

Kossuth and Alexander Gall

## A REPORT DATED MARCH 15, 1852

*Among the documents stored in the National Archives built atop Buda's historic ramparts, was one by Colonel Sándor Gál of the Székely Hussars, meriting special attention at this time. With other irreplaceable relics, this manuscript, too, was destroyed during the siege of Hungary's capital city. Translation of the text follows:*

Dardanelles, March 15, 1852

Governor Louis Kossuth  
c/o Postmaster  
New York, U. S. A.

\* Makk

Sir:—

You must have received my former report sent from the boat between Southampton and Gibraltar. At the latter port I met Vetter who was proceeding by land to Italy, according to your intentions. Spoke at length with Lemmi in Malta with reference to the arms shipments. He has plans which will be difficult to carry out; however, I shall see the possibilities when I arrive on the spot.

I shall attempt to arrange matters to best serve our aims. There is one circumstance, though, which I would wish to underline. Please issue your orders via safer routes!

As far as Szamosy is concerned, he is of a very jealous nature and I'll have to point out to him that his new tasks open a more important sphere of activity for him. Knowing him well, I place him highly both as a man and as an artillery commander; if you could elevate him to a position commensurate with his abilities, he could be of great service instead of a hindrance.

I wish to thank you for the speed-press you had sent. I shall make use of it to full advantage. In the meanwhile, I have become apprenticed as a full fledged printer myself.

Be so kind, Governor, not to forget to send at least one month's pay of the liberation army, in advance.

In the same shipment with the rifles, it would be advisable to send an American lathe for turning gun-barrels.

Gál Sándor

Jókai-Rárosi 1844-19 (póster)

Borgericry: by absolute power  
Kong 175

Jánosy: A K. emigr. Arghabam  
is Amerikában

You have written, Sir, that I shall find 600 Pounds Sterling upon my arrival in Constantinople. At what address can I locate these funds? Not for myself, but for gaining some key men for our work outside Hungary. There are people to whom cash rings better than any argument. And I have learned to accept humanity not as it should be, but as one finds it.

You will agree that I'll have to have observers in Czernovitz as well as in Jassy, owing to the Russians.

I have already sent reliable men to Galatz. Am to meet others on April 15th. A rendezvous is pending with Szamosy, too. But I shall not proceed to Italy until the rifles are at the border of Hungary, because that way I would lose too much time. I'll start off Imre Csernátoni, too. In short, I'll attend to all matters.

Finally, I beg you to let me know about what part of the year we should be ready for our operation. I think July or August would be most suitable, BY WHICH TIME YOU WILL HAVE EVERYTHING ARRANGED IN THE UNITED STATES.

A ship officer will take this letter back to Southampton, posting it on the liner which leaves for America earliest.

On the Mediterranean we met two British gunboats returning to England. Today in the Dardanelles I saw three men o'war, this time French, also proceeding homeward.

As soon as I have surveyed conditions in Constantinople, I shall forward a more detailed report.

With kindest greetings, I am, Governor, respectfully yours,

L. SALOMON (Code name of Lajos Sándor Gál, fearless commanding officer of the cavalry from Csik county)

