

Springfield  Republican.

The United States has been brought into very bad odor by the astonishing proceedings of William R. Lewis, late consul to Morocco. It is quite time something were done about it, and not enough has been done in removing him if half the charges against him are true. It is alleged that he has made commerce of his authority as consul, arresting citizens of Morocco, putting them in irons, imprisoning them and endeavoring to extort from them information for purposes of his own, sometimes with serious results. One of the cases described in a recent issue of the Times of Morocco is as follows:—

Ahmed bin Haj Mahommed el Asshak and his wife Rahmah, Moorish subjects, claimed \$150 for violation of domicile and illegal arrest and imprisonment of himself for 10 days and for injuries sustained by his wife at the hands of Mr Lewis and his emissaries. It appears that the poor woman was frightened nearly to death when her door was broken open at night and her husband carried off by force. She was at the time nursing her only son, a fine little boy; the shock brought on puerperal fever, which nearly cost her own life, and caused the death of her boy. This man was also arrested for the purpose of extorting information which he could not give.

Now that Mr Lewis is removed, the acting consul, Robert Stalker, no doubt correctly says that the consular court has no jurisdiction over his acts while he was consul. The state department, however, has power in this case, and it should take immediate action.