

Report from Rear Admiral Hoff—The Seizure of the Mary Lowell—American Citizens in the Interior—Movements of the Squadron.

WASHINGTON, April 7, 1862.

Despatches from Rear Admiral Hoff, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, dated Havana, March 31, have been received at the Navy Department. In pursuance of instructions he was about taking steps to investigate the case of the American brig Mary Lowell, seized in British waters, when he understood from the English Consul General that the matter was in the hands of the British authorities. The English Consul General had received in reply to his demand for the return of the vessel a note stating that the case was in the Spanish Admiralty Court, and as soon as the decision was made known he would be informed of it.

Admiral Hoff forwards to the department a list of American citizens, some with their families, who are in the interior and for whom he had asked a safe conduct to Nuevitas through the Spanish lines. The Captain General of Cuba promptly complied with the request and issued the necessary orders. The want of vessels prevented Admiral Hoff from affording transportation to these people to Havana, from which point they could easily reach the United States. If, however, they could find their way to the coast through the lines of both the Cubans and Spaniards he hoped to be able to relieve them at an early day.

Mr. Cochrington, Consul at Gibara, on the northern coast of Cuba, who had been arrested on suspicion of conspiring against the government, had been released at the instance of Admiral Hoff and the Vice Consul General at Havana.

Admiral Hoff, in a despatch dated the 1st inst., reports the distribution of his vessels as follows:—The Contoocook (flagship) was at Havana; the Narraganset was at Key West; the Penobscot was at Trinidad, the south side of Cuba; the Nipsic was at sea, on the way from Aspinwall to relieve the Penobscot; the Yantic was cruising in Haytian waters; the Gettysburg was at Aspinwall, having relieved the Nipsic on the 24th of March.