

Fernandina de Nagua 19th Febr: 1824

E. J. Dupont Esqr

Dear Sir

I forward this by
Capt^m Smith, who has just returned with his vessel to this Port, from
Trinidad, where he has remained for some time, to repair his Sloop,
not having been able to effect it in this Place. he sails from hence
tomorrow for Havanna, where he goes to obtain freight if possible,
for the United States, And I give this in his charge, with other
letters to be forwarded to Mr^r Williamson Dumar. Potters

very little change had taken place since I last wrote You,
The continuance of the terrible rainy season puts a stop to all
business and which will last until the Climate changes, this
generally takes place, about the middle of October, when the weather
becomes very pleasant, the roads good & business revives with the
Interior & the different Towns & Ports. And this Place then becomes
the resort of a great number of Strangers, for supplies of different
kinds of Goods & so continues, until the rainy season again takes
Place in May. — from the natural advantages, which this
Bay & harbour possess for Commerce I have little doubt, but that
in time, this Port will become a Place of consequence provided
with the

increase of population it does not become more sickly so as to deter
Settlers from establishing themselves - The Country during the rainy
Season from May untill October, is most certainly very unhealthy to
strangers, almost without any exception, every one is affected by the
Climate & many are swept off during its continuance - We were
twelve Passengers on board the Sloop, Ten of whom & the Captain
have had the fever and two of those have died already - You
will no doubt recollect the Lady (M^{rs} Carr) who spoke french and
with whom yourself & M^r Williamson conversed with on board the
Sloop - She died of the fever a short time since in the Hospital
in this Place and her daughter is also dead, a very fine
interesting Young Girl of about 16 years of age - I have
so far enjoyed pretty good health & have been exempted with
one other of the Passengers from any serious illness and feel
no fear for the Climate, which will soon become very pleasant.

I feel assured that an Establishment might be formed
which could be made a profitable object, to those who would
engage in it, by having a Store established, to be constantly
supplied with such articles as are necessary for the Place,
and as has been the mode adopted here, Persons have
been "set up" by others in Europe & other Places and the

profits regularly divided among those interested - I wish Patterson
or some other Confidential Capt. (should Smith not return or indeed
whether or not) could take a trip out with a proper assorted Cargo
to this Place I think it would be an advantageous operation

As soon as the weather will admit I shall erect a small
Building on my Lot in town which is pleasantly situated &
well adapted for a store & a family residence. And as soon as
I can, by making an arrangement, I shall keep a store on
a small scale as you must be aware, that at first my
store will not admit of my going upon any other Plan ^{int}
but the retail profits are considerable On this subject I have
written to Messrs. Williamson Peter Desser & And if you should
have any interview with them they will perhaps mention the
circumstance to you, of this you may rest assured, that any
Property which may be entrusted to my care, I will use my
best Endeavour to dispose of to advantage & punctually &
speedily remit the Proceeds - The Powder, I have sold
a part of I have had occasion and have retained it
at generally 75 C^t / lb (6 Reals) ^{& 30 cts} - As soon as the business
commenced, I have no doubt but a very considerable supply
of the Article could be disposed of to a very good profit

An assortment of it the principal part in Kegs, of 25 lbs
And a small quantity in Canisters. The List I hand you
Contains the principal Articles best adapted for this Place,
And I can only repeat the assurance that should you feel
disposed to make any adventure, it shall receive my most
Active attention.

I am constantly waiting with the most
Anxious solicitude to hear from the United States for from one
no one have I yet received a line or any intelligence. You
can judge of my terrible Anxiety from this most trying
Crucial Circumstance but from which I hope soon to be relieved
it is a most distressing situation. **

And now
returning you my grateful thanks for the kindness I
have experienced from you I sincerely praying that Yours
and all around you may enjoy every blessing & happiness

I remain very respectfully
Yours sincerely

Thomas Davy

direct to me

Thomas Davy

Cienfuegos

Colonie de Fernandina de Laguna

Ile de Cuba

** This Circumstance of pressure must arise from the direction which Capt. Smith gave me
and I left being quite erroneous. #

W/F

SHIP

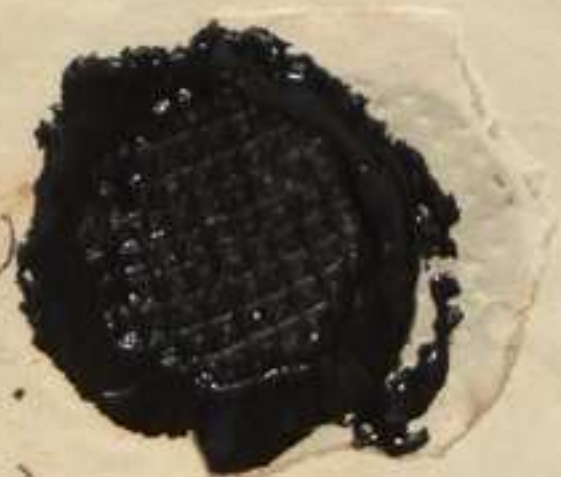
RECEIVED
OCT 21
1821

J. S. Dupont Esq

near Wilmington

Allan

Sept 19 1821
Thos. Duoy
Fernandina de Kaguia



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18
180

300
400
500