**George Fisher Papers, Dolph Briscoe Center For American History, Box 2.325/V36**

**Samuel May Williams Collection, Manuscript 23-0466**

**Transcription (Spanish) and Translation (English)**

**by Chris Kneupper, Gregg Dimmick, begun 12-Mar-2020**

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* *italics added by transcribers*

**Port of Galveston Report, Jun-1830**

**(not really a report - appears to be two letters from Fisher to Samuel May Williams and Thomas Barnett, and their replies, dated 5- through 10-Jun-1830)**

Copia de su original que obra en el archivo de esta Aduana á que me remito y lo que certifico

Matamoros á 6 de Nov. de 1830

Jorge Fisher

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ADUANA MARITIMA

DE

GALVEZTON

Aduana maritima de Galvezton N. 2. = Por las muchas atenciones de esta Admõn. (*Administracion*), vigilando sobre una costa extensa, desde la Bahia de Sabinas hasta la, de Matagorda y su algun p.a (*para*) sus operaciones mecanicas que los de su Admõn (*Administracion*) no ha ponida hasta ahora esa \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ un informe ni a las autonidades de la federacion ni a las de este estado en avisar la entrada en este Puerto de la Goleta Cañon procedente de Nueva Orleans con pasageros y efectos por consume de esta Colonia, y con ciento sesenta y dos Balones, con otros tantos quintales de Tab. (*Tabaco*) en rama, p.a (*para*) el Comercio. Contrabando los que embargo en Virtud de la ley de Comiso. y caneciendo todavia esta Aduana de \_\_\_\_\_ las utles y pertenencias de sus \_\_\_\_\_ y hallandose sin los instrucciones necesarias del Supr.o Gob.no (*Supremo Gobierno*) que la gusara en semejantes Casos, suplico a V. (*Usted*) se sirva instruir me se el Tabaco de comisaso corre por cuenta del Gob.no (*Gobierno*) de este Estado ό de la federacion, y de lo que ha de practicarse con el, por carecer esta Admon (*Administración*) de la ley No. 28 expedida por el Hon. Congreso de este estado con fecha de 2. de Nov. de 1827 que trata sobre la materia. Lo que comunica á V. p.a su conocimt.o (*conocimiento*) y efectos correspondientes, el la inteligencia que con la Vuelta de Correo se servirá V. comunicarme lo que ha de practicarse; entre tanto he conseguedo una bodega segura p.a (*para*) almazenar (*almacenar*) lo, por no tener esta Aduana fabricas propias p.a (*para*) este efecto. = Dios y Libertad Brazoria y Junio 5 de 1830. = Jorge Fisher = Sor. Comisario Subalterno de Austin = Admõn (Administracion) de Tabacos de Austin.

En contestacion al oficio de V. ....

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.... fcha (*fecha*) 5. del que nos rige, en que se ha servido comunicar la llegada de la Goleta Cañon procedente de Orleans, trayendo á su bordo ciento sesenta y dos balones de Tabaco en rama, tengo que decir, Que haviendo (*habiendo*) el Supr.o Gob.no (*Supremo Gobierno*) de la Federacion cedido á este Estado las rentas de Tabaco Polvόra y Papel sellado, El honorable Congreso de este Estado por decreto No. 28. fcha (*fecha*) 2 de Nov. de 1827 tiene arreglado el modo de proceder con el Tabaco que se aprenda por la cual se deja ver que el 25. por asisto de dros. (*derechos)* segun la puerta de comidos corre á favor del Estado, y que se ha de practicar el decomiso segun prevenido por la ley de comisos fcha (*fecha*) 4 de Fbre. de 1823. Para su informacion, y suplir la falta que V. (*Usted*) dice tiene esa Admõn (*Administracion*) de Cargo de V. (*Usted*) traslado á V. (*Usted*) copia autorizada del Estado decreto No. 28. = Dios y La Ley. Villa de Austin a 10 de Junio de 1830. = Samuel M. Williams = Sor. Admõr (*Administrador*) de la Aduana Maritima de Galvezton

No. 4 = Haviendo entrada en este Rio de Brazos la Goleta Cañon se Capitan Eduardo L. Pettit procedente de Nueva Orleans, con pasageros y efectos p.a (*para*) continco de esta Colonia, y haviendo, esta Admõr (*Administrador*) examinado su manifiesto y cotejando los fardos y pacas con el; encontro ciento sesenta y dos fardos mercancias cuyo contenido no era especificado segun el Art.o (*Articulo*) del 8. arancel vigente, desde luego procediό á su examinacion, y hallando el contenido de los fardos marcados K. cien Balones, S. treintas idem, y PD.McN treinta y dos idem ser Tabaco en rama, p.a (*para*) el comercio contrabando y fraudulente desde luego los embargo y depo ....

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... sito, en un almazen (*almacen*) seguro, por no tener esta Aduana fabrica p.a (*para*) este efecto, segun el Art.o (*Articulo*) 4.o de la ley de Comiso No. 126 del 4.o de Fbre. de 1823. En esta inteligencia suplico á V. (Usted) se sirva pasar á esta Villa y declarer el comiso de los indicados 162 fardos, con otros tantos quintales de Tabaco segun previene la ley sobre la materia. = Dios y Libertad. Brazoria y Junio 7 de 1830. = Jorge Fisher. = Sor. Alcalde constiticional de Austin. = Jurisdiccion de Austin

No. 3 Acuse recibo del oficio de V. (*Usted*) fcha (*fecha*) 7 del q.e (*que*) nos rige en Brazoria, en que me comunica la entrada de la Goleta Cañon, en este Rio de Brazos procedente de Nueva Orleans, con sin cargam.to (*cargamento*) misto p.a (*para*) el consumo de esta Colonia, entre cuyo cargame.to (*cargamento*) se encontraron ciento sesenta y dos fardos de Tabaco en rama, introducidos p.a (*para*) comercio contrabando cuya Cantidad de Tabaco se deposito en una bodega segura, segun el Art.o (*Articulo*) el 4. de la ley de Comiso No. 126 de 4. Sept. 1823. Suplicandome que pase a esa Villa, y declar el comiso de los indicados ciento y sesenta y dos fardos, con otros tantos quintales de Tabaco en rama, segun previene la ley sobre la materia. En cuya contestacion tengo que decir, que por las recargadas ocupaciones de este juzgado y mi quebrantada Salud no puedo emprender la marcha p.a (*para*) esa Villa desde luego, mas luego que las circunstancias se varias, pasare sin perdida de momento p.a (para) cumplir, en virtud de la ley con lo que me pide. = Dios y Libertad. Villa de Austin y 10 de Junio de 1830. = Tho.s Barnett. = Sor. Admõr de la Aduana de Galvezton.

Eo.

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Copy of the original that exists in the file of this Customs office to which I refer and that I certify

         Matamoros on Nov. 6, 1830

George Fisher

MARITIME CUSTOMS

               OF

      GALVESTON

Galveston Maritime Customs Office N. 2. = For the many attentions of this Administration, watching over an extensive coast, from the Sabine Bay to that of Matagorda Bay and its some for its mechanical operations that those of its Administration have not put up to now that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a report neither to the authorities of the federation nor to those of this state to warn the entry into this Port of the schooner **Cañon** from New Orleans with passengers and goods for the consumption through of this colony, and with one hundred and sixty-two Bales, with as many quintals of raw Tabaco, for contraband trade. This administration seized them under the Law of Confiscation, and still clearing this Customs office of \_\_\_\_\_ the useful belongings of their \_\_\_\_\_ and finding themselves without the necessary instructions from the Supreme Government would like in such cases, I beg you to serve to instruct me if the confiscated Tobacco runs through the account of the Government of this State or of the federation, and what is to be done with it, as this Admon (*Administration*) lacks (*a copy of*) the Law No. 28 issued by the Honorable Congress of this state dated Nov. 2, 1827, which deals with the matter. I communicate this to Your Lordship for your knowledge and corresponding effects, with the intelligence that in the return mail you will serve to communicate to me what has to be done. In the meantime, I have gotten a secure warehouse to store it as this Customs office does not have its own buildings for this purpose.

God and Liberty Brazoria and June 5, 1830. = George Fisher

*To:* Sir Vice Commissioner of San Felipe de Austin.

Tobacco Administration of San Felipe de Austin.

In reply to your official letter dated the 5th of the current month, in which you have served to communicate the arrival of the schooner **Cañon** from (*New*) Orleans, carrying on board one hundred and sixty-two raw tobacco bales, I have to say, that having the Supreme Government of the Federation has ceded to this State the income of Powder, Tobacco and sealed Paper. The honorable Congress of this State by decree No. 28. dated November 2, 1827 has arranged the way to proceed with the Tobacco that is learned by which it is seen that on the 25th, by the assumption of rights, according to the known points, it is in favor of the State, and that the confiscation must be carried out as provided by the confiscation law dated February 4, 1823. For your information, and to supply the lack that You say that Administration of Charge of You has transferred to You. (*We are sending*) an authorized copy of the cited decree No. 28. = God and the Law. Villa de Austin to June 10, 1830. = Samuel M. Williams *To:* Sir Administrator of Maritime Customs of Galveston

No. 4

Entering into this Brazos River the Schooner **Cañon** Captain Eduardo L. Pettit from New Orleans, with passengers and effects for the consumption of this Colony, and having, this Administrator having examined his manifest and comparing the bales and bundles with it; He found one hundred and sixty-two bales of merchandise whose content was not specified according to Article 8 of the current tariff, of course he proceeded to its examination, and found the content of the bales marked K. one hundred Bales, S. thirty idem, and PD.McN thirty-two idem are raw Tobacco, for the contraband and fraudulent trade. Of course, I seized them and deposited them, in a safe warehouse, as this Customs has no building for this purpose, according to Article 4 of the Law of Confiscation No. 126 of the 4th of February of 1823. Knowing this, I beg you to come to this town and declare the confiscation of the indicated 162 bundles, with as many quintals of Tobacco according to the law on the matter. = God and Liberty. Brazoria and June 7, 1830. = George Fisher.

*To:* Sir Alcalde of San Felipe de Austin.

Austin Jurisdiction No. 3 I acknowledge receipt of your official letter dated 7th of which directed to us in Brazoria, in which you communicate to me the entry of the schooner **Cañon**, in the Brazos River proceeding from New Orleans, with a mixed cargo for consumption of this Colony. Among whose cargo one hundred and sixty-two bales of raw tobacco were found, introduced by contraband trade. This amount of Tobacco was deposited in a secure warehouse, according to Article 4 of the Commission Law No. 126 of 4 Sept. 1823. You requested me to go to that town, and declare the confiscation of the indicated one hundred and sixty-two bales, with many other quintals of raw tobacco, according to the law on the matter. In whose reply I have to say, that due to the busy occupations of this court and my broken Health, I cannot of course start the march for that town. After circumstances have changed, I will pass without loss of moment to comply, by virtue of the law with what you ask me. = God and Liberty. Villa of Austin and June 10, 1830. = Thomas Barnett.

*To:* Sir Administrator of Galveston Customs.

End

***Note:*** *the document in the George Fisher Papers at the Briscoe Center is a photostat copy of a 4-page document, the original of which was discovered later to apparently be Manuscript 23-0466 in the Samuel May Williams Collection at the Rosenberg Library (Galveston TX). However, the last page of the latter source is the same as the first page of the former source. This transcription was double-checked using both sources.*

***Note:*** *The reply from Williams on the 10th (second of four letters above) appears to also be found in Williams Papers as Manuscript 23-0368, as well as Williams’ copy of Decree No. 28.*

***Note:*** *If readers have suggestions for improvement of the transcription or translation, please feel free to contact the first-listed transcriber above.*