

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 345

April 1-15, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

Cadot Brunswick. et. J.

April 5, 71.

Joseph Hernandez.

Cuban Commission

Aug. 72.

1857

T. H. ALEXANDER,
ATTORNEY AT PATENT LAW
AND

1871

Solicitor of American and Foreign Patents,



Office, (Marble Building,) No. 607 Seventh Street,

OPPOSITE U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

CASES REJECTED IN OTHER HANDS MADE A SPECIALTY.

Washington, D. C., April 6th 1871

My dear Sir

Will you be so good as to inform me whether there has been any arrangement or treaty effected with the Spanish Government with reference to the Confiscation of Property of Citizens of the United States. In a recent conversation with Mr. Fish, I was told, that it was expected Mr. Sickles would forward to the Dept. information regarding this subject. A reply will much oblige you.

Yours Obedt Servt

T. H. Alexander

Hon J. B. Bancroft Davis,
Assist^g Sec of State

*An arrangement has been made
As soon as the pending
arrangements are completed
the information will be
made public by the
Department*

Webster, N.Y. April 11th, 1841

Mr. Birck
Sir, I thought that I
would pen you a few lines
inquiring of you as to
the Citizen Ship of aliens
Residing in the
United States who are
of African descent
But before I say Ena
Moore I beg to be Excused
for troubling you with
Business of such minor
importance to you, but of
great weight to my
Self and Others
I wish you would be kind
Anaf to inform me if
there is Ena Law by

acted 13th April, 1871



Seal of the United States

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, D. C. April 12th 1871



Hon Hamilton Fish
Secy of State
Sir

If compatible with the public interests I would feel obliged if you can furnish me with information on the following questions; which I require for one of my Constituents

1st Has Spain accepted the terms of a Naturalization Treaty, similar to that accepted by other European Nations, & if so does it apply to natives of Cuba

2nd Is there any agreement with Spain, by which a commission is to be appointed to settle claims of American Citizens against Spain

Your obedient servant

There is no naturalization treaty
When the arrangements are

Enclosed they will be more complete

Did so 13 April

Washington Aug. 13. 71.

Incencio Casanova.

Cuba & San Juan

Aug. 72.

Wm. M. Hoke
(Sms. 19) De Wood
Baltimore. April 18. 1871.

Hon. J. C. B. Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

It having, incidentally, come to my knowledge that a claim, for a small sum of money, (some seven dollars and odd cents) was recently presented to the Department of State, - predicated on a receipt given by me while acting as Consul General of the United States at Havana) - by one of the Foreign Ministers accredited to the Government of the United States, as due to the estate of a deceased seaman of his nationality, and that the Secretary of State had ordered the said claim to be paid and the amount to be charged to me at the Treasury Department, - I deem it due to myself to state that, so far as my recollection of the case at present extends, and without books or papers to refer to, - the seaman, referred to, was a foreigner, employed on board a Mexican vessel, at the time of his decease, - and I, therefore, did not report the fact to the Department of State at Washington.

While at Havana, I also acted as Mexican Consul, and gave the receipt in question to the master of the said vessel. - A few days prior to my departure thence, on my return to the United States, (May 4. 1869) I turned over the amount of said estate to my successor in office, Mr. Henry C. Hall, together with a small seaman's chest, containing a few articles of wearing apparel, of little or no value, with the view that he might deliver the money & effects

to whomsoever it might come due on presentation to him
of my said receipt. This, I believe, was my last
official transaction with Mr Hall, prior to my
departure from Havana, and Mr Hall, if written to
on the subject will, doubtless, remember the transaction
made at the time of adjusting our respective
claims on the Post Office Department, for allowance
to a Postal Clerk, and which latter transaction
became necessary, as my claim was for two months
and that of Mr Hall for one month, of the first
Quarter of the year 1869. - At the same time, I handed
the amount due to the latter of the demand in
question to Mr. Hall.

With this explanation which I deem proper
and just to make to the Department of State,

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Yours obedient Servant,

H. de la Penning.

Life
Gift

Recd April
15th

to Jefferson

Navy Department.

Washington April 14. 1871.
Copy to J. H. Ashton " 18 "

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, enclosing copy of a communication from J. H. Ashton, Esq. who desires copies of reports or documents on file in this Department, in relation to the capture of the steamers "General Miramon" and "Marquis de la Habana", by Commander Turner of the U. S. S. Saratoga, in 1860.

In compliance with a Resolution of Congress, copies of all reports relating to the capture of the two vessels named were communicated to that body March 29, 1860, and can be found

Printed

Printed in Volume 9, Senate Documents,
1859-60, 1st Session 36th Congress, (Doc. 29)

Supposing that the printed document
will answer the purpose of Mr. Ashton
I beg leave to refer to the same.

The memorial of Thomas
Marin, which accompanied your letter,
is herewith returned, as requested.

Very respectfully,

Geo. M. Robeson

Secretary of the Navy

Honorable

Hamilton Fish

Secretary of State

take copy enclosure - return original *Apr 15* *Apr 15* *Apr 15*

not sent
Navy Department.

Washington April



Sir:

I have the honor to enclose
herewith a communication dated the
9th ult., from Captain Wm. G. Temple
commanding U.S. Steamer *Tennessee*,
with copy of correspondence which
passed between him and Mr. Bassett,
U.S. minister to Hayti, in relation
to the American Steamer *Coronel*.

I will thank you to return
the letter of Captain Temple with its
enclosures.

Very respectfully,

Leam. Robinson

Secretary of the Navy

Hon:

Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

copy.

U. S. S. Tennessee, 2nd Rate
Port-au-Prince, Hayti.
March 9. 1871.

Hon. Geo. M. Robeson,
Secretary of the Navy.
Sir:

I enclose herewith, the
copy of a correspondence
between the Hon. E. D. Bassett,
U. S. Minister and myself,
relative to the American Steam-
er Hornet. I had told the
Minister, as also the captain
of the Hornet, that I would
afford her any protection she
might require; but I under-
stand that the Agent of the

steamer has removed the
captain and crew and offered
her for sale within a few days
past. As therefore, there is no
probability of action in the
matter, it is perhaps not to
be regretted that I had no
opportunity of sending a con-
tingent threat to the Spanish
captain.

Respectfully,
Wm. G. Perry
Captain, U. S. N.

Copy.

Legation of the United States,
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, March 7, 1871

Captain Wm. P. Temple
Commanding U.S. Steamer Albatross
Sir:

I have the honor to lay before you certain facts relating to the steamer 'Hornet' which is now and has been for several weeks lying in this harbor, closely watched, if not actually menaced, by a Spanish man-of-war. Suspicion having arisen in reference to the character of the 'Hornet', I ascertained by official correspondence through our Consulate at this port, that her papers were

all in order. This correspondence
I placed before Rear Admiral
Lee, who replied that he saw
nothing in it to call for action
on his part. Shortly after Rear
Admiral Lee's departure a Spanish
man-of-war came in, and her
Commander sent a despatch
to the Haytian Government with
the view & fear, of causing it to
deny to the 'Hornet' the hospita-
lity of these waters. Thereupon
the Haytian Government requested
me to give information of the true
'character of the 'Hornet.' I promptly
replied certifying that she is
bona fide an American vessel.
Meantime the Spanish Commander
and the Spanish Charge d'Affaires

addressed me each a despatch bearing upon the same subject, reciting certain alleged facts as to the "Hornet's" voyage, charging that she had landed on the coast of Cuba an expedition of men and arms, hostile to Spain, denouncing her in the light of these alleged facts as a piratical craft and giving me notice that if she attempted to put to sea she would be pursued and run down under Spanish guns. To each of these despatches I replied stating that the "Hornet" is an American vessel here awaiting repairs; that she is not a pirate within the meaning of the Law of Nations or the

Municipal Law of the United States; that she had not been taken in any breach of blockade; and therefore that she ought to be exempt from interference while here. I also warned them that if they pursued and captured her as threatened in case she attempted to go to sea, the responsibility would lie with them. I respectfully ask your attention to these statements. I beg leave also to add that it appears to me a mortifying circumstance that our flag in neutral waters should be openly and boastfully watched and menaced by foreign guns, and threatened with capture on the high seas. Trusting that you will take such action in the case as these statements may seem to you to demand.

Your obedient servant

Ebenezer S. Bassett

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OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 346

April 16-29, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

Brooklyn. Aug. 16. 71.

Mrs. de Risci.

Lebanon Comm. Fm.

Jan. 72.

Wacht. Hl. 18.71.

Inocencio Casanova.

Lebanonensis

Jan. 72.



1333 - F - Street
Washington D.C. -
April 18th - 1871 -

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Sir. -

I have read with great interest the circular of the State Dept., relative to the newly discovered medicinal plant the "bundurango". Having now under my care two persons suffering from cancer and feeling especial interest in the treatment of that disease and being very anxious to test the curative qualities of the "bundurango", I respectfully request from the Dept. a sufficient quantity of that wood for trial on the cases referred to. -

I have the honor to be
Respectfully Your Obedt. Servt.
D. W. Bliss M.D.

New York. M. 19. 71.

Gonzales Ferry.

Cutaneous eruption

Jan. 72.

W.H.
Treasury Department,



Washington, D. C., April 20, 1871.

I am directed by the Secretary to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instants transmitting the official bonds approved by you of Justus Gerner Esq. Vice Consul at Bremen, and Gustavus Fischer Esq. Vice Consul at Trinidad de Cuba, and to inform you that said bonds have this day been referred to the First Comptroller to be placed on file in his office.

I am

Very respectfully,
D. H. Parley
Assistant Secretary

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

New Orleans. Al. 2. 7.

Julia Brier

Centanconmipon

July 72

Refund of \$10

Arrows



Ward 4

Belleme Hospital
N. Y. April 24th 71

To J. C. B. Davis Esq.
Assistant Secretary
Sir.



Your letter came to
hand on the morning of the
20th inst. the amount due
to me from the Steamer
Virginia is \$90.00 as it
is two months extra wages
at the rate of \$45.00
a month. I am sick as
you perceive from the
direction of my letter and
am just at the present
time greatly in need of
money. I should feel
greatly obliged if at
your earliest convenience

you will forward me
the money in the
care of Warden Brewster
of the above Hospital.

Trusting that I am
not putting you to too
much trouble and thanking
you for the kindness
already received at the
same time hoping that
your Efforts in my behalf
may be rewarded as I have
a wife and child depen-
dent on my labours

Remain

Yours respectfully.

Peter Weyer.

George Hall,

Melthamston.

24/4mo 1871

The Honorable
Hamilton Fish Sec^y of State
On behalf of the
Committee of the Anti Slavery
Society I take the liberty to send
to you a copy of a minute
adopted at its last meeting,
and very respectfully to solicit
for its the favour of your kind
and serious attention.

A good deal of Correspondence
with the friends of Freedom in

the Committee with the conviction
that the moral influence of your
great Republic might be of very
great service at the present time,
and that it would be highly
appreciated by the Philanthropists
of both those Countries.

Should it be in your
power to serve this cause, I
need scarcely say that that
the Anti-Slavery Committee
will feel deeply grateful to
you. — Trusting that

You will kindly excuse the
liberty I take in addressing
you, I am with esteem
& great respects,
Joseph Cooper

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

AT a Meeting of the Committee of the above Society, held at their Offices, 27, New Broad Street, London, April 6th, 1871, the following minute was adopted :—

“ The continuance of slavery in the Empire of Brazil, and in Cuba and Porto Rico, dependencies of Spain, has at this time again occupied the serious and anxious attention of the Committee ; and, in the belief that the philanthropists of the United States of America, who laboured so long and so devotedly for the redemption of their own country from the sin and guilt of slavery, might render essential service to the cause of justice and liberty in those countries where slavery still exists, this Committee respectfully commends the subject to their most earnest and serious attention.

“ The Committee directs that a copy of this minute be forwarded, through JOSEPH COOPER, Esq., Honorary Secretary, to the principal Abolitionists in the United States.”

[Extracted from the minutes.]

THOMAS PHILLIPS,

Assistant-Secretary.

ANTI-SLAVERY OFFICES,

NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON.

19th April, 1871.

ADDRESS TO KING AMADEUS I. OF SPAIN.

THE following Memorial, addressed some months since to His Majesty the King of Spain, has since been widely circulated by the Newspaper press of that country, and has excited an unusual amount of public interest :—

TO HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY KING
AMADEUS I. OF SPAIN.

May it please Your Majesty :—

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, established many years since for the purpose of promoting, by pacific means, the total abolition of Slavery and the Slave-trade throughout the world, ask leave to present to your Majesty their respectful plea on behalf of the slaves in the Spanish possessions of Cuba and Porto Rico.

They rejoice in the conviction that the people of Spain earnestly desire the entire abolition of Slavery, and that they unite with the people of every civilised and Christian nation in the utter condemnation of the sin and injustice of holding man in forced bondage.

We cannot doubt but that the sympathies of your Majesty are strongly in favour of justice and freedom to all, and especially towards that class which has been in time past the most injured and oppressed among mankind.

Slavery derives no countenance from Christianity—on the contrary, it was condemned by its Divine Author in those memorable words, "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

It has been condemned from its origin by the Roman Catholic Church :—Pius the Second, Paul the Third, Urban the Sixth, Benedict the Fourteenth, Leo the Tenth, and Gregory the Sixteenth, have all borne emphatic testimony against the Slave-trade and Negro Slavery.

England, France, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, and the United States of America, have abolished Slavery.

We rejoice that the Spanish Cortes has given some attention to the subject, and especially that, at the proposal of the present Spanish Cabinet, it has pledged itself to an act of complete abolition in the present session.

We trust, for the sake of all parties, for the master no less than the slave, that no further delay will be allowed to take place, and that the Cortes may see the wisdom of adopting a measure of entire and immediate emancipation. Between slavery and freedom there is no safe resting-place.

It is well known that England in the first instance tried a system of apprenticeship, but its working was found so injurious, that the masters themselves were glad to displace that gradual system, and adopt immediate emancipation.

Without dwelling upon the fact at the present moment, faithfulness requires that we should state that, by virtue of existing treaties, Great Britain has a right to claim the immediate freedom of a very large proportion of those now held in slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico.

Had the claims of justice to the Slave, so urgently demanded by the people of Spain in the Autumn of 1868, been met, all the blood and treasure which has been sacrificed in Cuba since that time might have been spared.

the immediate freedom of a very large proportion of those now held in slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico.

Had the claims of justice to the Slave, so urgently demanded by the people of Spain in the Autumn of 1868, been met, all the blood and treasure which has been sacrificed in Cuba since that time might have been spared.

It cannot be overlooked that a fatal persistence in maintaining Slavery brought about that tremendous civil war which recently desolated the United States of America. Although the immediate and entire emancipation of nearly four millions of Slaves in that country was effected under all the disadvantages of that fearful struggle, yet it has been attended with the most beneficial consequences—for it is a striking fact that the production of cotton and sugar in the former Slave States of America has, in the year 1869-70, been one of the largest ever known.

For the sake, therefore, of all parties in Cuba and Porto Rico—for the sake of the great people of Spain—for the honour of your Royal House, which has not been wont to rule over slaves; in the name of humanity and of the sacred religion of Christ, we respectfully, but earnestly, entreat your Majesty to inaugurate your reign by insisting on the restoration of liberty to the Slave, in depriving him of which no human power could ever be justified.

It is righteousness which exalteth a nation, and proves the stability of governments.

May the reign of your Majesty be established by righteousness and justice, that so the blessing of the Most High may rest upon you, upon your august Queen, and upon the people of Spain.

~~Wm. W. W.~~
~~Your Majesty's humble, obedient servants,~~

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JOSEPH COOPER, }
EDMUND STURGE, } Hon. Secs.
ROBERT ALSOP, }

27, New Broad Street, London,
December 31st, 1870.

Essex Hall,

Walthamston.

24/4 mo 1871

General Grant

The President of the United States
At the request of the
Anti Slavery Committee I take the
liberty to enclose a copy of a
Minute adopted at its last
meeting and earnestly solicit
for its the favour of your obliging
attention—

Correspondence with the
friends of freedom in Spain and
Brazil has impressed the Committee

~~From the deep that no more~~
influence of the United States in
favor of the extinction of Slavery,
would be of essential service at the
present time and that its exertion
would be highly appreciated by the
Philanthropists of both those Countries

As to Cuba, the entire abolition
of Slavery would probably quickly
lead to a settlement of Affairs in
that distracted Country - But the
Spanish People are slow to move
in any right direction - The last
accounts which have reached us
go to prove that neither party in
Cuba is likely to get much nearer

advantage over the other as to
being about a permanent peace
and that the War will continue
till the moral influence of
your great Republic coupled
with the British Government, shall
intervene to put an end to it

I feel that an apology is
due from me for taking the liberty
to address you, but knowing that
the cause of justice and
freedom every where, is dear to
you, I trust you will kindly
excuse it. I am

Yours with great esteem
Wm. Cooper

File April 24.
Executive.

May 19th 1861

Case of Cooper Joseph
London.

Copy of the proceedings of
the "British and foreign
anti-slavery society".

Respectfully referred to the Hon.
the Secretary of State

By order of the President,

O. E. Babcock

Secretary.



BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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[Extracted from the minutes.]

THOMAS PHILLIPS,

Assistant-Secretary.

ANTI-SLAVERY OFFICES,

NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON.

19th April, 1871.

New York. Apr. 26. 71.

Gonzalo Troy.

Cuban Commission

January 1872.

Department of State
Washington 187

New York. Apr. 27. 71.

"Joaquin Garcia Angarica

Memorial

Sent to Cuban Commission

Jan 1 1872

25

Department of Justice

Washington, April 29, 1871.

Hon. Hamilton Fish.

Secretary of State

Sir,



Your letter of the 26th instant, requests my opinion as to the mode of appointing the advocate on the part of this Government, in the arbitration to settle the claims upon Spain of citizens of the United States for injuries done by the authorities in the island of Cuba, and of providing for his compensation.

The act of March 3, 1871, appropriated the sum of fifteen thousand dollars for the compensation and expenses of a commission for determining

the questions pending between the United States and Spain, growing out of the acts of the Spanish officials in and about Cuba. The arrangement for the commission or arbitration provides that there shall be an advocate on the part of each power, and that his compensation shall be the same, as that of an arbitrator.

The pay of the advocate on the part of the United States is fairly within the significance of this appropriation. By the terms of the arrangement he is as essential a part of the commission as the arbitrators themselves.

Although there is a provision

in the arrangement, that the expenses of the arbitration shall be defrayed by a percentage to be added to the amount awarded, I am of the opinion that this provision does not prevent the application of the money thus appropriated to the compensation of the advocate. Congress probably considered that there would be an inconvenience in deferring the payment of the commissioners and advocate until the payment of the amount awarded, and therefore made this appropriation, expecting the amount which may be paid under it to be reimbursed to the treasury when the award shall be paid.

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the money so appropriated by Congress, can be paid to the commissioners and advocate on the part of the United States from time to time, at the discretion of the President.

I am also of the opinion that the act to establish the Department of Justice does not prohibit the designation by the President of the advocate on the part of the United States. His function is of a peculiar nature, created by the agreement between the two powers, and sanctioned by the act of Congress above quoted, and does not belong to the class of professional services which that act confines to the Department of Justice.

Very respectfully, your obt. servt.

A. T. Sherman
Attorney General

April 29. 1871

Hon. H. Hamlin

Lillias, seizure of, by Spanish
Authorities of Cuba

Case of Capt. Joseph Griffin

Sent to Cuban Commission

March - 1872.