the release of the
said Schooner Village Belle, was not
restored, but was retained by the

Officers and crew of the said Steamer
Telegraph. - My knowledge of the
above facts is personal - as I was a
seaman on board the said Schooner
Village Belle at the time
notary ^{W. W. Ulmer} Joseph ^{Smith}
State of Maine

County of Knox } ss. Jan 3 1870

Then appeared the above named
Joseph Smith, personally known to me
as the identical person he represents
himself to be, and made oath that
the above affidavit by him signed
is true -

Before me - In testimony
whereof, Witness my hand and
notarial seal - and I certify
that the above affidavit was carefully read
and explained to the said Joseph Smith
before he signed and sworn to the same -

J. H. Culler
Notary Public



Latest date - Jan. 3, 1870.

I, Adolbert A. Rowe of New York in
the State of New York do hereby depose
and say that on the twenty first
day of June A. D. Eighteen hundred
and sixty nine, the American Schooner
Village Belle of Rockland Maine
U.S. bottom, sixty four tons, commanded
by Capt. Joshua A. Rowe, was seized
by the piratical steamer Telegraph otherwise
known as the Steamer Restoration, commanded
by the Dominican Exile, Gen. G. Duperron,
and said Sch. Village Belle was held under
the guns of the said Steamer Telegraph for
forty eight hours, during which time the
said Capt. Joshua A. Rowe and the crew
of the said Sch. Village Belle were held
in confinement as prisoners;

that my knowledge of the above facts
is personal, that I was engaged in business
at Santa Barbara at the time of the
seizure and saw the said Sch. Village
Belle when she was seized by said Ste-
Telegraph and when she was released -

Adolbert A. Rowe

State of Maine }
County of Knox } ss Dec. 6. 1869. then appeared
the above named Adolbert A. Rowe personally known
to me as the identical person he represents himself to
be and made oath that the above affidavit
by him signed is true - Before me, in testimony whereof
Within my hand & Notarial Seal -

J. H. Cullery
Notary Public

L. Henry Burnham of Rockland
State of Maine U.S. hereby depose
and say that on the twenty first day of
June A.D. eighteen hundred and eighty nine
the American Sch. Village Belle of
Rockland Maine over three sixty four tons
commanded by Capt. Joshua A. Rowe -
was seized by the piratical Steamer
Telegraph otherwise known as the
Steamer Restoration, commanded by
the Dominican exile Gen. G. Duperron,
and was held under the guns of the
said Steamer for forty eight hours
during which time the said Capt. Joshua
A. Rowe and the crew of the said Sch.
Village Belle were held in confinement
as prisoners - that the said Sch. was at
the time bound for ~~Georgia~~ N. H. for
the purpose of recovering Railroad iron
from the wreck of the Ship Mermaid, and
was laden with a large ~~quantity~~ of provisions
to supply the crews of men at work on
said wreck, that this amount of provisions
was seized and appropriated by the said Gen.
G. Duperron and the crew of the said Sch.
Telegraph, and in the release of the said
Sch. Village Belle was not restored but
was retained by the officers and crew of
the said Sch. Telegraph. My knowledge of the
above facts is personal as I was a seaman on board
the said Sch. Village Belle at the time Henry Burnham

State of Maine }
County of Knox } Dec. 3 1870

then appeared the above named
Henry Beorn been personally known
to me as the identical person he
represents himself to be and reads
oath That the above Affidavit by
him signed is true -

Before me Subscribed Whereof
Witness my hand and Notarial
Seal -

J. C. Kelley
Notary Public



Washington Jan. 4. 70.

Dent and Page set to claim of
Joaquin G. Argarosa.

Sent to Cuban Commission
Jan. 1872

Mr Chilton



Attorney General's Office
Washington January 5th 1870

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, enclosing copy of a telegraphic communication from Mr Roberts, the Spanish Minister requesting the detention of the Steamer 'Anna', and to say that I have transmitted to the U. S. Attorney at Charleston, S. C. the instructions of which the enclosed is a copy.

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant

E. K. Hoar,
Attorney General

(copy)

Attorney General's Office

Washington, January 5, 1870.

W. T. Corbin, Esq.

U. S. Attorney.

Charleston, S. C.

If the steamer "Anra" is in Charleston, and is armed, or has an armed force on board, or there is other cause for suspecting an intended violation of our neutrality laws, have her seized, stopped, and libelled. Apply to the collector for assistance.

E. R. Hoar

Attorney General.

U. S. Marshal's Office,
Southern District of New York.

Mr. Jefferson

New York January 5th 1870

✓

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.

Sir,

In a note received this day, from Geo. E. Baker Esq. Disbursing Clerk in the Department of State, accompanying the remittance to pay the last bill rendered by Allan Pinkerton for services in filibustering matters, he states, "The Secretary desires that these expenses be very much reduced. He also desires you to report as to the necessity of any further expense of the kind"

I have the honor to reply - that in accordance with your request, I have reduced the force from one Superintendent and eight detectives, to one Superintendent and three detectives.

There is no doubt that the Cuban Junta and their sympathizers in this City, being aware of the strict watch kept over their movements, have been deterred from fitting out expeditions.

U. S. Marshal's Office,
Southern District of New York.

New York

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I respectfully request that from this date, the force I have named (one Superintendent and three detectives) should be retained for the present, to continue our surveillance over the movements of the Junta.

Small bands of straggling Cubans, said to be awaiting transportation to Cuba, are scattered all over the City, and rumors are rife that they are endeavoring to get off an expedition at an early day.

Nothing but a desire for the strict enforcement of the Neutrality Laws, induces me to recommend the employment of detectives.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
S. R. Harless
U. S. Marshal.

Mr. J. Smith's
Navy Department.
Washington, Jan'y 6. 1870
Santiago de Cuba



I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 24th ult,
communicating the suggestion of the
U.S. Consul at Santiago de Cuba,
that our government should send a
vessel occasionally to that port,
as soon as the health of the City
will permit.

Very respectfully,
Gerrit Robinson
Secretary of the Navy

Honorable
Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State,

U.S.



Send to Mr. Brewster Copy of Statement, letter
of Telegram of ~~the~~ Unit for Collection
64
Treasury Department. Did so 11 Day
July 8
1870

Sir:

Referring to your letter of
5th instant, transmitting to this de-
partment copy of a telegraphic communica-
tion received from Mr Roberts the Spanish
Minister in which he requests the detention
of the steamer "Anna" at Charleston, &c.,
I have the honor to inform you that
this department at once communicated
with the Collector at Charleston, and I
transmit herewith copies of communica-
tions concerning the vessel supposed to be

attempting to violate the neutrality laws.

Yours,

Very respectfully

Geo. A. Bartwell.

Secretary of State

The Honorable

Aamilton Fish

Secretary of State.

Copy

"Telegram"

Charleston S.C., Aug 6 1879

14

Hon Geo S. Bentinck
Secretary of the Treasury

On official representations
of the Spanish Consul fourth (4th) instant,
I thoroughly searched the Steamer "Anna"
and found nothing whatever of a warlike
character on board - I however libelled her
for violation of Section one of Steamboat Act of
August thirtieth (30) 1852 - to which she ex-
pressed willingness to comply. For causing
unknown to me she has been libelled in
the United States District Court -

(Signed) Geo W. Clark
Collector

Copy

"Telegram"

New York, Jan'y 5. 1870

2/

Wm Geo. J. Pontreill -

Collector at Charleston

has detained my Steamer "Anna" regu-
larly cleared from this coast bound to
Nassau, please have her cleared -

(signed) Geo W. Brown

155 South St -

copy

Telegram
Treasury Department

Jan'y 5th 1870

Geo W Clark
Collector of Customs
Charleston S.C

Spanish Minister says that
steamer "Anna," destined to aid the Crebans,
is in your port. If she is an armed vessel
or has armed men on board you will
detain her. District Attorney will advise
you.

(Signed) Geo S. Boutwell
Secy Treasury

Charge Treasury
G.S.B. }

Copy

Telegram.
Treasury Department

Jan 6th 1870

to

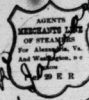
George W Brown

135 South St, New York.

Anna complained of by
Spanish Minister, as in the service of the
Orland. No report from Collector at Charleston
to this Department.

(signed) Geo S Boutwell,
Secretary

Copy to List of Names, Alex. Green, Mary & Dr. Chilton
OFFICE OF PHILLIPS & BROWN,



SHIPPING & COMMISSION MERCHANTS, V

NO. 155 SOUTH STREET.

NEW YORK, Jan 7th 1870



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

Sir
The Steamer "Anna" owned
by me and bound from this port
to Nausau NP has been detained at
Charleston. The said vessel was regularly
cleared from this port after full exami-
nation by the Marshall and Collector
and there is nothing illegal or wrong
about the vessel. She cleared here in
ballast with 20 passengers for Nausau
and put into Charleston for harbor
during the late gale.
If she is detained by your order I
trust you will have a proper investigation
made with as little loss of time as possible
and allow her to proceed.
Very Respectfully
Yours Obt. Servant
Geo W Brown

✓ *Trinidad & Cuba*
Philadelphia and Southern Mail Steamship Co. ✓

Office, 130 SOUTH THIRD STREET.

WM. L. JAMES, Gen'l Agent.
CHAS. S. TEAL, Sec'y & Treas'r.



Philadelphia, Aug 10 1870

R. A. Chew Esq
Chief Clerk State Dept
Washington D. C.
Dear Sir:

Ever with much obliged,
by informing me who the present
Consul at *Trinidad* is and date of his
appointment at *Puerto Rico* (Cuba) ^{vacant} and at
British islands of *Trinidad & Tobago*.
Mr. *Chew* was acting vice-consul
at the latter post has he ever been
confirmed by the present administration
as Consul there

Ever prompt attention & reply
will confer a favor on

Respectfully yours
Walter Hearn



Secretary
X V

Brooklyn (N. Y.) January the 50th 1870 -

to The Honorable Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State of the U. States of America

Honored Sir -

Consequently to most important precedents, and for me ever memorable friendly conferences with which you honored me, I consider my duty to submit to your respectable consideration the papers that I beg to your Kindness to find enclosed, viz -

1st Copy of the official approval and endorsement by the Republican Government of Cuba of my action in accepting the basis of the proposed mediation of this great Republic with Spain in order to bring to an end the civil war that is ravaging that island

2nd Copy of a new and especial authorization and power enabling to make any treaty or agreement on the basis of the Independence of Cuba from Spain - to put an end or regularize the said war, or that in any way may be useful and honorable to the Republic of Cuba, with faculty to enforce and execute them, before the ratification of my Government -

I avail with great pleasure this opportunity of repeating to you the testimony of my highest consideration as

your ob. servant

Jose M. Lemus

Carlos Manuel Crespo, Presidente de la
República de Cuba

Enterado del convenio celebrado en 23 de Junio último, entre el Honorable Mr. Hamilton Fish, Secretario de Estado de la República de los Estados Unidos, y el Sr. José Morales Simoes, Ministro Plenipotenciario, Encargado de Estandarero y Encargado de Negocios de la República de Cuba en Washington, con el objeto de concluir la guerra que esta República sostiene con España, por el cual el Sr. José Morales Simoes se compromete en nombre de Cuba a aceptar la mediación interpuesta por el Gotha de los Estados Unidos, basada en las siguientes proposiciones.

- Primero: Que España ha de reconocer la Independencia de Cuba.
Segundo: Que Cuba pagará a España en el plazo y en la forma que por ambas se acuerde, una suma como compensación del abandono completo y definitivo por parte de España de todos sus derechos sobre esa Isla, incluyendo las propiedades públicas de toda especie. En el caso de no poder Cuba pagar toda la suma de una vez en efectivo, se aceptará el pago de los plazos el producto de las Aduanas por derechos de importación y exportación, haciendo ambas partes un convenio sobre el modo de percibirlos, y respondiendo así al pago del principal y sus intereses hasta el finiquito de las deudas.
Tercero: Que la esclavitud quedará abolida en la Isla de Cuba.
Cuarto: Que se celebrará un armisticio durante las negociaciones por llevar a cabo el convenio de que se ha hecho mención.

Aprobado en todas sus partes aquel convenio y autorizado especialmente al Sr. José Morales Simoes por lo que usa con toda latitud

de los plenos poderes que le están conferidos p^a llenar
esas negociaciones hasta su completo término en todas
sus incidencias y dependencias.

Salamanca' Octubre 26 de 1867.

Es copia exacta.

Lice Morales Lemus.

Carlos Manuel Céspedes, Presidente de la
República de Cuba, —

En uso de las facultades que se me han conferido

Extiendo al C. José Morales Lemus, Ministro
Plenipotenciario, Enviado Extraordinario y encargado de
negocios de Cuba en los Estados Unidos, p.^a que en
nombre y representación de la primera celebre con esta
última, cualquier convenio o tratado que tenga por
base el reconocimiento de Cuba como nación independiente,
la regularización de la guerra desastrosa e
inhumana que España hace a Cuba por desdoro de la
civilización, y del siglo en que vivimos; y en general
todas aquellas que puedan redundar en bien y honor
de la República que representa.

Mei mismo declaro que cualquier convenio
o tratado que se acuerde entre ambas Repúblicas sobre
las indicadas bases y sea suscrito p.^a el C. José
Morales Lemus, como Ministro Plenipotenciario de
Cuba, podrá si se juzga conveniente, ser puesto en
ejecución, aun antes de recibir la ratificación de este
Gobierno.

Y habiendo Octubre 26 de 1869.

Es copia exacta

José Morales Lemus —

Carlos Manuel Céspedes, Presi-
dent of the Republic of Cu-
ba, —

In the exercise of the
powers conferred upon me,

I authorize the Citizen
José Morales Lemus, Minister
Plenipotentiary, Envoy Extra-
ordinary and Chargé d'Affaires
of Cuba in the United States,
to conclude, in the name of
Cuba, any convention or treaty,
with the United States, which
may have for its basis the
recognition of Cuba as an inde-
pendent nation, the regula-
tion of the disastrous and in-
human war which Spain
is carrying on against Cuba,

to the disgrace of civilization,
and of the age in which
we live; and, in general,
on any basis, so that it may
redound to the welfare and
honor of the Republic which
he represents.

In like manner
I declare that any convention
or treaty that may be made
between both Republics, on
the basis aforesaid, and which
may be signed by the Citizen
Jose Morales Lemus, as Minister
Plenipotentiary of Cuba, may,
if it be deemed proper, be put
into execution even before re-
ceiving the ratification of this
Government. — Sibani, Oct. 26, 1869.

An exact copy,
Jose Morales Lemus.

Carlos Manuel Céspedes, Presi-
dent of the Republic of
Cuba;

Having been ap-
prised of the convention con-
cluded, on the 25th day of June
last, between the Honorable
Hamilton Fish, Secretary
of State of the Republic of the
United States, and the Citizen José
Morales Lemus, Minister Plen-
ipotentiary, Envoy Extraordi-
nary, and Charge d' Affaires
of the Republic of Cuba at
Washington, with the object
of putting an end to the war
which this Republic is sustaining
against Spain, whereby the
Citizen José Morales Lemus

engaged, in the name of Cuba, to accept the mediation proposed by the Government of the United States, based on the following propositions:

First, That Spain is to recognize the independence of Cuba.

Second, That Cuba shall pay to Spain, in such time and manner as may be agreed upon by both parties, a certain sum, as a compensation for the entire and final relinquishment of all her rights to that island, including public property of every kind. In case of Cuba's inability to pay the entire

sum at once, in cash, the import and export duties of the custom-houses shall be appropriated to its payment, by instalments, both parties agreeing as to the manner of collecting said duties, and the payment of principal and interest, until the final liquidation of the debt, being thus provided for.

Third, That slavery is to be abolished in the island.

Fourth, That an armistice shall be declared during the negotiations for the conclusion of the convention aforesaid,

I approve this convention, in all its parts,

and I specially authorize the
Citizen José Morales Lemus, to
exercise, with all latitude, the full
powers which have been con-
ferred upon him, to carry
out said negotiation, in every
particular.

Sibaniú, Oct. 26th, 1869.

An exact copy,

José Morales Lemus.

Copy

Consulate General of the United States
of America at Havana.

On this the twenty-fourth day of December
A.D. Eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, before
me the undersigned, Vice Consul General
of the United States of America at Havana
personally appeared Mr Joseph Bucknam
master of the Bark "Arthur Kinsman" of
Portland Maine who being by me first duly
sworn deposes and states as follows:

That on the 27th day of October last past
he sailed in and with the said vessel
from the port of St Johns N.B. bound
to Cardenas for orders.

That on the day previous to his departure
from said port of St Johns, he applied
to the Spanish Consular Officer at that
port for the usual clearance papers
- and for which he paid fees amounting
to \$13.⁴⁰ - say thirteen dollars and forty cents
of which ten dollars were for the
authentication or legalization of two manifests
of his cargo, two dollars and forty cents were
for a bill of health, and the balance, one

dollar, for some other fee of which he has at present no recollection. -

That he reached Stone Key Anchorage, port of destination, on the sixteenth day of November last past, and on the following day proceeded to Cardenas with the vessels papers consisting, among others, of a bill of health; an authenticated manifest, his own written manifest, known as a "sobordo," and a sealed letter from the Spanish Consular officer containing, as he supposes, another authenticated manifest all of which were duly delivered to the proper officer of Customs, at that port.

That on the 17th day of November last past his consignees at Cardenas, instructed him to proceed with his vessel to this port, and duly cleared him therefor from that Custom House. That on the 22nd day of the same month he sailed from Cardenas, having been furnished with a sealed letter from that Custom House for the same office at this port, which

was duly delivered to the boarding officer on arrival, on the following day, to wit the 23^d November last past.

That his vessel being loaded and ready for sea, he yesterday applied for his clearance at the Custom House of this port, and although he has received the usual sealed package, the Administrator has refused to concede to him the port pass to enable him to leave the harbor, alleging an infraction, on his part, of the 7th Rule of the Royal order of July 1st 1859.-

And this appears further declares, that he is not aware of having violated any Rule or Regulation to be observed by masters of vessels visiting this Island. and that any omission that may have occurred in reference to the alleged infraction of the Rule referred to, should be attributed to the Custom House authorities of Cardenas, or whosoever else may be

responsible therefor, and not to this appears
and he doth solemnly and respectfully
protest as I the said Vice Consul General
at his special instance and request
do also protest against ~~any~~ ^{any} construed
responsibility of himself or vessel for
such omission, farther declaring that
his detention at this port is of great
prejudice both to himself, to the owners
of the vessel, and to the shippers or owners
of the cargo, in whose name he doth
also protest against all authorities persons
or persons responsible and liable for
his detention, and for all damages and
expenses incurred or that may hereafter be
incurred in consequence thereof.

In testimony whereof, this appears has
hereunto subscribed his name, and
I the said Vice Consul General have
granted him this public instrument,
under my hand and the seal of this
Consulate General, to serve and avail him
and all others concerned as need and occasion
may require.

(Signed) Henry C. Hall. (Signed) Joseph Bucknam.
U. S. Vice Consul General.

Mr Harrington Fish
Secy of State for
the Hunt is a highly
respectable merchant
of Portland. I can mend
his letter to your
attention Very Respectfully

John Lynch

678)

Harana.

December 21st 1869

Geo. S. Hunt Esq.

Dear Sir,

In my last of 25th I wrote you I was detained on account of an unjust claim made by the Officials of Customs, which Mr. Moll & Mr. Hall, our agent advised me not to pay.

Mr. Hall protested on 26th against the detention of the vessel and claiming damage. He has given

the subject his closest attention, has had two interviews with the Captain General and two or three with the Intendente of Customs, to my knowledge, and up to noon this day we have been denied our Clearance.

They have received my Duplicate Manifest delivered at Cardenas 16th Nov^r by to days mail, which proves to them that they are in the wrong.

I transmit a copy of protest for future use if required.

I think this infamous outrage should be reported to the Government.

I shall sail in the morning, and hope we shall get a good run out, after so much delay.

I remain

Yours Obedient Servant

(Signed)

Joseph Bucknam

Master of Bark
"Arthur Wineman"

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Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 317

January 15-31, 1870



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

Washington: 1964



Copy to Sec'y of Treas
U. S. Marshal's Office,

Southern District of New York.

Wm. Chilton

New York January 15th 1870

am? Jan 22.

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State;

Sir,

The Revenue Cutter "Bronx", by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, has been, for a length of time, under my control, to aid me in enforcing the Neutrality Laws. But in consequence of late instructions from yourself, the necessity for her being retained under my orders, apparently no longer exists; and I therefore think that she could now be allowed to resume her ordinary Revenue Duties.

I feel much indebted to Capt Constable and his Officers, for the prompt and faithful manner in which my instructions have always been carried out.

As it was by your application to the Treasury Department that the "Bronx" was placed under my orders, I will be pleased if you notify that Department that her services are no longer required,

and in such notice, I would respectfully beg, as
an acknowledgment of the services of the "Bronx", that
my thanks be tendered to Captain Constable and his
officers, for their valuable assistance.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient servant,
J R Macdonald
U. S. Marshal

New York. Jan. 17. 70.

Christal Madan.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872



W. A. Smith
Santiago de Cuba ✓

Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,

Washington,

January 19, 1870.

Sir:
Mr. J. W. Parsons

United States

at

Santiago de Cuba

having

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

receiving his instructions

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

He charges from *December 10, 1869*, to *January 8,*

1870, *thirty* days.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. Smith

Henry D. Barrow

at Auditor.

To Hon. **HAMILTON FISH,**

Secretary of State.

U. S. Marine.
Approved.

Send brief a copy
copies to the



Mr. Chittory
✓

Admiral Hoffe compliments
to the Hon Bancroft Davis, and would
be much obliged, if he could send him
without inconvenience, two or three
copies of Ex. Doc. No 7-41 "Congress
2^d Session, regarding affairs in Cuba,
his friend having written him for them.

R. L. Howe
Jan 20th 1870-

20 27 28
" 169
DEPARTMENT
28
169

acknowledged with return acknowledgment

W. B. P. Smith, please reply
Jan 22

W. B. P. Smith
for ack.

✓

New York Jan 21. 70

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
United States
Washington

Dear Sir

Enclosed we hand you
copy of a letter we addressed in
June last to the U S Consul Genl
at Havana, to which we received
no reply

We feel that our vessel having
suffered this serious loss, we
have a fair & just claim on
the Spanish Gov^t for its settle-
ment in full; may we ask
your aid in placing this claim
before the proper authorities,
so that we may hope for its
liquidation

There is a complete history of
the case in our correspondence
with Hon Mr Seward in the
early part of 1868, perhaps this
is not needed inasmuch as the
revocation of the fine must be a
matter of record in Cuba
May we hope that this case

receive early attention as we
are assured it calls for

Very Respectfully

Genuine

F. Talbot & Co.

Copy.

New York, June 10th 1869

Mr. Plumb.

U. S. Consul General,
Havana, Cuba.

Dr. Sir:

In the early part of last year the Brig "Omaha" of this port, of which vessel we are agents and part owners, was unjustly fined for a simple clerical error in Manifest of cargo from this port at Manzanillo, Cuba: the error consisted of an omission, not giving the weight of cargo in kilogrammes. The vessel refusing to submit to the fine was detained nearly two months, during which time we were in correspondence with the Secretary of State at Washington, and our Vice-Consul General at Havana, and finally on the advice of the Secretary of State, Mr. Seward, we paid the fine, some \$2263. in gold, under protest, and the vessel was released. Early in September we received notice, through the charterers of this vessel, that the fine had been revoked, and a fine of Twenty five (\$25.) dollars imposed in its stead, and the fol-

lowing is a translation of a copy
of the notice of revocation.

Copied Translation.

Office of the Collector of the Port.

The Collector of Customs (central depart-
ment) under date of the 20th inst., has
been pleased to communicate to me the
following:

"His Excellency the Superior Civil
Governor, in use and by virtue of the
faculties to him conferred, has revoked
the fine imposed to the Captain of
the Brig "Omaha", and imposed in
its stead the fine of \$25. according
to rule 7th of the Royal Decree of
1st July 1859, which I communicate
to you for your government, by order
of His Excellency."

of which I inform you for your
satisfaction, and in order that you
may take the necessary steps to pro-
cure the return of the fine by ap-
plication to this office.

May God preserve you many years.

Manzanillo, July 29th 1868.

(signed) José A. López.

To Eduardo del Castillo Esqr.

Manzanillo.

Cuba

The fine of \$25. was paid, but the other amount remains unfunded, for which we fairly hold a claim on the Cuban authorities.

May we ask your aid in procuring us the return of this amount, or at least, in placing it before the proper authorities, that we may hope at some time to see it liquidated.

Yours respectfully,
(signed) F. Talbot Ho.



W Jefferson
file V

Treasury Department.

Jan'y 22nd 1870

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 21st inst, enclosing transcript of your letter under date of 15th inst, from S. R. Harlow Esq, U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of New York, stating that he had no further use for the Revenue Steamer "Bronx", and in reply to inform you that, the Collector of the Customs at New York has been instructed to direct the Commanding Officer of that vessel to resume her regular duties.

I am

Very respectfully

Wm. Woodworth

Secretary of the Treasury

Wm. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

Ches Brunswick St. J.
Jan. 24. 70.

Jose Vicente Bello,

Cuban Commission
Jan. 1872

arrived to the General
The New (Grand) East (W. Biddle) left Monday
morning this day for Havana. No dispatches
not sent. July 31 Mr. J. Smith V

Fire Place P.O. Jan 24th 1869

General

Dear Sir

I am going to
Havana Cuba on the 5th of Feb
perhaps a little before

Will you please be so kind as
to ask Mr. Fish if he has any
dispatches for Consul General. If
so I should be pleased
to take them. I will be very care-
ful of them and deliver them in the
quickest time

The Secretary of State has entrusted
me with dispatches for Europe since
I was acquainted with Mr. Fish when he
was in Albany. He has probably forgotten me

Yours &c
E. J. Smith



W^r Chilton ✓

am^y. 28 Jan^y.

Washington D. C.
Jan 25th 1870.

Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Sec^y of State.
Sir,

Upon the 2nd day of last Sept^r I had the honor to address you a communication in reference to certain Plans and papers held, without warrant, by the Spanish Government, and upon the 8th day of last October I received your reply, stating "That the subject to which my letter referred, would receive due attention."

Having waited for over five months with the hope of hearing definitely on this subject, and believing that you are opposed to allowing any American to be imposed upon by a Foreign Government, I again respectfully call your attention to this matter.

Very truly,
R. Y. Anderson.

New York. Jan 25. 70.

M. C. Rodriguez & Co.
Claim agt. Spain

Sent to Cuban Commission

Feb. 72.

New York. Jan. 26. 70.

Dear Ring:

Claim of R. Rivas y Lamar for
Embargoed property in Cuba.

Original sent to Cuban Claims
Commission Jan. 12.

January 28. 70.

Debt and Paise for L. G. Augarica

Urban Commission
Jan. 1872



A. S. Marshal's Office,
Southern District of New York.

New York January 28th

W. L. Phillips
W. Jefferson
1870 file

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State,

Sir:

In reply to your letter under date of
January 27, making inquiries relative to the number
of detectives employed by me, I have the honor to reply;
That on the 12th of November last, I addressed you as
follows:

" November 12th 1869 "

" Hon. Hamilton Fish,

" Secretary of State ;

" Sir :

" Messrs Webster and Craig of
this City, Counsel to the Spanish Government, have or-
dered the withdrawal of all detectives employed by them "

" The force of two or three detectives now employed
by me, is wholly inadequate to keep me advised of the move-
ments of the Bullbustlers."

" Shall I employ an additional number of
detectives, as circumstances seem to require? "

" I have the honor to "

S. R. Harlow

U. S. Marshal "

To the above I received the following reply from
the State Department:

" Department of State

- Washington Nov. 15. 1869 "

" S. R. Harlow Esq.

U. S. Marshal New York "

" Sir "

" Your letter of the 12th instant relative to
the discharge of the detectives lately employed by
Messrs Webster and Craig, is received. "

" In answer to your inquiry as to whether
you could be allowed an additional number to those
already under your orders, I have to state that the
request is granted, and you are instructed to report

to this Department from time to time as to the number and the necessity for retaining them."

"I am, Sir,"

"Your Obedient Servant"

"Hamilton Fish"

I then wrote to your Department as follows, under date of November 20:

"November 20th 1869"

"Hon. Hamilton Fish

Secretary of State"

"Sir,"

"According to instructions contained in your letter, under date of Nov. 15, I have the honor to report—

"That I have now engaged one Superintendent and eight detectives. Two men are kept employed in watching the movements of Steamers in this Harbor: Two men are in the confidence of the Junta; One man to keep in with the parties who fitted out the Hornet;

as it is likely that if any other vessel be fitted out, these same parties will have control of her; two men to keep track of straggling Cubans throughout the City, and watch their boarding houses and haunts, and gather general information; one man to watch the shipment of arms and ammunition."

"Although as I understand the matter, we cannot stop the shipment of arms and ammunition, except they are accompanied by men; yet it is possible that, in this manner, we may obtain a clue to an expedition."

"This force will be increased or decreased, as circumstances may seem to require."

"I am, Sir, &c."

"S. R. Harlow"

U. S. Marshal."

During the time that these detectives were employed, I had daily interviews with the Superintendent, Mr Davies, and he furnished me daily with

detailed written reports of his subordinates' operations, and of the movements of the fillibusters, and of their sympathizers. I frequently asked him if it were possible to employ a less number of men, and at the same time keep well advised of fillibustering movements, and his answers were uniformly in the negative, which answers my own judgment fully corroborated.

Just as soon as I thought that the detectives could safely be discontinued, and their services dispensed with, I made up my mind to do so, of which fact I had the honor to inform you, personally, in Washington.

When startling rumors came to the knowledge of the Superintendent, an additional number of men was employed; but the average number of eight was not exceeded.

Trusting that my explanations will be satisfactory,

I have the honor to remain

Your Obedient Servant

S. R. Houston

U. S. Marshal.

New York. Jan. 29. 70.

C. A. de Aguiar rel to case of
Alberto Aguiar + G. Gonzalez.

Cuban Consumption

Jan. 1872

Recd. Jan 31, 70
sek. Feb. 1st 70

Havana

Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,

Washington,

January 31st, 1870.

Mr.

G. I. Plumb late United States
Consul General at Havana having

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

awaiting authorization to act, and in making the Transit from his post of duty.
I have the honor to inquire for what period I am to credit him thereof?

He charges from

May 12th, 1869, to May 23rd

1869, Twelve days, awaiting authorization, and from January 1st to January 7th, 1870, while in transit,

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Henry D. Barron,

Auditor.

To Hon. **HAMILTON FISH,**

Secretary of State.



W. L. Garrison

Executive.

July 1 1860

Case of Cuba

^{file}
Relation requesting the
President to recognize
Cuba as a Belligerent
power

Respectfully referred to the Hon.
the Secretary of State.

By order of the President,

O. S. Babcock

Secretary.

89

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The undersigned, citizens of the American Union, in view of the noble and heroic effort made by the PEOPLE of CUBA to throw off an unjust and oppressive government, and in view of the length of time for which they have maintained the struggle, and the fact that they have established a republican form of government exercising its functions independently of the government of Spain; and in view of other circumstances which we believe would justify the government in recognizing the Cubans as belligerents—DO IN THE NAME OF LIBERTY AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF PEOPLE struggling to be free, and of the principles of our own charter of national independence, and to bring to a speedy end the needless effusion of blood and destruction of property, RESPECTFULLY petition that your Excellency will be pleased by proclamation, or otherwise, TO RECOGNIZE, in the name of the American People, the CUBAN INSURGENTS AS A BELLIGERENT POWER, and entitled to all the rights which by the laws of nations are incident to that character.

Chicago, Jan'y 1870.

H. B. Rogers
 P. A. Hyne
 S. M. Hardin
 Willis M. Hitt
 James R. Stanton
 F. C. Mather
 W. W. Wheeler
 Henry L. Jeffray
 James G. Owen
 S. H. Hest
 L. J. Hunter
 Ben. Warm
 D. B. Fairman
 Saml. N. Handy
 C. C. Carr

Charles V. Dyer
 G. A. Williams
 W. C. Orin
 John B. Curtis
 E. Valentine
 A. D. Joslin
 C. A. Blinn
 M. H. Larnport
 D. C. Cates
 J. H. Jones
 Wm. H. Starn
 J. J. Williams
 Cha. F. Foster
 E. A. Lued
 John Long

S. R. Williams. Chicago	S. A. W. Williams M.D.
Mark Stafford	P. A. Mead & Co
N. A. Jones	A. A. Child
James K Rice	James L. Gates
G. N. Hammond	D. D. D.
Geo. A. Scott	Samuel R. Lusk
E. B. Shuman	Edwards, Canell & Co
Louis White	Henry Palmer
W. Wadsworth	Charles R. Clayton
E. H. Burrall	J. H. Mitchell
Frank. S. Schumann	James F. H. Co
Amos L. Smith	Andrew Brown
P. Daggy	H. K. Packard
J. H. Shipman	L. E. Beabroth
W. H. Burchaul	C. Durand
D. W. Litchman	E. A. Robinson
A. J. Matthews	Frederick Smith
Sam. Morrison	E. E. M. McBride
Geo. H. Kemmaman	William Andrew
John Wom	William Stewart
T. G. Proome	Harvey Lamy
Shull Obueyken	
W. H. Packard	
Robert Pomeroy	
Am. A. Danton	

A. A. West
C. F. Phoenix
A. M. Rathbone
Wm. Swan

Wm. A. Austin
William Ottaway
R. J. Arnold
R. P. Foulke

Geo. W. Meigs
Geo. R. Robinson
T. A. Woodruff
C. T. Eick

Wm. R. Van Arsdale

Jas. H. Marny
S. S. Dickinson

Wm. Bliss

Alford

G. J. Sheppard

J. S. Willard

W. C. Wilcox

J. M. Goodwin

C. W. Switzer

A. M. Peard

O. G. Wainwright

S. K. T. Pritchard
Jas. E. Swales

W. W. Bayl

G. A. Squire

M. Brown

Frank B. B. B.

Samuel D. D. D.

Jas. H. H. H.

A. M. Fryer

B. K. Emery

Alfred M. Lyon

A. M. M. M.

J. E. G. G.

S. S. Phelps

a a H. H. H.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The undersigned, citizens of the American Union, in view of the noble and heroic effort made by the PEOPLE of CUBA to throw off an unjust and oppressive government, and in view of the length of time for which they have maintained the struggle, and the fact that they have established a republican form of government exercising its functions independently of the government of Spain; and in view of other circumstances which we believe would justify the government in recognizing the Cubans as belligerents—DO IN THE NAME OF LIBERTY AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF PEOPLE struggling to be free, and of the principles of our own charter of national independence, and to bring to a speedy end the needless effusion of blood and destruction of property, RESPECTFULLY petition that your Excellency will be pleased by proclamation, or otherwise, TO RECOGNIZE, in the name of the American People, the CUBAN INSURGENTS as A BELLIGERENT POWER, and entitled to all the rights which by the laws of nations are incident to that character.

Chicago, Jan'y 1870.

John Henry Richardson Chicago.

Wm. Adams Smith

G. B. Smith

Chas. P. Sears

J. Denis Lee

Jas. C. Hyde

S. L. McVey

H. B. Barton

E. B. McIntyre

Oscar H. Haas.

Malcolm McDonald

E. S. Ireland

J. W. Larimore

Chas. L. Smith

Chicago

Thos. F. Swan

J. W. Harkness

John H. Harkness

J. H. Hubbard

E. H. Buckley

Charles Page

Harry C. Gage

A. Annand

W. Irving Tucker

A. J. White

Geo. Hitch

G. Kimball

Harry Fox

J. E. Miller
Hiram Ho
C. N. Augustus.