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 (these 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 or 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; 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 in each case as she should desire.
desire and as may or would be, under different circumstances, requisite but however meager the evidence may be, the account against the Treasury hereinbefore presented, in the handwriting of his husband, and therefore every reliance can be placed upon its correctness, and the party 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 1842. On the first occasion at the instance and by request of our Chargé d’affaires at Lima, Mr. Pickett, the Brazilian Minister Duarte da Ponte Ribeiro, was received on board the U. S. Frigate Constitution and conveyed from Callao, Lima, 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 Chargé d’affaires at Montevideo, Mr. Breffet, 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-Artes upon an emergency to adjust the serious difficulties then existing, and brought about by Cap. Beachus 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 Chargé d’affaires for the Argentine Republic, Mr. Brent, and also his Lady and suite, on board the U. S. Frigate Harriet 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. Burns, who was Commodore Burns’ 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.}

Dedicated to My Lady
Attorneys for Petition.
Memorial

of

Catherine B. 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 vessel under his command, certain public functions of the United States and foreign countries while on foreign stations from 1841 to 1844.

1851. Dec. 10. Referred to
The Comm. on Foreign Relations.

Examined

26

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

The Memorial of Catharine D. 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 or 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 he is well acquainted with the fact that during the past year his husband contemplated to bring his claims for such disbursements before Congress and prove that it was his intention to give his personal attention to the prosecution of this matter, when on his way to Washington, among friends in Philadelphia, for a few weeks, 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 details in each case as she should desire; and as may, or would, be under different circumstances required; but however vague 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 the facts contained in the charge, that every charge stated, is founded in fact, and that every dollar, and a most likely much more, has actually been expended for the objects named.

The Claim consists of four several items of disbursements incurred in 1851 and 1854. On the first occasion at the instance and by request of the Charge de Affaires at Port, Mr. Pickett, the Charge de Affaires, Mr. de Castro Rebelo, 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 expense 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 the Charge de Affaires at Montevideo, Mr. Pickett, the said Minister was received on board the U.S. Ship Columbus and conveyed from Montevideo to Rio de Janeiro. The third item claims reimbursement of expenses incurred whilst called to Buenos Ayres upon an emergency, to adjust the serious difficulties then existing and brought about by Capt. Varnish of the Frigate Congress, who had captured the Argentine squadron, and otherwise interfered with the right of the Argentine Republic. The fourth and last item is for expenses incurred by receiving the Charge de Affaires for the Argentine Republic, Mr. Frent, and also his lady and suite, board the U.S. Frigate Constitution and conducting them from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo.

Copies of the official correspondence in relation to all these disbursements are hereby annexed, as also the affidavit of James J. towns, 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.

Washington, March 1, 1856

Comte, de Ségur.
Memorial

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

1850 March 9, Refused to
the Com. on Foreign
Relations.

1851 Dec'10, Refused to
the Com. on Foreign
Relations.

M. Hunter
NAVY DEPARTMENT,
September 23, 1848.

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

[Signature]
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

[Signature]
Secretary of the Navy.
At sea on board the U.S.S. Constitution, Oct. 13th, 1820

Sir,

At the request of Mr. Porter, the 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 of 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 great respect entertained by the Imperial Government towards the United States and the desire to increase it more and more.

I have the honor to be,

very respectfully,

[Signature]

[Address]

To the

[Address]

Lima, Apr. 27th, 1821

Dear Sir,

Mr. De Pente, 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 hint of trouble abroad. I hope you will be able to offer him a passage, and it is a compliment, which for a fixed seat. I think the name is Pente.

The news is this: Whilst I was negotiating with the Peruvian Government about the North American claim, he tells a decided interest in my success, to which he contributed, probably, for he was on particularly good terms with President D'Orleans, and spoke to him frequently about the claims, and my success.

If you can offer Mr. De Pente 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, as the offer is made.

With the highest respect,

[Signature]
W. U. Frigate "Constitution"
Boston, 25th April 1841

My Dear,

I have received your note of yesterday's date, requesting me to give Mr. Dr. Pinto, the Brazilian Charge, 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 cause Mr. Dr. Pinto 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 17th July. With great respect,

Yours, etc.,

J. C. Pickett, Esq.
H. S. Stearns, Comdr.

Sorria.

Sorria, April 24th, 1841.

My Dear,

I receive your note of yesterday and have written Mr. Dr. Pinto to take a passage in the Constitution. The Consul much wishes at his own expense, and desire me to assure you his thanks. I am still as before, and thank you very much likewise both for your offer of giving the passage also for the manner of your doing it.

(With truly respectful) Yours, etc.,

J. C. Pickett, Esq.
H. S. Stearns, Comdr.
NAVY DEPARTMENT,
January 23rd, 1849.

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

[Signature]

Robert 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 January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States.

[Signature]

Secretary of the Navy.
No. 108

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

The Hon.
Thomas W. Gilmer
Secretary of the Navy,

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose hereewith, a copy of a communication received from the Hon. George H. Probst, United States Minister at this Court, together with a translated copy of a dispatch he has received from His Excellency, Ernesto Ferreira Franca, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in compliance with an order of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Brazil. Don Quarte de Monte Neberio, is the same Brazilian Minister that I gave passage (free of expense) from Porto, to Rio de Janeiro, two and a half years since when in command of the Frigate Constitution.

I am very respectfully for
Your obedient servant

Signed, Dan Turner
Comt. 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 D. B. 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. Stroffit

Commodore Daniel Turner
Com. in Chief of the
U. States Naval Forces on the Brazil Station.
Translation.

The resident Minister of Brazil, near the Argentine Confederation, Duarte da Sante Alvear, having made known to the Imperial Government, the obliging attentions shown to him in Buenos Ayres, by Commodore Turner commanding the United States Naval Forces, and the warm and polite manner in which he received him at Monte Video, 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. Turner, the contents of this note, reviews the expression of his particular esteem and consideration.

Signed Ernesto Ferrera Fранca

To,

Mr. Proffit

Ye. Ye. Ye.
NAVY DEPARTMENT,
January 23rd 1849.

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

J.G. Mellen
Secretary of the Navy.
(Copy)

U.S. Navy Department
Washington, June 15, 1844.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to express to you the satisfaction of the Department at your conduct, on the occasion referred to in your letter, No. 105, this day received.

The correspondence in the case has been placed on file.

I am very truly,

Yours,

(Signed) J. N. Mason

Comm. Daniel Turner
Comm. U.S. Naval forces
on the Court of Brazil.
Hon. J. Fellasom.
Sec'y of the Navy

To
Comm. Daniel Turner

(D)
U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT,
January 23rd, 1849.

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

R. M. 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 eighty-third.

J. T. Nicolls
Secretary of the Navy.
(Copy)
Legation of the United States
Buenos Ayres, Nov. 9. 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 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, preserved intact, those of hostility, have been most signaly 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 Ob't. Sub.
(Signed) H. W. Hatterson

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

Buenos Ayres, Nov. 7, 1844.
35th year of Liberty, 29th of
Independence, & 15th of the
Argentina Confederation.
The Secretary of Foreign Relations of the
Government of Buenos Ayres, charged with
the correspondence of the Argentine Confederation, to the 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. Tyler has had the satisfaction to inform themselves of the sincere
benevolence and enlightened justice of Commodore Turner, since his arrival
at Monte Video and at this City, in his
exposing both to the undersigned as well
as the Commander in chief of the forces 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 interruption 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 Govt. of the U.S. with that of the Argentine Confederation may be drawn closer and with the view that other and greater sympathies may be created between the citizens of both Countries. The Govt. feels gratified to announce with enhanced interest such friendly demonstrations. And on manifesting to you their sincere sentiments, in which the undersigned entreat 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 Govt. accedes their cordial disposition to strengthen the relations of perfect intelligence.
that fortunately exist between H.E. the Env. of the United States and that of the Argentine Confederation.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) Felipe Arana.
To Mr. Watterson

To

Commodore Dan'l. Jones

(by enclosures)

[Signature]
U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT

January 23rd, 1849

I hereby certify that the annexed is a true copy
from the Records of 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 our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

nineteen, and of the Independence of the UNITED STATES, the

twenty-third.

J. T. Mason

Secretary of the Navy.

(Signed) J. T. Mason

Acting Secretary of the Navy.
(Copy)

U.S. Navy Department.
Washington, March 31, 1845.

Sir,

The Department has pleased with much satisfaction your letters No. 152 and No. 154, dated Nov. 15 and Nov. 26, reporting your proceedings consequent upon the act of Capt. Voorhees, of the frigate Congress, in taking possession of the Buenos Ayres squadron.

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

The Congress has arrived safely at Norfolk. Your instructions to Comman
der Rendeirgrast, of the Boston, and Lieut. Comm. Pennington, of the Bainbridge, copies of which accompanied your letter No. 159, are approved.

I am very respectfully,
Your Obdt. Servt.
(Signed) J.G. Maddox

Commo. Daniel Turner

Commodore, U.S. Naval Forces

on the Court of Brazil
Hon. J. M. Mason
Acting Sec'y of the NAVY

To
Commo. Daniel James

(E.)
To Daniel Tucker, a captain in U.S. Navy
For transportation of the Minister of the Emperor of Brazil from term in Peru to Rio de Janeiro in the blk Frigate Constitution
800.00
For transportation of Ministers of Empress of Brazil from Monte Video to Rio de Janeiro
For General cord in setting Buenor Aires in the year 1844 on board U.S. Ship
On the occasion of the capture of the Spanish squadron by Capt. J. C. Vanderbilt
300.00
For transporting Mr. Brent to the Navy de Florida for Buenor Aires during War, by order of Secretary of War
2,400.00
Commodore Turner
Account
against the United States.

(A.)
U.S. Navy Department
Washington, July 26, 1844.

Sir,

William Brent Jr. & Co. 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 W. 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 respectfully,

Yours,

[Signature]

Commodore
Daniel Turner
Commanding U.S. Naval forces
On the Coast of Brazil
Sey of the Navy
July 26, 1844.
Without a Sun
Passage to Delaware
(Or.)
District of Columbia
City and County of Washington

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 A. Fawne, of Savannah, Georgia, who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangel of Almighty God deposits and oath as follows: That he was Secretary to Commodore Daniel Turner, now deceased, and on board the U.S. Ship of the line "Columbus" for some time in May 1843, until October 1845, that he was on board said ship when his Excellency Duarte de Ponte Ribera and the Secretary of Legation of the Empire of Brazil were received on board at Montevideo and conducted to Rio Janeiro, and during the passage from Port to Port were entertained at the house 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 officers of their Squadron by Capt. Voorhees, and his officers interfering with their rights. The adjustments of this business caused Commodore Turner to be detained over one month at Buenos Ayres, which City Ships of War could not approach nearer than seven miles owing to the shallowness of the water. During that time also the weather was exceedingly tempestuous, blowing almost a constant gale, so that the high winds are called on the Río de 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 Parian, 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
Three Minutes and this suite, except the twenty sent pounds money of required; and that all the several Parties were supplied and maintained solely from the private store of Commodore Turner; that owing to the presence of large squadrons at that period of English, French, Danish, Joyntim, Swede, Portuguese, and Spanish Men of War, requiring all the supplies of provisions and stores they could obtain on the Coast. Food of any description became exceeding high in price at Pontaudo, and all along the Coast, so much so that Beef was 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 defendant 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 Pontaudo to Rio de Janeiro he heard said Minister make frequent mention of his having been conveyed by Commodore Turner, in the Frigate Constitution from Lima to Rio de Janeiro, that the Vessel experienced, for twenty eight days, severe gales off Cape Horn, that he was well sustained, and felt under obligation to Commodore Turner, for his succeeding kind attentions during the whole of that passage.

And defendant avers and declares, finally, that Commodore Turner, about the end of September last, named to him, defendant, 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 expences if that could be made possible. And further, defendant saith not.

Subscribed to before me.

[Handwritten Signature]

[Handwritten Signature]
Affidavit
of
James A. Fauno.

H
This is to certify that I, Horace W. Harison, U.S. Navy, was attached to the United States Ship Columbus, off Montevideo, at the time that His Excellency Don Dutra Deports Rabecira, Minister of Brazil, was received on board said ship and conveyed to Rio de Janeiro, and I know that said Minister very soon came on board notwithstanding all supplies of provisions which supplies I believe were supplied by Cmrs. Dav Turner out of his own private store, at the time it was very difficult to procure any provisions at Montevideo, the presence of the large naval squadron of all nations on the coast requiring all the supplies that could be obtained.

Horace W. Harison
First Lieut., Navy

District of Columbia
Washington County  Oct. 12, 1857. On this twentieth day of May 1857, before the subscriber, a Justice of the peace, in and for said County, personally appeared the above named Horace W. Harison, and the State made oath on the Holy Word of Almighty God that the statement above referred to is true, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sworn and subscribed before me,

D.R. Morello J.P.
31st Cong.  2d Sess. 3

Additional Documents

in relation to the claim of Capt. Dan'l. Turner.

1823 June 10, referred to the Com. on Naval Affairs.


Yours for

P. To Foreign

M. Rutten
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 Capt. Dan Turner, her Commander, received the Minister of Brazil, His Exqy. Gruarte Deporta, Rabine, 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 Capt. Turner’s private stores at said Captains expense, and was well entertained on board by Capt. Turner as the said Minister acknowledged on his arrival at the Port of Rio de Janeiro.

Witny my hand,

Philadelphia, May 24, 1850

[Signature]

List of May
Certificate
of D. S. D. Shaw
This is to certify that A. Thomas Dillard, Surgeon, U.S. Navy, was attached to the U.S. Ship Constitution, at the time Capt. Dan. Turner, her Commander, received His Highness Duarte Deus da Rabois, the Minister of Brazil, on board at Callao, in Peru, and conveyed him to Rio Janeiro. That I believe said Minister was entertained by and at the expense of Captain Dan. Turner.

Philadelphia, May 24, 1850.

Thomas Dillard.

ll
Certificate
of Surg' Thos. Dillard.
This is to certify that I, E. C. Watson, Purser, U.S. Navy, was attached to the U.S. Ship Harriet, at the time that Cdr. Dan Turner, received the Hon. Mr. Bucy Jr., Lady Secretary, on board said ship at Rio de Janeiro, and conveyed them to Montevideo. That I believe that said Hon. Mr. Bucy Jr. Lady Secretary, were assassinated during the passage by Cdr. Dan Turner and at said Commodore's request.

Philadelphia, May 24, 1854

E. C. Watson
Purser
Department of State,
Washington, 11th January, 1851.

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

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 provide for the expense 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 thereof to be adjusted by the proper officers of the Treasury.

2. The same, namely, a commander, 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, namely, in cases 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 to whom the United States 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 destination, 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 expenses 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 proposed that the understanding referred to was disregarded, in the instance of the passage given by Commodore Turner to
Mr. William Brent, Jr., Charge d'Affaires 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 reim-
burdened 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