

Copy

Buenos Ayres 22nd December 1834

165 16



To the commander in chief of H. B. M. Naval forces on the South American station

86

San Juan de los Rios
San Juan de los Rios
San Juan de los Rios
4th Dec

I beg leave to refer to the letter I had the honor to address you on the 20th instants, enclosing copies of various papers sent to the late Admiral de Rio de Janeiro, Sr. Michel Peyroux, and of a letter addressed to H. Smith Esq. Governor of the Falkland Islands. You will observe therein that urgent attention had prevented us from attending personally to my commercial affairs at Port Louis, that I therefore had sent thither Mr. Matthew Brisbane and several assistants, who having been unfortunately murdered, my affairs were again thrown into total confusion.

You will further observe that if a certain management is not adopted at the settlement, then the yet existing elements necessary for the immediate good success of future settlements and for the present comfort of the garrison and of H. B. M. Shipping, will soon be lost; to avoid this was the object of the letter to Lieut. Smith, which being explicit, might in some measure supply the want of experience in such matters, to enable that gentleman to preserve those elements until I may have it in my power to return there and re-establish my affairs on their former footing, especially that part which is ^{immediately} useful to H. B. M. service, the domestication of cattle in order to supply the garrison and H. B. M. Shipping bound round Cape Horn, with good salt or fresh provisions, as also for furnishing all new Colonists with cows for dairies, oxen and native horses for tillage &c. But those elements, I mean the old well trained horses and the remaining experienced gauchos, though of the utmost importance until a sufficient number of new horses and gauchos can be sent thither, and be trained by the former, yet they are too few and too old to be serviceable much longer, so that if this summer is lost they may become useless altogether, and the training

of new ones will then be attended with the greatest difficulties, and with the loss of years of time, during which it will not be possible to have any command over the wild cattle, and consequently H. M. Shipping and Garrison will not get that desirable supply of fresh meat and go on but very poorly for a number of years, when the settlers cannot be supplied with what they most want, the cattle. All these are facts which I could fully demonstrate were I not fearful of intruding too much on your time already.

+ Claims against
H. M. S. Government

I have long felt the necessity of reestablishing that important branch of business on the Cash, Falkland Island, but the ruin of my affairs left me without the necessary resources to do so. In vain I have waited till now for the satisfaction of my claims; which claims, were they paid, I would suppose abundantly means, but it will not do to wish, any longer, I must seek assistance elsewhere.

Under these circumstances, and being persuaded that you will feel an interest, in the object in contemplation, particularly in as far as the public good is therein concerned, and presuming those Islands to be under your special care, I take the liberty of making you the following proposals:

If the Governor at Port Louis requires for the service of H. M. some of the houses which I built, there he is and has been welcome to the use of them, and I am also willing to sell any number of them, which may be required at a fair valuation. The enclosed plan of the inner harbour of Port Louis may serve to give some idea of the houses, of which No 1 is by far the best, of the other houses I do not recollect well their sizes.

Further, I engaged to supply the garrison and H. B. M. Shipping with beef at the rate of ten Spanish dollars per bullock, on the account of such sale of buildings, and supplies to said garrison and



July 18

Shipping, I would wish to receive an advance of 2000 £ Ster.
being expressly to be applied to the objects aforesaid
If at any time H. M. Service should require the construc-
tion of other buildings, it is to have no further use for mine,
then I engage to take them back again also at a fair valua-
=ation

I further beg leave to observe that the most favorable
time for shipping horses is during the summer months, where-
=fore I shall be very thankful if you will honor me with
an answer per first opportunity under cover of the British
Consulate at Buenos Ayres

I have the honor to be with the greatest regard

Sir

Your most obed^t serv^t

(Signed)

Lewis Verueh

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Received of
D. H. G. & Co. \$100.00
To the order of D. H. G. & Co.



Buenos Ayres 22 Dec 1834

258

To the Commander in Chief of H. B. U. S. naval forces on the South American Station

Sir,

I beg leave to refer to the letter I had the honour to address you on the 2^d inst^t, enclosing copies of my letter of 2^d July to the late Sir Richard Seymour with seven documents regarding ~~several~~^{various} questions which had been made upon my property at the Settlement at the Malvinas Islands by private individuals after said Islands were placed under the British flag, & asking said property might be protected from further ruin —

You will observe in said letter that urgent attentions had prevented me from attending personally to my commercial affairs at Port Louis, that I therefore had sent thither Mr Matthew Brisbane and several assistants, who having been assassinated, my affairs were again thrown into total confusion. —

You will further observe that the preservation and fomentation of the branch of business which I have followed of domesticating the wild cattle is a business of public utility to the Islands, in whatever way the ~~question~~^{question} pending question of sovereignty between the B. S. U. S. & British Government may be terminated, and also at all events a business of public utility to trade in general round Cape Horn, but the ruin of my affairs has left me without the necessary resources to continue the same. Under these circumstances, and considering

myself entitled to an indemnification for said
business having been destroyed ^{since} ~~when~~ the Island
~~was~~ are under H. B. M's Flag, which I shall
claim in due time, ^{upon H. B. M's part} and considering ~~that there~~
~~that some of my horses~~ ^{are} ~~now~~ occupied by men under
your Command, which I will sell you
are necessary to them while on the
Island, ~~and that their value exceed two~~
thousand pound Sterling, I propose selling
you ^{these business} ~~your~~ horses at a fair valuation, on
your advancing me now two thousand
pound Sterling on account ^{thereof} with which
I shall reestablish & foment said Cattle
business; and in case the negotiation
regarding the sovereignty of the Island
should be ~~decided~~ terminate in favor of
the Gov^t of Queen's Ayres then such horses
to be returned me immediately ~~and~~
~~repaying returning~~ and I shall ~~drop~~ ^{drop} their
value ^{again} according to what they may be
worth ^{also} ~~then~~ by a fair valuation - ~~and if the~~
~~business~~

I must yet remark that the summer
season being the most proper for the transportation
of horses, necessary for the reestablishing the Cattle
business, I would be much obliged to you to
honor me with an answer for first opportunity

I have the honour to be

Sir, your most Obed
humble servant

Postscript of August 22 Dec 1834 760



Dear Sir

The British Alliance

I have had some conversation with Mr. Hamilton
~~and he has been very kind and was much pleased with~~
~~meeting the views that are put forth which is~~
~~the object of his~~, which is a ~~very~~
~~characteristic of the great men he has given you~~
~~satisfaction here and may well be~~
~~of a worthy representative of his~~
~~a great Sovereign~~ ^{Disposition of the} ~~and I~~
~~did not hesitate to speak with candour~~ ~~and to inform~~
~~him of the steps I had hitherto taken~~
~~regarding the completion of my grants~~ ~~that of~~
~~my feelings, fully unfolded, I showed Mr~~
~~St a copy of it, with some marginal~~
~~remarks to explain the better such subjects which~~
~~is right to be generally understood, this will~~
~~understand by you or not of the~~
~~verbal communications we formerly had~~ ~~could not~~
~~be generally understood by others.~~ ~~was then~~
~~spoke in plain terms of your~~
~~observed to me that I had not have applied~~
~~to a better person~~ ~~had however~~
~~only confirmed the opinion I had~~ ~~expressed~~
~~of thinking no man in England that paper~~
~~possessed a knowledge of this country and people~~
~~than you do - It is therefore very natural to~~
~~suppose that you will be much consulted by~~
~~you on many matters relating to~~ ~~South America~~
~~and whether~~ ~~you will be~~

~~some friend of yours, or some of the~~
~~the letters of the late Mr. [?]~~
~~Mr. [?] of [?]~~
I request you to send him a copy of the letter to you, which I did [?]
enclose copies and contents in packet [?] the explanation [?] [?]
this form more intelligible in case [?] [?] [?]

from the Falkland Islands association comes
on, Mr. Whittington who obtained for Capt. [?]
a transfer of a Document about regarding colonial
tion (such as I showed you ^{one on 28th}) wrote me
some time ago requesting me to confirm the same
on him ~~of [?]~~ without ^{me} limit as to time,
which I did for your packets but have received no
further letters of him. ~~his opinion~~ is rather surpris-
ing to me ^{the hope being} ~~he has~~ begun his
correspondence with ^{remarks of} ~~the~~ ^{of having}
giving me ^{very great hopes} ~~however~~ ^{of}

received a letter of Whittington at ^{Monday} ~~Monday~~
Director of that projected association ^{stating} ~~stating~~
strong voice ^{had the figure of} ~~had the figure of~~
me ^{but which says nothing about [?]} ~~but which says nothing about [?]~~
Document ~~contained~~ contained several authori-
sations of me respecting general laws
to settlers and selling ^{land} ~~land to companies -
^{Mr. [?] wishes to see what is intended to be done [?]} ~~Mr. [?] wishes to see what is intended to be done [?]~~
^{to know what [?]} ~~to know what [?]~~ ^{such favorable opinion [?]} ~~such favorable opinion [?]~~~~

~~often~~ have the good news to do so under
Cover to the British consulate -
Happy Mr. [?] will be of any service
to you in point of any kind of information
civil or political you may command one of
them while I remain with you at regard
Dear your most obedt