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CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

Havre, May 6, 1898.

My Dear Judge:

I send you, by to-day's mail, a copy of La Petite Gironde, in which you will see that a number of Bordeaux's most prominent residents have, in less than two days, subscribed more than 13,000 francs for Spain and the Spaniards.

Whether the subscription is to equip and arm the Spanish troops, or to provide monuments for the victims of the forthcoming engagement with Admiral Schley's flying squadron, I do not know.

But, in any event, it is an indubitable fact that a subscription of this sort (taking place in a foreign country) is in direct violation of the laws of neutrality, and you should and, no doubt, can put a stop to it.

Keep a sharp look-out on Señor Martinsen. He is chummy with all the F.F.Bs. who have given their money, jewels and false teeth to the cause; and I have reason to believe that he is the one who anonymously subscribed the sum of 1 franc (payable on demand).

Very truly yours

John Preston Beecher.