

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 355

October 1-15, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

LAW OFFICES OF

Field, Russell & Otterbourg,

Attorneys & Counsellors at Law,

27 CHAMBERS STREET.

sent copy under no number

Oct 30 Oct 5th

New York, Oct 2nd 1891.



HAYMELO B. FIELD,
EDWARD F. OTTERBOURG,
MARCUS OTTERBOURG.

Mr. Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.

Sir:-

We shall be greatly obliged to you if you will communicate to us at the earliest opportunity the following information, or so much thereof as shall be possible:-

1. The time when the American-Spanish Commission will commence sitting at Washington.
2. The time within which claims of American citizens must be presented to the Commission to submit them to its consideration.
3. A copy of the rules of the Commission, if already adopted.
4. A copy of the decree of the Spanish Government dated April 19th or 25th 1869, authorizing

the undergoing or confiscation of property in
the Island of Cuba belonging to persons
accused of taking part in the rebellion
against Spain.

In compliance with the foregoing request
like very respectfully
Field, Russell & Otterbony.

LAW OFFICES OF

WM. DUDLEY FOULKE,

Rooms 16 and 17,

No. 149 BROADWAY,



New York, Oct 2 1871

J. C. Davis
Acting Secretary of State
Sir

Your Answer of
the 30th to my letter of
the 26th September is
recd respecting Cisnews
property in Cuba - I
fear the letter was
misunderstood - The
youngest child Emma
is a citizen of the United
States being born in
New York -

The attachment of the
Captain General does
not direct - the title to
the property - & it has
passed of the death
of Cisneros to me as her
representative - It is
then the property of
an American citizen - &
it seems to me the
Department has at-
least ^{so} far as her
property is concerned,
jurisdiction of the case

Yours

W D Foulke

Sub 528

Arloood



CAPTAIN JOHN S. YOUNG'S
DETECTIVE BUREAU

General Inquiry Office,

No. 61 BROADWAY,

Rooms 16, 17 & 18

New York, Oct 24th 1871

State Department

Washington

D. C.

Have the pleasure to inform
me if any notice has been received at
the 'Department' relative to the death of
Julius Rochefort of New York. Steward of
the American Brig R. B. Howe, said to
have taken place at Havana, Cuba, during
the month of July 1871.

Waiting for an
early reply I am &c

Yours
T. D. Wiley
61 Broadway
N. Y. City

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., October 14 1871.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a telegram dated the 28th ultimo, from the United States Vice Consul General at Havana, inquiring if any merchandise imported into the United States from Cuba in Spanish vessels, is liable to more than 10 per cent additional duty.

In reply, I have to say that under and by virtue of the provisions of the 17th section of the Act of June 30, 1864, a discriminating duty of 10 per centum ad valorem, in addition

Hon. J. C. Davis

Acting Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

to the duties imposed by law, is exacted upon all merchandises imported in vessels not of the United States.

Under said provisions of law, an additional duty of 10 per centum ad valorem is imposed upon merchandises imported in Spanish vessels and merchandises imported in such vessels is not liable to any other additional duty on account of the nationality of the vessel.

I am, very respectfully
Geo. B. Mitchell,
Secretary



Oct. 6. 1871

San Francisco Cal
Oct. 1871.

To the Hon.

The Secretary of State
of the United States.

The undersigned beg leave to state that we have read a communication of Manilo Martin Eay, Spanish Consul, resident at this place, upon the subject of Buenaventura Pereda, and certain property. We believe full faith and credit is to be given to such statement - and we cordially recommend our Government to aid Spain, and His Excellency the Spanish Minister to the United States, in efforts to bring Pereda to justice and to return him to the jurisdiction of Spain.

For a President

we refer to "Diplomatic Correspondence
of 1864" entitled "Papers relating to
foreign affairs, accompanying the
annual message of the President to the
2nd Session 38th Congress, Part Second":
pages 60 to 74 inclusive, relating to the
extradition of José Augustin Argüelles.

We have the Hon. to be
Your obedient servt

C. C. C. C.
James W. Hyl

A. A. Sargent,
J. M. Leighton
S. C. Huntington



To the Hon.

The Secretary of State
of the United States of America.

The undersigned Camilo Martin accredited
Consul of the Kingdom of Spain, resident at
the City and County of San Francisco. Respectfully
sheweth

I

That on or about the 28th of June A. D. 1871.
Captain J. W. Lees, of the Detective Police Force
of the City and County of San Francisco, received
at the latter place a telegram from an agent
of the Spanish Government in New York City,
informing him Lees, that one Buenaventura
Pereda a Spanish soldier had robbed a
regimental chest in Santiago de Cuba in the
Island of Cuba of about \$300,000. monies
belonging to the Spanish Government; had
escaped to New York and from thence to
San Francisco, and had some of the stolen
money with him, and requesting him on
behalf of the Spanish Government to take

what steps he could to recover the money.

II

Captain Lees on Pereda's arrival in the City of San Francisco, had an interview with him, and subsequently obtained from his possession, and there was delivered by Pereda to him Lees, a portion of said money belonging to the Spanish Government, which portion is hereinafter described.

III

That said Pereda under his own signature, executed and delivered to said Lees, a document a full, true and correct copy of which is as follows:

San Francisco, Sept 14. 1871

Whereas I the undersigned, formerly a resident of Santa De Cuba in the Island of Cuba did whilst at said place receive from a Boy a quantity of money to wit: about Twenty one thousand dollars, in bank bills of the Spanish Bank of Havana: also, about Eighty four hundred and sixty four dollars in gold coin of that Country; and, Whereas it appears to me, that said money was stolen

by said boy from the Spanish Government, at said place; therefore, in consideration of such fact, I do hereby assign and set over to Capt J. W. Lees, the following described property, being a portion of said bills and money the property of said Government:

Eleven one hundred dollar bank notes Nos 23686 - 19929 - 19400 - 19928 - 14528 - 14253 23646 20404 14582 20413 & 14534, also

Five notes of five hundred dollars each of the Spanish Bank of Havana Nos 6901 - 7651 - 5413 - 1062 & 4140, also

Twenty six notes on the same Bank of Three hundred dollars each Nos 13390 - 13384 - 10275 - 13216 - 11052 - 8381 - 2214 - 13391 - 6106 - 720 - 5050 - 10030 - 13388 - 13243 - 06465 - 04212 - 00981 - 06682 - 04509 - 01532 - 02924 - 05464 - 02163 - 01460 - 000538 - 003085

Also Bills of Exchange as follows: One set 1 2 & 3^d of eight thousand dollars at thirty days sight drawn by Masferrer Irenard & Co of Sant. De Cuba on Paris Bonas & Co at Orse payable to the order of Buenaventura Pereda being numbered Ten thousand five hundred and seventeen.

and dated March 8th 1871.

Also one third of exchange drawn by the same firm on the same firm at fifteen days sight for Two thousand dollars payable to the order of Gertrude Santeiro and numbered Ten thousand three hundred and ninety six dated Feb 25. 1871.

Also Two hundred and forty eight Spanish ounces.

Also one hundred and fifty seven Spanish one half ounce pieces

Also Eight hundred and ten one quarter Spanish ounce pieces - amounting in Coin to Eighty four hundred and sixty four dollars, for the use and benefit of said Government to be applied by said Lees to said Government, being satisfied as aforesaid that said money belongs to said Government the same having been stolen as aforesaid. This assignment is made by me with no inducement other than which is set forth herein and is voluntary and of my own free will and Consent

Buenaventura Paredes (Seal)

IV

I am informed and believed that the property money &c described in the foregoing document

is and was the property of the Spanish Government
and was pressed out of the possession of that
Government by robbery of its officers

V

That on a sworn Complaint which is on file in the
United States District Court for the State of California
said Pineda asserts under his oath that he is a
subject of the Government of Spain

United States of America
State of California
City and County of San Francisco } S.S.

Garrido Martin

being duly sworn says I have read the foregoing
Statement subscribed by me and declare that the
same is true according to the best of my knowledge
information and belief

Subscribed and sworn to } Garrido Martin
before me October 25th 1871

Robt. Crocker

W. J. Commissioner

United States of America
State of California
City and County of San Francisco } S.S.

J. W. Lees

being sworn says I am the person of that name
mentioned in the annexed statement signed by
Camilo Martin - to the best of my knowledge,
information and belief the matters and things
therein stated are true.

Subscribed and sworn to } J. W. Lees
before me October 6th 1891 }
James G. Carlson
Notary Public

Copy
Custom House,



Al
Key West,
October 7th, 1871.

Si
In answer to your telegram of the 28 ulto. I would respectfully state that I have visited the Spanish Consul at this Port, and learned from him that on the evening of the 11th Sept. five Cubans passed by his house, and threw several stones at it, two passing through the windows, wounding two and three persons respectively. One came near hitting the Consul as he sat near the window. He informed me that previous to this attack, while passing through the street one evening, he was hit by a stone in the head, cutting quite a gash. He was nearly stricken down insensible by the blow, and when I visited him, was still suffering from its effects. He also informed me that on many occasions he has been insulted while passing through the

Custom House,

, 187

Street from and to the Consulate

I think the principal mover in these troubles is a Mr. Wm. L. Tucker, who arrived at this port upwards of two years since in the Flagship Albany from Havana. It is reported that he holds a Colonel's commission under the so called Cuban government. He sailed from this port in the Steamer Sachem, which vessel cleared from this port in ballast for St Thomas & Stassau, and afterward landed an expedition on the island of Cuba. Since the return of Mr. Tucker to this island he has been appointed by the governor of this State, Colonel in the State militia, and United States assistant assessor of internal revenue, which gives him great influence for evil among the Cubans. I have the honor to enclose herewith a Cuban paper printed at this place, in which you will find our

* May 5. 1869

Custom House,

, 187 .

article signed C.T. for your consideration

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt
S. Hance
Collector

Hon. J. C. W. Davis

Acting Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

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.

Washington, D. C.

October 9, 1871.

Sir:

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th ultimo, informing me that the Spanish Government has issued a Circular Order to its Customs Officers, directing them to receive translations, made by the Consular Officers of certain Governments, (the Government of the United States not being one) of documents written in their respective languages, as having the same force and value as those executed by the sworn Interpreter of Spain, and stating that a disposition is manifested, on the part of such Government, to extend the same privilege to the Consular Officers of the United States if assured that reciprocity is, or will be, practiced by this Government.

respect to translations authenticated by
Spanish Consuls.

In reply to your enquiry, for
information on the subject, I have to state
that so far as it is known to the Department,
no objection would be made at the Custom
Houses of the United States, to accept, whenever
necessary, translations of Spanish documents
made by a Spanish Consular Officer, when
certified by him as correct, unless there were
grounds to doubt the integrity of such documents.

I would therefore recommend the carrying
out of the proposed arrangement, the more
especially as it will, doubtless, operate beneficially
on the interests of citizens of the United States in
Spanish ports.

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

I am, very respectfully,
Geo. H. R. H. H.
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM.

NO. DATE: Oct 12 1871

NAME: James Bagardus
220 East 14th St.
N.Y.

SUBJECT: Claim on Spain
of Francisco C. Yzquierdo
Reparation on acct of confiscation
of property in Cuba
Sworn Statement and
Duplicate Naturalization Paper
Oct? Oct 17

DATE: Oct 17. 1871

NAME: George O. Moore
Secretary to Joint
Commission on claims against
Spain.

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**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
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Roll 356

October 16-31, 1871



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

Washington: 1964

Sub: file

Department of Justice
Washington Oct. 18 1871.



Hon. J. C. B. Davis,

Acting Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, transmitting a copy of a letter under date of the 7th instant, from the Collector of Customs at Key West, and of a translation of the newspaper article to which it refers in regard to the alleged assault upon the Spanish Consulate at Key West; and to inform you that the documents in question have been referred to the Attorney of the

United States at Key West for
his information, and for such action
in the prosecution of the guilty par-
ties as is warranted by the facts in the
case.

Very respectfully,
B. W. Bristow
Solicitor General
and Acting Atty. Gen.



Commissioner of the United
States of America and of Spain.
Washington. October 20th 1871.

Hon Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the
receipt of the Protest of Fran-
cisco. C. Yzquierdo against
Spain, referred to this Commission
yesterday from the Department
of State.

I have the honor to be Sir,
very respectfully
your obedient servant
G. O. Moore
Secretary.

Monrovia capital of Liberia.

23^d 1871.



Mr President Grant

And vice- You whom is the first

President i ever voted for in my life,
(and also, the first man,
i am about 55 years of age, or, was born, mar-
ch 16th 1816, Montgomery county Tennessee

And was enrolled on the 28. day of September
a pri Soldier.

One thousand eight hundred Sixty three,
to serve three years, or, during the war.

i was discharge out of service of the U. S.
army, on 31st day of May, 1865, Nashville

Tenn. colored Troops, captin, S. D. Frost of
Company, G, (12 Regiment?) And after i

was discharge out of the U. S. army, i bouy
ht me some Blacksmith tools and carpe

nter's tools, And, on monday the 1st day
of November 1869, i left the U. S. from

Liberia, And the 23^d day of December.
1869, i landed on the african Soil,

But the remarkable Sean hapened with me,
i never had a passage through me in 46,

days, after that i had the fever, And it

lasted me about 12 months. And the
Rashings the Society gives me lasted 6
months; And i am a beging of you, for 12
months rashings, to give ^{me} a chance ^{to} clear
out my farm, and plant it. And didnt
know who to complain to. But my General
President of the U.S., me, being one of
his Souldiers in the U.S. Tho i am in Ma-
nrovia, Liberia, the west part of Africa
yd i claim my pertection and citizanian
Ship, and all i own in Liberia or, Africa,
under the pertection of the U.S., Government,
one, and the Souldiers of General President
Grant's department, wance to know how
can we that are in Liberia, get the chance
to vote for him. ^{again} And it looks reasonable to me,
that my master who i have laboured for all
my days, he ought to furnish me the 12
month's rashings. And i all So, say, that
all the old People, that have a ^{kin} Slave till
he, or, She is the age i am, and older than
i am, all of these old persons ought have ^{to}
18 month's rashings. The reason, i say is
they are not able to stand the fever, like a

any person is. And their masters have got
the benefit of them. Sir the old People are
not able to stand the African provisions
like a young Person. And the country is not
settled, so, not even Monrovia, so that a man
can run from one Street to the other.
And yet i do say, the country, or, this part
of the world can be made, a greater community
or, a greater government then the U. S., if the
right kind of People had it in hands.
The native men, or the Africans has hog paths.
And they carry their loads, or, burdens, upon their
heads And these old settlers, which come from the
U. S., are not a doing any thing to the benefit
of settling the country, or, advancing it to any
good purpose. There is no Bank here, The
Emigrants, who comes from the U. S., with
their greenback money is their main spend-
ance, And these old americans, who have settled
all along the Sea coast use every disadvantage
against an Emigrant that has any property, or,
knowledge of doing any good, or, benefit
to the country more than they have done.
Now here is iron car, no, manufacturers, that is
able to carry it on, White marble Stone.

No black dressers here, And i bought me a mill
stone, But i am not able to set it up. i was
traveling out among the native things. i saw
a white mountain. And behold it was a mountain
in of white marble stone; i am a Blacksmith
and carpenter by trade, but no patterniser here.
And a Sawyer by trade, and the many sort
of timber is here. But i am not able to start
my mill. here is a blue iron rock, that would
make a mill stone, But no body dressing it.
Coffee trees, and Plum trees, oranges, the trees grow
here. The Sugar cane grows very large
and strong, i want the american food to mix
with the African food, which strengthens
american much faster, when i come from
The U. S. of america. i came to go to work
and get pay for it like i did in the U. S.
But i was badly disappointed; i no work
so much as i will. But the Day master,
is not here. They will work all plants
get what i bring from the U. S. But will not
patronize me; i belong to the Methodist
Church north. And a minister of the same.
i remain your faithful servant Soldier, until
death. The Lord bless President Grant, and his
community, for ever Amen. William Slatter

The condition, and health of the country
And description of the same.

Now i concluded to bring my subject to a close
but i thought ^{to} explain a few more words to the
general, President of our government, the U.S.
And i am in hopes liberia too, The reason that
i have gone so far as to write to the Presi-
dent of the U.S. is because i am a Soldier of his
government, And i am in liberia. at monro-
via, And i belong to the republican party,
And concerning of christianity, i belong to the
same, Tho the president & want, know it
as well as i do. That there was a many hypoc-
rites in the U.S. army, or also in the union party.
And i believe, that out of the union party, would come
a nother war; And i am in the City of Monrovia,
And the old Settlers of liberia is got up, a party
question, one for the whig party, And the other,
the Democrate party, And a nother thing, they say,
President B. is a northerner, and he shall not rule
over them, They would fill him, before he shall
stay his time out. The doct party is President Rob-
erts, which calls themselves Democrats. Now i know
what the Democrat is in the U.S. And the Robert
party which are Democrats, have fill some men.

all ready about the location; and the object of
the Colonization Society belongs to the
Democratic party too; And in the place of these
old Settlers civilizing of the natives, and
christianizing of them, it is a party
question; And from what I can understand,
it is right against the U. S. Government
and I know, I belong to it; and also se-
ported it; And I also plead with the genera
(President Grant, of the U. S. A. That all
of the Emigrants from America, wance
the mail from the U. S. to come to Liberia
And our Liberia to the U. S. So we can have
employment from Liberia to the U. S. The
native man will call for the greenback
money for his pay, as quick, as I will, for
my pay; He will tell me quickly, That gre-
en back money come from big America.
Now I know that Liberia, Africa is a
long ways from the U. S. yet I want my
communitation, and protection to remain
under the U. S. Government your
humble servant, William Blatter,

Executive Mansion.

File

Slattery Mr.
Mourad



Isks assistance from
the boat.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of State.

By direction of the President:

Apr. 14 1872

O. S. Babcock

Secretary.

Treasury Department,

Wypatt

October 24, 1871



Set out
attached
in 25 Oct

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23^d instant, to the Secretary, requesting the admission, free of duties and charges, of one case containing a small boat, as per enclosure herewith returned.

imported for the use of the Spanish Minister
in the "Ontario" at the port
of New York from London
The Collector of Customs at that port has been instructed accordingly.

I am, very respectfully,

O. N. Harvey
Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

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



subscribed

Letter to Mr.
Holt Nov. 1

New York Oct 24th 1871

Hon Geo. Boutwell Esq.
Washington D. C.

S

1871. Treasury Department
October 30th 1871.

Respectfully referred to the
Secretary of State.

Geo. S. Boutwell
Secretary

Respected Sir!

I have a friend who is in the employ of the
U. S. Govt. I would like to receive a little
information concerning him & do not know to
what Department to direct my enquiry to, so I
made bold to write to you and if I am in the
wrong place, please send these few lines where
I may get them answered.

I was informed that he is a 'Courier & Dispatch' man
between the U. S. & Central America (his name
is Pedro J. Riotta) and I should like to be
informed if this is so, and where he is at
present, or when he is expected at Washington.



Vanderbilt
H. 50.

over

or any news that will lead to my being
enabled to communicate with him.

Hoping that you will do me this
favor, I Remain Sir

Your Obedt Servt

Fred Hobe.

Please Address.

Fred Hobe, No 22 Bond St
New York City.



Wm Pratt.

New York 25th Octo 1871.

Hon: Hamilton Fish.

Secretary of State
Washington.



Sir,

I have the honor to inform you
that I have received from Mess. Warburg
Schmidt & Co. Havana., whom I repre-
sent in the United States, the following
Telegraphic despatch by Cable.

"Pay order of Secretary of State
Washington Ten Thousand (10,000.)
Dollars U.S. Currency in aid of
Chicago sufferers contributed by mer-
chants and others from Havana. Cuba."

You will no doubt have re-
ceived a similar despatch, and
I hold the above named amount
subject to your order on demand.

I am, Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servt.

Wm. Duffee.

Mr. Rogers.

October 25. 1871

a Oct 26

To the Honorable
Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
of the United States.



The memorial of J. M. Mayorga,
of the city of New York, respectfully shows:

That he is, and for many years has
been, a resident merchant in the city of New
York, and is a citizen of the United States.

That he is the owner of the American
steamship "Hornet", which left the said port
of New York, duly cleared at the Custom House
in ballast, about a year ago, for Aspinwall, and
again left that port with a cargo of lawful
merchandise, and subsequently put into Port
au Prince, Hayti, for repairs, at which last
port she still was when last heard from.

And your memorialist further shows
that he has received information from his agent,
at Port au Prince, that a demand had been
there made by the Spanish Consul on the
Government of Hayti, for the delivery of the
aforesaid steamship, on pretence that she is, or
has been engaged in unlawful expeditions
against Spain, and that although the Haytian
Government refused to accede to said demand,
there is imminent danger of the Spaniards

using force to obtain possession of said vessel, inasmuch as said demand was supported by the presence of two Spanish men of war in that harbour.

And your memorialist is likewise informed and believed that there is at present, or was at the time when said demand was made, no American ship of war in the waters of the Republic of Hayti, to protect said vessel against an outrage, and the Haytian Government is itself too weak to defend her.

And your memorialist further shows that said Steamship is ^{not} and has not been engaged in any business or enterprise in violation of the laws of this country or any other, and that she has not been used as an armed vessel, nor formed part of any armed expedition to commit hostilities against Spain; and that she has not in any other manner rendered herself liable to seizure under the law of nations.

Your memorialist thereupon prays that the Secretary of State will cause the armed forces of the United States to protect said Steamship "Hornet" in the most speedy and effective manner which his judgment may suggest.

And your memorialist will ever pray &c
New York October 25th 1871

J M May Jr

Sub

Telegram

Chicago Oct. 27. 1871.
Hon.

Hamilton Fish

Secretary of State

I this moment have
your dispatch advising Ten
Thousand dollars Contribution
from Citizens of Havana
to our afflicted people.
Be kind enough to
Communicate through
Consul Hall our peoples
"Havana bless you" to friends
at Havana. Please remit
to Geo. M. Pullman, Pres,
Chicago relief and aid
Society. at Chicago

copy to Havana
Oct 28. 1871

copy to Senator De Vries
Oct 28. 1871

by draft on New York
City.

R. B. Mason.

Mayor



Wm. H. Pullman New York

Ans 1

Oct 30

New York 30th October 1872

Hon. Hamilton Fish

Secretary of State
Washington

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your communications of the 27th and 28th inst the latter enclosing copy of Telegram from the Mayor of Chicago and requesting that the money subscribed by Citizens of Havana Cuba in aid of the sufferers from the fire in the former City be paid to Geo. M. Pullman Treas Chicago Relief and Aid Society through you.

I therefore enclose receipt of the City Bank of this City for Ten Thou. and Dollars placed to the Credit of Geo. M. Pullmann Treasurer &c in duplicate, the original of which the Bank has today forwarded to him.

I am, Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

Simon de Villiers

44

Autobark

City Bank.

New York, Oct 30th 1871

J. J. McManus Esq
Dear Sir

Your account has credit

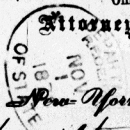
By J. J. McManus Esq

Per J. J. McManus Esq

Respectfully,

J. J. Taylor
J. J. Taylor

Office of JOHN M. ROBERTSON,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
No. 229 BROADWAY, Room 39.



New York, October 31st 1871

Hon. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State
Dear Sir,

M^r. Ramon de Rivas
y Lamar is a naturalized citizen
of the United States and has been
such since about the year 1860,
and a resident of the City of
New York. Soon after the break-
ing out of the rebellion in the
Island of Cuba all his large plan-
tations in that Island were con-
fiscated by the Spanish Govern-
ment. In July or August 1870
his property was restored to him.
He sustained very large damages
by reason of such confiscation
and wishes to present his claim

to the Commission appointed to
adjust such claims which I un-
derstand is now or soon will be
in session for that purpose.

Will you inform me if such
a commission is in session and
how soon such claims must
be presented and if there are
any forms prepared for pre-
senting such claims-

Very Respectfully
J. B. Robertson
Atty for Ramon de Ruvo y Luna