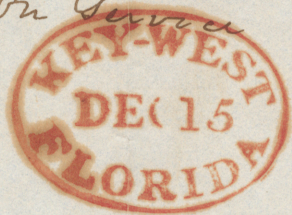


On Service



FREE

Major Genl.

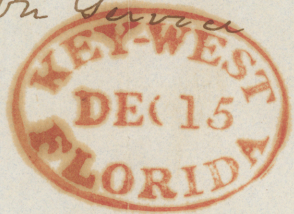
Thos. S. Jesup

2^d Master Genl.

City of

Washington

On Service



FREE

23453

Major Genl.

Thos. S. Jesup

2^d Master Genl.

City of

Washington

430

55

1832
F53

Key West

Sir

11th Dec. 1832.

I think it was about the middle of Sept. last that Major Bender forwarded, via N. Orleans, the clothing for this command. I have not heard from it since, and the men are almost destitute. Under a daily hope that it would arrive I have refrained from addressing you on the subject. Can there not be another supply forwarded at once, & in case of the reception of both, one can be forwarded (by your order) to the D^r. M^r. at N. Orleans for issue there. There have been so many weeks that I am apprehensive the clothing may have suffered the same fate.

Permit me to suggest that it would be much better to forward all supplies for this post via Charleston, inasmuch as we have a regular mail vessel monthly to that place under a contract to Government; and it is very unusual for a vessel from N. Orleans to pass by this place. vessels from the North bound to N. O. frequently call from distress or convenience; on the backward bound voyage they prefer keeping the advantage of the

strong stream in their favor. Vessels going from
the north to ports in the Gulph of Mexico save
the ^{counter} stream & about one hundred miles by passing
in this harbor through what is called the north west
passage which is not an inconsiderable saving.

I have the honor to be

Very Resp^{ly}

Yours. O. S.

J. M. Lapelle

Major Comm^d

Major Genl. Jesup.

Dr. Mr. Genl.

Washington