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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

—◆—
1824—1825.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command of His Majesty,
1825.*

LONDON:

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHILOSOPHY

REVIEW OF LECTURES

BY THE AUTHOR

Class B.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

SPAIN.

No. 1.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir William à Court.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1824.

I ENCLOSE to you the copy of a Communication from the Colonial Department, transmitting the description of an indentured African named *Ashcca*, who had disappeared from the Bahamas, and of an Individual, named *John Turner*, who was supposed to have absconded with him to the Island of *Cuba*; and I have to desire, that you will make application to the Spanish Government, to send orders to the Authorities at Cuba, for the restoration of the African described.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir William à Court, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (A.) in No. 1.

R. Wilmot Horton, Esq. to Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq.

SIR,

Downing-Street, 28th April, 1824.

I AM directed by Earl Bathurst to enclose to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, the accompanying copy of a Letter which his Lordship has received from the Collector of His Majesty's Customs at the Port of *Nassau* in the Bahamas, transmitting the description of an *indentured African* who had disappeared from that place, and of an individual who was supposed to have absconded with him to the Island of *Cuba*, and I am to request that you will lay these papers before Mr. Canning, in order that, if it shall appear to him to be expedient, he may direct application to be made to the Spanish Government to cause the restoration of the African described.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

R. W. HORTON.

J. Planta, Jun., Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure (B.) in No. 1.**The Collector of the Customs at Nassau to Earl Bathurst.*

MY LORD,

Custom-House, Nassau, 5th March, 1824.

I BEG to lay before your Lordship the description of an *indentured African*, and also of the person who absconded and took him with him.

Having reason to believe that any application to the Colonial Authorities in *Cuba*, from hence, would be ineffectual, I am induced to intercede for your Lordship's interference to obtain the restoration of this individual to his freedom, of which he will be, no doubt, deprived in *Cuba*.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. PATIER.

The Right Hon. Earl Bathurst,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (C.) in No. 1.

DESCRIPTION of an African Apprentice, supposed to have been carried over to *Cuba*, by Mr. John Turner, to whom he was apprenticed, and who has been reported to have been seen at El Cayo, in *Cuba*.

No. 47. *Asheca*, aged 11 years, four feet $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, Country Marks on the Belly; apprenticed to John Turner, of Nassau.

John Turner, about 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, fair complexion, florid countenance, sandy hair, stout in person, about 35 years of age, absconded from these Islands, about October, 1823.

No. 2.

Sir William à Court to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received May 16th, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, 25th April, 1824.

IN consequence of your Despatch enclosing Captain Sir Thomas Cochrane's Report of the active commerce in Slaves still carried on from *Porto Rico*, I addressed the enclosed Note upon the subject to the Spanish Secretary of State.

His Excellency has since informed me, that the matter shall immediately be inquired into, and if the facts should turn out to be as stated, that the necessary orders to put an end to such proceedings shall immediately be given.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM A'COURT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 2.**Sir William à Court to the Conde de Oflalia.**Madrid, April 17th, 1824.*

THE undersigned has been ordered to state to the Spanish Government, that undoubted information has been received from British Officers employed upon the West India Station, that Importations of Slaves take place to the Spanish Colony of *Porto Rico* to the extent of from 8 to 10 cargoes in the year.

The undersigned, in pointing out this glaring infraction of the engagements which His Catholic Majesty has solemnly contracted for the

abolition of the Slave Trade, has been directed to urge, that fresh and immediate orders should be sent to the Colonial Authorities of Spain in the West Indies, to put an end to this inhuman Commerce.

He has the honour, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM A COURT.

His Excellency the Conde de Ofalia,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

Sir William à Court to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received 16th May, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, 25th April, 1824.

UPON the receipt of your Despatch (marked Slave Trade) of the 5th Instant, I addressed the enclosed Note to the Count de Ofalia.

The Count has since informed me that Mr. Kilbee's proposal shall be taken into consideration.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM A COURT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Sir William à Court to the Conde de Ofalia.

Madrid, 18th April, 1824.

THE regulations for putting an end to the Traffic in Slaves in the Island of *Cuba*, resting only upon the somewhat vague decree of His Catholic Majesty, of the Month of December, 1817, there appears not to be a sufficient preventative against the exercise of that traffic.

As a measure of prevention, the undersigned has been directed strongly to recommend to the Government of His Catholic Majesty, the expediency of granting a liberal *Reward* to any person employed in this Illicit Traffic who shall consent to denounce it; the said reward to be recovered upon the property of the person for whom Slaves are imported, or the possessor of Negroes illegally obtained.

The *onus probandi* of the legal importation (if it be one) to rest with the possessor of the Negroes. A measure of this sort appears unobjectionable, so far as respects the Government, and likely to be effective in deterring persons from purchasing Negroes illegally imported.

The undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM A COURT.

His Excellency the Conde de Ofalia,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

Sir William à Court to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received June 10th.)

SIR,

Madrid, May 25th, 1824.

UPON the receipt of your Despatch of the 9th Instant, marked Slave Trade, I immediately addressed a note to M. de Ofalia, demanding that the *Negro Apprentice* should be given up; a copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM A COURT

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 4.**Sir William à Court to the Conde de Ofalia.**Madrid, May 25th, 1824.*

THE undersigned has the honour to transmit to His Excellency the Conde de Ofalia, the Copy of a Letter which has been addressed to Lord Bathurst, His Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, by the Director of the Customs at the *Bahamas*, requesting that an application may be made to the Spanish Government for the restoration of a Negro Apprentice, named *Asheca*, enticed away from Nassau by a certain *John Turner*, for the purpose of selling him in the Island of *Cuba*.

The description of both Individuals is herewith enclosed.

The undersigned has been directed by Mr. Canning to bring these facts to the knowledge of the Spanish Government, and to request that orders may be issued for the restoration of the said *Asheca* to the British Authorities.

He avails himself, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM A'COURT.

His Excellency the Conde de Ofalia,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

Sir William à Court to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received June 17th.)

SIR,

Madrid, June 2d, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy of the answer I have received from M. de Ofalia to the Note enclosed in my Despatch marked *Slave Trade*, of May 25th. Orders will immediately be sent to *Cuba* to restore the Negro Apprentice *Asheca*.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM A'COURT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 5.**The Conde de Ofalia to Sir William à Court.*

MUY SEÑOR MIO :

Aranjuez, 31 de Mayo de 1824.

TENGO el honor de participar à V. S. que habiendo dado cuenta al Rey mi Amo de la reclamacion que por orden de su Gobierno hace V. S. acerca del negro aprendiz llamado *Aheca* que fuè estraído de *Nassau* por un tal *Juan Turner*, con el intento de vender le en la Isla de *Cuba*, me ha mandado S. M. comunicar al Capitan General de aquella Isla la orden de hacerlo devolver si se hallase en ella, à las Autoridades Inglesas.

Me aprovecho, &c.

(Firmado) EL CONDE DE OFALIA.

Sr. Ministro de Inglaterra,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 5.

(Translation.)

The Conde de Ofalia to Sir William à Court.

HONOURED SIR,

Aranjuez, May 31st, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, having laid before the King, my master, the complaint which you make by order of your Government

respecting *Asheca*, the Negro apprentice, carried from Nassau by one *John Turner*, with the view of selling him at the Island of *Cuba*; I am directed by His Majesty to transmit to the Captain-General of that Island the order to have him returned, if he should be found in it, to the English authorities.

I avail myself, &c.,
(Signed) COUNT DE OFALIA,

The Minister of England,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

Sir William à Court to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received August 1st, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, July 16th, 1824.

HAVING heard from His Majesty's Consul at *Cadiz*, that two vessels were fitting out in that Port in such a manner as to leave no doubt of the intention of the owners to employ them in the Slave Trade, I addressed the note, a copy of which I enclose, to M. de Salazar, requesting the detention of the vessels, and the punishment of those taking part in this illegal and inhuman traffic.

I have the honour to be, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM A'COURT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Sir William à Court to M. de Salazar.

Madrid, July 15th, 1824.

THE undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary, has learnt this morning, by a letter from the British Consul at *Cadiz*, that there are at this moment two vessels in that port fitting out in such a manner as to leave no doubt of the intention of the owners to employ them in the Slave Trade, in direct and manifest violation of the Treaty of September, 1817.

The owner of one them, (*James Tinto*), publicly declares the object of their voyage, and says, that if one vessel out of four escape being captured, the enterprise will be a lucrative one.

It appears to be the intention to fit out four other vessels for the same purpose, as soon as the two first shall have sailed. The objects of the owners have been greatly facilitated by the license to carry guns, which has been granted to them by Spanish authorities.

The undersigned has the honour to bring these facts to the knowledge of the Spanish Government, and to enclose a description of the two vessels, and their reputed destination, under the full persuasion that immediate measures will be taken to prevent their departure, and to bring to punishment those persons engaged in this illegal and inhuman traffic.

He avails himself, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM A'COURT.

Don Luis Salazar,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 7.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir William à Court.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 11th, 1824

THE enclosed copies of letters from His Majesty's Commissary Judge at *The Havannah*, dated the 14th and 30th June last, will show to you that the trade in Slaves is still carried on in the Island of *Cuba*, with a publicity and impunity little reconcileable to those principles which form the basis of the Treaty of 1817, between this country and Spain, for the "Abolition of the Slave Trade throughout the entire dominions" of the latter country.

It appears by the letters from *Mr. Kilbee*, that within one month, or thereabouts, (the month of June last,) five vessels, notoriously concerned in the trade in Slaves, had arrived at *The Havannah*, having landed at some other port their cargo of human beings; that Negroes were exposed for sale in the depôts for that purpose, and that transactions for the sale of illegally imported Slaves were carried on with almost the same publicity as before the Abolition.

It appears from the reports which I have from time to time communicated through you to the Government of His Catholic Majesty, that the evil here complained of is rapidly increasing in the Island of *Cuba*, and that the authorities, however well disposed to the cause of the Abolition, have it not in their power to stop the progress of the trade, under the present laxity of the Colonial Laws upon that point.

I wish you therefore to endeavour to draw the attention of the Spanish Ministry seriously to the subject, and to persuade them to issue such orders and regulations as shall be calculated to put a stop to this growing mischief.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir William à Court, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 8.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, October 25th, 1824.

I ENCLOSE to you the copy of a Despatch, dated 31st July, with its Enclosures, from His Majesty's Commissary Judge at *The Havannah*, containing the details of certain proceedings at that Settlement on the occasion of the Capture of the Brig *Maria de la Gloria*, under suspicion of illegal Slave Trading.

It appears that some discussion took place in this case between the Captain-General, the Admiral, and the Commissioners of the Mixed Commission Court under the Treaty with Spain for the suppression of illegal Slave Trade.

The chief point to be remarked in this discussion, is the attempt which was made by the Court of Admiralty at *The Havannah* to assume to itself the investigation of the case: an attempt which was resisted by the Captain-General, who decided in favour of the Powers which had been granted to the Mixed Commission by the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

You will convey to the Government of His Catholic Majesty the satisfaction which has been felt by the King's Government, at learning the strenuous and upright manner in which the Captain-General of *The Havannah* thus executed the intentions of his Sovereign, in the due fulfilment of the compact between the two countries for the suppression of

Slave Trade ; and you will express the hope of His Majesty's Government, that the conduct of that officer, in this instance, will have met with and received the approbation of his Sovereign.

You will take this opportunity of remarking, that, to the printed copy of the instructions with which the Captain of the *Marte*, who Captured the *Maria de la Gloria* was provided, there was no signature of the Minister of Marine ; and you will request that, in order to prevent any difficulties and discussions on this point in future, that formality may henceforth be observed, conformably to the eleventh Article of the " Instructions," which expressly require that the signature of the Minister of Marine shall be affixed to all copies of Instructions furnished to a Cruiser of the contracting parties to the Treaty.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 9.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 15th, 1824.

IN reference to my Despatch to Sir William à Court of the 11th of August, I transmit to you the copies of two further despatches from *Mr. Kilbee*, dated the 3d of August, and 4th of September, and of their Enclosures, containing *lists of vessels* which have recently cleared out for the Coast of Africa, from the port of *The Havannah*. These vessels were, doubtless, mostly destined for the Slave Trade ; and instances frequently have occurred, as you will see detailed in the enclosed despatches, of vessels, on their return from their original destination in Africa, being officially reported to have returned from other ports, at which they had never touched.

This is but one of the methods by which the laws are evaded, and Slave Trade is carried on with impunity in *Cuba*.

You will communicate these papers to the Spanish Government, and repeat, in the name of your Government, their earnest hope that some means will be devised, by more efficient regulations, for putting down a trade which appears still to exist in full force in the Colonial Possessions of Spain, although His Catholic Majesty formally abolished it by Treaty, so long ago as the year 1820.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 10.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 19th, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A. and B., relative to the Slave Trade, which were presented to both Houses of Parliament, by His Majesty's command, in the course of the last Session.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 11.

Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq. to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 20th, 1824.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to send to you, for your information, a Copy of the Act, recently passed, for amending and consolidating the Laws relating to the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) J. PLANTA, Jun.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq.—
(Received October 7th, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, September 20th, 1824.

THE orders contained in Mr. Secretary Canning's Despatch, of the 11th ult., marked Slave Trade, directing remonstrances to be made to the Spanish Government respecting the continuance of the Traffic at Cuba, having never been executed, on account of the absence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I think it right to apprize you of this circumstance, in order that you may send any instructions you think proper respecting it.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 13.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—
(Received November 25th, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, November 14th, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, dated the 25th of October, and shall lose no time in carrying into effect the Instructions therein contained.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 14.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—
(Received December 5th, 1824.)

SIR,

Madrid, November 22d, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a Note, which I have received from the Spanish Secretary of State, in reply to a communication made to that gentleman's Predecessor by Sir William A'Court, relative to some Vessels fitting out at Cadiz for illegal Slave Trading.

You will perceive, Sir, by this Note, that the Government of His Catholic Majesty have determined that, in future, on granting licenses to

navigate, a special condition shall be inserted in the Bond of Security required from the Owners of the Vessels, that they shall not be employed in the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 14.

M. de Zea Bermudez to G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.

MUY SEÑOR MIO,

San Lorenzo, 18 Noviembre, 1824.

HE dado cuenta al Rey Mi Augusto Amo de la Nota que, con fecha 15 de Julio pasado, dirigio à este Ministerio el Caballero Sir William A'Court, comunicandole la noticia que habia recibido de *Cadiz*, por medio del Consul Ingles en aquel puerto; de hallarse disponiendose varios Buques Españoles para emprender el Trafico de los Negros, y manifestando la persuasion de que se estorbaria la salida de aquellos y se castigarian las personas que asi intentaban infringir lo estipulado por el Tratado de 23 de Septiembre de 1817, y S. M. deseando poner todas las trabas posibles para impedir el commercio de Esclavos por Buques de sus Vasallos, y no pudiendose proceder, segun las leyes, contra los Navieros, por meras sospechas, se ha servido resolver que en las escrituras de fianza, que se exigan, con arreglo à ordenanza, al habilitar las embarcaciones Mercantes, de la *Patente Real* de Navegacion, se exprese, en lo successivo, la obligacion de no emplearse en dicho Comercio.

Con esta fecha comunico al Ministerio de Marina, de Real Orden la competente para el cumplimiento de esta Resolution, y tengo la honra de ponerla en noticia de V. S. en contestacion à la citada Nota del S^r. Ministro de S. M. B^{ca}. aprovechando esta ocasion, &c.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.

S^r. Encargado de Negocios de Inglaterra,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 14.

(Translation.)

M. de Zea Bermudez to G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.

HONOURED SIR,

San Lorenzo, November 18th, 1824.

I HAVE laid before the King, my August Master, the Note addressed, under date of the 15th of July last, by Sir William A'Court to this Ministry, to acquaint them with the intelligence which he had received from the English Consul at *Cadiz*, that several Spanish Vessels were preparing for the Slave Trade, and to state his persuasion that they would not be suffered to put to sea, and that those who thus attempted to violate the provisions of the Treaty of September, 1817, would be punished; and His Majesty, though desirous to throw every possible obstacle in the way of his subjects carrying on the Traffic in Slaves, being yet prevented by the Laws from proceeding against the Masters of Vessels on mere suspicion, has been pleased to resolve, that, in the bond, into which Merchant Vessels are required, pursuant to the Ordinance, to enter, upon being qualified by means of the *Royal License* of Navigation, the express obligation shall henceforth be inserted of their not engaging in the said Trade.

I shall this day, by the King's order, communicate to the Minister of

the Navy the proper directions for the accomplishment of this Resolution; and I have the honour to inform you of the latter in reply to the above Note from the Minister of His Britannic Majesty, availing myself of the present opportunity, &c.,

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.
The Chargé d'Affaires of England,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 15.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, December 17th, 1824.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked *Slave Trade*, of the 22d of November last; and I have to desire, that you will express to the Government of His Catholic Majesty the satisfaction experienced by His Majesty's Government, at learning from the communication made to you by M. Zea, under date of the 18th of November last, that His Catholic Majesty had determined that, on granting in future to Merchant Vessels *Licenses* to navigate, a special condition should be inserted in the Bond of Security required from the Owners of the Vessels, that they should not be employed in the Slave Trade.

But you will observe to M. Zea, that there is nothing in this regulation which would prohibit *Private Cruisers*, having Letters of Marque, from engaging in the Slave Trade. Such a prohibition would be, nevertheless, clearly conformable to the spirit of His Catholic Majesty's determination.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 16.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, January 24th, 1825.

I SEND to you the copy of a Despatch, dated the 20th of September, which I have received from His Majesty's Commissary Judge at the *Havannah*, containing suggestions with respect to the disposal of *Negroes* emancipated under the Slave Trade Treaty with Spain.

It is to be presumed, from the manner in which the subject has been treated between *Mr. Kilbee* and the Captain-General of *Cuba*, that no specific directions have been given by the Government of Spain for the disposal of Slaves who may be placed under their protection in the event of emancipation under the Treaty. The suggestions of *Mr. Kilbee* appear to be well calculated to effect the beneficent object of that protection; and you will request from the Government of Spain an explanation of their intentions on this head, throwing out, at the same time, *Mr. Kilbee's* suggestions, for the consideration of the Spanish Ministry.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 17.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, January 24th, 1825.

I FURNISH you with the Extract of a Despatch, dated the 20th

of September, which I have received from His Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havannah, and of the answer which I have this day returned to it; upon the subject of the *maintenance of Slaves* found on board of Vessels detained for illegal Slave Trade.

I have to desire that, in reference to the application, a copy of which you will find in Sir W. A'Court's Despatch of January 21st, 1824, you will make this point the subject of a renewed Representation to the Spanish Government, urging them to send out to their Commissioners, at the Havannah and Sierra Leone, Instructions corresponding with those which have been given to His Majesty's Commissioners upon the point in question.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 18.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.
—(Received January 31st.)

SIR,

Madrid, January 18th, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th of November and 17th of December, last; the former relating to the facilities given to this Traffic at *Cuba*, the latter suggesting an extension of the Regulation respecting the *Registry* of Vessels to *private Cruisers*.

I have transmitted the Documents enclosed in the first of these Despatches to the Spanish Government, accompanied by the enclosed Note.

On the receipt of the second, I communicated its contents, verbally, to M. Zea, and His Excellency appeared to think that there would be no difficulty on the subject. He expressed, however, the desire to have the wishes of His Majesty's Government communicated in writing, in order that he might consult with the Minister of Marine upon the measures to be devised in order to meet them;—a suggestion which I accordingly complied with.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq. to M. de Zea Bermudez.

SIR,

Madrid, 30th November, 1824.

THE undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, in pursuance of the instructions received from his Government, has the honour to communicate to His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez, copies of two Despatches with their enclosures, received from His Majesty's Commissary Judge residing at *The Havannah*, under the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, by which His Excellency will perceive, that the above Traffic is carried on with great impunity in the Island of *Cuba*, and that the authorities, however well disposed, are unable to stop its progress under the existing laxity of the Colonial Laws. Within the period of eight months, no less than 34 Vessels had sailed from the Havannah alone, notoriously for the purpose

of engaging in the Slave Trade; and the fraudulent intentions of the owners are frequently facilitated, by their Vessels, on their return from their original destination in Africa, being officially reported to have returned from other ports.

As the new regulations, which His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez did the undersigned the honour to communicate to him in his Note of the 18th instant, have in a great measure anticipated the wishes of His Majesty's Government on this subject; he will merely express the hope, that no time will be lost in making them known to the Captain-General of *Cuba*, in order that the beneficial intentions of His Catholic Majesty, effectually to put down this disgraceful traffic in the Colonial Possessions of Spain, may no longer be frustrated, and the laws evaded by the methods hitherto so successfully employed for that purpose.

The undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 19.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, February 18, 1825.

IN reference to my Despatches to you, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th October, 1824, and of January 24th, 1825, upon the subject of the *Maria de la Gloria*, and of the question of *Emancipated Slaves*, as arising out of the treatment of the Slaves which were landed from that Vessel, I send to you the copy of a despatch upon this subject, dated the 15th of November last, which I have received from His Majesty's Commissary Judge at *The Havannah*; and I have to desire that you will bear in mind the purport of this despatch, and make such use of it as may be most expedient in your communications with the Spanish Government upon the points in question.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

Mr. Secretary Canning to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1825.

I SEND to you herewith the copies of two Despatches from *Mr. Kilbee*, His Majesty's Commissary Judge at *The Havannah*, dated the 15th and 28th of November last. You will find in these papers, and particularly in the Note addressed to the Captain-General by *Mr. Kilbee* on the 14th of November, 1824, a detailed statement of the mode by which the laws of Spain, abolishing the Slave Trade, are evaded in the Island of *Cuba*.

You will address a note upon the subject to the Spanish Government. You will comment upon the cases of the *Nicana*, the *Tranquilidad*, and the *Marie*, which had recently arrived at *The Havannah*, nominally in ballast, but notoriously with cargoes of Slaves which they brought from Africa, and landed at the back of the Island; and you will press upon the

Government of His Catholic Majesty the adoption of some measures which shall give efficacy to the solemn compact entered into by Spain, in the year 1817, for the abolition of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 21.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received February 27, 1825.)

SIR,

Madrid, February 17, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which I addressed to His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez, on the 20th of November last, in compliance with the Instructions contained in your despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th October.

I had inadvertently neglected to transmit this note at an earlier period.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 21.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq. to M. de Zea Bermudez.

SIR,

Madrid, November 20, 1824.

IN my conversation with Your Excellency a few days since, I had the honour to state to you that I should shortly have to address you on the subject of certain proceedings at *The Havannah*, on the occasion of the capture of a Portuguese Brig the *Maria del Gloria*, under suspicion of illegal Slave Trading.

As it appears that Your Excellency is already acquainted with the particulars of this case, it is unnecessary for me to enter into a detailed statement thereof.

Your Excellency will have perceived that some discussion took place between the Captain-General, the Admiral, and the members of the Mixed Commission, on account of the attempt made by the Court of Admiralty of *The Havannah*, to assume to itself the investigation of the case, on the ground that although the Vessel in question had been detained on the Coast of *Cuba*, by His Catholic Majesty's Brig of War *Marte*, she had originally been captured by the *Romano* Privateer.

The decision of this point was in consequence referred to the Captain-General, and His Excellency decided in favour of the powers which had been granted to the Mixed Commission, by the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

I have been instructed to express to the Government of His Catholic Majesty the satisfaction which has been felt by His Majesty's Government at learning the strenuous and upright manner in which the Captain-General of *The Havannah* thus executed the intention of his Sovereign, in the due fulfilment of the compact between the two countries for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I am to express the hope of the King's Government, that the conduct of that officer in this instance will have met with and received the approbation of his Sovereign.

I am directed at the same time to remark, that in the printed copy of the Instructions with which the Captain of the *Marte* was provided, there was no signature of the Minister of Marine, and to request that in order to prevent any difficulties and discussions on this point in future, that formality may henceforth be observed, conformably to the Eleventh Article of the Instructions, which expressly require that the signature of the Minister of Marine shall be affixed to all Copies of Instructions furnished to a Cruiser of the Contracting Parties to the Treaty.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 22.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq., to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received February 27th, 1825.)

SIR,

Madrid, 17th February, 1825.

IN compliance with the directions contained in your despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 24th ultimo, I have called the attention of the Spanish Minister to the important subject of the *disposal of Slaves after Emancipation*, in the Note which I have the honour to enclose.

I at the same time transmitted to His Excellency a Copy of *Mr. Kilbee's* despatch, as the best mode of drawing the attention of the Spanish Government to the suggestions contained in that Document.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 22.

G. S. Bosanquet, Esq., to M. de Zea Bermudez.

Madrid, February 10, 1825.

AS it appears by the communications which have lately taken place between *Mr. Kilbee*, His Britannic Majesty's Commissary Judge residing at *The Havannah*, under the Slave Trade Treaty, and the Captain-General of *Cuba*, that no specific directions have yet been given by the Government of His Catholic Majesty, for the *disposal of Negroes* who may be placed under their protection after emancipation, the undersigned has received the Instructions of his Government to call the attention of His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez to this subject, and to request an explanation of the intentions of the Spanish Government upon a point so essential to the welfare of the unfortunate beings who may be thus situated.

The undersigned has the honour to transmit to His Excellency enclosed, an extract of a despatch on this subject, addressed by *Mr. Kilbee* to *Mr. Canning*, the suggestions contained in which appear so well calculated to effect the beneficent object of ensuring the Slaves due protection, that he flatters himself they will be found worth consideration.

He avails himself, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

His Excellency Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 23.

George S. Bosanquet, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received
March 28th, 1825.)

SIR,

Madrid, 13th March, 1825.

WITH reference to a despatch addressed to Sir William A'Court, under date the 31st of March, 1824, complaining that importations of Slaves were permitted by the Governor of *Porto Rico*, and directing a representation to be made in consequence to the Spanish Government; I have the honour to transmit the copy of a note which has been addressed to me by M. Zea, containing explanations on this subject.

The Captain-General of that Island positively denies that any such infraction of the Slave Trade Treaty has been allowed, either by His Excellency or the authorities under his command, and adds that the foreigners who have been allowed to settle in the colony, with their Slaves, have been compelled to observe certain regulations for preventing such abuses. He thinks, therefore, that the reports which have given rise to this complaint must have arisen from proceedings of a similar nature being carried on in some of the neighbouring Islands.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch marked Slave Trade of the 18th of February, enclosing a communication from Mr. Kilbee on the subject of the disposal of *emancipated Negroes*. Having already explained fully to the Spanish Minister the necessity of coming to some decision on this point, I shall reserve the additional observations contained in Mr. Kilbee's despatch, until it may appear necessary to make use of them.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE S. BOSANQUET.

The Right Hon. George Canning,

&c.

&c.

&c.

*Enclosure in No. 23.**M. de Zea Bermudez to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.*

MUY SEÑOR MIO,

Palacio, 6 de Marzo, 1825.

CONSIGUIENTE à la manifestacion que el antecesor de V.S. se servio hacer en 17 de Abril, del año ultimo, relativamente al supuesto Trafico de Negros en la Isla de *Puerto Rico*, se pusieron en su noticia en 30 del mismo de orden del Rey mi augusto Amo las providencias y ordenes expedidas, a fin de adguirir noticias y contener estos excesos si existian en efecto.

El Capitan-General de Puerto Rico, informando en virtud de lo que sé le provinó, hace ver que ninguna de las Autoridades de la Isla ha permitida la infraccion que se reclama de Tratados que respetan y observan escrupulosamente. La colonizacion que han consentido de Estrangeros con sus Esclavos, ha sido exáctamente dirigida por las reglas que establece la Real *Cedula* de 10 de Agosto de 1815, y con las formalidades debidas para precaver toda especie de fraudes. Seguro que en la Isla cuyo mando le ha confiado su Majestad no se ha notado este escandolo, teme se verifique en las Islas Amigas; y descoso de la mayor prosperidad de aquella posesion promete la mas exacta vigilancia, sin separarse jamas de la obligacion que le imponen las Leyes y los Tratados.

Cerciorado S. M. con estas noticias de la puntual observancia de sus superiores mandatos, y satisfecho al mismo tiempo al que seran,

bastantes a desvanecer los indicados recelos, me manda comunicar à V. S. estos avisos del Capitan-General de *Puerto Rico* para que V. S. haga de ellos el uso que tenga por conveniente.

Tengo el honor, &c.,

(Firmado)

FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.

Sr. Encargado de Negocios de Inglaterra,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 23.

(Transaltion.)

M. de Zea Bermudez to George S. Bosanquet, Esq.

SIR,

Palace, March 6, 1825.

IN consequence of the communication which your predecessor was pleased to make on the 17th of April, of last year, manifesting the apprehension that the Slave Trade was carried on at *Porto Rico*; he was made acquainted, on the 30th of the same month, by the Commands of the King, my August Master, with the measures taken, and orders transmitted for the purpose of obtaining information on this subject, and checking these excesses should they really exist.

The explanation given by the Captain-General of *Puerto Rico* in pursuance of these orders, prove that none of the authorities in the Island have permitted any such infraction of the Treaties as those complained of, but that on the contrary these Treaties have been scrupulously respected and observed.

The settlement of foreigners, with their Slaves, which has been allowed, has been carried on in exact conformity with the regulations established by the *Royal Cedula* of the 10th August, 1815, and with all the formalities requisite to prevent fraud. His Excellency, feeling certain that no such scandalous proceeding has been remarked in the Island, the government of which His Majesty has committed to his charge, is apprehensive it may have taken place in the neighbouring Islands, and being anxious to promote the prosperity of this possession, he promises to observe the most active vigilance, without ever departing from those obligations which are imposed on him by the Laws and by Treaties.

His Majesty feeling satisfied, Sir, from these communications, that his sovereign mandates have been punctually observed, and convinced at the same time that they will be sufficient to do away the apprehensions entertained, has commanded me to communicate to you the above advices received from the Governor of *Porto Rico*, in order that you may make of them whatever use you think proper.

I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed)

FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.

The English Chargé d'Affaires,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 24.

Mr. Secretary Canning to the Right Hon. Frederick Lamb.

SIR,

Foreign Office, April 4th, 1825.

IN your communications with the Government of Spain, you will take an early opportunity of adverting to the subject of the Abolition of Slave Trade.

You will express the regret which is experienced by His Majesty, and

the feeling of disappointment which has been excited in the Parliament and people of England, by the statements which we continually receive, indicating the open and uncontrolled activity with which this traffic is still carried on by the subjects of Spain, not only in evasion, but in apparent defiance of the Treaty concluded by His Catholic Majesty in 1817, for abolishing the African Slave Trade.

Information from *Cuba* shows, that forty-four vessels, conveying (upon a fair calculation) above 16,000 Slaves from Africa, arrived at The Havannah in the course of the last year, having landed their cargoes in that Island.

The authorities of the Colony take no notice of these arrivals, and their negligence is seconded by the connivance of the Naval officers, and by the apathy of the Government of Spain.

The Captain-General of *Cuba* declares that copies of the additional Articles to the Treaty, which Articles were concluded so far back as December, 1822, have never yet been transmitted to him by his Government; and he has, accordingly, refused to act upon their stipulations.

Vessel after vessel clears out from *Cuba* regularly for the coast of Africa, and, after an absence of the usual period for the voyage, returns laden with Slaves, lands her cargo at the back of the Island, and puts into The Havannah, declaring herself to have returned in ballast. These declarations are universally admitted by the local authority without inquiry, and the Ship is allowed to enter. The representations of His Majesty's Commissary Judge at The Havannah are of no effect; he is either answered that it does not lie within his sphere to demand an inquiry, or he is referred from one authority to another, and each authority declares that it does not feel itself called upon to interfere in the matter, in any way that can be effectual: when all these evasions and excuses are exhausted, His Majesty's Commissary Judge is told at times that the question has been referred to Madrid; and the fact, that the Articles of December, 1822, have not yet been acted upon by the Government of Spain is of itself sufficient to prove how hopeless any reference from the authorities of *The Havannah* to the Court of Madrid is become, upon a question of fulfilling the Treaty for abolishing the Slave Trade.

In the mean time the trade increases. The concerns of the traffic are carried on in shares. The adventurers in these shares do not conceal their interest in them, and it is notorious that there is scarcely an individual in the department of the local Government itself, who is not directly, or indirectly, concerned in the trade.

From the correspondence in the Archives of the British Mission at Madrid, you will learn a detail of these facts, and also the notice which has been repeatedly given of them to the Spanish Government by His Majesty's Representative at that Court.

I forward to you, herewith, copies of some further communications which have recently been received from *Mr. Kilbee**, and also a communication from the Admiralty, dated March 19th, in corroboration of the statements which form the ground of this instruction. I particularly beg your attention to the letter of *Messrs. Dutocq*, merchants at *The Havannah*, adventurers in this traffic, descriptive of the open manner in which the trade is carried on, and of the protection of which they state themselves to be assured from the local authorities, in the support of their lawless enterprises.

I have His Majesty's especial commands to desire that you will, referring to the several points upon this subject of deep and general interest, on which the Spanish Government have already been addressed

* See CLASS A., Nos. 93—100.

ineffectually on the part of His Majesty, frame a strong remonstrance to the Government of Spain, calling upon His Catholic Majesty to carry into effect with good faith the engagements into which He solemnly entered for the abolition of the traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Frederick Lamb,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 24.

J. W. Croker, Esq., to Joseph Planta, Junior, Esq.

SIR,

Admiralty Office, 19th March, 1825.

I AM commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Lawrence Halsted, with copies of the several letters and papers therein referred to, containing an account of the capture of a Slave vessel, the *Zee Bloem*, under Dutch colours, by a *Columbian* cruiser, near the Island of *Cuba*, and some information relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on in the *West Indies*.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

J. W. CROKER.

Joseph Planta, Junior, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 24.

Vice-Admiral Halsted to J. W. Croker, Esq.

*Serapis, in Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica,
January 12, 1825.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter with several enclosures from Lieutenant Cawley of the *Grecian*, reporting that the *Columbian* Cruiser, "*Zulmè*," had boarded a suspicious Vessel he was in chase of, on the 2d instant, off the west end of *St. Domingo*, which proved to be the Schooner "*Zee Bloem*," under Dutch colours, from *St. Jago de Cuba* bound to *St. Eustatia*, and had sent her into *Carthagen*a for adjudication, from having first boarded the said Schooner, and in consequence also of her having thrown overboard a set of *Spanish* papers during the chase.

The several enclosures (some of which are copies of letters, broken open by the Captain of the *Zulmè*) will point out pretty clearly to their Lordships the mode in which the Slave Trade is carried on, and leave little doubt, at the same time, of the Schooner in question having recently landed a cargo of Slaves in *Cuba*, whilst from the complete state of her equipment, as shown in the enclosure No. 1, and the arrangements made by the parties interested, there is every reason to suppose, when she was detained, she was proceeding to *St. Eustatius*, preparatory to making another voyage to the Coast.

There are also amongst the enclosures two letters, numbered 2 and 3, which will not escape their Lordships' attention; the one (No. 3) stating the publicity in some measure of Negro sales, and the landing of the cargo of the *French* Brig, "*Les Deux Nantois*," which was lately detained by the *Primrose*, and subsequently liberated, as reported in my letter (No. 245) of the 19th ultimo; the other (No. 2) detailing the favourable

result of the sales of the Negroes at *St. Jago de Cuba* during the season, and soliciting a few more shipments of that sort.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. W. HALSTED.

John Wilson Croker, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 24.

Lieutenant Cawley to Vice-Admiral Halsted.

*His Majesty's Cutter, Grecian, Port Royal Harbour,
January 8, 1825.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that, in compliance with your orders of the 3d of November last, I sailed from Port Royal in His Majesty's Cutter, *Grecian*, under my command, on the 6th of November, and arrived off St. Jago de Cuba on the 8th, and continued cruising between that Port and Cumberland Harbour until the 28th, when I bore up for Port Antonio, and arrived there on the 29th for further orders. I sailed again on the 1st of December, and arrived off St. Jago's on 2d of December. On the 5th, I communicated with His Majesty's Sloop, *Primrose*, in Cumberland Harbour, and immediately sailed for Cape Maize, and continued to cruise between it and the Island of Tortugas until the 2d of January, on which day, at 7.30 P.M., being then in chase of a suspicious sail, I fell in with two *Columbian* Cruisers, the *Funante* and *Zulmè*, the latter of which boarded chase, which proved to be the *Zee Bloem* Schooner of 177 tons, from St. Jago de Cuba, bound to St. Eustatius, and having no satisfactory papers on board, and being very suspicious, I agreed with the Columbians to take her into Cumberland Harbour for further investigation, and found, from the examination of her Master and Crew, that her *Spanish* papers had been thrown overboard.

A copy of the examination, as likewise the letters and papers found on board of her, I have herewith enclosed (No. 1 to No. 12); part of which gives some important information, which I trust may be of service. I have this day arrived at Port Royal, where I beg to await your further orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN CAWLEY.

Vice-Admiral Sir L. W. Halsted, K.C.B.

Fourth Enclosure in No. 24.

(1.) *An Inventory of some things found on board the Zee Bloem Schooner,
January 8, 1825.*

A complete set of spare Coppers.

Shackles and Bolts.

Hatch-bars fitted for Stocks.

Complete spare Deck in planks, fitted and marked for laying down.

One tier Ledgers.

Several spare Trucks for Gun Carriages.

Two partition Bulk heads.

Hand Shackles and Bolts, and Implements for confining Slaves.

Several Casks full of Cannister Shot, and Iron Bolts cut in short lengths and tied up.

One long Nine-pounder on a pivot.

Two short Nine-pounder Carriage-guns.

Twenty-four Muskets and Bayonets.

She was well found with every requisite for carrying on the Slave Trade.

Fifth Enclosure in No. 24.

(Translation.)

(2.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Messrs. Bannaffe and Lariviere.**St. Jago de Cuba, December 12, 1824.*

UNDER the auspices of Mr. Couronneau of Bourdeaux, our friend, we have the honour of tendering to you our services at this place. You know, Gentlemen, that the advantage which our market offers for the disposal of *Ebony*, gives it a great preference over any of our other Colonies; and it strikes us, that it would suit you to send to it a few shipments of that sort. We have received this year a great many cargoes of that article; on account of Merchants of *Nantes*, and towards the end of January, we expect here other ships that have sailed from the last-mentioned Port. All our sales have been attended with a favourable result; the longest credit is fourteen months. It is always difficult enough to get cash, but by making sacrifices, one may still succeed in covering the amount of the fitting-out. We must, however, tell you that our town is one of those, where the payments are most punctual, and our last account-sales have left a capital of more than half cash, and half at twelve months' credit. The last cargo sold here was that of the *Harriette* of *Nantes*; 328 logs were disposed of on their landing (those that were damaged excepted) at 225 dollars each, payable part in cash, and part at eight, and part at twenty months' credit. This merchandise was of a very ordinary nature, and had suffered much; by getting rid of the article at once, you make a much better thing of it. Hitherto, the Vessels have made the little Bay, *Uragua Grande*, situated six leagues ahead of the *Morro*; it is a spot where the landing is easily and conveniently effected. After the landing, the Vessel enters the Port, and the ——— repair to the plantation, where they are very well ———.

It is upon this spot that the Vessels must endeavour to approach, using at the same time a great deal of precaution, on account of the cruisers. They must guard against reconnoitering *Guantanamo*; and stretching along the Coast, they must pass to the southward of *St. Domingo*, and keep in the offing. If on making *Uragua* they discover a suspicious Vessel, they must immediately proceed to the *Morro*, and anchor under the Fort with their signal flying. There they will receive instructions relative to the spot where they must land, and they may without inconvenience send a boat on shore. The Commandant, who is devoted to us, would deliver a letter of instruction to the Captain. In the event of being chased, it would be adviseable for the Vessel to continue her course to leeward as far as a small Bay called *Assaradero*, which is situated about six leagues from *Fort Morro*, where she would meet with assistance, observing that in a case of imminent danger one may run ashore in the first small creek that presents itself. There are always there Indians, through whom a letter can be forwarded to town. When once the cargo is on shore, all risk is at an end.

We have this day to communicate to you a circumstance that will, no doubt, afford you as much interest as it does to us.

The Brig *Two Nations*, Captain *Peltier*, which had lately been captured by an English Cruiser (at the moment when she appeared before *Uragua* with a cargo of *Ebony*), and carried to *Kingston*, has been released, the Admiral having declared that no one had the right of capturing the *French Flag*. In consequence of this, the Brig returned to *Uragua*, where she landed 456 logs. Had the wood been good, it would have had a fine sale; but owing to the bad state of the bulk of the cargo, which had suffered much, it is of the smallest kind. The liberation of this Vessel offers to us the assurance, that our flag will henceforth be respected. The three vessels that were cruising upon our Coast were

immediately recalled to Jamaica. As to the *Dutch*, there is only one *English* Vessel of War in our latitude commissioned to capture them, the others are altogether interdicted that right.

We consider, therefore, that there is no longer any risk upon our Coast, and that Vessels may present themselves with all safety before *Uragua*, where we constantly keep a Pilot. The sales meet with no opposition, and are carried on in some measure publicly.

Our coffee is still falling; no one would pay on the present day more than 9 or 9½ for the best: some fine has been bought lately at 8 and 8½.

We have the honour to salute you,

(Signed)

L. DUTOCQ and Co.

Messrs. Bannaffe and Lariviere, Point à Petre, Guadaloupe.

MEM.—Two letters, one directed to Messrs. Sanbor, Toubert, and Co., St. Thomas; the other directed to Monsieur A. Anthoine, Nantes, are worded precisely the same as the above.

Sixth Enclosure in No. 24.

(Translation.)

(3.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Messrs. G. Segand and Son.*

GENTLEMEN,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 29th, 1824.

WE have this day to communicate to you a circumstance that will, no doubt, afford you as much interest as it does to us.

The Brig *Two Nations*, (Query, *Deux Nantois*,) Captain *Peltier*, which had lately been captured by an English Cruiser, (at the moment when she appeared before *Uragua* with a cargo of *Ebony*,) and carried to Kingston, has been released, the Admiral having declared that no one had the right of capturing the *French* Flag. In consequence of this the Brig returned to *Uragua*, where she landed 456 logs. Had the wood been good it would have had a fine sale, but owing to the bad state of the bulk of the cargo, which had suffered much, it is of the smallest kind. The liberation of this vessel offers to us the assurance that our Flag will henceforth be respected. The three vessels that were cruising upon our coast were immediately recalled to Jamaica. As to the *Dutch*, there is only one *English* Vessel of War in our latitude commissioned to capture them; the others are altogether interdicted that right.

We consider, therefore, that there is no longer any risk upon our Coast, and that Vessels may present themselves, with all safety, before *Uragua*, where we constantly keep a Pilot. The sales meet with no opposition, and are carried on in some measure publicly.

Our Coffee is still falling; no one will pay, in the present day, more than 9 or 9½ for the best; some fine has been bought lately at 8 and 8½.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

L. DUTOCQ and Co.

Cate and Bourdeaux Wine at 24 and 25 Dollars the Cask.

Messrs. G. Segand and Son, Point à Petre.

Seventh Enclosure in No. 24.

(4.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co.*

GENTLEMEN,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 24th, 1824.

THIS will be handed to you by *Captain J. Goldwaith*, Master of the Schooner *Zee Bloem*, who, in pursuance of instructions, visits your Port on his passage up to *St. Eustatia*, and we take pleasure in improving this opportunity of introducing him to your acquaintance; and to re-

quest for him your best advice and assistance towards the accomplishment of his views.

We take leave to open a credit in favour of *Captain Goldwaith*, which we beg you to recognise to the extent of Twelve thousand Dollars, (12,000\$) and hereby acknowledge our responsibility for any transactions of his to that amount.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

L. DUTOCQ and Co.

(Signature of) *J. Goldwaith*.

Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co., St. Thomas.

Eighth Enclosure in No. 24.

(5.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co.*

GENTLEMEN,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 27th, 1824.

THIS will be handed you by *Captain J. Goldwaith*, in command of the *Dutch Schooner Zee Bloem*, to whom we have given a credit on you for Twelve Thousand Dollars, (12,000\$) as per Instructions of her Owner. Said Captain will advise with you as to the best mode to proceed in order to execute his voyage; he has our entire confidence, and to that extent in advances, and your most excellent advice, and efficient aid in all things, we beg leave to introduce him.

We are, &c.

For L. DUTOCQ and Co.,
AUG. NUIRY.

(Signed)

Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co., St. Thomas.

Ninth Enclosure in No. 24.

(6.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co.*

DEAR SIRS,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 28th, 1824.

WE have the pleasure to own yours of the 16th instant, handed by our friend *Captain Williams*, covering sundry Accounts, and account current, shewing a balance against us of 17,134 $\frac{5.1}{100}$ Dollars, (Seventeen Thousand One Hundred and Thirty-four $\frac{5.1}{100}$ Dollars,) all which appears correct, and has been placed full due from 1st to 10th of June next.

We herewith enclose you the *Counter-Bond* for the *Zee Bloem*.

Referring to and confirming our respects of the 24th and 27th, presented by *Captain Goldwaith*,

We are, &c.,

For L. DUTOCQ and Co.
AUG. NUIRY.

(Signed)

Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co., St. Thomas.

Tenth Enclosure in No. 24.

(7.) *Counter-Bond for the Schooner Zee Bloem.*

St. Jago de Cuba, December 24th, 1824.

WE acknowledge to be indebted to Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co., in the sum of Sixteen Hundred Dollars currency of the Island of *Eustatius*, which we oblige ourselves to pay to them, or their order, for value received.

The condition of the above obligation is such, That whereas *Nathaniel Mussenden*, of *St. Eustatius*, has entered into bond to the Government of *St. Eustatius* in the like sum of Sixteen Hundred Dol-

lars, payable to the said Government in case the *Dutch Schooner Zee Bloem*, of 177 tons, commanded, or to be commanded, by *John Goldwaith*, should, at any time, under the Flag of *The Netherlands*, be found employed in the Traffic of Slaves. Now, should it happen that the said Nathaniel Mussenden be caused to pay bond to the said Government, then this obligation to stand in full force against us, otherwise to be null and void.

(Signed) L. DUTOCQ and Co.

Eleventh Enclosure in No. 24.

(Translation.)

(8.) *Passport of the Schooner Zee Bloem.*

BY William Augustus Von Spengler, Colonel and Captain in the Navy, in the service of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, Governor of the Islands of St. Eustatius, St. Martin's, and Saba, and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces, stationed at those places, &c. &c. &c.

The much-respected Mr. Nathaniel Mussenden, a Citizen and Inhabitant, as well as a Member of the Council of Police of this place, having represented to us that a Schooner has been purchased on his account at St. Jago de Cuba, called the *Flower of the Sea*, measuring 170 American tons, and carrying 3 large guns and 24 small arms; and having also, under these circumstances, requested that he may be furnished with a provisional Sea Pass for the said Vessel, now his property, in order to enable him to have her brought over here in safety under the *Dutch Flag*.

We do therefore, by these presents, permit the Skipper, John Goldwaith, who has been appointed by Mr. Nathaniel Mussenden to that effect, to bring over from St. Jago de Cuba to this Port the said Schooner *Flower of the Sea*, under the *Dutch Flag*, in ballast, and with a crew of 17 men, observing that the present Passport is only valid for three weeks and no more.

Given under our hand at the Government-house at St. Eustatius, the 11th of December, 1824, in the Twelfth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

(Signed) W. A. VAN SPENGLER.

By Command of His Excellency M. H. CRUGER, ³
Governor's Secretary for the time being.

Twelfth Enclosure in No. 24.

(9.) *Messrs. Wright and Shelton to Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co.*

GENTLEMEN, *St. Jago de Cuba, December 28th, 1824.*

AT the desire of our friends, Messrs. *Lewis Dutocq and Co.*, we hereby offer you our guarantee for the extent of their letter of credit, bearing date the 24th instant, in favour of Captain J. Goldwaith, say for 12,000 Dollars, (Twelve Thousand Dollars.)

We are, &c.

(Signed) WRIGHT and SHELTON.

Messrs. Cabot, Bailey, and Co.

Thirteenth Enclosure in No. 24.

(10.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to Captain J. Goldwaith.*

SIR, *St. Jago de Cuba, December 30th, 1824.*

THE Instructions of your owner are received, by which we are

directed to advise your proceeding at once in the *Zee Bloem* for St. Eustatia, to touch at St. Thomas, where probably further Instructions may be for your government.

Wishing you a prosperous voyage,

We are, &c.

(Signed)

L. DUTOCQ and Co.

Captain J. Goldwaith, Schooner *Zee Bloem*.

Fourteenth Enclosure in No. 24.

(11.) *L. Dutocq and Co. to David N. Ogden.*

DEAR SIR,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 30th, 1824.

WE are just in possession of your's, bearing date the 18th instant, and observe the several points affecting our dependencies under your charge. The proposition made by Messrs. Segond must be accepted, if no better can be had from them. Use, therefore, your best exertions to obtain, if possible, more favourable conditions; but, failing therein, close with them at once on the terms proposed.

In our verbal communications we so fully explained to you our ideas on the subject of your mission, that we conceive it useless now to repeat them. You must be well aware of the points that can be pressed with the most advantage, and we rely on your making the most of them.

You will have noticed that the terms proposed are not so favourable as those enjoyed by the other party interested, inasmuch as it is upwards of six months since their settlement was received, which gives an advantage of that time on the whole amount of their interest, whereas a difference of only three months on one-third is offered to us.

Bear also in mind the time that must necessarily transpire from their tender of the conditions until your acceptance of them, which they will, of course, make allowance for in the term of the bills; and observe, that much advantage will accrue in their negotiation, by having the sight of the bills shortened as much as possible.

We wish you to remit the drafts as soon as practicable, by several conveyances to our friends, Messrs. G. G. and S. Howland, of New York, to be by them placed in account with Messrs. Wright and Shelton.

Hoping to have early advice of your success, enclosing their business,

We are, &c.

(Signed)

L. DUTOCQ and Co.

David N. Ogden, Esq., Point-à-Petre, Guadaloupe.

Fifteenth Enclosure in No. 24.

(12.) *Depositions relative to the Schooner Flor del Mar.*

ON the 3d January, 1825, at four o'clock in the afternoon, while at anchor in the Port of Guatanamo, Island of Cuba, before the Captains of the National Privateers *Fumante*, (a brig,) and *Zulmè*, (a schooner,) belonging to the Port of Carthagena, personally appeared the under-mentioned Deponents, belonging to the Schooner "*Flor del Mar*," armed with 3 guns, 24 muskets, and a crew of 17 men, and proceeding from St. Jago de Cuba; who made the following depositions, conformably to the 15th Article of the Instructions for the Privateers of the Republic of Columbia.

1st. *John Golwich*, an American, Master of the Schooner "*Flor del Mar*," states, that said Vessel is from Cuba, bound to St. Thomas.

That he is sailing in the said Schooner under *Dutch* papers.

That she is in ballast.

That the Schooner was built at Baltimore, in the United States of America, and is the property of Mr. John Martin, an inhabitant of St. Eustatius, one of the Windward Islands.

That the Vessel was purchased two months ago at St. Jago de Cuba, by the *Spaniard*, *Louis Dutocq*, a Merchant of the said City, on account of the said John Martin, of St. Eustatius.

That the Schooner "*Flor del Mar*," entered two months ago, into the Port of St. Jago de Cuba, under the *Spanish* Flag, (but without any Document whatever, or papers of any Nation,) proceeding from the Coast of Africa, with a Cargo of New Negroes, and that close to the said port of St. Jago de Cuba, she was attacked and plundered by Pirates, who took away not only her Cargo, but also the Papers under which she sailed; and the Deponent further states that he does not know of what Nation they were.

That when the Schooner was attacked and plundered by the Pirates, she belonged in part to Mr. Louis Dutocq, and the remainder of her was the property of a Company of Merchants, of whose place of residence Deponent is ignorant.

That the Schooner left St. Jago de Cuba on the 2nd of January instant, and was despatched altogether by Mr. Louis Dutocq; Deponent having seen no other person interfere there with the management of her concerns, save the said Dutocq, from whom he received his Instructions.

That when the Vessel entered the Port of St. Jago de Cuba, under the Flag and circumstances before-mentioned, Deponent had been a little more than four months in the Island of Cuba.

That he (Deponent) had never lived more than five months in a Dutch Country; That he is a Dutch Citizen, but does not possess, neither did he ever possess, any Document of Dutch naturalization.

That he has not in his possession any Document to prove that the Schooner is *Dutch* property, save and except the Dutch Passport, which he exhibited or delivered up.

(Signed) JUAN GOLWITCH, CAPTAIN.

Lloyd B. Hopkins, a Citizen of the United States of America, second Captain of the Schooner *Flor del Mar*, states that the Vessel is sailing under the *Dutch* Flag, and that he does not know whether there be on board any other papers or Flag. That he does not know of what build she is, or where she was built.

That he does not know who purchased the said Schooner in Cuba, or even whether she was ever sold there. That he has no knowledge of any other owner of the Schooner *Flor del Mar*, except Mr. Louis Dutocq, by whom she was despatched from the Port of St. Jago de Cuba, and who had the whole management of her fitting out. That he (Deponent) was never naturalized a Dutchman, but always maintained his title of Anglo-American; and that he was born at Hertford in Maryland, in the United States of America. That the Schooner is in Ballast, armed with 3 Guns and 24 Muskets, Powder, and the necessary Shot, &c., for their use.

That it was only three days since that he embarked on board of the Schooner, in the capacity of Second Captain, and that he has only known her ten days.

(Signed) LLOYD B. HOPKINS.

Pablo Jorges, a Græek, and Boatswain of the Schooner *Flor del Mar*, states that he does not know what Flag the Vessel was under in the Port, or what Flag she made use of before, having only belonged to her six days; that at sea they used the *Dutch Flag*, and that on leaving the Port they hoisted the same; that they only left Cuba two days ago; that he is not a Dutch Citizen, neither was he ever naturalized as one, or as a Citizen of any other Nation; that he has traded to and resided in the Island of Cuba for two years, under the *Spanish Flag*; and that seven months ago he (Deponent) commanded a Sloop under Spanish colours, despatched from Cuba to the Coast; that he has no knowledge of the legitimate owner of the Schooner.

For PABLO JORGES, who cannot write,
(Signed) E. MORULLIER,
Clerk of the Schooner, ZULME.

Nine Individuals, composing part of the Seamen of the Schooner *Flor del Mar*, being then brought before the Commanders of the two National Privateers before mentioned, deposed as follows:—

They stated their Names to be *Jose Burgon*, a Spaniard, born at Bilboa, &c. (here follow the names and description of all the parties.)

To the first interrogatory they depose that they do not know the nature of the papers on board of the *Flor del Mar*.

2nd. That the Schooner was from St. Jago de Cuba, bound to St. Thomas, one of the Windward Islands.

3rd. That the Vessel is in Ballast, but that they neither know where she was built, nor to whom she belongs.

4th. That they sailed from St. Jago de Cuba on Sunday the 2nd of January instant, and that about two hours after leaving the Port, they descried a sail which gave them chase, but that they did not see whether the Captain threw away any papers overboard, as they (Deponents) were busy ahead, attending to the working of the Vessel. That at ten o'clock in the morning, or thereabout, the strange sail came up with them, and proved to be a Brigantine *Columbian Privateer*, whose name they do not know, but that the Captain's name is *Rafeti de la Margareta*, and that after visiting them, the Privateer allowed them to proceed on, having found no Papers on board, except a *Dutch Pass* or *Passport*. *Jose Burgon*, *Antonio Fernandez*, *Rafael Falion*, and *Manuel Gonzales*, state that they are true Spaniards, and belong to no other Nation but Spain, and that they acknowledge Ferdinand the Seventh as their lawful King and Master. The other Seamen declare that they have sailed with almost every Nation.

(Signed) By the several Parties.

Other Declaration.

Augustus Forguero, (a Genoese,) *J. B. Hector*, (a Frenchman,) *Celestin Deloain*, (a Frenchman,) *John Brown*, (an American,) and *John Bart*, (a Dane,) being then examined, depose that they are from St. Jago de Cuba, bound to St. Thomas. That the Schooner *Flor del Mar* is in ballast, but that they do not know under what Papers she sails. That she is American built, but that they do not know to whom she belongs.

That they left St. Jago de Cuba on Sunday, the 2nd January instant, and that about two hours afterwards they were chased by a strange sail, when the Captain of the *Flor del Mar*, seeing that she was gaining fast upon them, at about ten o'clock in the morning (*Augustus Forguero* being then at the helm) he, the said Captain of the *Flor del Mar*, emptied or threw

overboard a parcel or bundle of papers, to which he had previously fastened a stone, of sufficient weight to sink them to the bottom of the Sea.

That when the Columbian Privateer came up with them, (which was a Brigantine, of whose Name Deponents are ignorant,) her Captain, one Rafeti de la Margareta, overhauled the *Flor del Mar*, and allowed her to proceed, having found no other papers or Flag than the *Dutch Pass* or *Passport*, and a *Dutch Flag*.
(Signed) By the Parties.

On the 4th of January instant, at 10 o'clock in the morning, at anchor in the Port of Guantanamo, before the Officers of the two National Columbian Privateers before mentioned (His Britannic Majesty's Cutter, *Grecian*, Lieutenant *John Cawley*, being in company), appeared the second time, the Master or Captain of the Schooner *Flor del Mar*, *John Golwitch*; who deposed, that he is truly and *bona fide* Captain of the Spanish Schooner, *Flor del Mar*, from St. Jago de Cuba bound to St. Thomas, one of the Windward Islands, that the said Schooner is actually Spanish property, belonging to Mr. Louis Dutocq, an inhabitant and merchant of St. Jago de Cuba, and that she was despatched by the Government of that place with Spanish papers, but that on the morning of the day on which the said Schooner sailed from Cuba, she was chased by a strange Vessel, when he (Deponent) seeing that the chase was gaining fast upon the *Flor del Mar*, and having ascertained her to be a Columbian Privateer, determined, in order to save his Vessel, to throw all his Spanish papers overboard, and to avail himself of a *Dutch pass* or *passport* with which he had provided himself beforehand at Cuba, in order to guard against similar accidents. That the Schooner is wholly and truly Spanish property belonging to the trade of St. Jago de Cuba.

(Signed) in presence of witness,

JUAN GOLWITCH.

I, the Clerk of the National Schooner *Zulmè*, certify, that this document contains the copies of the declarations made by the Captain, Officers, and Seamen of the Schooner called the *Flor del Mar*, on the days and at the hours mentioned. In witness whereof, I now sign the same on board of the *Zulmè*, the 4th of January, 1825.

(Signed) ENRIQUE MARRULLIER.

No. 25.

Mr. Consul Brackenbury to Mr. Secretary Canning. (Received August 4, 1824.)

SIR,

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 6, 1824.

IT is my painful duty to apprise you, that there are two Spanish Vessels now fitted out in this Port, in such a manner as to leave no doubt that it is the intention of the owners to employ them in the Slave Trade.

Facts so notorious to others cannot be unknown to the Spanish Authorities here, and the objects of the owners of these Vessels have been facilitated by the grant of *Licenses* to them to carry guns.

The particulars of the Vessels I have the honour to enclose, with their reputed destinations. Mr. James Tinto, the owner of one of them, has said that if one Vessel out of the four escaped capture, the proprietors would be well paid by the enterprize: it is believed that four more Vessels are about to be taken up here for the same inhuman traffic.

I shall make these facts known to the Earl of Chatham, that His Excellency may communicate them to the Officers of the British Navy

touching at Gibraltar, in case any of them should be ordered to the Coast of Africa; I will also address myself to His Excellency, Sir W. A. Court.

I have no reason to believe, from the best information which I am enabled to obtain, that there is any other capital than that of *Spaniards* employed in this odious Expedition.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Particulars of Two Spanish Vessels fitted out at Cadiz.

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 6, 1824.

SPANISH Schooner, *Bella Dolores*, Don Antonio Guerrero, Master; burden, 170 tons; James Tinto, Owner,—bound to St. Augustin in the Island of Madagascar.

Brig, *Alerta*, Don Antonio Echeverria, Master; burden, 290 tons; Miguel Azopardo, Owner,—bound to Gibraltar and Havannah.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

No. 26.

Mr. Consul Brackenbury to Mr. Secretary Canning. (Received September 10, 1824.)

SIR,

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 20, 1824.

IN reference to my letter of the 6th instant, forwarded by the Marquis of Salisbury Packet on the 12th, I have the honour to enclose you a copy of a letter which I have since addressed to the Earl of Chatham (having previously apprized His Excellency of the sailing of the Spanish Brig *Alerta* for Gibraltar), in the which, if I have transgressed the bounds of my instructions, which confine my official communications to yourself, Sir, to His Majesty's Envoy at Madrid, and to the Consul-General in that city, I trust, Sir, that my excuse may be found in the singularity of the facts; in the importance of their being made known without delay to the Governor of a British Settlement, to which a Spanish Owner resorts with his Slave Ship, there to complete his cargo; in order that, if it be possible, His Excellency the Governor of Gibraltar may put a stop to such disgraceful proceedings, may deprive Spanish Slave Dealers from availing themselves of British protection to facilitate their inhuman purposes, and afford to the Officers of His Majesty's Navy such information as may assist them in the capture of such Vessels, should they be ordered from the Mediterranean to the Coast of Africa.

I have hitherto scrupulously endeavoured to confine myself in the discharge of my duties to the line marked out to me in my general instructions; and if I have erred on the present occasion, by going beyond the limits which you have therein assigned to me, I crave your indulgent interpretation of my conduct, from the knowledge of the earnest desire which His Majesty's Government feels, and which you yourself, Sir, have ever felt, to impede by every possible means the criminal undertakings of those who, in violation of existing Treaties, and in defiance of every Power, seek to enrich themselves by the purchase and sale of their fellow-men.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 26.**Mr. Consul Brackenbury to the Earl of Chatham.*

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 17, 1824.

I HAD the honour to address your Excellency on the 5th and 12th instant, since which time one of the Spanish Vessels alluded to in my latter letter, named the *Alerta*, has sailed from this Port, and is now in Gibraltar Bay, taking in such a cargo as demonstrates too plainly the inhuman trade in which the Owner means to employ her; amongst other things, this Brig has been taking in iron, which has been cut into bars of short lengths, a strong presumptive proof that the investment is for the Coast of Africa.

It is my duty, my Lord, to represent to your Excellency such facts, connected with this disgraceful enterprise, as have come to my knowledge; facts upon which your Excellency might place every reliance, if they were not susceptible of corroboration at the seat of your own Government; namely, that the Spanish Brig *Alerta*, Antonio Echeverria, Master, is now completing her cargo for the Coast of Africa, in the Port of Gibraltar; that she is nominally consigned to an English House there, but is virtually under the direction of the Owner, Miguel Azopardo.

As the nominal Consignees are young men of respectability, it is most earnestly to be hoped that they are ignorant of the enormity of their conduct, in suffering themselves to be instrumental to the detestable project of the Owner, by being the purchasers for him in an English Settlement, of the Articles which he wants for the outfit of a Slave Ship, though cloaked by him under false and perhaps plausible pretences: what is however known to me at Cadiz, and to others, ought to be known to the nominal Consignees at Gibraltar; and I conceive, too, that your Excellency should likewise know, that Miguel Azopardo, the Owner of the *Alerta*, is himself at Gibraltar, directing every purchase, and superintending every other preparation of his Brig, the *Alerta*, for a Slave Voyage to the Coast of Africa.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

His Excellency, the Earl of Chatham, K.G.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 27.

Mr. Consul Brackenbury to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received September 10, 1824.)

SIR,

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 22, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the other Slave Ship, to which I alluded in my letter of the 6th instant, namely the Schooner, the *Bella Dolores*, did also go to Gibraltar, as well as the Brig *Alerta*, referred to in my letter of the 20th.

As this Vessel was bound to Madagascar by the Coast of Africa, there could be no reason for her going up the Straights, but for the purpose of her taking in something necessary for her voyage; and as such may be the intention likewise of Owners of other Slave Ships, about to be fitted out from this Port, I have done myself the honour to add this circumstance to those which I stated on the 20th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

The Right Hon. George Canning,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 28.

Mr. Consul Brackenbury to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received August 20, 1824.)

SIR,

British Consulate, Cadiz, July 31, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that there is every reason to believe that another Spanish Schooner of 140 tons, called the "*Segunda Gallega*," which is now fitting out in this Port, is intended for the Slave Trade. I have communicated this fact to His Excellency, Sir William A'Court.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 29.

Mr. Consul Brackenbury to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received January 19, 1825.)

SIR,

British Consulate, Cadiz, December 11, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to enclose you two Newspapers, published in Cadiz on the 5th of May, and on the 17th of September, 1824; the former containing an advertisement for the *purchase of two Negroes*, male and female, in Cadiz; the latter for the *sale of a Negress* at Port St. Mary's.

In the former Case I have ascertained that in consequence of the advertisement, a negress was brought for sale to "The Three Kings," and there sold for two hundred and eight dollars. In the latter Case the girl was sold, but for what sum I have not been enabled to learn.

This practice of openly dealing in Slaves, within the limits of my Consulate, I consider it my duty to represent to you.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 29.

Extract from the "Diario Mercantil de Cadiz," of May 5, 1824.

"EN la fonda de los Tres Reyes hay quien quiere comprar un negro y una negra, que sean de buenas cualidades para el servicio domestico."

(Translation.)

"A person at the Three Kings' Inn wishes to purchase a Negro and Negress, possessed of good qualities for domestic service."

Second Enclosure in No. 29.

Extract from the "Diario Mercantil de Cadiz," of September 17, 1824.

"SE Vende una negra de 14 años cumplidos, natural de la Habana, sabe coser regularmente y labar, sana y sin defecto alguno. El que

quiera comprar la podra acudir al Puerto de Santa Maria, Calle Ancha de Santa Lucia, num 9."

(Translation.)

" ON Sale a Negress of upwards of 14 years of age ; she is a native of Havannah, can sew well and embroider, is sound, and without any defect whatever. Any person desirous of purchasing her may apply to No. 9, St. Lucy, Broad-street, Port St. Mary's."

No. 30.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Mr. Consul Brackenbury.

SIR,

Foreign Office, March 4th, 1825.

I HAVE received your letter of the 11th December, 1824, containing advertisements for the *Purchase and Sale of Negroes* at Cadiz and Port St. Mary's.

These Cases do not come under any of the circumstances enumerated in Article 5 of the Treaty with Spain, so as to constitute an illegal traffic under the Treaty.

I shall be glad, however, if you will make inquiries whether the existing laws in Spain sanction, or forbid, or are silent upon, this practice, that I may be the better enabled to judge how far a friendly representation may be made to the Spanish Government upon the example, thus permitted, of the sale of Slaves in the Mother Country.

Meanwhile, you will be cautious not to notice these transactions without Instructions from hence, and you will consider that you have no right to object to them.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

J. M. Brackenbury, Esq.

PORTUGAL AND BRAZIL.

PORTUGAL.

No. 31.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Edward Thornton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1824.

THE enclosed Copies of Letters, the one from the *Conde de Villa Real*, Portuguese Minister at this Court, the other from Mr. *Bandinel*, will shew to you, that the Portuguese Government have not yet given directions for the discharge of the *Portuguese moiety* of the *contingent expenses* at Sierra Leone, from October 1822, to July 1823, and also of the value of certain provisions furnished from His Majesty's magazines at Sierra Leone, to Portuguese Sailors at that place.

Copies of the Documents which have been presented on the occasion to His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister here, are now forwarded to you. You will be so good as to communicate upon the subject with the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, and represent to them the great inconvenience which arises from the repeated refusal made on their part to pay these charges, which are small in their amount, and regular in their nature; and which have moreover been advanced by the Agents of the King's Government for that of His Most Faithful Majesty.

I trust that, upon your representation of these circumstances, and on your recalling to the Portuguese Government the many applications which we have already been obliged to make to them on similar occasions, they will feel sensible of the absolute necessity that there should no longer be any demur in the payment of these charges.

I am, &c.

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Thornton, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 31.

The Conde de Villa Real to Mr. Secretary Canning.

South Audley Street, ce 16 Janvier, 1824.

LE Comte de Villa Real, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Très Fidèle, a eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note de Son Excellence M. Canning, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères, par laquelle Son Excellence lui demande s'il a reçu des Ordres pour payer au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, la somme de £77. 2s. 2½d. valeur de farine et provisions salées, fournies par les magasins de Sa Majesté Britannique établis à Sierra Leone à M. *Altavilla* pour le maintien de *Matelots Portugais*.

Le Soussigné s'empresse donc de faire savoir à M. Canning qu'il n'a pas reçu d'ordres à cet effet, et n'a eu jusqu'à ce moment aucune connoissance de ce fait. Il ne manquera pas de le communiquer à sa Cour pour que cette somme

soit acquittée, devant toutefois prévenir Son Excellence que M. *Altavilla* est la seule cause du délai qu'il y a eu à cet égard, en conséquence de celui qu'il met, depuis plusieurs mois, de se rendre à Lisbonne, comme il lui a été ordonné pour y régler les comptes des dépenses qu'il dit avoir faites à Sierra Leone.

Le Soussigné profite de cette occasion, &c.

(Signé) VILLA REAL.

Son Excellence M. Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 31.—(Translation.)

The Conde de Villa Real to Mr. Secretary Canning.

South Audley Street, January 16, 1824.

COUNT de Villa Real, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty, has had the honour to receive from His Excellency Mr. Canning, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Note in which His Excellency asks him whether he had received orders to pay to the Government of His Britannic Majesty the sum of £77. 2s. 2½d. due for flour and salt-provisions furnished out of the magazines of His Britannic Majesty at Sierra Leone to Mr. *Altavilla*, for the use of *Portuguese Sailors*.

The Undersigned, in consequence, loses no time in acquainting Mr. Canning that he has not received any orders to that effect, and that till this moment he had no knowledge of the transaction. He will not fail calling the attention of his Court to the necessity of discharging this sum: still, however, he must state to His Excellency that the delay in this respect is attributable to Mr. *Altavilla* alone, inasmuch as he has for several months past been under orders to repair to Lisbon to settle the account of the expenses which he alledges to have incurred at Sierra Leone.

The Undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed) VILLA REAL.

His Excellency Mr. Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 31.

James Bandinel, Esq. to Joseph Planta, Junr. Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, January 6, 1824.

I RECEIVED in the early part of October last, a Bill (of which the enclosed is a Duplicate) for eighty-two pounds, three shillings, and ninepence halfpenny sterling, drawn on the Portuguese Minister in London, by the Portuguese Commissary Judge, at Sierra Leone, in favour of the British Commissioners there, for the Portuguese share of the *Contingencies* of the Commission, from October 5, 1822, to July 5, 1823.

I deposited this Bill, in the usual manner, with my Bankers, that they might proceed in obtaining its acceptance, and its payment, when due; and that I might then credit the Commission Account with the amount of it, according to the wish of the Commissioners, as stated in their Letter.

It will be within your recollection, that this Bill was not accepted, and that you desired that recourse should not be had to the ultimate step of protesting it, unless payment should be refused, at the time when it should become due.

The Bill was, therefore, merely noted at the time, and was presented again on the 1st of January instant, the day on which it fell due, for payment.

Payment of the Bill not being made by the Portuguese Minister, a protest was accordingly entered into, stating the fact.

Former Bills for this service have been received by me, and have, when due, been paid by the Portuguese Minister.

I have the honour to submit to you a statement of these circumstances, that you may have the goodness to take the pleasure of Mr. Secretary Canning, as to the adopting any, and what, further steps for obtaining payment of the Portuguese share, of the expences of the joint Commission Court at Sierra Leone, from October 5, 1822, to July 5, 1823, and that you may honour me with any directions for my guidance on the subject.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES BANDINEL.

Joseph Planta, jun. Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 32.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March 15.)

SIR,

Lisbon, 5th March, 1824.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Dispatch of the 25th February, marked Slave Trade, with its two Inclosures, on the subject of the amount of two Bills, for the sum of One Hundred and Fifty-nine Pounds, Six Shillings, for *supplies* furnished to the Portuguese Government by that of His Majesty at Sierra Leone, and for the discharge of the moiety of the *contingent expences* at Sierra Leone, from October, 1822, to July, 1823.

I will in the course of this day draw up a Note upon this subject, to be presented to the Marquis of Palmella, and shall have the honour to apprise you of the result by a succeeding mail.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Hon. George Canning

&c. &c. &c.

No. 33.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March 15th.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, 8th March, 1824.

After I had dispatched my preceding number, of the 5th current, I communicated to the Marquis of Palmella, in the usual Ministerial Conference, the substance of your Dispatch of the 25th ultimo, in relation to the *two Bills*, promising to address a note to him on the subject, if he should desire it.

He observed to me, that although the Sum in question was small, and of no account in itself, yet he thought it very hard, taking it in conjunction with all the other *Expences* incident to the Slave-Trade Commissions, that in the present state of the relations between Portugal and the Brazils, burdens of this kind should be imposed upon the former, for enterprizes in which the *Portuguese* had no share, and from which they derived not the smallest Interest:

That the whole question of the illicit Traffick in Slaves, and of the Slave-Trade Commissions, affected *Brazilian* Interests alone, and that as the British

Government had Agents in Rio de Janeiro, application might with much more propriety be made to that Country for the re-imbusement of these charges.

I asked the Marquis of Palmella, half laughingly, whether for so trifling a consideration he would establish the precedent, of considering the Brazilian Government, independent as well in Interest as in Administration, of that of Portugal; and he answered me, in the same tone, that he would be willing to pay a much larger sum, if we would allow the contrary inference deducible from such an act, to be carried to its utmost extent. But, seriously, he added, if the two Countries had remained in their former state of Sovereignty and of Dependence, the Administration and Treasury of The Brazils would naturally have been charged with these expences, incurred in consequence of their enterprizes, or for their sole benefit.

I presume that the present account will be paid, as soon as the Marquis of Palmella shall have taken the orders of the King.

The Marquis added, that in the present moment, and in the uncertainty of their future relations, he did not wish this Government to agitate any question in relation to the Slave Trade Commissions: that if there were any one point which he would almost be willing to except, it would be that of consenting at once to the total Abolition of the Slave Trade, in which Portugal could have no Interest in case of the Independance of The Brazils, and the cessation of which might enable her to turn her African Colonies to some other account.

I ought to observe to you, Sir, while I am upon this subject, that I presented some time ago a Note to the Marquis of Palmella, upon the subject of the Portuguese Slave Ship, "*Sinceridade*," detailed in your Dispatch (Slave Trade) of the 25th of October, and verbally communicated to him the proposition in your Dispatch (Slave Trade) of the 6th November, of the last year,* that the *expences* of the Commission should be defrayed, in the instances there pointed out, from the *Proceeds* of the condemned vessels. Although M. de Palmella spoke then, as now, of his repugnance to discuss these questions at present, he acquiesced in the principle of this proposition, and thought that His Majesty's Government might well act upon it.

On the other point, although I am promised an answer, I doubt much whether, under present circumstances, it will be a definitive one.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 34.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received April 4th.)

SIR,

Lisbon, 15th March, 1824.

I ADDRESSED a Note to the Marquis of Palmella, as I had the honour of intimating to you in my preceding number, on the subject of the *two Bills* from Sierra Leone, of which I have the honour of transmitting a Copy inclosed; and to which I received two or three days ago an answer, a translation of which is annexed.

As this answer lays the delay of this payment to the neglect of the Commissioner Arbitrator, in rendering his accounts to the Portuguese Government, which is certainly no sufficient reason towards His Majesty's Government, I thought it best to notice it in that point of view, and addressed another Letter to him, of which I have the honour likewise of transmitting a Copy.

* See Class A, Session 1824. No. 4.

In a moment's conversation which I had with the Marquis to day, he repeated his observations upon the hardship of being called upon to defray the expences of a Commission for a Country the Sovereignty over which was only marked by these expences; but he said, he would take the King's commands about the payment of the Bills; although he would by no means answer for their continuing to do so in future.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Honourable George Canning.

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 34.

Sir Edward Thornton to the Marquis of Palmella.

Lisbon, 6th March, 1824.

THE Undersigned &c. has the honour of informing His Excellency the Marquis of Palmella, that by the packet boat just arrived, he has received instructions from his Court to demand from the Portuguese Government, the payment of two small Bills (amounting together to the sum of one hundred and fifty nine pounds six shillings); one of which was for the value of certain *provisions* furnished from the King's Magazines at Sierra Leone to *Portuguese sailors* at that place, and the other for the discharge of the Portuguese *moiety* of the *contingent expences* at Sierra Leone, from October 1822, to July 1823.

Both these Bills have been presented for payment to the Minister of His Most Faithful Majesty in London, the Count de Villa Real, who has declined it on the grounds which the Undersigned had the honour of communicating to His Excellency, verbally, yesterday afternoon.

The Undersigned is instructed to represent to His Excellency the confident hope of his Government, that upon this representation of the present circumstances, and of the various applications which have been made on similar occasions, the Portuguese Government will feel sensible of the absolute necessity of its urgent desire, that there may be no longer any demur in the payment of these charges, and that directions may be given to prevent the necessity of a repetition of these unpleasant reclamations.

The Undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

His Excellency the Marquis Palmella.

&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 34.—(Translation.)

The Marquis of Palmella to Sir Edward Thornton.

Lisbon, 12th March, 1824.

THE Undersigned &c. acknowledges the receipt of the Note addressed to him by Sir Edward Thornton, &c. under date of the 6th current, claiming payment of the sum of one hundred and fifty-nine pounds six shillings sterling, for *supplies* furnished out of His Britannic Majesty's Stores at Sierra Leone, to *Portuguese seamen* landed at that place, and for one *moiety* of the *contingent expences* of the mixed Commission at that establishment from October 1822 to July 1823.

The above supplies having been furnished at the instance of Joam Jacomo *Altavilla*, at that time Commissioner Arbitrator at Sierra Leone, who has not yet given in his accounts, the Undersigned regrets being obliged to inform Sir Edward Thornton of his inability, for the present, to return to him a definitive answer upon the subject of this claim, it being indispensably necessary to await

the liquidation of the said accounts, seeing the possibility that the Commissioner may have charged the amount in question to the Royal Treasury, without having actually discharged the same:—a circumstance which it becomes necessary to ascertain before any further step can be taken upon the subject.

The Undersigned embraces this occasion, &c.

(Signed) MARQUEZ DE PALMELLA.

Sir Edward Thornton,
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 34.

Sir Edward Thornton to the Marquis of Palmella.

SIR,

Lisbon, 13th March, 1824.

I HAD the honour of receiving yesterday your Excellency's Note of the same date, in answer to mine, on the subject of the *two Bills* from Sierra Leone; informing me that they cannot be paid, until Mr. *Attavilla* has liquidated his accounts, it being possible that this Commissioner may have charged the amount in question to the Royal Treasury, without having actually discharged the same.

I beg to observe to your Excellency that if this gentleman has drawn for either of these two accounts upon the Portuguese Treasury, the fact may be immediately ascertained by a reference to any drafts which he may have so drawn, and which the Treasury may have paid.

But, however that fact may be, and however he may have diverted the funds so drawn from their proper destination, it is evident (as your Excellency will observe from the two documents inclosed, which I had the honour of shewing to you some days ago), that the British Commissioners have only received in satisfaction of these payments, Bills upon England drawn by the Portuguese Commissioner, upon His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister in London, in the same manner as had been done upon other occasions, and that the discharge of these Bills can in no ways depend upon the conduct of the Commissioner in the regulation of his own accounts; provided only, that the expences for which these Bills were given, have been really incurred; for which I trust, the character of the British Commissioners at Sierra Leone, furnishes a sufficient guarantee.

I cannot but hope, therefore, that your Excellency will see the propriety of immediately directing the payment of these Bills, without delaying it to the indefinite period of the settlement of the Portuguese Commissioners Accounts; which, I may observe, will be probably delayed the longer, in proportion to their irregularity, and to the culpability of his own conduct.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

His Excellency the Marquis of Palmella,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 35.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received April 10th.)

SIR,

Lisbon 22d March, 1824.

I have the honour of transmitting to you the translation of a Letter from the Marquis of Palmella, which I have received since the dispatch of my preceding number, and by which you will see that orders will be given to the Portuguese

Minister in London, to pay the *two Bills* relative to the Board of Commissioners at Sierra Leone.

He expresses at the same time, however, the repugnance of this Government to charge itself with further Expences on account of a Commission, existing for the purposes and for the interests of the *Brazilians* alone.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 35.—(Translation.)

The Marquis of Palmella to Sir Edward Thornton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 20th March, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of the 13th current, in answer to my Note of the preceding day's date, upon the subject of the *two Bills* of Exchange from *Sierra Leone*.

Joam Jacomo *Altavilla* not having yet reached this Capital, nor, consequently, yet delivered in his Accounts, it has not been possible to ascertain, according to your supposition, whether or not, he has charged the amount of these Bills to the Royal Treasury. His Majesty however, unwilling that any further delay or question should take place concerning the payment of so trifling a sum, has been pleased to direct that His Minister in London be ordered to discharge the same.

But it is necessary to declare to you expressly, Sir, that, under existing circumstances, the payment of any further expences, of whatever nature, whether contingent, or for the support of Sailors, incurred by the Sierra Leone Commission, can for the future, be sought only in the Treasury of *Rio de Janeiro*, seeing that such expences are incurred for the benefit of the Inhabitants of *Brazil* alone.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) MARQUEZ DE PALMELLA.

Sir Edward Thornton,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 36.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Edward Thornton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 13, 1824.

YOUR Dispatches on The Slave-Trade to the 22nd March, have been received, and laid before The King.

I have considered with the attention which they deserve, the important expressions, which you report the Marquis of Palmella to have used, when urged upon the subject of the trifling expences of the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone—"that in the uncertainty of the future relations with *Brazil*, he did not wish the Government of *Portugal* to agitate any Questions with respect to the Slave-Trade Commissions, but that, if there were any one point, which

“ he could almost be willing to except, it would be that of consenting at once to
 “ the total Abolition of the Slave-Trade, in which *Portugal* could have no
 “ interest, in case of the independence of the *Brazils*, and the cessation
 “ of which might enable Her to turn Her Colonies to some other Account.”

His Majesty's Government cannot pass by without notice so fair an opening, as is thus presented, for an overture towards the Abolition of the Slave-Trade on the part of Portugal; and His Majesty commands me to instruct you to avail yourself of these expressions of the Portuguese Minister, for that purpose.

Portugal has thus unequivocally declared, that She is in no way interested in the continuance of the Slave-Trade, and His Majesty is willing to accept any motive as a plea on the part of His Antient Ally, for proceeding in that line of humane policy which every other Nation in *Europe* has already adopted, and which is spreading with rapidity throughout the great Continent of *America*.

Scarcely, however, does a month pass, in which we do not receive distressing proofs of the prevalence of the Slave-Trade under the Flag of *Portugal*;—a Trade, at all times an unhappy stain upon that Flag, and now by the confession of its Government, no longer beneficial to the Portuguese Nation.

I furnish you with an Extract of a Report, drawn up by the late *Sir George Collier*, respecting that Cluster of Islands on the *Western Coast of Africa* near the Equator, of which the most considerable are *St. Thomas* and *Princes*; and Copy of a Letter from *Capt. Owen*, upon the state of the *Portuguese Settlements* on the *Eastern Coast* of the same quarter of the Globe.

Both these documents give ample proof of the existence of the Slave-Trade at those Settlements, where now the Marquess of Palmella seems to anticipate an extinction of that Trade, as a means of rendering the Colonies more serviceable to Portugal.

Recalling to the recollection of the Marquess of Palmella the sentiments declared on this subject by His Most Faithful Majesty's Plenipotentiaries at Vienna, in the year 1815, and expressing the gratification which is felt by His Majesty at the repetition of those sentiments by M. de Palmella on the present occasion,—You will state the readiness of His Majesty's Government to enter into a Negotiation immediately with that of Portugal, for the Abolition of the Slave-Trade by the latter Power:—and you will endeavour to obtain a Projêt of a Treaty from the Marquess of Palmella, which you will transmit without delay to your Government at home, for further consideration.

Earnestly, however, as we desire to have the general Abolition of the Slave-Trade sealed by the concurrence of the Crown of Portugal, you must not hold out any expectation, that Parliament would be induced to purchase that concurrence by pecuniary sacrifices.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty being now absolved from the duty, which the Interests (or imagined Interests) of Portugal imposed upon them, and admitting, that the cessation of the Slave-Trade would inflict no detriment upon Portugal, are by their own shewing, deprived of any pretence for that basis for the Negotiation.

But, single among Civilized Nations, Portugal in maintaining a practice no longer necessary or gainful to Her, it may surely be hoped, that from the dictates of humanity alone, and in consonance to the universal feeling of Europe, she will seek to purge herself from a stain at once so gratuitous and so peculiar.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Thornton, G. C. B.

&c. &c. &c.

(First Enclosure in No. 36.)

Report of Commodore Sir George Collier.

(Extract.)

The *Portuguese* Islands of *Princes* and *St. Thomas* afford extraordinary facilities to persons engaged in the Slave Trade.

The value of these Islands to *Portugal* as a Kingdom, for general objects of commerce, deserves scarcely name or notice, for the entire produce does not annually load more than two small Brigs with Coffee, the only article of cultivation, with the exception of Cassada or Manioch, Yams and other Negro food consumed on the Islands, or raised for the supply of Slaving Vessels. These Islands are valuable to *Portugal* only as she may still chuse to give countenance to the Slave Trade, so essential, as she may suppose, to the well-being of the Brazils;—these lost to her, *Princes'* and *St. Thomas'* do not deserve the cost of the Establishments, *Portugal* may have on them, small as they are.

The Governments of *The Netherlands* and *Spain*, having by recent Treaties engaged to relinquish the Slave Trade:—to *Portugal* that Trade, North of the Line, may be most effectually subdued by neutralizing the Islands of *St. Thomas* and *Princes*.

The space on the Ocean which the Islands of *Princes* and *St. Thomas* occupy, does not exceed twelve miles East and West—though from the Equator to the Northward, it may be estimated at one hundred miles—as the Rolles or Southern Cluster of Islets lying off *St. Thomas'* though not extending across the Equator, may, at least, be fairly stated as resting upon it. Consequently the facility the situation of these Islands affords to Portuguese Slavers for evading the Treaty, and keeping within its actual limits, is obvious.

The Rocks (for so they may be rather considered than even Islets) though not absolutely and entirely barren, are frequented only by a few Canoes and Fishermen belonging to the Southern District of *St. Thomas'*.

Bird Island, the Northern Boundary of *Princes' Island*, is a small Rock, frequented only by sea birds, its waters abounding with rock fish.

I have thought it proper to notice these several small spots so contiguous to *Princes'* and *St. Thomas'* as necessary in any arrangement respecting the latter to embrace the former also.

In circumference *Princes' Island* measures a line of about thirty-two miles.—*St. Thomas'* something more.

Both these Islands are very mountainous and of a highly romantic appearance. The mountains are covered with trees and underwood, intersected by numerous bold rills of water forming occasional magnificent cascades.

The sides of some of the lesser mountains and hills are partially cleared of timber, and these spots are dotted with coffee plants and cassada.

The valleys are more generally cleared, consequently more highly cultivated for the production of Slave food, such as Maize, or Indian Corn and Yams.

The climate of the Islands is certainly uncongenial to European constitutions—and the evil is increased by the swampy situations of the principal Towns.

St. Antonio, the Capital of *Princes' Island* is on a flat at the upper extremity of the harbour; the whole of this space is surrounded by high land:—two streams of water run on each side the Town, and empty themselves with several small streamlets into the harbour.

Tropical fevers are not unfrequently generated on this spot, and new comers are likely to suffer by them.

Princes Island has two harbours or ports capable of receiving ships of war:—*St. Thomas'* two road-steds, but neither of these is so safe as the harbour of *St. Antonio* on the eastern side of *Princes'*.

At the Entrance of *Port Antonio* on each side are small Forts upon commanding heights—sufficiently respectable to secure obedience from merchant vessels, and with European Garrisons might be made protective of the Port and Town. The line of hill which, on the top, is flat to some extent, and connected with the Northern Battery, promises, in my opinion, to be the spot more likely to give the chance of health than any part of the Eastern side of the Island, as houses, if there erected, would be open to the regular sea-breeze and above the effects of the pernicious vapours generated in the valleys.—At present there is one building only here; but that so surrounded by the cocoa nut as to exclude it from the advantages which otherwise might be derived from its situation.

The seat of Government of these Islands is vested in that of *Princes'*, the residence of the Officer distinguished by the rank or title of Governor General; and as it affords the best harbour or protection to Shipping, I speak of *Princes' Island* principally in all my description or detail.

The population of both Islands is nearly all Black;—the extent of it is so variously stated, and evidently with the intention to mislead, that no reliance can be placed on the reports I received.

Of Europeans, in both these Islands there is only one solitary instance, for of those usually called *Portuguese*, all were, in truth, either Creoles or Natives of the *Brazils*.—Of these however, several were well informed, and not uneducated; but all, in my belief, without exception, from Ferara Gomez the Governor to the lowest Free Black, engaged in Slave Adventures in some way or other.

Of the superior class of Inhabitants both Islands may contain about fifty families and some scores of Creole Priests.

The secondary class of Free Inhabitants (Blacks, or People of Colour) are either accidental settlers, or families of soldiers dispersed over the few Towns and Villages scattered in the Interior. To these may be added a small number of liberated Slaves and their children, for it is not unusual in these Islands, where no Traffic is considered worth pursuing but that in Slaves, on the approach of death to emancipate one or two domestic Slaves, the Priest satisfying the dying man that he has thus compensated for his past enormities in this Traffic.

Of the Slave Population no correct opinion can be formed.

All places of public trust and confidence were filled by Creoles, and these to a man engaged, in some way or other, in the Slave-Trade, or in providing food for Slaves brought there from various parts of Africa, until a convenient time should arrive for their removal.

I have gone into detail in my Report of these Islands more than I otherwise should, from the little that is said of them in any publication that I have ever met with:—indeed, but for the purposes to which they have been applied as Depôts for Slaves, the Islands would scarcely ever have received the care or notice of any European Government.

(Signed) GEORGE R. COLLIER,

[*Late Commodore on the Coast of Africa.*]

Knowle Cottage, Exeter, 20th April, 1823.

Second Enclosure in No. 36.

Captain Owen to J. W. Croker, Esq.

(Extract.)

SIR,

H. M. S. Leven, Mosambique, 9 October, 1823.

IT is my duty to state, for the information of my Lords of the Admiralty, that

on this Eastern Coast of Africa the Slave Trade has recently received a new impulse for the supply of *Brazil*. It would appear that this diabolical Commerce is the only one capable of inspiring the *Portuguese* Population with energy and activity. There are, in this Port, seven Vessels preparing their Cargoes for *Rio de Janeiro*, one of them about 600 Tons, to carry 1200 Slaves. The export of Slaves from this Port cannot be less than 15,000 Annually.

At *Quillimane* 16 Vessels have taken Cargoes within the last year, amounting to 10,000, and the new order of things brought about by the Revolutions in *Portugal* and *Brazil*, has opened the Ports of *Quillimane* and *Inhamban*, to a direct communication with the latter, which enables them to carry on this abominable Traffick more advantageously, and to greater extent. From *Inhamban* however, the Trade in Slaves is very limited compared with that of *Mosambique* and *Quillimane*, the neighbouring Tribes being very averse to it; nevertheless Wars are excited solely to make Slaves to pay for Merchandise. The same also occurs at *English River* to a still smaller extent, yet sufficiently so to keep the neighbouring Tribes in a ferment and continual state of Warfare; the price of a Slave at *Quillimane*, *Inhamban* and *Delagoa* rarely exceeds two or three Spanish Dollars to the *Portuguese*, who get for them perhaps twenty or thirty from the Vessels: much of their gain is necessarily expended for their intermediate subsistence, which, however, is scarcely enough to hang soul and body together, and the Ships which use this Traffick consider they make an excellent Voyage, if they save one third of the number embarked to sell at *Rio* for one hundred and fifty or two hundred Spanish Dollars each; some Vessels are so fortunate as to save one half of their Cargo alive, and their gains become a strong motive to more extensive speculations.

The Ships from *Brazil* bear the new Flag of that Country, but the Governor here has forbidden them to enter the Ports of Africa under any other than *Portuguese* Colors. The Vessel I boarded off *Quillimane* was under *Brazil* Colors, and going for a Cargo of Slaves, but I did not interrupt her voyage, having no Instructions on the subject. *Sofola* is the most miserable of all the *Portuguese* Establishments except *Delagoa* Bay, of which I shall forward a rough translation of a manuscript memoir I procured there. I could not even furnish a boat to assist the *Barracouta* whilst aground.

The *Portuguese* merchants are armed with military and arbitrary authority, and strangers who would visit them for trade, are subject to every species of wanton indignity and exaction. In this part of *Mosambique* an English Vessel, even in distress, cannot land any part of her Cargo in deposit, to enable them to repair their Vessel, without paying two and a half per cent., at the value fixed by the *Portuguese* Authorities: this makes it equal to five per cent. on the value, and if any part of her Cargo be sold, it pays a nominal twenty-five per cent on the value, as fixed by the same authority, amounting by this artifice to forty or fifty per cent.

Quillimane however, solely by its situation, as the Port of an extensive Country, rich in every sort of natural product, is regaining some of its ancient wealth: but the Population consisting but of few Masters and numerous Slaves, it cannot possibly, under such a regimen, ever attain much consequence.

Inhamban also, by the effect of one man's paternal policy and industry, is a thriving Colony; he excites the Natives, who are all free, to industry and commerce by his example, his counsel, and careful administration; this is the natural consequence of arbitrary power falling into wise hands. But should the Governor be changed for one who does not see his interest so far, it will fall again into disorder and indigence.

Mosambique is at present in a very critical state; the Governor feels it necessary to reside in his Fort; and he has very few men. Its market presents nothing but Slaves for sale, and it is not without great difficulty that provisions

or vegetables can be procured, except only rice and shell-fish, on which the native Inhabitants principally subsist; the Merchants are mostly strangers, Moors and Banyans; and the only intelligent Merchant by whom supplies can be readily procured, if attainable, is actually a Warehouseman from the Cape of Good Hope, here raised to wealth, and the first consequence in society. In short the whole Country from *Delagoa* Northwards, presents a most lamentable picture of decay and ruin, by the miserable indolence, and impolicy of its Masters, possessing in itself at the same time all the sources of Population, Health and Prosperity.

For eight days successively there have been, at this place, several shocks of earthquakes; we had two very sensibly felt on board yesterday, at 2 P. M. and another at 2 A. M. which carried me out on deck, supposing it was our chain cable running out of the hawse. It is believed here that these shocks answer to volcanic eruptions in some part of *Madagascar* or on *Mayotta*.

(Signed) W. F. W. OWEN, CAPTAIN.

J. W. Croker, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 37.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Edward Thornton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1824.

IN reference to my despatch to you, marked *Slave Trade*, of May 13th, 1824, I now transmit to you, for your information, the Extract of a Letter from the Governor of *The Mauritius*, together with copies of the papers therein alluded to, from which it would appear that the Slave Trade is carrying on to a great extent in the several *Portuguese* settlements between *Cape Corientes* and *Mosambique*, on the *Eastern Coast of Africa*.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Edward Thornton, G. C. B.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (A) in No. 37.

Lieutenant General Sir Lowry Cole to Robert Wilmot Horton, Esq.

(Extract.)

17th December, 1823

I BEG leave to forward to you the enclosed copies of papers, addressed to me by Captain *Moorson*, on the subject of the Slave Trade. You will perceive by them that this Traffic is carried on to a great extent in the *Portuguese* settlement on the African Coast, and that a similar spirit prevails at *Bourbon*.

In the case of the *Soleil*, one of the vessels alluded to in the enclosures, having received information from four English sailors, who had taken passage in her from *Zanzibar* to the *Seychelles*, that she had recently been engaged in the Slave Trade, and had not very long since landed a cargo of Slaves at *Bourbon*, I caused M. *Salaum*, the then Captain of the *Soleil*, who had come here from the *Seychelles*, on his way to *Bourbon*, to be arrested, and delivered over to the French Consular Agent—at the same time affording Governor *Freycinet* an opportunity of taking the depositions of the four sailors, above alluded to, whom I sent to *Bourbon*, in the Government Brig *Wizard*, for this purpose; but, from the tenor of His Excellency's reply to my communication, I am not at all led to expect that M. *Salaum* will be brought to justice. Indeed I am rather induced to conceive that his (Governor *Freycinet's*) instructions on this subject, from the French Government, are of a very negative nature. I have thought it right to put you in possession of these particulars, for Lord Bathurst's and your own information.

R. W. Horton, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. L. COLE.

Enclosure (B.) in No. 37.

Captain Moorsom to Lieutenant General Sir Lowry Cole.

SIR,

H. M. S. Ariadne, Port Louis, 17th Nov. 1823.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Excellency some information respecting French Slave vessels, which Lieutenant *Maynard* acquired at *Bourbon*, from sources which he considers to entitle it to credit.

Your Excellency will perceive, by the circumstance of *L'Hirondelle's* getting on shore in her route amongst the dependencies of this Island, and by the statement of the general course pursued by the Slave vessels through His Majesty's Possessions in these seas, how necessary it is to have cruizers stationed there. Though the Slaves are destined for *Bourbon*, yet it is not to be doubted that if a fair price were offered, they would be disposed of willingly by the French. at any of those Islands where they stop to refresh; and the impression I have is, that the Slaves so continually transferred hither from *Seychelles*, have been carried thither by French vessels, more commonly than by our own; or, what amounts to the same thing, that the new slaves remain at *Seychelles* while the old are sent hither.

L'Hirondelle, I am assured, left some of her cargo at the Isle *Daros*. The *Walter Farquhar*, I have reason to believe, is now the property of a resident of *Bourbon*.

I have the honour to be,

(Signed) C. R. MOORSOM,
Captain and Senior Officer.

His Excellency Lieut Gen.

The Hon. Sir E. Lowry Cole, G.-C. B.

Enclosure (C.) in No. 37

Report of Lieut. Maynard, respecting Slave Vessels.

On the 8th of November, 1823, fifteen thousand Spanish dollars were embarked at *Bourbon*, with the charterer, M. *Moncouet*, in a small vessel, for the purpose of being put on board the *Soleil*, a fine *French* brig, mounting ten 12 pounders, and a complement of thirty-six men; which vessel was supposed to be at *Madagascar*, in the neighbourhood of *Tintingue* or *Antougil* Bay. It is positively known that her destination is *Mozambique*, and that she will return to the Southward with her cargo of Slaves, the beginning of January or thereabouts.

About the latter end of October, the *Soleil* was at anchor between the Ports of *St. Denis* and *St. Pauls*, Isle of *Bourbon*, when the *Sylph* (*French* man-of-war-schooner) ran down and fired into her, upon which the *Soleil* cut her cable, and escaped by superior sailing.

There is also a fine fast-sailing ketch, and another vessel, under *French* colours, in one of the rivers or bays close to *Cape Delgado*, to the Northward, procuring Slaves. The whole expedition is under the command of one man, and may be expected to sail in about a month, taking advantage of the Northerly monsoon to come down the *Mozambique* Channel.

There is a perfectly new schooner, of about 100 tons burthen, under *French* colours, fitting out at *St. Denis*, for a slaving voyage, and will sail in about three weeks—is sharp-built aft, and has the appearance of a fast sailer.

Another *French* schooner will sail from *St. Denis* in a few days, being perfectly ready, and will probably procure her slaves at *Tamatave* or *Tintingue*, *Madagascar*. She appears to be about 80 tons burthen.

The *Tippoo Saib*, a fine *French* brig, of 220 tons, is laying in the Roadstead of *St. Denis*, in treaty for freight, to bring Slaves; her owners require 20,000 dollars, Spanish, and it will take more than that sum to load her. She will be well armed, and is reported to be a fast sailer.

The *Hirondelle*, *French* schooner, owner M. *Le Brec*, landed 168 Slaves about the 12th of October, between the Ports of *St. Denis* and *St. Pauls*, and was undergoing considerable repair at *St. Pauls*, preparatory to another voyage, having been on shore on one of the shoals in the neighbourhood of *Alphonse*, one of the islands forming the *Amirantes*. She was with considerable difficulty got off, and reached the Island of *Daros*, remained there 28 days to repair, and refresh her Slaves. She had *Arab* papers and colours on board, and intended to have made use of them in the event of falling in with any of the English cruizers.

Almost all slave vessels, during the Southerly monsoon, touch at some of the *Amirantes*, and afterwards pass to the Northward of *Cargados*.

The *Hirondelle* is only 90 tons burthen, and does not sail well.

Enclosure (D.) in No. 37.

Captain Moorsom to Lieut. General Sir Lowry Cole.

(Extract.)

H. M. S. *Ariadne*, Port Louis, 1st Dec. 1823.

I HAVE the honour to send your Excellency the substance of some information relative to the Slave-Trade, communicated to me by Mr. *Maynard*, late Supercargo

of the Brig *Eclipse*, who being wrecked in that vessel, near *Sofala*, passed several months in the *Portuguese* Possessions on the East Coast of *Africa*.

Regarding the Slave-Trade on the *East Coast* of *Africa*, it appears that it is carried on to a considerable extent under the *Portuguese* flag. At *Quilimane*, in the months of July and August last, ten or more large vessels were expected from *Rio de Janeiro*, with general cargoes, such as iron, ironmongery, cutlery, spirits, woollens, and printed cottons, earthen and glass ware of all descriptions. This Traffic appears to occupy a considerable time, as these Ships do not sail again before the months of November and December; their several cargoes have been estimated at from 500 to 700 Slaves each. There is also a Coasting Trade of some extent in Slaves, Ivory, and Specie, from the different *Portuguese* Settlements between Cape *Corientes* and *Mozambique*, where they also look for annual visitors from the *Brazils*; in the month of June (which was an early period) a Ship and a Brig had arrived, with Cargoes of Merchandize, for the purpose of making their returns in Slaves. These two vessels would carry upwards of one thousand.

There are numerous Dows, under the *Arab* and *Madagascar* flag, trading between *Zanzibar*, *Majunga*, and *Mozambique*, whose voyages are somewhat of this description. From *Zanzibar*, with the North-Easterly Monsoon, they bring to *Mozambique* Cargoes of grain, piece goods, and sundries; from whence they cross to the Coast of *Madagascar*, returning with cattle, rice, ebony, &c., and in the change of the Monsoon are said to proceed Eastward, with their Returns in Slaves and Ivory.

(Signed) C. R. MOORSOM,

Captain and Senior Officer.

His Excellency Lieut. Gen.

The Hon. Sir Lowry Cole, G. C. B.

No. 38.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received 29th of June.)

SIR,

Lisbon, 18th June, 1824.

I TOOK the earliest opportunity which the late occurrences have permitted me, with any chance of being attended to, to communicate to the Marquess of *Palmella* the substance of your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 13th ult., and to express the readiness of His Majesty's Government to enter into a Negotiation for the Abolition of the Slave-Trade, in conformity to the opening which was given to His Majesty's Government by the language of the Marquess of *Palmella*.

It could not but be obvious to him, on the first intimation to this effect, that his language was applicable to the case of the Independence of the *Brazils*; and he observed, that to entertain and carry into effect such a Negotiation, would be a virtual acknowledgment of the Independence of that Country. He added, likewise, that such an act might well be regarded by the *Brazilian* Negotiators in London as an act of hostility, when Negotiations were opening for an understanding with that Country, and in that point of view would be injurious to them.

The Marquess, however, proposed to me to address a letter to him on the subject, to which he would give an answer; and I collected from him, that he would have no objection to seeing the two Negotiations proceed simultaneously.

In consequence of this intimation I addressed a letter to him, on the 15th current, of which I have the honour of transmitting to you a copy; and I trust His Majesty's Government will be pleased to approve of the language which I have used on this occasion.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed)

EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 38.

Sir Edward Thornton to the Marquis of Palmella.

SIR,

Lisbon, 15th June, 1824.

IN a conversation which I had the honour of holding with your Excellency on the 5th of March last, at the usual ministerial conference, on the subject of some *Expences* connected with the African Slave-Trade Commissions, it may be within your recollection that your Excellency addressed to me in substance the following observation:—"That in the present uncertainty of the future relations between *Portugal* and the *Brazils*, it was not wished to agitate any question in relation to the Slave-Trade Commissions; that if there were any one point which your Excellency would be almost willing to except, it would be that of consenting at once to the total Abolition of the Slave-Trade, in which *Portugal* could have no interest in case of the Independence of the *Brazils*, and the cessation of which might enable her to turn her African Colonies to some other account."

I could not fail to communicate to His Majesty's Government, observations thus made by your Excellency, so important to the great cause of humanity, and so honourable to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, which thus renewed the Declaration already announced at the Congress of Vienna, that it was actuated by the same generous sentiments against this odious Traffic, as were now common to the whole Civilized World; and that if it had hitherto acted upon them but partially, it was from the same regard to the interests, or imagined interests, of a part of His Majesty's subjects, as had so long retarded the accomplishment of this great work of Justice and of Humanity in every other European Nation possessing Colonies, and engaged on their account in the Traffic of Slaves.

His Majesty has seen with the highest interest and gratification the repetition of those sentiments, and I have received directions to state the readiness of His Majesty's Government to enter into a Negotiation immediately with that of Portugal for the Abolition of the Slave-Trade by the latter Power.

It would be a great gratification personally to me, if your Excellency were enabled to communicate to me the Projêt of a Treaty on this most interesting subject; and I should regard it as one of the most auspicious circumstances of my life to have my name united with that of your Excellency in the consummation of this great work.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD THORNTON.

His Excellency The Marquis of Palmella,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 39.

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received October 2d.)

SIR,

Lisbon, 17th September, 1824.

HAVING requested some time ago of the Marquis of Palmella to give me answers upon all the points on which I had addressed him in the course of my service (which remained unanswered) and particularly on my letter of the 15th of June last, this Minister addressed to me a day or two ago a Note, of which I have the honour of transmitting a translation. You will see that he declines for the present to offer a *Projèt*, or to enter into any Negotiation, for the Abolition of the Slave-Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD THORNTON.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 39.—(Translation.)

The Marquis of Palmella to Sir Edward Thornton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 14th September, 1824.

ALTHOUGH the dispositions of His Majesty's Government in respect to the abstract measure of the Abolition of the Slave-Trade, (which I have already made known to your Excellency) have not in any degree varied, yet I must state in answer to the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me under date of the 15th of last June, that at the present moment, and in the state of disturbance in which *Brazil* now is, the Abolition of the Traffic would be ill-timed: in addition to which it would have a bad appearance, if both the Contracting Parties were to discuss in such circumstances so important an affair, and which affects the Interests of *Brazil* alone.

The unhappy schism, which exists between the two parts of the *Portuguese* Monarchy, preventing every improvement in *Brazil*, retards of course the measure of the Abolition, which could only be effected by the gradual introduction of such measures and dispositions, as would prevent its having bad consequences for His Majesty's subjects in those Dominions.

In the hopes of better times enabling The King my Master to fulfil the generous intentions which he has already so often manifested,

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS OF PALMELLA.

His Excellency Sir Edward Thornton,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 40.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Wm. à Court.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 19th November, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, a Copy of

the Papers marked A and B, relative to the Slave-Trade, which were presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Majesty's command, in the course of the last Session.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir W. a Court, G. C. B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 41.

Joseph Planta, jun. Esq. to Sir Wm. à Court.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 20th Nov. 1824.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to send to you, for your information, a Copy of the Act recently passed for amending and consolidating the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave-Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH PLANTA, JUN.

The Right Hon. Sir W. à Court, G. C. B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 42.

Mr. Consul Matthews, to Joseph Planta, Jun. Esq.—(Received December 27th.)

SIR,

Lisbon, Dec. 15, 1824.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of the letter you did me the honour to direct to me on the 20th November ultimo, inclosing a Copy of the Act recently passed for amending and consolidating the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave-Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) R. MATTHEWS.

Joseph Planta, jun. Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 43.

Mr. Consul-General Read to Lord Howard de Walden.—(Received February 19th.)

MY LORD,

*Consul-General's Office for the Azores,
St. Michael's, 28th January, 1825.*

I AM to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Planta's Letter of date the 20th of November last, transmitting me a Copy of the Act of Parliament recently passed for amending and consolidating the Laws relative to the Abolition of the Slave-Trade; and I have to request that your Lordship will be pleased to direct that three more Copies of the same be forwarded to me, to distribute to the respective Vice-Consuls in these Islands.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) W HARDING READ.

Lord Howard de Walden,
&c. &c. &c.

BRAZIL.

No. 44.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning. — (Received June 10th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 13th March, 1824.

IN fulfilment of the Instructions contained in your Dispatch of the Slave Trade Series, dated the 25th of October 1823, received here early in January, I addressed a Representation to this Government upon the subject of the *false mode of measuring* Slave Vessels, practised at *Bahia*, by which they are able to obtain Royal Passports to ship a greater number of Negroes than they ought to carry according to their real Tonnage.

I beg leave to enclose a Copy of this Representation, and of the comparative Statement by which it was accompanied, and to add that it has not as yet drawn forth any answer.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure, (A) in No. 44.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to M. de Carvalho e Mello.

M. Le COMMANDEUR,

Rio de Janeiro 26th January, 1824.

FROM a very circumstantial Report of the Commissary British Judge of the Mixed Commission, established in Sierra Leone, addressed to his Government, under date of the 8th June of last year, it appears that that Tribunal has lately taken notice of a custom among the owners of *Brasilian* Ships, employed legally in the Slave Trade, to rate these Ships at a greater bulk for this commerce, than they in fact possess. Whence it follows that they are authorised to load a greater number of these unhappy beings than they ought to carry, and that they claim greater indemnification than they are entitled to, in case of detention, without sufficient motive, by the Cruizers employed to check this illicit Traffic on the Coast.

Four *Portuguese*, or *Brazilian* Ships adjudged lately by that Court of Mixed Commission, formed a bulk according to Certificates for the payment of the contributions for the "*Faroës*," of 446 $\frac{1}{4}$ Tons; which would have entitled them to load 1106 Slaves. But the Certificates and Passports for the Trade, found on board these said Ships make the quantity of their Tonnage amount to 672, and authorise them to take on board 1677 Slaves.

This proves an excess of 225 $\frac{1}{4}$ on 446 $\frac{1}{4}$ Tons, and of 561 on 1106 Slaves!

The comparative Statement, which I have the honour to transmit inclosed to your Excellency, will enable you to perceive the details of this difference, which appears inexplicable, but which is proved, as to the first of the Ships, the "*Nova Sorte*," by the four Copies of Certificates, countersigned by the Commissary Judge and by myself; and having been measured it was found to have nearly the number of Tons certified for the payment of the contributions for the *Faroës*.

Since the number of Negroes which a Ship is permitted to load is regulated according to its bulk, the usage which I have just had the honour to mention to your Excellency, if not put a stop to by a subsequent investigation, is subversive of the benevolent intentions of *Brazil* towards humanity, and tends to evade the stipulations of the Treaty with Great Britain.

The acknowledged liberal ideas of the Brazilian Government on this subject, leave no room to doubt that, on the knowledge of the facts, announced in this Letter, and the accompanying documents, it will take immediate measures to prevent the evil complained of.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed)

H. CHAMBERLAIN.

His Excellency The Commander De Carvalho e Mello,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (B) in No. 44.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Tonnage and number of Slaves allowed to be taken on board, according to the admeasurement of the Arsenal; and the *bona fide* Tonnage for payment of Light Dues, with the number of Slaves that ought to be allowed to be received on board according to this admeasurement; also distinguishing the difference in both Cases.

NAMES OF VESSELS.	Tonnage as per Certificate of Admeasurement by Arsenal.	Tonnage as stated in the Royal Pass.	Number of Slaves authori- zed to be loaded, accord- ing to this Tonnage.	Tonnage as per Certificate for payment of Light Dues.	Number of Slaves authori- zed to be loaded accord- ing to this Tonnage.	Difference.		REMARKS.
						Of Tonnage.	Of Slaves.	
<i>Nova Sorte</i> ..	141½	141½	353	84¼	211	57¼	142	Measured in the English mode, and found to contain 83 1-6th Tons.
<i>Conceição</i> ..	167¾	167¾	417	108	270	59¼	147	
<i>Lisboa</i>	118¼	118¼	295+	92	220	26¼	65	Had on board when detained? *336 Slaves 295
<i>Commerciante</i>	245	245	612	162	395	83	207	
	672	672	1677	446¼	1106	225¾	561	Excess... 41

No. 45.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received June 17th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 31st March, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information, Copies of four Returns, received from Mr. Vice Consul *Follett*, of the number of Slaves imported into, and exported from *Bahia*, during the year 1823.

As the *Zefiro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, which was boarded in the month of September off *Whydah*, by His Majesty's Ship *Driver*, has put into *Bahia* with a Cargo of Slaves, instead of returning here; I have this day written to Mr. Vice Consul *Follett* a letter, of which I take the liberty to send a Copy enclosed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

First Enclosure in No. 45.

A RETURN of the Number of Slaves imported into *Bahia* from 1st January to 30th June 1823.

Date of Arrival.	Description of Vessel.	Name of Vessel.	Whence.	Number of Negroes.			OBSERVATIONS.
				Em-barked	Died.	Landed	
Jan. 29	Ship....	<i>Tamega</i> ..	Cabinda	613	16	597	The greater portion of these Slaves are supposed to be imported from those parts of Africa prohibited by th ^e Treaty.
Feb. 10	Schooner	<i>Zefiro</i>	Molembo	286	„	286	
“ “	Ship....	<i>Belizario</i> ..	Mozambique	300	„	*300	
April 7	Brig....	<i>Vencedor</i> ..	Molembo....	265	1	264	
From June to Dec. as per Return..				1464	17	1447	
Total Imported in 1823....				1225		1225	
				2689		2672	

* The Ship *Belizario* was bound to *Rio de Janeiro*, but the Blacks rose and killed the Master and part of the Crew. The Frigate *Constitution* met her at Sea and brought her into this Port.

(Signed) WM. FOLLETT, Vice Consul.

Second Enclosure in No. 45.

A RETURN of the Number of Slaves imported into *Bahia*, from the 1st of July to the 31st December, 1823.

Date of Arrival.	Description of Vessel.	Name of Vessel.	Whence.	Number of Negroes.		
				Embarked	Died.	Landed.
Sept. 3	Schooner	<i>Estrella</i>	Molembo.	154	„	154
Dec. 13	Brig	<i>Zephiro</i> *	Do.	299	„	299
„ 16	Do.	<i>Maria da Gloria</i>	Do.	378	„	378
„ 23	Do.	<i>Vencedor</i>	Do.	394	„	394
				1225	„	1225

(Signed) WM. FOLLETT, Vice-Consul.

* This is the Vessel to which Inclosure No. 5, sent herewith relates. (Signed) H. C.

Third Enclosure in No. 45.

A RETURN of the Number of Slaves exported from *Bahia*, from 1st January to 30th June, 1823.

Date of Departure.	Description of Vessel.	Name of Vessel.	Where bound.	Number of Negroes.	Nation.
Feb. 7	Ship	<i>Tamega</i>	Maranhao.	595	<i>Portuguese.</i>
March 9	Do.	<i>Camillus</i>	Do. *	496	<i>Dutch.</i>
April 11	Brig	Name unknown	Rio de Janeiro	140	<i>Buenos Ayres.</i>
June 19	Do.	<i>Vencedor</i>	Maranhao.	340	<i>Portuguese.</i>
				1,571	

(Signed)

WM. FOLLETT, Vice-Consul.

* This Vessel arrived at *Rio de Janeiro* direct from *Bahia*.*Fourth Enclosure in No. 45.*

A RETURN of the Number of Slaves exported from *Bahia*, from 1st July to 31st December 1823.

Date of Departure.	Description of Vessel.	Name of Vessel.	Where Bound.	Number of Negroes.	Nation.
September 21	Smack	<i>Flor de Fé</i>	Rio Grande	135	<i>Brazilian</i>
„ 22	Ditto	<i>Afra</i>	Porto Alegre	16	Do.
„ 27	Ditto	<i>Bom Successo</i>	Cotinguiba	6	Do.
„ „	Brig	<i>Jupiter</i>	Rio de Janeiro	32	Do.
October 1	Smack	<i>Gertrudes</i>	Ditto	22	Do.
„ „	Brig	<i>Ziberio</i>	Ditto	23	Do.
„ 5	Smack	<i>San Manoel Brasileiro</i>	Rio Grande	23	Do.
„ 9	Schooner	<i>Florinda</i>	Ditto	5	Do.
„ 17	Brig	<i>Josephine</i>	Buenos Ayres	22	<i>French</i>
„ 23	Smack	<i>Andorinha</i>	Rio Grande	5	<i>Brazilian</i>
„ 24	Ditto	<i>Caipira de Macaio</i>	Cotinguiba	5	Do.
				292	
From January to June, as per Return				1,571	
Total Exported in 1823				1,863	

(Signed)

WM. FOLLETT, Vice Consul.

Fifth Enclosure in No. 45.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Vice-Consul Follett.

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 31st March, 1824.

I PERCEIVE by your last Return of Slaves imported into *Bahia* that the *Brazilian Brig Zephiro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, had arrived from *Molembo*, on the 13th December, with a Cargo of 299 Negroes.

A *Brazilian Brig* called the *Zephiro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, was boarded on the 3d September by the Boats of His Majesty's Ship *Driver*, near a place called *Whydah*, considerably to the north of the Line; the Master of which stated that he had sailed from *Rio de Janeiro* in July, and gave as a reason for his being found on that coast, that the ship had been driven from her intended port by contrary winds. The *Zephiro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, appears by the *Diario do Governo* to have sailed, in fact, from hence on the 11th July last, with a Royal Licence to trade to *Molembo*; and as she has not returned to this port, and was found, as before mentioned, on the 13th of September, so far to the North of the Line, there is sufficient reason for suspecting that she has been engaged in the illicit Trade. I have therefore to request, that you will take the trouble to ascertain, by any means in your power, where the *Zephiro* which arrived at *Bahia* on the 13th December, was on the 3rd September, and where she actually procured her Cargo. And, should there turn out to be sufficient reason for so doing, to take such further measures as may ensure a regular official enquiry into the case: making the facts known to His Majesty's Government and to me.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Wm. Follett, Esq.

No. 46.

Mr. Vice-Consul Follett, to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received July 19th.)

SIR,

Bahia, 29th May, 1824.

SUSPICION having been excited that the *Brazilian Slave Brig Zephiro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, which arrived in this harbour on the 13th December last, with a Cargo of 299 Negroes, had been engaged in the illicit Slave Trade, in consequence as appears by the enclosed Copy of a Letter received from His Majesty's Consul General,* of a Vessel of the same name having been boarded by the Boats of His Majesty's Ship *Driver*, considerably to the Northward of the Line; I deemed it right to apprize His Excellency the President of this Province of the circumstances of the case, and to request him to direct an investigation thereof to be made.

I have the honour to enclose Copies of my Letter and of His Excellency's reply, which states that His Excellency had issued orders for a rigid examination of this affair,—the result of which has been that the *Brig Zephiro* was obliged to put into *Ajudà*, a Port to the Northward of the Line, for provisions and afterwards proceeded to *Molembo*, (a Port about thirty miles to the South of the Equator) from whence the Slaves in question were brought.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM. FOLLETT.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

* See the preceding Paper.

*Enclosure (A) in No. 46.**Mr. Vice-Consul Follett to the President of the Province of Bahia.*

SIR,

Bahia, 18th May, 1824.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency, that on the 13th December 1823, the *Brazilian Brig Zephuro*, Joao Neri da Silva, Master, arrived in this harbour with a Cargo of 299 Negroes, reported to me brought from *Molembo*, and also that a Brig whose name as well as that of the Master was exactly similar, was boarded on the 3d September, 1823, by the Boats of His Majesty's Ship *Driver*, near a Place called *Whydah*, considerably to the Northward of the Line; and as there is reason to suspect that these Brigs are the same, and therefore that the Cargo of Negroes imported in the above Brig, may have been received on board at some Port prohibited by Treaty, I take the liberty to request that your Excellency will so far interfere as to institute such inquiries as will best elucidate this affair, and clear away all suspicion, not only respecting the identity of these Vessels, but also respecting the Port where the Brig *Zephuro*, that arrived in this harbour on the 13th of December last, with a Cargo of Negroes, actually received them on board.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM. FOLLETT.

His Excellency Francisco Vicente Vianna,
&c. &c. &c.*Enclosure (B) in No. 46.**The President of the Province of Bahia to Mr. Vice-Consul Follett.**Palacio do Governo de Bahia, 28 de Maio de 1824.*

RECEBENDO a nota que V. S. me dirigio em 18 do corrente mez a respeito do Brigue *Zefiro*, que chegara a este Porto em 13 de Dezembro do anno preterito, representando ter o mesmo Brigue passado a linha, e fundiado em Porto de *Ajudà*, ordenei logo ao Dez^o. Provedor d'Alfandega, que muito escrupulozamente examinasse aquelle procedimento para conhecer-se com toda certeza, se aquella embarcaçã, violando os Tratados, que ora são muito religiosamente respeitados neste Imperio do *Brazil*, fizera commercio illicito, e prohibido, e tenho a satisfação de responder a V. S. que feita a mais rigorosa indagaçã, e inqueridas testemunhas sobre este objecto; he comprovado ter o Brigue *Zefiro* arribado, por força de tempo, e necessidade de mantimentos, ao Porto mencionado de *Ajudà*, donde regressando á *Molembo*, troucera os duzentos e noventa e nove escravos, o que tambem consta do termo de entrada, e manifesto, que fizera n'Alfandega desta em 15 de Dezembro passado.

Aproveito esta occasiaõ, &c.

(Assignado) FRANCISCO VICENTE VIANNA, P.

Sñr. Vice Consul Britanico nesta Cid^e*Enclosure (B.) in No. 46.—(Translation.)**The President of the Province of Bahia to Mr. Vice-Consul Follett**Palace of the Government of Bahia, May 28th, 1824.*

HAVING received the note which you addressed to me on the 18th of the present month, concerning the Brig *Zephyr*, which arrived in this harbour on the 13th

December of last year, representing that the said Brig had passed the Line, and anchored in the port of *Ajudà*, I immediately directed the Superintendent of the Customs to examine minutely into that matter, to find out whether that Ship, in violation of the Treaties, which are now most religiously observed in this Empire of *Brazil*, was engaged in illicit Traffic; and I have the satisfaction in reply to your Excellency, to inform you, that after the most rigid scrutiny and examination of witnesses on the case, I have learnt that the Brig *Zephyr* just arrived, put into the aforesaid Port of *Ajudà*, through stress of weather, and scarcity of provisions, whence, returning to *Molembo*, it brought the two hundred and ninety nine slaves, which is also made evident by the term of the entry and the manifest, made in the Custom House of this place on the 15th of December last.

I avail myself of this opportunity, &c.

(Signed) FRANCISCO VICENTE VIANNA, P

The British Vice Consul, Bahia.

No. 47.

Mr. Consul Parkinson to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received August 20th.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, 7th July, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translated Copy of an *Edict* recently promulgated by Sñr. Manoel Carvalho, President of this Province.

(Signed) JOHN PARKINSON.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (A.) in No. 47.—(Translation.)

Palace of the Government of Pernambuco, July 7, 1824.

HIS Excellency the President, thinking that the *Edict* which I have the honour to transmit will meet with a favourable reception by the friends of liberty and humanity residing in England, directs me to transmit you the enclosed Copy. God preserve you.

(Signed) JOZE DA NATIVIDADE SALDANIA, Secretary.

John Parkinson, Esq.

Enclosure (B.) in No. 47.—(Translation.)

EDICT of the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

IT being advisable, as well for the interests of humanity as those of this Province, to extinguish entirely a Commerce founded in complete opposition to the principles of natural rights, and the wisdom of the present age, I have resolved that the Slave-Trade shall be suspended in this Port until the Sovereign Constituent Legislative Assembly shall finally determine the point.

The Authorities whom this may concern, are directed to comply, and to carry the same into execution.

(Signed) MANOEL DE CARVALHO PAES D'ANDRADE,
President.

Palace of the Government of Pernambuco, July 3d, 1824.

No. 48.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 6th, 1824.

HIS Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone have several times remarked, in their Despatches to me, on the mischievous effects which result from the practice of the *Brazilian* Authorities in giving permission to Vessels proceeding to *Molemo* for Slaves, to touch in their way at the Islands of *Princes* and *S. Thomas*. By this permission the Vessels obtain an excuse for being seen near the Slave Coast, to the Northward of the Equator, and the opportunity is generally taken advantage of by them for procuring their Cargo in those Parts, where, by the Laws of every Civilized Nation, the Slave-Trade has been strictly forbidden.

I hope that the *Brazilian* Government, when made aware of the evils which are produced by the form in which their *Passport* is drawn up, will lose no time in altering it.

I am, &c.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

No. 49.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received November 13th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 27th August, 1824.

AN Answer has at length been given to the Representation made to this Government, on the 26th of January last, in pursuance of the Instructions contained in your Despatch of the Slave-Trade Series, dated the 25th of October, 1823, a Copy of which Representation I had the honour to transmit in my Despatch, dated the 13th of March, of the present year, to which I beg leave respectfully to crave your reference.

You will perceive, in the Translation of M. De Carvalho's Note, that it has been usual to measure Slave Vessels by a different mode from that employed in the measurement of Merchant Vessels: a circumstance, I presume, unknown in England.

Indeed, notwithstanding the length of my residence in this country, it was unknown to me, until I read the Minister's reply; since when I have made enquiries, and find that the modes are perfectly distinct:—one being called *Arqueação*, or measure of capacity, which is only used in ascertaining the Tonnage Space of Slave Vessels—the other *Lotação*, or Measure of Tonnage of Merchant Vessels for Goods.

I have been disappointed in my expectation of procuring an explanation of the Rules observed in fixing both sorts of Tonnage, but from the expressions used by M. De Carvalho, it would seem that the space allowed for a solid ton of heavy merchandize, described by him under the terms of gravity or weight, is larger than that allowed for a ton of capacity, whereof two were legally allotted for the stowage of five Negroes: that human beings were legally authorized to be crammed into a smaller space than that known to be occupied by their weight in lead or iron, or other ponderous substances.

I have carefully examined the Treaty and Conventions, but without being able to discover the Stipulation to which M. De Carvalho refers, when he speaks of a new and special Convention being requisite, before any alteration can take place in the Laws made in conformity with them;—unless he alludes to the Specification at the end of the Passport, declaratory of the number of Slaves allowed to be carried in each Ship, according to the *Alvará* of the 24th of November,

1813, which specification by no means bears the interpretation he puts upon it, but is equally applicable to any other legal Regulation in the Number of Slaves per ton, as it is to that now in force.

As the reply gives a positive assurance that the Emperor has ordered such a *Mode of Measurement* to be followed hereafter as shall guard against the inconveniences complained of, and ensure a regular and fixed Tonnage, I have judged that you would approve of my not taking any further step at present beyond that of asking for the particulars of this mode, as I have done in the Note dated the 16th Instant, of which I have the honour to send a copy enclosed.

No answer has yet been sent; but should it turn out that there is no material difference between this and the old method of *Arqueação*, I shall make an effort to induce the Government to adopt the System upon which the Tonnage for Payment of Light Dues is calculated, being that which I understand your Instructions to indicate as the proper one.

The *Alvará* of the 24th November, 1813, restricts the shipment to five Negroes for every two Tons, in Vessels not exceeding 201 Tons, and one Negro for each additional Ton, beyond this number; and then details the regulations to be observed for their health and safety.

I have the honour to be, &c.

The Right Hon. George Canning.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

First Enclosure in No. 49.

M. De Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

*Secretaria de Estado dos Negocios Estrangeiros,
em 13 d Agosto de 1824.*

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello, faz seus cumprimentos ao Sñr, Henrique Chamberlain, Consul Geral de S. M. Britannica, e accusa a recepção da Nota que lhe dirigio em data de 26 de Janeiro do corrente anno, representando contra a pratica que diz seguem os Donos das Embarcações empregadas no Commercio licito de Escravos, fazendo-as arquear em hum maior numero de toneladas, para assim embarcarem huma excessiva quantidade de Escravos; pratica esta que exemplificava com a Sumaca, *Nova Sorte*, pertencente à Praça da *Bahia*. E participa à S. M^{ce}. para sua intelligencia, que supposto se deprehenda das Informações do Presidente d'aquella Provincia, e de outras Authoridades, que foraõ mandadas ouvir à este respeito, que os Navios tem sido arqueados segundo o systema de medição estabelecido nas respectivas Leys; e que se alguma confusão tem havido, proviêra de se dar a mesma denominação à duas desvariadas operações, como a medida para a Carga em quanto à gravidade e pezo, que he geral em todas as nações, e a medida para o carregamento de Escravos, que tem varias dimensões e regras particulares; comtudo, ainda na hypothese de que a experiencia tivesse mostrado a necessidade de se alterarem aquellas Leys, que foraõ feitas na conformidade das Convenções existentes entre a Gram Bretanha e Portugal, no tempo em que à este Reino estava unido o Imperio do Brazil; o não podião ellas agora ser, sem que precedesse huma nova e especial Convenção, que regulasse convenientemente as arqueações dos navios. Mas penetrado S.M. O Imperador dos Sentimentos de huma Política Liberal, e de Philanthropia à bem d'aquelles infelizes, e Desejando quanto está da Sua parte evitar todo o qualquer abuso, que possa nascer da avereza de alguns Armadores de Embarcações do trafico de Escravos; Tem Ordenado às Authoridades incumbidas d'este ramo de Serviço que hajãõ de fazer observar na arqueação das mesmas Embarcações hum methodo de medição por tonelada fixo e regular, e que possa acautelar os inconvenientes sobre que representa S. M^{ce}.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello renova por esta occasiaõ, &c. &c. &c.

Sñr Chamberlain,
&c. &c. &c.

*First Enclosure in No. 49.—(Translation.)**M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.**Secretary of State's Office for Foreign Affairs, Aug. 13th, 1824.*

LUZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello presents his compliments to Mr. Henry Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General, and acknowledges the receipt of the note which he addressed to him under date of the 26th of January of the present year, complaining of the practice which he says the owners of vessels employed in the licit Slave-Trade follow, by causing their capacity to be measured at a greater number of tons, so that an excessive quantity of Slaves may be shipped, a practice which he exemplified with the smack, *Nova Sorte*, belonging to the Port of *Bahia*; and informs Mr. Consul-General for his information, that, notwithstanding, it is gathered from the Report of the President of that Province, and other Authorities, who were ordered to be heard upon this subject, that the ships have been measured according to the system of measurement, established by the respective Laws, and that if there has been any confusion, this has proceeded from giving the same denomination to two different operations,—the measure for a Cargo as regards gravity and weight, which is general in all Nations, and the measure for the shipment of Slaves, which has various dimensions and particular rules;—however, with all, even upon the hypothesis that experience may have shown the necessity of altering those Laws, which were made in conformity with the Conventions existing between *Great Britain* and *Portugal*, at the time when the Empire of *Brazil* was united to that Kingdom, this could not now take place, without being preceded by a new and special Convention that might properly regulate the measurement of vessels for the Slave-Trade. But His Majesty The Emperor, penetrated by Sentiments of a liberal policy and of philanthropy towards these unhappy people, and desiring as much as lies in His power, to prevent all and every abuse, which may spring from the avarice of any of those who fit out vessels for the Slave-Trade, has ordered the Authorities charged with this branch of service, that they shall cause to be observed, in the taking the dimensions of the said vessels, a method of measuring by a fixed and regular tonnage, and which may guard against the inconveniences of which Mr. Consul General complains.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello renews on this occasion, &c. &c. &c.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. & &c.

*Second Enclosure in No. 49.**Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to M. de Carvalho e Mello.**Rio de Janeiro, 16th August, 1824.*

Mr. Chamberlain presents his compliments to The Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, Councillor, Minister, &c. &c. and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's Note of the 13th instant, wherein he has been so good as to communicate to him, that His Majesty The Emperor, had given orders, that the Authorities charged with the *measurement of Vessels* employed in the licit Slave-Trade, shall follow such a method as will make the tou-

nage fixed and regular; and thus prevent the irregularities which formed the subject of Mr. Chamberlain's representation of the 26th January last.

As this result of the application in question, will undoubtedly be very agreeable to His Britannic Majesty's Government, Mr. Chamberlain begs the favour of His Excellency to enable him to make it still more so, by the transmission also of the particulars of the mode now ordered to be followed in the measurement, should this vary from that in practice, for ascertaining the tonnage of vessels for the payment of the Light Duties. And he makes this request for the purpose of its being sent, if necessary, to the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone; with the view of preventing difficulty or doubt, hereafter, respecting the number of Negroes, that Brazilian Vessels, brought before the court for adjudication, are legally entitled to carry.

He requests His Excellency the Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello to accept, &c.

His Excellency The Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 50.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received November 11th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 10th September, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information the Copy of a Statement received last week from Mr. Consul *Hesketh*, at *Maranham*, shewing the importation of Negroes into that Port during the year 1823.

You will perceive that pretexts have been allowed for the entry of one Cargo of Slaves from the *Cape de Verds*, and of another from *Bissau*, the latter being brought in a vessel called the *Maria*; another, or the same *Maria*, having been allowed to land a Cargo there from *Bissau* a year before, as will be seen upon reference to my correspondence.

Since the declaration of Independence at *Maranham*, no Slave vessel appears to have arrived there, but I have nevertheless written a short Note to M. de Carvalho e Mello, pointing out the former irregular proceedings, and calling upon him to warn the local Authorities not to permit them to be repeated.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

H. CHAMBERLAIN.

P. S. 15th Sept.

I have the honour to inclose a Copy and Translation of the Minister's reply to the Note before mentioned, which has been received this day

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

H. C.

First Enclosure in No. 50.

STATEMENT of the Importation of Slaves into the Port of *Maranhã*, during the year 1823:

Date of Entry.	Description of Vessels.	Names of Vessels.	Whence.	Slaves.			REMARKS.
				Embark'd	Died.	Landed.	
1823.							
Jan. 3	Schooner	<i>Liberal</i>	Angola & Pernambuco	291	10	281	
„ 24	Do.	<i>Bella Astrea</i>	Bahia and Ceara.	114	0	114	
„ „	Brig	<i>Trintahum de Mayo</i>	{ Rio Janeiro and } { Bahia. }	1	0	1	
Feb. 12	Schooner	<i>Paquete de Rio</i>	Pernambuco.	11	0	11	
„ 25	Do.	<i>Conceiçã</i>	Bahia.	241	9	232	
Mar. 17	Brig	{ <i>S. Joze Diligente</i> } { <i>Volcano</i> }	Angola.	349	52	297	Landed under Bond to produce the Licence within 8 months. Licence not yet arrived.*
April 9	Schooner	<i>Liberal</i>	Cape de Verde.	118	0	118	Landed under a Licence from the Secretary of State at Rio Janeiro.— Copy of which only produced.
„ 25	Brig	<i>Triunfo da Invja</i>	Molembo.	302	0	302	
May 27	Do.	<i>Paquete da Bahia</i>	Bahia.	210	3	207	
June 10	Schooner	<i>Maria</i>	Bissau.	212	0	212	
„ 12	Ship	<i>Feliz Ventura</i>	Bahia.	59	1	58	
				1908	75	1833	

* These Slaves were shipt in the name of *Luiz Antonio de Arayjo*: On the vessel's arrival the Consignees petitioned the Junta then governing this Province, and the following answer was made to the petition.—“ *Concede-se a licenca pedida para o desembarque á vista do Passaporte, e do Artigo adicional do Tratado: obrigando-se o Supp^e. taõ bem por huma Fiança á approvaçã de Sua Magestade no prazo de oito mezes contados da dãta d'esta. Maranhã, Palacio do Governo, 19 de Abril de 1823.*

(Translation.)—*The requested permission for the landing is granted on account both of the Pass and of the additional Article annexed to the Treaty; it being understood that memorialist binds himself, by giving security, to abide the pleasure of His Majesty, for a term of eight months to be counted from this date. Maranhã, Palace of the Government, April 19th, 1823.*

(Signed)

R. H.

Second Enclosure in No. 50.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to M. de Carvalho e Mello.

Rio de Janeiro, 9th September, 1824.

MR. Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General, has the honour to state to His Excellency The Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, Councillor, &c. &c. &c. that previous to the declaration of independence at *Maranhã*, the Government of that Province has occasionally permitted vessels with Cargoes of Slaves from parts of Africa North of the Line, chiefly from the *Cape de Verds*, *Bissau*, *Cacheu*, and their neighbourhood, to be landed under various pretexts. Every one of which have either been infractions of the existing Treaty and Conventions for the regulation of the Trade; or abuse of Licences granted by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

During the last year there were two examples of this kind ; one, that of the schooner *Liberal*, from the *Cape de Verdes*, with 118 Slaves, the other, that of the schooner *Maria*, from *Bissau*, with 212: the former having landed her Cargo under a bond to produce the Royal Licence authorizing the voyage ; (which has not been done ;) the latter upon a mere production of a Copy of a Licence said to have been granted by the Secretary of State at Rio de Janeiro.

Mr. Chamberlain's object in stating these facts to His Excellency is for the purpose of shewing that there has existed cause of complaint ; and of requesting that His Excellency will take the earliest opportunity of directing the Provisional Government of that Province not to permit any such irregularities in future.

He has the honour to renew on this occasion, to the Commander, Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, the assurances, &c. &c.

His Excellency The Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello,
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 50.

M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

*Secretaria d' Estado dos Negocios Estrangeiros,
em 14 de Setembro de 1824.*

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello faz os seus cumprimentos ao Sñr Henrique Chamberlain, Consul Geral de S. M. Britannica ; e em resposta ao Bilhete de S. M^{ce}. em data de 9 do corrente mez, em que se queixa de ter o Governo da Provincia de *Maranhão* occasionalmente permittido, antes da Declaração da Independencia, debaixo de diversos pretextos, que descarregassem varios Navios com carga de Escravos ; tem de participar à S. M^{ce}., que ficaõ expeditas as convenientes Ordens para que o Presidente da referida Provincia, procurando indagar destes factos, informe circumstanciadamente o que houver, a fim de se darem as providencias que forem precisas, em attenção ao Tratado existente, e Convenções que regulam o Trafico d'Escravos.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, renóva por esta occasião ao Sñr Henrique Chamberlain, os protestos, &c. &c

Sñr Chamberlain,
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 50.—(Translation.)

M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

Secretary of State's Office for Foreign Affairs, 14th September, 1824.

LUIZ Joze De Carvalho e Mello, presents his compliments to Mr. Henry Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General, and in reply to his note under date of the 9th Instant, wherein he complains that the Government of the Province of Maranham has occasionally permitted, previous to the Declaration of Independence, the discharge of various Vessels with Cargoes of Slaves, under sundry pretext ; has to inform him that the proper orders are issued to the President of the said Province, to enquire into these facts, and report circumstantially what has happened, in order that the necessary measures may be taken in reference to the existing Treaty, and the Conventions which regulate the Slave Trade.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, renews on this occasion, &c. &c.
Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 51

Mr. Secretary Canning to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 19th, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to you for your information, a Copy of Papers marked A. & B. relative to the Slave Trade, which were presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Majesty's command, in the course of the last Session.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 52.

Mr. Secretary Canning, to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

SIR,

Foreign Office, December 17th, 1824.

I SEND to you the extract of a Letter from Captain *Woolcombe*, of His Majesty's Ship *Victor*, containing an account of the state in which Slaves were found on board of a *Brazilian* Vessel, named *Diana*, detained by the *Victor* on the Coast of *Africa*.

The deplorable condition of these unfortunate Slaves as described in that Letter is, I am willing to believe, so totally at variance with the instructions and positive orders of the *Brazilian* Government, that, when you communicate to them this report, due enquiry will be made into the transaction, and that wherever blame may be found to rest, the persons concerned will be visited with such punishment as shall be calculated to prevent for the future such an aggravation of misery as has been entailed on these unfortunate beings.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 52.

Captain Woolcombe to Commodore Bullen.

(Extract.)

*H. M. S. Victor, Man of War Bay,
Island of St. Thomas, 20th August, 1824.*

IN obedience to your order of the 29th July last, I yesterday arrived at this anchorage, and immediately commenced watering, which I shall have completed by noon, and shall proceed again to my cruising ground as soon as the boat returns from the Town, which takes this up, and lands some *Portuguese*. I have been so fortunate as to seize a *Brazilian* Brigantine, named *Diana*, with 143 Slaves on board at the time of seizure.

Of all Vessels I was on board of, this was in the most deplorable condition; the stench from the accumulation of dirt joined to that of so many human beings packed together in a small space, (the men all ironed in pairs) was intolerable, and to add to this scene of misery the small pox had broken out among them, nine had died before we took possession, and one almost immediately after our first boat got alongside.

In consulting the Surgeon, I was sorry to find nothing could be done for them,

it being impossible to take them into this Ship, as many of the Kroomen had not had the small pox, and the chances are that even if we had done so, it would not have checked it in the others left on board, on whom it had not then made its appearance, as it was nearly sunset when we got hold of her after a chase in the winds eye from 7 A. M. We kept her by us all night, and in the morning gave her as good a cleaning and whitewashing as we could, and then sent her off to Sierra Leone, under charge of Mr. Young, who has been long on the coast, and having taken up prizes before, perfectly understands how to treat the Slaves.

But I must say, I have great fear that they will lose a great many on their way, although great care was taken that no one should go on board, who had not had this disease. I hope no accident will happen to any of our own people gone up in her. I have given Mr. Young orders to bring his people down to Cape Coast by the first conveyance.

Commodore Bullen,

Commr. in Chief of H. M. S. and Vessels on the Coast of Africa.

No. 53.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received November 11th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 18th Sept. 1824.

I REGRET to say that I have not yet been able to obtain the particulars of the Rule used in the *Admeasurement* of Slave vessels, though I have ascertained that it differs entirely from that employed in calculating the Tonnage of Merchant Ships.

I had hoped that the Minister would have acquiesced in my request to be furnished with information on this point, but his Note of the 2d instant, in reply to mine of the 16th ult., (forwarded by the last Packet) shewing me that I was not to expect this favour, and declaring besides, that the vessels whose incorrect measurement you had instructed me to represent to the Brazilian Government, which representation formed the subject of my Letter to His Excellency, of the 26th of January last, (of which I have already had the honour to send you a copy) had been officially ascertained to have been measured according to law, I felt it to be proper not to let the matter stop where it was.

And accordingly I addressed M. De Carvalho again on the 10th instant, on this subject, pointing out the necessity for His Majesty's Government being made acquainted with the mode prescribed by the law for measuring these vessels; and reiterating the request to be furnished with the Rule.

Inclosure No. 3, being the Copy of this Letter, will put you in possession of what I considered myself called upon to say in support of the request. The chief arguments being in substance, that the British Government having bound itself by Treaty to pay Demurrage for Slave ships, improperly detained by British cruizers, according to a fixed Scale of Tonnage, it is of moment to know how the Tonnage of such vessels is ascertained. Because, as these are found, upon investigation by the British Authorities, to be of much larger capacity, when employed in the Slave-Trade, than when measured for other purposes, at the same time that their estimate for the latter very nearly coincides with what it would be in England; whilst their estimate for the former very considerably exceeds it; the British Government is thus rendered liable to pay a much higher rate of Demurrage than is *bona fide* due under the Treaty.

And, that there being now very sufficient reason to believe that the practice used in measuring Slave vessels in *Brazil*, instead of being the means of restricting the shipment to five Individuals to every two Tons, has been employed to

make it legal to ship at the rate of four for each real *bona fide* Ton, according to the usual understanding of that measure of capacity, I felt it to be my duty to communicate the fact, and the particulars of the rule of calculation, to His Majesty's Government, that they might have an opportunity of fully considering a subject in which they are interested, equally with the Brazilian Government.

No reply has yet been received.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 53.

M. De Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

Secretaria de Estado, 2 de Setembro, de 1824.

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello faz seus cumprimentos ao Sñr. Henrique Chamberlain, Consul Geral de S. M. Britannica, e accusa a recepção do Bilhete, que lhe dirigio em 16 do mez passado, em que S. M^{ce}. mostrava o dezejo de se lhe remetterem as particularidades, que supponha terem sido mandadas adoptar nas *arqueaçoes das Embarcacoes* do Commercio licito de Escravos.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, referindo a S. M^{ce}. para o que lhe expoz no seu Bilhete em data de 13 do dito mez, nada mais tem a accrescentar, senão que o Governo de S. M. Imperial, querendo mostrar a contemplação que lhe merecem as representações de S. M^{ce}. recommendou ás auctoridades incumbidas daquelle ramo de serviço (naõ obstante consta por informações Officiaes, que as arqueações tinham sido feitas na conformidade da respectiva Lei) que as mesmas Auctoridades fizessem observar um methodo fixo e regular, a fim de que não houvesse alteraçãõ ou discrepancia nas ditas arqueaçoes, evitando-se assim algum abuso que podesse haver a estê respeito.

L. J. de Carvalho, e Mello renova por esta occasiaõ, &c.

Sñr. Henrique Chamberlain,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 53.—(Translation.)

M. de Carvalho e Mello, to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

Secretary of State's Office, September 2d, 1824.

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello, presents his compliments to Mr. H. Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General, and acknowledges the receipt of the note which he addressed to him on the 16th of last month, in which he expressed a wish to have sent to him, the particulars he supposes to have been ordered to be adopted in the *measurement of vessels* employed in the licit Slave Trade.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, referring Mr. Consul General to what he stated in his note under date of the 13th of the said month, has nothing more to add, but that His Imperial Majesty's Government, desiring to shew to the Representations of Mr. Consul General, the consideration which they merit, has recommended to the Authorities charged with that branch of the service (notwithstanding it is known from Official information, that the measurements have been made in conformity with the respective Law), that the said Authorities should cause to be observed a fixed and regular mode, to the end that there should be

no alteration, or discrepance in the said measurements, thus preventing any abuse which might occur in this respect.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, renews on this occasion, &c.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 53.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to M. de Carvalho e Mello.

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 10th September, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 2d Instant, in answer to mine of the 16th ult. soliciting to be favoured with the particulars of the mode, which I understood from the tenour of your Excellency's previous note of the 13th, had been ordered to be followed in the *measurement of Slave Vessels*.

In this answer, your Excellency has the goodness to state, that you have nothing further to add to the contents of that note, beyond the assurance that His Imperial Majesty's Government has recommended a fixed and regular method of measurement, to be observed by the Authorities charged with that branch of service.

Upon which, your Excellency will permit me very respectfully to state, that it is of moment to the British Government to possess officially the rule used by the measurers of vessels destined for the trade; because, if that rule differ materially from the other usual mode of ascertaining the Tonnage of vessels, it is necessary that it should not only be made acquainted with the fact, generally, but also with its particulars.

The British Government is bound, by the Additional Convention to the Treaty of Vienna of 22d January, 1815, signed at London on 28th July, 1817, to pay demurrage for Slave vessels, improperly detained by British Cruizers, according to rates specified in the Schedule, forming part of the 8th Article of the Regulations for the Mixed Commissions, comprised in that Convention; which rates are regulated by the Tonnage of the detained vessels according to a scale extending from 100 to 300 Tons.

According to the Statement I had the honour to inclose to your Excellency on the 26th of January last, representing four instances of what the British Government conceive to be improper measurement of vessels employed in this Trade, but which your Excellency now tells me, it has been officially ascertained, had been made in conformity with the Law, ("*naõ obstante constar por informações officiaes que as arqueações tinham sido feitas na conformidade da respectiva Lei.*") it is undeniable that two distinct modes of measurement have been employed; and that their capacity for carrying Slaves, has been estimated a great deal above their capacity for the payment of light dues.

It being at the same time worthy remark, that the first name on the list, the "*Nova Sorte*," which was the only one that happened to be measured at *Sierra Leone*, turned out to be of 83½ Tons English, being within one Ton and one twelfth part of a Ton, of the number allotted for the payment of the light dues at *Bahia*. Which approximate results of the two measurements have naturally led to the conclusion, that the other mode of measuring is not correct, and has been improperly practised. It would indeed be difficult to understand how the measurements by the Authorities at *Bahia* can have been correct, (notwithstanding the official assurances that they were according to Law), when there are the following differences in the Tonnage of the same vessels; the excess being in each case on the side of the Tonnage for Slaves, thereby entitling them to carry a greater number of Slaves, and, in case of improper detention, to de-

mand a higher rate of demurrage per diem, than by Treaty they are bonâ fide entitled to—

<i>Nova Sorte</i> , an Excess of	57½ tons upon	84½	
<i>Conceição</i> ,	- - -	59½	108
<i>Lisboa</i> ,	- - -	26½	92
<i>Commerciante</i> ,	- - -	83	162

In the first, the excess being above two thirds of the real tonnage ;—In the 2d above one half ;—In the 3d not quite one fourth ;—And in the last, rather more than one half.

I will take the liberty to request your Excellency's attention to the case of the first of these vessels ; as that whose tonnage has been ascertained by a British authority ; and found very nearly to agree with that declared by a *Brazilian* authority, for other purposes than the Slave Trade.

According to this (which is selected for example sake as the real tonnage) she would be entitled, at the rate of 5 for every two tons, to carry 210 or 211 Slaves ; by the other, 353 Slaves ; that is to say ; this excessive measure entitles her to carry upwards of four Slaves for each bona fide ton. And the result is nearly the same in the other cases ; which I will venture to assert, and to pledge myself, is not the understanding in which the Convention of 1815 and the Additional Convention of 1817, were agreed to by the British Government.

At all events, as this question has arisen out of your Excellency's Note of the 2nd instant, and is one in which the British Government is deeply interested, as well as that of Brazil, I feel myself called upon to furnish His Majesty's Secretary of State with all the information I can obtain upon the subject, to the end that he may be able to take it into full consideration. Wherefore I trust your Excellency will excuse my renewing the request already made on the 16 ult. and will be pleased to cause to be delivered to me a Copy of the rule established by Law, for admeasuring the Tonnage of vessels to be employed in the licit Slave Trade ; according to which the number of Slaves allowed to be shipped in each vessel is calculated.

I have great satisfaction in profiting of this opportunity, to express to your Excellency the sentiments of respect and consideration with which I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

H. E. the Commander Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 54.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received December 25th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 30th October, 1824.

IN obedience to the Instructions contained in your Dispatch of the Slave-Trade Series, dated the 6th of August, received here on the 17th instant, per Lord Melville Packet, I addressed a letter to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stating the mischievous effects resulting from the permission given to *Brazilian* vessels proceeding to *Molemo* for Slaves, to touch in their way at the Islands of *Princes* and *St. Thomas* ; and signifying the expectation of His Majesty's Government that the *Brazilian* Government being made aware of the evils produced by the present form of Passports would lose no time in altering it.

Yesterday I received a Reply to this Representation (of which I beg leave to send a Copy and Translation) stating that the latter has been sent on the 27th inst. to the Government of *Bahia*, with orders to report upon the subject, in

order that the Emperor may then decide upon what may be requisite to be done.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 54.

Mr. Consul General Chamberlain to M. de Carvalho e Mello.

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 20th October, 1824.

I HAVE been instructed to make known to your Excellency, that His Majesty's Commissioners at *Sierra Leone* have several times represented to their Government the mischievous effects resulting from the practice of the *Brazilian* Authorities, in giving permission to vessels proceeding to *Molembo* for Slaves, to touch, in their way, at the Islands of *Princes* and *St. Thomas*. By which permission these vessels obtain an excuse for being seen near the Slave Coast, to the Northward of the Equator; and they generally take advantage of the opportunity to procure cargoes of Negroes in those parts, where, by the Laws of every Civilized Nation, the Slave-Trade has been strictly forbidden.

It is my duty to add, that His Majesty's Government trust, that the *Brazilian* Government, now they are made aware of the evils which are produced by the form in which their *Passport* is drawn up, will lose no time in causing it to be altered.

I beg to repeat to Your Excellency, on this occasion, the sentiments of perfect consideration with which I have the honour to be, &c.

His Excellency
The Commander, Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Second Enclosure in No. 54.

M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

Em 29 de Outubro de 1824.

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello faz seus cumprimentos ao Sñr H. Chamberlain, Consul Geral de S. M. Britannica, e accusando a sua Nota de 20 do corrente, em a qual participa, que os Commissarios de S. M. B. em Serra Leõa tem por varias vezes representado ao seu Governo, os maos effeitos que resultaõ da pratica seguida pelas Auctoridades *Brasileiras*, permittindo aos Navios, que vaõ a *Molembo* para o trafico de Escravatura, que toquem por escala nas Ilhas do *Principe* e *S. Thomé*; tem de participar a S. M^{ce}. que a sua Nota foi em 27 do corrente remettida ao Presidente da *Bahia*, para que informasse com o seu parecer sobre semelhante materia para ser presente a S. M. Imperial.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello aproveita esta occasiao, &c. &c.

Sñr Chamberlain,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 54.—(Translation.)

M. de Carvalhoe Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

October 29, 1824.

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello presents his compliments to Mr. H. Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General; and acknowledging his Note

of the 20th instant, in which he acquaints him that the Commissioners of His Britannic Majesty at Sierra Leone, have at various times represented to their Government the bad effects resulting from the practice followed by the *Brazilian* Authorities, in permitting vessels bound to *Molembó*, to trade for Slaves, to touch on their way, at the Islands of *Princes*, and *St. Thomas*, has to inform him, that his Note was transmitted on the 27th instant, to the President of *Bahia*, in order that his report on this subject may be made known to the Emperor.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello profits of this opportunity, &c. &c.
Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 55.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received Feb. 6th, 1825.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 11th December, 1824.

M. de Carvalho e Mello having sent me, on the 6th instant, a Note explaining in detail the method used to find the *Tonnage* of vessels employed in the licit Slave-Trade, requested by me on the 10th of September last, for the purpose of being transmitted to His Majesty's Government, I have the honour to send herewith a Copy and Translation thereof, for their information.

According to this mode of estimating the Tonnage of Slave-vesels, a brig called the *Adamaster*, of about 189 tons burthen, belonging to this Port, is allowed to carry 750 Slaves, that is to say, her burthen for the Slave-Trade is 300 tons, which seems to be about the general rule of proportion in the vessels quoted in the Representation of the Mixed Commission at *Sierra Leone*.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Hon. George Canning.
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 55.**M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.**Secretaria d'Estado, em 6 de Dezembro de 1824.*

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello faz seus cumprimentos ao Sñr Henrique Chamberlain, Consul Geral de S. M. Britannica, e accusa a recepção do officio de 10 de Setembro passado que S. M^{ce}. lhe dirigia, requerendo que se lhe communicasse officialmente o methodo que se segue na arqueação das Embarcaçoens Brasileiras destinadas ao Commercio licito da Escravatùra, para o fazer chegar ao conhecimento do Governo Britannico.

L. J. de Carvalho e Mello, havendo exigido por ordem de S. M. O Imperador, do Tribunal competente da Junta do Commercio, que transmittisse todos os esclarecimentos necessarios, a respeito do methodo em questaõ, o mesmo Tribunal depois de ter tomado todas as informaçoens que lhe eram necessarias para este fim, acaba de informar o seguinte.—Divide-se o chaõ ou pavimento da Tolda, Castello, Convez, e Coberta no sentido de popa e prôa, em comprimentos parciaes de seis palmos, a que chamam *Rumos*; toma-se em palmos a meio de cada um d'estes rumos, a largúra o bocca do navio; somanse todas estas larguras em cada pavimento ou ponte, e multiplica-se a soma por seis, para se ter a superficie de cada ponte em palmos quadrados; se acontece haver alguma fracção de *rumo*, toma-se igualmente a largura do Navio a meio d'elle e multiplica-se esta pelos palmos da mencionada fracção, cujo producto se addiciona ao primeiro

indicado, o mesmo se pratica em as outras pontes ou pavimentos: somam-se depois os productos ou resultados parciaes, disconta-se do total a soma dos resguardos, isto he, d'aquelles espaços que são occupados por alguma coiza, como por exemplo Cartinga do Grupés, Abitas, Escoteiras do velaxo, e meia laranja de prôa, Mastro de Traquete, Fogaõ e seu tableiro, Lancha, Escoteiras de Gavia, Mastro Grande, Bombas, meia laranja, Abitaçula, e Roda do Leme, cujas superficies tambem se medem em palmos quadrados, e dividindo-se o resto por trinta e seis, que são os palmos quadrados que se contem em uma Tonelada, ou duas pipas que tem cada huma seis palmos de comprimento e trez de diametro medio, acha-se o numero de toneladas de superficie, do qual tomando-se metade e multiplicando-se por cinco, quantidade dos Escravos que devem contar-se por cada duas Toneladas, dà os que o navio póde transportar. A camara e camarotes entram na mediçaõ, porque na viagem de volta pessoa alguma tem agazalhado; e naõ se mede o rancho da equipagem, porque esse hé o logar destinado para Hospital, porem se os navios tem Belixes, *Cadoleixas*, ou *Tarimbas*, estas naõ entram na mediçaõ.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello transmittindo ao Sñr Consul Geral a informaçãõ acima, julga ter satisfeito a sua requisizaõ, e aproveita, &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 55.—(Translation.)

M. de Carvalho e Mello to Mr. Consul General Chamberlain.

Secretary of State's Office, 6th December, 1824.

LUIZ Joze de Carvalho e Mello, presents his compliments to Mr. Henry Chamberlain, His Britannic Majesty's Consul General, and acknowledges the receipt of the Office of the 10th September last, which he addressed to him requesting that the mode followed in the *measurement of Brazilian vessels employed in the licit Slave Trade* might be officially communicated to him, in order that he might transmit it to the knowledge of the British Government.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello, having by order of His Majesty the Emperor, required from the Competent Tribunal of the Board of Trade, the transmission of all the necessary explanations respecting the mode in question, the same Tribunal, after having taken every information which was necessary to this end, have just made known as follows:—The ground or flooring of the quarter deck, fore-castle, deck, and the middle deck from stem to stern, are divided into partial lengths of 6 palms which are called "*Rumos*;"* these breadths are added up on each flooring, or deck, and the sum multiplied by 6 in order to have the superficies of each deck in square palms: if it happen that there are any fraction of a "*Rumo*" the breadth of the ship is equally taken at the middle of it, and this is multiplied by the palms of the said fraction, and its product added to the before mentioned; the same is done with the other decks or floorings; afterwards the products or partial results are added up, abating from the amount the reserved places, that is, of those spaces which are occupied by any thing, as for example the stem of the bowsprit, bits, top knight head, and fore-scuttle, foremast, cook's fire-place and stand, launch, knight-head, mainmast, pumps, companion, binnacle, and rudder-case, whose superficies are also measured in square palms, and dividing the remainder by 36, which is the number of square palms contained in

* Compartment.

a ton or two pipes, each of which is 6 palms in length and three in medium diameter, the number of superficial tons will be found, whereof taking the half and multiplying it by five, the quantity of Slaves which ought to be reckoned for every two tons, will give the number that the ship may carry. The cabin and births enter into this measurement, because on the return Voyage, no person has any particular place; and the steerage is not measured, because this is the place appointed for the hospital: however, if the ships have births for the seamen, **Cadoleixas*, or *Tarimbast*†, these do not come into the measurement.

Luiz Joze de Carvalho e Mello transmitting to Mr. Consul General the above information, judges he has satisfied his requisition; and profits, &c.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

* Cannot ascertain what place or space is called by this name. † Board fixed up in any part of the Ship, (on deck, between decks, or elsewhere) for the sailors to sleep on.

No. 56.

Mr. Consul General Chamberlain, to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March, 6th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 4th January, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the number of Negroes brought into this Port of *Rio de Janeiro* during the last year;—and a comparative statement of the importations during the years 1823 and 1824.

On the *Eastern* coast of *Africa* there appears to have been a small diminution in the numbers embarked, with a vast increase of mortality during the Voyage; whilst on the *Western*, the trade has flourished eminently, the numbers embarked having risen from about Twelve thousand, to near Twenty-two thousand, an excess of nine thousand six hundred and ninety over the number embarked during the preceding year.

The mortality also exceeds the average ratio of that year.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 56.

A STATEMENT shewing the number of Slaves imported into *Rio de Janeiro* during the year 1824.

Date.	NAME.	Whence.	Slaves.		
			Embark'd	Died.	Landed.
1824.					
January 3	<i>Boa Hora</i>	Bahia	326	0	326
" 5	<i>Tejo</i>	Benguella.....	346	7	339
" 29	<i>Avidor</i>	Bahia.....	27	0	27
February 2	<i>Viajante</i>	Mosambique.....	596	122	474
" 14	<i>St. Antonio Flor de Loanda</i>	Cabinda.....	566	13	553
" "	<i>Minerva</i>	Quilimane.....	517	139	378
" 15	<i>9 de Janeiro</i>	Mosambique.....	596	109	487
" 18	<i>Santa Roza</i>	Ambris.....	393	0	393
" 22	<i>Industria</i>	Angola.....	625	31	594
" 23	<i>Pastora de Lima</i>	Benguella.....	467	32	435
" 24	<i>Bella Umiltiana</i>	Do.....	202	3	199
" 26	<i>Imperio do Brazil</i>	Quilimane.....	404	67	337
" 27	<i>General Rego</i>	Angola.....	600	49	551
" "	<i>Conde dos Arcos</i>	Quilimane.....	446	108	338
March 3	<i>Zephiro</i>	Do.....	518	41	477
" 5	<i>Trajano</i>	Do.....	536	123	413
" 14	<i>Leopoldina</i>	Bahia.....	175	0	175
" 21	<i>Santo Antonio</i>	Cabinda.....	697	34	663
" 25	<i>Adamastor</i>	Quilimane.....	448	186	262
" 31	<i>Esperanca</i>	Benguella.....	455	48	407
April 10	<i>6 de Fevereiro</i>	Mosambique.....	612	67	545
" 13	<i>Amizade dos Santos</i>	Angola.....	282	68	214
" 22	<i>Boa Uniao</i>	Do.....	396	40	356
" 22	Quilimane.....	403	47	356
" 24	<i>4º de Abril</i>	Mosambique.....	627	139	488
" "	<i>Senra, da Guia</i>	Quilimane.....	496	301	195
" 25	<i>Poliphemo</i>	Angola.....	543	9	534
May 1	<i>Henriqueta</i>	Ambris.....	539	61	478
" 3	<i>Lucrecia</i>	Do.....	300	33	267
" 4	<i>Novo Despique</i>	Cabinda.....	608	0	608
" 13	<i>Lisboa</i>	Do.....	441	8	433
" "	<i>San José Deligente</i>	Do.....	556	2	554
" 18	<i>Nympha do Brasil</i>	Angola.....	475	71	404
" 24	<i>Desuniao</i>	Do.....	198	6	192
" 29	<i>Mercurio</i>	Benguella.....	423	37	386
July 15	<i>Mercantil</i>	Angola.....	430	93	337
" 26	<i>Regenerador</i>	Do.....	240	0	240
" 31	<i>Trajano</i>	Benguella.....	535	40	495
August 3	<i>Bom Jesus</i>	Angola.....	565	44	521
Septem. 3	<i>Anabia</i>	Do.....	760	23	737
" 23	<i>Donna Anna</i>	Do.....	337	54	283
" 29	<i>Tejo</i>	Cabinda.....	558	2	556
October 2	<i>Bella Americana</i>	Ambris.....	425	8	417
" "	<i>Caçador</i>	Do.....	562	8	554
" 11	<i>Cometa</i>	Cabinda.....	668	2	666
" 21	<i>Abysmo</i>	Angola.....	340	15	325
" 24	<i>Santa Roza</i>	Ambris.....	407	0	407
Novemb. 2	<i>Santa Antonio Flor de Loanda</i>	Do.....	441	6	435
" 4	<i>Principe Real</i>	Angola.....	490	14	476
" 8	<i>Maria</i>	Do.....	448	28	420
" 15	<i>Amazonia</i>	Ambris.....	489	2	487
" 16	<i>Flora</i>	Benguella.....	272	5	267
" 28	<i>Conceição de Passos</i>	Angola.....	407	17	390
" 29	<i>Regeneradora</i>	Angola.....	274	4	270
" 30	<i>Gram Penedo</i>	Cabinda.....	480	24	456
Decemb. 1	<i>Desengano</i>	Benguella.....	574	26	548
" "	<i>Desuniao</i>	Angola.....	250	0	250
" 2	<i>Marquez do Pombal</i>	Ambris.....	459	1	458
" 4	<i>Principe Real</i>	Mosambique.....	742	34	708
" "	<i>Ligeiro</i>	Ambris.....	409	11	398
" 13	<i>Imperador do Brazil</i>	Benguella.....	502	22	480
" 16	<i>Galiana</i>	Cabinda.....	320	4	316
" 17	<i>St. Antonio Destimido</i>	Do.....	667	11	656
" 20	<i>Amizade de Santos</i>	Angola.....	321	0	321
			29,211	2,499	26,712

(Signed)

H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Second Enclosure in No. 56.

A Comparative Statement of the number of Slaves imported into *Rio de Janeiro*, during the years 1823 and 1824.

	1823.			1824.			DECREASE.			INCREASE.			
	Embark- ed.	Died.	Landed.	Embark- ed.	Died.	Landed.	Embark- ed.	Died.	Landed.	Embark- ed.	Died.	Landed.	
From Western Coast of Africa	12,052	530	11,349	21,742	1016	20,276				9690	486	9377	
From Eastern Coast of Africa	7,448	858	6590	6,941	1483	5458	507		1132		625		
From Bahia and Pernambuco	983		983	528		528	455		455				
	20,483	1388	18,922	29,211	2499	26,712	962		1587	9690	1111	9377	
										Deduct decrease	962	1587	
										Total increased in 1824 over 1823.....	8728	1111	7790

(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 57.

Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March 6th.)

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 5th January, 1825.

I BEG leave to transmit the Translation of a *Portaria*, dated the 22d of December last, that has appeared amongst the official articles in the Government newspaper of this day, ordering that the same duties shall hereafter be levied upon Slaves imported from the *Eastern Coast of Africa (Mosambique)* as have been customary upon those from *Angola, Benguella*, and the other Ports on the *Western Coast*.

In order to understand the terms of the *Portaria*, it is necessary to explain, that previous to the declaration of *Brazilian Independence*, an Exportation Duty R^s 9§8060, (at par 67½d. about £. 2 10s. 4d.) per head, was levied in the *Portuguese African Ports* upon each Slave shipped from thence; and a further Importation Duty of R^s 12§940 (about £3: 12s. 9½d.) per head, levied upon their arrival in this Country.

In the commencement of last year, the *Brazilian Government*, in consideration that the Export Duty levied in the Ports of *Angola, Benguella*, and the others on the *Western Coast of Africa*, which had remained faithful to The King of *Portugal*, was received for the benefit of this Revenue, directed that an equal sum should be levied here in addition to the Import Duty, in order to make up the whole amount levied for their use, equivalent to what they had been accustomed to receive whilst those Ports were under the controul of the Government in *Brazil*.

By some oversight, the operation of this measure was not extended to Negroes imported from the Ports on the *Eastern Coast of Africa*.

But now, finding that these expectations have not been realized, the importations from both Coasts are ordered to be put upon the same footing with respect to Duties.

The sum total to be paid upon each Negro, supposing the whole quantity imported to be shipped in *Portuguese African Ports* will be hereafter £. 8. 13s. 5½d. of which

Portugal will receive.....	£.	s.	d.
And Brazil	2.	10	4
	6	3	1½
	<hr/>		
	£. 8	13	5½
	<hr/>		

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) H. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 57.—(Translation.)

PORTARIA.—(From the "*Diario Fluminense*," No. 3, dated 5th January, 1825.)

HIS Majesty The Emperor orders that the Slaves brought from the Ports of *Eastern Africa* shall henceforward be subject to the payment of the same Duties of export and import as are at present paid upon Slaves from *Angola, Benguella*, and the other Ports of *Western Africa*; which He orders to be 'communicated by the Secretary of States Office' for the Affairs of the Treasury, to the Councillor, Judge *ad interim* of the Custom-House, for his information and execution.

Palace, 22d December, 1824.

(Signed) MARIANNO JOZE PERREIRA DA FONSECA.

No. 58.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Mr. Consul-General Chamberlain.

SIR,

Foreign Office, March 16th, 1825.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave-Trade, of the 11th of December, 1824, containing M. de Carvalho's answer on the subject of the *over-rating of Tonnage* of *Brazilian* vessels employed in the legal Slave-Trade.

When His Most Faithful Majesty was first urged by His Majesty's Representative, at *Rio de Janeiro*, to put an end to the Slave-Trade from *Africa*, it was answered, that the Trade should be abolished on the part of *Portugal* and *Brazil*; so soon as the step could be taken without injury to the latter country: and that, in the meanwhile, the Trade should be circumscribed in its limits, and mitigated in the mode of carrying it on.

In pursuance of these principles, the Treaty of the 19th of Feb. 1810, the Convention of the 21st of January, 1815, and that of the 28th of July, 1817, were severally concluded, and the *Alvarà* of the 26th of January, 1818, was, after much correspondence on the part of this Government, promulgated as the Law of *Portugal* and *Brazil*, for carrying into effect the stipulations of these compacts.

One point in the mode of carrying on the Traffic, calling particularly for amendment, had been the practice of stowing away human beings in Slave ships, chained together so close, that in all cases extreme misery, and in very many cases madness and death, were the result: but the 6th Article of the *Alvarà* declared, that, in future, "the number of Slaves shall be regulated according to the Tonnage of the vessel, in the proportion of five to every two Tons, according to the antient measure."

The expectations, however, which the British Government naturally entertained of the effect of this order, have been entirely disappointed; for upon the investigation by His Majesty's Commissioners at *Sierra Leone*, of the cases of the Slave ships, the *Nova Sorte*, the *Conceição*, the *Lisboa*, and the *Commerciante*, it was found, that the Slaves on board were in far greater numbers, in proportion to the regular and actual admeasurement of the vessel, than, according to the *Alvarà*, were allowed.

The Commissioners having reported the circumstances to me, you were instructed to desire an inquiry into the matter from the *Brazilian* Government.

M. de Carvalho e Mello answered to you, that there were *two modes* of measuring vessels, one for Merchant vessels in general, and one for Slave vessels; by which proceeding, as you remarked, human beings could be crammed into a smaller space than that known to be occupied by their weight in lead.

The Minister, however, assured you, that in future a fixed and regular mode of admeasurement should be employed, and which would guard against the inconveniences of which you had complained.

M. de Carvalho has finally, and after a long delay, given to you an explanation in detail, of the method used to find the Tonnage of vessels employed in the licit Slave-Trade, by which method a vessel of about 189 Tons real burthen is allowed to carry 750 Slaves, and to rate herself at 300 Tons.

The principle thus avowed by the *Brazilian* Minister, instead of remedying, justifies the evil, by the extraordinary process of allowing a fictitious Tonnage to a Slave vessel.

You will make urgent representation to the *Brazilian* Government upon this subject. You will represent to them, that the law, as it now stands, is utterly at variance with the principles of humanity declared in the solemn compacts already recited. That it by no means fulfils the promise officially made to you by M. de Carvalho e Mello, in August, 1824, engaging that the evil complained of should be remedied. And that, as it does not appear to be at all consonant to the desire to alleviate the miseries of the Slave-Trade, which has so often been reported by you, as prevailing in the breast of the highest authority in *Brazil*, His Majesty's Government trust, that this most unjustifiable decision will be reconsidered, and that a *Decree* will be immediately issued, which shall do away one at least among the evils justly complained of, as existing in the details of the practice of Slave importations from *Africa*.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

Henry Chamberlain, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 59

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1824.

YOUR Excellency will acquaint The Netherlands' Government, that His Majesty's Ship *Thetis*, commanded by Captain Sir John Phillimore, has been furnished with the Instructions annexed to the Treaty of the 4th of May 1818, between His Majesty and the King of The Netherlands, for the prevention of the traffick in Slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 60.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, May 30, 1824.

BY a Communication which I have received from the Admiralty, it appears that the Instructions annexed to the Treaty between His Majesty and the King of The Netherlands, for the prevention of the Slave-Trade, have been issued to the following Ships and Vessels of His Majesty's Navy: viz.—

<small>Ships' Names.</small>	<small>Guns.</small>	<small>Commanders.</small>
Gloucester - - -	74 - - -	George F. Rich.
Owen Glendower - - -	42 - - -	Sir Robert Mends.
Ariadne - - -	26 - - -	Const. R. Moorsom.
Victor - - -	18 - - -	Thomas Prickett.
Swinger, G. V. - - -	12 - - -	Lieut. John Scott.

And that the Instructions have been recalled and cancelled which had been issued upon this subject to the following Vessels, viz.: *Iphigenia, Sybille, Tamar, Tees, Tyne, Thistle*, and *Snapper*. Your Excellency will communicate these facts to the Government of the King of The Netherlands.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 61.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received May 31st, 1824.)

SIR,

The Hague, May 28, 1824.

I HAD on Wednesday a Conference with Count de Reede, and I verbally made to him the Representations which are to be found in the two Official Notes which I have since addressed to him, and of which I have the honour to enclose Copies.

His Excellency did not appear disposed to controvert the opinion, that the present *Regulations* by which the Captains of *Dutch Ships of War* are exposed, by capturing Vessels suspected of Slave Trading, to considerable loss, without any chance of advantage to themselves, are of a nature to discourage a due execution of the Duty, which those Officers are enjoined to perform.

I have also notified in obedience to the Instructions contained in your Despatch (Slave Trade) of the 6th of May, the names of those of His Majesty's Ships which have received Instructions under the Treaty between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 61.

Viscount Granville to the Comte de Reede.

The Hague, May 24th, 1824.

THE undersigned, &c. has received instructions from his Court to communicate to the Netherland Government, the enclosed Despatch from His Britannic Majesty's Commissary Judge at *Surinam*, relating to the Case of the French Brig *La Légère*, detained and sent into *Surinam* with 353 Slaves, by Sir Thomas Cochrane: he is at the same time directed to express the gratification which is felt by the English Government, at the highly honourable and active conduct pursued on this occasion by the Governor of *Surinam*, in the execution of the orders of his Sovereign.

His Excellency the Governor, however, will find it absolutely impossible, even with the very best intentions, to prevent entirely the Importation of Slaves into the Colony, unless the number of Ships of War on that station shall be augmented; not one Netherland Vessel of War, it is stated, has been at *Surinam* from the end of last June to the middle of December last, and persons interested in carrying on the African Slave Trade will naturally avail themselves of this absence of all naval force. Under these circumstances, the Count Reede will not be surprised that the British Government should express an anxiety that such arrangement may be made, as that the Coast of *Surinam* shall not for want of Netherland cruizers be in future exposed as it now appears to be, to the open incursions of illegal Slave Traders.

The undersigned regrets that he cannot conclude this Note without referring to information that has reached his government, respecting *sixty-nine* newly-imported African Slaves, who either for want of sufficient zeal on the part of the Fiscal of *Surinam*, or from the negligence or connivance of persons employed under him, have not been discovered. The parties accused of importing these Slaves have also escaped, because no decisive measures were taken by the Fiscal, on whom this duty rested, to secure them. A proclamation was indeed issued citing them to appear, but this citation, as they had rendered themselves liable to a fine of 5000 guilders, and five years' imprisonment, has, as might have been expected, been totally disregarded, and no reward was offered for their apprehension, or for that of the Slaves whose importation they had effected.

The Dutch Government being apprized by this statement that the Fiscal at *Surinam* has not fulfilled with the zeal which the occasion required, the just intentions of the King of the Netherlands, the undersigned has the satisfaction to believe that Instructions will be issued, which shall for the future ensure a more effectual enforcement of the decrees of His Netherland Majesty, for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

His Excellency The Comte de Reede,
&c. &c. &c.

*Second Enclosure in No. 61.**Viscount Granville to the Comte de Reede.**The Hague, May 25, 1824.*

THE undersigned, &c. has the honour to inform M. le Comte de Reede, that His Britannic Majesty's Government has received a report from the British Commissary Judge at *Surinam*, by which it appears that the regulations of the Netherland Government with respect to their Cruizers upon that Station, are of a nature to discourage the Capture of Ships suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic of Slaves.

It is stated, that in the event of the release of any Vessel which may have been detained upon suspicion of Slave Trading, the Commander of the Ship of War, by whom such detention may have been caused, is exposed to an action for *Damages*, whilst on the other hand, no compensation for that risk is allowed to him by any *Bounty* or *Prize Money*, in the case of the Vessel being condemned: it cannot be matter of wonder, that where no advantage can be gained, and where great loss may be incurred, there should be little alacrity in detaining suspected Vessels.

The undersigned has received instructions from his Court, to call the attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to this subject, to inquire from His Excellency, whether the Report of the British Commissary Judge concerning these regulations is substantially correct; and if it be so, to represent that such regulations must necessarily defeat the object which it is intended to obtain, by furnishing national cruizers with instructions under the Treaty of 1818.

The undersigned, knowing the sincere and anxious desire of the King of the Netherlands to give full effect to the stipulations of the Treaty above referred to, and to co-operate with His August Ally in putting down this detestable traffic in Slaves, relies with confidence upon the adoption by the Netherland Government, of some new regulations which may render the interests of the Dutch cruizers less inconsistent with the due execution of their duty, with respect to Ships suspected of being engaged in Slave Trading.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

His Excellency the Comte de Reede,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 62.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1824.

I FORWARD to your Excellency, to be communicated to the Government of the Netherlands, a copy of a Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at *Sierra Leone*, dated the 5th of April last, containing an account of the death of M. *de Marrée*, the Netherland Commissary Judge in the Court of Mixed Commission at that place. The Netherland Government will see the urgency of supplying the place of M. *de Marrée* without delay, as there is now no longer a judge on the part of the Netherlands at *Sierra Leone*; the Judge Arbitrator, M. *Bonnouvrié*, having previously returned to Europe.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 63.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received July 16th.)

SIR,

The Hague, July 13, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the answer of the Comte de Reede, to the Note which I addressed to him on the 24th of May, relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade on the Coast of *Surinam*.

In this answer will be found some explanation on the subject of the remarks I had made, on the insufficiency of the Dutch Naval Force on that Station, to prevent the fraudulent importation of Slaves; and also a justification of the Fiscal of the Colony, to whose negligent conduct, as represented by Mr. Lance, I had, in obedience to your instructions, alluded.

His Majesty's Government will, I am persuaded, learn with great satisfaction from the concluding paragraph of Count de Reede's Note, that the adoption of more severe measures for the repression of the Traffic in Slaves, is at this moment under the consideration of His Netherland Majesty.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 63.

The Comte de Reede to Viscount Granville.

A la Haye, ce 12 Juillet, 1824.

LE 24 Mai dernier, Son Excellence Lord Granville, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plenipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique, a fait l'honneur d'adresser au Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, un office dans lequel, en transmettant une dépêche du Juge Commissaire Anglais à *Suriname*, concernant la saisie de la Corvette Française, *La Légère*, avec un chargement d'Esclaves, Son Excellence exprime la satisfaction du Gouvernement Britannique de la conduite déployée en cette occasion par le Gouvernement de *Suriname*; mais appréhendant que les bonnes intentions ne puissent atteindre entièrement leur but, faute de Croiseurs des Pays Bas sur la côte, Son Excellence y fait connaître le désir du Gouvernement Britannique, que des arrangemens ultérieurs à cet égard previennent à l'avenir jusqu'à la possibilité des incursions des négriers, et enfin ne dissimulant pas que le Fiscal, ou les employés étoient prévenus de ne pas avoir fait tout ce que l'on avoit droit d'attendre d'eux à l'occasion de l'introduction frauduleuse en 1823, de 69 Esclaves par un Français nommé *Fromentin*, le Gouvernement Britannique a la confiance que celui des Pays Bas ne refusera pas d'assurer par la transmission de nouveaux ordres, l'entière exécution de ceux déjà prescrits pour l'abolition du Trafic des Esclaves.

Cet office a été placé sous les yeux du Roi.—Autant que Sa Majesté y a vu avec plaisir l'éloge que, par de nouvelles preuves de zèle et d'activité le Gouverneur de *Suriname* a su mériter du Gouvernement Anglais, autant l'exposé de l'insuffisance des moyens de répression contre l'introduction frauduleuse des noirs, et surtout, les reproches graves contre le Fiscal, étoient de nature à faire naître des sentimens bien différens, aussi S. M. a ordonné que ces derniers points fissent de suite l'objet des recherches, et des rapports des autorités compétentes.

Le resultat de leurs informations ayant été présenté à Sa Majesté, le

Soussigné vient d'être chargé de le porter à la connaissance de Lord Granville.

A l'époque de l'incident de *la Légère*, la Corvette de Guerre des *Pays-Bas*, le *Kemphaan*, se trouvoit dans les eaux de Suriname, et l'absence momentanée de ce bâtiment, lors du débarquement furtif de 69 Esclaves, a été purement accidentelle, l'inconvénient signalé au Gouvernement Britannique, concernant l'absence totale et prolongée de Croiseurs sur les côtes de *Suriname*, perdra donc beaucoup de son importance; il est reconnu d'ailleurs combien la surveillance maritime la plus vigilante, peut quelques fois être mise en défaut. Cependant pour parer, autant que possible, à l'inconvénient dénoncé, on prendra des mesures, dont le but sera de maintenir à Suriname une croisière constante, à l'aide d'un des batimens de Guerre, stationnés actuellement dans les Indes Occidentales, et qui, en tout cas, pourroit remplacer le départ éventuel du *Kemphaan*; l'attention du Ministre de la Marine vient d'être spécialement appelée sur cet objet.

Pour ce qui concerne les plaintes dirigées contre le Fiscal de *Suriname*, il conste des rapports reçus, que de concert avec l'Arbitre Britannique près le Tribunal Mixte à *Suriname*, tout a été mis en œuvre, pour parvenir à s'emparer des 69 Esclaves, introduits par le François susnommé. Aussitôt que l'on en eut connoissance, le Sr. Lance et le Sr. Guicherit, Secrétaire du Gouvernement, se rendirent, d'après l'invitation du Gouverneur à la plantation suspectée, et ce n'est que par l'absence d'une force armée sur les lieux, qu'ils se virent dans l'impossibilité de soutenir, avec l'énergie nécessaire, leur injonction à *Fromentin* de ne pas quitter l'endroit où il se trouvoit jusqu'à nouvel ordre: il ne restoit pour lors d'autre voye que celle d'une Enquête juridique au moyen d'une citation, et d'après le zèle que le Fiscal a déployé constamment dans l'exercice de ses fonctions, rien n'autorise à présumer qu'il s'en seroit écarté dans cette circonstance; lié par les formes légales sa marche lui étoit tracée, et tout porte à croire qu'il l'a suivie.

Sa Majesté a donc eu la satisfaction d'acquiescer de nouvelles preuves que le Gouvernement de *Suriname* se fait un devoir de seconder les intentions bien connues du Roi, de maintenir loyalement et énergiquement l'exécution du Traité conclu entre les deux Royaumes; mais Sa Majesté n'en est pas moins disposée à en renforcer les stipulations par tous les moyens qui peuvent tendre à l'extirpation du Trafic honteux, dont il s'agit; et le Gouvernement Anglais apprendra, sans doute avec intérêt, que, l'adoption ultérieure de mesures plus sévères et plus répressives formant en ce moment l'objet des délibérations de Sa Majesté.

Le Soussigné a l'honneur, &c.

(Signé) W. F. DE REEDE.

Son Excellence M. le Vicomte de Granville,

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 63.

(Translation.)

The Comte de Reede to Viscount Granville.

The Hague, July 12th, 1824.

ON the 24th of May last His Excellency Lord Granville, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty, did the undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the honour to address to him an official Note, in which, enclosing at the same time a Despatch of the English Commissary Judge at Surinam, touching the seizure of the *French Sloop La Légère*, with a cargo of Slaves, His Excellency expressed the satisfaction of the British Government at the conduct adopted

on that occasion by the Government of *Surinam*; but, fearing that these good intentions will not completely attain their object, on account of the deficiency of the Netherlands cruizers on the coast, His Excellency therein makes known the desire of the Government of Great Britain, that ulterior arrangements on that subject may preclude in future even the possibility of the incursions of Negro ships; and, finally, not dissembling that the Fiscal, or the persons employed, were known not to have done all that was right to have been expected of them, on the occasion of the fraudulent introduction, in 1823, of 69 Slaves by a *Frenchman*, named *Fromentin*, the British Government trusts that that of the Netherlands will not refuse to ensure, by the transmission of new orders, the entire execution of those already prescribed for the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

That Note was laid before His Majesty. Much as the King perceived with pleasure the eulogium which, by new proofs of zeal and activity, the Governor of *Surinam* has succeeded in obtaining therein from the British Government; the declaration of the insufficiency of the means of suppression against the fraudulent introduction of Blacks, and, above all, the serious charges against the Fiscal, were of a nature to excite very different sentiments: his Majesty had, in consequence, commanded that these last points should be immediately made objects of inquiry, and of research, by the competent authorities.

The result of their information having been laid before His Majesty, the undersigned has been directed to make them known to Lord Granville.

At the period of the affair of *La Légère*, the *Netherlands* sloop of war *Kemphaan* was in the waters of *Surinam*, and the momentary absence of that vessel, when the clandestine disembarkation of 69 Slaves occurred, was purely accidental, so that the inconvenience cited by the British Government, as to the total and prolonged absence of cruizers on the coast of *Surinam*, will lose much of its importance; and moreover, it is well known that the most rigid maritime vigilance may sometimes be rendered deficient in its effects. Nevertheless, to obviate, as much as possible, the inconvenience complained of, measures will be adopted in order constantly to maintain, at *Surinam*, a cruizer in aid of one of the ships of war now stationed in the West Indies, and which, at all events, may replace the incidental departure of the *Kemphaan*; the attention of the Minister of Marine has been especially called to this object.

As to the complaints made against the Fiscal of *Surinam*, information received makes it evident, that, in concert with the British Arbitrator of the Mixed Tribunal at *Surinam*, every means was put in practice to obtain possession of the 69 Slaves, introduced by the above-named *Frenchman*. As soon as the fact was known, Mr. Lance, and Mr. Guicherit, Secretary of the Government, went, at the desire of the Governor, to the suspected plantation, and it was only in consequence of the absence of an armed force on the spot, that they were incapacitated from putting into execution their prohibition to *Fromentin* to quit the place he was in till further orders; therefore there was no other way left than that of a juridical inquiry by means of a summons; and from the zeal which the Fiscal has invariably displayed in the exercise of his functions, nothing gives room to conjecture that he should, on this occasion, have departed from his duty: bound down by legal forms, his path was traced out for him, and every thing tends to prove that he followed it.

His Majesty has, in consequence, had the satisfaction to acquire new proofs that the Government of *Surinam* makes it a duty to second the well-known views of the King, to maintain, loyally and energetically, the execution of the Treaty concluded between the two king-

doms: but His Majesty is not the less disposed to strengthen its stipulations by all the means which can be conducive to the extirpation of the shameful traffic in question; and the English Government will, doubtless, learn with satisfaction, that the ulterior adoption of more severe and repressive measures at this moment form the object of the deliberations of His Majesty.

The undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed) W. F. DE REEDE.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 64.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received August 6, 1824.)

SIR,

The Hague, August 3d, 1824.

I RECEIVED on the 30th ult. your Despatch (Slave Trade) of the 5th, with the Copy therein enclosed, of a Letter from Messrs. Gregory and Hamilton, containing an account of the death of Monsieur *De Marrée*, the Dutch Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone.

I immediately transmitted a copy of this Letter to Monsieur De Reede, and at the same time called His Excellency's attention to the urgent necessity of appointing, without delay, a successor to Mons. De Marrée.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 65.

Mr. Secretary Canning to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 19, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a copy of Papers, marked A. and B., relative to the Slave Trade, which were presented to both Houses of Parliament, by His Majesty's command, in the course of last Session.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

A. S. Douglas, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 66.

Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq., to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1824.

I AM directed, by Mr. Secretary Canning, to send to you, for your information, a copy of the Act, recently passed, for amending and consolidating the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. PLANTA, Jun.

A. S. Douglas, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 67.

*A. S. Douglas, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received
November 21, 1824.)*

SIR,

Brussels, November 15, 1824.

HIS Majesty the King of the Netherlands, by a Message to the States-General, dated the 30th October, has thought fit to propose the amending and strengthening of the Penal Statutes of the Law of the 20th November, 1818, respecting the Abolition and Extinction of the Slave Trade. His Majesty, therefore, has presented to the States-General the Amendments proposed in the form of a *Projet*.

Of the Royal Message, together with the *Projet*, I herewith annex a printed copy.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

A. S. DOUGLAS.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 67.

Message of the King of the Netherlands to the States-General.

Bruxelles, le 30 Octobre, 1824.

NOBLES ET PUISSANS SEIGNEURS,

NOUS avons jugé nécessaire, pour la répression plus efficace de la traite des Nègres, de renforcer les dispositions pénales contenues dans la loi du 20 Novembre, 1818.

Le *Projet de Loi*, que nous présentons ici aux délibérations de VV. NN. PP. tend à cet effet. Nous prendrons, en outre, des mesures convenables pour les colonies de l'état, afin de réprimer de plus en plus ce commerce, et en tout cas de faciliter la découverte des contrevenans.

Sur ce, NN. et PP. SS., Nous prions Dieu qu'il vous ait en sa sainte et digne garde.

(Signé)

GUILLAUME.

Projet de Loi.

NOUS, GUILLAUME, &c. &c. &c.

A TOUS ceux qui les présentes verront salut! savoir faisons :

Ayant jugé convenable de prendre pour la répression et l'extinction de la traite des Nègres, des mesures plus efficaces que celles contenues dans la loi du 20 Novembre, 1818; à ces causes, notre Conseil d'Etat entendu, et de commun accord avec les Etats-Généraux; avons statué et statuons :

Art. 1. Ceux qui se seront rendus coupables des faits énoncés aux articles 1. et 2. de la loi du 20 Novembre, 1818, seront punis d'une amende de dix mille florins, et de quinze années de travaux forcés; seront, en outre, confisqués les batimens qui auront été employés au dit commerce illicite.

2. Les faits énoncés aux articles 3. et 4. de la prédite loi, seront punis de 5 années de réclusion.

3. N'est pas compris dans les exceptions prononcées par l'article 5 de la prédite loi, le transport ou l'importation dans les colonies de Notre Royaume, d'esclaves provenant des colonies étrangères, où leur importation directe d'*Afrique* est permise.

4. Les dispositions ultérieures de la loi ci-dessus énoncée sont maintenues.

Mandons, &c.

Enclosure in No. 67.

(Translation.)

Message of the King of the Netherlands to the States-General.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Brussels, October 30, 1824.

WE have deemed it necessary, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, to strengthen the penal enactments contained in the law of the 20th November, 1818.

The project of law that we here present to the consideration of your High Mightinesses tends to this effect. We shall adopt, besides, measures suitable for the colonies of the state, in order more and more to check this commerce, and, at all events, to facilitate the discovery of the persons who are illegally engaged in it.

Whereupon, High Mightinesses, we pray God to have you in his holy and worthy keeping.

(Signed)

WILLIAM.

Project of Law.

WE, WILLIAM, &c.,

To all, to whom these presents may come, greeting!

We make known, that,

HAVING deemed it expedient to adopt, for the repression and extinction of the Slave Trade, measures more effectual than those contained in the law of the 20th November, 1818; for these reasons our Council of State, in understanding and concert with the States-General, have decreed, and we decree:

Article I.

Those who shall have been guilty of the acts set forth in articles I. and II., of the law of the 20th November, 1818, shall be punished by a fine of ten thousand florins, and of fifteen years of forced labour; and the vessels which shall have been engaged in the said illicit traffic shall also be confiscated.

Article II.

The acts set forth in Articles III. and IV. of the aforesaid law shall be punished with five years' imprisonment.

Article III.

In the exceptions stated in Article V. of the aforesaid law, is not included the transport or importation into the colonies of our kingdom, of Slaves coming from foreign colonies where their importation direct from Africa is permitted.

Article IV.

The ulterior enactments of the law above set forth are confirmed. We command, &c.

No. 68.

Mr. Secretary Canning to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1824.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 15th of November instant, enclosing the *Project* of a law submitted to the States-General of the Netherlands, for amending and strengthening the penal statutes of the law of November 20th, 1818, for the Abolition of the Slave Trade; and

I have to desire that you will procure and send to me a copy of the law of the 20th November, 1818, therein referred to, for the information of His Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

A. S. Douglas, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 69.

A. S. Douglas, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received December 4th, 1824.)

SIR,

Brussels, 27th November, 1824.

I HAD the honour to receive last night your Despatch marked Slave Trade, dated November 19th, with a copy of papers marked A. and B., relative to the Slave Trade, presented to Parliament last Session.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

A. S. DOUGLAS.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 70.

A. S. Douglas, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received December 13th, 1824.)

SIR,

Brussels, 4th December, 1824.

IN obedience to the desire expressed in your Despatch of the 30th November, marked Slave Trade, and which I received on the 3d instant, I have now the honour to enclose to you, for the information of His Majesty's Government, a copy of the Belgian law of November 20th, 1818, enacting Penal Statutes for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

A. S. DOUGLAS.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 70.

Loi du 20 Novembre, 1818, contenant des dispositions pénales pour empêcher et réprimer la Traite des Nègres.

NOUS, GUILLAUME, &c.,

A tous ceux qui les présentes verront, salut ! savoir faisons :

AYANT pris en consideration, non seulement que, par notre Arrêté du 15 Juin, 1814, nous avons mis en œuvre des mesures préalables pour réprimer la Traite des Nègres ; mais encore que, par l'article 8 du Traité du 13 Août, 1814, ainsi que par l'article premier du Traité ultérieur du 4 Mai dernier, respectivement conclus avec la Grande Bretagne, nous nous sommes engagés d'une manière solennelle à réprimer et empêcher efficacement, par des dispositions pénales, ce commerce si déshonorant pour l'humanité :

A ces causes, notre conseil d'Etat entendu, et de commun accord avec les Etats-Généraux, avons statué, et statuons :

Article I.

A compter de la publication de la présente loi, il ne sera permis à aucun de nos sujets, et généralement à aucun individu qui se trouveroit dans l'Etendue de Notre Royaume, de faire la Traite des Nègres, ni de

prendre, directement ou indirectement, part à ce commerce, soit en armant ou équipant des vaisseaux ou navires à cet effet, ou en participant, au même effet, dans l'armement d'aucuns bâtimens, nationaux ou autres ; soit en les frétant ou affectant sciemment pour cet usage ; soit en allant quérir ou acheter, vendant ou échangeant, et en introduisant ou faisant introduire, ouvertement ou d'une manière clandestine, des Nègres comme Esclaves dans quelque colonie ou établissement des Pays-Bas, situé hors de l'Europe, ou même dans des colonies ou établissemens étrangers, à peine, pour les contrevenans et leurs complices, d'une amende de 5000 florins, et en outre de réclusion pour cinq années.

II.

Seront punis des mêmes peines, les Capitaines de Navires, pilotes et sobrecargues qui auront pris service à bord d'un bâtiment, sachant qu'il étoit employé à la Traite des Nègres, et qui auront ainsi exercé ou favorisé ce commerce illicite, soit pour leur propre compte, soit pour compte d'autrui.

III.

Les matelôts et autres gens de l'équipage qui auront eu connoissance que le bâtiment sur lequel ils servent, étoit destiné à faire ou favoriser la Traite des Nègres, seront punis d'un emprisonnement de six mois au moins, et de deux années au plus. Ceux qui viendront à l'apprendre par la suite, sont dès ce moment quittes, et déchargés de leur engagement, et ils seront tenus, sous la même peine, de quitter le service dès qu'ils pourront le faire sans danger.

IV.

La peine d'emprisonnement mentionné à l'article III, sera de meme encourue par tous Assureurs, Courtiers de Navires et autres, qui auront assuré quelques vaisseaux ou navires, ou qui en auront favorisé l'affrètement en quelque maniere que ce soit, sachant qu'il étoit destiné à la Traite des Nègres ; en outre leur patente sera sur le champ supprimée sans qu'il puisse dans la suite, leur en être delivré de semblable.

V.

Les dispositions pénales ci-dessus énoncées, ne seront néanmoins nullement applicables au cas où des Esclaves actuellement existans dans les colonies, ou leurs enfans nés ou à naître, viendroient à être transportés dans les Indes Occidentales, soit d'une colonie des Pays-Bas à une autre, ou d'une colonie étrangère à une autre, ou d'une colonie des Pays-Bas à une colonie étrangère, ou d'une colonie étrangère à une colonie des Pays-Bas, ou enfin d'une colonie quelconque dans les Indes Occidentales à une autre partie. Déclarons au contraire bien expressément que nul ne pourra, en aucune maniere être inquiété à ce sujet, attendu que le dit transport n'est point compris dans les prohibitions de la presente loi.

VI.

Pareillement les peines comminées par la presente Loi, ne pourront être rendues applicables à ceux qui auront sauvé et secouru quelque bâtiment chargé d'esclaves se trouvant en détresse, ou bien qui auront reçu à bord des esclaves embarqués sur un tel bâtiment, pourvu qu'à son entrée dans le premier port où il viendra à relâcher, le Capitaine ou Patron en fasse déclaration en bonne forme dans les vingt-quatre heures.

Mandons et ordonnons que la présente loi soit insérée au Journal Officiel, et que nos Ministres et autres autorités qu'elle concerne, tiennent strictement la main à son exécution.

Donné à Bruxelles le 20 Novembre, de l'an 1818, et de notre règne le cinquième.

(Signé)

GUILLAUME.

Par le Roi,
J. G. de Mey Van Streekerth.

Enclosure in No. 70.

(Translation.)

Law of the 20th Nov. 1818, containing penal enactments to prevent and repress the slave trade.

WE, WILLIAM, &c.

To all those who shall see the present, greeting! be it known:

HAVING taken into consideration, not only that, by our resolution of the 15th June, 1814, we have put into operation previous measures to repress the Slave Trade, but also that, by Article 8, of the Treaty of the 13th August, 1814, as well as that, by the first Article of the ulterior treaty of the 4th May last, respectively concluded with Great Britain, we engaged ourselves, in the most solemn manner, effectually to repress and prevent by penal enactments, this commerce so disgraceful to humanity.

For these reasons our council of state, in understanding and concert with the States' General, have decreed, and we decree:

Art. I.

Reckoning from the publication of the present law, it shall not be permitted to any of our subjects, nor generally to any individual who shall be within our kingdom, to carry on the Slave Trade, nor to take part directly or indirectly in this commerce, either by arming or equipping vessels or ships for that purpose; or by assisting in the same object, in the armament of any national or other ships, whether by freighting or preparing them knowingly for that use, or by going to seek or buy, to sell or exchange, to introduce or cause to be introduced, openly, or clandestinely, Negroes as slaves, in any colony or establishment of the Netherlands, situated out of Europe, or even in the colonies or foreign establishments, under pain, for the violators of the law and their accomplices, of a fine of 5000 florins, and besides that, imprisonment for five years.

II.

With the same penalties shall be punished the Captains of Ships, Pilots, and Supercargoes, who shall have taken service on board of a ship, knowing that it was employed in the Slave Trade, and who shall have thus exercised or favoured this illegal commerce, whether on their own account or on the account of others.

III.

The sailors and other people of the crew who shall have had knowledge, that the ship in which they serve was destined to carry on, or to favour the Slave Trade, shall be punished with an imprisonment of six months at least, and of two years at most. Those who afterwards discover it, are from that moment released and discharged from their engagement, and they shall be bound, under the same penalty, to quit the service as soon as they can do so without danger.

IV.

The penalty of imprisonment, mentioned in Article III., shall likewise be incurred by all Insurers, Ship Brokers and others, who shall have insured any vessels or ships, or who shall have favoured their equipment in any manner whatsoever, knowing that they were destined for the Slave Trade; and moreover their Patent shall instantly be suppressed without the possibility of a similar one being ever again given to them.

V.

The penal enactments above set forth shall, however, in no way be applicable to a case where slaves actually existing in the Colonies, or their children born, or to be born, shall happen to be transported in the West Indies, be it from one colony of the Netherlands to another, or from a foreign colony to another, or from a colony of the Netherlands to

a foreign colony, or from a foreign colony to one belonging to the Netherlands, or in short from any colony in the West Indies to another part. We declare, on the contrary, very expressly, that no one shall, in any way, be molested on this point, seeing that the said transport is not included in the prohibitions of the present law.

VI.

In like manner the penalties enacted by the present decree shall in no way be made applicable to those who shall have saved and assisted any vessel loaded with slaves, found in distress, or who shall have received on board slaves embarked in such a vessel, provided that on their arrival at the first port where they may happen to put in, the Captain or Owner makes a declaration of the circumstance within twenty-four hours.

We command and ordain that the present Law be inserted in the Official Journal, and that our Ministers, and other authorities, whom it concerns, see it strictly put into execution.

Given at Brussels, 20th Nov., in the year 1818, and of Our Reign the fifth.

(Signed) WILLIAM.
By order of the King,
J. G. MEY VAN STREECKKERTH.

No. 71.

*Sir Charles Bagot to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received
Dec. 31, 1824.)*

SIR,

Brussels, Dec. 21, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that the Projet of a Law, for amending and strengthening the Penal Statutes of the Law of November 20th, 1818, for the abolition of the Slave Trade, referred to, and enclosed in Mr. Douglas's despatch (Slave Trade) of the 15th ult., passed the Second Chamber of the States-General unanimously on the 18th inst.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BAGOT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 72.

*Sir Charles Bagot to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received
Jan. 17th, 1825.)*

SIR,

Brussels, 14th Jan. 1825.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of a Note which I have received from the Count de Reede, acquainting me, for the information of His Majesty's Government, that Monsieur E. P. G. *Bonnouvrié*, the Arbitrator in the Joint Court at Sierra Leone, for the Suppression of the Slave Trade, has been appointed to the office of Judge in that Court, in the room of the late M. J. A. *De Marrée*.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BAGOT.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 72.

The Comte de Reede to Sir Charles Bagot.

MONSIEUR LE CHEVALIER,

Bruxelles, le 10 Janvier, 1825.

J'AI l'honneur de porter à la connoissance de votre Excellence pour

l'information du Gouvernement Britannique, que le Roi des Pays-Bas vient de nommer Juge en la Cour Mixte pour la répression de la Traite séante à Sierra Leone, en remplacement du feu Monsieur *J. A. De Marrée*, Monsieur *E. P. G. Bonnourié*, jusqu'ici arbitre attaché à la même cour.

Je prie votre Excellence d' agréer, &c.

(Signé) W. F. DE REEDE.

A Son Excellence Sir C. Bagot,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 72.

(Translation.)

The Comte de Reede to Sir Charles Bagot.

SIR,

Brussels, 10th Jan. 1825.

I HAVE the honour to communicate to your Excellency, for the information of the British Government, that the King of the Netherlands has named as Judge in the Mixed Court for the suppression of Slave Trade, sitting at Sierra Leone, in room of the late Mr. *J. A. De Marée*, Mr. *E. P. G. Bonnourié*, till now Arbitrator in the same Court.

I beg your Excellency to receive, &c.

(Signed) W. F. DE REEDE.

His Excellency Sir C. Bagot,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 73.

Mr. Secretary Canning to M. De Falck.

Foreign-Office, Feb. 28, 1825.

THE undersigned, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to state to his Excellency M. de Falck, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the King of the Netherlands, that the Instructions for Cruisers referred to in the Treaty for the prevention of Slave Trade, which was concluded between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands on the 4th May, 1818, have been issued to the following ships and vessels of His Majesty's Navy.

<i>Ships' Names.</i>	<i>Guns.</i>	<i>Commanders.</i>
<i>Dartmouth</i>	42	Hon. J. A. Maude.
<i>Atholl</i>	28	Jas. A. Murray.
<i>Esk</i>	20	W. J. Purchas.
<i>Ringdove</i>	18	Edwin L. Rich.
<i>Grecian, cutter</i>	10	Lt. John Cawley.

And that the Instructions which had been issued to His Majesty's ships "*Isis, Owen Glendower, Thetis, Eden, Driver, and Surinam,*" have been recalled and cancelled.

The undersigned, in requesting that M. de Falck will have the goodness to communicate this information to his Court, begs his Excellency to accept the assurances of his distinguished consideration.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency M. de Falck,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 74.

A. S. Douglas, Esq. to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March 31.)

SIR,

Brussels, March 25, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of His Majesty's Government, the copy of a Note which I have received from the

Comte de Reede, Minister for Foreign Affairs. It is in answer to a representation made to his Excellency by Lord Granville, on the 22d of last May, having in view to induce the Netherlands' Government to adopt some regulation calculated to promote a more rigorous execution of the instructions issued for the suppression of the Slave Trade, on the part of the officers of the Netherlands' marine.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

A. S. DOUGLAS.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 74.

The Comte de Reede to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

Bruxelles, le 21 Mars, 1825.

Son Excellence le Vicomte Granville, a représenté au Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, qu'il serait à souhaiter que le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas prit quelques dispositions propres à déterminer les officiers de sa marine, munis d'instructions pour la répression de la Traite, de veiller plus rigoureusement à leur exécution, qu'ils ne l'ont fait jusqu'ici, sans doute parcequ'ils sont exposés à des actions en dommages-intérêts, si les vaisseaux soupçonnés viennent à être relâchés, tandis que par contre ces risques ne sont pas compensés ni par une gratification, ni par une prime quelconque, dans le cas où le vaisseau pris en fraude seroit condamné.

Cette représentation ayant été soumise à la décision du Roi des Pays-Bas, Sa Majesté a trouvé qu'il y avoit lieu de l'accueillir. En conséquence elle vient de statuer, par arrêté du 14 de ce mois, que désormais la quote-part du Gouvernement dans la saisie de vaisseaux des Pays-Bas ou Anglais faisant la traite, dont la confiscation aura été prononcé par les tribunaux mixtes, sera adjugée aux officiers et à l'équipage des Batimens de la marine des Pays-Bas qui les auront saisis, sauf toutefois déduction des frais d'administration du Tribunal de Sierra Leone. Sa Majesté a ordonné, en outre, que le produit net des vaisseaux négriers, qui sont pris en vertu de la loi du 23 Dec. 1824, sera pareillement dévalu aux officiers et équipages des Bâtimens de Guerre des Pays-Bas, sans déduction de la quote-part qui, d'après les dispositions de l'arrêté du 13 Decembre, 1818, devoit être prélevée au profit du trésor.

Le Soussigné, chargé d'informer M. Douglas de ces dispositions qui donnent une nouvelle preuve du désir qu'a le Roi de maintenir les stipulations du traité de 1818, dans toute leur vigueur, saisit cette occasion, &c.

(Signé)

LE COMTE DE REEDE.

Monsieur Douglas,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 74.

(Translation.)

The Comte de Reede to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

Brussels, March 21, 1825.

HIS Excellency Viscount Granville has represented to the undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs, that it was desirable that the Government of the Netherlands should make some arrangements calculated to induce the officers of its marine, possessing instructions relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, to watch more attentively over their execution than they have hitherto done, no doubt, because they

are exposed to pecuniary actions for damage, should the suspected Vessels be set at liberty; while these risks are in no way compensated either by a reward or by any bounty whatever, in the case where the Vessel taken transgressing is condemned.

This representation having been submitted to the decision of the King of the Netherlands, His Majesty has thought it expedient to receive it favourably. In consequence, He has decreed, by a resolution of the 14th of this month, that henceforward the Share of Government in the seizure of Vessels of the Netherlands, or of England, taking part in the Slave Trade, the confiscation of which shall have been pronounced by the Mixed Tribunals, shall be adjudged to the officers and crew of the ships of the Netherland Marine which shall have captured them, deducting however the charges of administration of the tribunal of Sierra Leone. His Majesty has, moreover, ordained that the nett produce of Slave Vessels, taken by virtue of the law of the 23d Dec. 1824, shall also be given to the officers and crews of the ships of war of the Netherlands, without deduction of the Share which, according to the arrangements in the Arrêté of the 13th Dec. 1818, should be levied for the profit of the treasury.

The undersigned, charged to inform Mr. Douglas of these arrangements, which give a new proof of the desire of the King to maintain the stipulations of the Treaty of 1818 in all their vigour, avails himself of this opportunity, &c.

Monsieur Douglas,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) THE COMTE DE REEDE.

No. 75.

Mr. Secretary Canning to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1825.

I HAVE received, and have laid before the King your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th of March, 1825. You will express to the Government of the Netherlands the gratification which the King has felt, at receiving this renewed proof of the honourable and humane desire of the King of the Netherlands to carry into full effect the stipulations of the Treaty of 1818, which is afforded by the decree which His Netherlands' Majesty has been pleased to issue, under date of the 14th of March, 1825, in favour of those officers and crews of the Netherlands' Navy who may capture Vessels illegally trading in Slaves.

I am, &c.

A. S. Douglas, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

No. 76.

Joseph Planta, Jun., Esq. to A. S. Douglas, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, April 4, 1825.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to desire that you will have the goodness to procure, and send to me for the use of this office, six copies of the laws of the Netherlands on Slave Trade, of the 20th of November, 1818, and of the 23d of December, 1824; and six copies of the Decree of the King of the Netherlands on Slave Trade, dated March 14th, 1825, if that Decree be published separately.

I am, &c.

A. S. Douglas, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

J. PLANTA, JUN.

FRANCE.

No. 77.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received May 20.)

SIR,

Paris, May 17, 1824.

THE *American* Minister informs me that, in his first communications with the *French* Ministers, he has endeavoured to carry into execution the instructions, by which he is directed to press upon their attention the expediency of adopting the measures which are necessary to effect the complete abolition of the Slave Trade. M. de Chateaubriand having merely detailed the difficulties to which the present state of opinion upon this subject is likely to give rise, Mr. Brown has intimated to me his intention to press for a more satisfactory answer, by recapitulating in an official note all the arguments which have been so repeatedly urged in favour of the measure.

Although the general instructions of His Majesty's Government authorize me to take advantage of the opportunity, to shew to the French Ministers that a perfect understanding exists between the British and American Governments to labour for the attainment of this important object, by addressing a note in the same sense to the Viscount de Chateaubriand, I am anxious to learn that this step will be approved by my Court before I venture to do so.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 78.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1824.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency the Extract of a Letter from the Governor of *the Mauritius*, together with Copies of the Papers which he encloses *, shewing that the Slave Trade is carried on to a great extent, under the French Flag, on the *eastern* Coast of *Africa*, and giving reason to conclude, that no effectual discouragement is offered to it on the part of the Governor of *Bourbon*.

I am to desire, that your Excellency will make to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty, a representation founded on the facts related in these Papers; and that you will urge them to issue such orders as shall be best adapted for doing away the use of the French Flag, and French capital, in the prosecution of this illegal and disgraceful traffic.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles Stuart, K.G.B.
&c. &c. &c.

* See Enclosures in No. 37.

No. 79.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received June 6.)

SIR,

Paris, June 3, 1824.

IN obedience to the directions contained in your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 28th ultimo, the accompanying representation, founded upon the details sent to England by the Governor of the *Mauritius*, has been addressed to Monsieur de Chateaubriand.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 79.
Sir Charles Stuart to the Vicomte de Chateaubriand.

SIR,

Paris, June 1, 1824.

THE correspondence of his Majesty's Government with the British Authorities in the *Mauritius* and its Dependencies, shows that the traffic in Slaves between the *Eastern Coast of Africa* and the *Isle de Bourbon*, is carried on to a great extent, and that the instructions given to the Governor of the latter Island have not induced him to adopt any measure which may prevent the use of the French Flag, and the employment of French Capital, in the prosecution of that Trade, though the circumstances which have been brought to light by the vigilance of British Officers have been communicated to him without reserve; and the Captain of one Slave-trading Vessel, which had touched at the Seychelles, has been sent to Bourbon, together with the witnesses, whose depositions offer undeniable proof of his crime.

The same Correspondence states, that on the 8th of November, 1823, fifteen thousand Spanish Dollars were embarked at *Bourbon*, with the Charterer, M. Moncourt, in a small Vessel, for the purpose of being put on board the *Soleil*, a fine French Brig, mounting ten twelve-pounders, and a complement of thirty-six men, which Vessel was supposed to be at *Madagascar*, in the neighbourhood of *Tintingue* or *Antougil Bay*. Her destination was *Mozambique*, and she was to return to the southward with her cargo of Slaves the beginning of January, or thereabouts.

About the latter end of October the *Soleil* was at anchor, between the Ports of *St. Denis* and *St. Paul's*, (*Isle of Bourbon*.) where the *Sylph*, French man-of-war schooner, ran down, and fired into her, upon which the *Soleil* cut her cable, and escaped by superior sailing.

There was also a fine fast-sailing Ketch, and another Vessel, under French colours, in one of the Rivers or Bays, close to *Cape Delgado*, to the northwards, procuring Slaves. The whole expedition being under the command of one man, and expected to sail in about a month, taking advantage of the northerly monsoon to come down the *Mozambique Channel*.

A new Schooner, of about 100 tons burden, under French Colours, was, at the same period, fitting out at *St. Denis*, for a Slaving Voyage, and expected to sail in about three weeks; she is sharp built aft, and has the appearance of a fast sailer.

Another French Schooner was to sail from *St. Denis*, for the purpose of procuring Slaves at *Tamatave*, or *Tintingue*, (*Madagascar*.) She appeared to be about eighty tons burden.

The *Tippoo Saib*, a French brig, of 220 tons, was lying in the Roadstead of *St. Denis*, in treaty for freight to bring Slaves. Her owner required

20,000 Spanish Dollars, and it will take more than that sum to load her. She is well armed, and is reported to be a fast sailer.

The "*Hirondelle*," French Schooner of ninety tons' burden, owner Mons. Le Brec, landed 168 Slaves, about the 12th of October, between the Ports of *St. Denis* and *St. Paul's*, and was undergoing considerable repairs at *St. Paul's* preparatory to another voyage, having been on shore on one of the Shoals in the neighbourhood of *Alphonse*, one of the Islands forming the *Amirantes*; she was with considerable difficulty got off, and reached the Island of *Daros*, remained there twenty-eight days, to repair, and refresh her Slaves. She had Arab Papers and Colours on board, and intended to have made use of them, in the event of falling in with any English Cruisers. Almost all Slave Vessels, during the southerly monsoon, touch at some of the *Amirantes*, and afterwards pass to the northward of *Cargados*.

Under these circumstances, I am directed to express the hope of my Government, that His Most Christian Majesty will either send fresh orders, or will confirm the orders already transmitted to the Governor of the Isle de *Bourbon*, which may induce him to take effectual measures to prevent the violation of the Laws against the crime of Slave-trading, and the degradation of His Most Christian Majesty's Flag, by affording protection to Vessels engaged in such commerce.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

His Excellency the Vicomte de Chateaubriand,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 80.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received June 13th, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, June 10, 1824.

I ENCLOSE the copy of a Note addressed to me by M. de Villèle, acknowledging the receipt of my Representation against the continuation of the Slave Trade between the Isle de *Bourbon*, and the Coast of *Africa*.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 80.

M. de Villèle to Sir Charles Stuart.

MONS. L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 8 Juin, 1824.

J'AI pris connaissance de la lettre que V. Exce. a adressé le 2 de ce mois au Ministère des affaires Etrangères, relativement à plusieurs bâtimens Français, soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite des noirs. Le Gouvernement du Roi s'empressera de prendre à cet égard des renseignements, en faisant usage de ceux que Votre Exce. a bien voulu lui transmettre.

J'ai l'honneur, &c.

(Signé)

J. DE VILLELE.

Son Exce. Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 80.

(Translation.)

M. de Villèle to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Paris, 8th June, 1824.

I HAVE considered the Letter which your Excellency addressed on the 2d of this month to the Department for Foreign Affairs, relative to several French Vessels, suspected of being destined for the Slave Trade. The King's Government will lose no time in causing inquiries to be made respecting this matter, availing themselves for that purpose of the information which your Excellency has been good enough to transmit.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

J. DE VILLELE.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 81.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received July 1st.)

SIR,

Paris, June 28th, 1824.

I ENCLOSE an Article which appeared in the *Moniteur* of the 26th instant, announcing the capture of the Ship *Telegraph*, engaged in the Slave Trade off *Gallinas*, on the Coast of Africa.

The *Moniteur* of the 27th also contains an Article, announcing the Judgment of the Court of Appeal at *Cayenne*, which condemns the Ship *Agobar*, engaged in the same traffic.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*First Enclosure in No. 81.**Extract from the Moniteur of the 26th June, 1824.*

LA Station navale de la côte d'Afrique a capturé dans la Rivière "*Gallinas*," le brick du Commerce le *Télégraphe*, qui paraît y avoir été employé à la traite des noirs.

Ce bâtiment est arrivé le 7 Avril à Cayenne, sous le commandement d'un élève de Marine détaché de la Corvette du Roi *l'Hébé*.

Les tribunaux allaient être saisis de cette affaire.

(Translation.)

THE Squadron stationed off the Coast of Africa has captured in the River *Gallinas*, the merchant brig the "*Telegraph*," which appeared to have been there employed in the Slave Trade.

This Vessel arrived on the 7th of April at Cayenne, under the command of a midshipman belonging to the King's Sloop of war the *Hebe*.

The Tribunals were about to take cognizance of the affair.

*Second Enclosure in No. 81.**Extract from the Moniteur of 27th June, 1824.*

PAR arrêt du 16 Mars, 1824, la commission spéciale d'appel de la *Guyane Française*, confirmant un jugement du tribunal de première

instance de *Cayenne*, a prononcé la confiscation du navire *l'Agobar* de Nantes, et l'interdiction de son Capitaine le Sieur Mourailleau, pour contravention à la loi prohibitive de la traite des noirs.

Le Sieur Mourailleau s'est pourvu en cassation.

(Translation.)

BY a judgment of the 16th March, 1824, the special commission of appeal at French *Guyana*, confirming a sentence of the Tribunal of first instance, at *Cayenne*, has decreed the confiscation of the ship "*L'Agobar*," of Nantes, and the suspension of her commander the Sieur Mourailleau, for a breach of the Law prohibiting the Slave Trade.

The Sieur Mourailleau has appealed.

No. 82.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received July 1.)
(Extract.) Paris, June 28, 1824.

THE Minister from the United States of America has announced to M. de Villèle, that his instructions authorize him to negotiate a Convention, for the purpose of uniting the endeavours of the two Governments to effect the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, which he is desirous to ground upon the principles recognised in the Treaties with Great Britain upon the same subject.

The recognition of a mutual right of search under certain restrictions, and the promulgation of Legislative enactments, declaring this crime to be Piracy, being the basis of this proposition, it was not to be expected that the overtures of the American Minister would be very cordially received by M. de Villèle. I was, therefore, fully prepared to hear from the American Minister, that this communication had not led to a satisfactory result, since M. de Villèle declared that the urgent representations of the British Government upon this subject, had given a colour to the question which does not leave him at liberty to follow the course he could desire.

Under these circumstances, I availed myself of an opportunity to observe to M. de Villèle, that no alternative remained but for the French Ministers to take the lead in the negotiation, and to press other Powers to effect the abolition with the same zeal which had distinguished the Governments of Great Britain and America. This he said was rendered impossible by faults already committed, which compelled him to confine his efforts to the execution of the laws which have already been enacted, by encouraging the zeal of the officers to intercept the Slave Traders at sea, and by enforcing the application of the penalties incurred by those who may be convicted before the Tribunals of participation in such undertakings.

As I believe he repeated the same language more fully to the American Minister, this overture will at least serve to shew the new difficulties with which the friends of the abolition have to contend.

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 83.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received July 18.)
 SIR, Paris, July 15, 1824.

THE accompanying article of the *Moniteur* announces the condemnation of the Ship "*Raphael*" at the *Ile de Bourbon*, for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 83.

Extract from the Moniteur of 15th July, 1824.

PAR arrêt du 9 Février, 1824, le Conseil de Révision de l'île de *Bourbon* a prononcé la confiscation du navire le *Raphael*, de S. Malo, et l'interdiction du Sieur Lamy, son Capitaine, pour contravention aux dispositions prohibitive de la traite des Noirs.

(Translation.)

BY judgment of 9th February, 1824, the Council of Revision of the Isle of *Bourbon* has decreed the confiscation of the Ship *Raphael*, of St. Malo, and the suspension of the Sieur Lamy, the Master, for infringement of the regulations prohibiting the Slave Trade.

No. 84.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1824.

IN reference to former Correspondence on the subject of Slave Trade, carried on in Ports under the Dominion of France, I forward to your Excellency the extract of a letter from *Guadaloupe*, containing some additional facts respecting the Trade in Slaves carried on in that Island, and one instance, *La Louisa*, of peculiar atrocity, which seems to merit a rigid examination.

With the view of such examination, you will communicate the paper in question to the French Government, expressing a hope that the delinquents will be punished with the severity which their conduct shall appear to deserve.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles Stuart, G. C. B.
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 84.

Extract of a Letter from Guadaloupe, dated — May, 1824.

VOUS avez ici incluse une note qui atteste la continuation des cruautés contre les malheureux Africains. Je vous en garantis l'authenticité. Il y a de fortes croisières établies contre les négriers; mais ils s'en moquent et arrivent toujours. On pourrait presque dire que des croiseurs les protègent.

La Goëlette *la Louisa*, Capitaine Armand, est arrivée à L'Anse à la Barque, quartier de St. Anne, *Guadeloupe*, dans les premiers jours du mois d'Avril 1824, avec une cargaison de 200 nègres, restant d'une traite de 275 qu'elle avait à bord. Le bâtiment ne pouvant comporter un si grand nombre d'hommes, le surplus a été jeté vivant à la mer par le Capitaine. La nature frémit encore de cette atrocité. Les principaux armateurs sont MM. de Rancé et compagnie; et les intéressés MM. Moses Hart et compagnie, Pedemonte, tous négocians à la Pointe à Pitre.

Le Capitaine Armand dit avoir quitté à la côte de *Galines*;

1. Le navire *La Sabine*, Capitaine Auvernay, appartenant au port de Bourdeaux, armé à la Pointe à Pitre par MM. G. Segond et fils.

2. Le Brig *Auguste*, Capitaine Allair, armé à la Pointe à Pitre par MM. Vergnus et Lemoyne, Dourneau, Duclos, Lamoisse et Darusse, et Burtet et Collineau.

3. La Goëlette *La Daphne*, Capitaine Maresten; armateurs MM. Dourneau et Duclos; armée aussi à la Pointe à Pitre.

Il semble dès lors, que la défense n'a été faite que pour encourager le crime.

Enclosure in No. 84.

(Translation.)

Extract of a Letter from Guadeloupe, dated — May 1824.

You have herewith enclosed a communication which attests the continuation of cruelties practised against the unfortunate Africans. I warrant the authenticity of it. There are strong cruisers commissioned against the Slave Traders; but they laugh at them, and arrive notwithstanding. It might almost be said that the cruisers protect them.

The Schooner *La Louisa*, Captain Armand, arrived at L'Anse à la Barque, St. Ann's, *Guadeloupe*, during the first days of April 1824, with a cargo of 200 Negroes, the remainder of a complement of 275, which the vessel had on board. The vessel not being large enough to accommodate so large a number of men, the overplus were consigned alive to the waves by the Captain! Nature shudders at so atrocious a deed! The principal owners are Messrs. De Rancé, & Co., and their partners Messrs. Moses Hart and Co., Pedemonte; all Merchants at Pointe à Pitre.

Captain Armand says that he left on the Coast of *Galines*;

1. The Ship *La Sabine*, Captain Auvernay, belonging to the Port of Bourdeaux, and fitted out at Pointe à Pitre by Messrs. G. Segond and Sons.

2. The Brig "*Auguste*," Captain Allair, fitted out at Pointe à Pitre by Messrs. Vergnus and Lemoyne, Dourneau, Duclos, Lamoisse and Darusse, and Burtet and Collineau.

3. The Schooner "*La Daphne*," Captain Maresten; owners Messrs. Dourneau and Duclos; fitted out likewise at Pointe à Pitre.

Hence it would seem, as if the prohibition had only been made to encourage the crime.

No. 85.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received August 15, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, August 12, 1824.

IN obedience to the directions contained in your Letter of the 6th

Instant, I have addressed the representation I enclose, to the French Government, upon the subject of the continuation of the Slave Trade in the Island of *Guadaloupe*, and on the following day I received the answer from the Baron de Damas which I have likewise the honour to forward.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 85.

Sir Charles Stuart to the Baron de Damas,

SIR,

Paris, August 10, 1824.

I FORWARD to your Excellency the Extract of a Letter from *Guadaloupe*, containing some additional facts respecting the trade in Slaves carried on in that Island; and one instance, *La Louisa*, of peculiar atrocity which seems to merit a rigid examination.

I am directed to express the hope that the delinquents will be punished with the severity which their conduct shall appear to deserve.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

His Excellency the Baron de Damas,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 85.

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris le 11, Août, 1824.

J'AI reçu la lettre que V. Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, et l'extrait que vous y avez joint d'une lettre de *La Guadeloupe* relative à la conduite du commandant de la Goëlette *La Louisa*.—Je me suis empressé d'en donner sur le champ communication au Ministre de la Marine. Vous ne devez pas douter, Monsieur L'Ambassadeur, que le Gouvernement du Roi, n'éprouve une profonde indignation au récit des faits atroces qui y sont rapportés, et que je vous remercie de m'avoir fait connaître. Ils seront de la part du Ministère l'objet de l'enquête la plus étendue et la plus sévère, ainsi que les trois autres bâtimens que signalent les mêmes renseignemens.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.,

(Signé) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 85.

(Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Paris, August 11, 1824.

I HAVE received the Letter which your Excellency has done me the honour to write to me, and the extract of a Letter from *Guadaloupe* there-to annexed, relative to the conduct of the commander of the Schooner "*La Louisa*," I lost no time in communicating the same to the Minister of Marine. You cannot doubt, Sir, that the King's Government feel a strong indignation at the recital of such atrocious deeds, and which I thank you for having imparted to me. They will become, on the part of

the Administration, the subject of an inquiry as strict as unlimited, which shall likewise be extended to the three other Vessels mentioned in the same communication.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 86.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received Aug. 22, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, August 19, 1824.

THE French Minister, the Baron de Damas, has addressed me the note of which I enclose a copy, pointing out several instances in which the Laws abolishing the Slave Trade have been violated by persons sailing under the protection of the British Flag.

Though I am well convinced that he will be unable to support an argument which is brought forward rather for the purpose of repelling my repeated complaints, I cannot doubt that His Majesty's Government will think it necessary to give such full information as may set the matter completely at rest.

I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 86.

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris le 16 Aout, 1824.

DES renseignements récemment parvenus au Gouvernement du Roi, signalent comme faisant la traite des noirs, les Navires Anglais dont les noms suivent.

1. Le *St. George*, Capitaine Michel Graiffer, rencontré le 17 Fevrier, près du *Cap de Palmes* ayant à bord une trentaine de noirs à la chaine.

2. Le *Caledonian*, de Londres, Capitaine Bing; les formes, l'installation de ce bâtiment et toutes les circonstances de son armement, ne laissent aucune doute sur sa destination.

3. Le *Ranger*, de Londres, rencontré le 16 Avril, entre les Caps de Monte et de Mesurado ayant à bord un assez grand nombre de noirs entièrement nuds.

Je crois entrer dans les vues de votre Gouvernement qui sont également celles du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, en communiquant à V. Excellence ces détails, qui peuvent mettre sur la voie pour parvenir à des informations plus positives.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.,

(Signé) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 86.

(Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Paris, August 16, 1824.

COMMUNICATIONS lately received by the King's Government, represent the English Vessels, hereafter named, to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

1. The *St. George*, Captain Michel Graiffer, met on the 17th February, near Cape Palmas, with about thirty Negroes, in irons, on board.

2. The *Caledonian*, of London, Captain Bing; the arrangements, the fitting up, and all the details of the equipment of this Vessel leave no doubt as to her ultimate destination.

3. The *Ranger*, of London, met on the 16th April, between Capes Mount and Mesurado, having a considerable number of blacks on board, entirely naked.

I believe that I am forwarding the views of your Government, which correspond with those of His Majesty, in thus communicating to your Excellency the above details, which may lead to more certain information on the subject.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

LE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 87.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1824.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Excellency's Despatch of the 19th Instant, conveying a statement from the French Government that Three English Vessels, the *St. George*, the *Caledonian*, and the *Ranger*, have recently been met with, concerned in the illegal traffic in Slaves.

His Majesty commands me to desire that your Excellency will thank the French Government for this communication, and acquaint them, that the most rigid inquiry will be instituted without delay into the circumstances of the transactions mentioned, with a view of punishing the British delinquents, if any, with the severity to which they are subjected by the Laws of this Country for the Crime of carrying on the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart, G. C. B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 88.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning—(Received August 29.)

SIR,

Paris, August 26, 1824.

I RECEIVED yesterday the accompanying Letter from the Baron de Damas, in answer to my representations respecting the violation of the Laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade in the Island of Guadaloupe.

This answer shows a more decisive inclination to put down the Slave Trade than any of the communications I have received upon the same subject.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 88.

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris le 23 Aout, 1824.

LE Gouvernement du Roi s'est empressé de faire usage des renseignements que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 10 de ce mois, sur la conduite du Capitaine du Navire "*La Louisa*," prévenu de se

livrer à la traite des Nègres. Le Ministre de la Marine, ainsi que je l'annonçais à votre Excellence par ma réponse du 11, a donné des ordres pour qu'une enquête sévère fut faite à la *Guadeloupe* relativement au fait atroce imputé à ce Marin.

Des Instructions ont également été adressées dans les Ports du Royaume pour atteindre les Capitaines et Armateurs des trois autres Navires qui signalaient les mêmes renseignements.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.,

(Signé) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 88.

(Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Paris, 23d August, 1824.

THE King's Government has lost no time in availing itself of the Information which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 10th of this Month, relative to the conduct of the Captain of the Ship "*La Louisa*" alleged to be prosecuting the Slave Trade. The Minister of Marine, as I had communicated to your Excellency in my reply of the 11th, has given directions in order that a strict inquiry be instituted at *Guadeloupe*, respecting the atrocious act imputed to that Mariner.

Instructions have been also forwarded to the Ports of this Kingdom, for the purpose of attaching the Masters and Owners of the three other vessels, named in the same communication.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) The BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 89.

Lord Francis Conyngham to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1824.

MR. CONSUL GENERAL MORIER, having communicated to this Office some information, which he has received from Mr. Consul Barnes respecting the Slave Trade; Mr. Morier has been directed to make a Report upon the subject, to your Excellency; and Mr. Canning has desired that I will acquaint your Excellency with the circumstance, and intimate to you Mr. Canning's desire, that, as soon as you shall have received the Report, you will found, upon the points contained in it, such a Representation to the French Government, as the facts that appear will justify.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

F. CONYNGHAM.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 90.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received Sept. 2.)

SIR,

Paris, August 30, 1824.

THE accompanying Publication announces a decision of the Court of Appeal in *Guadeloupe*, under date the 15th of May, confiscating the Ship

“*La Jeune Adèle*” captured by a French Ship of War with a cargo of 207 Slaves on board.

I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 90.

Extract from the “Gazette de France,” of 28th August, 1824.

LE 1er Mai, 1824, la Goëlette du Roi l'*Anémone*, faisant partie de la Station des Antilles, a capturé la Goëlette du commerce la *Jeune Adèle*, Capitaine Marestin, ayant à bord 207 Noirs de Traite. Un Arrêt de la commission spéciale d'appel de la *Guadeloupe*, en date du 15 Mai, 1824, a prononcé la confiscation de la *Jeune Adèle* et de sa cargaison, et l'interdiction de son Capitaine.

Translation.

On the 1st May, 1824, the King's Schooner “*L'Anémone*,” belonging to the Squadron off the Antilles, captured the Merchant Schooner the “*Jeune Adèle*,” Captain Marestin, with 207 Slaves on board. A Sentence of the Special Commission of Appeal at *Guadeloupe*, dated the 15th May, 1824, has decreed the confiscation of the “*Jeune Adèle*,” and cargo, and the suspension of her Captain.

No. 91.

Mr. Secretary Canning to The Prince de Polignac.

Foreign Office, September 3d, 1824.

THE undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to his Excellency The Prince de Polignac, &c., the accompanying Papers, upon the subject of the capture, by His Majesty's sloop “*Delight*,” of the French vessel “*La Cécile*,” employed in the Slave-Trade; and to request that his Excellency will be pleased to communicate them to his Court.

It appears that towards the latter end of last year the *Cécile* under French and Arab colours, was detained by Captain Hay of H. M. S. *Delight*, in consequence of his finding the “*Cécile*,” in *Passandava Bay*, Madagascar, with a Cargo of Slaves.

Her crew were carried by him to the Island of *Mauritius* and left there.

The Governor of The *Mauritius* on learning the unauthorized act, which had preceded their arrival in that Colony, sent them instantly to Bourbon, as being all French subjects, with the exception of the mate, who was stated to owe allegiance to His Majesty.

The Governor of The *Mauritius* communicated at the time to the Governor of *Bourbon* what he knew on the subject of the capture; and it so happened that The *Cécile* herself put into *Bourbon* for provisions and was taken possession of at once by the French authorities: one hundred and eleven Slaves were yet on board of her; the remainder it appeared, had been taken out: but the British Commodore on the station, Captain *Nourse*, on being apprized of the circumstances, declared that he should consider it to be his duty, after having ascertained the facts, to order the complete restitution of all the persons who had been removed from the vessel.

So soon as an account of Captain Hay's conduct was received at the Admiralty, orders were sent out to the Officer Commanding on the Cape Station, enjoining him, if the facts turned out as they had been represented, to deprive Captain Hay of the Command of the “*Delight*,” and

to send him to England to account for disobedience of his Instructions, which positively enjoined him not to interfere with the French Flag.

His Most Christian Majesty will see, in all the details of this proceeding, a sincere anxiety, on the part of His Majesty, to disavow, and to remedy, the act of violation of the Flag of France, which appears to have been committed by one of his Officers.

But the *French* Government must perceive, in the circumstances attending the vessel in question, and in the other facts communicated by Captain Nourse, that a Slave-Trade under the *French* flag is still carried on in the East Indian Seas, and particularly in the Island of *Bourbon*, which Traffic calls loudly for the interference of the *French* Government at home, to produce its entire suppression.

While therefore, the undersigned is commanded by The King, his Master, to signify the regret with which His Majesty has witnessed the circumstances of the capture of the "*Cécile*," he is at the same time to express to the Prince de Polignac His Majesty's most earnest hope, that His Most Christian Majesty will be induced to send out to His Colonies such orders as shall be more effectual, than those already issued have proved, in the repression of this infamous Traffic, which is thus covered by His Most Christian Majesty's Flag, and carried on in His Most Christian Majesty's Territory.

The undersigned, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency The Prince de Polignac,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure (A) in No. 91.

R. Wilmot Horton, Esq. to Joseph Planta, jun. Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, 24th June, 1824.

I AM directed by Earl Bathurst to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, the extract of a private Letter received from Sir Lowry Cole, dated *Mauritius*, 29th January last, reporting the capture of a small schooner under *French* and *Arab* colours, and commanded by a *Frenchman*, with a Cargo of 170 Slaves on board,

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

R. W. HORTON.

Joseph Planta, jun. Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure (B) in No. 91.

Licut.-General Sir G. L. Cole to R. W. Horton, Esq.

(Extract.)

Mauritius, 29th January, 1824.

I TAKE this opportunity of mentioning (as it is possible that representations may be made by the *French* Government) that Captain *Hay*, commanding *H. M. S. Delight*, has recently captured on the N. W. Coast of *Madagascar*, a small schooner, under *French* and *Arab* colours, with a Cargo of 170 Slaves on board. The vessel in question, called the *Cécile*, was commanded by a *Frenchman*, who, with the crew (except one of the mates, stated to have taken allegiance to His Majesty) I have sent to *Bourbon*, as being all *French* subjects.

I am sorry to say that the *Cécile* has not yet reached this Island; and Captain *Hay* having gone in search of her, I am unable to forward the particulars of this capture at the moment;—but immediately on his return, I will write fully on the subject.—I have, in the mean time, communicated with Governor *Freycinet* on the occasion.

(Signed)

G. L. COLE,

R. Wilmot Horton, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

*Second Enclosure (A.) in No. 91.**J. W. Croker, Esq. to Joseph Planta, Jun. Esq.*

SIR,

Admiralty Office, 11th August, 1824.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, a Copy of a Letter from Commodore *Nourse*, dated at the *Cape of Good Hope*, the 29th of February last, with Copies of the two Letters therein referred to, received by that officer from the Governor of the Isle of *Bourbon*, on the subject of a *French* vessel called the *Cecile*, which was detained by Captain *Hay*, of His Majesty's Sloop *Delight*, in consequence of his finding her in *Passandava Bay, Madagascar*, with 132 Slaves on board; and which, having put into *Bourbon*, on her way to the *Mauritius*, has been taken possession of by the *French* Authorities; and I am at the same time to request you will acquaint Mr. Canning, that on receiving an account of Captain *Hay's* interference with the *French* flag in the instance of this Vessel, my Lords sent out immediate orders to the Officer commanding on the *Cape Station*, if the facts should turn out to be as they appeared to their Lordships, to deprive Captain *Hay* of the command of the *Delight*, and send him to *England* to account for his disobedience of their Lordships' positive directions, in thus interfering with the *French* flag.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. CROKER.

J. Planta, Jun. Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

*Second Enclosure (B.) in No. 91.**Commodore Nourse to J. W. Croker, Esq.**H. M. S. Andromache, in Simon's Bay,
February 29th, 1824.*

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of their Lordships, two Letters (preserving copies) which I have received from The Governor of *Bourbon*, on the subject of the capture of the *Cecile*, *French* Schooner, with Slaves on board, in the Bay of *Passandavar*, on the N. W. Coast of *Madagascar*, by Captain *Hay*, of His Majesty's Sloop *Delight*. I shall consider it my duty, conformably to their Lordships instructions, on being satisfied of the facts, as stated in the Governor of *Bourbon's* Letter, to order the complete restitution of all the Slaves and persons that were removed from the said Vessel.

You will perceive Sir, an acknowledgment in the Governor of *Bourbon's* Letter, that their accredited Agent at *St. Mary's*, Mons^r. *Sylvan Roux*, was in the practice of trafficking in Slaves: and that my suspicions of his so doing, on my visit to that Island, were well founded.

I have also positive information of a Cargo of Slaves being landed not long since at *Bourbon*: and I have information of a considerable trade in Slaves being carried on in *French* Vessels to *Bourbon*, notwithstanding all the measures the Governor may take to suppress it.—And the *Soleil*, a fine *French* Brig, which I pointed out to him on my being at *Bourbon* as so engaged, is continuing that Traffic.

(Signed) JOSEPH NOURSE.

J. W. Croker, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure (C.) in No. 91.

The Governor of Bourbon to Commodore Nourse.

(Cabinet Particulier, No. 1.)

MONS^R. LE COMMODORE,

St. Denis, Ile Bourbon, le 11 Janvier, 1824.

UNE réclamation adressée à l'Agent Consulaire Français près le Gouvernement de Maurice, sous la date du 6 de ce Mois, et signée Jules Mourgues, me fait connoître que ce dernier a été conduit de Madagascar à l'Ile Maurice, avec quelques individus tous Français comme lui, par le Capitaine Robert Hay de la Marine Royale Anglaise, commandant la Corvette de S. M. B., le *Delight*; que le 8 Novembre dernier ce même officier fit visiter et capturer le Brig Goëlette François *La Cecile*, dans la Baie de *Passandava*, île Madagascar; enfin que le dit Sieur Mourgues et ses compagnons ont été rigoureusement incarcérés à l'île Maurice, et qu'ils sont encore détenus en prison.

Le droit de visite réciproque à l'égard des bâtimens François et Anglois n'ayant pas été convenu entre les Cabinets de nos deux Nations, l'acte du Capitaine Robert Hay exciteroit dès ce moment une réclamation de ma part si je savois positivement que le pavillon blanc ont été le seul arboré sur *La Cecile* quand le *Delight* approcha de ce Navire.—Je dois donc me borner à consigner ici une protestation conditionnelle pour le cas où il seroit prouvé que le pavillon du Roi de France auroit subi une violence réelle et que nul incident ne tendroit à justifier.

Que les Lois prohibitives de la traite des noirs aient été enfreintes par celui qui commandait *La Cecile*, c'est un fait d'autant moins douteux que cet individu en convient formellement.—Mais la connoissance de ce fait appartient à nos tribunaux, et je réclame à cet effet les delinquans, le Navire la *Cecile*, sa cargaison, et généralement tout ce qui doit servir à l'instruction du procès, et qui en cas de condamnation doit se trouver acquis aux droits de Sa Majesté Très Chrétienne. Ainsi le veut le droit des Nations, qui sur aucun des points énoncés n'a reçu de modification consentie entre la France et l'Angleterre.

L'esprit de justice qui Vous caractérise, M. le Commodore, ne me permet point de douter que ma réclamation n'obtienne tout son effet auprès de votre autorité. Que si un obstacle quelconque s'opposoit à ce qu'elle fut prise en consideration dans toute son étendue, je Vous prie de recevoir mes protestations contre tout ce qui se feroit en cette occasion de contraire à la dignité de la France et aux intérêts du Roi mon Maître. Je Vous prie également de recevoir les réserves que je fais pour toutes les réclamations subséquentes auxquelles donneroit sujet une connoissance plus ample des actes de M. le Capitaine Robert Hay dans les circonstances dont il s'agit.

Je suis bien aise de vous faire ici, M. le Commodore, une communication spontanée. J'y suis porté en voyant le ridicule système au moyen duquel le Sieur Mourgues s'est imaginé qu'il justifieroit son operation de traite. Il a déclaré à notre Agent Consulaire à Maurice, qu'il s'étoit proposé de porter ses noirs à l'Ile S^{te} Marie, pour les offrir au rachat du Commandant particulier de notre établissement. Les ordres de Sa Majesté Très Chrétienne, et mes Instructions conformes à ces ordres ne seroient pas impunément méconnus. Il est prescrit au Commandant de S^{te} Marie de ne traiter pour la redemption des Esclaves qu'avec les Chefs du Pays et sans intermédiaire. Lui même est obligé de tenir un registre contenant les actes d'affranchissement avec toutes les circonstances qui garantissent, que le sort des engagés ne sera pas équivoque après l'expiration du terme assigné pour leur liberté absolue. Feu M. Sylvain Roux s'écarta de cette marche quand il racheta de quelques traitans de Madagascar des Esclaves qui leur appartenoient depuis longtems. Mais cette fausse manière d'agir lui occa-

sionna de ma part du blâme, et des injonctions, et la mort l'a sauvé d'une justice plus sévère que Notre Ministre de la Marine lui avoit destinée.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.

DE FREYCINET.

A Mons. le Commodore Nourse,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure (C.) in No. 91.—(Translation.)

The Governor of Bourbon to Commodore Nourse.

(No. 1. Private.)

SIR,

St. Denis, Isle of Bourbon, the 11th January, 1824.

BY an application addressed to the French Consular Agent at *The Mauritius*, under date of the 6th of this month, signed "*Jules Mourgues*," I learn that the latter has been conducted from *Madagascar* to *The Mauritius*, with some other individuals, all like himself subjects of France, by Captain *Robert Hay*, of the British Royal Navy, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Sloop of War the "*Delight*;" that on the 8th November last, the Naval Officer in question ordered the *French Schooner Brig "La Cecile"* to be searched and detained in the Bay of *Passandava*, at *Madagascar*,—that the *Sieur Mourgues* and his companions have been rigorously confined at *The Mauritius*, and are still detained in prison.

The reciprocal right of search between French and English Vessels not having been yet agreed upon by the Cabinets of our respective Countries, this transaction on the part of Captain *Hay* would produce an immediate remonstrance on my part, if I knew positively that the white flag had been the only one hoisted on board the "*Cecile*," when the *Delight* neared this Vessel.—I must accordingly confine myself to now recording my formal Protest, should it hereafter appear that the flag of The King of France had been thus actually violated, and in a manner which no circumstance whatever could justify.

That the Laws prohibiting the Slave-Trade, have been infringed by the Commander of the "*Cecile*," is a fact so entirely without doubt, as to be formally acknowledged by him.—But the cognizance thereof appertains to our Tribunals,—and to this end I claim the offenders, the Ship the *Cecile*, her Cargo, and in short every thing which can serve for the institution of legal proceedings, and which, in case of condemnation, should of right be at the disposal of His Most Christian Majesty. This is according to the Law of Nations, which, upon any of the points above-mentioned, has received no modification whatever, mutually agreed upon between France and England.

The spirit of justice, which characterizes you, Sir, does not allow me to entertain a doubt, that my application will fail of having due weight. That should any unforeseen obstacle prevent its being acceded to in all respects, I beg that you will record my Protest against every thing which may be done on this occasion, contrary to the dignity of France, and to the rights of The King my Master. I beg that you would likewise record the reservations which I make in behalf of future Claims, to which further information relative to the proceedings of Captain *Robert Hay* in this matter, might hereafter give rise.

I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of making to you, Sir, this voluntary communication on my part. I am induced to do so, on perceiving the ridiculous means by which the *Sieur Mourgues* has imagined that he could justify his Slave trading speculation. He declared to our Consular Agent at *The Mauritius*, that he had intended to convey his Negroes to the Isle of *St. Mary*, for the purpose of offering them for sale to the Commandant of our es-

tablissement there. The orders of His Most Christian Majesty, and my instructions, conformable to those orders, would not be disobeyed with impunity. The Commandant of *St. Mary's* is desired to treat for the redemption of Slaves, only with the Native Chiefs, and without the intervention of a third party. He is himself obliged to keep a Register containing the acts of liberation, with all details necessary to insure that the fate of those engaged, shall not remain doubtful at the expiration of the period fixed for their entire liberation. The late Mr. *Sylvan Roux* did not adhere to this practice when he repurchased from some Traders of *Madagascar*, Slaves whom they had long possessed. But this improper manner of acting was met by injunctions and reproof on my part, and death alone saved him from a severer punishment, intended for him by our Minister of Marine.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

DE FREYCINET.

Commodore Nourse,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure (D.) in No. 91.

The Governor of Bourbon to Commodore Nourse.

(Cabinet Particulier, No. 6.)

M. LE COMMODORE,

St. Denis, Ile Bourbon, le 26 Janvier, 1824.

LE 11 de ce mois j'ai eu l'honneur de Vous écrire au sujet de la saisie du Navire Français *La Cecile*, faite à *Madagascar* par M. le Capitaine *Robert Hay*. Je Vous informe aujourd'hui d'un incident qui modifie l'objet de cette communication. Le Navire *La Cecile* qui étoit une des causes des réclamations, et des protestations contenues dans ma dite dépêche, a été contraint de relâcher à *Bourbon*, parcequ'il manquoit de vivres. La déclaration adressée à Notre Agent Consulaire à *Maurice*, par le Sieur *Jules Mourgues* et cent onze noirs, qui étoient encore à bord quant ce Navire est venu sur la rade de *St. Paul*, constituoient l'indication à nos lois prohibitives de la traite. J'ai fait séquestrer le bâtiment et sa cargaison, et nos tribunaux prennent connoissance de cette affaire, qui n'eût pû être portée devant des Juges étrangers, sans violation des Traités actuellement en vigueur. Une partie de mes réclamations ne subsiste donc plus. M. le Gouverneur de *Maurice* a satisfait à celle qui concernoit la détention du Sieur *Mourgues* et des autres François conduit de *Madagascar* à *Maurice* par M. le Capitaine *Hay*; et pour ce qui se rapporte au Navire *La Cecile*, le hazard vient de faire ce qu'eût fait assurément Votre justice. Mais selon M. *Murray*, aux ordres duquel M. *Hay* avoit mis ce Navire, une partie de la traite du Sieur *Mourgues* a été déposée aux *Seychelles*; M. *Hay* en a pris lui même une autre partie sur la corvette le *Delight*: Je maintiens à cet égard mes réclamations. Je dois laisser également subsister la Note ci-dessus mentionnée du 11 de ce mois, en tout ce qui ne se trouve pas effacé par l'évènement dont je viens de Vous entretenir.

M. *Murray* a cru devoir m'adresser une protestation au sujet de la saisie du Navire *La Cecile*, fait en vertu de mes ordres: je ne doute point que Vous ne trouviez dans ma précédente communication, et dans celle ci une réponse péremptoire à cet acte de M. *Murray*.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.

(Signé)

DE FREYCINET.

A Mons^r Le Commodore Nourse,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure (D.) in No. 91.—(Translation.)

The Governor of Bourbon to Commodore Nourse.

(No. 6. Private.)

SIR,

St. Denis, Isle of Bourbon, 26th January, 1824.

ON the 11th of this month I had the honour to write to you on the subject of the seizure of the French Vessel "*La Cecile*," at *Madagascar*, by Captain *Robert Hay*. I have now to communicate to you an event, which alters the tenour of that application. The Vessel "*La Cecile*" one of the objects of the reclamations and protests contained in my said Despatch, has been obliged to touch at *Bourbon* for want of provisions. The declaration addressed to our Consular Agent at *The Mauritius*, by M. Jules Mourgues, and 111 blacks remaining on board, when this Vessel came into the roadsted of *St. Paul*, are undoubted indications of a breach of our Laws prohibiting the Slave-Trade. I have ordered the Ship and her Cargo to be sequestered, and our Tribunals are taking cognizance of a transaction which could not have been submitted to Foreign Judges, without a violation of Treaties at present in force. One point, therefore, of my application is now at an end. The Governor of *The Mauritius* has acceded to that part of it relating to the detention of the *Sieur Mourgues*, and of the other Frenchmen, conveyed from *Madagascar* to that Island, by Captain *Hay*; and as to the Ship "*La Cecile*," chance has performed, what your sense of justice would assuredly have done. But according to Mr. *Murray*, under whose orders Capt. *Hay* had placed the Vessel, one portion of the black Cargo of the *Sr Mourgues* has been landed at the *Seychelles*; Captain *Hay* has taken another portion of it himself on board the *Delight*:—on this point I persevere in my application. I must likewise request that every thing in my said Note of the 11th of this month, which is not actually annulled by the event just related, may be allowed to remain in force.

Mr. *Murray* has thought proper to address me a Protest on the subject of the seizure of the "*Cecile*" by my orders. You will, I doubt not, trace in my former and present communications, a decisive answer to this step on the part of Mr. *Murray*.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) DE FREYCINET.

Commodore Nourse,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 92.

Mr. Secretary Canning to the Prince de Polignac.

Foreign Office, 3d September, 1824.

THE Undersigned, &c. in reference to the Letter from His Excellency The Prince de Polignac, &c. containing a complaint that a French Vessel, called the *Africaine*, was boarded and plundered on the 4th of March 1823, off *Bissao*, by some Officers and Men belonging to His Majesty's Ship, *Owen Glendower*, has the honour to forward to His Excellency, the accompanying Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant *Clerkson* of the *Owen Glendower*, giving an account of the circumstances which took place on the occasion alluded to.

The Undersigned trusts that this detailed exposition of the facts of the case, will be viewed by His Most Christian Majesty's Government, as a satisfactory answer to the complaints which have been made against the conduct of His Majesty's Officers in boarding the *Africaine*, and examining her Bill of Lading, which proceeding was had recourse to, solely for the purpose of ascertaining

whether she was, as represented, a Portuguese Vessel engaged in the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency The Prince de Polignac,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 92.

Lieutenant Clerkson to Captain Filmore.

SIR,

H. M. S. Owen Glendower, Sierra Leone, 17th Dec. 1823.

IN compliance with your request, I state to you the particulars that occurred when the division of boats from His Majesty's Ship *Owen Glendower*, under the command of Lieutenant *Ball*, boarded the Schooner *L'Africaine*, in the river *Bissao*, on the morning of the 4th of March, 1823.

Lieutenant *Ball* having invalidated, and I the second in command on that service, early on the morning of the 4th of March, the division of boats proceeded alongside the Schooner, laying at anchor in the River *Bissao*, having previously received information that she was a Portuguese engaged in the Slave Trade; that on boarding her the Papers were asked for, her hold was examined; there were no Papers on board, except a Bill of Lading; on ascertaining her to be French she was immediately quitted, no violence was offered, no threats made use of to the Captain, Super Cargo, or any of the Crew, no orders were given to cut her cable, nor did any of the party cut, or make any effort to cut it; that none of the articles mentioned by the Captain of *L'Africaine*, Elephants teeth, tobacco, preserved fruits, culinary utensils, &c. &c. were taken by any person belonging to the division of boats; if such articles had been taken, they could not have escaped the observation of the Officers. The whole statement is false and unfounded; and far from any violence being offered, as previously mentioned, the greatest attention was paid by those who boarded her to ask civilly for her Papers: as they were not on board, all that was done was simply to read the Manifest, and look at her Cargo, which proving her to be French, she was immediately abandoned.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD S. CLERKSON.

Captain Filmore,
H. M. S. Owen Glendower.

No. 93.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received September 12th.)

SIR,

Paris 9th September, 1824.

In obedience to the directions contained in the Letter of the 30th ult. which I have received from Lord Francis Conyngham, I have the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note, which I have addressed to the Baron de Damas, grounded upon a Report which His Majesty's Consul at *Nantes* has sent to the Consul-General in this City, respecting the continuation of the Slave Trade in that Port, of which I likewise forward a Copy.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*First Enclosure in No. 93.**Sir Charles Stuart to The Baron de Damas.*

SIR,

Paris, September 9, 1824.

THE anxiety which your Excellency has manifested, to obtain the information which is necessary to enable His Most Christian Majesty's Government to check the Slave Trade, induces me to call your Excellency's attention to the open violation of the Legislative Enactments against that Crime, which take place daily in the Port of *Nantes*.

The return of several Ships to that Port in the first week of August, after successful voyages, has given a new incitement to the Trade.

Eight Vessels, among which the *Alcide* is particularly mentioned, are fitting out in the above mentioned Port, and two, built expressly for that purpose, were launched in the second week of the same Month.

It cannot be difficult for the French Government to ascertain the truth of this statement, which my duty compels me to carry to your Excellency's knowledge; and, if it should be confirmed, I trust that the desire to act up to the sentiments contained in your last communication, will induce your Excellency to point out the expediency of adopting the measures which appear necessary to check so great a mischief.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

His Excellency The Baron de Damas,
&c. &c. &c.*Second Enclosure in No. 93.**Mr. Consul Barnes to Mr. Consul-General Morier.**Nantes, August 13, 1824.*

French Vessels continue to sail for the *Mauritius* without the necessary Certificate, and there are three now on the eve of sailing.

The Slave Trade increases, several have returned this week, having made successful Voyages.—There are *eight* Vessels now fitting out, one, the *Alcide*, the Vessel you made particular inquiry about in January last.—Two fine Vessels built expressly for that Trade were launched during the week.

(Signed) WILLIAM BARNES.

D. R. Morier Esq.

No. 94.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received 19th September.)

SIR,

Paris, 16th September, 1824.

The French Minister has acknowledged my representation, respecting the continuation of the Slave Trade in the Port of *Nantes*, by the Note of which I have the honour to enclose a copy.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 94.**The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.*

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris le 13 Septembre, 1824.

J'ai reçu la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire relativement à plusieurs expéditions préparées dans le Port de *Nantes*, et qu'on suppose destinées à la traite des Noirs. Je me suis empressé de transmettre ces renseignements au Ministre de la Marine ; je l'invite de se faire rendre compte des faits, et, s'ils sont exacts, à prendre les mesures nécessaires pour en faire poursuivre les auteurs.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.

(Signé) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

A Son Excellence Sir C. Stuart.

&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 94.—(Translation.)**The Baron de Damas to Sir Charles Stuart.*

SIR,

Paris 13th September, 1824.

I HAVE received the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me, relative to several expeditions fitted out in the Port of *Nantes*, destined, as is supposed, for the Slave Trade. I lost no time in transmitting these particulars to the Minister of Marine ; requesting him to enquire into the facts, and, if they be exact, to take the necessary measures to bring their authors to punishment.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Sir C. Stuart,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 95.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Sir Charles Stuart.

SIR,

Foreign Office, October 5th, 1824.

IN reference to my Despatch to your Excellency, marked *Slave Trade*, of the 24th August last, I furnish you with the accompanying copies of two Letters from the Secretary to His Majesty's Treasury, which I have to desire that your Excellency will communicate to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty, with an assurance, that the King's Government will not relax in their efforts of search into the truth of the allegations concerning illegal *Slave Trade*, contained in the Note from the Baron de Damas to your Excellency of the 16th of August last ; and that they will be glad to be enabled to communicate to His Most Christian Majesty's Government, the result of the steps which they are taking in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Sir Charles Stuart. G. C. B.

&c. &c. &c.

*First Enclosure in No. 95.**George Harrison Esq. to Lord Howard de Walden.*

MY LORD,

Treasury Chambers, 14 September, 1824.

HAVING laid before The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, your Lordship's Letter of the 2nd Instant, with its enclosures from Sir Charles Stuart, relative to the detention of three *English* Vessels, for being concerned in the illegal Traffic in Slaves,—I have it in command to acquaint your Lordship for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, that My Lords have issued directions to the Commissioners of the Customs to instruct their officers at the several Ports to use all diligence in acquiring information concerning these Ships, and to act upon any sufficient evidence that they may obtain into the fact of their illegal trading.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE HARRISON.

Lord Howard de Walden,
&c. &c. &c.

*Second Enclosure (A) in No. 95.**George Harrison, Esq. to Lord Howard de Walden.*

MY LORD,

Treasury Chambers, 2nd October, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, by command of The Lords Commissioners, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, with reference to the Letter of this Board of the 14th Ult., respecting three *English* Vessels stated to have been lately engaged in the Slave Trade, Copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty, (dated 9th ult.) on that subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE HARRISON.

Lord Howard de Walden,
&c. &c. &c.

*Second Enclosure (B) in No. 95.**John Barrow Esq. to George Harrison, Esq.*

SIR,

Admiralty Office, 9th September, 1824.

HAVING laid before My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your Letter of Yesterday's date, respecting three *English* Vessels, the *St. George*, *Caledonia*, and *Ranger*, which are stated to have been lately engaged in the Slave Trade; I am commanded by Their Lordships to acquaint you, for the information of The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, that my Lords have directed the Officer commanding His Majesty's Ships on the Coast of Africa, to use his endeavour to trace those Vessels, and to report the result of his enquiries; and my Lords suggest to the Lords of the Treasury the propriety of ascertaining from the Custom House, the owners, and destination of the said Vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

George Harrison, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 96.

Sir Charles Stuart to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received October 17th, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, October 14th, 1824.

IN compliance with the directions contained in your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 5th Inst I have not failed to announce to M. de Damas, the anxious solicitude of His Majesty's Government, to trace the facts enumerated in his Letter of August 16th, respecting the violation of the Law for the suppression of the Slave Trade, by transmitting to His Excellency the inclosed Note which was accompanied by the several Letters contained in your Despatch.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

The Right Honourable George Canning,

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 96.

Sir Charles Stuart to The Baron de Damas.

SIR,

Paris, October 12th, 1824.

I HAVE received the orders of my Government to assure your Excellency, that they will not relax in their efforts for searching into the truth of the allegations concerning illegal Slave Trade, contained in the Note your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me the 16th of August last, and that they will be glad to be enabled to communicate the result of the steps which the accompanying Correspondence will show they are taking in this matter.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STUART.

His Excellency The Baron de Damas,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 97.

Mr. Secretary Canning to the Honourable A. Percy.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 13th, 1824.

I FURNISH you with the extract of a communication from the Commodore of His Majesty's Ships off the Coast of *Africa*, giving the account of a Slave Trade now carrying on under the Flag of *France* with scandalous publicity upon that Coast.

The forbearance of His Majesty's Officers was highly praise worthy, in not forcing themselves on board of the "*Louis*" when taunted by expressions calculated and evidently intended to irritate them.

On board of the *Sabine*, the Officers pointed out, voluntarily, in detail, to the British Officers, the apartments for the male and for the female Slaves, and every other circumstance on board, as it were in defiance and derision of our attempts to put an end to their illegal Traffic.

It is the earnest wish and hope of The King's Government, that the Era of the Reign of His Most Christian Majesty, may be signalized by some decisive measure, (for the suppression of practices which are a scandal to the Flag of France,) in co-operation with those of so many other Christian Powers, whose joint efforts have been directed to the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The Honourable Algernon Percy,

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 97.

Commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, Esq.

(Extract.)

H. M. S. *Maidstone*, Cape Coast, Gold Coast,
22nd July, 1824.

I LEFT *Accarah* on the 6th Ulto, arrived at *Fernando Po* on the 10th, and remained there to complete my water and obtain firewood until the 14th, when I proceeded to cruize in the Bight of *Biafra*.

On the 15th I sent my launch, barge and pinnace, under the command of Lieutenant *Morton*, with directions to examine most minutely the *Bonny* with its branches, *Old Calabar*, *Cameroons* and adjacent Coasts,—continuing in the Ship to cruize between *Cape Formosa*, and the latter River, without falling in with any thing except the two *French* Vessels described in the enclosed list, which were boarded by me off the River *St. Nicholas*, two successive days after a chase of five or six hours previous to their shewing any Colours. They were both evidently fitted up for the reception of Slaves, and as a cloak had cleared out for the Island of *St. Thomas* with a general Cargo for Trade (a mere pretence to which I find they all resort to save the honour of their Nation) with an intention of calling at the *Bonny*, as they stated, to obtain water and refreshments, but doubtless for the purpose of making arrangements for the reception of their Cargo of human flesh: in this opinion I am more fully confirmed by the circumstances reported to me on the return of my boats.

L'Aimable Henriette had come direct from *St. Jago de Cuba*, laden most probably with *Spanish* property, at which place, it appeared by a reference to the log of her former Voyage, she had disembarked her Cargo in March last at so early an hour as six A. M. and in a very short space of time without coming to an anchor. What could this have been but a Cargo of Slaves? The examination was conducted in the mildest manner, and to prevent the shadow of a complaint, I caused the Papers of each to be endorsed to that effect.

To point out to their Lordships the extent and importance of the *French* Slave Trade in this quarter, I have enclosed a List of those boarded by my boats during their absence. They were fitted up with every thing necessary for the reception of their Slaves, and so little did they appear to fear detection, that the Officers of "*La Sabine*" voluntarily conducted our's over their Vessel, pointing out the different apartments for the males and females, and explaining every circumstance connected with it. Her Cargo was to consist of five hundred, which were then held in readiness for embarkation at a short distance from the Town, and it was reported, that in two or three days, she was to take them on board and sail for *Bourbon*: and that their Lordships may be in full possession of every circumstance relating to them, I consider it my duty to state, that, on my boats proceeding to visit "*Le Louis*" then laying in the *Old Calabar* without any Colours hoisted, her Captain (*Oiseau*) although he must have been fully aware they were *English* from their Colours, and their having visited the Vessel near him, refused to allow of their coming alongside, at the same time making every preparation for resistance, arming and arranging his crew on the forecastle, brandishing his sword, presenting his pistols, and, using the most taunting and provoking expressions, daring and defying them to attempt it; being supported in his bravado by the consciousness that the strictness of the *English* Officers' orders would prevent their having recourse to force in boarding and visiting a Vessel under *French* Colours, he having hoisted them on the Officer expressing his determination to board in spite of resistance. The forbearance of the Officers in the boats under such trying circumstances was highly praiseworthy, as had they for one moment allowed their feelings to over-

come the dictates of reason, fatal must have been the consequences to the *French Vessel*, and every one on board her. This occurrence took place in the presence of a numerous body of the natives, who were collected on the shore anxiously watching the result; on whom the tendency of the impression that, to appearance, the *English* did not dare to attack, even an inferior force, must assuredly lesson that high opinion they at present entertain of the British nation; and that such was the impression, the reproaches of the Natives to our men on landing, fully testified. Lieutenant *Morton*, however, desired her Captain to send his Papers to him, and he afterwards proceeded on board and examined her.

This merely points out to their Lordships under what painful circumstances a British Officer can attempt to perform his duty to his Country, when he is liable to the grossest insults from a set of wretches, engaged in this most inhuman and infamous Traffic, who know and feel they are protected and encouraged by their Government.

From what I have seen and heard, I think I may safely pronounce, that the whole of the Slave Trade in the Bight of *Biafra*, (considered its greatest nursery) is carried on under the *French Flag* and in *French Vessels* is incalculable.

Unless a mutual right of search is agreed on, or some effectual measures taken to preclude the *French Vessels* from openly, and to appearance legally participating in the Slave Trade, it must most positively increase to an alarming extent, as they have no enemy whatever to fear, and embark their Slaves boldly and openly, confident in their security, and it is natural to expect, that aware of these circumstances, the other Nations will no longer run a risk under their own Colors, but employ the *French Vessels* as carriers.

The Captains of the English Palm-Oil Ships state, that, to their knowledge, the Slave Trade was never so briskly and extensively carried on as at present; thus, the efforts of His Majesty's Government to destroy and abolish this nefarious traffic, are rendered null and void; and all the Treaties and Conventions entered into with the other Powers at a great expence and sacrifice, fruitless and of no avail.

As my instructions positively forbid my interfering with Vessels under the *French Flag*, even should I meet them at Sea with a Cargo of Slaves on board; and as their Lordships must be fully aware, that the mere hoisting of a White Ensign, cannot satisfy a British Officer as to the Nation of that Vessel, but that it becomes his bounden duty to have more certain and positive proof that no fraud has been committed, taking care always to conduct the examination in the most mild and gentle manner, to prevent the possibility of a complaint of a breach of the good harmony subsisting between friendly Nations, their Lordships must perceive how very delicately I am situated; and I have therefore presumed to suggest for their attention and consideration, whether some mode may not be adopted to check this daring and growing evil, and whether there appears to them the slightest probability of the French Nation being brought to permit of our seizing such Vessels, so boarded under suspicious circumstances, and found with a Cargo of Slaves actually on board and intended for Trade, and sending them with the whole of their Crews and Cargoes untouched to *Goree* for trial; the said Capture not to entitle the Captor to any reward. What has more particularly influenced me in this proposition, is the fact that I have neither seen nor heard of any French Man-of-War being on this Coast, since my arrival.

(Signed) C. BULLEN.

J. W. CROKER, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 97.

RETURN of French Vessels boarded by H. M. S. Maidstone between 5th June, 1824, and 20th July, 1824.

Date.	Place.	Name of			How rigged.	Number of				Where.		Belonging.	Cargo.	Remarks.
		Vessel.	Master.	Owner.		Men.	Guns.	Tons.	Days out.	From.	Bound.			
June 17th 1824	Off the River St. Nicholas	La Théonie	Bouchet	Le Mercier	Schooner	22	4	154	50	Nantes	Isle of St. Thomas	Nantes	General Cargo for Trade.	Intended to call at the Bonny for Water and Refreshments.
" 18th	In the Bight of Biafra	L'aimable, Henriette	Boissel	Chardon-neau	Brig	20	4	188	58	Santiago de Cuba	Do.	Do.	Do.	

(Signed) CHARLES BULLEN, Commodore.

Third Enclosure in No. 97.

RETURN of FRENCH VESSELS boarded by the Boats of H. M. S. Maidstone, during their absence from that Ship, between 15th and 26th June, 1824.

Date.	Place.	Name of			How rigged.	Number of				Where			Cargo.	Remarks.
		Vessel.	Master.	Owner.		Men.	Guns.	Tons.	Days out.	From.	Bound.	Belonging.		
June 16	River Bonny	Orphée	Coquet		Ship	50	10	350	90	Nantes	Seychelles	Nantes	{ Palm Oil }	The whole of the French Vessels are evidently fitted for Slaves, and will take away in all, it is conjectured, about 3,000. <i>La Sabine</i> , fitted for 200 Female and 300 Male Slaves.—300 or more, are I understand ready. <i>L'Atalante</i> , pillaged by a Constitutional Brig of 14 guns from the Havannah, which cruizes off the Cumana Islands.
"	"	<i>Diligence</i>	Auger	"	Brig	23	2	198	120	"	I. of France	Do.	"	
"	"	<i>La Pauline</i>	Planté	"	"	22	4	186	730	St. Thomas	St. Thomas	Bordeaux	"	
"	"	<i>La Sabine</i>	Freton	"	Ship	32	2	269	300	Havannah	Do.	Do.	"	
"	"	<i>L'Hypolyte</i>	Boyrie	"	Schoone	13	1	95	120	Martinique	Martinique	Martinique	"	
"	"	<i>La Caroline</i>	Hurit	Brigand	"	11	"	53	90	Do.	Do.	Do.	"	
"	"	<i>L'Atalante</i>	Pomfont	Suli	"	15	2	101	90	Do.	Brazils	Do.	"	
18	"	<i>La Théonie</i>	{ Boarded previously by H. M. S. Maidstone }	"	"								"	
22	Old Calabar	<i>Le Louis</i>	Oiseau		Brig	25	6	206		Guadaloupe	{ Princes } { Island }		"	
"	"	<i>L'aimable } Henriette }</i>	{ Boarded previously by H. M. S. Maidstone }	"	"								"	

(Signed) CHARLES MORTON, Lieut. H. M. S. Maidstone, in charge of the Boats.

No. 98.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, November 19, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A. and B. relative to the Slave Trade, which were presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Majesty's command, in the course of the last Session.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 99.

Joseph Planta Jun. Esq. to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1824.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to send to your Excellency for your information, a Copy of the Act recently passed, for amending and consolidating the Laws relative to the abolition of the Slave Trade,

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) J. PLANTA, Jun.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 100.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received November 25th).

SIR,

Paris, November 22, 1824.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 13th instant, marked Slave Trade, directed to Mr. Percy.

I enclose a Copy of a Note which I addressed in consequence to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of this disgraceful Traffic, now carrying on under the Flag of *France* upon the Coast of Africa, transmitting at the same time to His Excellency, Copies of the Papers enclosed in the above mentioned Despatch.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 100,

Viscount Granville to The Baron de Damas.

MONSIEUR LE BARON,

Paris 20th November, 1824.

It is painful to me to begin my official communications with your Excellency, by the transmission of the enclosed Papers, which contain a detailed account of the Slave Trade, now carrying on under the Flag of *France* with scandalous publicity upon the Coast of *Africa*.

Your Excellency will observe that His Britannic Majesty's Officers acted with a most praiseworthy forbearance, in not forcing themselves on board the Vessel, "*The Louis*" when taunted by expressions, calculated, and evidently intended to irritate them.

On board of the *Sabine*, the Officers pointed out voluntarily and in detail to the British Officers, the apartments for the male, and female Slaves, and every other circumstance on board, as it were in defiance and derision of our attempts to put an end to their illegal Traffic.

I am specially charged to express the earnest wish and hope of my Government, that the Era of the Reign of His Most Christian Majesty Charles the Tenth, may be signalized by some decisive measures, (for the suppression of practices which are a scandal to the Flag of France) in co-operation with those of so many other Christian Powers, whose combined efforts have been directed to the abolition of the Slave Trade:

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE:

His Excellency The Baron de Damas,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 101.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning—(Received November 28th, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, 24th November, 1824.

I HAVE the honour herewith to enclose a copy of a Note which I received yesterday from the Baron de Damas, Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the one I transmitted to him on the 20th of this month, on the subject of the trading in Slaves, now carried on under the *French Flag*, on the Coast of *Africa*.

His Excellency expresses therein the deep interest which the Government of France takes in the entire Abolition of this odious Traffic, and of their determination to abide by the regulations for its destruction; proofs of which are to be found in the sentences that have lately been awarded by the different Tribunals when the facts have been proved, and in the activity of the prosecutions instituted against this species of speculation. And although it has happened more than once that the information transmitted upon this subject has not been exempt from exaggeration, still His Excellency will not listen with less interest to the Communications which may be made to him upon this subject, and will receive with readiness any thing, which upon so important an object shall tend to insure the ends of Justice.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Honourable George Canning,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 101.

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris le 23 Novembre, 1824.

J'AI reçu avec la Lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 20 de ce Mois, les pièces qui l'accompagnaient, et qui signalent plusieurs bâtimens *Français* prévenus de se livrer à la traite des noirs.

Je me suis empressé de les transmettre au Ministre de la Marine, en l'invitant à faire prendre des informations sur la conduite des Capitaines qui y sont nominativement désignés.

Le Gouvernement du Roi, ainsi que le votre, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, met le plus grand intérêt à l'entière abolition de cet odieux Trafic, et au maintien des réglemens qui le proscrivent.

Il se félicite de ce qu'à cet égard ses efforts n'ont pas été sans succès. Les amis de l'humanité doivent en trouver la preuve dans les jugemens récemment rendus par divers tribunaux, lorsque les faits ont été constatés, et dans l'activité des poursuites dirigés contre ce genre de spéculation.

Je ne puis toutefois dissimuler à votre Excellence, qu'après la plus rigoureuse information, le Gouvernement a eu plusieurs fois bien de se convaincre que les renseignemens qui lui sont transmis ne sont pas toujours exemptes d'exagération, et qu'il n'est pas sans exemple que de simples présomptions aient été affirmées comme des certitudes.

Quoi qu'il en soit, il ne recevra pas avec moins d'intérêt les communications que votre Excellence voudra bien lui adresser et n'en mettra pas moins d'empressement à accueillir, tout ce qui, dans un objet aussi important, peut contribuer à éclairer sa surveillance, et à assurer sa justice.

(Signé)

LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence le Vicomte de Granville,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 101.—(Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

SIR,

Paris, 23rd November, 1824.

I HAVE received with the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me on the 20th of this month, the documents which accompanied it, and which point out several *French* Vessels known to be engaged in Slave Trade.

I hastened to transmit them to the Minister of Marine, requesting him to institute an enquiry into the conduct of the Captains who are therein described by name.

His Majesty's Government, as well as that of your Excellency, takes the greatest interest in the entire abolition of this odious traffick, and in the maintenance of the regulations for its annihilation.

France congratulates herself that in this respect her efforts have not been without success.

The friends of humanity will find proofs to this effect in the judgments recently awarded by various Tribunals, in cases where the facts have been verified, and in the active investigations directed against this species of speculation.

I cannot however conceal from your Excellency that, after the most exact information, the Government has frequently been convinced that the Representations which have been made to it, have not always been exempt from exaggeration, and that it is not without example that mere assertions have been advanced as facts.

Nevertheless, it will not receive with less interest whatever Communications your Excellency may be pleased to address to it, and will not be the less ready to collect every thing that, upon so important an object, may enlighten its enquiries, and ensure the ends of justice.

(Signed) THE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 102.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received December 2nd, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, 29th November, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 19th Instant, transmitting a Copy of Papers relative to the Slave Trade, which by His Majesty's command were presented to both Houses of Parliament in the course of last Session.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 103.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, December 15th, 1824.

I SEND herewith to your Excellency the extracts of two Despatches which have been received by Earl Bathurst from Lieutenant General Sir Lowry Cole,

Governor of *The Mauritius*, reporting the wreck of the *French Brig the Lys*, with 110 Blacks, on *Providence Island*, one of the dependencies of Mauritius, and the subsequent loss of 103 of the Blacks, on board of His Majesty's Sloop *Delight*.

Your Excellency will communicate these statements to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 103.

Lieutenant General Sir G. L. Cole to Earl Bathurst.

(Extract.)

Mauritius, 8th April, 1824.

A REPORT was made to me on the 31st January last, by Mr. *Margeot*, the Proprietor of *Providence Island*, situate N. E. of *Madagascar*, and one of the Dependencies of this Government, that the *Lys*, a *French Brig* belonging to *Bourbon* and engaged in the Slave-Trade, had been wrecked on the Coast of that Island, on the 16th June, 1823, having 110 blacks on board.

As the Report above alluded to, stated that the whole of the provisions of the Island had been consumed, and that the people were entirely dependent for food, on the fish they were enabled to take from day to day; I determined at once to send a Vessel to their relief as well as for the purpose of removing them here; and it appeared to me the more necessary that no time should be lost in doing so, as the Master of the Ship who brought the above intelligence had touched at *Bourbon* previous to coming here, and had landed there the Captain of the *Lys*, with some of the Crew, whom he had taken from off *Providence Island*; I had therefore strong reasons to apprehend that an attempt would be made, by persons engaged in the Slave-Trade, to secure the Blacks in question, and none of His Majesty's Ships of War being on the Station at the moment, I engaged the *Phillip Dundas* at the usual rate of Tonnage paid for Voyages from hence to *Madagascar*, and dispatched her immediately on the above service, under charge of Captain *Royer*, the Harbour Master of *Port Louis*.

Captain *Royer* returned here on the 28th ultimo, and reported that on his arrival at *Providence*, he found His Majesty's Ship *Delight*, Captain *Hay*, had visited that Island, and had sailed for this Port with 103 of the Blacks on board.

The probable fate of that Vessel and Crew is the subject of my Dispatch, No. 18, and I confine myself here to reporting the expence occasioned by the employment of the *Phillip Dundas*, which amounted to Two Thousand Dollars.

(Signed) G. L. COLE.

The Right Hon. Earl Bathurst, K. G.
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 103.

Lieutenant General Sir G. L. Cole to Earl Bathurst.

(Extract.)

Mauritius, 20th April, 1824.

IT is with the deepest concern that I have to report to your Lordship the probable loss of His Majesty's Ship "*Delight*," commanded by Captain *Hay*.

Captain *Hay* having been informed that a number of Slaves had been wrecked on *Providence Island*, sailed from hence on the 13th of January last, for the purpose of bringing them off the Island.

On the 12th of February, as appears by Captain *Royer's* report, alluded to in my Despatch, No. 13, Captain *Hay* visited *Providence Island*, one of the Dependencies of this Government, and took from thence 103 Blacks belonging to the "*Lye*," a French Brig, which had been wrecked on the Coast of that Island, and sailed for this Port the same day.

On the evening preceding the hurricane of the 23d February, a Brig and a Ship were in sight to leeward of the Island, but were not to be seen on the following morning.

The Ship has since arrived here, and the Captain reports that he parted company with an English Ship, and nothing has since been heard of the *Delight*,—but several small articles belonging to that Vessel, as well as the Grating of the Main-Hatchway and the Box of an Azimuth Compass, have been thrown on shore near *Cannoner Point*.

No appearance of a wreck, however, has been discovered on the small Islands off this Coast, which I have caused to be examined, neither have any bodies been washed on shore; and on these circumstances rest the only hope which can be entertained of the safety of the *Delight*.—It is possible that she may have bore up for the *Seychelles*, from which Islands we have not heard since the hurricane, but I confess that I have but very faint hopes that she has escaped.

(Signed) G. L. COLE.

The Right Hon. Earl Bathurst, K. G.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 104.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received December 25th, 1824.)

SIR,

Paris, 20th December, 1824.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 15th Instant, together with its Enclosures;—the subject of which will form the object of an immediate communication to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 105.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received January 20th, 1825.)

SIR

Paris, 17th January, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy of a Note, which I have received from M. le Baron de Damas, in consequence of one that I addressed to him on the 20th of November last, on the subject of the Slave-Trade, still carried on, under the French flag, on the Coast of Africa.

His Excellency remarks, that the different accounts he has received, confirms the opinion which he formerly expressed to me, that these reports are seldom unaccompanied by exaggeration; but at the same time he acquaints me, that from the inquiries which have been made at the French Admiralty, it has been ascertained, that of the Vessels mentioned in my Note, some have been taken and condemned, and orders have been given to watch the return of the remainder, which are not yet arrived in the French Ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,

&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 105.**The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.*

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le Janvier, 1825.

LE Gouvernement du Roi s'est empressé de faire prendre des informations sur les faits, qui ont donné lieu à la lettre que Votre Excellence, m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 20 Novembre dernier, relativement à plusieurs batimens Français, soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite de Noirs.

Ces informations confirment les observations que j'adressais à Votre Excellence dans ma reponse du 23 du même mois, sur l'exagération dont ne sont pas toujours exempte les rapports qui parviennent à son Gouvernement. En effet, d'après la vérification qui en a été faite par le Ministre de la Marine, les navires dont l'état accompagnait la lettre de Votre Excellence, avaient déjà été signalés au Gouvernement, quelques uns déjà poursuivis, et condamnés, et les ordres donnés pour faire surveiller le retour de ceux qui ne sont point encore arrivés à mesure qu'ils se presenteront dans nos Ports.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence Le Vicomte Granville,

&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure in No. 105.—(Translation.)**The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.*

SIR,

Paris, January, 1825.

HIS Majesty's Government has hastened to inform itself respecting the facts which gave rise to the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me on the 20th of November last, relative to several French Vessels suspected of being engaged in the Slave-Trade.

The information gained on this occasion, confirms the observations which I addressed to your Excellency in my answer of the 23d of the same month, on the subject of the exaggeration, from which the reports presented to the British Government are not always exempt.—In fact, from what has been ascertained by the Minister of Marine it appears, that the Vessels, a description of which accompanied your Excellency's Letter, had previously been reported to the Government; that some of them have been already taken and condemned, and that orders are issued to take notice of the return, whenever it may take place, of those Vessels which have not yet arrived in our Ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 106.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, January 24th 1825.

In reference to the subject of my Despatch to Mr. Percy, of the 13th of November, 1824, marked *Slave Trade*, I transmit to your Excellency the Extract of a Communication from the Admiralty, stating, that in the Case of the French Slave Vessel "*Le Louis*," "*L'Oiseau*" Master, her Cargo of human Beings were stowed for one whole night between decks, with a height of hardly three feet, and that not less than fifty of them were found next morning to have perished.

I request that your Excellency will communicate to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty, these revolting particulars of the conduct of French Subjects engaged in the Slave Trade, with the horrible result of which they themselves seem not to have been at all affected, for it appears they did but throw the dead bodies in the sea, and instantaneously proceed on shore, in search of more victims.

His Most Christian Majesty's Government will never allow to remain unpunished, a conduct so opposite to the humane principles by which it is guided: and I feel confident, that the communication of these facts by your Excellency, will lead to a strict enquiry into the circumstances of this atrocious case, and a severe punishment of the offenders.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 106.

Commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, Esq.

*His Majesty's Ship Maidstone, Port Antonio,
Princes Island, 3d October, 1824.*

(Extract.)

Finding the *James*, here, commanded by Captain Pince, who conducted himself so humanely, and shewed such attention to the Crews of my boats, on their arrival in a distressed condition in the *Bonny* in June last, I was happy in being enabled personally to express to him, my sincere thanks for his praiseworthy conduct on that occasion. From him I learn that the *French Slave Trade* has lately most considerably increased in the Rivers *Bonny* and *Old Calabar*. Several new Vessels have arrived, and many laden with full Cargoes of Human Victims have left, under the White Flag and manned by *Frenchmen*, although the Capital embarked is ostensibly *Spanish*. That their Lordships may have full and complete information respecting the degrees of barbarity and want of feeling, evinced by these subjects of an enlightened Nation, which publicly disavows such horrible and infamous conduct, I beg leave to acquaint them, that "*Le Louis*" commanded by "*Oiseau*" who was so insolent to my Officers on their visiting him in June last, on completing her Cargo of Slaves in the *Old Calabar*, without the slightest spark of humanity in him, thrust the whole of these unfortunate beings between decks (a height of nearly three feet) and closed the hatches for the night; when morning made its appearance, *fifty* of the poor sufferers had paid the debt of nature, owing to the confined, diseased, and putrid atmosphere they were condemned to respire. The wretch, coolly ordered the bodies of these miserable victims of his total want of human feeling, to be thrown into the River, and immediately proceeded on shore, to complete his execrable Cargo, by a fresh purchase of his fellow creatures. To detail all the enormities committed by these dealers in human flesh, who feel they are protected by the Nation they claim, and the Flag, they hoist, would trespass too much on their Lordships' time; suffice it to say, they are heartrending, and would disgrace the most unenlightened savage and most refined cruelty.

(Signed) CHARLES BULLEN.

J. W. Croker, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 107.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received February 3, 1825.)

SIR,

Paris, 31st January, 1825.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 24th

instant, marked Slave Trade, enclosing the Extract of a Communication from the Admiralty, of a most atrocious case of barbarous cruelty, committed by the Commander of a French Slave Vessel on the Coast of Africa; and, in consequence, I addressed a Note to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which I herewith transmit a Copy.

I have the honour, &c.
(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 107.

Viscount Granville to the Baron de Damas.

SIR,

Paris, 29th January, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency, in obedience to instructions I have received from my Government, an Extract of a Letter from the Admiralty, relative to the case of the French Ship "*Le Louis*," L'Oiseau, Master, and which has lately been engaged in the Slave Trade. Your Excellency will observe that no less than *fifty* Human Beings were deprived of life in the space of one night, and that the perpetrators of this horrible act, were so little affected, that they merely threw the dead bodies into the sea, and instantaneously proceeded on shore, in search of more victims.

In communicating to your Excellency these revolting particulars, I am confident the Government of His Most Christian Majesty will not allow to remain unpunished, a conduct so opposite to the humane principles by which it is guided, and that the communication of these facts by your Excellency, will lead to a strict enquiry into the circumstances of this case, and a severe punishment of the offenders.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

His Excellency The Baron de Damas,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 108.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, February 9th 1825.

In reference to the Despatch from Sir Charles Stuart, marked Slave Trade, of August 19th 1824, and to subsequent correspondence, on the subject of the "*St. George*," "*Caledonia*," and "*Ranger*," British Vessels, charged by the Agents of the French Government with being concerned in the Traffic in Slaves, I forward to your Excellency, the accompanying Copy of a communication from the Admiralty, upon the subject in question.

Your Excellency will communicate these Papers to the French Government, who will possess in them a satisfactory proof, that the suspicion raised against these Vessels was entirely without foundation.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (A) in No. 108.

John Barrow Esq. to Joseph Planta Jun. Esq.

SIR,

Admiralty Office, 21st January, 1825.

MY Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having referred to Commodore Bullen, commanding on the Coast of Africa, a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, founded upon one from Lord Howard de Walden, respecting three British Vessels, the *St. George*, *Caledonia*, and *Ranger*, represented by the French Government, as having been seen engaged in the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa; I am commanded by their Lordships to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, a Copy of a Report which has been received from Commodore Bullen on the subject of those Vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BARROW

Joseph Planta Jun. Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (B) in No. 108.

Commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, Esq.

SIR,

H. M. S. Maidstone, Sierra Leone, 10th November, 1824.

I BEG leave to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that in compliance with their Letter No 15, of the 9th September 1824, respecting the three English Vessels, *Ranger*, *St. George*, and *Caledonia*, stated on the part of the French Government to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I have made every enquiry into the circumstances therein stated, and, from having met with the whole of these Vessels, and had frequent communications with the Owner of the two first, who commands the *Ranger*, (Mr. Spence) I think I can convince their Lordships, that so far from being engaged in the Slave Trade, they have been particularly instrumental in discouraging it; in confirmation of which I beg to refer their Lordships to the Commissioners' General Report of the Slave Trade, dated Sierra Leone 29th April, 1823, in which the services of Mr. Spence, his integrity and humane conduct, are spoken of in such strong terms of approbation as to need no comment from me. In furtherance of his project of establishing his factory in the River *Sestos*, he purchased the *St. George* (formerly the *Fabiana* condemned Slave Vessel) which is at this moment chartered by Government, and obtaining Rice, &c. for the support of the Colony. There are at all periods a very considerable number of Kroomen at *Sierra Leone*, who are particularly attached to the English, and are employed on board His Majesty's Ships, and also the several Merchant Vessels that arrive on the Coast, and it is their custom to return at particular seasons to their own country, from whence others are continually arriving. As Mr. Spence keeps up a constant Communication with his Factory, which borders on the Kroo country, he seldom sails without having from forty to fifty of those people on board, whom he takes down for two dollars each, they preferring this mode of conveyance, (he being a great favourite with them) to their passage along shore in their canoes; from this circumstance has arisen the statement of so many blacks being seen on board, but surely the French Officer who boarded the *St. George* off *Cape Mount*, (not I imagine *Cape Palmas*) could not well mistake Kroomen, (who are fine, clean, well grown men) for Slaves.

The *Ranger* left *Sierra Leone* on the 24th August for *England*, and to her

Master I entrusted my public Despatches, he bearing on this Coast a most excellent character.

On my arrival at Accra the 4th June, I found the *Caledonia* deeply laden with Palm Oil, Ivory and Gold dust, on her way to England, having completed her Trade on the Coast, and certainly bore no appearance of a Slave Vessel. She is a regular Trader, belongs I understand to a most respectable House, and by her I reported my proceedings to their Lordships, which have been received and acknowledged.

This unfounded charge has, in my opinion been merely exhibited by the Commander of the French squadron on this Coast, to endeavour, by a counter statement, to palliate the infamous conduct of his countrymen who openly avow their participation in the Slave Trade, and of whom I have had the honour to transmit to their Lordships the most ample details.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES BULLEN.

J. W. Croker, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 109

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received February 13th, 1825.

SIR,

Paris, February 10th, 1825.

I ENCLOSE a Note from Monsieur de Damas, in answer to mine of the 29th of last month, respecting the conduct of the Master of the French Vessel "*Louis*", in the River *Gambia*: in which His Excellency informs me, that the dreadful acts laid to this man's charge will be the immediate object of active and vigorous researches on the part of the Government of His Most Christian Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Right Honourable George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 109.

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 1er. Fevrier, 1825.

JE m'empresse d'adresser au Ministre de la Marine les renseignements qui accompagnoient la Lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 29 du mois dernier. Le fait horrible imputé au Capitaine *L'Oiseau* commandant le Navire Français "*Le Louis*," sera l'objet d'une information immédiate et rigoureuse: le Gouvernement partage l'indignation que de pareilles atrocités doivent exciter, et n'hésitera pas à faire un exemple qui en prévienne le retour. Je ne puis que remercier votre Excellence de cette communication.

(Signé)

LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 109. (Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

SIR,

Paris, 1st February, 1825.

I HASTEN to transmit to the Minister of Marine the Documents inclosed in the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the

29th of last month. The dreadful acts attributed to Captain *Oiseau*, commanding the French Vessel "*Le Louis*," will be the subject of a prompt and severe investigation: this Government joins in the indignation which such atrocious conduct cannot fail to excite, and will not hesitate to make such an example as shall prevent its repetition. I cannot but thank your Excellency for this communication.

(Signed) THE BARON DE DAMAS.

H. E. The English Ambassador,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 110.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received 20th February, 1825.)

SIR,

Paris, 17th February, 1825.

IN conformity to the instructions contained in your Despatch of the 9th February, marked *Slave Trade*, I lost no time in transmitting to His Excellency the Baron de Damas, the Communication therein enclosed, respecting the British Vessels *St. George*, *Caledonia* and *Ranger*, charged by the Agents of the French Government with being concerned in the Traffic of Slaves, in which satisfactory proofs are given, that the suspicion raised against these Vessels was entirely without foundation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Honourable George Canning,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 111.

Mr. Secretary Canning to Viscount Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, March 8th, 1825.

IT appears from statements, which your Excellency will find more particularly detailed in the enclosed Papers, that Vice-Admiral Halsted, having received intimation, that some Vessels, engaged in the Slave-Trade, were on their return voyage from the Coast of *Africa*, with the intention of importing their Cargoes of Slaves into the Island of *Cuba* for sale, dispatched H. M. S. *Primrose*, Captain Stoddart, for the purpose of intercepting them.

The *Primrose*, while cruising on this service off Cape St. Nicholas Mole, on the Western Coast of *St. Domingo*, on the 7th December, 1824, met with a Vessel answering the description given, and which was making all sail for *St. Jago de Cuba*; but, after a chase of five hours, was neared by the *Primrose*, and hove to, shewing *French* colours.

She proved to be "*Les deux Nantois*," of *Nantes*, or originally from that place, manned by French subjects, and having clearances from *St. Thomas's*, for which place she sailed from *Nantes*, on the 5th June, 1824, under the command of Charles Pelletier.

By her log she had proceeded straight for the Coast of *Guinea*, and, having reached the River *Sherbro'* near *Sierra Leone*, remained there eleven weeks, and, thence shaped her course for the Island of *Cuba*, laden with 460 Negroes, who were on board when she was detained by the *Primrose*, and whom her Captain admitted to have taken "*from Bolom, River Sherbro'*."

The Commander of the *Primrose*, on finding her to be *French*, declined very properly, sending her to be judged by the Mixed Spanish and British Commis-

sion at The Havannah, but upon the impression that her Cargo had been taken on board within the limits of a British Settlement in Africa, conceived himself justified in sending her, under charge of a Lieutenant of the *Primrose*, to Port Royal *Jamaica*.

Admiral Halsted, upon consideration of the circumstances of the case, gave orders, which were immediately put in execution, for supplying "*Les deux Nantois*" with what provisions and water she wanted, and restoring possession of her, and of the Negroes on board of her, to her original Master; and she sailed from *Port Royal* on the 19th of the same month, in company with the *Primrose*, to be seen clear of the Island of *Jamaica*, and then to be left to pursue her original voyage.

I cannot conclude this account, which I beg that your Excellency will communicate to the Government of His Most Christian Majesty, without desiring you at the same time to recall their attention to the wishes so often expressed on the part of His Majesty, and the hopes held out by the Government of France, that measures would be taken effectually to check a Trade, which *France* has abandoned by Treaty and abolished by Law, but which yet continues to be covered by her flag.

Your Excellency will remark that "*Les deux Nantois*" is one of the Vessels to which the attention of the French Government was drawn by Sir Charles Stuart, in his Note to M. de Chateaubriand, of the 4th of January, 1824, as being a Vessel about to sail from *Nantz*, equipped for Slave-Trade; and that Sir Charles Stuart gave a description of the Vessels fitting out at that Port, and their equipment, and called upon the French Ministry to take measures for preventing the voyage.

The French Minister, in answer to this representation, gave assurances in his Note of the 10th January to Sir Charles Stuart, that the Government of The King of France "did not feel an interest less deep, than that which was felt by the British Government, in the Suppression of this odious Traffic; and would not neglect any means in their Power, permitted by the Laws, for effecting the object."

The French Laws on this subject are, therefore, either not effective or not enforced.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure (A.) in No. 111

John Barrow, Esq. to Joseph Planta, Jun. Esq.

SIR,

Admiralty Office, 5th February, 1825.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Canning, a Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Laurence Halsted, with Copies of the Papers therein referred to, respecting a French Vessel called "*Les Deux Nantois*," detained with 466 Slaves on board, by His Majesty's Sloop *Primrose*, and subsequently released by the Vice Admiral's order; and I am at the same time to observe that the name of that Vessel appears in a list of Ships, said to be fitted out from *Nantes* for the Slave-Trade, transmitted to this office with your Letter of the 31st of January, 1824.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN BARROW.

Joseph Planta, Jun. Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

*Enclosure (B.) in No. 111.**Vice-Admiral Halsted to J. W. Croker, Esq.**Serapis, in Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica,
19th December, 1824.*

SIR,

YOU will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that having sent His Majesty's Sloop *Primrose* to cruize off St. Jago de Cuba, for the suppression of Piracy, and the interception of some of the many Vessels, expected from the Coast of Africa, with Slaves for the Island of *Cuba*; Captain Stoddart, in the exercise of that examination which the present state of Piracy in that neighbourhood renders a matter of necessity, for the protection of the Commerce of all Nations, boarded on the 7th Instant, and sent into Port Royal, as stated in the enclosed Copy of his report, a *French Brig* of about 200 tons called "*Les deux Nantois*," from the River *Sherborough* on the Coast of *Africa*, Pelletier, Master, which he found hovering near Cumberland Harbour, with the intention of landing her Cargo, consisting of four hundred and sixty-six Slaves.

I shall not trouble their Lordships with a recapitulation of the peculiarities of this affair, which I considered it my duty to cause to be submitted to His Majesty's Attorney General.

The said Vessel having obtained the necessary supply of provisions and water, and possession of her and of the Negroes on board restored to her Master; you will be pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that in accordance with the Attorney-General's opinion, she sailed from *Port Royal* this day, in company with the *Primrose*, to be seen clear of the Island and then to be left to pursue her original voyage.

To the other Enclosures I beg also to add a Copy of some intelligence respecting Slave Vessels, obtained by Captain Stoddart from the Officers of the Brig he detained.

John Wilson Croker, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) L. W. HALSTED.

*Enclosure (C.) in No. 111.**Captain Stoddart to Vice-Admiral Halsted.**His Majesty's Sloop Primrose, at Sea,
7th December, 1824.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that at day-light this morning a strange sail was observed from this Vessel, and after a chase of five hours from off Cumberland Harbour, nearly down to St. Jago de Cuba, I boarded the Brig "*Les deux Nantois*" having on board 466 Slaves. This Vessel being under *French* colours and having *French* Papers, I could not consider myself authorized to send her direct to The Havannah. I have, therefore, put an officer on board with directions to proceed with her to *Port Royal* for your further instructions, which I hope will meet your approval.

From information which I have received of the expected arrival of several Slavers, I consider the best cruising ground to be from *Escondido* to the Port of *St. Jago de Cuba*, and to which limits it is my intention to confine myself during the remainder of my cruize.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. STODDART, Commander.
Vice-Admiral Sir L. W. Halsted, K. C. B.

*Enclosure (D.) in No 111.*INTELLIGENCE obtained respecting *Slave Vessels.*

THE Slave Vessels bound to the Island of *Cuba*, generally run into the latitude of *Cape Maize* to windward of all the Islands, and the first land they make is old *Cape François*, on the North East end of *St. Domingo*; the reason given for this is, they are not so likely to fall in with any Cruizers; they keep along the North side of *St. Domingo*, and stand across for *Cape Maize*, they then run close along shore, and prefer landing their Slaves at a small Bay, called *Atlares*, about fifteen miles to the eastward of *St. Jago*; *Cumberland Harbour* and *Escondido* are also favorite and convenient places for landing Slaves, but if hard chased they will land them on any part of the Coast; even if landed near *Cape Maize*, they will reach *St. Jago*, in two days, the roads being very good. It is asserted also by the second Officer of "*Les deux Nantois*," from whom I obtained this information, that there are not less than *two hundred** Vessels belonging to *Nantz* following the Slave-Trade. When *Les deux Nantois* left the African Coast, there were a great many Vessels waiting for Slaves, but as there is considerable difficulty in obtaining them, they will be detained a long time before they can complete their Cargoes.

There are some *Spanish* Vessels on the Coast of *Guinea*, one large Brig, mounting 18 guns and a large gun on a pivot in midships, and manned with 150 men. I was informed by the master of an *American* Brig lying in *Cumberland Harbour*, that he was told by a *French* Merchant, at *St. Jago de Cuba*, who had lately left *Bordeaux*, that seven Vessels, mostly Brigs, had fitted out at that Port, intended to carry Slaves from the Coast of *Guinea* to the Island of *Cuba*. There is reason to believe, signals are made to give the Slave Vessels notice of any Cruizers that may be off; the Slaves are landed with the greatest expedition, 500 within the hour can be landed with ease, so great is the assistance the Slave Vessels obtain from the people employed to watch the Coast at the time they are expected.

Several Slave Vessels are expected about this time, but there is reason to believe, that a small Schooner is employed cruising off *Cape Maize* to give information of any Cruizers that may be off the Coast; the Slave Vessels which land their Cargoes on the Southern side of the Island generally refit at *St. Jago*. A Schooner had landed 140 Slaves near *St. Jago*, about the 7th, and afterwards went into that Port; three Vessels were fitting out at *St. Jago* for the Slave Trade, and were expected to sail in the course of a week; these vessels generally clear out for one of the West India Islands; it is an invariable rule with Slave Vessels, to have as little intercourse as possible with any other Vessel, and even on the Coast of *Africa* they avoid communicating with each other.

(Signed) J. STODDART, Commander.

H. M. Sloop Primrose, 19th December, 1824.

No. 112.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received March 17th.)

SIR,

Paris, March 14th, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 8th Instant, marked *Slave Trade*, enclosing various Documents relative to a French Vessel called "*Les Deux Nantois*," engaged in the traffic of Slaves.

I shall not fail in obedience to your Instructions to make a representation of the

* Most likely an exaggeration or mistake.

case to the Baron de Damas, recalling to his recollection that this very Vessel was pointed out by Sir Charles Stuart in January, 1824, as about to sail from *Nantes*, equipped for the Slave-Trade, and observing upon the insufficiency of the French Laws for the repression of this iniquitous Commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 113.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received 24th March.)

SIR,

Paris, March 21st, 1825.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy of a Note, which I addressed to Monsieur le Baron de Damas, on the detention by His Majesty's Ship *Primrose*, off Cape St. Nicholas Mole, on the Western Coast of St. Domingo, of the Vessel *Les Deux Nantois*, of Nantes, manned with French subjects and laden with 466 Negroes, shaping her Coast for the Island of *Cuba*.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 113.

Viscount Granville to the Baron de Damas.

MONSIEUR LE BARON,

Paris, March 18th 1825.

I am instructed by my Court to bring under the consideration of the French Government, the enclosed Documents relative to a French Vessel, called "*Les Deux Nantois*" of Nantes, manned by French Subjects, and having clearances for St. Thomas's, for which place she sailed from *Nantes* on the 5th of June, under the command of *Charles Pelletier*. It appears by her log-book that the "*Deux Nantois*," proceeded straight for the Coast of Guinea, and having reached the River *Sherborough* near Sierra Leone, remained there eleven weeks, and thence shaped her course for the Island of *Cuba*, laden with a Cargo of Slaves.

His Britannic Majesty's Ship of War *Primrose*, having been detached by Admiral Halsted, for the purpose of intercepting Vessels, which were reported to be on their return voyage from the Coast of Africa, with the intention of importing their Cargoes of Slaves into the Island of Cuba for sale, detained the "*Deux Nantois*" off Cape St. Nicholas, on the western Coast of *St. Domingo*, and found on board of her 466 Negroes.

The Commander of the *Primrose*, on finding the detained Vessel to be *French*, very properly declined sending her to be judged by the Mixed Spanish and British Commission at the *Havannah*; but under the impression that her Cargo had been taken on board, within the limits of a *British* Settlement in Africa, conceived himself justified in sending her, under charge of a Lieutenant of the *Primrose*, to Port Royal, *Jamaica*. Admiral Halsted upon consideration of the circumstances of the case, gave orders, which were immediately put in execution, for supplying "*Les Deux Nantois*" with what provisions and water she wanted, and for restoring possession of her, and of the Negroes on board, to her original Master. She sailed from Port Royal, on the 19th of the same Month, in company

with the *Primrose*, to be seen clear of the Island of *Jamaica*, and then to be left to pursue her original voyage.

I cannot conclude this narrative of the voyage of the "*Deux Nantois*" and of the proceedings of the British Naval Commander with respect to that Vessel, without recalling to the recollection of the French Government, the wishes so often expressed on the part of my Sovereign, and the hopes held out by the Ministers of His Most Christian Majesty, that measures would be taken, effectually to check a Trade, which France has abandoned by Treaty, and has abolished by Law, but which yet continues to be covered by her Flag. I have to remark to your Excellency that "*Les Deux Nantois*" is one of the Vessels to which the attention of the French Government was drawn by Sir Charles Stuart, in his Note to M. de Chateaubriand, of the 4th of January 1824, as being a Vessel about to sail from *Nantes*, equipped for the Slave Trade. That Sir Charles Stuart gave a description of the Vessels fitting out at that Port, and of their equipment, and called upon the French Ministry to take means for preventing the voyage. M. de Chateaubriand, in answer to this representation, gave assurances in his Note of the 10th of January, to Sir Charles Stuart, that the Government of the King of France, did not feel an interest less deep than that which was felt by the British Government, in the suppression of this odious Traffic, and would not neglect any means in their power, permitted by the Laws for effecting the object.

If French Vessels, which like the "*Deux Nantois*," have been by name pointed out as engaged in the Slave Trade, and fitted for that especial purpose, can proceed to their destination, and continue their Traffic, without hindrance from the French Government, I leave to your Excellency to consider, whether it must not be inferred, that the French Laws on this subject, are either not effective, or not duly enforced.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

S. E. M. Le Baron de Damas.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 114.

Viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning.—(Received April 3rd.)

SIR,

Paris, 31st March, 1825.

I HEREWITH enclose a Copy of a Note, which I have received from the Baron de Damas, in answer to a representation I made to him on the subject of a Vessel called the "*Deux Nantois*, of *Nantes*, fitted out in a French Port for the express purpose of trading in, and conveying Slaves to the West India Islands, and described as such to the French Government by Sir Charles Stuart, in a Note addressed by His Excellency to Monsieur de Chateaubriand, in the month of January, 1824.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. George Canning,

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 114.

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 23 Mars, 1825.

J'AI reçu avec la Lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 18 de ce mois, les Pièces qui l'accompagnoient relatives au navire Français *Les*

deux Nantois prévenu de faire la Traite des Noirs. Ce bâtiment, ainsi que le rappelle votre Excellence, avait été signalé en effet au Gouvernement par Monsieur le Chevalier Stuart. Les informations qui furent prises en conséquence firent connoître, que *Les deux Nantois* ayant mis à la voile depuis longtems ne pouvaient donner lieu à aucune mesure jusqu'à ce que leur retour en France, ou leur arrivée dans un des Ports de nos Colonies mît l'autorité à même de constater la nature de leur expedition. Le Gouvernement a la certitude, que les ordres qu'il a donnés à cet égard aux Administrations Coloniales sont, ou seront ponctuellement exécutés; je n'en ai pas moins fait usage des nouveaux renseignemens que votre Excellence vient de m'adresser, et dont je la prie de vouloir bien agréer mes remerciemens.

J'ai l'honneur, &c.

(Signé)

LE BARON DE DAMAS.

Son Excellence le Vicomte de Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 114.—(Translation.)

The Baron de Damas to Viscount Granville.

SIR,

Paris, 23d March, 1825.

I RECEIVED, enclosed in the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me the 18th Instant, the Papers respecting the French Vessel "*Les deux Nantois*," fitted out for the purpose of Slave Trade. This Vessel, as your Excellency observes, was in fact described to this Government by Sir Charles Stuart. The enquiries that were in consequence made, having proved, that *Les deux Nantois* had sailed some time since, no opportunity for any steps to be taken could occur, until her return to France, or until her arrival at any of our Colonial Ports, might enable the Authorities to prove the nature of her expedition.

The Government is confident that the orders it has given on this occasion to the Colonial Authorities have been or will be punctually obeyed.

I have, nevertheless, made use of the information which your Excellency has just transmitted to me, and for which I beg to offer my acknowledgements.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

THE BARON DE DAMAS.

His Excellency Viscount Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

GENERAL.

No. 115.

Mr. Secretary Canning to His Majesty's Ministers and Consuls abroad.

(Circular.)

Foreign Office, November 19th, 1824.

I HEREWITH transmit to for your information, a
 Copy of Papers marked A. and B., relative to the Slave-Trade, which were pre-
 sented to both Houses of Parliament, by His Majesty's Command, in the course
 of the last Session. I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE CANNING.

His Majesty's Ministers and Consuls Abroad.

No. 116.

Joseph Planta, Jun. Esq. to His Majesty's Ministers and Consuls abroad.

(Circular.)

Foreign Office, November 20th, 1824.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to send to for
 your information, a Copy of the Act recently passed for amending and consoli-
 dating the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave-Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. PLANTA, Jun.

His Majesty's Ministers and Consuls Abroad.

