

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 351

August 1-19, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

MEMORANDUM.

~~NO.~~

DATE:

Aug 1 1871

NAME:

Jones & Ashford
490 La Co Washington

SUBJECT:

Theodore Babias
of N. Y. City imprisoned by
Span. Authorities 18 months
as a Freemason

DATE:

Aug 3 1871

NAME:

Referred to C. Cushing

W.S.P.



Mr Wood St.

Commission of the United
States of America and of Spain
Washington Aug 1st 1871.

Hon J. B. Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the
receipt of your communication of the 27th
11, together with a list of the names and
residences of the claimants before this
Commission in relation to whom state-
ments and claims have been filed in the
Department of State

I am, Sir very respectfully
Yours obt servt
G. O. Moore.
Secy.

New York. Aug. 1. 71.

Mamie Garcia Augasca

Centaur Cominifera

Jan. 72.

M. Wood
All official Letters to the Department proper must be addressed to the "Secretary of the Treasury," and in replying
to Letters from the Department the initials on the upper left hand corner should be referred to.

BJ



Treasury Department, *man*

Washington, D. C., August 2^d, 1871.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, transmitting ~~the~~ official bond of Alfred J. A. Torbert, Esq. Consul General of the United States at Harand, and to inform you that the said bond has been this day referred to the First Comptroller of the Treasury to be placed on file.

I am,

Very respectfully,
Geo. M. Smith
Secretary

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

Mr Nord
Custom House, Richmond, Va.,

Collector's Office,

Aug 5th, 1871.

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

Sir: On the 29th of March last I had the honor to submit, with a communication of that date, certain papers regarding the management of trade at Cayman, Cuba, by the Government agent at that place. These papers were gotten up, I understand, by masters of vessels trading at that port, and were handed me by Mr. Edward M. Adam.

Mr. M. Adam has addressed me the inclosed letter, asking as to the disposition made of the papers. I beg to submit the same for the information asked for I am, very respectfully, Your obt. servant
J. M. Hennipfress
Collector

Cedar Park

July 28th 1871.

J. M. Humphreys Esqr

Dear Sir

Some months ago
I remitted to you sundry papers
praying that Mr. Cahill be
appointed to the Consular Agen-
cy at Cardenas Cuba. which you
promised to lay before the State
Department, and heard nothing
since as to what action has
been taken in the matter I would
respectfully ask of you to inform
me what disposition has been
made of those papers and the
action of the State department
thereon.

Respectfully
Edw. M. Adams
Genito P. O.
Powhatan Co.

Acknowledge

Wm. A. A. return

Wm. A. A.

(over)



Belfast Aug. 5. 1871



Sir,

The Brig "U.S. Harriet" was fined \$1850.
for at Manzanilla. On the fine paid April 1868
but on correct representation of the facts
to the authorities at Havana by Mr. Laurence
then Acting U.S. Consul General at that port
the fine (ex. pt. \$25 which they claim to retain) ^{was} remitted
(i.e. taken off) but the \$1825 Gold still remains
in the Spanish Treasury notwithstanding the
authorities admitted more than three years
since that the money belongs to owners of
the "U.S. Harriet" Our last letter on the
subject was from Consul General Hall in
which he closes thus "all that I can now
do in the premises is to call the attention of
the authorities to the case of the "U.S. Harriet"
and await a reply; the result will be
communicated to you"

Our object in writing you is

To ask the aid of Government to enable
us to procure this money admitted to
be due (and if desired we can place
in your hand) copies of all cor-
respondence relating to it

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

We remain Sir
Yours Obedt. Servt.
W. Sibley & Son

If Mr Hall has called attention of Cuban Authorities
(which his correspondence with probably shows) it
is that can well be done - A distinct acknow-
ledgment of indebtedness is as near to Cash as any
body can expect from Spain in her present im-
provised condition -

I supposed this to be a case of generosity
that is that the Cubans waive the penalty that
they had a perfect right to retain & therefore the
Claimants should be lenient creditors -
E.P.T.



51.

Commission of the
United States of America
and of Spain.

Washington Aug 7th 1871.

Hon J. C. Bancroft Davis
Assistant Secretary of State
Sir:

Your communication
of the 1st inst. has been re-
ceived, asking for information
in regard to the suitability
of the rooms which have been
taken for the use of this Com-
mission.

At the suggestion of the Hon
Scales Cushing I have delayed

writing to you upon this matter. as he informed me that he would confer with you in regard to it on Saturday last. I saw him again this morning and he told me that he could not see you on Saturday, as he had intended. but that he will try and do so today or tomorrow. After that date I will see him again and learn from him what is to be communicated to you on the subject.

I have the honor to be Sir
very respectfully
your obt. servt.
- G. O. Moore
Secy.

Tremont. Ct. 4. Aug. 7. 71.

J. G. Velgado.

Consul Commission

Jan. 72.

Mr Wood



Navy Department.

Washington Aug. 8. 1871

Sir:

I have the honor to return herewith despatch N^o. 506, from the Consul General of the U.S. at Havana, with its enclosures, which accompanied your letter of the 5th instant.

The attention of Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, commanding the U. S. Fleet, has been called to the subject of a vessel of war visiting Santiago de Cuba.

Hon:

Hamilton Fish }
Secretary of State }

Very respectfully,
James S. Wood
Hon Secretary of the Navy

Washington. Aug. 8. 71.

Thos. J. Mott.

Cuba Bonifacio

Aug. 72.

sub 500



ackn

to Jones

Commission of the United States of America and of Spain

Washington August 9th 1871

Hon J. C. B. Davis
Acting Secretary of State
Sir:

I received your letter of date the 8th inst. together with an enclosed copy of a communication from Messrs Herring & Sampson of Fremont, N.Y. relating to the claim of Jose G. Delgado against the Spanish Government. I have written to Messrs Herring & Sampson

in regard to what they wished
to know, and sent them
besides a copy of the reg-
ulations adopted by the
Commission.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully
your obedient servant
G. D. Moore
Secy.

chmilled
DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED
AUG
11
1871
OF STATE
copy
a Aug 15
Navy Department.
Washington August 11. 1871.

S. W.
I have the honor to transmit
herewith copy of a despatch dated the
5th instant, received from Rear Admiral
S. P. Lee, Commanding the North
Atlantic Fleet, with copy of a com-
munication from the Commanding
Officer of the *Chautauket* and its
enclosure, relative to the steamer
Hornet and the request of the
U. S. Minister to Haiti, Mr. Bassett,
that the *Chautauket* should proceed
to Port au Prince, in view of the
attitude

attitude of the Spanish naval force
towards the Hornet.

Will you please inform
the Department whether or not
any action is desired on the
part of our naval vessels in
connection with the matter above
referred to. In the mean time a vessel will
be ordered to Port au Prince. Very respectfully
Yours,
John C. Calhoun
Secy Secretary of the Navy

Wm.

Hamilton Fish,

Secretary of State.

Copy

U. S. S. Nantasket (4th Rate)
Samana Bay, St Domingo, W.I.
July 18th 1871.

Sir-

I have the honor to enclose a letter received from Mr. Bassett, Minister Resident at Port-au-Prince, requesting the presence of a man of war at that place. As there seems to have been no change in regard to the "Hornet" since the U. S. S. Tennessee and this vessel were there, and presuming the Department has knowledge of the case, I have not acted upon it.

Very Respectfully

A. Carpenter

Comdr. Comdg

To

Mr Geo W. Robinson

Secretary of the Navy

Copy

Legation of the United States

Port-au-Prince, Haiti, June 17. 1871.

To the Commander of any
American Man of War at, or near
Samana or St Domingo City

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that an American Steamer (the "Hornet") flying the American flag, and bearing American papers all in due form, has been for several months closely watched and menaced by Spanish Men of War in this harbor. And at the present time Spanish boats, filled with arms and men, hover around her nightly in an insolent manner; the lives of the American officers and men are freely threatened; and it is openly declared by the Spanish officers that having wasted so much time already in watching her, they will, on the absurd charge that she is a pirate, soon assume the responsibility of firing upon her in these neutral waters, leaving the three powers Spain, Haiti, and the United States to adjust the affair by diplomacy afterwards.

The aspect of the case seems so serious that I venture to invite your attention to it, and ask you to touch at this point, if you find it well to do so, at as early a date as convenient.

Perhaps

Perhaps your early presence would do something to shield
American lives from the threatened Spanish violence.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant

— Stuget D. Bassett

Minister Resident and Consul General
~ of the

United States, in Haiti

August 5th 1871.

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

Sir,

I have just received, via the Navy Department and New York, from Commander C. C. Carpenter, commanding the *Mustasket* and the Senior Naval Officer in the vicinity of San Domingo, a report, dated July 18th 1871, in which he enclosed a copy of a communication from Mr. Bassett, our minister resident at Hayti, dated June 14th 1871, calling for the presence of a man-of-war at Port-au-Prince to protect the *Hornet*, an American Steamer with papers all in due form, from threatened Spanish violence. Mr. Bassett states that the *Hornet* has been for several months closely watched and menaced by Spanish men-of-war in this harbor, and at the present time (June 14th) Spanish boats filled with arms and men hover around her nightly, in an insolent manner; the lives of the American officers and crew are freely threatened and it is openly declared by the Spanish officers that having wasted so much time already in watching her they will on the absurd charge that she is a privateer assume the responsibility of firing upon her in their neutral waters, leaving the three powers, Spain, Hayti and the United States to adjust the affair by diplomacy afterwards.

Commander

Commander Corbater reports that he sent the original
from Mr. Bassett to the Navy Department. I did not
think he says it advisable to act upon it myself as the
case of the "Hornet" is well known and the "Tennessee" with
this vessel were there only a few months ago;

In my No 10 of January 17th, written to you from Port-au-Prince,
I reported to you that the Spanish Consul General there, when
he called on me then said that if he had a Spanish man-
-of-war there (there) he would capture her (the "Hornet"),
that I answered that Spain had no right to capture
her in a neutral port, or on the high seas except within a
marine league of Spanish land; to which he assented and
said his interpreter had misunderstood him. As the case
of the "Hornet" though exceptional involves important principles,
and has been referred to the Department by the Saavedra
Officer in that vicinity, I ask that appropriate instructions
may be given to me on the subject and that the Depart-
-ment notify me by telegraph on the receipt of this despatch
if it intends taking any action affecting my movements.

Respectfully Yours,

S. P. Lee

Rear Admiral Commanding
North Atlantic Fleet.

Washington. Aug. 12. 71.

J. C. Rojas.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 72.

ack^d 22 Aug

New Orleans August 12/71

Mr Burden

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



Sir.

I herewith respectfully beg
leave to enclose a power of Attorney made
on the 19th day of May 1871 at Acapulco,
Provincia of Vera Cruz, Spain - & given by Mrs
Angela de la Tajada y Aguirre de
San Roman in favor of Mr José
San Roman y Talavio of Brownsville
Texas which you will please
authenticate and return with costs
if there be any to:

Your Most Obedt. Servant
J. Talavio

Washington, Aug. 18. 71

Incensis Casanova

Cutaneomunifera

Jan. 72

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

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**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 352

August 21-31, 1871



**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

Washington: 1964

Mr. Ford



Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,



Washington, August 23, 1871.

Sir:

Mr. *James M. Siler*, United States

Counsel at *Santa Cruz*, having

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

while making the transit to his post of duty

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

He charges from *June 30*, 1871, to *July 14th*.

1871, *Fifty two* days.

Respectfully, yours,

Henry D. Benson,

Auditor.

To the Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Washington. Aug. 23. 71.

Casanova Bros.

Centaurium

Aug. 72

A

Wm. Smith Draw



4 miles

DAILY UNION

PRINTING HOUSE,

109 State Street.

STANFORD, Proprietor, {
HANLIN, Editor.

Schenectady, N. Y., Aug 23 1871.

Wm Smith Fresh
Secy of State



Is Commerce and Trade
open into Cuba and
is property of citizens
of the United States
safe on the high
seas and in the ports
of Cuba. Are there
any regulations that are
necessary to be complied
with by persons about
to open a business in
the island? or as to getting
there. In answer you please
oblige Wm S. S. Hanlin
Editor

Wood
All Official Letters to the Department proper must be addressed to the "Secretary of the Treasury," and in replying to Letters from the Department the initials on the upper left hand corner should be referred to.

Treasury Department,

Washington, D. C., *August 20*, 1871.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 24th instant, transmitting the official bonds approved by you, of Jonathan R. Talbot, Esq. Vice Consul at Turks Islands, and Emile G. Schmitt, Esq. Vice Consul at Santiago de Cuba, and to inform you that said bonds have this day been referred to the Fish Comptroller to be placed on file.

I am

Very respectfully

J. D. Hartley

Hon. Hamilton Fish

Acting Secretary

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

New York. Aug. 25. 71

Wm. A. Jones.

Centan Commission

Aug. 72.

Replied on the 21st Sept. 1871

M. H. H. D.

Letter to General Sherman, 21 Sept. 1871

21 Sept 1871



New York Aug. 25th 1871

Sir:

I have written you a number of times concerning a fine of \$500 gold imposed upon the "Am. Brig. Gen. of the South" at Manzanilla Cuba, which was informed by you last winter, that an order to refund the money had been sent to the Collector at Manzanilla from the proper Authority at Havana. Mr. Dithorn, Acting Consul at Manzanilla says the order is there, but that the money will never be paid until our government sends a man of war and makes a demand for it.

You would like to know what kind of a government we have got, that will let a sixth rate power like Spain, murder our citizens, rob our vessels and acknowledge they have done so, and laugh at the exertions we make to try to get our money back. I am one among many who think, who to day are ashamed to own that they are Americans.

In April last the Ship 'Primountain' was libelled, condemned and ordered to be sold by the United States District Court, and was so sold by the United States Marshal, free from all claims - I brought the ship, loaded her for Liverpool, but when I went to clear her was refused a Clearance until I paid \$64 claimed by the Custom House Authorities for over time of an officer while discharging her cargo, previous to her being libelled and sold - After having been detained two days, I paid it under protest and I now appeal to you for redress it is not the amount of money that I care about, but the principle on which the present government works.

My father was a old line whig and I have always been republican, but not a politician - I never voted but twice in my life, and that was for Lincoln the last time and for Grant. Now I can afford to lose the above \$64 and cost of protest, and I can also spend \$64,000 on the next presidential election.

Very respectfully yours,
James H. Winchester

Ans Hamilton Esq
Secretary of State

52 South St

See note to Spaniards 21 Sept 1871

Subject: Fine of \$500 on the
"Queen of the South".

The fine was imposed in Dec^r. 1869 at Manzanillo, Cuba, for want of a third manifest, under a Spanish regulation.

Much correspondence, at the instance J. H. Winchster, the owner, has taken place between the Dept. and Consulate General, until on Jan^y. 31. 1871 Mr. A. Dille encloses a copy of a letter dated Jan^y. 27. '71 from the Intendente of the Treasury stating that on that date an order had been issued to the Central Bureau of Payments "to grant a remittance of \$500. in favor of Messrs. Llanusa & Co. for the amount of the fine imposed at Manzanillo upon the master of the Amer. brig "Queen of the South".

This was immediately communicated to Winchster. He sends the same to his

his Agent at Manzanilla (Mr. Hilborn,
the U. S. Consular Agt.), who on applying
for the money was informed on July
22nd 1871 (by letter) that no order of
the Kind had been received by the
Administrador of Customs there. The
Vice Consul Guel's comment on this
is, that the fine having been imposed
and exacted before appeal could be
had to the Central Authorities, and
divided among the officials (now
probably out of office) the Treasury
is without an appropriation to
pay what it has ordered to be
restored.

This is the present condition of
the case in this Dept.

Mr. Wucherer now writes that
the order for refunding is at
Manzanilla but will not be
acted on without a show of force
by the United States.

Respectfully submitted

A. B. Wood.