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**Document explaining the "Trent Affair" during the  
American Civil War when John Y. Mason was removed  
from a British ship by the United States Navy, 1927**

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The signature to the above document is that of the self-same John Y. Mason who, five years later, was, with his companion Confederate Commissioner, Sidell, taken off the British ship "Trent" by Captain Wilkes of the United States navy which event, known in history as "The Trent affair" very nearly caused a war with England to whose demand for release of the prisoners the U. S. consented in order to avoid trouble in 1862. Mason was Ambassador at the Court of Emperor Napoleon III under Presidents Pierce and Buchanan and became a particularly obnoxious rebel after returning home. This is the gift of Mrs Grace Watson of Wichita whose husband W. F. Watson was the nephew of the Mc Millen (later General McMillen) mentioned as dispatch bearer. (1927)