

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

The memorial of Catharine B. Turner widow and Executrix of Daniel Turner, deceased, late a Captain in the Navy of the United States, Respectfully represents:

That Commodore Daniel Turner at various times, when in command of the U. S. Naval Forces on Foreign Stations, saw himself placed in positions where the credit and dignity of his country made it obligatory upon him and required, that (there being no provision by law to provide for such exigencies) from his own private resources he should comply with certain demands and even offer such hospitality, on board the vessels he commanded to distinguished public dignitaries, as was in accordance with the rank of the persons who were thus placed for a time under his charge. And in this manner he was under the necessity to entertain several distinguished parties from whom no remuneration, could be expected nor received.

Your Memorialist cannot know any of the details, upon which the expenditures are predicated and can give only the bare fact of their having actually been incurred on the occasions named; but she is well acquainted with the fact that during the past year her husband contemplated to bring his claim for such disbursements before Congress and knows that it was his intention to give his personal attention to the prosecution of this matter when on his way to Washington, resting among friends in Philadelphia for a brief time tho' apparently in the enjoyment of excellent health, the hand of death suddenly deprived him of life, — indeed so sudden, that not a moment was left him for preparation or to be conscious of its awful approach.

In carrying out the intentions of Commodore Turner your memorialist cannot present as full data as in each case as she should
desire

desire and as may, or would be, under different circumstances, require but however meager the evidence may be, the account against the Treasury herewith presented, is in the handwriting of her husband, and therefore every reliance can be placed upon its correctness, and she feels conscious that every charge stated is founded in fact, and that every dollar and most likely much more, has actually been expended for the objects named.

The claim consists of four several items of disbursement, incurred in 1841 and 1844. On the first occasion at the instance and by request of our Charge d'affaires at Peru, Mr. Tackett, the Brazilian Minister Duarte da Ponte Ribeiro, was received on board the U. S. Frigate Constitution and conveyed from Callao, Peru, to Rio de Janeiro. No supplies of any kind were furnished by the Minister, and his suite, and the whole of the expenses of the voyage had therefore necessarily to be defrayed by the husband of your Memorialist. So it was on the second occasion, when at the instance and request of our Charge d'affaires at Montevideo, Mr. Giffet, the same minister was received on board the U. S. Ship Columbus and conveyed from Montevideo to Rio de Janeiro.

The third item claims a reimbursement of expenses incurred whilst called to Buenos-Ayres upon an emergency to adjust the serious difficulties then existing, and brought about by Cap. Vochas of the Frigate Congress, who had captured the Argentine Squadron, and otherwise interfered with the rights of the Argentine Republic. The fourth and last item is for expenses incurred by receiving the Charge d'affaires for the Argentine Republic, Mr. Brent, and also his Lady and suite, on board the U. S. Frigate Haritan and conducting them from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo.

Copies of the Official correspondence in relation to all these transactions are herewith annexed, as also the Affidavit of James A. Fauns who was Commodore Turner's Secretary and enjoyed

his fullest confidence.

In submitting the claim of her husband, your Memorialist hopes such action may be had upon it as may be deemed just and proper by your Honorable Bodies, and as in duty bound - will ever pray. &c.

Debelding & Myllic
Attorneys for Petition

32 Congress
1 Session

Memorial

of

Catharine D. Turner

Widow and Executrix of the late Daniel Turner.

A Captain in the U.S. Navy.

Praying the reimbursement of expenses incurred by
her husband in receiving and entertaining, on board
the vessels under his command, certain public
functionaries of the United States and foreign countries
while on foreign stations from 1841 to 1844.

1851. Dec^r 10. Referred to
the Com. on Foreign
Relations.

36

Examined

W. F. B.

M. Berrien.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of Catharine B. Turner, widow and Executrix,
of Daniel Turner, deceased, late a Captain in the Navy of the
United States,

Respectfully represents;

That Commodore Daniel Turner at various times, when in command of the U. S. Naval Forces on Foreign Stations, saw himself placed in positions where the credit and dignity of his country made it obligatory upon him and required that, (there being no provision by law to provide for such exigencies,) from his own private resources, he should comply with certain demands and even offer such hospitality on board the vessels he commanded to distinguished public dignitaries, as was in accordance with the rank of the persons who were thus placed for a time under his charge. And in this manner he was under the necessity to entertain several distinguished parties from whom no remuneration could be expected nor received.

Your Memorialist cannot know any of the details, upon which the expenditures are predicated and can give only the bare fact of their having actually been incurred on the occasions named; but she is well acquainted with the fact that during the past year her husband contemplated to bring his claim for such disbursements before Congress and knows that it was his intention to give his personal attention to the prosecution of this matter, when on his way to Washington, resting among friends in Philadelphia for a brief time, though apparently in the enjoyment of excellent health, the hand of death suddenly deprived him of life - indeed so sudden, that not a moment was left him for preparation or to be conscious of its awful approach.

In carrying out the intentions of Commodore Turner your memorialist cannot present as full data's in each case as she should desire; and as may, or would be, under different circumstances, required; but however meagre the evidence may be, the Account against the Treasury herewith presented, is in the handwriting of her husband,

and therefore every reliance can be placed upon its correctness and she feels conscious that every charge stated, is founded in fact; and that every dollar, and most likely much more, has actually been expended for the objects named.

The Claim consists of four several items of disbursements incurred in 1841 and 1844. On the first occasion at the instance and by request of our Charge' d' Affairs at Peru, Mr Pickett, the Brazilian Minister, Duarte da Costa Ribeiro, was received on board the U. S. Frigate Constitution, and conveyed from Callao, Peru, to Rio de Janeiro. No supplies of any kind were furnished by the Minister and his suite and the whole of the expenses of the voyage had therefore necessarily to be defrayed by the husband of your Memorialist. So it was on the second occasion, when, at the instance and request of our Charge' d' Affairs at Montevideo, Mr Profitt, the same Minister was received on board the U. S. Ship Columbus and conveyed from Montevideo to Rio de Janeiro. The third item claims a reimbursement of expenses incurred whilst called to Buenos Ayres upon an emergency to adjust the serious difficulties then existing and brought about by Capt. Voorhes of the Frigate Congress, who had captured the Argentine Squadron, and otherwise interfered with the rights of the Argentine Republic. The fourth and last item is for expenses incurred by receiving the Charge' d' Affairs for the Argentine Republic, Mr Brent, and also his lady and suite, on board the U. S. Frigate Paristan and conducting them from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo.

Copies of the official correspondence in relation to all these transactions are herewith annexed, as also the affidavit of James A. Fawns, who was Commodore Turner's Secretary and enjoyed his fullest confidence.

In submitting the claim of her husband, your Memorialist hopes that such action may be had upon it as may be deemed just and proper by your Honorable Bodies, and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Katharine H. Fawns, by her Attorney,

Charles W. Seading,

Washington, March 1 1850

Papers accompanying this Memorial.

- A. Commodore Daniel Turner's Account against the United States.
- B. Commodore Daniel Turner to the Hon. Sec'y of the Navy, &c.
- C. Commodore Daniel Turner's Report No 108. (8 enclosures)
- D. Hon. J. Y. Mason Sec'y of the Navy to Commo^r Dan^l Turner.
- E. H. M. Watkinson to Commo^r Daniel Turner (8 enclosures).
- F. Hon. J. Y. Mason, Acting Sec'y of the Navy to Commo^r D. Turner.
- G. Hon. J. Y. Mason, Sec'y of the Navy to Commo^r Daniel Turner.
- H. Affidavit of James A. Fawns.

32 Cong. 2

1 Sept. 3 Memorial

of

Catharine B. Turner,
widow and Executrix
of Commodore D.
Turner, U. S. Navy,
deceased, ———
praying that she may be
reimbursed the expenses incurred
by her husband, for entertaining
Ministers, when on foreign stations.

1850 March 8. Referred to
the Com. on Foreign
Relations.

1851. Dec. 10. Referred to
the Com. on Foreign
Relations.

W. Hunter

W. Bonner

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

September 23, 1848.

I hereby certify that the annexed is a true copy from
the files of this Department.

R. W. Young
Chief Clerk.

Be it known, That *Robert W. Young*
whose name is signed to the above certificate, is now, and was at the time of so signing,
Chief Clerk in the Navy Department,
and that full faith and credit are due to all his official attestations as such.

In Testimony whereof, I have
hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of the
NAVY DEPARTMENT of the UNITED STATES
to be affixed, at the City of Washington, this
twenty-third day of *September*
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and
forty-eight and of the INDEPENDENCE
of the UNITED STATES, the *twenty*



L. J. Mason
Secretary of the Navy.

Mr. Wm. Westcott

2.

(Copy)

At Sea on board the U.S. Frigate }
"Constitution", 13th Octob. 1841 }

Sir;

At the request of Mr. Nichol, our Charge d'affaires at Peru, I gave passage to the Brazilian Minister at Lima to Rio de Janeiro, a copy of the correspondence on the subject is herewith enclosed. I forward you a copy of this correspondence because it contains a letter of Thanks from the Brazilian Minister of State ^{and} Foreign Affairs, in which he expresses the favorable opinion entertained by his Imperial Government towards the United States and the desire to "increase it more and more".

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully
Your ob. Servt.

(Signed) Wm. Turner

Captain.

To the

Hon. Secretary of the Navy

Lima, April 27th 1841.

Dear Sir;

Mr. de Ponte, the Brazilian Charge d'affaires, expects to leave Lima for Rio Janeiro soon, and would be pleased, I have no doubt, to go home in the "Constitution". He is a cheerful, agreeable man and would not give any kind of trouble aboard. I hope you will be able to offer him a passage, and it is a compliment, which for a special reason, I think due him. The reason is this: Whilst I was negotiating with the Peruvian Government about the North American claim, he took a decided interest in my success, to which he contributed, probably, for he was on particularly good terms with President Garmarra and spoke to him frequently about the claim and very earnestly.

If you can offer Mr. de Ponte a passage, the formal way to do so will be to request me, in a note, to make the offer in your name. But the form is immaterial, so the offer is made.

With the highest respect

Capt. H. Turner
Comd'g. G. S.

Yours, &c.
(signed) J. C. Pickett

U. S. Frigate "Constitution"
Callao, 28th April 1841

Dear Sir,

I have received your note of yesterday's date, requesting me to give Mr. Da Ponte, the Brazilian Charge' & Affairs a passage to Rio de Janeiro in the Constitution. It gives me great pleasure to comply with your wishes and I have to request that you will invite Mr. Da Ponte to take passage in the Constitution in a way that will be most agreeable to his feelings and your own sense of propriety. The Constitution will sail on the 1st July. With great respect,

Yours, &c.
(signed) H. Turner

J. C. Pickett Esq.
U. S. Charge' & Affairs
Lima.

Lima, April 29th 1841.

Dear Sir,

I received your note of yesterday and have invited Mr. Da Ponte to take a passage in the Constitution. He seems much pleased at this mark of attention, and desires me to tender you his thanks. I am pleased also, and tender you my thanks likewise, both for your offering the passage & for the manner of your doing it.

With highest respect, Yours, &c.
(signed) J. C. Pickett

Capt. H. Turner
Commanding. G. S.

(signed) William Hunter

Capt. David Turner
Commanding U.S. Frigate, Constitution

Commodore David Turner
to the
Lt. Comdr. Dec'y of the Navy
(with enclosures)

(B.)

Wf. NAVY DEPARTMENT,
January 23^d 1849.

*I hereby certify that the annexed are true copies of
the originals on file in this Department.*

R. W. Young

Be it known, That

Robert W. Young

whose name is signed to the above certificate, is now, and was at the time of so signing,
Chief Clerk in the Navy Department,
and that full faith and credit are due to all his official attestations as such.

In Testimony whereof, I have

hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of the
NAVY DEPARTMENT of the UNITED STATES

to be affixed, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, this
twenty-third day of *January*

in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

forty-nine and of the INDEPENDENCE
of the UNITED STATES *the ninth*

J. G. Mason

Secretary of the Navy.

WAVE DEPARTMENT

whose name is signed to the above certificate is now, and was at the time it is signed,
in the Navy Department

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

has been authorized to sign the above certificate

and to certify to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution

in the Navy Department

and to the fact of its execution



N^o. 108

U. S. Ship *Saritan*
Harbour of Rio de Janeiro
April 28th 1844.

The Hon^r

Thomas W. Gilmer
Secretary of the Navy,
Sir,

I have the honor
to enclose herewith, a copy of a communica-
tion received from the Hon^r. George H.
Proffit United States Minister at this
Court, together with a translated copy of
a Despatch he has received from his Excel-
lency Ernesto Ferreira Franca, Min-
ister and Secretary of State for Foreign
Affairs in compliance with an order of
his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Brazil.

Don Duarte da Ponte Ribeiro, is the
same Brazilian Minister that I gave
passage (free of expense) from Peru, to
Rio de Janeiro, two and a half years since
when in command of the Frigate *Con-
stitution*.

I am very respectfully Sir

Your Obedt Servant
(Signed) Dan Turner
Com^d U. S. Squadron
Brazil Station.

Legation of the United States
Rio de Janeiro
April 24. 1844.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith a letter received from His Excellency, Ernesto Ferreira Franco, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the contents of which His Excellency requests may be made known to you.

I have now the honor to perform this grateful duty and at the same time take the liberty of expressing the proud satisfaction I feel in knowing that the United States Naval forces on this Station is under the command of an officer so eminently faithful to the honor and interests of his country, and so well deserving of its continued confidence.

I am Sir
with the highest respect
Your very obedient servant
(Signed) George H. Proffit

Commodore Daniel Turner
Commr. in Chief of the
U. States Naval forces
on the Brazil Station.

Translation.

The resident Minister of Brazil, near the Argentine Confederation, Quarta da Ponte Ribeiro, having made known to the Imperial Government, the obliging attentions shewn to him in Buenos Ayres, by Commodore Turner commanding the United States Naval Forces, and the urbane and polite manner in which he received him at Monte Vides, and conducted him to this Court on board the ship of the line "Columbus": The undersigned Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign affairs, has received the commands of his Majesty the Emperor, to address himself to Mr Proffit Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, and acquaint him, how agreeable to that august personage, has been the noble conduct of Commodore Turner, towards a functionary of this Empire, thereby giving a further proof of the sympathy and good intelligence which happily unite the two nations.

The undersigned, requesting Mr. Proffit to communicate to Comm^d. Turner, the contents of this note, renews the expression of his particular esteem and consideration.

Signed, Ernesto Herrera Stranca

To,

Mr. Proffit
&c. &c. &c.

Commo: Dan E. Tamm

Report No 108

(8 enclosures)

(C.)

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

January 23^d 1849.

*I hereby certify that the annexed is a true copy
from the records of this Department.*

A. N. Young

Be it known, That

Robert W. Young

whose name is signed to the above certificate, is now, and was at the time of so signing,

Chief Clerk

in the Navy Department,

and that full faith and credit are due to all his official attestations as such.

In Testimony whereof, I have

hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of the

NAVY DEPARTMENT of the UNITED STATES
to be affixed, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, this

twenty-third day of *January*

in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

forty-nine and of the INDEPENDENCE

of the UNITED STATES, the *Seventy-third*.

J. G. McKim

Secretary of the Navy.



STATE DEPARTMENT

I hereby certify that the enclosed is a true copy
of the record of the proceedings of the
Board of Commissioners of the
State of New York.

Done at Albany, this 10th day of January, 1880.
whose name is signed to the above certificate, is now and was at the time of so signing
in the New York Department
and that this said certificate and the record to which it refers are true and correct.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the
Department of the State of New York, at Albany, this 10th day of January, 1880.

Very truly yours,
J. B. Thompson, Secretary of the State of New York.



(Copy)

U. S. Navy Department
Washington, June 18, 1844.

Sir

I have the pleasure to
express to you the satisfaction of the De-
partment at your conduct, on the occa-
sions referred to in your letter, No 108,
this day received.

The correspondence in the
case has been placed on file.

I am very resp^{ly}

Yours
(Signed) J. Y. Mason

Comm^o Daniel Turner
Comm^o U. S. Naval forces
on the Coast of Brazil.

Hon. J. J. Mason.
Secy of the Navy
to
Commo. Daniel Turner

(D.)

U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT,

January 23^d 1849.

I hereby certify that the annexed are true copies of
the originals on file in this Department.

R. W. Young

Be it known, That

Robert W. Young

whose name is signed to the above certificate, is now, and was at the time of so signing,

Chief Clerk

in the Navy Department,

and that full faith and credit are due to all his official attestations as such.

In Testimony whereof, I have

hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of the

NAVY DEPARTMENT of the UNITED STATES

to be affixed, at the City of WASHINGTON, this

twenty-third day of *January*

in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

forty nine, and of the INDEPENDENCE

of the UNITED STATES, the *twenty-third*.

P. F. McElrath

Secretary of the Navy.

of the United States and that of the
Argentine Confederation, perverted into
those of hostility, have been most signally
blasted, and I trust that in future
nothing will occur to interrupt for a
moment, these harmonious, amicable
relations.

In conclusion, be assured of

(Copy)

Legation of the United States
Buenos Ayres, Nov. 9th 1844

Sir,

It gives me the highest gratification to communicate to you the accompanying letter, which I yesterday received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of this Republic.

The prompt and satisfactory settlement of the unfortunate acts of the Commander of the United States Frigate Congress, off Monte Video, has afforded to the Argentine Government the most conclusive evidence of the stern principles of justice by which our Government is actuated, as well as its sincere desire to maintain the strictest neutrality in the lamentable war between Buenos Ayres and the Banda Oriental.

It is not the least gratifying circumstance to me, that the hopes of those, who desired to see the friendly feeling existing between the Government of the United States and that of the Argentine Confederation, perverted into those of hostility, have been most signally blasted, and I trust that in future nothing will occur to interrupt for a moment, these harmonious, amicable relations.

In conclusion, be assured of

my/very great respect.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt
(Signed) H. M. Watterson

Daniel Turner
Commanding U. S.
Naval Forces on the
Coast of Brazil &
the River Plate.

Viva la Confederacion Argentina!

Buenos Ayres Nov. 7. 1844.

35.th year of Liberty, 29.th of
Independence, & 15.th of the
Argentine Confederation.

The ~~Minister~~^{Bureau} of Foreign Relations of the
Government of Buenos Ayres charged with
~~the correspondence of~~
~~those appertaining to~~ the Argentine Con-
federation, to the ^{U. S. Honor.} Special Agent of the
United States.

The undersigned by order of H. E.
the Governor and Captain General of the
Province addresses you in order to state
to you that Gov.^t has had the satisfac-
tion to inform themselves of the sincere
benevolence and enlightened justice of
Commodore Turner, since his arrival
at Monte Video and at this City, on his
expressing both to the undersigned as well

as to the Commander ad interim of the vessels of war of the Argentine Confederation; his disapprobation of the conduct of the American ship 'Congress'; both with regard to the acts perpetrated against the Squadron, as in respect to the interdiction he had established on the subject of visiting American Merchant vessels on their entering into or sailing from that port, thereby, not recognizing the blockade established by this Government.

H. E. has valued this just and friendly proceeding of Commodore Turner as an unequivocal testimony of his uprightness and of the sincere wishes that animate him in order that the ties of friendship that unite the Gov^t. of the U. S. with that of the Argentine Confederation may be drawn closer and with the view that other & greater sympathies may be created between the citizens of both Countries.

The Gov^t. feels gratified to ^{reiterate} ~~renew~~ with enhanced interest such friendly demonstrations. And on manifesting to you their sincere sentiments, ~~which~~ which the undersigned entreats you to be kind enough to transmit to said Commodore Turner, H. E. the Governor trusts that you also will consider them as a new and lively security, with which Gov^t. accedes their cordial disposition to strengthen the relations of perfect intelligence

that fortunately exist between H.E.
the Gov^t. of the United States and
that of the Argentine Confederation.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) Felipe Urana.

H. M. Walters

to
Commo^{dore} Dan^{iel} Turner
(8. enclosure)

(E.)

Wf. NAVY DEPARTMENT,

January 23^d 1849.

I hereby certify that the annexed is a true copy
from the Records of this Department.

R. W. Young

Be it known, That

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Chief Clerk

in the Navy Department,

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to be affixed, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, this

twenty-third day of *January*

in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

forty-nine and of the INDEPENDENCE
of the UNITED STATES, the *Seventy-ninth*

J. G. Mason

Secretary of the Navy.

(Signed) *J. G. Mason*
Acting Secy. of the Navy

WATSON & COMPANY

1000 Broadway New York

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

WATSON & COMPANY

1000 Broadway New York

Very truly yours,
WATSON & COMPANY

1000 Broadway New York

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

WATSON & COMPANY

1000 Broadway New York

Very truly yours,
WATSON & COMPANY

1000 Broadway New York

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and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
WATSON & COMPANY
1000 Broadway New York

(Copy)

U. S. Navy Department.

Washington, March 31. 1845.

Sir,

The Department has
perused with much satisfaction your letters
N^o. 152 and N^o. 154, dated Nov^r. 4 and
Nov^r. 20, reporting your proceedings conse-
quent upon the act of Captain Voorhees,
of the frigate Congress, in taking possession
of the Buenos Ayrean Squadron.

Your conduct on the occasion meets the
entire approval of the Department.

The Congress has arrived safely at Nor-
folk.

Your instructions to Comm-
ander Pendergrast, of the Boston, and Lieut.
Comm^{dr}. Pennington, of the Bainbridge,
copies of which accompanied your letter
N^o. 159, are approved.

I am very respectfully

Your Obed^t. Serv^t.

(Signed) J. Y. Mason
Acting Secy. of the Navy

Comms. Daniel Turner
Comm^g. U. S. Naval forces
on the Coast of Brazil

Hon. J. J. Mason,
Acting Sec'y of the Navy
to
Commo^r Daniel Turner
(F.)

U S Treasury Department D^o

To Daniel Turner
a Captain in U S Navy

For transportation of the
Minister of the Emperor
of Brazil from Lima
in Peru to Rio de Janeiro
in the U S Frigate Castles

\$1000-00

For transportation of Minister
& Legate
Emperor of Brazil
from Monte Video to
Rio de Janeiro.

800,00

For Expenses incurred in visiting
Buenos Ayres in the year 1844
on business with the Govt
On the occasion of the
Capture of the Argentine
Squadron by Capt. J. F.
Voorhes

- 300-00

For transporting Wm Brewster Esq
U S Chap de Chap for
Buenos Ayres from Rio de
Janeiro by order of Sec of
the Navy

300-00

\$2400.00

Commo. Dan^e Turners
Account
against the United States.

(A.)

U. S. Navy Department
Washington, July 26, 1844.

Sir,

William Brent Jr Esq^r has been
appointed Charge' d' Affaires of the United States
at Buenos Ayres, and contemplates proceeding
thither by the way of Rio Janeiro, for which last
port he will embark in a merchant vessel.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Brent at Rio
Janeiro, you will afford him a passage to
Buenos Ayres in one of the vessels of war under
your command.

I am very respy
Yours

J. G. Mason

Commodore

Daniel Turner

Commanding U. S. Naval forces

on the Coast of Brazil

Secy of the Navy
July 26. 1844.
In receipt a few
Passage to Buenos
Ayres —

(Gr.)

District of Columbia
City and County of Washington ^{Mem^o} 33. On this First day of
March 1850 personally appeared before me, the subscriber,
a Justice of the Peace in and for the City and County aforesaid,
James N. Towns, of Savannah, Georgia, who being duly
sworn upon the Holy Evangel of Almighty God depose and
saith as follows: That he was Secretary to Commodore Daniel
Turner, now deceased, and on board the U.S. Ship of the line
Columbus ^{to open vessels} from some time in May 1845, until October 1845.
That he was on board said ship when his Excellency Duarte da
Ponte Ribeiro and the Secretary of Legation of the Empire of Brazil
were received on board at Montevideo and conducted to Rio de Janeiro,
and during the passage from Port to Port were entertained at the expense
of said Commodore Turner. And deponent also declares that he
was well acquainted with the occasion of Commodore Turner's visit
to Buenos Ayres which was one of much urgency and connected with
an amicable settlement of the difficulties that had arisen between
Capt Voorhees, commanding the U.S. Frigate Congress, and the
Government of the Argentine Republic, in consequence of the capture
of their Squadron by Captain Voorhees, and his otherwise interfering
with their rights. The adjustment of this business caused Commodore
Turner to be detained over one month at Buenos Ayres, to which
City Ships of War could not approach nearer than seven miles
owing to the shoalness of the water. During that time also
the weather was exceedingly tempestuous, blowing almost a constant
Bompero, as the high winds are called on the River La Plata, making
a return to the ship exceedingly difficult. The Commodore was
therefore compelled to live in the City at a heavy expense until the
difficulties were settled.

Deponent further swears and declares that Commodore Turner
by an order from the Navy Department received the Honorable
William Brent, Charge d'Affairs to the Argentine Republic, with
his lady and Suite, on board the U.S. Frigate Paritan and
conveyed them to Montevideo and from thence in the U.S.
Brig Bainbridge to Buenos Ayres; that he knows that no
provision was made by the Government for the subsistence of

these Ministers and their suits, except the twenty cent per diem ration, if required; and that all the several Parties were supplied and entertained solely from the private stores of Commodore Turner; that owing to the presence of large squadrons at that period, of English, French, Danish, Sardinian, Sweden, Portuguese, and Spanish Men of War, requiring all the supplies of provisions and stores they could obtain on the Coast. Food of every description became exceeding high in price at Montevideo, and all along the Coast, so much so that deponent saw Gullocks selling at One hundred and fifty Dollars, Sheep at fifteen and twenty Dollars, Hogs, half grown, at thirty and forty dollars each; Turkeys at Ten Dollars each, - Eggs at two dollars per dozen and preserved meats at one and two dollars per pound.

And deponent further saith that he knows nothing of his own knowledge of the first charge of One Thousand dollars for conveying the Minister of Brazil from Lima in Peru to Rio de Janeiro - but on the occasion when the same Minister was conveyed in the Columbus from Montevideo to Rio de Janeiro he heard said Minister make frequent mention of his having been conveyed by Commodore Turner, in the Brigate Constitution from Lima to Rio de Janeiro, that the Vessel experienced for twenty-eight days severe Gales off Cape Horn, that he was well entertained by, and felt under obligation to Commodore Turner, for his unceasing kind attentions during the whole of that passage.

And deponent swears and declares, finally, that Commodore Turner, about the end of September last named to him, deponent, the several items stated in the Account which himself had written, amounting to Twenty-four hundred Dollars and express his intention to present the same to Congress for its consideration and obtain an act by which he would be reimbursed his various expenditures if that could be made possible. And further, deponent saith not.

Subscribed & sworn to
before me

B. A. Morse
J. P.

Affidavit
-6-

James A. Fawns.

H

This is to certify that I Horace M.
Harrison, Lt. U. S. Navy, was attached
to the United States Ship Columbus, off
Monte Video, at the time that His Excellency
Don Duarte Defonta Rabeiro, Minister of
Brazil, was received on board said ship
& conveyed to Rio de Janeiro, and I know
that said Minister & family came on
board without any supplies of provisions,
which supplies I believe were supplied
by Com^d Dan Turner out of his own
private stores, at the time it was very
difficult to procure any provisions at
Monte Video, the presence of the large naval
squadron of all nations on the Coast requir-
ing all the supplies that could be obtained
Horace M. Harrison
Lieut. U. S. Navy

District of Columbia
Washington County, D.C. - On this twentieth
day of May 1850, before the subscriber, a Justice of
the peace, in and for said County, personally
appeared the above named Horace M. Harrison
made oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that
and the statements above given are true, to
the best of his knowledge and belief.
Sworn and Subscribed before me

D. H. Howell J. P.

31 Cong.
1 Sept. 3

Additional Documents

in relation to the claims
of Com: Dant. Turner.

1850 June 10, Referred to the
Com: on Naval Affairs.
Sept 5 Dischd? & refd? to Com:
Foreign Relations.

5 Yulee Dis?
refd? to Foreign

W. Butler

Affidavit
of L. H. N. Harrison

This is to certify, that I Thompson
D. Shaw, Lieut. United States Navy, was
attached to the U. S. Ship. Constitution,
at the time that Captⁿ Dan Turner,
her Commander, received the Minister
of Brazil, He is Egy Duarte Deponta Rabeiro,
on board said ship at Callao in Peru, and
conveyed him to Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

That said Minister of my own knowledge
was furnished, from Captain Turners
private stores at said Captains expense,
and was well entertained on board by
Captain Turner as the said Minister
acknowledged on his arrival at the
Port of Rio de Janeiro.

Witness my hand

Philadelphia, May 24, 1850

T. D. Shaw

Lieut. U. S. Navy

Certificate
of L. J. D. Shaw

This is to certify that S. Thomas
Dillard, Surgeon, U.S. Navy, was attached
to the U.S. Ship Constitution, at the time
Capt^r Dan Turner, her Commander, receiv-
ed, his Excy. Duarte Deponter Rabeiro, the
Minister of Brazil, on board at Callao,
in Peru, and conveyed him to Rio de Janeiro.

That I believe said Minister was
entertained by and at the expense of
Captain Dan Turner.

Philadelphia, May 24, 1850.

Thomas Dillard.
"

Certificate
of Surge Thos Pellard

B. J. W.

This is a copy of the
 original, and is not to be
 used as a receipt for the
 same. The original is to be
 kept in the office of the
 Secretary of the Board of
 Health, and is to be
 produced to the Board of
 Health at the time of the
 annual meeting of the
 Board of Health, and is to
 be retained by the Board of
 Health until the next
 annual meeting of the
 Board of Health.

Thomas H. Hall
 "

12
 3
 3

This is to certify, that I, A. E.
Watson, Purser, U. S. Navy, was attached
to the U. S. Ship Haritan, at the time
that Com^d Dan Turner, received the
Hon^{ble} Mr. Prentiss, Lady & Secretary, on board
said ship at Rio de Janeiro, and conveyed
them to Montevideo, - That I believe
that said ^{Hon^{ble} Mr. Prentiss, Lady & Secretary,}
were ^{subsidized} supported during the passage
by Com^d Dan Turner and at said Com
modore's expense -

Philadelphia May 24, 1850,

A. E. Watson
Purser

Certificate
of Purer A. C. Watson

This is a copy of the
original of the letter
written by the
Hon. John Jay
to the Hon. John
Jay, dated
the 1st of
January, 1790.
The letter is
written in
the handwriting
of John Jay.

Philadelphia Jan. 1st 1790
J. Jay

Original of the letter
written by the
Hon. John Jay
to the Hon. John
Jay, dated
the 1st of
January, 1790.

Department of State,
Washington, 31st. January, 1851.

To the Honorable J. M. Mason,
of the Committee on Foreign Relations, Senate.
Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 28th. instant with the memorial of the widow of the late Commodore Turner and the other papers which accompanied it.

In reply, I have the honor to acquaint you, that I entirely concur in the opinion of the Committee "that the commanders of our public ships on Foreign Stations should not decline to offer their ships for the transportation of Ministers or other high officers of countries with which we entertain relations of amity, when circumstances render such facilities of peculiar value to them".

Acts of international courtesy like these, are sure to produce a beneficial effect upon the public interests, but as they are not embraced within the official duties of the naval commanders of the United States, and cannot be performed by them without trenching upon the compensation allowed them for

their professional services, it is just and expedient that Congress should by law sanction and provide for the expenses which they may occasion.

In answer to the inquiry of the Committee as to the class of cases which such a law should embrace, I would suggest,

1. When a diplomatic agent of a foreign government accredited to a government to which the United States may have such an agent accredited, may be about to return home, or to proceed to any other point, the United States' diplomatic agent may offer him a passage in a public vessel of the United States, provided, in the opinion of the officer commanding the vessel, or of the commander of the squadron to which the vessel may belong, the granting of such passage would not interfere with the execution of orders which such officer may have received from the Navy Department.

And if such passage shall be granted, the said commander shall be reimbursed for any expense which the same may occasion him, his account therefor to be adjusted by the proper officers of the Treasury.

2. The same, *mutatis mutandis*, where the person to be offered a passage is an officer of the government to which the United States

may have a diplomatic agent accredited.

3. — The same, *mutatis mutandis*, when in countries where the United States may not have a diplomatic agent, a Commander of a squadron, or of a vessel of the United States, may be applied to for, or may deem it expedient to offer, a passage to a diplomatic or other officer of any foreign government.

4. When the President may think proper to cause a passage to be offered to any diplomatic or other officer of a foreign government who may be proceeding from the United States to his own country or to any other part of the world.

At the request of diplomatic agents of the United States about to proceed to their destinations, they are sometimes provided with a passage in a public vessel, with the understanding, however, that the United States and the officer commanding the vessel are not to be charged with any expense which may thereby be occasioned. Perhaps it would not be advisable to make any other provision for this case until Congress shall think proper to alter or amend the laws regulating the compensation of diplomatic officers of the government.

It is presumed that the understanding referred to, was disregarded, in the instance of the passage given by Commodore Turner to

Mr. William Brent, Jr, Charge'd Affairs of the United States to Buenos Ayres. If this was the case, and if Mr. Brent did not defray his proportion of the mess bill and other expenses, the Commodore's representative ought to be reimbursed therefor.

The Commodore did not act under instructions from this Department when he incurred the expenses in visiting Buenos Ayres charged as the third item of the account, and we have no information in regard to the object or the results of that visit. On a previous occasion, however, when Commodore Morris visited Buenos Ayres for the purpose of carrying into effect instructions of this Department, the President, upon the recommendation of Mr. Calhoun, Secretary of State, directed that the expenses attending his sojourn in that City, should be allowed him.

I have the honor to return the documents which accompanied your letter, and to be,
with much regard,

Your obedient servant,

David Webster