

as the right of sovereignty over the island remains undetermined, the jurisdiction should be exclusively of a military character.

The friendly relations which have continued, without interruption, between the British and United States' forces, afford a guarantee for their harmonious action in this matter: but Her Majesty's Government think it would be better, in order to prevent the risk of future misunderstanding, that the point should be definitively arranged by means of a Convention, or by an exchange of notes between yourself and General Cass.

Your Lordship is accordingly instructed to propose to the United States' Government the withdrawal, on both sides, of the civil magistracy from the Island of San Juan, and the establishment of a military jurisdiction on the basis of the arrangement effected by General Scott; or if it shall seem better to the United States' Government to have a separate jurisdiction in different parts of the island, Her Majesty's Government will not object to such an arrangement.

The details of any arrangement, which of course must be regarded as a temporary and provisional measure pending the settlement of the question of sovereignty, may be settled between yourself and the United States' Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.
