

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

COMMUNICATING,

In compliance with a Senate resolution of December 20, 1871, a statement in relation to the expenses of vessels on the coast of San Domingo.

MARCH 25, 1872.—Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 22, 1872.

SIR: In answer to the resolution of the Senate, adopted on the 20th of December last, directing the Secretary of the Navy—

To communicate to the Senate an account of the expenditures incurred in the support and navigation of the several ships already reported to the Senate by the Secretary as employed on the coast of San Domingo, since the beginning of negotiations for the acquisition of part of that island, setting forth the expenditures on account of each ship, and the sum total taken from the annual naval appropriations on account of all these ships; and that the Secretary also report to the Senate how much, if any, such expenditures are greater than would have been incurred had such ships been in service elsewhere; and also how many vessels are usually in service in the waters adjacent to the West Indies—

I have the honor to submit herewith two reports, one from the Chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, and the other from the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, dated respectively the 19th and 18th instant, embracing most of the information called for by the Senate.

This information, depending, as it does largely, on the return and settlement of the accounts of the paymasters of the various vessels, which are made at long intervals, could not be furnished earlier, and is now only approximate, though it is believed, however, to be nearly accurate.

The expenses are no greater than if the same ships had been in service elsewhere in the West Indies, and somewhat less than if they had been employed on some of the other stations.

The vessels in the waters adjacent to the West Indies are usually nine or ten in number.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. M. ROBESON,
Secretary of the Navy.

Hon. SCHUYLER COLFAX,

Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING,
Washington, March 19, 1872.

SIR: In compliance with your directions, I have collected and submit herewith the accompanying statement of "the expenditures incurred in the support and navigation of the several ships already reported to the Senate by the Secretary of the Navy as employed on the coast of San Domingo, since the beginning of negotiations for the acquisition of part of that island, setting forth the expenditures on account of each ship, and the sum total taken from the annual naval appropriation on account of all these ships." This statement is of course an approximate one, but is as nearly exact as it has been found possible to make it.

These expenditures are no greater than would have been incurred had such ships been in service elsewhere upon the West India station.

From six to ten vessels are usually on service in the waters adjacent to the West Indies.

Expenditure on account United States steamer Severn, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	\$53,961 73
Expenditure on account United States steamer Congress, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	64,688 45
Expenditure on account United States steamer Nantasket, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	130,596 75
Expenditure on account United States steamer Swatara, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	66,595 40
Expenditure on account United States steamer Yantic, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	49,576 60
Expenditure on account United States steamer Dictator, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	15,073 60
Expenditure on account United States steamer Albany, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	12,787 30
Expenditure on account United States steamer Seminole, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	16,136 70
Expenditure on account United States steamer Tennessee, from November, 1869, to December 20, 1871	64,215 40
Total	<u>473,611 93</u>

The Saugus, Terror, and Nipsic did not visit San Domingo during this period. Sum total taken from annual naval appropriations, on account of all these ships, \$473,611 93.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. REYNOLDS,
Chief of Bureau.

Hon. GEO. M. ROBESON,
Secretary of the Navy.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION, NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 18, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of expenditures under this Bureau, on account of vessels employed on service at the island of San Domingo, from November 15, 1869, to December 20, 1871.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAN'L AMMEN,
Chief of Bureau.

Hon. GEO. M. ROBESON,
Secretary of the Navy.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION.

Statement of expenditures under the Bureau of Navigation, on account of vessels employed on service at the island of San Domingo, from November 15, 1869, to December 20, 1871.

Name of vessel.	Rate.	Number of days employed.	Cost of service.
Nantasket.....	Third.....	584	\$4,865
Congress.....	Second.....	168	1,706
Swatara.....	Third.....	450	3,749
Yantic.....	Third.....	287	2,381
Dictator.....	Second.....	83	833
Albany.....	Second.....	38	386
Seminole.....	Fourth.....	39	254
Tennessee.....	Second.....	104	1,055
Shawmut.....	Third.....	110	916
Severn.....	Second.....	85	863
Total.....			17,008

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