

by 12th 1864
my relative
to Lake &
Boat

1864
Hotella off Cayman Island
July 13 1864

Sir

I will state it as a particular favor, if you will grant me a few days indulgence to visit the city of Washington, I wish to go by water in my small boat which I hope will enable me to ascertain the force and situation of the Enemy in the Bay, and as Captain Gordon has assumed the entire command of every thing (public) on float, I avail myself of this opportunity of making this request.

I have the honor to be
Sir, very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servt.
Jas. Tarbell
TARBELL

The Honble

William Jones

Secy of the Navy