

Capt. de Smythley Carta  
P. el runta. Brasil

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Montevideo July 29. 1827

Don Luis Smith



Sir

Yours of the 24 is before me & in answer to your request concerning your property at the Islands, I know but little about but Mr. Smith told me that all the property that he found here on his arrival he had taken care of for you and also the bullets that he killed he was to deliver to you for he said he had a number of seal skins which I see some time ago. that was there when Capt Brisbane was a live. There was no word of any kind sent to you by any one, for no one knew that I was coming here, and I sailed from the West Salt Islands, the horses is in good order, but I cannot say how many there is and so is the buildings. Sir. If you wish me to bring the things that belong to you over, I must have some thing to show Mr. Smith or he might not deliver them to me and I am not that. I will come here, but if there was enough to make it worth while I might take them in fruit and if I can make a bargain with your friend Fisher. Sir. As for your letters I know not whether they have reached or not, I am going to the Islands and I will write you the particular from there and also one more from

here, you will please to excuse this as time will not  
permit any explanation

Your obed<sup>t</sup> servant W. H. Smyley  
Schooner "Sailors return"  
of the Port. R. I.

Montevideo Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 1838

M<sup>r</sup> Vernet

Sir

I received yours this moment and sit down to  
write you immediately. I left the Falklands on the  
4<sup>th</sup> of this month Before I left the boat crew that  
formerly belonged to M<sup>r</sup> Smith came on board of me  
and bought some clothes they told me that the Admi-  
ral had wrote to Mr Smith that he was agent for the  
British Government & not for M<sup>r</sup> Vernet but I un-  
derstood from Mr Smith himself that all that was  
taken either seal or hides was credited to you.

There is been a great many cattle killed and the  
beef sold by himself and his son now his son does  
all the trading that is done on the Island.

Sir - as I have not been at the settlement  
lately I cannot say what amount of property they have  
at present & for the hides that is salted they will  
not spoil or get worn - in ten years I shall  
think the same.

M<sup>r</sup> Smith's son acted as your agent when he  
came there first & I cannot say but he does yet but Mr  
Smith is to be called home in 2 or 3 months from this  
and a Lieutenant by the name of Gou is to take

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his case so I would advise you to see into your af-  
fairs as soon as possible. Sir I may come to Buenos  
Aires with the Schooner and may not if I should  
come there perhaps I might take one or two passen-  
gers but it is uncertain yet as I have shipped but  
half my cargo and so if I should go back I would  
be forced to take it with me as for the vessel she  
is the best that ever was sent on this kind of a  
voyage she is fit for any business being one of the  
fastest sailers in the United States if you should  
go to the Islands yourself you might get all from  
Mr Smith but I do not think he would deliver to  
any one else the half of what he would. To you I am  
not on very good terms with him for he is one that  
enjoys every one that he thinks is doing well. Sir I  
wish you well and would be glad if you had charge  
To morrow if anything that I can do for you I will  
do it with pleasure. Mr Smith has had chances eno-  
ugh to write to you if he choosed but I think he wo-  
uld rather not see you as he expects to be called home  
shortly so the quicker you see into it the better. Sir I hope  
you will excuse as I have done it in great haste for fear  
I would not have a chance before the packet sails for  
I am busy and can scarcely find time to write this  
which you will see that it is begun on the wrong  
side of the paper



Yours with respect

W. H. Smyth

London March 27<sup>th</sup> 1738

M<sup>r</sup> Perrot

Sir

Your of the 17<sup>th</sup> is before me and as I am to be  
to morrow for the coast of Patagonia I take this oppor-  
tunity of writing to you as I have neglected speaking  
or answering your question about the hides which I  
intended to answer before, but being in great haste when  
I wrote it I must forget it however I never see any  
skins of any kind there I know called skins will  
not yet beart nor do I think that dried ones will  
either. Sir I am sorry I tis not in my power to  
assist you in getting your property but if I should sell  
my cargo here or shipped it home I should have went  
a gain to the Islands and would have tatter you  
there with pleasure I will not go far then than new  
bay on Patagonia & then home I expect to be home  
in about 80 days for I will not stop more than 5 day  
there so if you cannot get a chance before I come  
this way again which will be in about 6 months  
from this I would stop for you that is If you should  
write to me at New port Rhode Islands direct the  
letter to the care Mr: Nathaniel & Ruggles of New port.  
Sir I suppose you would like to here of the men that  
was at the Falkland Capt Conger is dead he died  
in Jamming harbour last voyage in the Ship Albany  
Capt Davidson is second mate of a ship, Capt Carends  
has took just seven hundred barrels of oil and  
more stay up in two agreement call June he came  
or home in out and I have received news of us

another, you is now four years since at  
 Southlands since you left and when I took the vessel  
 shall to port Louis. Instead of Mr. Ternet receiving  
 them, as ships wretched mariners, he received them like  
 dogs. It being night when we got to the settlement &  
 raining hard he neither gave them a place to sleep  
 or afford them any thing to eat - but accused he me and  
 blamed me for having brought them there so I was obliged  
 to go and haul a vessel, that lay in the harbour to get  
 bedding and supper for them the next day when I  
 went to him I gave him a piece of my mind for his  
 brutish conduct he then order me out of his house which  
 I would not for I told him that the house was not his  
 & considered him and his government had no right to  
 it. . . Shortly after a man of war came in and he  
 had me called on board of her for I told him I had  
 shot 2 bullocks which he demanded pay for I then asked  
 him who get this money? he said Mr. Ternet will said  
 I if Mr. Ternet gets it, I will pay, but not until I see  
 him get some thing from you, if you are to get payd from  
 me Mr. Ternet will never see one cent of it. I told him

I also that I would advertise him when I got home  
 in the papers as a drunken, mean & disagreeable man.  
 He spoke of you, I then told him that he was not  
 fit to wipe the shoe on your feet.

This is what I told before the company, as near as I  
 can recollect. When Mr. V. was here, if a man came  
 him in distress he was assisted if sick he was  
 taken care of, and not turned out in the rain  
 in the night, to look for bedding and food after



death. So you may see by this. We was not on  
any good terms when I left. Six I hope you will  
excuse me for not enquiring about Mr<sup>s</sup> Vernet in  
my last; but it was done in haste & also your sons  
& Males & the rest of the children; when I was here  
last. I enquired of Mr<sup>s</sup> how Mr<sup>s</sup> V. was. Mr<sup>s</sup>  
Burrows has had to run from New-York for some of  
his good deeds & Debts I have been told, and I expect  
his respect has been scolded in this by one that I have  
seen twice, however I am not certain of it.

Respectfully your  
W. H. Smyler

Mont Vide March 24<sup>th</sup> 1838

Mr<sup>s</sup> Lewis Vernet

Sir

I arrived here some days ago had to put back  
in distress and on examining the bottom I found  
the vacuum out of one of her seams but nothing else of  
consequence. To day I had the pleasure of reading some of  
your pamphlet and can say for what I have read is  
that of correct which I told Mr Saluck to day but  
some other people who call them selves gentlemen who  
will speak to me about you saying that it was a  
of perjury and commenced telling me about Mr<sup>s</sup> Burrows  
concern thinking me ignorant of the affair but I soon  
wound him up the man I speak of is Mr<sup>s</sup> Hamilton of  
this place some days ago I had some dispute with Mr<sup>s</sup>  
Wood the english consul about a thermometer that I  
found at the South Shetlands belonging to Admiralty.

and said he would seize the vessel and had sent word to the Falkland to seize me this is a beginning after they saying what they have about you. The thermometer stuck in shore and left it at the Hamiltons by him promising me solemnly before his family that he would not deliver it to any one without my consent but on the following day he took it and gave it to Mr Hood. When I met him I told him what I thought of him I told him he was more of a gentleman than his favourite companion Mr SO Burrows & he was a flag and I a scoundrel to my knowledge now Sir this Mr Hamilton in my opinion is no friend to you no more than he is to me & I have good reasons for saying so & if you have any correspondance with him tell him so for me.



Sir I would like to hear from you and know wheather you have had any promise of getting your own from the Falklands of the Ketsch that was here some days ago please to let me know for I feel interested about it. There is scarce a day goes over head but I have some dispute or another about the Islands with the English if they say any thing to you about taking any vessel tell them you have not recollidene individual of his shallop as they have done me without judge or jury. Whilst it was gone to the Shottlands last year the ship Hogueton was at the Falklands and tore the shallop up & took the salt that I had left there. They blame you for stopping the sealers but see how soon they have taken the same rout or not the same for it

is a gradual work & is growing so every day  
now we are for bid to feed whale or to kill Eli-  
phant I will soon be prohibited of going there at  
all & for the Hunt that is there he is a drunken  
proud Caroten man

Sir I think you will say when you read this  
that I'm very often in my mind & opinion but what  
I say I mean & will stand to however you will please  
to excuse the rough way & manner in which way  
I have wrote. When Mr. Patrick the U. S. Consul  
returns please to send a letter him and let me know  
how you are like wife Mr. V & the Children and  
if I can be of any assistance to you or the family  
please to let me know & you will oblige your sincere  
friend

W. H. Smyley

I certify, that I have carefully compar-  
ed the four foregoing letters from W. H. Smyley  
to Louis Vernet and that they are correctly co-  
pied from the originals, which are in the hand  
writing of the said Smyley, whose writing is well  
known to me. Under my hand this 10 day  
of May 1851

W. A. Harris