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Title: Letter from Jeremiah Black to Augustus Schell (Copy)

Date: August 6, 1863

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New York, August 6.th 1863.

My dear Sir:

Your letter of July 28th which I have but just now received, calls my attention to a statement published in the London Observer over the signature of T. W. I am asked if the occurrences there said to have taken place at a Cabinet Council in Feb. 1861, are true or not, and you desire me to inform you of the precise circumstances attending the action of Mr Buchanan's Cabinet at the time of the transaction referred to. The latter part of this request is more than I can comply with at present. All the circumstances set out with precision would I suppose fill a moderate sized volume; and anything short of a full account would probably do wrong to the subject. Besides I am not convinced that the truth would be received now with public favor, or even

with toleration. The time when justice shall be done draws near but it is not yet. But the story you transcribe from the London paper is wholly fictitious. Major Andersson passed his garrison to Fort Sumter, not in Feb. 1861. but in Dec. 1860. Gen Dix was not then a member of the Cabinet. Mr Floyd did not propose that Andersson should be ordered back; the real cause of Floyd's retirement from office had no connection with that affair. Mr Stanton made no such speech as that put into his mouth by ~~by~~ T. W. or any other speech inconsistent with the most perfect respect for all his colleagues, and for the President: neither Mr Stanton nor Mr Holt ever spoke to the President about resigning upon any contingency whatever, before the incoming of the new administration.

I am with great respect yours.
J. S. Black.

To
A. Schell Esq.