

grant of land upon the Ottawa, and arrived in London. Being known by name at the Colonial Office, he received attention to the subject of his visit. The nation was at war with Spain, and entertained at Madrid a Commissary of Prisoners to attend to what related to the legitimate prisoners of war, and the Spanish Court maintained in London a similar establishment.

The Transport Board, under the direction of the Secretary of State, made known to the Spanish Resident the case of the Refugee, who, deeply interested, waited upon that officer to learn in what delay he might expect to hear from the Court of Spain, and thought he perceived an indifference in the Spaniard that argued his interference useless.

An obscure Refugee from the wilds of Canada, unacquainted with diplomacy, was correct in his judgment. The following correspondence was the result.

"Sir Rupert George having shown to me the letter written by the Board to Don Manuel de la Torre, and his answer on the subject of my son, it struck me forcibly that the Spanish gentleman did not apprehend the force of the application. Impressed with this idea, I waited upon him to show that part of the grace asked by the Board was probably secured by the Spanish Minister in America, and that the object now was the release, absolute or conditional. When he learned that I had made such exertion for this purpose, he expressed his surprise that the Board had not sent for him, and verbally communicated to him the full interest they took in the application, for, as it was, he conceived that they had been urged by some pressing individual, and had given the letter to gratify him rather than to urge the reciprocity of a favor. That under this impression, he had written to Madrid in a very different manner from what he would have done, had he conceived the British Government inclined to the favorable notice of the application. He seemed much to regret that he had forwarded the paper in such a way; but proposed that by the next packet he would enter into further explanation. But I thought I could perceive that he wished to be able to say positively, that any of His Majesty's Ministers, though unofficially, had expressed the wish urged by the Transport Board. I have thought it possible that Mr. Wyndham could authorize you to write a line expressive of his good wishes to promote the object of my voyage, which I might show to M. de la Torre, for I can perceive that he makes a wide difference between the private wish of a Minister of State and that of the Transport Board.

"W. D. P.

"To Thomas Amyot, Esq."