

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 347

May 1-15, 1871



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

Washington: 1964



Heavenly

1871 28th 1871



Baltimore, May 1st 1871.
34. F. O. Avenue.

Honorable,

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

Sir,

Referring to the letter which I addressed to you some days ago, relative to a charge of some \$7.⁰⁰ made against me, at the instance of one of the Foreign Ministers, who exhibited a receipt from me, while Vice Consul General at Havana, for a balance due the estate of a seaman, - I now have the honor to transmit a triplicate of said account, which was made up at Havana, - April 16th 1868, and is in the handwriting of Mr. L. V. Schmitt, one of my clerks at the time and fully endorsed by me. I have not my letter book, to know precisely when I forwarded the account of all attain Hannon to the Department, but I well remember that I was very particular in reporting every thing connected with the Consulate, which it was my duty to attend to. - I am not infallible, - and it may, perhaps, have escaped me, in the multiplying of the duties I had to perform. - If the original and duplicate have not found their way to the Treasury, then I request you will enclose this triplicate to that Department, and

if C

if not found entered in my accounts, - then
let the charge of \$7.400 stand against me, -
until such time as Congress decides on my
petition for relief, and does me full justice.

In my previous (last) letter to the Department
of State, I informed you that I had paid over
to Mr Henry C. Hall, my successor in office, -
the balance due to a Mexican seaman, and also
delivered his chest of clothing to that gentleman, -
and that I recollect the fact.

The enclosed receipt, for \$9.700 - from Mr.
Hall, shows that I was correct and, the seaman's
name was Francisco Carey, - belonging to
the Swedish Bark "Eudalia", - C. A.
Westerlund - Master, and that said
Francisco Carey was drowned at sea, -
February 16. 1868, by accidentally falling
overboard. - Both of these receipts
I found, yesterday, among my private papers,
after a tedious search, and this goes further to
show that, I was most careful in preserving
all such evidences, throughout the period of
my incumbency as Vice Consul General in
Havana.

The receipt of Mr Hall is dated on the
3^d of May 1869, and I left Havana - the next
day, May 4th 1869, in the Steamer "Cuba";
thus showing that it was among the very
last transactions, of an official character,
I

I had with Mr. H. C. Hall. - I have no doubt
Mr Hall has remitted the amount to the proper
authorities in Mexico.

I have always been honest and
intend to end my days as an honest man,

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. R. de La Renta.

Late Consul General.

Havana - Cuba.

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF STATE
MAY 1 1841
6-10-41
Circular
Philadelphia May 1. 1841
Hon Hamilton Fish
Secy of State
Washington DC.

Sir,

My Parents Came to this Country
when I was two Years old and I was
raised here, when I was Twenty Years
old I went to the Island of Cuba, on
business and remained there five years,
finished the business I went out for
and returned home to Philadelphia,
and have remained here ever since -
I am now Twenty Seven Years of Age -
have also considered this City as my
home, and I am desirous of voting
at the next Election and wish to
know if I can do so. Please reply.

Yours respectfully, J. H. Dooner
8218 North 9th Street.

doz wood



Treasury Department,

Fifth Auditor's Office,

Washington

May 2^d, 1871.

Mr.

Jas. N. Siler

United States

Consul at Santa Cruz, N. I. having

transmitted to this Office, for adjustment, his Account for time occupied while receiving instructions

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

He charges from *March 16th*, 1871, to *April 15th*, 1871, *Thirty* days.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Henry D. Barron,

Auditor.

To Hon. **HAMILTON FISH,**
Secretary of State.

New York. May 2. 71.

Thomas J. Mora.

Centaur Communism

Jan. 1872.

Dr.
108 BS

^{Dr Wood}
Treasury Department

Washington, D. C.,

3rd May



Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th Ult: covering a copy of Despatch N^o 427, and of its enclosure, from the Consul General at Havana, who reports the discharge of Thos D Wood, the 2^d Mate of the Steamer "Hercules" under circumstances which subject the Master to liability for a violation of the Statute for the discharge of Seamen in a foreign port.

I have to inform you that the proper instructions have been given to the Collector of Customs at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

W. A. Richardson
Acting Secretary

Must answer
May 5 Ark 6 May

R. B. Smith

to Rats.



New York May 3^d 1871

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington
D.C.

Having learned through
the public prints that a Commission
was to meet at Washington to consider
the claims of American citizens for
injuries sustained by the rebellion
in Cuba, we wish to ask if that
Commission is the regularly constituted
one for the adjustment of all claims,
or merely for the special arrangement
of damages in cases like the Lloyd
Aspinwall - We have several claims
to present, based upon injuries by
the unjust seizures of property found
in the hands of rebels, but really
belonging to us - At the proper
time we wish those claims considered

Very Respectfully
Yours

Danford Knowlton

Brooklyn. May. 4. 71.

Henry Story ~

Cuban Commission

January 72.

M.A.
Treasury

clerk
Department,

FIFTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

Washington, *May 5th*, 1871.



Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th Dec., 1870, in answer to mine of the 4th of the same month and year, relative to the account of Chas. N. Perkins Esq., late United States Consul at Barcelona, Spain, for salary, from July 1. to August 13th 1870, and to inquire whether you are now in possession of such information from him as will enable you to answer my letter of the 7th December 1870, according to its tenor?

Yours, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
W. D. Barron.
Auditor.

To Hon. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.



Washington 5th May 1871.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2^d instant, and to inform you that I accept the appointment which, by your commission bearing date the 3^d instant, you were pleased to confer upon me, of "Arbitrator on the part of the United States, for the settlement of claims of citizens of the United States or of their heirs against the Government of Spain, under the arrangement made between D. E. Sickles, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, and Mr. Cristóbal Martos, the Minister of State of the Government of Spain, on

(over)

the twelfth day of February 1871,"

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obt. servant,

A. J. Otto

The Honorable

Hamilton Fish,

Secretary of State.

Send copy of paper ^{May 13}
no supply of the contents of the ^{Dr. Poyson} ^{May 3. 1877}
New York
28 West 116th St.
N.Y.
Wm. L. G. Jr.

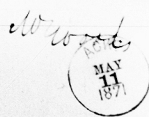
I have been informed that
communications have been dispatched
to your Department from Ecuador,
representing the "Cundurango" to
be a valuable remedy in the
treatment of cancer. I am a
practising physician in New York
and am much interested in the
treatment of this disease, having
several cases now under my care.
This fact will I trust explain
the liberty which I have taken
in thus addressing you. I may
add that I am connected with
public institutions in this City
and a fellow of the Academy

of Medicine. Could you inform
me where I can obtain any facts
with regard to the new remedy or
procure a supply of it? With
great respect I remain

Your obedient Servant.

To the F. A. Burrall
Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State.

100
Mr. Fish
to the Com. at
May 11. 1871



New York
May 10 1871

I beg leave to hand you herewith
letter I received from Mr. H. C. Bithorn
U. S. Consul at Manzanillo, this morning
saying the order issued in January
last for the remission of the fine impos-
ed upon the Brig "Queen of the South" had
not yet come to hand.

I can't under-
stand why there should be so much delay
in the matter, provided our Consuls in
Cuba give it any attention, and think
if you would have the kindness to com-
municate with them again, it might be
the means of having the order forwarded
to Mr. Bithorn without further delay.

I am, sir;

Your obedient servant,
J. H. Kingfisher
52 South St.

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

via Havana

Manzanillo 29th April 1871

Jas: H. Winchester Esq^r.
New York.

Dear Sir,

Since addressing you last on the 4th ult. I have been advising the U.S. Consul Mr. A. N. Young, my superior in office at S. Jago/Cuba of my nonreception of the Yndendent's order for collection of the fine imposed upon the brig "Queen of the South" and up to date I have been waiting in vain to receive the same so as to be able to obtain the amount and remit it to you - I am at a loss to understand where the fault of so much remissness lies, but as long as my Superiors in office do not insist on the Yndendent's order being forwarded to me, I can do nothing further in the matter, but let you know, that I am not to blame for your being kept any longer out of these funds, remaining

Yours truly
Chas. Withorn.

1871

original packet received
May 12

to / Comant
May 1871

also, 13



Navy Department.

Washington May

to G. G. Johnson
11. 1871.

Sir Beirut

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th ult^o, with its enclosures, in relation to the ancient sarcophagus discovered by Mr. Debbax, Vice Consul of the United States at Tarsus, Asia Minor, and presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art of the City of New York.

Instructions have this day been given to Rear Admiral Chas. S. Boggs, Commanding the European Fleet, to send one of his vessels, when he can do so conveniently,

to

to Mr. McVine, to take on board the
Harcourthaus for transportation
to the United States. If advisable
he is to have it transferred to
any other vessel of the fleet that
may be coming home at an earlier
day.

Very respectfully
Leon Ralston
Secretary of the Navy.

Hon.

Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State.

Mr. Jefferson
United States and Mexican
CLAIMS COMMISSION,

No. 1412 H Street,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Copy to N-2
Wm. H. Hunt
DEPT. OF STATE
MAY 11 1871
August V
1871

Received by
Dep't of Navy Sept. 16,
Dep't of Hudson's Bay Co. furnished by Navy Dept. 1st June 71
sent to H. A. 2d June 71
Hon. Hamilton Fish,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to suggest that the Department request the Secretary of the Navy to direct any Naval officers accessible, who are cognizant of the treatment received by Tomas Marin, the commander of the steamers "Miramón" and "Marques de la Habana", seized by the U. S. Sloop of war Saratoga in March 1860, while on board of that vessel and the U. S. Sloop of war Preble, to make depositions of the facts favorable to the United States in the matter of the claim of Marin before this Commission.

I transmitted to the Department
a copy of the memorials in this case on
the 6th of April 1871, but now enclose
another copy.

It will be seen that the petitioner
claims damages for alleged cruel
treatment on board of the U. S. vessels
Saratoga and Preble at the hands of the
officers of those vessels. It appears
that Commander Turner was in com-
mand of the Saratoga, and Commander
Thornton A. Jenkins commanded the
Preble. The latter officer is on duty in
this city. The former, I believe, is deceased,
but I presume some surviving officer
of the Saratoga at that time, is acces-
sible.

The object of the depositions will
be to negative and disprove the alleged

improper treatment of the claimant with
a view to reduce the damages, if the Com-
missioners should decide that the claim
is well founded in law.

The deponents may also state any
facts favorable to the United States in
the consideration of this claim as exhibit-
ed in the memorial.

I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

J. Hubert Johnson

38751

RECEIVED
U. S. DEPT. OF STATE
JUL 10 1868

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS MARIN.

To the Honorable Commission established under the treaty between the Republic of Mexico and the United States of America of the 4th of July, 1868.

The memorial of Thomas Marin respectfully shows :

That he is a native of the city of Mexico and a citizen of the Republic of Mexico ; that he has never changed his nationality, or sworn allegiance to any other government ; that, at present, he resides in the city of Havana, in the Island of Cuba, having, until lately, been prevented from returning to Mexico by political circumstances ; that the claim against the Government of the United States is made in his own behalf and in his own right, and does now, and did at the time of its origin, solely belong to him ; and that no other person is interested therein.

Your memorialist shows that, in the year 1860, the Republic of Mexico was involved in civil war, two parties contending for political power ; that the said two parties were called, from the names of their respective leaders, the Miramon party and the Juarez party ; and that, in the beginning of 1860, the Miramon party was in possession of the capital and adjacent country, and the Juarez party was in possession of the city of Vera Cruz, the neighboring fort of San Juan de Ulloa and the adjacent country, and Vera Cruz was besieged by the forces of the Miramon party.

The memorialist shows that, from early life, and he is now far advanced in years, he engaged in the military and naval service of his native country ; that, already many years ago, he had attained the rank of general, and that, long before 1860, he was the military commandant of the States of Vera Cruz and Tabasco, and also commander of the naval establishment.

The memorialist shows that in 1860 he was in the service of the Miramon Government with the rank of rear admiral ; that he received a commission from said Government to buy and arm two merchant steamers ; that for this purpose he proceeded to Havana, and there bought a steamer, to which, after having nationalized her, he gave the name of " Miramon ;" that at the same time and place he contracted with C. Yglesias, the owner of the steamer " Marqués de la Habana," for the sale thereof to the Mexican Government, represented by the memorialist, one of the conditions of said sale being that she should be delivered and paid for in one of the ports of the Gulf of Mexico ; that for this purpose the said Yglesias put Manuel Arias in charge of her, and appointed him captain ; that the squadron, composed of said steamers Miramon and Marqués de la Habana, was under the command of the memorialist, set sail from Havana on the 27th of February, 1860, and after having touched at Sisal and Salinas, arrived on the evening of the 6th of March, 1860, in the port of Anton Lizardo, on the coast of Mexico, where they

lay to within a mile of the shore, with a view of proceeding the next day to the port of Alvarado, where President Miramon was supposed to be. The memorialist was on board the Miramon, and Captain Arias on the Marqués de la Habana. At about half-past eleven o'clock of that night notice was given to the memorialist that several vessels were approaching them, coming from the direction of Vera Cruz; that having made use of his telescope, the memorialist recognized two steamboats and a three-master; that the memorialist being aware that the Juárez Government had had, and as he thought, still had in its service two gunboats, named the Wave and the Indianola, and supposing that these were the boats in sight, as in reality they were, gave orders to raise steam in order to avoid them; that, however, armed boats were sent from said gunboats against the vessels of the memorialist, preventing their withdrawal; that the said gunboats fired with cannons and with musketry upon the two above-named vessels, in which they were assisted by a three-master, the American sloop of war Saratoga, Captain Turner; and that at first the vessels of the memorialist defended themselves, but having between the two boats but one gun mounted, and aware of the immense superiority of the assailants, and particularly when the memorialist ascertained that the principal assailant was a regular man of war of the Government of the United States, with which country the Government in whose service the memorialist was most desirous to avoid all complications, he gave orders to abstain from firing.

Your memorialist further shows that the aforesaid gunboats Wave and Indianola had a number of high Mexican officers on board, belonging to the Juárez party, but the boats themselves were in charge of officers of the American navy, Lieutenants Kennard and Bryson, and had crews taken from the two American men-of-war Preble and Savannah, belonging to the West India squadron of that station.

The Saratoga, being by far the largest and strongest of the three vessels which had assailed the boats of the memorialist, and being besides the flag-ship of Commander Turner, the chief of the expedition, then captured the Miramon and the Marqués de la Habana, made the officers, men, engineers, firemen, and passengers prisoners, and had them transported on board of the Saratoga, where they were treated with great rudeness and indignity. Sentinels were placed over them, continuously keeping them in sight. The memorialist himself was prevented from communicating with the other prisoners, except his own sons, two youths named Julio and Püncho, one of fourteen and the other of sixteen years of age, who were not in service, but whom the memorialist had taken to the coast of Mexico in order to send them to the city of Jalapa, in the State of Vera Cruz, where their mother and the rest of the family was, that city being then, indeed, the real domicile of the memorialist.

On the 13th of the same month, all these prisoners were transported to the American sloop-of-war Preble, which set sail on the 14th for New Orleans, where she arrived on the 26th of the same month of March. On board the Preble the prisoners received the same insulting treatment and want of care as on the Saratoga.

At New Orleans the prisoners were landed near the ferry of the Second Municipality of said city, were placed between files of soldiers, and were marched, between 11 and 12 o'clock of the forenoon, through the most populous part of New Orleans, to the distant common jail, in St. Ann street. On their way they were followed by a mob, who cursed them and shouted, "There go the pirates! Hang them! hang them!" In that jail they were confined in common with prisoners of every degree of criminality. A citizen of New Orleans, previously unknown to the Memorialist, José Salusto Cucullu, volunteered to bail him out, and his security being accepted by the court for \$3,000, the memorialist and his children were released from imprisonment on the 28th of March, or thereabouts. The Miramon and Marqués de la Habana were then libeled in the district court of the United States, with a view to their forfeiture; but the said court rendered on the 11th of June, 1860, a decree declaring the seizure illegal, and ordering the release of these vessels.

Before the decision of the district court, the Foreign Secretary of that Mexican Government, which the memorialist served, had forcibly brought to the knowledge of the representatives of foreign nations the outrageous conduct of Commander Turner's expedition towards the memorialist and the flag he represented, by a publication dated March 29, 1860, which is to be found on page 109 of a work entitled "*Recapitulacion de Leyes y Decretos, Bandos, &c., de los Supremos Poderes,*" por Luis G. Saldivar, printed at Mexico, in 1866, and by a communication which the same Minister of Relations addressed on the same day, 29th March, 1860, to the Secretary of State of the United States of America, to be found on p. 110 of the above-named publication.

The district attorney of the United States at New Orleans having appealed from a decision of the District Court of the 11th of June, 1860, the subject was referred for a report thereon by James Buchanan, then the President of the United States, to the Hon. J. S. Black, then the Attorney General of the United States. That officer examined into the facts of the case and made a report, emphatically declaring that the seizure of the Miramon and the Marqués de la Habana was altogether unjustifiable. This report is printed on page 456 of the 9th vol. of the Opinions of the Attorney Generals of the United States. Your memorialist refers to these official publications for a fuller statement of the circumstances attending the seizure of the vessel, and for proof of the illegality of the conduct of the naval commander.

The business of the memorialist is, however, only to seek redress for the injuries he has received in his person. It must be left to the argument, by which this memorial will be followed, to explain to the Honorable Commission what the evidence shows that the former position both social and professional, of the memorialist was, and to what treatment he was thereby entitled.

But the memorialist avers that his capture and imprisonment in 1860 has thrown him out of active employment, has thrown a slur and stain upon his reputation, which warrants a claim for signal reparation, exposed his own health, and, as he verily believes, that it produced such a

shock upon his wife, the mother of his children, that when she heard the rumors given out by his captors that he was a pirate and would be hung with his sons, she sickened, and soon afterwards died.

And your memorialist further shows and avers that the audacious, unwarranted, and brutal treatment which he individually experienced from the said squadron of the American navy, and which degraded him in the eyes of the civilized world and marred his prospects in life, as well as those of his sons who were imprisoned with him, fully entitles him to a compensation from the American Government, in whose name and by whose duly qualified officers these outrages were committed—to claim a compensation of three hundred thousand dollars, which sum is but an inadequate equivalent for the sufferings and privations to which the memorialist has been subjected by and in consequence of said acts of violence of the American squadron, under the orders of Commander Turner, as aforesaid.

Wherefore this memorialist prays this Hon. Commission to grant to him an award against the Government of the United States of America for the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, with six per cent. interest from the 6th of March, 1860, the date of his unwarrantable imprisonment by the American forces, as aforesaid.

TOMAS MARIN,

By his attorneys at law and in fact, LOUIS JANIN & SON.

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, }
District of Columbia. } ss:

This thirtieth day of December, A. D. 1870, before me, the subscriber, a United States commissioner, duly authorized to administer oaths in the District of Columbia, personally appeared Louis Janin, to me well known, who being by me duly sworn, on his oath says that he is the attorney in fact of Tomás Marin, the claimant named in the foregoing memorial, that the matters in the said memorial stated from his own knowledge are true, and such matters therein as are stated from information derived from others, he verily believes to be true, and that the said claimant is at the date hereof absent from the District of Columbia.

LOUIS JANIN.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirtieth day of December, A. D. 1870. Witness my hand and official seal.

[SEAL.]

RANDOLPH COYLE,

U. S. Commissioner.

Ans - June 12
The Duke has
Shaken to the Spanish Minister who
has promised to enter the Spanish
Consul at New York about this case
To the Honorable Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.

The memorial of Inocencio Casanova,
a citizen of the United States, residing at
Houma Haven, State of New-York, respect-
fully represents:-

That it is the too frequent and pain-
ful duty of your memorialist to have to
apply to the Government of the United States
for protection against the systematic
outrages and persecution of the Spanish
authorities.

As your memorialist is owner of a
large amount of property in Cuba, and
he thought it proper to execute together
with his son Pedro Casanova, also an
American citizen, an indenture to cancel
a certain lease previously made in that
island, he applied to a Notary public
duly appointed and authorized, and
made up the deed. But it is necessary
to send the instrument to Cuba to be
recorded at Havana, and as for such
a purpose the authentication of the
Spanish Consul for New-York is re-
quired, your memorialist sent the
instrument to him. The Consul
knows perfectly well the Notary public

who made up the deed, and also his signature and seal, but refused to authenticate the instrument on the ground that it was objectionable and contained offensive expressions against his Government.

Your memorialist wrote to the Spanish Minister at Washington, and asked him whether it was, or was not, the duty of the Consul to authenticate the signature, or whether this requisite could be omitted without affecting in Cuba the legal results of the deed. But the aforesaid gentleman refused to answer and replied to a very respectable person, who delivered him the letter: "Say that I shall not answer it. I have no answer to make".

Consequently your memorialist has no other recourse than to throw himself on the protection of his Government. He will not enter into any disquisition as to whether the document is or is not offensive to the Spanish Government, notwithstanding that your memorialist could easily refute such an assertion. But be it what it may, the fact, the evident fact, is that the duty of a Consul, in cases like this, merely consists in attesting the signature and seal of the public officer who acknow-

ledges the instrument. The contents of this are completely beyond his province, and he has no right even to make himself acquainted with such contents. Should a foreign Consul be entitled to refuse his authentication to a document, duly made up in this country, according to the laws of the State and of the United States, on the ground that it contains or involves an offense to his nation, - it would be the same as to invest such a foreign representative with the power of controlling all the business transactions of the American citizens abroad. The Spanish law requiring, as it seems, for the validity of the instruments drawn up in foreign countries, the authentication of the Spanish Consuls, - that authentication cannot rightfully be refused, unless the authenticity of the signature is reasonably doubted.

Your memorialist thinks that the refusal of the Spanish Consul at New-York is a violation of law, both natural, and international; - and as it is prejudicial to the extreme to his interests, he comes before you and respectfully requests

the following:—

1st That you may be pleased to cause the authentication of the aforesaid deed to be made according to the laws for such a case provided, in such a manner as to secure the legal results of the instrument in the island of Cuba, notwithstanding the groundless refusal of the Spanish Consul.

2nd— That the protest filed with this memorial, and all the other papers accompanying the same, may be taken at due time into due consideration.

3^d— That the same papers, together with the list accompanied herewith, may be filed in your Department, and put together with the other papers belonging to the claim of your memorialist against Spain.

And so, he will ever pray &c.

Wm. P. Casanova


List of papers accompanying the foregoing petition of Inocencio Casanova.

N^o 1. Certified copy of the deed made at New-York, the 25th of April 1871, by Inocencio and Pedro C. Casanova, before Antonio C. Gonzalez, Notary public for said city and county.

N^o 2. Certified copy of a deed made by Manuel J. Casanova, Ine' N. Casanova and Pedro C. Casanova, on the 1st of April 1869, before Theodore Ritter, a Notary public for the city and county of New-York.

N^o 3. Protest made by Pedro C. Casanova and Inocencio Casanova before David W. Alexander, Notary public for the same city and county.

N^o 4. Statement of Antonio C. Gonzalez a Notary public for the city and county of New-York.

N^o 5. Copy of the letter addressed to the Spanish Minister at Washington.

under date May 4th, 1871, by Inocencio Casanova and Pedro C. Casanova. (Spanish)

N.º 6. — A true translation of the preceding letter. —

N.º 1.

Copia

En la ciudad, Condado y Estado de N. York, Estados Unidos de América en el día 25. de Abril de 1878, ante mí el infrascrito, notario Público, de este Estado y de los testigos vecinos presentes, comparécieron D.ⁿ Pedro C. Casanova gerente de la Sociedad Mercantil de Casanova y hermanos que jiraba bajo esta razón en la ciudad de Cardenas en la Ysla de Cuba de una parte y de otra D.ⁿ Inocencio del mismo apellido, ambos mayores de edad, ciudadanos de estos Estados Unidos de América y vecinos de esta a quien doy fe conozco y dijo el primero, que con motivo de la incesante persecución que el Gobierno de dicha Ysla de Cuba hizo al socio D.ⁿ José, que escapó milagrosamente con la vida por la protección que le prestó el Comodoro Americano Hoff, y porque también se perseguía y ultrajaba al resto de su familia, conviene la Sociedad ya dicha paralizar los negocios en la mencionada Ysla y concretarse solamente a lo de esta ciudad, con protesta de cobrar los daños y perjuicios en su oportunidad.

oportunidad al Gobierno que les obliga
a semejante medida, sin que en el
número de socios se cuente hoy a Dⁿ

Manuel Inocencio, porque este se
separó de dicha Sociedad desde el
primero de Abril de mil ocho-
cientos sesenta y nueve segun
escritura de aquella fecha visada
por el Cónsul de España en esta ciudad
todo lo cual ha puesto a la Sociedad en
la imposibilidad de continuar los vas-
tos negocios que tenían en Cuba y
por lo tanto serles imposible atender dichos
negocios de por sí acuerda dicha Socie-
dad dejar a su señor padre segun es-
ta escritura las propiedades que le
habian tomado en arrendamiento y anular
o dejar sin efecto la que se otorgó en nu-
ve de Mayo de mil ochocientos sesen-
ta y siete. Aceptado lo dicho por Dⁿ
Inocencio Casanova da por terminada la
escritura del arrendamiento y deja libre
a sus hijos que hoy componen la dicha
Sociedad y son Dⁿ José, Dⁿ Pedro, Dⁿ Ri-
cardo y Dⁿ Rafael, de toda responsa-
bilidad, declarando al mismo tiempo
que quedan nulos, rotos y sin valor
alguno los pagarés otorgados a su favor
por la dicha Sociedad correspondientes

a' los años de mil ochocientos setenta
y uno y siguientes en consideracion a'
que no son los socios causantes de la
falta de pago y si' el Gobierno Español,
por sus desaciertos, persecuciones, prisi-
ones y embargos y contra el que tienen am-
bas partes establecida sus reclamaciones
y para constancia firman la presente
escritura y dan por terminada la
del Nueve de Mayo de mil ochocientos
sesenta y siete otorgada en la dicha
ciudad de Cardenas ante el Escriba-
no D.^a Ramon Rodriguez - y a' la
firmesga asi' lo dijeron y firmaron con
las sumisiones que son necesarias ante
mi y los testigos que suscriben,
de todo lo cual doy fe a fecha ut
supra =

J. N. Tilius

P. C. Casanova

Wm. Aug.^s Gibson

Inocencio Casanova
ante mi

Antonio C. Gonzalez
Notario publico
N. Y. C.



State of New York

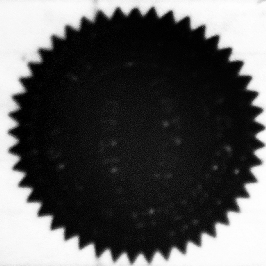
City & County of New York ss:

I, Antonio C. Gonzalez, a Notary
Public in and for said County duly com-

examined, and sworn dwelling in said City of New
York do certify the foregoing to be a true and
exact copy of a perfect copy of an original
instrument on filed in the office of Messrs
Condit Brothers -

In testimony whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and natural seal this
eleventh day of May A.D. 1871.

Arthur C. Gonzales
Notary Public
per



En la Ciudad de Nueva York, en primero de Abril de mil
ochocientos sesenta y nueve años ante mi el Notario
Público y testigo comparecieron D. Manuel Y Casanova
D. Jose N y D. Pedro C. del mismo apellido hermanos
legítimos a quienes doy fe conozco y dijeron: que llevaron
Sociedad para girar en la plaza de la Ciudad de
Cárdenas (en Cuba) hasta primero de Febrero del corriente
año, teniendo tomado en arrendamiento un almacén
para recibir mieles y azúcares de las fincas cuyos due-
ños hicieran negocios en la casa que gira bajo la
razon de "Casanova y Hermanos" y que como el D.
Manuel Adolecia de males que le ponian en el caso
de ausentarse de la Ysla para curarse, propuso a
sus referidos hermanos mayores en la fecha indicada
cederles la parte que representaba en la Sociedad por
la cantidad de veinte mil pesos apartándose de
toda gerencia en ella y accediendo a esto se hicieron
cargo de ella dándole facultad para que percibiera
del "Banco Industrial de la Habana" los veinte
mil pesos en los que les propuso su separacion
y ademas tomase otros veinte mil pesos en que propuso
la venta del oficio de hipotecas de la referida Ciudad
de Cárdenas que posee en propiedad no habiendose
formalizado entonces la escritura de su separacion de
la Sociedad ni la renuncia del oficio ya por que
los achaques de D. Manuel le obligaron a emprender
baje sin demora, ya por que siendo negocio de familia
y entre personas de tan reciproca confianza no lo
creyeron urgente, pero hallandose ahora renuidos
en esta, ha creido D. Manuel que no era de
retardarse esta declaratoria por lo mismo que
continuan sus dolencias y en tal virtud ratificando
en todas formas aquellos convenios declara en la
forma mas solemne que ha recibido del "Banco
Industrial de la Habana" donde deposita sus
fondos la Sociedad los cuarenta mil pesos convenidos
y ental virtud está de hecho y derecho separado
de la Sociedad y obligado a renunciar el oficio de
Hipotecas desde la citada fecha, y corresponde
legalmente a sus citados hermanos asi el

capital que representaba en la sociedad como las utilidades proventos y provecho de cualesquiera clase desde el citados día en que así lo convinieron, así como son de cargo de los mismos sus hermanos D. José y D. Pedro q^e continúan en sociedad todos los gastos pérdidas y responsabilidades pendientes entonces o ulteriormente sufridas o contraídas pues así fue convenido é irrevocablemente compactado, y en tal virtud así lo declaro y ratifico autorizando á sus hermanos para que espidan las correspondientes circulares en ese sentido y dándoles si necesario fuere poder amplio y bastante cuanto por derecho se requiera para que jestionen todo lo conducente al asunto y así mismo se obliga á formalizar la renuncia del oficio de anotador de hipotecas de la Ciudad de Cárdenas, obligándose a no reclamar nunca contra el tenor de lo convenido y expresado en esta declaración D. Manuel se obliga á conferir poder á un vecino de la Ciudad de Cárdenas para q^e a su nombre haga la renuncia del oficio de hipotecas en favor de su hermano D. José y D. Pedro. A la firmeza de lo dicho obliga sus bienes presentes y futuros.

J. N. Casanova M. Y. Casanova
Pedro C. Casanova

Como testigos
Jal. L. Raymond
E. d'Orgerre

Ante mí
Theodore Ritter
Notario Público

Estados Unidos de America, Estado de Nueva York. Sepase por este instrumento público que yo Theodore Ritter notario Público del Estado de Nueva York autorizado por dicho Estado y comisionado para el efecto residente en la Ciudad de Nueva York, Certifico: Que en el día veinte y nueve de Mayo — de mil ochocientos setenta y uno ante mí compareció William Lewis Raymond quien bajo juramento dijo que la copia adjunta fue ejecutada por él, del instrumento original en manos de D. Pedro C. Casanova y q. la misma es una copia exacta en todos conceptos del todo de ella.

En testimonio de lo cual suscribo mi nombre y pongo mi sello de Notario Público el día veinte y nueve de Mayo de mil ochocientos setenta y uno en mi oficina número veinte y nueve Broadway en la Ciudad de Nueva York

Wm Lewis Raymond

Theodore Ritter
Notario Público



Visto en el Consulado de España: Bueno para la legalización de la firma y sello de Mr. Theodore Ritter que segun consta en la cedula de este Consulado es Notario Público de esta Ciudad.

Nueva York de del ano
de mil ochocientos setenta y uno
El Consul General en Comisión

United States of America

State of New York

City and County of New York ss:

Be it known that on this _____ day of May A^d 1871 before me the undersigned Notary Public of the State of New York duly commissioned and sworn personally came Pedro C. Casanova and Guillermo Casanova to me known who severally declared as follows:—

That on or about the 25th day of April 1871 they executed before Antonio C. Gonzalez a Notary Public of the State of New York duly commissioned and sworn a certain instrument to which the said Notary affixed his signature and official seal.

That such instrument was designed for use at Havana in the Island of Cuba, and in order to give the same any force or effect at said place, it is and was necessary that such seal and signature of said Notary Public be legalized by the Consul of Spain at New York. That in consequence they carried the said instrument to the Consul of Spain at New York and requested him to legalize such seal and signature, but that said Consul refused so to do although such seal and signature were well known to and were admitted by him to be genuine, and although the fact was equally well known

to him that said Antoni C. Gonzales was as he represented himself a Notary Public for the City and County of New York duly commissioned and sworn, the said Consul having on many occasions legalised the signature and official seal of said Notary.

That the cause or reason assigned by said Consul for his refusal to legalise such seal and signature, was that the instrument to which they were affixed was couched in objectionable terms and contained expressions offensive to the Government which said Consul represented, all of which will more fully appear from the Certificate or statement of said Notary Antoni C. Gonzales hereto annexed.

That the Consul aforesaid retained the instrument referred to, in his possession for twenty four hours and had a copy thereof made, which he still retains against the wish and desire of these Deponents; that such copy was taken for the purpose as declared by said Consul of sending the same to the Spanish Minister at Washington in order to obtain his instructions as to whether the seal and signature of the Notary to the instrument should be legalised or not, and that such Consul still refuses to legalise the same. That by reason of the said Consul

conduct in the promisee and his refusal as aforesaid these Deponents have been unable to forward the aforesaid instrument to Havana and have suffered great injury and are likely to suffer greater injury if such Consul is permitted to persist in his said unjust and improper refusal.

And these Deponents protest against such acts of said Consul and against his refusal to legalize the seal and signature of said Notary, reserving all their rights in the promisee as against the said Consul or against whom it may concern for all loss injury or damage that may result to them by reason of such refusal as aforesaid.

In testimony whereof the said parties have signed these presents with me the Notary who have hereto affixed my official seal.

Inoos^o Casanova



P. Casanova

David W. Alexander
Notary Public

New York County.

N. 4. United States of America
State of New York
City and County of New York ss.

Be it known that on or about the 25th day of April A.D. 1851, I, the undersigned a Notary Public of the State of New York in and for the City and County of New York duly commissioned and sworn, did request the Consul of Spain at the City of New York to legalize my signature and official seal affixed to a certain instrument executed before me on the abovesaid day by Pedro C. Casanova and Yncencio Casanova; that for the purpose of having such signature and seal legalized, said instrument was left at such Consul's office for the term of twenty four hours according and in obedience to the rules and regulations of said office; that after the lapse of twenty four hours said instrument was called for, whereupon the said Consul stated that he would not legalize my seal and signature affixed thereto, although he knew the same to be genuine and knew as he stated to me that I was as I therein styled myself a Notary Public because and by reason of the fact that the instrument to which such seal and signature were affixed was couched in terms offensive to the Spanish Government, which said Consul represented, and said Consul

thereupon stated that he had procured to be made a copy of said instrument which he had transmitted to the Spanish Minister at Washington asking his instructions as to whether he should legalize the seal and signature thereto affixed or not, and that he proposed to await the answer of said Minister to such communication and abide by his decision in the premises.

That on the second day of May 1831 I returned to the said Consul and again requested him to legalize the signature and seal aforesaid but he again declined so to do alleging that he had not yet received any instructions from the Minister.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at the City of New York this third day of May 1831 Eighteen hundred and seventy one —

Antoni C. Gonzalez
Notary Public
N.Y.C.



N.º 5 - Copia

New York 4 de Mayo de 1871

Don Ministro Español

Muy Sr. muestro: el día 25 del mes pp.^o otorgamos una escritura ante un notario público que conoce muy bien al Consul Español de esta Ciudad y cuya firma ha certificado en muchas y diferentes documentos. El otorgado p.^r nosotros menciona de este requisito p.^o que pueda tener valor en la Y. la de Cuba donde se ha de hacer uso de el y antes de acudir al departamento de Estado de nuestra Nación en Washington, nos dirigimos a V. p.^o g.^o se sirva decirnos si debe o no, el Consul certificar la firma del notario público por la conocida o si puede hacerse uso del documento en Cuba sin la certificación del Consul.

Si V. como esperamos tiene la bondad de contestarnos puede hacerlo dirigirla Respuesta a Guirisoa Casanova y C.^o en esta Ciudad.

Esta ocasión nos proporciona la de agradecerles sus atentos y seguros servicios D. I. etc. B.

Ynac. Casanova — Pedro C. Casanova

(translation.)

New-York May 4th, 1871.

Mr. Spanish Minister.

Sir: on the 25th ultimo, we deemed it proper to make up a deed before a notary public for this city and county, who is well known to the Spanish Consul for the same city, and whose signature affixed to many documents of any kind has been very often authenticated by said Consul. Our deed required such an authentication because it was designed for use at the island of Cuba; and so, before applying to the State Department of our nation, we address you begging you to tell us whether the Spanish Consul for New-York is or is not bound to authenticate the signature of a notary public known to him, - or whether the instrument can or cannot be used in Cuba

without his consular authentication.

If, - as we do expect, - you are so good as to give us an answer, you may address your note to Guinnon Casanova and Co. in this city. -

We avail of this opportunity to offer you our consideration as obedient servants. -

Signed - Inocencio Casanova -
Pedro C. Casanova. -

United States and Mexican
CLAIMS COMMISSION,

No. 1412 H Street,

Coty sent to Willard at WASHINGTON, D. C. May 13 1871
Quaymas - 15 May 1871 - with the six inclosures.
For Hamilton Fish.



Secretary of State.

Sir:

As I have before advised the Department
there are pending before this Commission some
six claims by Mexican subjects, residing in
Lower California, for damages on account of
alleged taking and destruction of property
by William Harker and his co-representatives
who invaded that territory in 1853.

The aggregate damages claimed for these
injuries amount to \$5,544,110. Of course the
claims are grossly and fraudulently exag-
gerated.

It seems to me however, that it would
be prudent for the Government to make

the effort to obtain testimony tending to discredit the claims in whole or in part.

With this view I would respectfully suggest that directions be given to the nearest Consul or Consular Agent of the United States to obtain such depositions as are procurable touching such facts as may be deemed relevant to the defense of the United States. That defense on the point of damages would be either that the several claimants did not possess the amount of property alleged, or that the values are not correctly estimated. If it can be shown also that the claimants are not known as residents of the localities specified in the memorials at the time in question, that evidence would be important to discredit the claims.

The loans in quo, in each case, seem to be a district, as far as I can ascertain.

in the upper part of Lower California, near the
national boundary. I discover from the
official list of Consuls that we have a consul
at La Paz, which is near the extremity of the
territory, whether we have a nearer consul-
ate to the scene of Walker's operations, I do
not know.

I transmit herewith a copy of the memo-
rial in each case, in order that the officer
requested to obtain the information which
I have indicated, if you deem it proper to
adopt my suggestion, may be advised of
the facts. On the back of each memorial
are indorsed the names of the witnesses
examined in each case.

I have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
J. Hubley Ashton



E. L. REBER & CO.
327 Walnut Street.

New letter to Mr. Biddle
Retaining copy
Date May 17
Mr. Hood

Wholesale Dealers in Lubricating and Coal Oils.

Harrisburg, Pa., May 12th 1871

Mr. J. C. B. Davis
Dept of State
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir-

In behalf of Mrs. Belle
Sheffer, I have to acknowledge
the receipt of your favor of 10th inst
to her address & in my care, also
the enclosed copy of letter from Hon.
Thos. Biddle. I enclose Mrs Sheffer
Receipt for draft. With a request
that it be forwarded through your
Dept to Hon. Thos. Biddle care
at Havana.

With Many thanks

I am Sir

Respy your obedt servt
E. L. Reber

149)
Berwick, Penn.

May 6 1877.

Hon. Thomas Biddle.

Consulate General U.S.

at Havana, Cuba.

Dear Sir:

Your favor dated Havana, Cuba, 29th April
87, enclosing draft \$85⁰⁰ on Messrs Henry Bluns
Co. New York, and in my favor, and which is in
full for the back pay due my late husband,
Jos. Sheffer, from the R. R. Co. in whose employ
he was at the time of his death by accident
last summer, is received.

Not having heard from you I had given
the matter up as lost, but have now to thank
you for your kind intercession in behalf of
myself and child, and to assure you that we
shall ever hold this act of yours in most
grateful remembrance.

The watch and pen have not yet arrived, but
will no doubt come to hand in due time. It
will be a pleasure to me to acknowledge
their receipt, upon their arrival.

I am, Sir, with many thanks.

Respectfully yours.

Belle Sheffer

West Brunswick. N. J.

May 13. 1871.

Joseph Hernandez.

Cuban Commission

Jan. 72.

Stockton, Me. May 15. 71.

Henry S. Staples.

Schr. Lillias seized by Cuban
Authorities.

Case of Capt. Jos. Griffin

Sent to Cuban Commission

March 1872

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 348

May 16-31, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

A.O.L.

Treasury

Department,

Wm. Wood

FIFTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

Washington, May 17, 1871.



Sir:

I have the honor to inquire if Mr. George L. Washington may be credited for the salary at Matanzas as Vice Consul of the United States from January 1st 1871 to March 17th, 1871, and Mr. Henry C. Hall as Consul from the last mentioned date to the close of the quarter? The Accounts have been rendered by them to this office for adjustment accordingly.

Respectfully Yours,
W. D. Barrar.

Auditor.

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



Atkinson
Public notice
Probat

at

Public notice
Probat

May 17th, 1871.

div 20
24 May

Hon. Hamilton Fish,

Secretary of State,

Sir:

We observed recently in the newspapers a statement that the Hon. Caleb Cushing had been appointed Attorney for the United States in claims of Citizens of this Government against Spain to be adjudicated under arrangements made by Minister Sickles February 12th, 1871.

We represent one of those Claimants, Dr. A. T. Simmons, and his statement of loss and claim is on file in the State Department. May we ask to be advised of the earliest time

when a movement by claimants may
properly be made in furtherance of
claims.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servants,

Charles Gilpin
Washington H. Gilpin

Thirwood

708

A circular postmark from the Department of the State, dated May 23, 1871. The text "DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE" is curved along the top inner edge, and "MAY 23 1871" is in the center. A small asterisk is on the left and "OF STATE" is curved along the bottom inner edge.

Ser:- Prober comme
 une max 3

Sir:-

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

arrangement had been entered into between them by which Wood was to take charge of the Schooner so as to allow Capt. Weather, who was sick, to go home in the Hercules, and that both parties have made affidavit to the truth of this statement.

As there seems to be some misapprehension in the matter, a copy of these affidavits is enclosed. And the Collector has been directed to suspend the exaction of the 3 months extra wages until further advised by the Department.

Very respectfully,
Geo. B. Smith,
Secretary

Custom House. Philadelphia.

Collector's Office. May 10th 1871.

On this day personally appeared before me, Thomas D. Wood, who being duly sworn deposes and says, that he was second Mate on board the steamship Hercules, and that while in Havana on the 31st of March 1871, he made arrangements with Cap^t Doughty, of the "Hercules," and Cap^t Heather of the Schooner "Marion Gago," to return from Havana, in the schooner, in order that Cap^t Heather who was sick, could go home on the Hercules, & had been second mate on the schooner, some time previously and this was the reason that he was requested to come home on the schooner in place of on the Hercules. He says he was not surreptitiously discharged by Cap^t Doughty, and he claims nothing from him, in way of compensation.

Sworn & subscribed

Thos. D. Wood

for me } O. F. Houston Dy Col 3

Thomas E. Heather, Captain of
Schooner "Marion Gage," having read the
statement annexed of Thomas D. Wood,
being sworn says, that the statement is
correct in every particular.

Thomas E Heather

Sworn & Subscribed
before me

D. F. Houston
Dy Col

Department of State,

FIRST CONSULAR BUREAU,

Washington, May 24th, 1871.Subject

The discharge of Thos. D. Wood, 2^d
mate of the Str. "Hercules" at Havana.

The Consul General at Havana in dispatch No. 427, of April 11, 1871, encloses a copy of the sworn statement of Thos. D. Wood, which sets forth that on March 31, 1871 he was paid for his services as 2^d mate of the "Hercules" and discharged at Havana by the Master, Frank Doughty, upon a mutual agreement between Capt. Doughty and Capt. Thos. E. Heather of the Schooner "Marian Sagy" that he was to take a position as 2^d mate on board said schooner; and that having never before been discharged in a foreign port, he supposed his to be a legal discharge.

On April 26, 1871 a copy of this dispatch and enclosure was sent to

To the Secretary of the Treasury for such proceedings as he thought necessary.

On the 2^d of May inst, the Secretary of the Treasury replies that proper instructions have been given in the case.

The annexed letter, dated May 22^d 1871 from the Secretary of the Treasury, encloses the sworn statement of Mr. Wood taken before the Deputy Collector at Philadelphia, which represents that he made arrangements with Capt. Doughty and Capt. Heather to return from Havana in the "Marion Sage" in order that Capt. Heather, who was sick, might go home on the "Hercules". He says he was not surreptitiously discharged by Capt. Doughty and claims nothing from him for wages.

The letter then states that the Collector at Philadelphia has been directed to suspend the exaction of 3 months extra wages until further orders.

Resp^d. submitted.

A. B. Wood.

3



Wm Leffertson
Treasury Department,

Washington, D. C.,
Copy and enclosures to J. Hubley Ashton

May 23, 1871.
25 "

John Hamilton Fish,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

In accordance

with the request contained in your letter of the 20th inst, (S.A.B.) I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of all papers on file in this Department concerning the filibustering expedition of General William Walker, in 1853, from San Francisco, Cal.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Geo. B. Smith
Secretary

Key West April 24 1871

Hon. W. C. C. C.

My Dear Sir,

Many thanks for Pub. Doc's.
Enclosed I send certified copy of Certificate
of Naturalization of Theodor Sabias
who has filed a claim in the State
Department against the Spanish Govt
for illegal arrest, imprisonment and
finally banishing him from Cuba,
he was imprisoned several months,
his business entirely broken up and
all he had confiscated. I think he
has filed his claim at large, and
as he has worked hard with us
and for us here in politics if you
could call his case to the attention of
the Department and do something for him
it would have a first rate effect upon
the Cuban population here by

showing them that we are willing
to do something as well as ask
all.

Very truly yours
J. M. Locke.

New York. May. 23. 71.

Thodore Cassis

Cuba's Commission

July. 72.

Washington DC
May 23^d 1876

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Arbitrators appointed under the arrangement concluded on the 12th day of February last, for the settlement of claims of citizens of the United States against the Government of Spain, - to which you refer in your letter of the 2^d inst., have selected as Umpire, Baron Charles Lederer, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Austria

to the United States.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant
W. J. Otto

Arbitrator on the part of the United States

The Honorable

Hamilton Fish

Secretary of State.

2

New York. May. 24. 71.

Gonzalo Troy.

Centanlonmipm

Jan. 72

Wm
SAB



San Antonio, Texas.
May 24th 1871.

Wm Wood



Wm Wood, Esq.
Dear Sir,

Your past kindness prompts me once more to seek information as to the late W. S. Foxworth a Jamaica. Having gone to a very great expense & trouble to create him my agent & given him power to collect money in my name I should like any clue as to his whereabouts. The last I heard from him he said that the consulship had been transferred to another on account of his sympathizing with the Cubans; that he intended visiting the U. States, to return however to Kingston in a short time; that while in the U. S. his address would be ^(care) Henry de Cordova & Co. New York City. He had quite a considerable amount of money which he had collected from the Howen Hall Estate for me & of which I have very great need having no other to support and no money to

do it with. The amount I think ought to be about one thousand dollars, more or less. This last news from him was received about eighteen months ago, since which time I have been unable to find out or hear any thing of him. I wrote to Mr. Jordora & he said the A. A. Gregg Esq. the Consul, had advised them to send his letter to Oberlin Ohio. I wrote to the Post Master of that town inquiring after Mr. Gregg, at the same time enclosing stamp for the reply, but have never received a word in answer to my letter. It is of the greatest importance to me that I find him, for I have every reason in the world, for thinking that he has swindled me completely. The slightest information you can give me as to where he is, or where I should be likely to find him, would be greatly gratefully received as I am in very great need of the money. Hoping you will excuse my thus troubling you again & that you will receive my grateful thanks for all past kindness I am

Yours truly

Cornelia Bowen. &c

Signed for M. E. Bowen.

Please Address.

Mrs Mary E. Bowen.
Glass Box 102.

San Antonio.
Texas.

Treasury Department,

May 27, 1871.



I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, addressed to the Secretary, requesting the admission, free of duties and charges, of 37 cases Wine and 1 case Cigars, on free bill of lading herewith returned,

imported for the use of the Spanish Minister
in the Steamer "City of Merida,"
at the port of New York, from Havana.

The Collector of Customs at that port has been instructed accordingly.

I am, very respectfully,

J. S. Thurman

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

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

New York. May 29. 71.

Joseph G. Angarica

Catanbommipuri

July 72.

27 Feb 6
The claim does
not come within
the scope of the
Non-Commissioned
act? 1 June

W. Pratt.

Hallowell Maine May 29 1871.

Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington
Dc.



Dear Sir

I observe that the
American and Spanish claims commission
has been duly organized in accordance with
the provisions of convention for the settlement
of claims of citizens of Spain and the United
States

I am one of the owners and agent of
the other owners of the unfortunate Bark -
Georgiana of Lincolnville seized and con-
demned in May 1850 by the Spanish authorities
for an alleged participation in the Cuban
affair of that year

I desire to know of you what course to
pursue relative to the matter now. Whether to
furnish the necessary papers to be presented to
the commission through your Office or
present the claim to the commission my-
self or through an attorney

I refer you for information relating
to the case to H Doc No 83 House of Represent-
atives 32nd Congrs. 1st session

The Bark Georgiana was unlawfully seized
and condemned by the Spanish authorities

Such was the opinion of Mr Blayton then Secretary of State Such was also the opinion of Mr Webster who when Secretary of State wrote me that "Spain should pay that claim as an act of sheer justice" The Spanish Government also have acknowledged the justice of our claim and in 1860 concluded a Treaty with our Minister then resident at Madrid agreeing to institute a joint Commission for the adjustments of all claims which Treaty recognised the equitableness of our claim by providing that \$100,000 of the \$128,000 of the Cuban Claim should be paid within three months of the ratification of the Treaty the remaining \$28,000 was to await the decision of the Commission for or against the Amistad Claim but in any event the balance was to be paid the claimants either by Spain or the United States which Treaty was rejected by the U. S. Senate

We have heretofore not given your department much trouble in regard to our claim trusting we should have ample justice done us.

But as the claim is to be now finally adjudicated upon by the Commission we desire the Commission to fully understand the merits of the case and trust that you will aid us in the matter

Hoping to receive an early

answer from you as to the proper
course to pursue I remain your

Ct. Svt
Austin D. Bright +

Recd
June 5

Answer according
to the facts
H. Dec 20 June 5
Nelson May 31st 1871.

712 P. 110

Sir,



Having learned indirectly that
the Commission appointed under
the Convention with Spain, for the
settlement of Claims for Confis-
-cations in Cuba, has been duly
organized, we respectfully beg
that you will do us the favor to
inform us when it will com-
-mence its proceedings, and the
nature of the questions which
it will take into consideration,
in order that we may be prepared
when called upon to appear in
support of our claim now on
file in your Department.

Respy D^rms etc etc

Mrs Taylor

Wm
Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Washington