

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Microcopy No. 179

**MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Roll 296

March 1-17, 1869



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

Washington: 1964

Washington

1809

1 March 69

Dear Mr H Seward
Sec of State

My dear Sir

I concur with
you that the altered state of
things in Cuba makes it ex-
pedient to suspend for the present
the application of Mr. Cullen
to the Capt General Cuba for
the remains of his Brother.

I thank you for the interest
you have taken in this matter,
and will communicate to
Mr. Cullen your advice
upon the subject

Your most
obedient

Wardlaw N. J.

BORDENTOWN

March 1, 1869.

and W. Edwards.

Cuban Commission

Aug. 1872.

(Copy)

Havana February 26th 1869

A. R. de la Penitenc Cap

U. S. Vice Consul Genl

at Havana

Sir

Being in possession of a package of Papers relative to the Wreck of "S. S. Star of the Union" which was handed by your good self to one of our Clerks, you will please encash your outlays, which according to your Statement amount to \$663.44 on behalf of the owners of said Steamship, from their Agents, the undersigned, as verbally agreed upon, under our due protest against Receiver, and whom it may concern, the nature of your said outlays being beyond our judgment.

We will have to place your account charges before the Steamship Company at Philadelphia & shall be pleased to receive the same in duplicate.

Awaiting the protest, which you will be kind enough to have extended, we are Sir

Your obed. Servts

(Signed) Müller & Co

Agents of the Philad. & South. Mail S.S.

(Copy)

Steamer Star of the Union

To Uficial General at Havana Dn.

For Board of Seamen	156.00
Passage of Seamen * 290 ⁰⁰ Cy. @ 20 % diet	232.00
Shoes for Seamen	21.25
Noting Protest	2.00
Extending Protest	13.44
2 Copies of Extending Protest	21.25
F. P. Owens Representative of the Council General	

at Bahia Honda and Havana expenses as follows.

Fine to Guanajay	4.50	
Expenses etc	3.50	
2 Horses & Guide to Bahia Honda	34.00	
Expenses in Bahia Honda 4 days	42.00	
Horses & Guide to Morilla	25.50	
Expenses at Morilla	8.50	
Passage & meals to Havana	7.50	
15 days services @ \$500	75.00	200.50
	(Gold)	\$646.44

Reward for Dog with Expenses for
Capt. Corlsey's acct.

17.00

Trinidad de Cuba. J. Smith

Navy Department.

Washington, R. Mar. 1866

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing a copy of a despatch from the U.S. Vice Consul at Trinidad de Cuba, who asks that a vessel of war may be stationed at that port.

Rear Admiral S. K. Coffey, commanding the South Atlantic Squadron, and now in the waters of Cuba, shall be advised of the request of the U.S. Vice Consul.

Very respectfully
The Honorable Dan D. Tompkins
Secretary of State & Secy of the Navy

Mr. Jefferson J



file

New York, March 22 1869.

Sir

On the 22 January I address
 ed a communication to your predecessor
 which I beg to call your attention and
 feel assured that your humane heart will
 be more generous towards suffering huma-
 nity and that you will extend your official
 aid to the suffering Patriots of Cuba,
 who for ages have groined under the yoke
 of Spanish tyranny and a crowned
 servitude, and now threatened with
 extermination by the bloodthirsty Spaniards
 imported to butcher the native children of Cuba
 who are now struggling for God and Liberty
 without the aid of their neighbors but the
 sympathies of all civilized nations.

There are thousands of people in
 the United States who would aid them but
 they are prevented by so doing by the Law
 of neutrality with that bloodthirsty nation
 Spain who paid no regard to that Law dur-
 ing the late struggle between the North
 and South.

The Cubans have now held
 their own for over six months and hold two
 thirds of that Island, they have establish-
 ed a responsible government, they have ac-
 quired and still maintain armies in the
 field their sentiments are unanimous
 in favor

in favor of freedom and self government.
The view of these truths and in
behalf of Freedom and the Cause of
Humanity and the power of God the
Republican Government of Cuba prays
to his Excellency the President of the United
States and the Congress thereof to recognize
them belligerent rights, that its people unite
contending for justice to themselves and in
behalf of the Cause of Freedom. May have
extended over them, the shield to which the
laws of Nations and of Humanity entitle
them and ever pray.

I have the Honor to subscribe
myself with high regard

Very Respectfully
Your obt^d Serv^t
Jonas P. Levy

corn^r
N^o. 96. Wall Street.

The Hon. Wm. L. G. Smith
Secretary of State
Washington
D. C.

Hannibury Johnson Co. Missouri
March 13th 1869

Gen. W. J. Grant
President of the U.S.

Sir

On the
16th of August 1851. William S. Britton
died. (my brother) in company with others
was shot in Cuba by the authority of
the Spanish Government. My mother
(an aged and venerable lady - residing
in Kentucky) desires if possible to recover
to his remains and remove them to our
quiet family grave yard - where repose
those of my Father, Brothers and Sisters.
Our affection ever has been with the cause
its natural to our parents and we find it

think the hope of sooner or later - removing
the remains from a common and his
knowing goes to the kindred circle of
our dead. To accomplish our desire - we
sollicit the influence of your name and
position; I have already addressed a
letter to the Captain Genl of Cuba thro
the Spanish Minister at Washington
Mr. Poir. was a graduate of West Point
he sailed to Mexico with Gen Taylor - serv-
ed his Government with commendable
gallantry throughout that whole War
I think Gen J. J. Reynolds now Com-
manding the State of Texas was a classmate
and a warm associate; The long years
that have elapsed since his murder
have borne heavily upon many mothers
& the fraternal grief will ever
carry her to the grave - I fear - and

nothing would have the same re-
freshing effect upon her - as the pos-
session of his remains! I hope my dear
Sir that you will give us the po-
sitive assistance of your name
and position - if compatible with your
views of propriety!"

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servant
J. L. Coitenden

In reference
Maj Gen Schfield
Hon Braster Wills

Respectfully re-
ferred to Sec. of
State for such
action as may
be deemed
proper.

W. B. Grant

March 18th / 69

Unofficial.
~~with~~

1869

Havana, March 13th 1869.

To the President,
of the United States.

Sir,

I wrote you briefly a few days ago - The situation here is unchanged - General Dulce cannot control the volunteers, and should you adopt the course pointed out by Congress as to recognizing the Independence of Cuba, it would be well to have a strong force in this quarter to save the lives of our people. The feeling of the Spanish population is growing bitter against Citizens of the United States, - and so soon as they know the action of

executive, there will be no safety for any of them.

It was owing to my inability, (without the support of my Government) that I was compelled to resign: this measure has already had some good effect, which I trust my successor will avail of.

I should like you to take a look at my correspondence with the State Department, and I am sure you will find that for at least four months I have been calling for aid, but in vain.

The same call has also been made by all the United States Consuls in this Island.

Yours

faithfully.

A. R. de Salazar

Executive.

March 18. 1869

Case of Crittenden. Wm. L.
Warrenburg Mo.

His brother wishes to recover his body from Cuba.

Respectfully referred to the Hon.
the Secretary of State

"Respectfully referred to
Sec. of State for such action

as may be deemed proper.
March 18. 1869 N. J. Grant
By order of the President,

O. J. Babcock

Secretary.



At n. 1869

1869

House of Representatives.

Washington, March 17, 1869.

Sir: In behalf of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, I respectfully request that you will transmit for the use of the House, a statement of the actual condition of public affairs in the island of Cuba at the present time, or any information which may exist in the Department upon the subject. An early compliance with this request will greatly facilitate the transaction of the business of the Committee.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant.

Wm Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State.

J. P. Bowyer
Chairman &c

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Roll 297

March 18-31, 1869



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

Washington: 1964

Hon J. P. Stockton

Washington, March 18, 1869.

Rel. to Genl. B. R. Roberts (Command
against Spain)

Delivered June 21, 1870. To
General Bureau.

Washington, Mar 18, 1869

Senator Stockton re to case of

J. V. Bonds

Cuban Commission

Jan. 1872

Copy sent to G. C. Felt, W. H. Keane and
March 22nd 69

Howard
The J. Smith
Treasury Department.
March 20th 1869



Sir:

I have the honor to acknow-
ledge the receipt of your communi-
cations of the 19th instant, trans-
mitting a copy of despatch N. 5,
dated the 11th instant, from the
U. S. Vice Consul General at Havana,
and of a communication enclosed,
therewith from Messrs Walker Bros.
& Heydrich, in relation to the
action of one William Jones,
who, it is alleged, by representing
himself to be a Special Agent
of this Department, obtained in
the month of February 1869 the
sum of \$200. in gold from the

Vice Consul General, and the
sum of \$548.20, in gold, from the
said firm of Walker, Bros, &
Heydrick.

In reply I would res-
pectfully state that the records
of this Department show that
on the 6th day of November 1868,
the said William Jones was
duly informed by letter that he
would cease to be a special
agent of this Department from
and after the 20th of the same
month. He was accordingly dropped
from the rolls at said last men-
tioned date, and he has not
since that time been employed

by this Department in any capacity
whatever.

It is a matter of great
regret that the said Parker should
have been imposed upon by this
swindling individual, who has re-
peatedly practised the same oper-
ation on others, as I have been
informed.

In this connection, it may
be mentioned that Special Agents
of this Department are expressly pro-
hibited from drawing drafts on the
Secretary of the Treasury.

I am, very respectfully

Yours Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

Wm. B. Brewster
Secretary of the Treasury

Wm Smith

Ack Mar 29
to them

(Circular stamp)
MAR 20 1869

Havana

Mar 20th 1869

Wm Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State

Dear Sir, My brother —
in-law, a naturalized Cuban, now
residing on the island of Cuba,
desires me to send him his papers
of citizenship; my object in writing
is to inquire the name of the U.S.
Consul at Havana, and if the
papers were directed to his care,
whether he would forward them.
As I desire to send the papers by
Thursday's steamer, an early answer
is respectfully solicited by
Yours very truly

Wm Newhouse
405 & 407 Market St
Philadelphia



W. Blittin
Navy Department. ✓
Washington, D.C. Mar 21 1869

Mr:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst, regarding the report which has reached the Spanish minister, of the fitting out of a steamer at Fernandina or Jacksonville, to cruise, under the flag of the Cuban insurgents, against the commerce of Spain; and to inform you that proper instructions have been given to Rear Admiral Wolf, commanding the North Atlantic Squadron, on the subject.

Very respectfully

Honorable
William H. Fish
Secretary of State.

Dani D. Pratt
Vice Admiral
For Secretary of Navy

RECEIVED
MAR 24
1869

Mr. J. Smith

Boston March 20/1869

to the Hon.
The Secretary of State
Washington DC.

Sir

We are today in receipt of the En-
closed Certificate from the U.S. Consul at
Matanzas, Cuba, the original Certificate
from the U.S. Consul at Tenerife Canary
Island bearing his endorsement.
Prior without advice concerning it we for-
ward it to the Department supposing it to be
a necessary voucher. Please inform us if
this be the proper disposition of it.

Yours obedient servants
Geo. W. Dabney Jr. & Co



Mr. Chilton ✓

Attorney General's Office

Washington March 23^d 1869

Wm. Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State.
Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant ~~relative~~ relative to alleged illegal expeditions now in progress at various Southern ports for the purpose of aiding the insurgents in the Island of Cuba, and to the case of a steamer being fitted out at Jacksonville or Fernandina for the purpose of committing depredations on Spanish commerce as a privateer under the flag of the insurgents referred to.

As suggested, such instructions have been issued to the officers of the Government subject to the orders of this Department, as, it is hoped, may lead to the prevention or punishment of any ~~such~~ violations

of the laws of the United States.

Very respectfully, Sir

Your obedient servant

E. R. Hoar,

Attorney General

Ms. A. 9. 2. 30

Camden Maine March 23. 1869.

Hon. U. S. Grant President of the U. S. of A. M.

Dear Sir,

In the year 1850 the Bark Georgiana
Lincolnville Maine, when on a voyage from New
Orleans to Chagress, anchored on her way off the
Cortez Islands. There she was seized by the
Spanish war Steamer Pasara who towed her in
to Havannah, and they had her confiscated by their
Government, without any lawful right. The
owners applied to President Taylor for our vessel,
crew and damages. But before he had time to make
a demand he was taken away suddenly. The Spanish
took advantage of his death kept the vessel.
President Fillmore thought best to let them have her, and
demand payment, which course was adopted. But we
have not received our pay yet, and there is great
need of it. Three of the owners are dead. One unable
to meet his demands took his own life. Leaving eleven
penniless ones to struggle alone. The Spanish Government

has done us great Injustice, but we have no means of getting a Redress, only by our own Government.

Now we would look to you as Children would to a Father, and ask you, if you please, to try to collect our claims for us if you can. and we will pay all expences that may occur and you shall have the Fatherless and the widows prayers. Will you please to advise a reply to this, through your Secretary department, which will oblige me, and other owners of said Bark. Georgiana?

I am your most humble servant
Arch. Buchanan.

Executive,

March 27th 1869

Case: Buchanan v. Peck

—Candian v. Wallace

Regarding claims for damages

of Bark Georgiana by the

Spaniards' sent in 1856,

It is respectfully referred to the Secy.

the Secretary of State

By order of the President,

C. S. Hatfield

Secretary

Copy.

Atlantic Coast Mail
Steamship Company.

Livingston Fox & Co. 88 Liberty Street, New-York

14th March, 1869.

Hon. J. F. Hartley

Assistant Secretary of Treasury, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

At the suggestion of our mutual friend Chas. A. Dana Esq., we take the liberty of addressing you on the subject of the tonnage dues exacted in American and Spanish ports on the vessels of each nation. In Cuba and Porto Rico, American vessels pay \$ 1⁵⁰ pr. ton and Spanish vessels are charged the same at our ports. The Spanish Government has published a decree that the ships of such nations as placed Spanish vessels on the same footing as their own, would be charged the same duties as Spanish vessels - say 60 ¢ pr. ton. The French, North German and English Governments having acceded to this arrangement, are now paying but 60 ¢ pr. ton, while American vessels pay \$ 1⁵⁰. Our Government has issued a circular to Collectors of Customs in which we read: "Spanish vessels arriving from Spanish ports in order to escape additional duty must produce the certificate of a Consul of the U. S. that no discriminating duty on American vessels is enforced"

enforced, in the port whence such vessel sailed."

Hence arises a "Dead lock", the Spanish Government having proposed this reduction will no doubt say that our vessels must produce a certificate from their Consuls that no discriminating ^{in Spanish vessels} duty, is enforced &c. &c."

Meanwhile American tonnage dues to Spain on forty or fifty tons for every single ton which Spanish vessels pay our Government upon. The large shipping interests between Cuba and Porto Rico and the United States are suffering in this matter.

We remain with great respect &c. &c.

Livingston Fox & Co.

CIRCULAR RESPECTING TONNAGE TAXES ON SPANISH VESSELS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

MARCH 6, 1869.

SIR:

The following Act of Congress is published for the guidance of customs officers. Under it all Spanish vessels are liable to pay the ordinary annual tonnage tax of thirty cents per ton, and if they arrive from Spanish ports where American vessels are subject to discriminating duties on tonnage they are liable, in addition, to pay one dollar per ton at every entry.

Spanish vessels arriving from Spanish ports in order to escape such additional duty must produce the certificate of a Consul of the United States that no discriminating duty on American vessels is enforced in the port whence such vessel sailed.

This Department is not at present informed that discriminating tonnage tax is levied upon American vessels in any ports of the Spanish Dominions except those of Cuba and Porto Rico.

J. F. HARTLEY,

Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

To Collector of Customs at

AN ACT for the repeal of tonnage duties on Spanish vessels.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act entitled "An act concerning tonnage duty on Spanish vessels," approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, and the first, second, and fourth sections of the act entitled "An act concerning tonnage duty on Spanish vessels," approved July thirteenth, eighteen hundred and thirty-two, be, and they are hereby, repealed; and that of Spanish vessels coming from any port or place in Spain or her colonies, where no discriminating or countervailing duties on tonnage are levied upon vessels of the United States, or from any other port or place to and with which vessels of the United States are ordinarily permitted to go and trade, there shall be exacted in the ports of the United States no other or greater duty on tonnage than is or shall be exacted of vessels of the United States.

Approved March 1, 1869.

Instrument

Contract concluded between Mr. Pablo de L. Villegas and Mr. Felipe Cuevas as representative of the firm of Mr. C. Rodriguez & Co. of New-York & Mr. Pablo de L. Villegas is authorized to draw his drafts against said Mr. C. Rodriguez & Co. in the following manner.

In the present month of October for the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars. In November prox^o Twenty Thousand Dollars and December Twenty Thousand Dollars, all in U. S. C. and at 60 Days.

Mr. Pablo de L. Villegas agrees to consign to Messrs. M. C. Rodriguez & Co. Three hundred Hds of Sugar in January and Three hundred Hds of Sugar in February for which Messrs. M. C. Rodriguez & Co. agree to dispatch two vessels of sufficient capacity to carry the above amount of sugar, the same to be cleared from New-York about the middle of December and January respectively.

Mr. Villegas is also authorized to draw against the said M. C. Rodriguez & Co. at 60. 4/10 for the amount of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars. U. S. C. in March prop^r besides for the Three quarters $\frac{3}{4}$ part of Amount of Invoices consigned to them in same month: providing that the advances already made have been completely covered by previous shipments. In case they have not the balance remaining uncovered to be deducted from amount of Invoices shipped in March previously to drawing for the three quarters $\frac{3}{4}$ part of same.

Mr. Villegas compromises himself to consign to Mess^{rs} M. C. Rodriguez & Co. during the crop of 1868 & 9. The amount of Two Thousand Hhd^s of Sugar and in case he fails to comply with same. He agrees to pay to M. C. Rodriguez & Co. $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ commission on every Hhd which falls short of said Two Thousand, the average value of which is agreed upon and fixed

between said parties at one Hundred
fifty Dollars for Hhd usc. the same
to be paid upon M. C. Rodriguez
& Co. claiming same.

This commission only to be
collected in case Mr. Villegas fails to
consign the number of Hhds of sugar agreed
upon and stipulated in this agreement,

M. C. Rodriguez & Co. to
charge 5% as commission and guarantee. They
returning 4% of same to Mr. Villegas.

Interest in 1/2 current at the
rate of 7% per annum.

And in accordance herewith
we hereby sign this contract in duplicate with
the understanding that the same is to be
as valid as if judicially acknowledged.

Signed at the City of San Mi-
guel de Nueva on the 11th day of
October 1868.

Signed

Pablo de L. Villegas

Signed

pp. M. C. Rodriguez & Co.
Felipe Cuevas.

Nuevitas 15 de Febrero de 1869.
Esco. Sr. Dr. Juan de Lucá y Fernández
Presente.

Esco. Sr.

Mr. Ed. Schreiner natural de
los E. U. socio de la casa de Comercio de los
Sres. M. C. Rodríguez & Co. de Nueva
York: tiene el honor de esponer a V. E.
respectuosamente que se habla de tránsito en
esta Ciudad con objeto de arreglar negocios
de Comercio especialmente con el Sr. Dr.
Tablo de Le Villegas de Sr. Miguel a
cuyo Sr. le tiene hecho anticipos la referida
Casa de Comercio de M. C. Rodríguez
& Co. sobre \$43,000. en dineros de los E. U.
incluido en esta suma el valor del cargamen-
to que para el mismo ha traído el paile-
bot Americano "Katie Ranger" anclado
en este puerto, y segun convenio celebrado
con el referido Sr. Villegas en el mes de
Octubre del año ppda. le tiene comprados
mascabados, miles, melada y maderas
para cubrir dita suma, la cual ya tiene
recibida por medio de giros sobre Nueva
York y en efectos ya descargados por el

citado paquebot y que han satisfecho los
Relés Dros a la Aduana facultados por el
exponente.

El que tiene el honor de dirigirse a
V. E. se ocupa directamente de la carga
del expresado buque y a ella ha ocurri-
do debiendo significar a V. E. que parte
de los frutos que debe exportar se ha-
n depositados en los Almacenes del
Bagaí donde los está remitiendo el Sr.
Villagras; y desea el que suscribe que
dichos efectos si no pueden ser embar-
cados sean detenidos en dho. punto o
trasladados a esta, a mi disposición
para mayor seguridad hasta que des-
cenda alguna determinacion de la Su-
perioridad. — Con la mayor consi-
deracion queda a las ordenes de V. E.
muy atento S. S.

D. B. S. M.

Ed. Serrano

Veracruz July 15th 1869.
Hon. Juan de Leca Fernandez
Present.

Hon Sir

Mr. Ed. Schreiner a citizen of the U. S. and partner of the firm of M. C. Rodriguez & Co. of New York. has the honor to respectfully state that he is temporarily staying in your city for the purpose of especially arranging his business relations with Mr. Pablo de L. Villegas of San Miguel, to whom his house has advanced the sum of over \$43,000 U. S. included in which is the cargo of am. Sch. "Kate Ranger" actually in port and upon which the duties have been paid.

According to contract entered into, between said Villegas and his house in Oct. last, they have bought from him his sugar, Honey molasses & wood to cover said advance,

And he who has the honor to address you having come expressly to

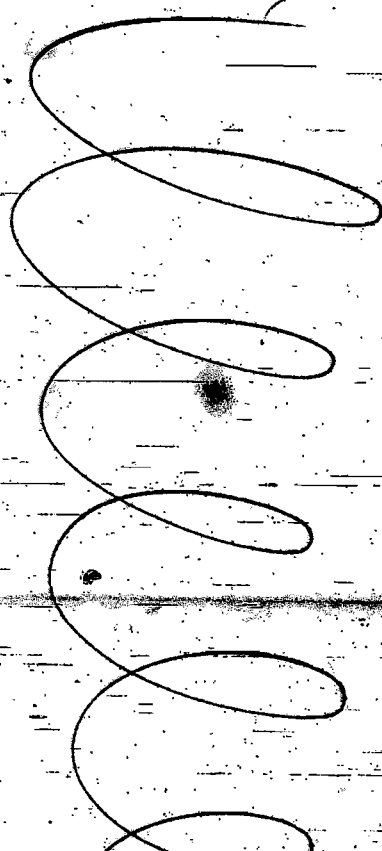
this city, with the purpose of attending
to loading said vessel, respectfully states
to you that part of his cargo, which
he desires to export is deposited in the
ware-houses at Bagá, where the sa-
me is being remitted by Mr. Villegas.

That if said goods are not allowed
to be exported, that he may be per-
mitted to transfer same for better
security to this city and same held
at his disposal, until the higher au-
thority passes their decision in the
matter.

With my best conside-
rations.

I remain

Your most ob^d servant
Edward Schreiner



Esco. Jor. Gob. Sup. Civil.

Dn. Eduardo Ferrines, natural y veci-
no de los Estados Unidos de America, y
accidentalmente en esta Ciudad, como repre-
sentante y socio de la casa de Comercio que
gira en New-York bajo la razon mercan-
til Mr. C. Rodriguez & Co, ante V. E. con la
mas respectuosa consideracion espone: Que
las autoridades de Nueva-Orleans le han im-
pedido la extraccion de un cargamento de fru-
tos del pais que tiene comprado en aquel puer-
to, y que viene a colocarse bajo el amparo
de la superior de V. E., para ser indemnizi-
zado de los inmensos perjuicios que se
irrepa tan notoria injusticia.

En el mes de Octubre proximo
pasado la casa de Comercio que representa
el esponente hizo anticipos de gran
importancia a D. Pablo de Lucia Vil-
las comerciante de San Miguel de Nou-
veles, sobre un contrato de compra venta
de mascabados concentrados, mieles y ma-
deras. Ynutil seria recomendar a
V. E. los trastornos que en sus negocios
ha sufrido la casa de New-York, en

razon de que las circunstancias especiales que atraviesa el Departamento Central pusiera a Villegas en la imposibilidad absoluta de cumplir con todas las condiciones del convenio.

Ultimamente dió aviso a la casa de New-York, de que durante el presente mes estaria en aptitud de entregar un cargamento de Azúcares y mieles. A este efecto se fletó en New-York la goleta Americana Katie Ranger que condujo a Nuevitás una valiosa factura de provisiones, que fue vendida allí por que no era dable conducirla a San Miguel, y cuyos efectos pagaron los derechos de Aduana que previene el Arancel.

El honrado comerciante de San Miguel, D. Pablo de Lucio Villegas, cumpliendo religiosamente su oferta, habia acarreado al embarcadero del Baga los azúcares y mieles para la carga del buque; y dignese V. E. considerar el asombro del exposante, al saber que la autoridad militar de Nuevitás

no permita el embarque de esos frutos.

Se dice para justificar tan es-
temporanea medida, que es muy extraño
que el Sr. Villegas haya podido lograr la
conduccion de esos frutos estando los ca-
minos ocupados por las fuerzas insurrectas.

Si D. Pablo de Lucio Villegas, vecino
pacífico de San Miguel, donde ha pres-
tado a las tropas del Gobierno todos
sus recursos, ha sabido vencer los in-
covenientes que se hayan presentado para
cumplir sus compromisos, antes que de
vetuperas es digna de todo elogio, y no
es razonable que se le opongan obstacu-
los por las Autoridades llamadas por
el contrario a proteger el comerciante tran-
quilo y laborioso.

Pero es lo cierto, Excmo. Sr.
que en la inexplicable oposicion de la auto-
ridad militar de Nuevitás han influi-
do poderosamente calumniosos informes
de algun otro comerciante de aquel punto,
celoso de las Comisiones que dá la casa
que representa el esponente a otra muy
respetable de Nuevitás. misas bastar-

das que V. E. ha de rechazar con la mas
justa indignacion.

El que habla con objeto
de evitar danos de mayor consideracion
ha reflejado para cargar en Matanzas
la goleta Katie Ranger sufriendo
una sensible perdida y reservandose
su derecho contra quien corresponda
bajo solemne protesta. Y en tal concep-
to — A V. E. suplica se sirva man-
dar si le conceda competente permiso,
para que acto continuo puedan trasladar-
se los mencionados frutos del caserio
de Baga, donde no los considera en se-
guridad, al almacen de sus corresponsales
de Nuevitax Los Manuel Marquez
y Comp^{as} y que se le espida amplia
autorizacion para disponer el embarque de
ellos como le convenga, a fin de fletar
inmediatamente otro buque que vaya a
cargarlos, puesto que toda demora lasti-
ma considerablemente los intereses de
~~la sociedad mercantil que representa. Grovia.~~
que espera obtener de la acreditada justifica-
cion de V. E. Habana de 1869.

Cesario N...

To his Excellency the Superior
Civil Governour.

Mr. Edward Schreiner citizen and resident
of the United States now temporarily in this city as the
representative and partner of the house under the firm
name of M. C. Rodriguez & Co. of New-York, do state to
your Excellency for his respective consideration.

That the military authorities of Nuevitas have
prevented him from exporting a cargo from said
port, which consisted of products of the Island
and goods which he had previously purchased, and
has come to place same before your Excellency and seek
redress for the great injustice done him.

In the month of Oct. last, the house which
he represents made advancements of considerable impor-
tance to Mr. Pablo de Lucio Villegas a merchant of
San Miguel de Nuevitas upon a contract entered
into with same for his sugar &c, and it is ~~advised~~
to state to your Excellency the losses which are being
sustained by my house on a/c of the present circumstan-
ces which are actually taking place in the central
department of the Island. Besides absolutely preventing
Mr. Villegas from complying with the terms of his
agreement with us. He having advised us
that during the present month he could be ready

to deliver a cargo of sugar & molasses. — We chartered in New York the two Schooners Stati Ranger which conveyed a valuable cargo to Sancti Spiritus which was disposed of there and duties paid thereon on a/c of it being impossible to remit same to San Miguel.

Mr. Villegas in order to comply and fulfill his agreement, commenced carting to the Depot at Bagai the sugar and molasses intended for the cargo of the Stati Ranger. — And your Excellency cannot imagine my surprise when I learned that the Military authorities of Sancti Spiritus had prevented the exportation of same.

It is said in order to justify this action that it is very strange that Mr. Villegas was able to succeed in consigning these goods when the Roads were occupied by the insurrectionary forces.

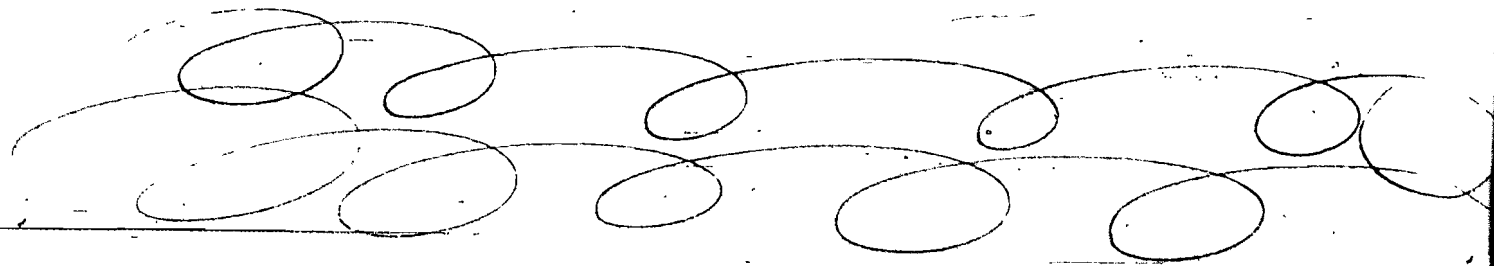
But Mr. Villegas has lent all his resources to the troops of the National Government, and seeing the inconveniences that were presenting themselves which prevented him from complying with his contract. Rather than suffer disgrace from non fulfillment, accepted of the privileges offered by the other side to the citizen who was peaceful, and laborious.

But it is certain your Excellency that the

unexplained opposition of the Military Authorities of Nueva in this affair has been strongly influenced by slanderous reports made by another merchant of said place jealous of the interest which my house gives to another merchant of said city, which indignantly assertions I trust your Excellency will repel. — He who addresses you with the object of making the losses in the matter as small as possible. Rechartered in Matanzas the Schooner State Ranger suffering thereby considerable loss, and he reserves his right to claim the same against which belongs beneath a solemn protest.

And on this a/c. Petitions your Excellency that he will concede the necessary permits that will enable him to transfer these goods from the Rail Road Depot at Baga where he does not consider them secure to the warehouse of their correspondents in Nueva, Messrs Manuel Marques & Co, and that the same permits will be sufficient authority to enable him to dispose of or export same, as the present delay is ruinous to the interests of the House he represents. — With hopes of obtaining my Petition —
Your

Excellency's humble servant:
Edward Schweizer



New York March 27 1869

O. A. Schreiner transmitting portfolio of

Rodriguez & Co.

Cuban Commission

Jan'y. 1872

St. Louis, Mo. Mar. 29. 69.

L. E. Madeira re to care of

Charles S. Cabada

Cuban Commission

May 1872.

L. C. Madeira

Philadelphia March 29, 1869.

Rel. to arrest of Emilio J. Cabada
Cuba

Delivered to Consular Bureau
June 21, 1870.

Havana



M. J. Smith
Post-Office Department

No. 17271.

Washington March 30 1869.

Hand copy
made
for
Sir:

Copy to Bureau of P.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant, enclosing for my information and actions a copy of a dispatch, dated the 20th inst, received from the U.S. Vice Consul General at Havana (Cuba) in relation to the order of my predecessor, prohibiting the conveyance of mails to Havana by other steamers than those of the "Atlantic Mail Steamship Co"; and to inform you in reply, that as soon as my attention was called to the said order, I revoked it, and instructed the Postmaster of New York, under date of 23rd March inst, to despatch the mails to Havana, not only by the steamers of that Company, but also

by those of the Atlantic Coast Mail
Steamship Co (Messrs Livingstone
Fox & Co Agents), they having agreed
to transport the mails for the sea
postage only, as full compensation
for the service.

The regular semi-weekly mail
communication with Havana, which
was interrupted by the order referred
to, is therefore, re-established.

I am very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm. J. Presnell
Postmaster General

Wm Hamilton Fish
Secretary of State.

32 March 1860

To the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States of America
In Congress assembled.

The Memorial of
José N. Casanova

Respectfully shows,

1°. That he is a citizen of the United States, having been naturalized in New York in 1857; that his father Inocencio Casanova is also a naturalized citizen of the United States; that your memorialist was in 1860 in the City of Washington D.C., married to an American lady; that he owns property in Fauquier County, Virginia, on which he resides for about six months in each year, and that his father and himself are interested in and carry on through their business in New York, a large business between their native Island Cuba, and their adopted country, the United States.

2°. Your memorialist further shows that he was for some years a student in Troy, N.Y., and that he is a graduate of the Polytechnic Institute of Philadelphia Pa, and that in the years 1858 & 1859 he was

was the Consul of the United States at Guayaquil, Ecuador, South America.

3°— Your memorialist further shows that in pursuit of his business he resides a portion of each year in Cuba, where he has large interests.

4° Your memorialist further shows that soon after the late war in the United States, he began the gradual emancipation of his own slaves in Cuba, by giving their freedom to the younger slaves on his plantations; which action of his met with great disfavor in the eyes of the Spanish Government of Cuba, who have since then regarded him as a "dangerous man", and he believes that this action of his was the beginning and cause of the persecution he has since suffered from the Spanish Government.

5 Your memorialist further shows that while engaged, in December last, on his sugar plantation near Cardenas, he learned to his surprise that there had been issued, by the Spanish Government of Cuba, an order for his arrest which

which he evaded by leaving his plantation (on the 10th of December)

That a safe conduct for him was applied for, but as the one given was not regarded as sufficiently explicit to protect him, another was procured on the 29th of Dec., and that on the end of January, 1869, his father, the American Consul La Reintee, and himself, had an hour's conference with the Captain General, who finding nothing against your memorialist directed him to report to his secretary; that on his way home he saw in a Matanzas paper of Dec. 27th an order citing him before a Military Commission to meet the charges preferred against him, which took him by surprise; that he went to Matanzas, and through the American Consul, Mr. Hall, presented a memorial to the President of the Commission; that on the 8th of Jan. he was informed by the President of the Commission through Mr. Hall that the Commission had done nothing but refer the whole matter to the Captain General; that on the 4th of Jan. he was allowed to return to his plantations,

tation with a "safe conduct" permitting him to carry it on, and to carry arms for his personal defence; that on his return he found that the Government agents had carried away from his place a number of very valuable private papers, which have not yet been returned to him, and a few Firemen's uniforms, which he had procured for the Firemen of his plantation, and which were the nominal cause of these arbitrary and despotic proceedings against him.

6

6. Your memorialist further shows that after his return to his plantation he remained there unmolested till the 4th of this month, when the police came to his place and took his Engineer who had been an "Insurgent" or "Rebel", but who had received a "safe conduct" from the Captain General, and without trial and despite the "safe conduct", shot him dead in front of his house; that your memorialist seeing how perfidiously the Spanish Government treated its own "safe conduct" became alarmed for himself, and left for Havana, leaving behind on the plantation

tion his wife and brother-in-law, both Americans, to superintend it; that, the same day, a band of police and their adherents to the number of some 250 came upon the plantation, searching for your memorialist, insulting and abusing his wife and family, and doing great damage to his buildings, crops, &c; that a squad of these police remained hid upon the plantation seeking to capture your memorialist; and that on the fourth day of the search they set fire to one of his buildings, with the intention, as avowed by their Captain, of bringing out your memorialist, if he were hidden about the place, to see the flames, and then capturing him; that your memorialist claimed the protection of the American Flag Ship at Havana, and receiving it was enabled to escape to this Country, being compelled to abandon his large interests, amounting in all to over \$2,000,000, and his wife and family to whatever further indignity and spoliation, the Captain General and his subordinates may see fit to commit.

7° Your memorialist further shows that on the 12th of February last, the Captain General, O'Leary, issued an order allowing Freedom of the Press; that believing this order to have been issued in good faith, a younger brother of your memorialist, under age, commenced the publication of a Republican paper; that before many numbers had been issued the Captain General revoked the order, and your memorialist's brother was arrested and tried before a Military Commission for the offence of publishing such a paper; that the Military Commission acquitted him, but notwithstanding this acquittal, he was thrust into prison, where he now lies, sick, and that your memorialist's Father and Mother have been denied all access to him, and are not allowed even to send him medicine or any comforts; and that the efforts in his behalf of the American Consul have been utterly unavailing.

8° Your memorialist further shows that the Captain General has refused to recognize the American Consul's efforts in behalf of American citizens, declaring that he will

will only regard him as a mere
Commercial Agent.

And in this absence of any relief
from the American Representatives in
Cuba, your memorialist has no remedy
but such as he can obtain by the inter-
position of his Government, which he
~~now seeks through this appeal to con-~~
~~gress.~~

He estimates his own losses and
damages from his arrest and detention
from his plantation in the season when
his superintendence was most needed and the
loss of his private papers at not less than Fifty
Thousand Dollars. And he asks redress
for these injuries and indemnity.

But he especially asks that the strong
arm of his Government may liberate his
brother, a citizen of the United States,
whose only crime is, that believing the Captain
General was sincere in his promise to allow
Freedom of the Press, he published a paper in the
interests of Republicanism and Free Institutions.

And your memorialist will ever pray,

Jose Masanoya

Washington, D.C.

March 30th, 1869