

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Captain Pickett to Captain Bazalgette.

Sir,

San Juan, April 30, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in obedience to orders received from the Head-Quarters Department of Oregon, I have, to-day, relieved Captain Hunt, and assumed command of this post.

In accordance with orders emanating from the same source, I herewith inclose an extract from my letter of instructions.

With every desire that the cordial understanding existing between you and Captain Hunt shall continue to be maintained between ourselves, I am, &c.

(Signed)

G. E. PICKETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Assistant Adjutant-General Pleasonton to Captain Pickett.

*Head-Quarters, Department of Oregon, Fort Vancouver,
Washington Territory, April 10, 1860.*

(Extract.)

A copy of which you will furnish Captain Bazalgette, for the information of Rear-Admiral Baynes.

1st. Lieutenant-General Scott has left no orders or instructions with the General commanding to grant a joint military occupation of San Juan Island with British troops, neither has any authority been delegated by the Government of the United States to the General to offer or accept such occupation of that island. The offer made by General Scott, when in command here, was not accepted by Governor Douglas at the time, and consequently concluded that transaction. No arrangement has been made since to renew it within the knowledge of the General commanding.

2nd. The British authorities having submitted the assurance to General Scott that no attempt would be made by them to dislodge by force the United States' troops on San Juan Island, they were permitted to land troops for similar purpose to which your command was designed in the original orders conveyed to you in July last, viz., the protection of our citizens from Indians, both native and foreign.

In connexion with this service the General commanding takes occasion to present you to Admiral Baynes and the officers with whom you will be brought in contact, as an officer possessing his highest confidence, that nothing will be omitted in maintaining a frank and generous intercourse, in all matters coming within your powers, to establish a practical solution of the present misunderstandings, which shall prove honourable and satisfactory to all parties until a final settlement is attained by the two Governments.

3rd. Under the Organic Act of the Congress of the United States for the establishment of the territorial Government of Washington, the first Legislative Assembly in 1854, passed an Act including the Island of San Juan as a part of Whatcom county: this Act was duly submitted to Congress and has not been disapproved; it is, therefore, the law of the land. You will be obliged, consequently, to acknowledge and respect the civil jurisdiction of Washington territory in the discharge of your duties on San Juan; and the General commanding is satisfied that any attempt of the British Commander to ignore this right of the territory will be followed by deplorable results out of his power to control.

The General commanding will inform the Governor of Washington territory that you are directed to communicate with the civil officer on the island in the investigation of all cases requiring his attention. In the event of any British interest being involved, you will notify the officer placed there by Admiral Baynes, to enable him to propose some arrangement satisfactory to his instructions, as well as those of the civil officer.