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MMN # 73721

Date: 1862

Description: George F. Shepley wrote to Edwin M. Stanton about \$800,000 that Gen. Benjamin Butler had seized from the Consul of the Netherlands.

State of Louisiana,
[State seal] Executive Department.
New-Orleans, September 19th 1862
Sir--

I have the honor to acknowl-
-edge the receipt of your communication
of September 2nd enclosing copies of
several communications addressed by the
Department of State to the diplomatic
representitives of Great Brittiain France
and the Netherlands growing out of the
relations between the Military authorities
and the Consuls of those countries at
New Orleans. I have advised ~~attd~~ Mr
Couturie, the Consul of the Netherlands,
that the eight hundred thousand dollars
in coin taken from his possession by General
Butler, would be restored, to him or
to the Agent of Messrs Hope & Co or
to the Citizens Bank of Louisiana
whichever of them he might designate.
Copy of my letter to Mr Couturie is
herewith transmitted.

As the diplomatic correspon-
-dence transmitted to me contains
a statement that I should be directed

to write Mr Coutrie to resume
his consular functions and also that
I should be directed to cause to be
restored the eight hundred thousand
dollars seized by General Butler
I have taken the liberty to act
upon these communications without
awaiting any more specific instructions
from you or from the Department of
State on this subject. —

I shall endeavor in my
in my intercourse with the foreign
consuls in New Orleans as far as
possible to avoid any causes of
irritation, tending to embarrass the
Government in its relations with
foreign Powers.

With great respect
I have the honor to be
Your obedient servant
G. F. Shepley
Military Governor
of Louisiana

Hon. E. W. Stanton.
Secretary of War.

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