Washington City D.C.
January 18th 1847

To Mrs. Ann Chase,

Esteemed Madam,

For a reply to your enquiries made of me yesterday in relation to the services you rendered the Gulf Squadron in the capture of Tampico, I have referred to my note-Book of the dates connected with that event, which will better convey to you the impressions there formed.

I was master of the Spitfire under Commander Tattnall when she appeared off Tampico the 7th November 1846, and made full memoranda of all that transferred from and after that date. Upon our arrival Lieut. Comdr. Hunt of the Porpoise at that time sustaining the blockade repaired on board and communicated, as information derived from yourself, that the forts in shore had been nearly deserted and the garrisons ordered to join the Army. It is my opinion that if the Commander-in-Chief had not been so accessible to a communication of these facts Commod. Tattnall would immediately and successfully have taken advantage of the opportunity to attack the place with the small
force them at his disposal.

After the reception of the intelligence derived from you, Commr. Corner repaired with the squadron to Tampico on the morning of the 14th November. While ascending the River, our eyes welcomed the cheering sight of the Stars and Stripes floating from the Consulate house, in anticipation of the surrender, and as we learned in defiance of danger and strong opposition from the Military and Citizens.

I think I can safely say the squadron generally awarded you the credit for preparing the way for this Capture, and I have no doubt the Officers would heartily concur with me in wishing you a generous indemnity for losses sustained, in consequence of efforts not only patriotic and valuable in themselves, but doubly meritorious as springing from your unaided energy in the absence of your Husband.

With best wishes for your success, I am to Madam

Truly your friend.

(Signed) Sam. Chase Barney.

Lt. N. Y. Navy.
Mr. Charles Dow

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Dr. Barney