

5 April, 1915.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
WASHINGTON.

My dear Mr. Secretary,

I wish that I were clearer in my judgment about this perplexing case, and were more confident that I am right in what I say in reply to the queries of this letter. I can only speak with hesitation, and speak now because reflection does not seem to do much towards leading me to firm ground.

May I take your points in a different order, so as to begin where I am clearest?

First. The time to act is now.

Second. We must make certain demands and make them as conditions of recognition, backed by the intimation that we will not take No for answer:

- 1) The use and control of Mole Saint Nicholas, or, at the least, the exclusion there of foreign control;
- 2) An advisor, who must be regarded as our spokesman and who must be understood, in his advice, to speak the conditions upon which this Government will support the government of Haiti, our object be-

ing, not merely to safeguard foreign interests on the island with entire impartiality, but also to prevent the constant recurrence of revolution there and the assistance thence of revolution in San Domingo. Our support and countenance to be depended on so long as the government there honestly sought to represent and serve the people of the Republic.

In this connection we ought to let them know that the management of the customs was the point of danger which we would watch, and through our Advisor control, with the greatest ~~vigilance~~ vigilance.

Third. Let us select now some able and trustworthy man, thoroughly conversant with French, whom we would in all likelihood eventually make our Advisor there, to be sent at once as our special agent and spokesman to make these demands known and carry the new arrangement through by negotiation.

Unfortunately, I do not know of such a man. Is it not possible that Mr. Fuller could put us in the way of finding one, the Conderts being French, though of course it should not be a Frenchman, in the circumstances?

Fourth. When this is over (Bailly-Blanchard having been set aside in these negotiations) find another place for B.-B. and send Bishop Wal-

ters to act as Minister, alongside the Advisor.  
or.

I shall be very much interested to know  
what you think of these suggestions.

Faithfully Yours,

W. W.

The Secretary of State.

WWTL I (W. J. Bryan Papers, DLC).