

Pan Br. Am. 28-1875-

General I enclose slips cut from the local papers here by which you will see that our friend Steinbergs' stock is gradually appreciating and in this locality it begins to dawn upon the public mind that Samoa will get paid out advantageously -

John Steinbergs who went down to Apia for a trip, and to see how his brother was getting on, has just returned, and contrary to my expectations, is quite enthusiastic, inasmuch as enthusiasm on any subject is not his forte.

It is pretty safe to conclude there is something in it if John sees merit - It is evident that the

Man Foster now acting as Consul is a hard Egg - a bitter opponent of the new Govt. and of Steinbergs, and

generally a "mauvais sujet" at the
any rate, totally unfit to hold He
the office. He is a great obstacle be
in Steinberger's way, constantly - r
misrepresenting the intentions of Li
the Govt. asserting that the th
arms & munitions of the Tuscans h
were stolen from the Arsenal of as
Benicia by the connivance of Capt to
Ehren and the officers and in
every way vilifying everybody from ac
the President down.

It would be very desirable to have of
a gentleman as the appointee de
there. but the salary is too small c
to induce any man of ability to to
accept it. I know of just one tr
person here who I think would th
accept it, and simply make in
of his health. He is a young lawyer d
named Louis Blanding a southern Cr
man, but one who was here during P
1

the war and perfectly loyal
- He would by virtue of his abilities
- being a man of splendid attain-
- ments be of great assistance to
Steinberger - I have not mentioned
the subject to him but believe he
would accept if offered him, on
account of ill health and desire
to seek a more genial climate
His appointment would be very
- acceptable to Steinberger & Co.

Being desirous of going out
of business here, I am this King
seriously of building myself a
clipped yacht schooner adapted
to both business & pleasure, and
taking a cruise down to see Steiny, &
the Islands, with a view to looking
into matters, to see what can be
done in the way of raising Indigo
Cotton &c. the Islands seemingly being
particularly adapted to producing
both - I want to investigate the

resources of the country with a
view to future operations -
Steinberger is very anxious that I
should "come down" and see for
myself - being very enthusiastic
in his faith in the future of his
Kingdom - What it seems to require
is a little infusion of new blood
new people and a rooting out of
the old set of beach Comers - bigoted
missionaries of the German element that
has so long controlled the trade -
through Steinberger's influence and
the earnest desire of the natives to
emancipate themselves from the old
bonds under which they have been
held, there probably would be no great
difficulty in turning the tide of trade
from Germany hitherwards -
I presume Steinberger has written you
fully, especially about this man Foster
the Consul, an illiterate vulgar fellow who
is certainly not a very creditable represen-
tative of our Govt. Would it be necessary to
make an application from my friend Blanding
for the position? Presumably he would not make much

to see if
I can
induce
him to
come
perhaps
in
the
winter
of
next
year

2335

San Francisco Bay, 3/7

General, I presume you will have seen all the row and doings in Samoa - See close your extracts from recent news -

The consul S. S. Foster's remarks immediately suppressed!

He is about the A-dick scandal unhung and all this has come about from that miserable old Leake and Irish not having any back bone - If he had not been so frightened as to go down on his knees and swear that Sternberger had no friends in Washington all this would not have occurred.

It was on the strength of a letter from Irish to Foster saying he (S.) would not be protected by the mob - that he was in no way accredited, that produced the row - Foster said, this man has no

friends at Court I'll go for his
sculp - Had Mr. Dink exhibited
a decent regard for facts and
said Mr. Sturges altho not
officially accredited as an
Agent or Com of the Govt, is
nevertheless acting in sympathy
and harmony. Foster would not
have dared to do it -

The high handed outrage in
seizing also of his private papers,
and letters, should be noticed,
He has all of your letters, and is
showing them about. He showed
one letter to Capt Stevens of
the Maracota where you say
"In a short time you will have the
Islands" -

The thing to do, is, to
get a man of War ordered to
go to Sumatra & arrest Foster
steal all of these documents

away from him - He intercepted
and appropriated all the letters
he could get hold of - previous
to this, but a charge could be
properly sustained against him
for seizing and selling the
little steam launch, which was
the property of the U.S. had
never been relinquished and
stands today as abandoned
to Steinberg -

It is for the interest of all
concerned that immediate
steps be taken to restore
Steinberg & arrest Foster.

The natives will receive him
with open arms - and he
will become firmly fixed than
ever - I urge the President
two days service in my capacity
as ^{Special} Commercial Agent urging this

I proposed that if he would add
a man of war to let Stenberg
take passage to Surron. I would
get Steiny. to any point where
he could be picked up -

We want J M Lee appointed
Consul. He has formerly acted,
resides there - has been faithful
to Steiny all through and was
arrested & sent off by Foster as
a dangerous rival. He is now here
Can you not get him appointed
& send his Commission to my care
at once? A vessel sails in about
two weeks & there may be
another in two months. Col
could get off on this vessel &
prepare things for Steiny's
arrival -

Yours
M. L. Ogden