



Center *for* Research Libraries
GLOBAL RESOURCES NETWORK

The Center for Research Libraries scans to provide digital delivery of its holdings. In some cases problems with the quality of the original document or microfilm reproduction may result in a lower quality scan, but it will be legible. In some cases pages may be damaged or missing. Files include OCR (machine searchable text) when the quality of the scan and the language or format of the text allows.

If preferred, you may request a loan by contacting Center for Research Libraries through your Interlibrary Loan Office.

Rights and usage

Materials digitized by the Center for Research Libraries are intended for the personal educational and research use of students, scholars, and other researchers of the CRL member community. Copyrighted images and texts may not be reproduced, displayed, distributed, broadcast, or downloaded for other purposes without the expressed, written permission of the copyright owner.

Center for Research Libraries

Identifier: 9da10c7e-e74c-4cfd-a602-51a95fd3821d

Range: Scans 001 - 100

Downloaded on: 2022-05-19 17:12:06

Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

1834.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command of his Majesty,
1835.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, 14, CHARING CROSS,
FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

Class B. 1834.

LIST OF PAPERS.

SPAIN.

No.		Date & Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1.	Viscount Palmerston to M. de Vial	D. Jan. 6, 1834.	"Xerxes:" Petition of F. Revel	1
2.	Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston	D. Dec. 23, 1833. R. Jan. 8, 1834.	Slave Trade in Cuba	1
3.	Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston	D. Dec. 31, 1833.	Measures for more effectual suppression of Slave Trade	2
4.	M. de Vial to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. Jan. 10, —	"Xerxes:" Petition of F. Revel	7
5.	M. de Vial to Viscount Palmerston	D. Jan. 10, —	"Gallito:" Punishment of her Captain, Gaona	8
6.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers	D. Jan. 23, —	Slave Trade in Cuba	8
7.	Viscount Palmerston to M. de Vial	D. Jan. 31, —	"Gallito:" Remission of part of the sentence of her Captain, F. G. Gaona	8
8.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers Two Enclosures	D. March 17, —	To press the Spanish Government to adopt the newly proposed stipulations against Slave Trade	9
9.	Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. April 15, — R. April 24, —	Has remonstrated with the Spanish Government	10
10.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers	D. April 29, —	Approbation of conduct	10
11.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	10
12.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers Four Enclosures	D. July 25, —	Accession of Foreign Powers to Conventions with France	10
13.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers Three Enclosures	D. Sept. 8, —	Slave Trade in Cuba	11
14.	Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston	D. Sept. 9, — R. Sept. 20, —	Spanish Government are ready to agree to the additional arrangements proposed against Slave Trade	11
15.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers	D. Oct. 6, —	Sending Draft of a Treaty for the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade	11
16.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers One Enclosure	D. Oct. 6, —	Slave Trade in Cuba	12
17.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers One Enclosure	D. Oct. 6, —	Slave Trade in Cuba; Observations of Sierra Leone Commissioners	12
18.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers	D. Oct. 6, —	Form in which the Treaty is to be signed	13
19.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers One Enclosure	D. Oct. 17, —	Slave Trade in Cuba	13
20.	The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Villiers	D. Dec. 31, —	Appointment of Mr. Schenley as Commissioner of Arbitration at the Havana	13
21.	The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Villiers	D. Dec. 31, —	To report the progress of the Negotiation for the Treaty	13

PORTUGAL.

22.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden	D. July 8, 1834.	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	15
23.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden Four Enclosures	D. July 25, —	Accession of Foreign Powers to Slave Trade Conventions with France	15
24.	Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 16, — R. Aug. 24, —	Acknowledgment: Accession to Conventions with France	15
25.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden	D. Sept. 8, —	Sending Draft of proposed Treaty	16
26.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden	D. Sept. 8, —	Form in which the Treaty is to be signed	16
27.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden One Enclosure	D. Sept. 23, —	Encouragement of Slave Trade by Portuguese Authorities	17
28.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden Three Enclosures	D. Oct. 7, —	"Maria da Gloria"	18

LIST OF PAPERS.

No.		Date & Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page.
29.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden One Enclosure	D. Oct. 7, 1834.	"Tamega"	19
30.	Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden One Enclosure	D. Oct. 7, —	"Apta," and " Santissimo Rozario e Bom Jezuz"	19
31.	Lord Howard de Walden to the Duke of Wellington. One Enclosure	D. Dec. 20, —	"Apta," and " Santissimo Rozario"	20
32.	The Duke of Wellington to Lord Howard de Walden. One Enclosure	D. Dec. 31, —	"Apta," Crowded state of the vessel non-execution of Laws against Slave Trade	21

NETHERLANDS.

33.	Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. G. J. Jer- ningham.	D. July 8, 1834.	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	22
34.	Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. G. J. Jer- ningham. Four Enclosures	D. July 25, —	Accession of Foreign Powers to Conventions with France	22
35.	The Duke of Wellington to the Hon. G. J. Jer- ningham.	D. Dec. 31, —	Mr. Samo appointed Commis- sary Judge at Surinam, 4th August, 1834	22

BRAZIL.

36.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox One Enclosure	D. Feb. 24, 1834.	"Virtude," fitting out: to re- monstrate	23
37.	M. Ribeiro to Viscount Palmerston	D. July 23, —	"Activo:" Claim for Com- pensation	23
38.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833 presented to Parliament, 1834	25
39.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox Four Enclosures	D. July 25, —	Accession of Foreign Powers to recent Conventions with France	25
40.	Viscount Palmerston to M. Ribeiro	D. Aug. 11, —	"Activo:" Compensation re- fused	25
41.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox Two Enclosures	D. Aug. 16, —	"Activo"	26
42.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox One Enclosure	D. Aug. 25, —	Death of M. de Paiva, Bra- zilian Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone	26
43.	Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston Three Enclosures	D. July 24, — R. Sept. 9, —	"Virtude:" Conduct of Por- tuguese Authorities in Africa	26
44.	Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	D. July 24, — R. Sept. 9, —	Delivery of vessels captured by Brazilian cruizers, to the Mixed Commission, "Dois de Março"	28
45.	M. Ribeiro to Viscount Palmerston	D. Sept. 17, —	"Activo"	30
46.	Viscount Palmerston to M. Ribeiro	D. Oct. 6, —	"Activo"	31
47.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox Two Enclosures	D. Oct. 6, —	"Activo"	32
48.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox One Enclosure	D. Oct. 8, —	"Maria da Gloria"	32
49.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox One Enclosure	D. Oct. 8, —	"Maria da Gloria"	33
50.	Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. Oct. 15, — R. Dec. 6, —	"Virtude"	33
51.	Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston	D. Oct. 15, — R. Dec. 6, —	Emancipated negroes	34
52.	Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	D. Oct. 15, — R. Dec. 6, —	Equipment and breaking up Articles	36
53.	M. Ribeiro to the Duke of Wellington	D. Dec. 18, —	M. da Silveira and M. dos Santos, appointed Brazilian Commissioners at Sierra Leone	37
54.	The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Fox One Enclosure	D. Dec. 31, —	Equipment and breaking up Articles	38

BRAZIL. (Consular.) BAHIA.

55.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	D. Aug. 14, 1833. R. Feb. 28, 1834.	Four arrivals, and 10 depar- tures of slave vessels	40
56.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston	D. Nov. 13, 1833. R. Feb. 28, 1834.	Acknowledgment; Papers of 1832, laid before Parlia- ment in 1833	41
57.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston Four Enclosures	D. Dec. 18, 1833. R. Feb. 28, 1834.	"Atrevido:" Landed slaves near Bahia	41
58.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	D. Feb. 1, — R. April 14, —	Nine arrivals, and 5 depar- tures of slave vessels	43
59.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. April 11, — R. June 7, —	"Musca:" Landed slaves near Bahia	45
60.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Parkinson	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	45
61.	Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	D. July 1, — R. Nov. 6, —	Five arrivals, and 9 depar- tures of slave vessels	45

LIST OF PAPERS.

v

BRAZIL. (*Consular.*) MARANHAM.

No.		Date & Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page.
62.	Mr. Tanton to Viscount Palmerston	D. Jan. 2, 1834. R. March 12, —	"Roza:" Captured	47

FRANCE.

63.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville One Enclosure	D. Jan. 23, 1834.	Invitations to Austria, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Sicily, to accede to Conventions with France of 1831 and 1833	48
64.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. Feb. 7, — R. Feb. 10, —	Answer of the French Government respecting ditto	48
65.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville One Enclosure	D. Feb. 27, —	For new Warrants of search for British cruizers on the Brazil station	49
66.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston	D. March 10, — R. March 13, —	Sending new Warrants for ditto	50
67.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. March 14, — R. March 17, —	Does Great Britain intend to invite those Governments with whom she has Slave Trade Treaties to accede to the Conventions with France?	50
68.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville	D. April 19, —	Great Britain intends to invite those Governments with whom she has Slave Trade Treaties, to accede to the equipment and breaking up Articles only	51
69.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. May 12, — R. May 15, —	Proposal to invite certain Powers to accede to equipment and breaking up Articles	52
70.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville One Enclosure	D. June 3, —	United States have refused to accede	52
71.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. June 9, — R. June 12, —	Refusal of United States to accede	53
72.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. June 27, — R. June 30, —	Accession of United States to be again urged	54
73.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	55
74.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. July 14, — R. July 16, —	Invitation to certain Powers to accede to equipment and breaking up Articles	55
75.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville One Enclosure	D. July 31, —	Invitation to Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Brazil, to accede to the Conventions of 1831 and 1833	56
76.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville Two Enclosures	D. Sept. 30, —	Proposed Accession of Russia to the Conventions between England and France	56
77.	The Duke of Wellington to Earl Granville Two Enclosures	D. Dec. 29, —	Refusal of United States to accede	56

DENMARK.

78.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Wynn	D. May 10, 1834.	Fugitive slaves	57
79.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. May 25, — R. May 30, —	Fugitive slaves	57
80.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston	D. July 27, — R. Aug. 4, —	Sending Treaty of Accession of the King of Denmark to Slave Trade Conventions with France	58

SARDINIA.

81.	Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 11, 1834. R. Aug. 27, —	Sending Treaty of Accession of the King of Sardinia to Slave Trade Conventions with France	59
82.	Hon. H. E. Fox to the Duke of Wellington	D. Dec. 8, — R. Dec. 19, —	Sending additional Article	59

LIST OF PAPERS.

A U S T R I A.

No.		<i>Date & Receipt.</i>	S U B J E C T.	Page.
83.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir F. Lamb One Enclosure	D. Feb. 18, 1834.	Invitation to Austria to accede to the French Conventions of 1831 and 1833	60
84.	Sir F. Lamb to Viscount Palmerston	D. March 4, — R. March 15, —	French Minister has not yet received Instructions	60
85.	Sir F. Lamb to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. May 9, — R. May 21, —	Note inviting Accession of Austria	61
86.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir F. Lamb	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	61

P R U S S I A.

87.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto One Enclosure	D. Feb. 18, 1834.	Invitation to Prussia to accede to the French Conventions of 1831 and 1833	62
88.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	62
89.	Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 6, — R. Aug. 11, —	French Minister has only just received his instructions, which has caused delay in the presentation of his Note	62
90.	Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 13, — R. Aug. 19, —	A difficulty in the Negotiation started by Prussian Minister	62
91.	Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 27, — R. Sept. 2, —	Acknowledgment Parliamentary Papers	63
92.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto	D. Sept. 8, —	Sending Draft of Treaty	63
93.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto	D. Sept. 15, —	Warrants for cruizers	64
94.	Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston	D. Sept. 24, — R. Sept. 30, —	Has sent in Draft of Treaty, &c. to Prussian Minister	64
95.	Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston	D. Oct. 13, — R. Oct. 23, —	No progress has yet been made in the Negotiation: Proposition for Conferences	65
96.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie One Enclosure	D. Oct. 27, —	Proposition for Conferences	65
97.	Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston	D. Nov. 4, — R. Nov. 11, —	Progress of the Negotiation	66

R U S S I A.

98.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. J. D. Bligh	D. Feb. 18, 1834.	Invitation to Russia to accede to French Conventions of 1831 and 1833	67
99.	Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. May 14, — R. May 26, —	Has presented Note of Invitation	67
100.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. J. D. Bligh	D. June 6, —	To urge the Accession of Russia	68
101.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. J. D. Bligh	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	68
102.	Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston	D. Sept. 3, — R. Sept. 15, —	Acknowledgment; has received no Answer from the Russian Government	68
103.	Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	D. Sept. 10, — R. Sept. 19, —	Proposition for Conferences on the subject of the Slave Trade	69
104.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. J. D. Bligh	D. Sept. 30, —	To urge again the Accession of Russia	71
105.	Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston	D. Oct. 15, — R. Oct. 27, —	Has communicated the above Despatch to Russian Minister, and has received no answer	73

S W E D E N.

106.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe	D. July 8, 1834.	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	74
107.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe Four Enclosures	D. July 25, —	Invitation to Foreign Powers to accede to French Conventions of 1831 and 1833	74
108.	Honourable J. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston	D. Aug. 15, — R. Aug. 25, —	Acknowledgment of No. 107, above	74

TWO SICILIES.

No.		<i>Date & Receipt.</i>	SUBJECT.	Page.
109.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. W. Temple . . .	D. Feb. 18, 1834.	Invitation to the King of the Two Sicilies to accede to the French Conventions of 1831 and 1833	75
110.	Hon. W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. March 24, — R. April 8, —	Has presented Note of Invitation	75
111.	Hon. W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. March 26, — R. April 8, —	King of Sicily declines to accede	75
112.	Viscount Palmerston to Hon. W. Temple . . .	D. April 24, —	To urge again the Accession of Sicily	76

BUENOS AYRES.

113.	Mr. Gore to Viscount Palmerston	D. Dec. 12, 1833.	Slave Trade at Buenos Ayres: Decree	78
	One Enclosure	R. March 26, 1834.		
114.	Mr. Gore to Viscount Palmerston	D. May 2, — R. Aug. 4, —	"Flor del Rio"	79
	One Enclosure	R. Aug. 4, —		
115.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. Hamilton . . .	D. Sept. 8, —	Sending Draft of Treaty	80

MONTE VIDEO.

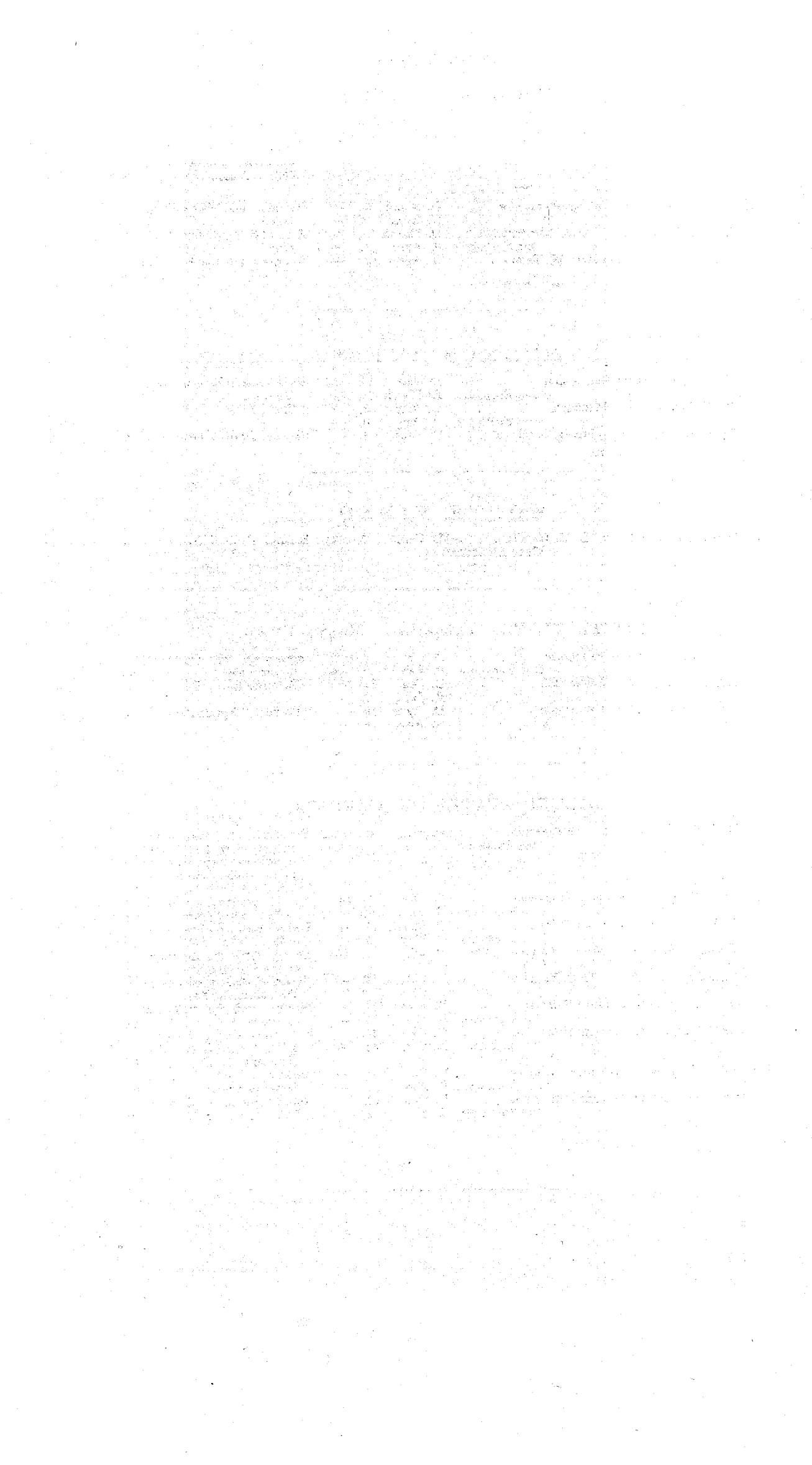
116.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. Hamilton . . .	D. Sept. 8, 1834.	Sending Draft of Treaty	81
	Three Enclosures			

MONTE VIDEO. (*Consular.*) MONTE VIDEO.

117.	Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston	D. Nov. 10, 1833.	Importation of Slaves at Monte Video	82
	One Enclosure	R. Feb. 19, 1834.		
118.	Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston	D. Feb. 25, — R. June 7, —	"Barao do Rio do Prata"	82
119.	Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston	D. April 10, — R. Aug. 5, —	"Porfia:" "Aguila-Primera"	83

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

120.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Dec. 12, 1833.	Pressing for an Answer to the Invitation to the United States to accede to the Slave Trade Conventions with France	84
	One Enclosure	R. Jan. 9, 1834.		
121.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Dec. 28, 1833.	On the proposed Accession of the United States	85
	One Enclosure	R. Jan. 22, 1834.		
122.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. March 28, — R. May 5, —	United States decline to accede	86
123.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir C. Vaughan . . .	D. July 7, —	To urge again the Accession of the United States	87
124.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir C. Vaughan . . .	D. July 8, —	Papers of 1833, presented to Parliament in 1834	88
125.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Aug. 28, — R. Oct. 2, —	Has renewed the Invitation to accede	88
126.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Sept. 27, — R. Oct. 22, —	Note from French Minister to the United States' Government	89
	One Enclosure	R. Oct. 22, —		
127.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Oct. 4, — R. Nov. 7, —	Decided refusal of United States to accede	91
	One Enclosure	R. Nov. 7, —		
128.	Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston . . .	D. Oct. 12, — R. Nov. 8, —	Note acknowledging their refusal	92
	One Enclosure	R. Nov. 8, —		



Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

SPAIN.

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to the Chevalier de Vial.

Foreign Office, 6th January, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received the note, which was addressed to him on the 18th of December 1833,* by M. de Vial, &c. From this note it appears, that Don Felipe Revel, Commander of the Spanish vessel the "*Xerxes*," which was condemned for Slave Trade on the 12th of July 1828, by the Mixed Commission at the Havana, had memorialized the King Don Ferdinand VII. for pardon, and that Her Majesty the Queen Regent is disposed to remit the Penalty which was imposed upon Don Felipe Revel by the Mixed Commission, provided His Britannic Majesty on his part would consent to its removal.

The Undersigned is commanded by the King, his Master, to express to M. de Vial His Majesty's desire to concur in any wish of Her Majesty the Queen Regent, and with that view the Undersigned has to request, that M. de Vial will be pleased to communicate to him the particulars of the Penalty, which it is the desire of Her Majesty the Queen Regent that His Majesty should express his concurrence in remitting

The Chevalier de Vial,
&c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class B., No. 9, of 1833.

No. 2.

Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received 8th January, 1834.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, 23d December, 1833.

On the 17th instant, *vid* Corunna, I had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch,* dated 22d November, directing me to make another earnest attempt to awaken the Spanish Government to a sense of what is due by them not only towards the British Government, but also the national character of Spain herself, upon the subject of the Slave Trade.

Previously to the receipt of the above directions from your Lordship, I had had more than one conversation with M. de Zea upon the flagrant and systematic manner in which the Treaty solemnly contracted by Spain with Great Britain for the Abolition of Slave Trade had been violated by every successive Government of Cuba; and I told His Excellency that as the Government of this Country were never slow to chastise those public servants who had incurred their displeasure, I could not but view the impunity which had, with no exception, attended the conduct of the Captains General of Cuba, as a proof that the continuance of the Slave Trade had the deliberate, though unavowed, support of the Government.

M. de Zea said that the whole subject should be immediately brought before the Cabinet, where I might be assured that there existed every disposition honestly to fulfil the engagements of Spain with the British Government. I told His Excellency that, as the question had not come before any Member of the

* See Class B., No. 8, of 1833.

(B.)

present Cabinet of Spain, and that it was in all likelihood imperfectly known to the Council of Regency, I purposed in a few days to present a note to His Excellency, containing a review of all that has taken place upon this question subsequently to the signature of the Treaty of 1817, and I felt certain that no candid or honourable mind would fail to admit, that in order to check the continued violation of that Treaty, some further preventive measures were imperiously demanded of the Spanish Government; but, I added, His Excellency could at all events not doubt, that after the great and generous efforts lately made by the British Nation for the extinction of Slavery, that His Majesty's Government would insist upon the complete fulfilment of the engagements which already existed.

M. de Zea again repeated that the subject should be immediately considered.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 9, 1834.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 31st December, 1833.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship a Copy of the Note which I have addressed to M. de Zea, upon the subject of the Slave Trade now carrying on in the Spanish Possessions.

I have thought it advisable to exhibit, in the form of a continuous narrative, the total want of good faith which has been displayed by the Spanish Government, or their Agents, ever since the signature of the Treaty, together with the results of their conduct, to which I have endeavoured to prove they must have been wilfully blind.

I have begged M. de Zea's immediate attention to this Note, and I shall use all means in my power to forward its object.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Mr. Villiers to the Chevalier de Zea Bermudez.

SIR,

Madrid, December 31st, 1833.

In the conversations which I have had with your Excellency upon the subject of the Slave Trade, my expectations have not been disappointed of hearing from you, that the Spanish Government were no less desirous to meet the wishes of England, than they were determined to fulfil those engagements to which the national honour is solemnly pledged; and before I propose to your Excellency the adoption of such steps, as appear desirable for placing on a more perfect footing the co-operation of England and Spain for the Abolition of the Slave Trade, it will be convenient, by a brief *résumé* of the Transactions in which the 2 Governments have been engaged for this great object, to exhibit the exact relations which they have maintained with each other, from the first measure taken in common by His Britannic Majesty and the King of Spain. This review of the engagements that have been entered into, of the efforts that have been made, and of the results which they have produced, seems the most just and natural mode of arriving at the consideration of such further proceedings as may appear necessary, in the event of its becoming manifest that the benevolent designs of the 2 Powers are hitherto at a lamentable distance from a state of satisfactory completion.

In the Additional Articles of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, signed at Madrid, the 5th July, 1814, His Catholic Majesty, "concurring in the fullest manner in the sentiments of His Britannic Majesty, with respect to the *injustice and inhumanity of the Traffic* in slaves, engaged to take into consideration, with the deliberation which the state of his Possessions in America demanded, the *means of acting in conformity with those sentiments*. His Catholic Majesty promised, moreover, to prohibit his subjects from carrying on the Slave Trade, for the purpose of supplying any Islands or Possessions, excepting those appertaining to Spain, and to prevent likewise, by effectual measures and regulations, the protection of the Spanish flag being given to Foreigners who might engage in this Traffic, whether subjects of His Britannic Majesty, or of any other State or Power."

This is the first solemn engagement on the subject of the Slave Trade entered into by the King of Spain with the British Government, and it is in perfect harmony with the declaration of the 8 Powers made shortly after at Vienna, (February 8th, 1815,) in which the Plenipotentiaries of those Powers proclaimed, in the names of their respective Sovereigns, this Traffic "a scourge which has long desolated Africa, degraded Europe, and afflicted Humanity."

By the Additional Article of the 28th August, 1814, the King of Spain pledged himself to take the subject of the Slave Trade into His Royal consideration; and after a negotiation carried on with

great zeal, as well as much circumspection, a solemn Treaty was concluded on the 23d September, 1817, at Madrid, between Great Britain and Spain, having for its object the abolition of this disgraceful Traffic.

This Treaty is based on the *Additional Article* of 1814, which has just been referred to, and sets forth that His Catholic Majesty, conformably to the principles of humanity with which he is animated, has resolved to co-operate with His Britannic Majesty in adopting *efficacious means for bringing about the Abolition of the Slave Trade*.

The first Article of this Treaty secures, on the part of His Catholic Majesty, that the Traffic in Negroes shall be abolished throughout *the entire dominions of Spain*, on the 30th day of May, 1820; and that, from and after that period, it shall not be *lawful for any of the subjects of the Crown of Spain to purchase Slaves, or to carry on the Slave Trade* on any part of the Coast of Africa upon any pretext whatever.

On the other hand, His Britannic Majesty engaged to pay the sum of £400,000 sterling on the 20th February, 1818, to such person as His Catholic Majesty appointed to receive the same in London. The said sum of £400,000 sterling was to be considered as a full compensation for all losses sustained by the subjects of His Catholic Majesty engaged in this Traffic, on account of vessels captured previously to the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty; as also for the losses which are a necessary consequence of the Abolition of the said Traffic.

North of the Equator, the Slave Traffic was to cease immediately on the ratification of the Treaty, giving only 6 months after the date of it for the completion of enterprises already commenced; and in the interval between the ratification and the 30th May, 1820, the Slave Trade, south of the Line, was only to be permitted under passports of an especial character.

Inasmuch as the execution of these measures demanded on the part of the Spanish Government considerable energy, and the exercise of various means to put an end to a Traffic so thoroughly established in the Spanish Colonies, the High Contracting Parties were not content only with enumerating such measures of prevention as were at the time suggested, but His Catholic Majesty bound himself, by Article 6, to "*adopt, in conformity to the spirit of this Treaty, the measures which are best calculated to give full and complete effect to the laudable objects which the High Contracting Parties have in view.*"

The Treaty established Courts of Mixed Commission for the adjudication of offences against its provisions, and accorded a mutual right of searching suspicious vessels to such ships of war of each nation as were charged with *Instructions*, for the purpose of carrying the Contract into effect, and which *Instructions* were to be considered as an integral portion of the Treaty.

By the 9th Article of the Treaty, and the 1st of the Instructions, it is stipulated that those vessels only shall be detained, and sent before the Courts of Mixed Commission, which shall be found to have *slaves on board*; "ships, on board of which no slave shall be found intended for the purposes of traffic, shall not be detained on any account or pretence whatever."

It was this clause which first exhibited the imperfection of the provisions laid down in this Treaty, and its accompanying "Instructions," for the effectual Abolition of the commerce in slaves. One of the first instances which occurred of seizure, was a case in which *one* slave alone was found aboard, the rest having been disposed of; but it soon became a practice, on a slave vessel perceiving a cruizer in chase, to run ashore, or make for the nearest cove or harbour, and there land her living cargo before she could be actually come in contact with; an evasion of the letter of the law which enabled the Slaver to brave the power of his pursuer in the very act of perpetrating his crime, and, by waiting a convenient opportunity, to reship the unfortunate wretches he had put on shore, and continue his voyage with impunity.

When this defect in the provisions of the Treaty was properly represented to the Spanish Government, they agreed to an Explanatory Article, which, to a certain extent, gave efficiency to the 9th Article of the Treaty.

By this Article, the High Contracting Parties declared, "that if there should be clear and undeniable proof that a slave or slaves has or have been put on board a vessel for the purpose of illegal traffic in the particular voyage on which the vessel shall be captured, then, and on that account, according to the true intent and meaning of the stipulations of the Treaty, such vessel shall be detained by the Cruizers, and finally condemned by the Commissioners."

The provisions of the Treaty itself were made Spanish law, by Royal Cedula of the 19th December, 1817, within 3 months of the conclusion of the Treaty, and very shortly after the exchange of ratifications; not so, however, with the "Explanatory Article," which was never confirmed by His Catholic Majesty, and consequently never communicated to the Spanish Authorities in the Havana, or elsewhere, until the year 1826; when, under date of the 12th February, the Duke del Infantado wrote to the Minister of His Britannic Majesty at Madrid, that because "he" (Mr. Lamb) "had intimated, that, in order to complete the destruction of the illegal traffic in Slaves, it would be proper to communicate to the Authorities of the Isle of Cuba the Additional Article in question, which was neglected at the time, a neglect which kept those Authorities in ignorance of it, His Catholic Majesty, after taking the matter into consideration, had thought proper first to confirm this Article, though it had been concluded and ratified at the end of Constitutional Anarchy, because it was consonant to the spirit of the Treaty of 1817, and to the intentions of the 2 high Contracting Parties."

With the exception, therefore, of a Decree of the Cortes declaring Slave Dealing to be felony, which was afterwards annulled by the King of Spain, the only executive measures promulgated by His Catholic Majesty in furtherance of the object of the Treaty of 1817, up to the year 1826, it has been seen, were the prohibition of the trade by the Royal Cedula in the year of the Treaty, and the Explanatory Article passed in 1822, but only communicated to the Authorities in 1826.

It being found that the prohibition of His Catholic Majesty was disregarded by His subjects, and that the Traffic was pursued in the dominions of Spain to an enormous extent with perfect shamelessness, and, as far as regarded the Spanish Authorities, with almost perfect impunity, various representations were from time to time made by the different British Ministers at Madrid to the Spanish Government, calling upon His Catholic Majesty, on the faith of Treaties, and in the name of Spanish honour, to carry into effect the objects of a contract to which the Royal Authority had been sacredly pledged, and for which England, with a perfect reliance on the sincerity of the declarations of His anxiety to put an end to this infamous Traffic, had consented to make the most serious sacrifices, and

had persevered in a course of the most strenuous exertions, which, without the sincere co-operation of Spain, were perhaps even worse than useless.

These representations produced the effect that might have been anticipated from a Government so jealous of the national honour. Reiterated orders were issued by the Government at Madrid to the Authorities whom it concerned, to exercise the utmost vigilance and activity in carrying into execution the provisions of the Royal Cedula of 1817, and at the same time fresh measures and regulations were devised and adopted, which it was considered might contribute to the great end designed by the High Contracting Parties. In 1824, for instance, it having been understood that slave ships were fitted out at Cadiz, His Catholic 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, still was 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 Licence of Navigation, the express obligation should from that time forward be inserted of their not engaging in the Slave Trade."

Again, by a Letter, bearing date January 6th, 1826, from His Excellency the Duke del Infantado, to the British Minister, Mr. Lamb, it appears, that His Catholic Majesty adopted other "new regulations to facilitate more and more the extinction of so abominable a traffic." His Catholic Majesty at the same time decreed, that "every vessel proceeding from the Coast of Africa to a Spanish Port, should, on her arrival, deliver to the Commandant of Marine her log-book, in order that that officer might examine it, and if he found any ground for suspecting that the vessel had brought negroes, and disembarked them secretly, should immediately acquaint the Captain General of the Island, in order to ascertain the fact, and punish the offender." It was further decreed, at the same time, "that any person of whatsoever class might denounce newly-arrived negroes; and that if the informer were a slave, he should therefore be rewarded by his liberty, and the purchaser fined 200 dollars for every one so obtained. It was also ordered, by His Catholic Majesty, that the Archbishop of Cuba and the Bishop of the Havana should be "instructed to make known to the Parochial Clergy, and the inhabitants of their respective dioceses, that from the moment of the prohibition of the Slave Trade, the continuance thereof became a matter of conscience." Negroes who denounced the vessel in which they were brought, it was likewise ordered, "should be entitled to their liberty." A Royal order to this effect, of the date of January 2d, 1826, was published in Cuba, on the 11th April, 1826, by the Authorities of the Island.

It appearing that these orders had not the effect that might, under some circumstances, have been anticipated from them, on the 30th June, 1828, the Captain General of Cuba was further desired, by Royal order, to make to His Catholic Majesty "a detailed report of the ships which have sailed from the ports of the Island to the Coast of Africa since the prohibition of the Traffic; of the cargoes which they have received there, and the returns they have brought back; a statement of the vessels that have been taken during that period, whether by Spaniards or Foreigners; of the clandestine introductions which have been discovered, and of the measures that have been taken in consequence." It is added, moreover, in this Royal order, addressed to the Captain General of Cuba, that "since the expeditions to the Coast of Africa are nothing more than a pretence to cover the forbidden Traffic in slaves, your Excellency is directed to procure from the Chamber of Commerce a statement of the articles of legitimate trade which they export to that coast, of the productions of that country which are sold in the island, or received in exchange, with such further particulars as your Excellency may deem expedient, in order that, being provided with this information, the Council may advise His Majesty, as far as may be possible, what measures may be *fitting or convenient to put an end to this disgraceful Traffic.*"

No doubt can be entertained that these inquiries were instituted with a sincere desire of devising some effectual means of putting a stop to the perpetual infractions of the law, which were continually laid before the Spanish Government, and under the feeling of a wounded sense of honour on the part of His Catholic Majesty, who saw himself in the painful situation of appearing to connive at the habitual violation of a solemn Treaty. But it is greatly to be lamented that these considerations did not suggest some more cogent method of attaining this desirable object than a renewed injunction to the Authorities to observe with rigour the decrees of their august Sovereign; such, however, is the entire amount of the Royal order of March 4th, 1830, to the Captains General of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

The Government of His Britannic Majesty, feeling but little hope that the mere repetition of orders, which had so long been disregarded, was likely to produce any satisfactory result, renewed, through the British Minister at Madrid, the representations they had before felt it their duty to press upon the Government of His Catholic Majesty; the consequence of several earnest applications was another Royal order, which in a note from His Excellency the Chevalier de Salmon to Mr. Addington, dated 2d August, 1830, is described as being "more decisive than before, and commands the Captains General of Cuba to allow in no manner the provisions of the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade to be evaded."

The very character of these repeated injunctions to obey the law, as well as the terms in which many of them are couched, prove but too clearly that they have in fact been disobeyed. Unhappily, however, it is in the power of His Britannic Majesty's Government to show in a more direct and striking manner, to what a lamentable extent this disobedience and contempt of His Catholic Majesty's Royal Authority has been carried in this principal colony of Cuba. The deep interest which the British Nation takes in the subject, as well as the natural anxiety for the Government to watch over the execution of the solemn compacts into which they have entered with other Governments, and which they believe to be dictated in the truest spirit of benevolence, has induced them to collect such information as to the manner in which the Slave Trade has been carried on by Spanish vessels, as cannot fail to prove to the Cabinet of Madrid that the honour of Spain is deeply implicated in at length resolving to give full force to the resolutions of the High Contracting Parties, and thus rescue the Abolition Treaty of 1817 from the bitter reproach of being no more than a mere diplomatic illusion.

It would be useless to deny that the due execution of the Treaty for the Abolition of the Slave Trade in Negroes has its serious difficulties. It is proved by the fact that the Spanish Government has made the repeated attempts, which have been enumerated, to perform its sacred promises now for upwards of 12 years, and that its failure has been signal in the face of Europe. At the same time it is now, and has been from the first, the opinion of the British Government, that a main cause of the

want of success which has attended the Executive measures directed to this object has been, that too much reliance has been placed on the apprehension of the offender in the case only of his detection in the act of crime. The means of avoiding discovery in this Traffic are in fact so various, and the habits of men employed in so degrading an occupation are so congenial with fraud, and their tempers so familiar with hazards of all, and even the most fatal, kinds, that it is vain to place confidence upon the effect of a contingent penalty. Experience has shown that the wise method of dealing with this, as with other classes of malefactors, is that of *prevention*; and such is the method which Great Britain, upon seeing the inefficacy of the provisions under the Spanish Treaty, has adopted reciprocally with other countries, and it has been attended with the happiest effects. As, in matters of civil police, such weapons are sometimes prohibited as, being worn, imply hostile intentions, and indicate that the bearer is not proposing to conduct himself as a citizen of peaceful habits, so it would be desirable that when, in suspicious latitudes, a vessel were found evidently prepared to make war against the human race (for such is Slave Dealing), that it should, on the mere inspection of its nefarious contrivances, be immediately handed over to the Authorities constituted for the adjudication of offences against the solemn acts which have been devised for the purpose of putting an end to the disgraceful trade in which they are engaged.

By the law of Spain, the act of Slave Dealing is a crime to which the most serious penalties are affixed; is it not then justifiable in discovering men, whether Spanish or English subjects, in the act, or on the very brink of committing it, for the Authorities of their respective Governments to snatch from them and declare forfeit the instrument by which they are on the point of effecting their evil purpose? In Slave Dealing, this instrument is the ship, and it is fortunate that so plain are the signs of a vessel prepared for the reception of slaves, and so distinguished is it from any other vessel, that it is hardly possible for stupidity to mistake, or for malice to pretend to mistake their character. The slave vessel is provided with chains and shackles, with moveable decks, with numerous bulkheads penetrated with air-holes, with enormous quantities of water-casks, with large supplies of rice, and other objects of negro food, which have been, in treaties with other Powers, enumerated and described in such a manner as to render the Commander of a searching vessel almost less liable to error in this than in any other similar case left in the remotest degree to his discretion.

The importance of this measure, in putting an effectual stop to this commerce, arises from the consideration that slave vessels are compelled to hover some time on the Coast of Africa, before they can complete their ill-fated cargo.* As by the law, as it exists under the Treaty between England and Spain, English and Spanish vessels are now reciprocally liable to detention and ultimate forfeiture, if slaves are actually found on board, or to have been on board; the captives are kept in huts or barracks until such time as the whole number is completed, or until a convenient opportunity of sailing occurs, when the Slaver ships his cargo with all possible speed, and contrives, by well choosing his hour and his weather, to escape the cruisers of the different countries who have stationed ships of war in those latitudes, in order to intercept the operations of these worst of pirates. The vast extent of sea over which these vessels roam for prey, the fluctuations of the weather, and the entire command which the Slaver has of his opportunities, render it as difficult a task to seize him when on the wing, as it would be easy to do so were a mutual power given and exchanged of arresting him while hovering along the shore, in waiting for the objects of his iniquitous cupidity.

It is difficult to conceive what well-founded objections can be urged against a measure so fraught with advantage, and so little liable to abuse. The mutual right of search is already granted, and detention is permitted in the case of slaves being found on board, or having been on board during the same voyage, and, in the event of proof before the Mixed Commission, the vessel is confiscated. Here the risk of abuse is as great or greater than in the case of finding a vessel prepared for the reception of slaves, while the chance of advantage is far less than it is in the case of constant recurrence and easy detection, and which has the paramount distinction of stopping the career of crime before it has arrived at the point of producing suffering.

Stipulations having this effect, of rendering vessels, manifestly fitted up as Slave Traders, mutually liable to capture and ultimate confiscation, have been introduced into the Treaties of Great Britain with the Netherlands, with Sweden, and with France (by the convention, on this subject, of the 30th November, 1831). A copy of the provision on this head, as it occurs in the Treaty with the Netherlands, accompanies this paper; and as it has been found in practice well adapted to its end, with the exception of one unessential point,† its mutual adoption by Spain and England is submitted to the consideration of the Spanish Government, as an effectual means of carrying into actual operation the Treaty by which the Spanish Monarch declared, in 1817, that the Slave Trade should cease in all the dominions of Spain, but which, from causes that have been already referred to, has remained, unhappily, to a great extent, little more than a dead letter.

In the island of Cuba, to the Authorities of which Colony some of the orders referred to have been especially directed, and to whom all were closely applicable, so true is it that the Treaty, explained and confirmed as it was by the Royal Cédulas, and repeated orders from the Spanish Government at home, has remained a mere dead letter, that the Slave Trade could not for several years past have been carried on with more activity, nor yet much more openly, though probably with some variation in matters of form. Since the signature of the Treaty of 1817, the commerce in slaves in that island has more than once sunk into comparative quiescence, from there existing an absolute glut of the unfortunate object of trade. Had the Traffic been perfectly unshackled, more than this could not have taken place.

But the reports of the movements in this hateful trade, as faithfully and constantly presented to the Government of Great Britain by the British Commissioners at the Havana, prove to demonstration that the Treaty of 1817 is practically set at nought by the Authorities of the Island; while, with an apparent respect for the Royal orders, in pretending to obey the letter, the spirit of them is altogether evaded.

Vessels regularly fitted up for Slave Dealing are continually clearing out for the Coast of Africa from the Havana; after the lapse of a sufficient time to perform a slave voyage, these vessels return into that port in *ballast*; sometimes the same vessel makes *three* such voyages in *two* years, each time

* A large cargo sometimes requires a quarter of a year.

† The space in which vessels are liable to search ought to be extended from one degree west longitude of the Coast of Africa to two.

returning in *ballast*. It is hardly attempted to be concealed that the conductors of these enterprises have landed their cargo in some neighbouring cove or out-port; so little mystery is indeed observed, that the precise number of slaves landed is generally a subject of notoriety; and yet, withal, every Authority remains silent. Not only do these vessels return in ballast, not only are they openly said to have landed their cargo, but they are constantly observed by British cruisers to be waiting near the Coast of Africa for the negro cargo: they are evidently prepared for its reception, they have no other commerce, and sometimes are fortunately met with and captured at sea with their slaves on board. But those which are seized in nowise differ from those that escape, and are not at all more or less known to be Slavers than the vessels which, on the completion of their voyage, the Authorities of Cuba permit to enter and quit Havana without punishment, and almost without inquiry.

In 1822, two years nearly after the period at which the foreign Slave Trade *ought* to have ceased in the Spanish dominions, 10 vessels arrived from the Coast of Africa in ballast, after having landed cargoes of slaves in the island, and 6 sailed with the same destination, equipped in all points for the Slave Trade. In 1823, 10 arrived from the same coast, and 3 sailed thither. It being seen that, so far as the Authorities of the Havana were concerned, perfect impunity existed, the adventurers took courage, and in 1824 fitted out for Africa 44 Slavers. In the same year 17 arrived at the Havana in ballast, as usual. In the year 1825, 35 Slavers entered the Havana, after having landed their cargoes, and 32 departed on the same errand. In 1826, 11 arrived and 15 sailed. In 1827, 6 arrived and 27 sailed. The announcement of the Royal Order of January, 1826, produced some apprehension on the part of the Slavers; and not until they saw that the Authorities of Cuba were as willing to permit the evasion of this as of the other orders, did they recommence their enterprises with the same hardihood. The easy expedient of taking care never to insert any mention of the cargo, or of the circumstances connected with it, in the log-book, was found enough to elude the intention of the order; the trade was revived with uncommon vigour, and subsists to this day with undiminished activity. In 1828, 18 vessels arrived at the Havana, and 63 sailed on slave expeditions. In 1829, 30 vessels arrived and 43 sailed. In 1830, 36 arrived and 29 returned. In 1831, 36 arrived and 32 sailed. In 1832, 27 vessels arrived and 31 sailed.

Thus it appears that no less than 325 regular Slavers left the Port of the Havana, between 1822 and 1832, for the Coast of Africa; and that 236 returned, every one, except 2, being in *ballast*! And yet the Authorities of the Island, who had been so repeatedly enjoined to put the laws in execution, never pursued a single inquiry, with the exception of one, which was conducted in a manner which rendered it a perfect mockery of justice. The existence of this connivance, not to say protection, soon became well understood by all whom it concerned; and it is to this hour the firm conviction of all persons occupied in the Slave Trade at Cuba, and other Spanish Colonies, that the Local Authorities, in covering the Traffic with immunity, only second the wishes of the Government at home. The popular opinion of the Island is, that the only hazard that the slave merchant has to encounter is that of meeting with a British cruiser; and that, this evil escaped, there rest no other grounds of apprehension. No Spanish vessel of war has yet been known to bring in a Spanish prize; while, on the other hand, it is stated, on undeniable authority, that ships of the Spanish Royal Navy have been seen, in more instances than one, to convey fleets of Slavers out of the Port of the Havana, and through the Gulf of Florida.

The vast amount to which the importation of slaves into Cuba has been carried, subsequently to the nominal abolition of the Traffic, may be gathered not only from the statements of the British Commissioners, who were very frequently able to ascertain the exact amount of each clandestine cargo (so little mystery was observed), but from a consideration of the number and nature of the vessels that have been employed in this service, and have entered the Port of the Havana in ballast. Many of these vessels are calculated to carry large numbers of slaves; but, allowing to each the low average of 250 slaves, it will appear that from 1822 to 1832 inclusive—that is to say, commencing 2 years after the time that the King of Spain had engaged by Treaty to put an end to the importation of slaves into His dominions—the Local Authorities of one Island permitted to be introduced in the neighbourhood of its principal port nearly 70,000 negro captives direct from the shores of Africa. Experienced persons calculate that, in the other ports of the Island, about half the same quantity of prohibited commerce was carried on, which will, at the same rate, make the whole importation reach the enormous amount of upwards of 100,000 individuals!

It is absurd to suppose that such a commerce could be carried on without the knowledge of the Authorities, and it is as certain that in some cases it received their protection. Not a vessel arrived which was known to have brought slaves, that was not instantly denounced by the British Commissioners, and in numerous instances the very place in which the cargo was landed was pointed out, as well as the number of negroes that had been put ashore. Still, in every instance, an investigation merely formal was instituted, and always ended in pronouncing the slaves non-existent, and the vessel free from the remotest shade of suspicion, at a time when the very officers and crew were frequently boasting of their exploits, under the very eyes of the Authorities who declared them unjustly suspected. In some cases, the persons engaged in this Traffic have been so lost to all sense of shame, as to deposit their newly-arrived slaves in "barracones" or slave-huts constructed for the reception of savage negroes, and which, previous to the abolition, were in common use. It is true that these have been put down by the Authorities when they have been denounced to them by the British Commissioners, but only then; and the history of these and similar transactions affords additional proofs that these officers will see nothing connected with this trade unless it is brought before them in a manner that they dare not deny that the object is before their eyes. These short-sighted persons have acted under the idea that though they were disobeying the injunctions of their Sovereign, and exposing his good faith to the risk of a degrading suspicion, yet that they were benefitting the Island placed under their authority. They were, in fact, promoting the interests of a number of adventurers and gamblers largely embarked in Slave Trade, and have certainly encouraged a false appearance of prosperity in the Island of Cuba, while, by the introduction of so many hordes of savage and revengeful slaves, they were in fact undermining the very existence of civilized authority in the Colony. By an excessive importation of slaves, the value of property has been generally depreciated, and it is to be feared that the foundation of insurrection, disease, and ultimate ruin, has been laid. The temporary production of some articles of commerce has been stimulated, but which, originating in superabundant labour and vague speculation, have returned upon the Island in the shape of bankruptcy and destitution. It is stated, on excellent authority, that the intelligent and respectable inhabitants of Cuba look with horror on the anticipated

consequences of this influx of fresh negroes into the Island, while they are afraid to express openly their opinions, from the fear of the violence of the characters implicated in this debasing commerce, and are bound to buy, against their conviction, and contrary to their interests, the newly-imported slaves that are perpetually being brought to their doors.

It is not, however, only to the numbers of miserable creatures actually imported into Cuba, that England, whose sole object in agitating this subject has always been one of pure benevolence, is bound to advert, but also to the vast expense of human misery and life which this importation draws along with it. Though 234 vessels have arrived at the Havana with cargoes of slaves, 325 have sailed from that port, fitted up regularly for the commerce. All have not returned: some have taken their cargoes elsewhere; a few have been captured; many have been lost, freighted with their enormous load of life; while others have fallen a prey to the rapacity of fellow-Slavers. For the traffic in slaves is not the only occupation of the miscreants engaged in this trade; they join with it piracy, accustomed as they are to ill-gotten gains; the step from smuggling the slave, to that of stealing him from the smuggler, is not great; and it is now common to see the slave vessels powerfully armed and manned, in order to seize upon such weaker ships as they may encounter freighted with captives, and thus save themselves the risk and expense of a distant voyage. The sufferings of the victims of their rapacity, while the brutal captors are contending for the possession of the prey, which not unfrequently is itself destroyed in the struggle, may be easily conceived.

Thus, the impunity with which the traffic is carried on spreads calamity far and wide. It is horrible in itself, but it is even more fatal in its consequences. Recent events have, however, at length enlightened the respectable portion of the community in Cuba; the many hundreds of negroes who, within the last few months, have been imported into that Colony, and publicly deposited in "barracones" almost adjacent to the Havana; the aggravation which they produced of the cholera at that time raging, the insurrection that ensued, and the immense loss of property which was the consequence, have exhibited in their true light the conduct of the Authorities, and the peril to which the inhabitants and their property are exposed.

Leaving then out of consideration the solemn engagements of Spain for the abolition of this system, no measure more benevolent or wise could be adopted by the Spanish Government than to put an effectual stop to all the horrid and debasing scenes which, under its involuntary sanction, are perpetrated in so many parts of the world.

It now only remains for me to invite the attention of your Excellency to the state of public opinion at this moment in England. The deep-settled honest convictions of reflecting men have produced that untiring perseverance and lasting enthusiasm, which, regardless of every obstacle, and after contending for 50 years with difficulties seemingly insurmountable, have led to the stupendous measure by which, with a sacrifice of £20,000,000 sterling, 800,000 of our fellow-creatures have been emancipated from slavery. England is justly proud to have achieved one of the most glorious events in the annals of her history. The national enthusiasm is at its highest pitch, and the nation awaits with confidence, as it will view with satisfaction, the co-operation of Spain for the extinction of this inhuman Traffic.

The Government of His Britannic Majesty, on their part, will not permit themselves to doubt that a plain and unbiassed statement of all the crime and suffering which is now permitted in defiance of the most sacred pledges, and the plainest and best understood compacts between 2 ancient Allies and friendly Powers, will not be found insufficient to animate the Spanish Cabinet with a full sense of what is due to the honour of Spain, the claims of her Ally, and the injured rights of humanity.

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

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

No. 4.

The Chevalier de Vial to Viscount Palmerston.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 10th January, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., in acknowledging to His Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., the receipt of His Excellency's Note of the 6th instant, in which His Lordship acquaints him that His Britannic Majesty is willing to gratify Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain by pardoning Don Felipe Revel, and that His Majesty, for this purpose, desires to learn what penalty has been inflicted on him for the infraction of the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, cannot neglect expressing to Viscount Palmerston the satisfaction he felt at being informed of this fresh proof of the sentiments of friendship which animate the British Sovereign towards the Queen Regent, and of those of His Majesty's clemency and magnanimity to the Spanish subjects.

But the Undersigned regrets not being able to reply to His Britannic Majesty's inquiry, inasmuch as his Government, in its communication on the subject, has not specified to what kind of punishment the said Revel was sentenced, on which account he intends applying for the requisite information, and hopes that, by conveying it to Viscount Palmerston, he shall soon be capable of contributing towards the gratification of His Britannic Majesty's benignant disposition.

In the mean time the Undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE VIAL.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

The Chevalier de Vial to Viscount Palmerston.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 10th January, 1834.

IN compliance with a Royal Order which I have just received, I have the honour to state to Your Excellency that Don Francisco Garcia Gaona, Captain of the Spanish Goleta "*Gallito*," captured in November 1829, for having carried 136 negroes, was, in 1832, sentenced by the Mixed Commission at Havana to 10 years' imprisonment in the Philippine Islands, conformably with the Treaty for the Abolition of the Slave Trade. The said Gaona having applied to the King, Ferdinand VII., a little before his decease, imploring His Majesty's permission to return to his family, Her Majesty the Queen Regent, compassionating his situation, wishes to abridge his imprisonment by remitting to him the remainder of his confinement; but as the sentence with which his crime was visited emanated from a Mixed Commission composed of English and Spanish subjects, previously to granting to him the pardon which he solicits, Her Majesty directs me to manifest to His Britannic Majesty, through the medium of your Excellency, how grateful it would prove to Her Majesty if His Britannic Majesty on his part would consent to the pardon implored by the above Gaona.

I hope that your Excellency will be instrumental in the accomplishment of these merciful wishes, and be able to return to me a satisfactory answer.

In the mean while I repeat the assurance, &c.

(Signed)

JUAN DE VIAL.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 6.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 23d January, 1834.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatch of the 31st of December 1833, and I have received His Majesty's commands to express to you His Majesty's full and entire approbation of the able and masterly Note which you addressed to M. de Zea on the 31st of December last, upon the subject of the Slave Trade now carrying on in the Possessions of Spain.

His Majesty's Government hope that your luminous exposition of the continued infraction by Spanish Authorities of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1817 may at length awaken the Government of Spain to a sense of the necessity for executing the solemn engagements entered into by His Catholic Majesty, on the conclusion of the Treaty; engagements, in the strict fulfilment of which the Spanish Government must feel that they have a sacred duty to perform.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 7.

Viscount Palmerston to the Chevalier de Vial.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st January, 1834.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Letter of the 10th instant, expressing the desire of Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain that His Majesty would consent to the remission of the remainder of the sentence of imprisonment of 10 years, in the Philippine Islands, passed upon Don Francisco Garcia Gaona, for having been concerned in illegal Slave Trade.

I have received the King's command to state to you that His Majesty, who will always avail himself with eagerness of every opportunity of manifesting his

regard for the Queen Regent of Spain, readily accedes to the wish which has been expressed on this subject by Her Majesty.

The Chevalier de Vial,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 8.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 17th March, 1834.

THE Despatches, of which the accompanying are Copies,* from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone and at the Havana, contain the Reports of those Officers upon that portion of the Slave Trade to which their attention has been drawn during the last year, and exhibit a distressing picture of the extent to which that disgraceful Traffic is still carried on, under the flag and upon the account of Spain, for the supply of her Colonists of Cuba.

Twenty-seven vessels, laden with negroes destined to be slaves, safely effected their return to the Port of the Havana, in the year 1833, after having landed their cargoes at the back of the Island of Cuba.

Thirty-six Spanish slave vessels sailed from the Havana, in the year 1833, for the African coast, 5 of them having openly cleared out for Slave Trading Ports on the Continent of Africa. Eight of these vessels, according to the last accounts, had returned and had landed their cargoes in Cuba.

In the same year 7 Spanish vessels, with cargoes of slaves, were captured and condemned at Sierra Leone, and 3 suffered the same fate at the Havana.

Besides this extensive traffic under the Spanish flag, the Trade in Slaves, under the Portuguese flag, which for many years had almost ceased, has again revived, roused into activity by the eagerness of the Spanish Merchants; and accordingly it appears that all the Portuguese vessels, which, during the last 3 years have been condemned at Sierra Leone for Slave Trade, were bound for Cuba.

To Spain, therefore, now belongs the disgrace, not only of continuing this traffic herself, in violation of her solemn engagements, but of having seduced another Nation, which for some time past had abandoned the practice, into a renewed participation in its guilt.

It might happen, in the course of events, that the assistance of Great Britain might be required by Spain for the protection of Cuba. But in what manner do the Spanish Government suppose that its call on such an occasion would be answered, if they permit that Island to continue to be the scene and the cause of such deliberate and extensive violation of the Treaty Engagements of Spain? And be it remembered, that those Engagements were not entered into by Spain gratuitously and upon abstract principles, but were purchased by Great Britain by the payment of a very large sum of money. I have received His Majesty's especial Commands to desire that you will remonstrate again with the Government of Spain upon this subject with all the force which the Documents now furnished to you will supply; that you will urge that Government, in the strongest manner, to conclude, without delay, the newly proposed stipulations for the more effectual Abolition of Spanish Slave Trade; and that you will, at the same time, press them to carry into execution, in the interior of Cuba itself, such measures for the fulfilment of the Treaty of 1817 as may effectually correct the abuses of which Great Britain so justly complains.

You will at the same time inform the Spanish Government, that these are the only satisfactory proofs which that Government can give of its determination to act with good faith towards Great Britain, on this important matter.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. Nos. 3 and 65.

No. 9.

Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 24.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 15th April, 1834.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the 17th ultimo, directing me, by the special Commands of His Majesty, to renew the remonstrances which have so often been addressed to the Spanish Government, upon the Slave Trade which is still carried on between Cuba and the Coast of Africa, and upon the flagrant violation of the Engagements existing between Great Britain and Spain.

I have accordingly addressed a Note to this effect to M. Martinez de la Rosa.

I received, with feelings of pride and sincere satisfaction, your Lordship's Despatch of the 23d January, informing me that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to approve of the Note which I addressed, on the 1st of December, to M. de Zea upon this subject.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 10.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 29th April, 1834.

YOUR Despatch of the 15th instant has been received and laid before the King, and I have the King's Commands to express to you His Majesty's approbation of the manner in which you executed the instructions which, by His Majesty's Command, I gave you in my Despatch of the 17th of March last.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 11.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, 2 Copies of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 25th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copies of Communications* which have passed between His Majesty's Government and that of France, upon the subject of the proposed invitation to Foreign Powers to accede to the 2 Conventions recently concluded between Great Britain and France, having for their object the more effectual Abolition of the Traffic in Slaves; and I have to desire that you will, by every means in your power, aid the efforts which the accredited Minister of France at Madrid may be instructed to make, on the part of his Court, to induce the Spanish Government to accede to the Conventions in question, taking care, specially, on His Majesty's part, to urge the accession of the Government

* See Class B. Nos. 67, 68, 69, 74.

of Spain to those stipulations in the Conventions between Great Britain and France, which are not contained in the Treaties which His Majesty has yet concluded with His Catholic Majesty.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 13.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th September, 1834.

WITH reference to my former communications to you, on the subject of the repeated infractions of the Treaty existing between Great Britain and Spain upon Slave Trade, I herewith transmit to you Copies* of Despatches which have been recently received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, detailing fresh instances of such infractions, committed apparently with the connivance of the Government of Cuba.

You are instructed to communicate the substance of these Despatches to the Spanish Government, renewing, in the strongest manner, the remonstrances which you have already made upon this subject, and pressing upon them the necessity of immediately adopting such measures as shall effectually secure the fulfilment of the engagements of the Spanish Crown.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. Nos. 79, 84, 87.

No. 14.

Mr. Villiers to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 20.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, 9th September, 1834.

IT is with feelings of sincere satisfaction that I have to inform your Lordship that M. Martinez de la Rosa has, at length, and after a careful examination of the whole subject, admitted the right of Great Britain to claim a complete execution of the Treaty of 1817, for the suppression of the Slave Trade. And His Excellency has communicated to me that he shall be prepared to agree to the additional engagements proposed, so soon as I shall receive from your Lordship the necessary powers for their signature.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, K. B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 15.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.

HIS Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that the Spanish Government have at length admitted the right of Great Britain to claim a complete execution of the Treaty of 1817, for the Suppression of the Slave Trade; and that M. Martinez de la Rosa has informed you that he is prepared to agree to additional engagements proposed, so soon as you shall receive the necessary Powers to sign those Articles.

His Majesty's Government, however, having lately had their attention particularly directed to this subject, I have had occasion to prepare a Draft of a Treaty which His Majesty's Minister at Lisbon has been instructed to propose to the Portuguese Government. This Draft contains all those stipulations, which experience has shown to be best adapted, both to prevent the subjects of either of the Contracting Parties from engaging in any way whatever in the Slave Trade,

and also to render it impossible that the flag of either Party should be used with success, for the purpose of covering that Trade.

It seems to His Majesty's Government very desirable that such a Treaty should be concluded between Great Britain and Spain, and I accordingly transmit you a Draft of a Treaty adapted for that purpose, together with its 3 Annexes, A. B. and C.; and I have to signify to you His Majesty's Commands, that you propose to the Spanish Government to conclude such a Treaty with Great Britain, in order most effectually to accomplish the purposes which the 2 Governments have in view.

You will state to the Spanish Ministers, that His Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Government of Spain is really sincere in its desire to put an effectual and entire stop to the Slave Trade, and you will express the conviction of His Majesty's Government, that such a Treaty as this will completely accomplish this purpose.

I likewise enclose Full Powers under the Great Seal, authorizing you to sign the Treaty.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.

WITH reference to the several Despatches which I have had occasion to address to you, on the subject of the repeated infractions of the existing Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, for the Suppression of the Slave Trade by the latter Power, I herewith transmit to you the Copy* of a further Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, stating that, between the 1st July and the 11th August of the present year, no less than 6 slave vessels have sailed from, and 4 have arrived at, the Havana; and that one of the latter is said to have landed in Cuba upwards of 700 negroes.

From these facts it appears that the Slave Trade of Cuba is still carried on with great activity; and his Majesty's Government confidently trust that this statement will be considered by the Spanish Government as affording additional ground for concluding, without delay, the Treaty for the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, of which I transmitted to you a Draft in a former Despatch of this date.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 89.

No. 17.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 17th of March last, enclosing the Annual Report of His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, upon the Spanish Slave Trade during the year 1833, I now transmit for your information the copy of a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone,* containing their Observations upon the Report in question.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 11.

No. 18.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.

WITH reference to my other Despatch to you of this date, upon the subject of the proposed Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, for the more effectual Abolition of the Slave Trade, I have to desire that you will take especial care that each of the two originals of the Treaty be written and signed both in the English and in the Spanish language; the English being written on one half or column of the paper on which the Treaty is signed, and the Spanish on the other half or column of each side of the same paper; and in that original of the Treaty which you will send home, the English is to be written on the left-hand column of each side.

Your signature, which will be, in each original, beneath the English version, will, likewise, in the case just mentioned, be on the left-hand column.

You will also take care that the Spanish version of the Treaty is throughout as accurate a translation as possible of the English Draft, and exactly conformable throughout, to the meaning of that Draft.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 19.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 17th October, 1834.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 6th instant, on the subject of the activity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on with the Island of Cuba, I transmit to you the Copy of a further Despatch* which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana; from which it appears that 4 slave vessels have arrived at, and 2 have sailed from the Havana, between the 20th of August and the 22nd September last.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 91.

No. 20.

The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1834.

HIS Majesty was pleased, on the 17th November 1834, to appoint Edward Wyndham Harrington Schenley, Esq., to be His Majesty's Commissioner of Arbitration, in the room of Charles Mackenzie, Esq., to the Mixed British and Spanish Commission established at the Havana, under the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of the 23d September, 1817.

I have to desire that you will announce this appointment to the Government of the Queen Regent of Spain, and request that orders may be sent out to the Havana, for a formal recognition of Mr. Schenley in the character above mentioned.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

WELLINGTON.

No. 21.

The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Villiers.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1834.

IT appears from your Despatch of the 9th September last, that M. Martinez de la Rosa "admitted the right of Great Britain to claim a complete

execution of the Treaty of 1817, for the suppression of the Slave Trade," and "was prepared to agree to the additional engagement proposed for the more effectual Abolition of Spanish Slave Trade."

It appears also from Correspondence in the Archives of this Department that a Despatch, transmitting a Draft of a Treaty for the more effectual abolition of the Trade and Full Powers for the signature of the same, was addressed to you on the 6th October, last.

Not finding, in your subsequent Despatches, any report of the steps which you have taken upon this subject, and His Majesty's Government being very desirous of the early success of your efforts to induce the Spanish Government to concur in the only measures by which, as they firmly believe, the carrying on of the Slave Trade, under the Spanish Flag, can be effectually and entirely suppressed, in accordance with the solemn stipulations to which the Crown of Spain has stood so long pledged,—I am to desire that you will acquaint me with the progress of the Negotiation on this subject; and that you will not cease to press this matter upon the immediate attention of the Spanish Government, more especially as the final and satisfactory conclusion of it appears from the accounts which are received by every successive mail from the Havana, to become more and more indispensable.

G. W. F. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
 (Signed)

WELLINGTON.

P O R T U G A L.

No. 22.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship, for your information, 2 Copies of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 23.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 25th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship the Copies of Communications* which have passed between His Majesty's Government and that of France, upon the subject of the proposed invitation to Foreign Powers to accede to the 2 Conventions recently concluded between Great Britain and France, having for their object the more effectual Abolition of the Traffic in Slaves; and I have to desire that you will, by every means in your power, aid the efforts which the accredited Minister of France at Lisbon, may be instructed to make on the part of his Court to induce the Portuguese Government to accede to the Conventions in question, taking care specially on His Majesty's part, to urge the accession of the Government of Portugal to those stipulations in the Conventions between Great Britain and France, which are not contained in the Treaties which His Majesty has yet concluded with Her Most Faithful Majesty.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Nos. 67, 68, 69, 74.

No. 24.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 24.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 16th August, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Despatch of the 25th ultimo, instructing me to support the Minister of France in his attempts to induce the Portuguese Government to adopt more effectual measures for the Suppression of the Slave Trade.

Baron Mortier informs me, that he has as yet entered into no negotiation with the Portuguese Government, and he is to communicate with me, previous to opening the subject with M. Freire.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWARD DE WALDEN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 25.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th September, 1834.

THE Predecessors of the present Sovereign of Portugal have already expressed, in solemn Declaration, their wish and intention to put an end to the Traffic in Slaves.

By the Convention of 1815, with Great Britain, Portugal engaged "to determine, by a separate Treaty, the period at which the Trade in Slaves shall universally cease and be prohibited, throughout the entire Dominions of Portugal;" and further engaged "that during the interval, it should not be lawful for Portuguese subjects, or for the Portuguese flag, to be engaged in the Slave Trade, excepting for the purpose of supplying the Transatlantic Possessions belonging to the Crown of Portugal."

Brazil has, since that period, been recognised by the Mother Country as forming a State distinct and separate from Portugal; and from the moment of that recognition, the Trade by Portuguese subjects, and under the Portuguese flag, became indisputably illegal.

During the period which was to elapse before the formal Abolition of Portuguese Slave Trade, Portugal, under the Convention of 1817, with this country, intrusting to British cruisers and British Authorities, in common with her own, the execution of that part of the Treaty which stipulated for the Abolition of Slave Trade to the north of the Equator, reserved to herself the power of detaining vessels, and of punishing offenders found, to the south of that line, illegally trading in slaves.

It will be seen by Sir William A'Court's Despatch to Mr. Secretary Canning, of the 3d October, 1826, and by the Note from M. D'Almeida, of the 2d of the same month, therein enclosed, that, at that period, the Portuguese Government, following up the principle laid down in the Treaty of 1815, formally declared, that "it acknowledges that the moment is now come, to put an end to the inhuman Traffic in Slaves;" and added, that "it would have no objection to insert in a Treaty, then contemplated, an Article by which His Most Faithful Majesty should bind himself, not only to the total Abolition of the Slave Trade in the Dominions of Portugal, but also to co-operate with His Britannic Majesty for the total extinction of so barbarous a Traffic, in the countries where it unfortunately exists."

His Majesty's Government, in consideration of the peculiar circumstances in which the Crown of Portugal has been placed since the period above mentioned, have refrained from pressing for the conclusion of a Treaty thus already stipulated for; but the time is now happily arrived at which the affairs of Portugal no longer oppose any impediment to the fulfilment of this engagement; and I have therefore the honour now to transmit to your Lordship the Draft of a Treaty, containing the details of arrangements by which the entire Abolition of the Portuguese Slave Trade may be carried into full execution, by the co-operation of both Powers.

I have to instruct you, to enter with the Government of Portugal, into negotiations for concluding, with the least practicable delay, a Treaty, founded on the basis laid down in the accompanying Draft and its 3 Enclosures A., B., and C.; and your Lordship will state to the Portuguese Ministers, that His Majesty's Government cannot doubt that Portugal will be eager to redeem, by the conclusion of such a Treaty, the pledges to which I have adverted.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

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

No. 26.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th September, 1834.

WITH reference to my other Despatch to your Lordship, of this date, upon the subject of the proposed Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, for the more effectual Abolition of the Slave Trade, I have to desire that you will take

especial care that each of the 2 originals of the Treaty be written and signed, both in the English and in the Portuguese language; the English being written on one half or column of the paper on which the Treaty is signed, and the Portuguese on the other half or column of each side of the same paper; and in that original of the Treaty which you deliver up to the Portuguese Minister, the English is to be written on the left-hand column of each side.

Your signature, which will be in each original beneath the English version, will likewise, in the case just mentioned, be on the left-hand column.

You will also take care that the Portuguese version of the Treaty is throughout as accurate a translation as possible of the English Draft, and strictly conformable throughout to the meaning of that Draft.

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

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 27.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 23d September, 1834.

HIS Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro was recently instructed to call the attention of the Brazilian Government to certain circumstances in the case of the Portuguese brigantine, "*Virtude*," condemned, in the month of November, 1833, at Sierra Leone, upon a charge of being concerned in illegal Slave Trade, and to point out to that Government the apparent negligence of the Authorities at Bahia, not only in permitting the "*Virtude*" to be fitted out at that Port, in the particular manner which clearly indicates the destination of a vessel to be for Slave Trade, but also in omitting to enforce the observance of certain formalities, specially prescribed, for the prevention of that traffic.

In reply to the Representation made by Mr. Fox on this subject, the Brazilian Minister observes that, amongst the various difficulties which the Brazilian Government has to contend with in its efforts for the extinction of the African Slave Trade, one of the most embarrassing arises from the shameful conduct of the Portuguese Authorities, in the Colonies of Her Most Faithful Majesty, on the Coast of Africa, who continue to furnish the Masters of vessels employed in that infamous Traffic with fraudulent certificates of nationality.

The Brazilian Minister adds, that he has already addressed urgent remonstrances upon this subject to the Portuguese Legation at Rio de Janeiro, and His Excellency requests Mr. Fox to assist in obtaining, through the intervention of His Majesty's Government, the adoption of such measures on the part of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, as may lead to a discontinuance of the nefarious practices above denounced.

I enclose to your Lordship Copies of the Correspondence* on the subject to which I have here referred.

The evidence which this Correspondence contains, of the misconduct of the Portuguese Authorities on the Coast of Africa, is amply confirmed by information which His Majesty's Government has recently obtained from other sources, that the success and impunity with which the Slave Dealers on the Coast of Brazil are enabled to carry on their abominable Traffic may be almost entirely ascribed to their abusive assumption of the Portuguese flag.

I have to instruct your Lordship to avail yourself of the additional argument which is thus furnished, to prove the necessity of the Treaty with the Portuguese Government, of which I transmitted to your Lordship a Draft in my Despatch, of the 8th instant.

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

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See No. 43.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 7th October 1834.

THE enclosed Report* from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, states that the Portuguese Slave Trade, which for many years past had been almost unheard of, appears now to be carried on to a greater extent than it had reached, even before Brazil had ceased to belong to Portugal; and the accompanying Despatches,* more recently received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, give an account of a very flagrant instance of that Trade.

The "*Maria da Gloria*" cleared out on the 25th October, 1833, from St. Paulo de Loando, in Angola; she carried documents signed by the Governor of Angola, purporting that proof had been given that her Master, J. G. Cordonij, and her Owner, A. J. Ribeiro, were Portuguese subjects.

She had no passport for Slave Trading, and her clearance afforded no ground for supposing that she was laden, or intended to be laden, with slaves.

Her official documents stated, on the contrary, that she was to be laden with gum, hides, and mats, and a very insufficient cargo of these articles was found on board of her.

The Master bound himself to the Portuguese Authorities, under a heavy penalty, that the vessel should pursue her destined voyage from Loando to Rio de Janeiro, without deviating from her direct course from Loando to her ultimate destination, and without taking away any person whatever from the place of her departure, without the special permission of the Governor General of the Province.

It appears, however, upon the evidence before the Commissioners at Sierra Leone, that 432 slaves were taken on board, some of them at Loando itself, on the very day on which the bond and clearance were made out, and the rest, outside the bar of that place, 2 days afterwards.

Either, therefore, the Governor must have permitted the exportation of the slaves, or else the Master must have violated his engagement on the very day on which he bound himself to its observance, and at the very place where the Authorities for enforcing it resided.

But all this cannot well be imagined to have taken place without the knowledge and connivance of the Authorities themselves.

In 4 weeks and 2 days from the date of the clearance, the vessel was met with, near the harbour of Rio de Janeiro, with her cargo of negroes on board.

She was there detained by His Majesty's Ship "*Snake*," and carried, in the first instance, to Rio de Janeiro, and afterwards to Sierra Leone, for adjudication.

When the case was heard before the Court of Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, the Master was guilty of gross prevarication, and even of direct perjury, in the evidence which he gave.

Notwithstanding, however, all the circumstances attending the case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," the Commissioners at Sierra Leone felt themselves bound to release that vessel, since the Treaty permits the detention of Portuguese slave vessels in those cases only in which they are found to the North of the Line.

If the Government of Portugal denies to others the power to detain, in particular latitudes, Portuguese slave vessels engaged in a trade which is now confessedly illegal, surely a heavy obligation rests upon that Government to put a stop *themselves*, by measures of prevention and punishment, to the prosecution of Portuguese Slave Trade in those latitudes.

The British Commissioners, who, in consequence of the absence of the Portuguese Functionaries, were obliged, in this particular case, to act as Commissioners for both Governments, were induced, by that circumstance, to leave to the ultimate decision of the Governments of the 2 countries the question as to the costs and expenses claimed by the Portuguese Owner.

These expenses were incurred partly for the subsistence of the crew and of the negroes during the further prosecution of the voyage of the "*Maria da Gloria*."

To allow these expenses, would therefore in fact be to contribute an aid towards the ultimate success of the illegal expedition. But His Majesty's Government never can consent to the payment of anything whatever, in the

* See Class A. Nos. 3, 34, 35.

shape of compensation, to those offending parties, for any losses or expenses incurred by them in such an undertaking.

The Claimant was engaged in a proceeding that was in violation of the laws of God and man; it was undertaken in fraud, and defended by perjury; and he escaped the punishment due to his crime, not because he did not deserve to suffer it, but because he was found in a place, where, under the strict letter of the Treaty, he was not liable to be detained.

His Majesty's Government will not for a moment suppose that the Government of Portugal, on whom rests the obligation of punishing the offenders, will, instead thereof, be inclined to assist them in obtaining compensation for their losses.

His Majesty's Government, moreover, expect that the Portuguese Government will issue immediate and peremptory orders to institute a rigid inquiry into the affair in question, in order to ascertain what Portuguese subjects were concerned in, and what Portuguese Authorities connived at, this illegal transaction, and in order that the offenders may not be suffered to escape without the severe punishment which is due to their crimes.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 29.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 7th October, 1834.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship the Extract of a Despatch* from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, enclosing their Report of the case of the Portuguese brig "*Tamega*," Jozé Lopes Ferreira, Master, which was condemned, on the 12th of July, 1834, in the Mixed British and Portuguese Court at Sierra Leone.

By the evidence of the Master of the "*Tamega*," it appears that both vessel and cargo were the sole property of "*Jozé Manuel Machado*," a Portuguese Merchant, residing at Lisbon; with whom the Master corresponded as to the employment of the brig, and from whom he received his pay.

It further appears, that the Master, his wife and family, are residents at Lisbon.

Your Lordship will bring these facts to the notice of the Portuguese Government, and you will state that His Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Portuguese Government will avail themselves of this opportunity to manifest their sincere determination to suppress the illicit trade by punishing, with the utmost rigour of the law, both the Owner and Master of the "*Tamega*."

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 39.

No. 30.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 7th October, 1834.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship the Extract of a Despatch* which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, stating, that, having ascertained that the Master of the "*Santissimo Rozario e Bom Jesus*," and the Master and Mate of the "*Apta*," 2 vessels which had been condemned on the 25th of June, in the Mixed British and Portuguese Court, were on their passage to return to the Island of Princes, to which place they and their said vessels belonged,—His Majesty's Commissioners had, in consequence, addressed a Letter to the Portuguese Governors of Princes and St. Thomas, bringing under their notice this open violation of the Treaties between Great Britain and Portugal, by persons residing, with their families, within the limits of their command.

His Majesty's Commissioners further state, that they have reason to fear that

* See Class A. No. 40.

this Communication will not be attended to by the Portuguese Officers to whom it is addressed.

I have therefore received His Majesty's Commands to desire you to bring the facts of this flagrant violation, both of the Laws of Portugal, and of the existing Treaties between that Country and Great Britain, under the notice of the Portuguese Government, and that you will urge them to give the most positive orders for the infliction of the punishment which the individuals alluded to, have incurred in transgressing the Laws of Portugal.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

No. 31.

Lord Howard de Walden to the Duke of Wellington.—(Received Dec. 31.)

MY LORD DUKE, *Lisbon, 20th December, 1834..*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Translation of the Answer which I have received from Count Villa Real, to 3 Notes which I addressed to His Excellency on the 20th October, on the subject of the infraction, by Portuguese subjects, of the Treaties existing between Great Britain and Portugal for the prevention of the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

His Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 31.

(Translation.) *The Conde de Villa Real to Lord Howard de Walden.*
MY LORD, *Palace of Necessidades, 16th Dec., 1834.*

ON account of some searches which it was necessary to make, I have delayed replying to Notes which your Lordship addressed to me, under the Nos. 62, 63, and 64, all relating to infractions of the Convention of 28th July, 1817, which regulated the manner in which it was permitted to the Portuguese Colonies on the Coast of Africa, to continue the Slave Trade until the period therein specified. In conformity with the requests of your Lordship, contained in the above-mentioned Notes, I have now the honour to inform you, that, with regard to the first, I have written to the Minister of the Interior, in order that the penalties of the Law of 26th January, 1818, promulgated in consequence of the Convention, may be inflicted on the Proprietor, Master, and others interested in the cargo of the brig "*Tamega*," captured on the 14th June, 1834, by Lieutenant Samuel Mercer, commanding His Britannic Majesty's brig, "*Carybdis*," and declared a good prize by the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, on the 12th July last.

I wrote, at the same time, to the Minister of Marine, requesting, in compliance with your Lordship's Note No. 63, that he would give the most positive and peremptory orders to the Governors of the Islands of St. Thomas and Principe, or to the persons who perform their duties, to attend to the request which was made to them on the part of the Members of the Mixed Commission established at Sierra Leone, with regard to the 2 vessels, the "*Apta*" and "*Santissimo Rozario e Bom Jesus*," both condemned by the said Commission, on the 25th June, 1834.

With respect to the vessel "*Maria da Gloria*," to which your Lordship's Note No. 64 relates, the intervention of Her Majesty's Government has not been asked on the part of the Proprietor, to obtain indemnification of the costs of the trial, in which he was finally acquitted. Her Majesty's Government, however, whilst they will proceed to institute the most strict inquiries in order to discover the connivance which appears to have existed on the part of the Portuguese Authorities at Angola, at the transgression of the laws and regulations by which the Slave Trade is regulated, that they may be punished with all the rigour of the law, cannot omit observing to your Lordship, that both by the above-mentioned sentence, and by the tenour of your Lordship's Note, it appears, that the Commander of the brig "*Snake*," acted against the express letter of the Treaty, in detaining the vessel; and although Her Majesty by no means desires to promote or encourage the illegal Trade in Slaves, she has every right to insist on the observance of the Treaties concluded with regard to it as long as they are not annulled.

I regret much not being at present able to send a decisive answer, with respect to the project of a Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, to which your Lordship's Note No. 60 relates, but the great labour and loss of time caused by the debates in the Chambers, have prevented a Resolution being come to, which, however, I will communicate to your Lordship as early as possible.

God preserve your Lordship,
(Signed) CONDE DE VILLA REAL.

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

No. 32.

The Duke of Wellington to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1834.

I HAVE to transmit to you the accompanying Copy of a Despatch* which has been received at this Office from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, reporting the case of the Portuguese slave schooner "*Apta*," and calling the attention of His Majesty's Government to the connivance which the Portuguese Authorities at Princes and St. Thomas continue to show to the worst description of illegal Slave Trade, and to the fact, in this case, that the vessel was only 30 feet long, and 11 feet in beam, and had on board a crew of 10 persons and 1 passenger, besides 54 slaves, making altogether 65 persons in this small vessel.

I earnestly hope that, in the interval which may elapse before the conclusion of the Treaty, of which a Draft was sent out to you, on the 8th of September, 1834, for the effectual Suppression of Portuguese Slave Trade in every part of the world, the Portuguese Government will not hesitate to do their utmost to mitigate the horrors of that abominable traffic, by enforcing most strictly the penalties of the Portuguese law for restricting the number of negroes to be conveyed in a vessel according to her tonnage or burthen.

I cannot omit this opportunity of expressing the anxiety of His Majesty to learn that the Portuguese Government will fulfil the expectations which have been so long held out; and that Portugal will at length, by the conclusion of the Treaty now in your hands, efface the stain which will rest upon her flag so long as the Slave Trade of Portugal shall last.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

WELLINGTON.

* See Class A. No. 36.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 33.

Viscount Palmerston to the Honourable G. J. Jerningham.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, 3 Copies of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented by His Majesty's Command to both Houses of Parliament.

The Honourable G. J. Jerningham,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
 (Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 34.

*Viscount Palmerston to the Honourable G. J. Jerningham.**Foreign Office, 5th July, 1834.*

(AN Instruction similar to those sent to Mr. Villiers and to Lord Howard de Walden, of this date.)—See Nos. 12 and 23.

No. 35.

The Duke of Wellington to the Honourable G. J. Jerningham.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1834.

His Majesty was pleased, on the 4th August, 1834, to appoint John Samo, Esq., to be His Majesty's Commissary Judge, in the room of John Henry Lance, Esq., to the Mixed British and Netherland Commission, established at Surinam, under the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands, of the 4th of May, 1818.

I have to desire that you will announce this appointment to the Government of the King of the Netherlands, and request that orders may be sent out to Surinam, for a formal recognition of Mr. Samo in the character above mentioned.

The Honourable G. J. Jerningham,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
 (Signed)

WELLINGTON.

BRAZIL.

No. 36.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 24th February, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copy* of a Communication which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, respecting the case of the Portuguese brigantine "*Virtude*," which vessel was adjudged and condemned on the 21st of November last, at Sierra Leone, on a charge of having been concerned in illegal Slave Trade.

Upon an examination of the circumstances of this case, it appeared that the Authorities at Bahia permitted the vessel to be completely fitted out in that particular manner, and with those additional equipments, which clearly indicate that a vessel is intended expressly for Slave Trade.

It appears also that the vessel was despatched from Bahia, without having passed through the formality of being visited by the proper Officer, a formality which was prescribed specially for the purpose of checking the Slave Trade.

It appears, moreover, probable that illegal voyages, similar to that on which this vessel was captured, have been made by her previously to her capture, and that at least one of those former voyages took place from Bahia.

Under these circumstances, I have to desire that you will call the attention of the Government of Brazil to the apparent supineness of the Authorities at Bahia in the performance of their duty of suppressing the Slave Trade; and that you will request that Government to enforce, in future, a more effectual execution of the compacts which they have entered into, in fulfilment of the assurances which they have since given, that they will contribute their utmost efforts to the final Abolition of that Trade, so far as the Brazilian Territories are concerned.

I am, &c.,

H. S. Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 30.

No. 37.

M. Ribeiro to Viscount Palmerston.

York Terrace, le 23 Juillet, 1834.

LE Soussigné, &c., a reçu l'ordre de sa Cour d'appeler de nouveau l'attention du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique sur le cas du brick Brésilien "*Activo*," capturé sur la Côte d'Afrique par le navire du Roi "*Atholl*," le 11 Février, 1826.

Puisque cette capture s'était effectuée en contravention des stipulations qui existaient alors entre les 2 Gouvernemens sur la Traite des Nègres, la Commission Mixte de Sierra Leone a prononcé sur ce cas le Jugement qui suit :

"The said Commissary Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration having heard the said claim and proofs read, admitted the said claim; pronounced the said brig, "*Activo*," cargo, and slaves to belong as claimed; and, conformably to the provisions of the Treaty, decreed the same to be restored to the Claimant for the use of the Owner and Proprietor thereof, together with the costs, damages, and expenses incurred in consequence of the aforesaid seizure; and referred it to the Registrar to ascertain the amount thereof, and report the same to the Commission."

Les sommes qui ont été fixées en vertu de ce Jugement sont :

£	s.	d.	
256	2	8	pour frais de justice, dommages spéciaux, et dépenses occasionées par la détention du dit brick.
654	0	0	pour indemnité de retard.
9,983	15	0	pour la perte totale de 163 nègres enfuits pendant la détention du navire.
150	0	0	pour les intérêts du capital employé à l'achat et entretien de la cargaison.

De ces 4 sommes le Soussigné est informé que la première a déjà été payée, ayant été adjugée sans condition, mais pour ce qui regarde les 3 dernières, la Commission ne les a décernées que sous la Clause, "That British and Brazilian Governments agree and declare that the said sums ought to be so paid according to the true intent and meaning of the said Convention (du 28 Juillet, 1817) between Great Britain and Portugal, for the Abolition of illicit Slave Trade, but not otherwise."

Cette Clause, dont la Commission a fait dépendre le paiement de ces 3 dernières sommes, adjugées à titre de compensations, a donné lieu à la Note que Mr. Gordon a adressée au Gouvernement Brésilien, en date du 5 Juillet, 1827, pour lui proposer la décision de cette affaire, moyennant l'addition de 2 Articles explicatifs à la Convention ci-dessus mentionnée; mais le Gouvernement Brésilien se persuade que l'Abolition totale de la Traite des Nègres, agréée par la Traité du 23 Novembre, 1826, en obviant à la nécessité des Articles proposés, doit avoir aplani toutes les difficultés de la part du Gouvernement Britannique, et conséquemment il a ordonné au Soussigné de réclamer de Son Excellence Monsieur le Viscomte Palmerston, &c., l'expédition des ordres nécessaires pour le paiement des compensations adjugées, et des intérêts qui en sont dûs en vertu du Règlement annexé à la Convention de 1817; et il le fait par cette Note, dans la ferme persuasion que la disposition de l'Article 4 des Instructions annexées à la même Convention, ainsi que le Jugement de la Commission qui s'y appuie, sont des titres plus que suffisants pour décider le Gouvernement de Son Excellence à agréer sans hésiter au paiement des sommes réclamées.

Le Soussigné, &c.,

(Signé) J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

Son Excellence le Viscomte Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

York Terrace, 23rd July, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been directed by his Court to call again the attention of the Government of His Britannic Majesty to the case of the Brazilian brig "Activo," captured on the Coast of Africa, on the 11th of February, 1826, by His Majesty's ship, "Atholl."

This capture having been effected in contravention of the stipulations then subsisting between the 2 Governments on the Slave Trade, the Mixed Commission of Sierra Leone pronounced the following judgment on this case:

"The said Commissary Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration having heard the said claim and proofs read, admitted the said claim; pronounced the said brig, "Activo," cargo, and slaves, to belong as claimed; and, conformably to the provisions of the Treaty, decreed the same to be restored to the Claimant, for the use of the Owner and Proprietor thereof, together with the costs, damages, and expenses incurred in consequence of the aforesaid seizure, and referred it to the Registrar to ascertain the amount thereof, and report the same to the Commission."

The sums fixed in virtue of this appointment are:

£.	s.	d.	
256	2	8	for judicial costs, special damages, and expenses occasioned by the detention of the said brig.
654	0	0	for indemnification of delay.
9,983	15	0	for the total loss of 163 negroes, escaped during the detention of the vessel.
150	0	0	for interest on the capital employed in buying and maintaining the cargo.

Of these 4 sums the Undersigned is informed that the first has already been paid, having been adjudged without any condition; but, respecting the 3 last, the Commission decreed them only with the proviso, "That the British and Brazilian Governments agree and declare that the said sums ought to be so paid, according to the true intent and meaning of the said Convention (of 28th July 1813,) between Great Britain and Portugal, for the Abolition of illicit Slave Trade, but not otherwise."

This Clause, in which the Commission left the payment of the last 3 sums, adjudged by way of compensations, depending, gave occasion to a Note, addressed by Mr. Gordon to the Brazilian Government, 5th July, 1827, proposing to decide this point by the addition of 2 explanatory Articles to the Convention above mentioned; but the Brazilian Government is persuaded that the total Abolition of the Slave Trade, agreed upon by the Treaty of 23d November, 1826, by preventing the necessity of the proposed Articles, must have removed all difficulties on the part of the British Government, and has therefore directed the Undersigned to apply to His Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., to issue the necessary orders for the payment of the adjudged compensations, and the interest due on them, in virtue of the Regulation annexed to the Convention of 1817; and he does so by the present Note, being convinced that the provision of Article 4 of the Instructions annexed to that Convention, as well as the Sentence of the Commission which refers to it, will furnish ample reasons for determining the Government of His Excellency to agree, without hesitation, to the payment of the sums claimed.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed) J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 38.

*Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.**Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.*

SIR,

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, 2 Copies of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 39.

*Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.**Foreign Office, 25th July, 1834.*

(AN Instruction similar to those sent to Mr. Villiers and Lord Howard de Walden, of the same date.)—See Nos. 12 and 23.

No. 40.

*Viscount Palmerston to M. de Ribeiro.**Foreign Office, 11th August, 1834.*

SIR,

THE Undersigned, &c., has received the Note which M. J. de Ribeiro, &c., addressed to him on the 23d of July, 1834, claiming, in the name of the Brazilian Government, the sums of £654 0s. 0d., £9,983 15s. 0d., and £150 0s. 0d. sterling, together with interest on these several sums, as indemnity and compensation for losses and damages sustained by the Brazilian brig "*Activo*," in the prosecution of an illegal voyage for slaves, under Brazilian colours, in the year 1826.

In reply, the Undersigned begs to refer M. de Ribeiro to the declaration which has already been made by His Majesty's Government to the Government of Brazil, on this very case, when the conditional sentence on which the claim is preferred had recently been passed by the Court of Commission at Sierra Leone.

This declaration was contained in a Note addressed by Sir Robert Gordon to the Marquis of Queluz, on the 4th of July, 1827, and the principle maintained in it was, that, "in point of equity, no compensation whatever can be due to traders in cases of traffic carried on under circumstances which constitute illegal Slave Trade."

Sir Robert Gordon on that occasion further alleged, on the part of the British Government, that the principle on which this declaration was founded was conformable to the spirit of the Treaty of 1817, and in particular to the 9th Article of the Instructions for the Mixed Commissions, annexed to that Treaty.

Sir Robert Gordon added, that, if compensation were allowed in the case of the "*Activo*," encouragement would thereby be given to the violation of the special object of the Convention, which was, to prevent illegal Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, having given his attention to the claim on behalf of the "*Activo*," as put forward by the Brazilian Government, and as now again urged by M. de Ribeiro, concurs entirely in the justice of the line taken on that case by His Majesty's Government, in the year 1827.

The compensation claimed by the Owners of the "*Activo*" is, for demurrage, for loss of slaves, and a per centage on capital employed in their illegal voyage; and the Undersigned has distinctly to declare to M. de Ribeiro, for the information of his Government, that His Majesty's Government cannot consent to pay anything whatever in the shape of compensation to these offending parties, for any loss or expenses incurred by them in such an illegal undertaking.

The Undersigned has only to add, that M. de Ribeiro seems to have mistaken the object with which Sir Robert Gordon proposed the 2 Articles referred to by M. de Ribeiro.

If M. de Ribeiro will refer to Sir Robert Gordon's Note, he will see that Sir Robert Gordon discouraged the attempt to set up a claim for compensation in such a case as that of the "*Activo*," that he proposed to prevent such attempts in future, and that the mode by which he intended to effect this object was, by a fresh declaration, on the part of Great Britain and Brazil, of the principle of the Conven-

tion of 1817, and also by the correction of that seeming ambiguity in the wording of the Convention, upon which the Brazilian Owners of the "*Activo*" founded their inadmissible claim.

M. J. de Arango Ribeiro.
&c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 41.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

Foreign Office, 16th August, 1834.

SIR,

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, the Copy* of a Note which I have received from M. Ribeiro, together with a Copy of the Answer* which, by His Majesty's Command, I have returned to him, on the subject of a claim for compensation, set up by the Owners of the brig "*Activo*," for losses and damages incurred in consequence of the capture of that vessel when engaged in an illegal Traffic in Slaves, under Brazilian colours, in the year 1826.

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Nos. 37 and 40.

No. 42.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

Foreign Office, 25th August, 1834.

SIR,

I TRANSMIT to you, for communication to the Brazilian Government, the accompanying Copy* of a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners, established at Sierra Leone, under the Treaty with Brazil for the Abolition of Slave Trade, reporting the death of their Colleague, at that place, His Imperial Majesty's Commissary Judge, M. de Paira.

You will communicate the Despatch also to His Majesty's Commissioners, established at Rio de Janeiro under the Treaty of 1826.

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Class A. No. 50.

No. 43.

Mr. H. S. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Sept. 9.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 24th July, 1834.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I addressed an official Note to Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho, Secretary of State, charged with the department of Foreign Affairs, calling His Excellency's attention to certain circumstances belonging to the case of the Portuguese brigantine "*Virtude*," condemned, in the month of November last, at Sierra Leone, upon a charge of being concerned in illegal Slave Trade, and pointing out the apparent negligence of the Authorities at Bahia, in permitting the "*Virtude*" to be fitted out at that Port, in the particular manner which clearly indicates that a vessel is destined for the Slave Trade, as well as in omitting to enforce the observance of certain formalities, specially prescribed for the prevention of that traffic.

The Brazilian Minister officially informs me, in reply to the above Note, that orders have been transmitted to the President of Bahia to cause the punishment of such of the Authorities in that Province as shall have been guilty of the acts of negligence complained of. These orders have since been published, by authority of Government, in the "*Correio Official*." His Excellency further observes to me, in the same Note, that amongst the various difficulties which the Brazilian Government has to contend with, in its efforts for the extermination of the

African Slave Trade, one of the most formidable is offered by the shameful conduct of the Portuguese Authorities in the Colonies of Her Most Faithful Majesty on the Coast of Africa, who continue to furnish the Masters of vessels employed in that infamous traffic with fraudulent certificates of nationality. The Brazilian Minister has already addressed urgent remonstrances upon this subject to the Portuguese Legation, and His Excellency urges me to assist in obtaining, through the intervention of His Majesty's Government, the adoption of such measures, on the part of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, as may lead to a discontinuance of the nefarious practice above denounced.

I have the honour to enclose a Copy and Translation of the Brazilian Minister's Note, as well as Copies of the Notes addressed by me to His Excellency. I believe that a similar proposal will have been made to your Lordship by the Brazilian Envoy in London.

It has lately become quite evident that it is by the fraudulent and abusive protection of the Portuguese flag that the slave dealers on the Coast of Brazil are enabled to carry on their abominable traffic with impunity and success; and I am persuaded that whatever assistance it may be in the power of His Majesty's Government to afford, for the abatement of this evil, will prove of extensive utility towards accomplishing the great end of the suppression of the African Slave Trade.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 43.

Mr. Fox to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Rio de Janeiro, 15th June, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been commanded by his Government to lay before the Government of His Imperial Majesty certain facts relating to the case of a Portuguese slave vessel, the brig, "*Virtude*," condemned, in the month of November last, by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Sierra Leone.

The Undersigned has the honour to enclose to Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho, &c., a Copy of the Despatch, addressed by the British Commissioners at Sierra Leone to His Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State, upon the subject of the condemnation of the said vessel; and also a Copy of the Report therein enclosed of the Evidence taken upon the trial.

It would appear that the brig "*Virtude*" sailed under the Portuguese flag from the Port of Bahia, in Brazil, expressly fitted out for the unlawful Traffic in Slaves; that the Authorities of Bahia permitted her to be equipped in the particular manner, and to be furnished with all the utensils which indicate clearly that a vessel is intended for the Slave Trade; that the "*Virtude*," moreover, was despatched from Bahia, without having passed through the formality of being visited by the proper officer,—a formality prescribed especially for the purpose of checking the Slave Trade. It appears, besides, probable, that several illegal voyages, similar to that in which this vessel was captured, had been performed by her previously to her capture, and that at least one of these voyages took place from Bahia. The circumstances from which the above inferences are necessarily drawn will be found detailed at length in the enclosed Papers; and it must thence result that the Authorities at Bahia have not been so vigilant as they ought to be, and as the Supreme Government of the Empire most assuredly desires that they should be, in carrying into effect the precautionary regulations prescribed for the suppression of the inhuman Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned so thoroughly appreciates the resolution formed by the Supreme Government of this Empire to exterminate, if possible, the infernal African Slave Trade,—a trade at once as impolitic and unwise as it is barbarous and wicked; and he has witnessed with so much satisfaction the solemn and convincing manner in which that resolution has been again recently proclaimed publicly to the world,—that he is sensible it needs only to be pointed out to the Imperial Government in what quarter its orders require to be more rigorously enforced, in order to ensure its vigilant attention thereto. He avails himself of this occasion to repeat, &c.

(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

His Excellency Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Second Enclosure in No. 43.

The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Fox.

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 19th June, 1834.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., acknowledges the receipt of the Note which Mr. Fox, &c., lately addressed to him, dated the 15th instant, mentioning the facility or negligence with which certain Brazilian Authorities in Bahia allowed the clearance of the Portuguese brig "*Virtude*," which sailed from that Port, evidently with the purpose of proceeding to the Coast of Africa, to take on board Africans; and requesting all the attention and vigilance of the Imperial Government, in preventing such negligence or facility.

The Undersigned is gratified to find that Mr. Fox acknowledges, in his Note, all the exertion and the sincerity of the endeavours of the Imperial Government to cause a total cessation of a traffic as inhuman as impolitic. The justice which Mr. Fox does to the Imperial Government cannot at the same time but convince him of the great difficulties with which this Government has to contend in bringing about so desirable an end. One of these obstacles is doubtless the facility with which Brazilian vessels are fraudulently nationalized as Portuguese, the Authorities of Her Most Faithful Majesty on the Coast of Africa furnishing them with passports for Rio de la Plata, with which, and the false character of Portuguese, they do not scruple to bring back their illegal and injurious cargo, which they proceed to land on the vast extent of the Coast of Brazil, when not met by any of the Brazilian vessels of war.

On this subject, besides the effectual measures adopted by the Imperial Government, the Undersigned has addressed very strong representations to the Chargé d'Affaires of Her Most Faithful Majesty, that, by communicating them to his Government, he may obtain its acquiescence in the just demand of the Brazilian Government, that the Portuguese Authorities residing on the Coast of Africa and in Brazil may observe the most scrupulous caution, and juridical inquisition, before granting such passports. And the Undersigned is of opinion that Mr. Fox will do an essential service to the cause of humanity, and will contribute greatly to assist the efforts of the Imperial Government for the total suppression of this inhuman traffic, if, by the intervention of his Government, the Portuguese Government should also be induced to command the above-mentioned Authorities not to grant such passports and papers of naturalization without the most serious and rigorous examination.

With respect to the vessel which sailed from Bahia, of which Mr. Fox makes mention in his before-mentioned Note, the Undersigned is about to issue the most urgent and decided orders to the President of that Province to cause the punishment of whatever abuses have been committed by the Brazilian Authorities, and to take precautions to prevent the future repetition of them.

The Undersigned profits, &c.

H. S. Fox, Esq., (Signed) AURELIANO DE SOUZA E OLIVEIRO COUTINHO.
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 43.

Mr. Fox to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Rio de Janeiro, 12th July, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the official Note of the 19th of June, addressed to him by the Councillor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho, &c., in which His Excellency, referring to the many difficulties which the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil have to contend with in their humane and enlightened efforts to exterminate the African Slave Trade, and more particularly to the assistance and illicit sanction continually given to the infamous agents of that traffic by certain subordinate authorities in the Portuguese Colonies on the Coast of Africa, urges the Undersigned to obtain, through the intervention of his Government, the adoption of such measures, on the part of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, as may lead to a discontinuance of the fraudulent practices complained of.

The Undersigned will lose no time in making known to his Government the wishes expressed in the Note of His Excellency the Minister charged with the Department of Foreign Affairs; and he entertains no doubt but that His Britannic Majesty's Government will gladly undertake to do all that may be found to lie in its power towards frustrating this and every other contrivance devised by the Slave Traders for the evasion of the laws which condemn them.

The Undersigned has already, and with the highest satisfaction, conveyed to the knowledge of his Government the late solemn assurances given by the Imperial Government to the General Assembly of Brazil, of its determination to spare no effort for achieving the entire suppression of the African Slave Trade.

The long-continued labours of the British Nation and of the British Government, for the same object, are well known to the world; and there remains no doubt but that a cordial active co-operation between Great Britain and Brazil offers the best prospect of now finally relieving humanity from this cruel and insufferable evil.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

His Excellency Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 44.

Mr. H. S. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Sept. 9.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, July 24th, 1834.

HAVING been informed by Sir George Jackson and Frederick Grigg, Esq., His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro, that some tendency to delay had appeared, on the part of the Brazilian Authorities, in bringing for adjudication before the Mixed Commission certain vessels captured on the Coast of this Empire by Brazilian cruizers, while engaged in illegal Slave Trade, I addressed an official Note to the Secretary of State charged with the Department of Foreign Affairs, calling the attention of the Brazilian Government to the subject, and requiring the delivery of the vessels in question, for trial, to the aforesaid Mixed Commission, in conformity with the stipulations of the Convention existing between Great Britain and Brazil. I received from the Brazilian Minister a prompt and satisfactory reply to my application. I have the

honour herewith to enclose Copies of the Correspondence. A more full and general order has since been issued, and published by authority of the Government, directing the immediate consignment, to the Mixed Commission, of all vessels detained by the national cruisers, upon charge of being concerned in the unlawful Traffic of Slaves. I have full reason to be satisfied with the disposition evinced by the present Rulers of this Country to meet the wishes, and to assist the labours, of His Majesty's Government, for the final extinction of the African Slave Trade.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 44.

Mr. Fox to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Rio de Janeiro, 17th June, 1834.

THE Undersigned feels it his duty to lay before His Excellency Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho, &c., the enclosed Extract of a Despatch addressed to the Undersigned by the British Commissioners, Sir George Jackson, and Frederick Grigg, Esq., relative to the reported consignment of certain vessels, recently captured while engaged in the illicit Traffic of Slaves, to the Authorities of the Empire, instead of to the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission, established in this Capital, according to Treaty, for the trial of all such cases.

The Undersigned requests the early and particular attention of His Excellency to the contents of the enclosed Extract; and he entertains no doubt but that the Imperial Government will be pleased to cause the captured vessels, therein referred to, to be brought for adjudication before the Mixed Commission, in virtue of the Convention existing for that purpose between Great Britain and the Empire of Brazil.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

His Excellency Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coulinho,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure in First Enclosure in No. 44.

His Majesty's Commissioners to Mr. Fox.

Rio de Janeiro, 14th June, 1834.

SIR,

Our functions being purely judicial, and, strictly speaking, commencing only when a case is actually brought before the Court, the step we are now taking may, perhaps, seem to carry us somewhat beyond their sphere.

But, observing the report of the capture of 2 vessels engaged, or suspected to be engaged, in the Traffic of Slaves, by Brazilian vessels of war, viz., the "*Dois de Marco*," said to have been taken off St. Sebastian, and the "*Santo Antonio*," off Ilha Grande, and that this Government are proceeding against them according to their law of the 7th November, 1831, instead of bringing these cases before the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission,—we yet think it incumbent upon us to mention the subject to you, and to call your attention to those stipulations in the engagements existing between the 2 Governments, by which it is declared, "that all vessels detained by their respective ships of war shall be brought for judgment before such Commission, and, in case of the condemnation of a vessel, that she, as well as her cargo, with exception of the slaves, shall be sold by public sale, for the profit of the 2 Governments, and that, as to the slaves, they shall receive a Certificate of Emancipation;" in order that, should you concur with us in opinion as to the course which should be pursued in these and similar cases, you may, if you think proper, Sir, make such communications to this Government, on the subject, as you shall deem expedient.

It is more than probable that the vessels above mentioned may have been captured under Portuguese colours, but experience shows that it by no means follows from that circumstance that the adventure, in whole or in part, may not, on close investigation, prove to be Brazilian,—a point which we conceive it is peculiarly the province of this Mixed Commission to ascertain, and that from this duty no *primâ facie* attempt to conceal the real character of the prize ought to preclude them.

The case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," on the one hand, (of which the Mixed Commission declined to take cognizance, because, after a full investigation, she was proved to be *exclusively* Portuguese property,) will sufficiently acquit either our colleagues or ourselves of any wish unduly to extend our jurisdiction, while, on the other, the case of the "*Paquete do Sul*," both vessels taken under the flag of Portugal, proves the already notorious fact that that flag has been but too often used by Brazilian adventurers as a mask, by which to cover their illicit proceedings.

We have the less scruple, Sir, in making this representation, both because, should the Mixed Commission, in any case brought before them by a Brazilian captor, declare their incompetency to take cognizance of it, on the ground of its not being either British or Brazilian, His Imperial Majesty's Government would then equally have the power, as in the first instance, to proceed according to the laws of this Country, apart from any international engagement, and because the summary course attending the proceedings of a Mixed Commission has been acknowledged by the Executive to be the best calculated to counteract that system of fraud, which it is alike the object of both Governments to prevent.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. JACKSON.
FRED. GRIGG.

H. S. Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

P. S.—Since writing the above we have seen the official Report of the capture of the brig "*Santo*

Antonio," by which it appears that she has a cargo of 117 slaves on board; a circumstance which confirms us still more in the propriety of this application, as it is impossible to reflect without horror on the fate which would await these unhappy objects under the operation of the law of the 7th of November, 1831.

(Signed) G. J.
F. G.

Second Enclosure in No. 44.

The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Fox.

(Translation.)

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 21st June, 1834.

IN answer to the Note which Mr. H. S. Fox, &c., addressed to me, dated the 17th instant, in support of the statements of the British Commissioners of the Mixed Brazilian and English Commission, urging that, in virtue of the Treaties existing between Brazil and Great Britain, the 2 vessels, named the "*Dois de Marco*" and the "*Santo Antonio*," captured by Brazilian men of war, for having on board African negroes, should be delivered over for judgment to the aforesaid Commission,—I have to inform Mr. Fox that the Department of Justice is about to issue the necessary orders to deliver over to the said Commission the above-mentioned vessels, which would already have been done but for the necessity of taking certain previous steps, as, for instance, placing the above-mentioned Africans in dépôt, obtaining documents, and other indispensable measures.

On this occasion I renew to Mr. Fox, &c.

(Signed) AURELIANO DE SOUZA E OLIVEIRA COUTINHO.

H. S. Fox, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 45.

M. de Ribeiro to Viscount Palmerston.

Park Crescent, le 17 Septembre, 1834.

LE Soussigné, &c., a eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note que Son Excellence Monsieur le Vicomte Palmerston, &c., lui a adressée, en réponse à celle du 23 Juillet dernier, par laquelle le Soussigné réclamait les indemnités dûes aux Propriétaires du brick "*Activo*," illégalement capturé par le navire du Roi "*Atholl*."

Son Excellence déclare, dans sa Note, que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne peut consentir à payer aux dits Propriétaires aucune espèce de compensation pour les dépenses et pertes essayées dans une entreprise illégale; et, en appui de cette déclaration, elle se rapporte à ce qui a déjà été dit au Gouvernement Brésilien, par Sir Robert Gordon; qui, dans une Note, datée à Rio Janeiro, le 4 Juillet, 1827, a énoncé comme principe, que, en équité, aucune compensation ne peut être dûe à ceux qui entreprennent un trafic revêtu des circonstances qui constituent la Traite illégale des Nègres.

Malgré le refus si distinctement énoncé dans la Note de Monsieur le Vicomte, le Soussigné, ne croyant pas que le Gouvernement Britannique ait le droit de décider définitivement cette question par lui seul, ose prier encore Son Excellence de la prendre de nouveau en considération, et de se rappeler que ce n'est pas aux circonstances du trafic en question, mais au jugement de la Commission de Sierra Leone qu'il faut faire attention, car dès qu'il y a une Cour dûement établie pour connaître les circonstances des affaires de ce genre, et en juger, en conséquence il n'appartient à aucun des 2 Gouvernemens d'en apprécier les détails, mais d'agir en conformité des jugemens de la Cour; et si même Son Excellence se persuade connaître assez bien les circonstances du trafic dont il s'agit pour le prononcer illégal et décider que les indemnités ne sont pas dûes en fait d'équité, elle ne peut ignorer que l'équité, qui n'est pas toujours justice, doit faire place à un droit fondé en décision judiciaire.

D'après la clause que la Commission a ajouté à son jugement, le Soussigné est convaincu que le Gouvernement de Son Excellence avait tout droit de refuser d'abord le paiement réclamé, et il le trouve même fort naturel; mais il ne peut convenir qu'il ait le droit de résoudre définitivement par lui seul ce que la Sentence a fait dépendre du consentement des 2 Gouvernemens.

Au point où l'on est arrivé ce ne peut être que par l'expédient de quelqu'un de ces moyens de s'accorder, introduits par l'usage des Nations, qu'il faut déterminer définitivement cette question, et c'est sur cet objet que le Soussigné se croit en droit d'espérer la concurrence du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Le Soussigné profite de cette occasion pour renouveler, &c.

(Signé)

J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

Son Excellence le Vicomte Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

M. de Aranja Ribeiro to Viscount Palmerston.

(Translation.)

Park Crescent, 17th Sept., 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive the Note which His Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., addressed to him, in answer to that of the 23d of July last, by which the Undersigned applied for the indemnities due to the Owners of the brig "*Activo*," illegally captured by the King's ship "*Atholl*."

His Excellency declares, in his Note, that the Government of His Britannic Majesty cannot consent to pay to the said Owners any kind of compensation for expenses and losses sustained in an illegal enterprise, and, in support of this declaration, refers to what has already been said to the Brazilian Government by Sir Robert Gordon, who, in a Note, dated Rio de Janeiro, July 4, 1827, laid it down as a principle, that, in fairness, no compensation can be due to those who engage in a Traffic attended by circumstances constituting illegal Slave Trade.

Notwithstanding the refusal so explicitly given in His Excellency's Note, the Undersigned, being of opinion that the British Government has no right to decide alone definitively on this question, once more ventures to request His Excellency to take it again into consideration, and to recollect, that not the circumstances of the Traffic in question, but the sentence of the Commission of Sierra Leone, is the point to be attended to; for whenever there is a Court of Justice duly established for taking cognizance of the circumstances of transactions of this sort, and for adjudging them accordingly, neither of the 2 Governments is entitled to decide on its details, but to act in conformity with the sentences of the Court; and though His Excellency believes he has a sufficient knowledge of the circumstances of the Traffic in question to be able to pronounce it illegal, and decide that the indemnities are not due, in point of equity, His Excellency cannot be ignorant that equity, which is not always justice, must give way to a right founded on a judicial decision.

According to the clause which the Commission has added to its judgment, the Undersigned is convinced that the Government of His Excellency had every right to refuse at once the required payment, and he deems it even very natural, but cannot agree that it had the right of alone coming to a resolution on what the judgment has made to depend on the consent of the 2 Governments.

In this state of the matter it is only by employing one of the means of coming to a mutual understanding, introduced by the usage of nations, that this question can definitively be determined, and on this point the Undersigned thinks he has a right to hope for the concurrence of the Government of His Britannic Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed)

J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 46.

*Viscount Palmerston to M. de Ribeiro.**Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour of receiving the Note which M. de Ribeiro, &c., addressed to him on the 17th ultimo, requesting His Majesty's Government to reconsider the decision which it has come to, not to concur in granting compensation for loss and damages sustained by the Brazilian brig "*Activo*," in the prosecution of an illegal voyage for slaves, under Brazilian colours, in the year 1826.

The Undersigned has to state, in reply, that he regrets very much that he cannot take a different view of this case from that which he has already had the honour of communicating to M. de Ribeiro.

The "*Activo*" was indisputably engaged in the illegal Slave Trade, but the Treaty did not authorize the cruiser by which she was detained to capture her in the particular spot in which she was found. The Court of Mixed Commission released her, as not being liable to capture in the place where she was met with; but, adverting to the fact that she was proved to have been engaged in the illegal Slave Trade, the Court hesitated as to awarding compensation to the Owners, and decided that such compensation should only be granted if both the British and Brazilian Governments should agree to give it; but His Majesty's Government cannot agree to pay public money in the shape of compensation to any persons for losses sustained under such circumstances as those out of which the present claim arises; and, therefore, the agreement of the 2 Governments, which the Court declared should be the condition upon which alone compensation should be granted, has not taken place; and, as far as Great Britain is concerned, no such compensation can be given.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

M. J. de Aranja Ribeiro,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 47.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th October, 1834.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 16th of August last, I transmit, for your information, the Copy of a further Note which I have received from Mr. Ribeiro,* requesting His Majesty's Government to reconsider the decision to which it has come, not to concur in granting compensation for loss and damages sustained by the Brazilian brig "*Activo*," in consequence of the capture of that vessel, when engaged in illegal Traffic in Slaves, under Brazilian colours, in the year 1826. .

I also enclose the Copy of my Answer* to Mr. Ribeiro.

Mr. H. S. Fox,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Nos. 45 and 46.

No. 48.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th October, 1834.

I HAVE received your Despatches upon the subject of the case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," which had been captured with 423 slaves on board, under Portuguese colours, by his Majesty's ship "*Snake*," and brought before the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission at Rio de Janeiro.

This case has received the serious consideration of His Majesty's Government;* and I transmit, for your information and guidance, the Copy of an Instruction which I have addressed to the British Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro, acquainting them with the opinion which His Majesty's Government entertain of the proceedings of the Mixed Commission in this case; and directing them to urge the Brazilian Commissioners to proceed to adjudicate in cases which may be brought before the Court under circumstances similar to those of the "*Maria da Gloria*."

You will take an opportunity of acquainting the Brazilian Government with the opinion which His Majesty's Government entertain of the jurisdiction of the Mixed Court, and you will urge them to give corresponding instructions to the Brazilian Commissioners.

These proceedings of the Mixed Court show so strongly the necessity of further measures being adopted to put a stop to the Slave Trade, that I have to repeat to you the instructions which you have already received, to press upon the Brazilian Government their immediate accession to those Articles in the Conventions between Great Britain and France which are not contained in the Treaties between His Majesty and the Emperor of the Brazils.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

P.S. I add, for your further information, the Copy of a Letter which I have caused to be sent to the Admiralty on this subject.

* See Class A. No. 110.

Enclosure in No. 48.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th October, 1834.

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON having referred to His Majesty's Advocate-General your letters, dated 27th March last, and 1st and 9th ultimo, with their several Enclosures, upon the subject of the case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," which had been captured with 428 slaves on board, under Portuguese colours, by His Majesty's ship "*Snake*," and brought before the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission at Rio de Janeiro,—I am directed by his Lordship to send to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of an Instruction which he has addressed to His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro*, founded upon the King's Advocate's Report upon this case.

The opinion which His Majesty's Government have formed of the proceedings of the British and Brazilian Commission, in the case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," will suggest to the Lords Commis-

* See Class A. No. 110.

sioners of the Admiralty the expediency of instructing the senior Officer of His Majesty's naval force on the Brazilian station, to modify the orders which he had given to His Majesty's cruizers, not to detain slave vessels under the flag of Portugal, except they should present the clearest evidence of that flag being fraudulently assumed.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

G. SHEE.

The Secretary to the Admiralty.

No. 49.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. H. S. Fox.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, 8th October, 1834.

WITH reference to my other Despatch of this date, upon the case of the "*Maria da Gloria*," so far as it regards the proceedings in Brazil, I think it right to acquaint you that His Majesty's Government are of opinion that the sentence of the Court at Sierra Leone was correct so far as regards the restitution of the vessel and the slaves; but that His Majesty's Government will not consent to the payment of any sum, in the shape of compensation to the Owner of the vessel or cargo, for any losses or expenses incurred in that undertaking.

I add for your information the Copy of an Instruction* which I have addressed to His Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, upon this subject.

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See No. 28.

No. 50.

Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 6.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 15th October, 1834.

WITH reference to the case of the Portuguese brigantine "*Virtude*," condemned by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Sierra Leone, in the month of November, 1833, and suspected to have been permitted to be illegally fitted out, for more than one slaving voyage, from the Port of Bahia, in Brazil, which case formed the subject of your Lordship's Despatch* to me, of the 24th of February of this year, and of the Despatch† which I had the honour to address to your Lordship, on the 24th of July, in which last were enclosed Copies of a Correspondence between the Brazilian Minister and myself, upon the subject of the said brigantine "*Virtude*," I have now the honour to forward a Translation of an additional Despatch, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister, written after reference made to Bahia, and stating that the explanations given by the Authorities of that Port are sufficient, in His Excellency's judgment, to exculpate them from the charge of connivance, or of culpable negligence, which had appeared to result from the evidence taken upon the trial before the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone.

At the same time fresh Instructions have been addressed by the Supreme Government to the President of Bahia, and published in the "*Correio Official*," enjoining the most vigorous precautions to be observed in the visit and examination of Portuguese vessels bound from that Port, under any pretext, to the Coast of Africa; in order to repress, as far as may be possible under the present perplexing circumstances, the continuance of the Traffic in Slaves, under the protection of the Portuguese flag, which now threatens to be carried on,—thanks also to the collateral assistance afforded by the Authorities of Monte Video,—with renewed activity and insolence.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

* No. 36.

† No. 43.

(B.)

Enclosure in No. 50.

*The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Fox.**Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 26th September, 1834.*

THE Undersigned, &c., having, as he intimated to Mr. Fox, &c., in the Note that he had the honour to address to him on 19th June of the present year, forwarded the most positive orders to the President of the Province of Bahia that he should cause every mal-practice to be punished that may have been committed by the Brazilian Authorities in relation to the Portuguese brig "*Virtude*," which sailed from that Port for the unlawful and inhuman Commerce in Slaves, and for which it was ultimately condemned by the Mixed Brazilian and English Commissioners, as was communicated by Mr. Fox, in his Note of the 15th of the same month, to which the former was an answer; he hastens now to inform Mr. Fox that he is enabled, by the information received from the President, to affirm that the said brig, having taken in a cargo at Bahia, for the port of Havana, with orders to touch at the Ports of the Coast of Mina, the Islands of St. Thomas and Principe, received for that purpose the usual papers, without any permission to take on board implements for the Traffic in Slaves, as is incorrectly asserted by the before-mentioned Mixed Commission, the visit (or search) and examination, however, not taking place on the vessel leaving the Port, inasmuch as such is not the usage, except in the case of national vessels, and never with those of foreign countries.

The Undersigned has a lively pleasure in being thus enabled to efface any disagreeable impression that may have been given of the want of zeal and interest of the Brazilian Authorities of that province; and profits by this opportunity, &c.

(Signed) AURELIANO DE SOUZA E OLIVEIRA COUTINHO.

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 51.

Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, 15th October, 1834.

THE African negroes recently liberated by verdicts of the Mixed Commission for the suppression of unlawful Slave Trade established at Rio de Janeiro, are at present employed at the public works, labouring as apprentices, provisionally, in the hands of the Government. Orders also have been transmitted by the Minister of Justice to the different Provinces of the Empire, directing the same course to be followed with regard to all negroes liberated in virtue of the Brazilian Law of November, 1831, including consequently not only those found on board captured slave vessels, but such likewise as shall be seized from their unlawful Owners in any part of the country, and liberated upon proof appearing of their having been fraudulently introduced.

This provisional arrangement is of course less satisfactory than what would have resulted from a true and full execution of the original stipulations of the Slave Trade Convention, regarding the mode of apprenticeship of the emancipated blacks; but I believe it is, practically, the most humane and comfortable destination that could, under the present circumstances, be chosen in this Country for the victims rescued from slavery. The negroes, thus serving in the employment of Government, are well treated, and not overworked; and, above all, there is not the risk of their being again fraudulently disposed of, and robbed of their freedom for ever, which was most frequently the fate of the unhappy objects portioned out as apprentices in the hands of private Brazilians.

This system, however, has only been adopted as a temporary expedient, to remain in force until such time as it shall be found practicable to give effect, in one way or another, to that part of the Brazilian Law of 1831 which enjoins the re-exportation of emancipated slaves.

That portion of the same Law, which prescribed that the liberated blacks should be reconveyed to Africa at the expense of the convicted illegal traders, and there delivered over to the native Authorities of the Slave Coast, against which His Majesty's Government so strongly and so justly remonstrated, has been entirely abandoned, both virtually and formally, by the Official Declaration of the Government, made to the Legislative Assembly in the "*Relatorio*," or Report, from the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Government, however, are still equally and most impatiently desirous of contriving some mode for eventually disposing of the liberated slaves out of Brazil; partly from deference to the will of the Assembly, expressed in the Law above referred to; and partly also from a real apprehension that the admission of a number of free blacks into this slave-holding Country may be productive of pernicious consequences. Englishmen and Brazilians must be expected to

argue this question in different ways, as they start from different points in their argument; and a native of Brazil, never looking to the possible ultimate emancipation of the black population of his Country, is perhaps right, in his narrow view of the subject, in discouraging, by all the means in his power, the introduction into the same Country of a large portion of African blacks in a state of freedom.

It is under this impression that the Government of Brazil is now entering into Negotiation with every Power possessing Colonies on the Coast of Africa to conclude some arrangement for receiving the emancipated negroes as free labourers in those Colonies. But, whatever arrangement of this nature may be made, and in whatever quarter, it is easy to foresee that the main difficulty (looking to what is of course our chief object, the well-being and *bonâ fide* deliverance of the negroes) will always be found in the reconveying them across the Atlantic. I do not see how it will be possible, excepting at a vast expense, to be borne by one Government or the other, to secure to the liberated blacks the benefit of good treatment during the voyage, and a safe delivery at their place of destination. Certainly no private seafaring contractor belonging to this Country could be trusted with such a commission.

The Brazilian Minister has urged me to express again to your Lordship how very great a satisfaction it would be to the Government of this Country if some arrangement could be agreed upon to receive the liberated blacks, either at Sierra Leone (as was formerly proposed) or in the West Indies, or in any other British Colony; and I believe that solicitations to the same effect will have been renewed to your Lordship by the Brazilian Envoy in London. I am, of course, unable to judge how far His Majesty's Government may be able or willing to accede to such a proposal; but there is little doubt that it presents the best, perhaps the only, means of securing the benefit of freedom to the unfortunate objects most interested in the question.

I am persuaded that it is quite impossible, in this Country, to give effect to the true meaning of that part of the Slave Trade Convention which provides for the apprenticeship of the blacks in the hands of private individuals; not only are the Government and the superior Authorities opposed to such a system upon principle, but even if they were to change their opinion, or be constrained by the obligation of Treaties to act contrary to it, they would not possess the means of doing so with advantage. The Government of Brazil has not sufficient control over the inhabitants to enable it to prevent the apprenticed blacks from being again fraudulently sold as slaves, and thenceforth more cruelly treated than if placed in a lawful and acknowledged state of slavery. Neither would any jurisdiction that could be allowed to the British Commissioners, or other British Authorities, (were such a thing possible,) be sufficient to watch over the existence and welfare of the apprentices in a Country of wild manners and amazing extent like Brazil. All the planters and proprietors throughout the land, into whose hands these apprentices must be intrusted, are cordially averse to their emancipation, both from interest and from prejudice; while the subordinate and local magistrates, whose business it should be to compel the execution of the law, are themselves drawn from the same class of proprietors, and governed by the same interests and prejudices.

For all these reasons I cannot but heartily concur in the wishes expressed by the Brazilian Minister, that some plan may be discovered for disposing of the emancipated negroes, away from Brazil. Unfortunately, in discussing every point and every bearing of the questions of Slavery and Slave-dealing in this part of the World, it is much more easy to point out the enormity and abominable extent of the evil than to suggest means for its abatement; but it appears to me that the worst of all that can happen is to abandon those negroes, who have been once rescued from the horrors of slavery, to the risk, indeed almost to the certainty, of being again crushed under the same miserable yoke. The provisional arrangement, which is now acted upon, of employing the emancipated negroes at the public works, under the safeguard of Government, has been adopted by the Minister, Aureliano, (as Minister of Justice,) upon his own responsibility; and I am very doubtful whether the Legislative Assembly, in its Session of next year, will sanction a continuance of the same system. It is also extremely probable that in other parts of the Empire the local Legislatures, to be now convoked, will lay claim to the privilege of themselves regulating all such affairs within their respective Provinces. The greatest advantage would therefore be

gained if some plan could be agreed upon, during the present year, for the final and permanent settlement of this question.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 52.

Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 6.)

MY LORD, *Rio de Janeiro, 15th October, 1834.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive, by the last packet, which arrived here on the 1st instant, your Lordship's Despatch* of the 25th of July, enclosing Copies of Correspondence between His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, and the French Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, upon the subject of the Slave Trade Conventions recently concluded between Great Britain and France; and instructing me to support the efforts which the accredited Minister of France at Rio de Janeiro may be instructed to make, on the part of his Court, to induce the Brazilian Government to become a party to the Conventions in question.

With respect to those parts of the Conventions above referred to which treat of the Equipment Article, and of the proposal for breaking up vessels condemned for being engaged in the unlawful Traffic in Slaves, I had already, previously to the receipt of these last instructions from your Lordship, called the attention of the Brazilian Government to those 2 important points of Anti-Slave-Trade Legislation, in a Letter addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which I have the honour herewith to enclose a Copy; grounding my application upon former instructions on the same subject, which have, from time to time, been addressed to this Mission from your Lordship's Office.

My Letter was officially communicated to the Assembly, and read to them, by the Minister, Aureliano, at the same time that he recommended to their adoption some other measures, connected with the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade. But the Minister, and all his communications, were, unfortunately, upon this occasion, equally ill received; and the reading of my Letter served only to call forth a violent attack upon the Government for listening to Foreign dictation, and upon Great Britain for presuming to give advice to Brazil; together with demands for the immediate abolition of the Mixed Commissions, both at Rio de Janeiro and at Sierra Leone, and a renewal of the former appeals and complaints against many of the sentences of those Commissions.

I have since received an official Reply from the Brazilian Minister, (of which I have also the honour to enclose a Translation,) warding off for the present the 2 proposals contained in my Letter, upon the plea that the object of chief urgency at this moment is to succeed in depriving the illegal Slave Traders of the protection of the Portuguese flag, which object, His Excellency is induced to hope, will be attained through the intervention of His Britannic Majesty's Government; and that, when this point shall have been gained, the Slave Trade along the Coast of Brazil may be expected altogether to cease.

It is so far true, that as long as the protection of the Portuguese flag is afforded to the Slave Traders, shielding them from public vengeance, and, as it is unfortunately found to do in these latitudes, withdrawing them from the jurisdiction of every Tribunal, the whole of the illegal Slave Trade along the Coast of Brazil will continue to be carried on under that flag, and under no other; so that it becomes, for the time, of less consequence what additional laws are passed for the more effectual suppression of the trade under the flag of Brazil. But, if means shall fortunately be found to put an end to this fraudulent use of the Portuguese flag, it may be apprehended that the Brazilian slavers will be once more tempted to drive this detestable trade under the flag of their own Country; and I shall therefore omit no effort, whether alone or in conjunction with the Minister of France, to induce the Brazilian Government to accede to the 2 important Articles referred to in your Lordship's Despatch.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

H. S. FOX.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

* See No. 39.

First Enclosure in No. 52.

*Mr. Fox to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.**Rio de Janeiro, 23d September, 1834.*

SIR,

I TAKE the present opportunity, before the close of the Legislative Session, and after the more important part of the political labours of the Assembly appears to be terminated, to call your Excellency's attention to certain points connected with the suppression of the unlawful African Slave Trade, which have already, at former periods, been the subject of correspondence between His Britannic Majesty's Government and the Government of Brazil. The principal question that I have to refer to is the additional Article, which it has long been the anxious desire of my Government to see accepted by Brazil, as an international stipulation, and appended to the Convention of 1826; whereby ships fitted up for the Slave Trade should, when met with at sea, be treated as if the illegal act for which they were equipped had been committed. Stipulations to this effect, which have been entered into between Great Britain and the European Powers interested in the suppression of the Slave Trade, have already produced such satisfactory and efficacious results, that there seems every reason to hope that the adoption of a similar measure by Brazil would tend materially to assist the humane and generous efforts of His Imperial Majesty's Government for the final extinction of the infamous Traffic in Slaves. I had the particular satisfaction to observe, that in the "*Relatorio*" from the Department of Foreign Affairs, presented by your Excellency to the General Assembly at the opening of the present Session, the adoption of a measure such as is above referred to, was strongly recommended to the Assembly. An overture upon this question was made to one of your Excellency's predecessors, by Mr. Aston, His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, in the year 1831; and a further communication upon the same subject was addressed by Mr. Ouseley, to his Excellency Senhor Bento da Silva Lisboa, in the month of July, 1833; upon which occasion a Copy of the proposed stipulations was communicated. I am fully authorized and empowered by my Government to conclude and sign such an Article with His Imperial Majesty's Government, to be an additional Article to the Slave Trade Convention of the 23d of November, 1826; and it appears to me that the present is a proper and favourable occasion for carrying this object, so anxiously desired by my Government, into effect.

The other point to which I am desirous of calling the attention of your Excellency, is the measure, also proposed at a former period by His Britannic Majesty's Government to the Government of Brazil, for enforcing the entire destruction of vessels condemned for having been engaged in the Slave Trade, and the sale of their materials when broken up, as the most likely and effectual means of preventing such vessels from again falling into the hands of Slave Traders, and being a second time employed for the same unlawful and criminal projects. An overture on this subject was also made by His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to your Excellency's predecessor, in the month of June, 1833.

Waiting the honour of your Excellency's reply to the subjects contained in the present communication, I avail myself of the occasion to renew, &c.

(Signed) H. S. FOX.

His Excellency Senhor Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho,
 &c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 52.

The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Fox.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, 2d October, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., acknowledges the receipt of the Note addressed to him by Mr. Fox on the 23d of last month, referring to a former correspondence between this Office and the British Legation, and suggesting the expediency of concluding an Additional Article to the Convention of the 23d of November, 1826, as the most effectual means of suppressing the unlawful Trade in African Slaves.

The Undersigned, after reading the whole of the correspondence referred to, considers that it would be unnecessary to repeat over again to Mr. Fox the efforts that have been made by the Legislative Assembly, and by the Government of Brazil, to repress, and, once for all, to put an end to, that infamous traffic; and there is no doubt this salutary end would already have been accomplished, if it were not for the protection given to the trade by the Portuguese flag, and in the Portuguese Colonies; as is notorious, and has been proved by facts.

The Imperial Government, persuaded that, this evil once eradicated, there would be an end of the horrible Traffic in Slaves, applied both to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and directly to the Government of Portugal, that effectual measures might be taken to prevent Portuguese vessels from being allowed to frequent those Colonies in quest of slaves. And, fortunately, these applications have not been made in vain; for the Imperial Government is now officially informed that the Government of Great Britain has already proposed to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, to conclude a Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade within the Portuguese Dominions. It therefore appears most expedient to the Imperial Government to await the result of this Negotiation, which will of itself be sufficient for the attainment of those objects which the Governments of Great Britain and Brazil have it so much at heart, for the benefit of humanity, to accomplish.

(Signed) AURELIANO DE SOUZA E OLIVEIRA COUTINHO.

His Excellency H. S. Fox, Esq.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 53.

*M. de Ribeiro to the Duke of Wellington.**Park Crescent, le 18 Décembre, 1834.*

LE Soussigné, &c., a l'honneur de s'adresser à Monsieur le Duc de Wellington, &c., pour communiquer à Son Excellence que le Gouvernement Impérial

vient de nommer Monsieur Manoel de Oliveira Santos, Commissaire d'Arbitration à la Commission Mixte Brésilienne et Britannique à Sierra Leone, à la place de Monsieur Matheus Egidio da Silveira, qui doit remplacer feu Monsieur de Paiva comme Commissaire Juge à la susdite Commission.

Le Soussigné s'empresse de porter ces nominations à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, et profite de cette occasion, &c.

(Signé) J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

Son Excellence Monsieur le Duc de Wellington,
&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

Park Crescent, 18th December, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to address himself to the Duke of Wellington, in order to communicate to His Excellency that the Imperial Government has appointed M. Manoel de Oliveira Santos, Commissioner of Arbitration to the Brazilian and British Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, in the place of M. Matheus Egidio da Silveira, who is to replace the late M. de Paiva as Commissary Judge to the above Commission.

The Undersigned loses no time in notifying these appointments to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and avails himself, &c.

(Signed) J. DE ARANJO RIBEIRO.

His Excellency the Duke of Wellington,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 54.

The Duke of Wellington to Mr. H. S. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1834.

WITH reference to former Despatches, which you will have received from His Majesty's Secretary of State, upon the means of effecting the complete extinction of the Slave Trade, I send to you herewith the Draft of 2 Articles, one stipulating for the condemnation of vessels equipped for Slave Trade, and the other stipulating for the breaking up of condemned slave vessels.

It is believed that stipulations to this effect will conduce more than any others to the extinction of that proscribed trade.

I have therefore to desire that you will use your best endeavours to induce the Brazilian Minister to agree to the stipulations in question; and I send you herewith Full Powers for negotiating and concluding a Supplementary Convention, comprising these 2 Articles, with the Brazilian Government.

I am, &c.,

Henry Stephen Fox, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

WELLINGTON.

Enclosure in No. 54.

Draft of Supplementary Articles to the Treaty with Brazil, of 23d November, 1826.

HIS Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, being desirous of rendering more effectual the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded between the Crowns of Great Britain and Brazil on the 23d of November, 1826, have resolved to annex to the aforesaid Treaty certain supplementary Articles; and for this purpose they have respectively named as their Plenipotentiaries, viz.,

who, having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

It is hereby mutually agreed, between the 2 High Contracting Parties, that every merchant vessel, British or Brazilian, which shall be visited by virtue of the before-mentioned Treaty of the 23d of November, 1826, may lawfully be detained, and sent or brought before the Mixed Courts of Justice established in pursuance of the provisions of the aforesaid Treaty, if in her equipment there shall be found any of the things hereinafter mentioned, namely:

1. Hatches with open gratings, instead of the close hatches which are usual in merchant vessels.
2. Divisions or bulk heads, in the hold or on deck, in a greater number than are necessary for vessels engaged in lawful trade.
3. Spare plank, fitted for laying down as a second, or slave deck.
4. Shackles, bolts, or handcuffs.
5. A larger quantity of water, in casks or in tanks, than is requisite for the consumption of the vessel as a merchant vessel.
6. An extraordinary number of water-casks, or of other vessels for holding liquid, unless the Master shall produce a certificate from the Custom-house at the place from which he cleared outwards, stating

that a sufficient security had been given by the Owners of such vessel that such extra quantity of casks, or of other vessels, should only be used to hold palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce.

7. A greater quantity of mess-tubs or kids than are requisite for the use of the crew of the vessel, as a merchant vessel.

8. A boiler, of an unusual size, and larger than requisite for the use of the crew of the vessel, as a merchant vessel; or more than one boiler of the ordinary size.

9. An extraordinary quantity either of rice; of the flour of Brazil; manioc, or cassada (commonly called "farinha;") of maize; or of Indian corn; beyond what might probably be requisite for the use of the crew; such rice, flour, maize, or Indian corn, not being entered on the manifest as part of the cargo for trade.

Any one or more of these several circumstances, if proved, shall be considered as *prima facie* evidence of the actual employment of the vessel in the Slave Trade; and the vessel shall thereupon be condemned, and declared lawful prize, unless satisfactory evidence upon the part of the Master or Owners shall establish that such vessel was, at the time of her detention or capture, employed in some legal pursuit.

ARTICLE II.

It is hereby mutually agreed, between the 2 High Contracting Parties, that in all cases in which a vessel shall, under the Treaty of the 23d November, 1826, or under the present Supplementary Articles thereto, be detained by a cruizer of either of the 2 High Contracting Parties duly authorized thereto, on the ground of such vessel having been engaged in the Slave Trade, or having been fitted out for the purposes thereof, and such vessel shall consequently be adjudged and condemned by the Mixed Courts of Justice established under the aforesaid Treaty of 23d November, 1826, the said vessel shall, immediately after its condemnation, be broken up entirely, and shall be sold in separate parts, after having been so broken up.

ARTICLE III.

The present Articles shall be ratified by the 2 High Contracting Parties, and the Ratifications shall be exchanged at the expiration of 6 months from the date hereof, or sooner, if it can be done.

In Witness, &c.

BRAZIL. (Consular.) BAHIA.

No. 55.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 28, 1834.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Bahia, 14th August, 1833.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a List marked No. 1, of Vessels which cleared out from this Port for the Coast of Africa, during the 6 months ending 30th June last; together with a List, marked No. 2, of Vessels which entered this Port from the African Coast during the same period.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON (Consul.)

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 55.

List of Vessels which have cleared out from this Port for the Coast of Africa, between the 1st day of (Translation.) January and the 30th day of June, 1833.

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Owner.	Master.	Crew.	Whither bound.	CARGO.
1833. Jan. 24.	Brazilian.	{ Brig schooner. }	Clara.	103	. . . .	{ José da Silva Rios. }	21	Gold Coast.	{ 1,633 rolls of tobacco, 30 pipes of rum, 8 packages and 1 case of goods.
Feb. 16.	Ditto.	Brig.	Tiberio.	118	{ Manoel Car- doso dos San- tos. }	{ Miguel Anto- nio Neto. }	23	. . . .	{ 7,094 rolls of tobacco, 25 pipes of rum, 12 packages of goods, and 50 barrels of to- bacco.
March.	Portuguese.	{ Brig schooner. }	Thereza.	130	. . . .	{ Joaquim José Correia. }	24	Gold Coast.	{ 2,517 rolls of tobacco, 37 pipes of rum, 4 packages of goods, and 12 barrels of re- fuse tobacco.
April 21.	Brazilian.	Brig.	Gloria.	121	{ José Raposo Ferreira. }	{ Manoel Si- moes da Silva. }	18	{ Gold Coast and Princes Island. }	{ 4,076 rolls and 95 bar- rels of tobacco; 38 pipes, 6 quarter casks, and 19 barrels of rum; and 19 cables.
May 5.	Ditto.	Ditto.	{ Novo Des- tino. }	437	{ Antonio Pe- droso d'Albu- querque. }	{ Manoel An- tonio das Neves. }	26	. . . .	{ 465 rolls of tobacco, 254 barrels of ditto, and 1 half-pipe of ditto; 13½ pipes of rum, and 3 quarter- casks and 15 barrels of ditto.
May 9.	Ditto.	Schooner.	Carolina.	100	{ João Fran- cisco de Souza Paraizo. }	{ João da Rocha, junior. }	20	. . . .	{ 720 rolls of tobacco, 18 pipes of rum, 190 demigans of ditto, 1 barrel of knives, and 10 bundles of mer- chandise.
May 13.	Portuguese.	{ Brig schooner. }	Atrevilo.	150	. . . .	{ João Garcia; consigned to himself. }	27	Gold Coast.	{ 1,385 rolls of tobacco, and 20 pipes of rum.
„	Brazilian.	Ditto.	Julia.	69	{ José Antonio Marques Braga. }	{ Manoel Ci- sino. }	18	{ Gold Coast, touching at the Island of St. Thomas. }	{ 443 rolls of tobacco, 64 barrels of ditto, and 78 pipes of rum.
June 11.	Portuguese.	Ditto.	Virtude.	128	{ José Joaquim Machado. }	{ Manoel Isi- doro. }	20	Gold Coast.	{ 40 pipes of rum, 200 rolls of tobacco, 7 packages of goods, and 7 boxes and 5 cases of ditto.
June 27.	Brazilian.	Ditto.	{ Duarte Felici- dade. }	113	. . . .	{ Zacharias de Assis Fer- reira. }	19	Ditto.	{ 2,406 rolls of tobacco, and 12 pipes of rum.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO JOAQUIM ALVARES BRANCO MUNIZ BARRETTO.

Second Enclosure in No. 55.

List of Vessels which have entered this Port from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of January to the 30th of June, 1833.
(Translation.)

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Owner.	Master.	Passengei.	Crew.	Whence.	CARGO.
1833.										
Feb. 14.	Brazilian.	Brig.	Fortuna.	117	. .	{ Francisco Pinto d'Aranjo Vianna. }	. .	17	{ Ajuda, in 30 days. }	{ 9 barrels of oil, and 8 loaves of wax, consigned to Pedro Antram da Matta e Al- buquerque. }
April 18.	Portuguese.	{ Brig schooner. }	Atrevido.	185	. .	{ João Garcia; consigned to himself. }	. .	26	{ Aquitá, on the Coast of Africa, in 22 days. }	{ In ballast, carry- ing a pivot gun midships; her water-casks up- right. }

(Signed)

MANOEL JOSÉ VIEIRE,
Second Lieutenant.

June 11.	Brazilian.	{ Brig schooner. }	Clara.	102	{ José Alz da Cruz Rios. }	José da Silva Rodrigues.	{ Antonio José do Tretto. }	21	{ Gold Coast, in 23 days. }	{ Linens, oil, ivory, and coin. }
June 27.	Portuguese.	Brig.	{ Socie- dade Felix. }	..	. .	Manoelda Costa.	. .	17	{ Angola, in 53 days. }	{ In ballast. }

(Signed)

HERMENEGILDO ANTONIO BARBOSA D'ALMEIDA, *Midshipman.*

FRANCISCO JOAQUIM ALVARES BRANCO MUNIZ BARRETTO,

Lieutenant-Colonel, at the Orders of the President.

No. 56.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 28, 1834.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Bahia, 13th November, 1833.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, bearing date July 26th, together with a Copy of Papers marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.*

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 57.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 28, 1834.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Bahia, 18th December, 1833.

I RESPECTFULLY submit to your Lordship the enclosed Copies of my Correspondence with the President of Bahia, touching the Portuguese brig-schooner, "Atrevido," from which a cargo of slaves was recently landed in this vicinity.

The vessel is American-built. She navigated under Portuguese colours; and about 3 years since was captured and condemned at Princes Island for piracy. Charles Shillitoe, Master and sole Owner of the schooner "Margaret," of London, purchased and navigated her from Princes Island hither, under the name of "Emma," despatched her to the coast, and exchanged her, as I am informed, at Ajudá, with the notorious "de Souza, or Chá Chá," for a cargo of slaves, which he succeeded in landing at the Havana.

Under the new proprietorship of Chá Chá, the "Borboletta," alias "Emma," became the "Atrevido," and was recognised here as a Portuguese vessel, with a change of ownership changing her external form. Originally a schooner, she has now become a brig-schooner, and is about to be converted into a brig.

In the month of she came from the coast "in ballast;" so reported, at least, although it was generally credited that about 400 slaves had been landed from her to the southward of Bahia.

On the authority of rumour only, I did not feel myself justified in making any official representation to the President.

A second voyage from the coast was completed in the month of

(B.)

Every body in Bahia but the Authorities knew that she had again landed slaves, but still distinct evidence of the fact was wanting.

On the 28th of October last she completed her third voyage for *Senhor de Souza Chá Chá*, and reported herself "in ballast," as usual.

The rumour, as customary, was, that she had safely landed her slaves (407;) and a credible informant assured me, that *Senhor João Garcia*, the commander, had, in his presence, made it matter of boast.

Under these circumstances I addressed my letter to the President of Bahia.*

His reply being but the echo of the exculpatory report of the very parties who were supposed to have been inattentive to duty, or perhaps corrupt, reduced me to the necessity of searching for stronger evidence.†

Accordingly I obtained the Official Report of the Officer of the guardship. I found his description of the vessel and her equipment at once indicated "slaver," or "pirate."‡

By further inquiry, I obtained information from one of the "*Atrevido's*" crew, that she landed about 400 slaves a few leagues to the northward of this harbour. The apprehension of private vengeance deterred the man from giving his deposition in regular form. Finally, however, I obtained the evidence of an eye-witness to many of the guilty proceedings.§

His solemnly attested narrative sufficiently confirms the suspicions entertained; and, from scrupulous inquiry into the character of the man, I have no hesitation in giving full credit to what he has revealed. My informant exacted the condition not to have his name divulged.

I lost no time in placing a copy of the man's statement in the hands of the President, when his Excellency with prompt candour assured me, that he did "not entertain a doubt that it was true."

Thus the matter rests. The truth and facts are before the Local Authorities, and they have only to follow up the guilty co-operators in this hitherto prosperous violation of humanity, and law, and treaty.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.*

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c. &c. &c.

* Enclosure No. 1. † Enclosure No. 2. ‡ Enclosure No. 3. § Enclosure, No. 4.

First Enclosure in No. 57.

Mr. Parkinson to the President of Bahia.

SIR,

British Consulate, Bahia, 6th November, 1833.

WITHOUT pretending to attach implicit confidence to a current report that several hundred slaves were recently landed in this vicinity from the Portuguese brig-schooner "*Atrevido*," which entered this port on the 28th instant, I feel it my duty to inquire if the rumour has yet reached your Excellency. I further beg to ask whether her passport was visited on the day of her arrival, in conformity with the 1st Article of the Decree of the 12th April, 1832, and whether the very important inquiries directed by the 3d Article of the Decree were answered satisfactorily or otherwise.

I beg to add, that I shall consider myself much obliged by your Excellency's early attention to this matter, and by the communication of such information as may enable me to satisfy the British Government that the Authorities of Bahia are sincere and zealous in carrying into effect the philanthropic intentions of the Supreme Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.*

His Excellency the President of Bahia,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 57.

The President of Bahia to Mr. Parkinson.

(Translation.)

SIR,

Government Palace, Bahia, 11th November, 1833.

THE rumour was perfectly new to me, which in your letter of the 6th instant you state to be current, regarding a contraband landing of slaves from the Portuguese brig-schooner "*Atrevido*," and immediately I required special information thereon from the Judge of the Custom House.

He assures me that the vessel was most scrupulously examined in conformity with the existing legislative enactments to that effect, from which he concludes that there exist no grounds for suspecting that the Treaty was infringed.

Thus replying to you, I have to add, that if you should obtain more precise information concerning the matter, I should be glad to be made acquainted with it, in order to adopt the needful measures.

(Signed)

JOAQUIM JOZE PINHEIRO DE VASCONCELLOS.

The British Consul, Bahia,
&c. &c. &c.

Third Enclosure in No. 57.

Report of the Officer of the Guardship.

(Translation.)

PORTUGUESE brig-schooner "*Atrevido*," of 150 tons, "John Garcia," Master, from Princes Island, having touched at ports on the Gold Coast, 24 days' passage, cargo 6 casks of oil, and stone ballast. This brig-schooner came armed with a 9-pounder on a pivot, and 2 guns of calibre 6.

(Signed) GENAZIO MANCEBO,
2d Lieutenant commanding the "*Registro*" (Guardship.)

Fourth Enclosure in No. 57.

(Translation.)

Bahia, 10th December, 1833.

PERSONALLY came and appeared before me, John Parkinson, Esq., His Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Province of Bahia, N. N., solemnly affirming, and for truth declaring as follows: viz.

That on the day that the brig-schooner "*Atrevido*" entered this port under Portuguese colours, he went instantly on board, and there remained until the 8th day of the present month, there learning that a great part of her cargo of slaves had been disembarked about a league distant from *Torre*, 18 leagues to the north of Bahia.

That the remainder, on entering this port, were shipped in a "*Garoupeira*,"* which coasted along the Island of Itaparica to the Creek of Itapagipe, and landed the slaves at the sugar estate of Cabrito, 7 only excepted, who were invalids.

Twenty-four hours after the vessel was at anchor, these people were smuggled out from the fore cabin, plenty of food and water being shown to them, and a man with a whip in his hand being stationed there to prevent their talking.

Moreover, whilst the vessel was entering this port, a whale-boat came in pursuit, having on board, as it was said, armed men from the *Torre*. The brig-schooner fired 1 of her guns, they neared to communicate, and the crew of the whale-boat came on board, leaving their own boat made fast astern of the "*Atrevido*."

Does not know whether it was through negligence or bribery that the visiting Officer did not discover the slaves; the fact is, that no one went below, they only looked down the hatches. In order to effect the disembarkation of the slaves, a "viola" was sent for from shore, and the captain sat down to table with the guards, as if to divert them, causing them to drink freely; and, profiting of the time they were asleep, they got the slaves into the boat, and landed them at the "*Caes Dourado*," in the city of Bahia, close to the house of Vicente de Paula Silva, into which they were admitted about 4 o'clock in the morning; and he is certain that at this very time 40 or 50 blacks might be found at the store below the house of the said Vicente de Paula Silva.

Before the vessel came into port, some of the water-butts were taken to pieces, the staves being stowed away under the stone ballast, and the heads and bottoms being thrown overboard. Four of the guns with which the vessel is accustomed to be armed when she quits port were likewise stowed away equally under the ballast. Twenty days afterwards, profiting by the absence of the Custom House guard, who slept ashore that night, they got out the staves and landed them, and the casks, repaired and remounted, are now standing in front of the house of the said Vicente de Paula, as the vessel, when she goes out again, will take with her her stocks of water, in order to have nothing more to do than to take the slaves and return hither without delay.

It is the custom there, when a person goes to buy a slave, to receive for answer that they "will shortly come back with one, as well to afford time for bringing up the slave and dressing him, as to cause the belief that no slave existed in the very house, and that the parties were obliged to send out to get one for "*shew*," thereby to avoid any information being laid against them.

It is publicly known on board that the captain himself had said that he made a present of 2 young negroes to a superior Officer of the Custom House, and a pair of negro men for Cadeira, (Sedan Chair and Palanquin,) to a great authority on shore; who it was, he is not personally able to declare.

* A large sea-going boat, used in taking the fish called *Garoupa*.

No. 58.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 14.)

MY LORD,

Bahia, 1st February, 1834.

I RESPECTFULLY transmit for your Lordship's information Lists (No. 1 and 2) of vessels which have cleared out from Bahia for the Coast of Africa, and entered this Port from that Coast, during the half year ending 31st December last.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.**The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,*

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 58.

List of Vessels that have sailed from this Port of Bahia, destined to the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of July, 1833, to the 31st of December, 1833.

(Translation.)

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Owner.	Captain.	Men.	Whither bound.	CARGO.
1833. July 14.	Brazilian.	Schooner.	{ Ethiopian Flower. (Flor da Ethiopia.) }	117	{ Antonio Pedroso de Albuquerque.* }	{ Hygino Augusto de Faria. }	21	Coast of Guinea.	{ 20 pipes of Brazilian rum. }
,, 30.	Portuguese.	Brig.	D ^a Theresa	122	. . . . .	{ Joseph Vieira de Faria. }	18	Angola.	{ 50 pipes of rum, 16 rolls of tobacco, 14 grass cables, 4 grass hawsers, 20 and 52 pieces of small rope, 30 pipes of wine, 30 barrels of flour, 32 barrels of powder, 12 boxes and 7 barrels of sugar, 20 pieces of cordage, and other small articles. }
Aug. 28.	Brazilian.	Ship.	Fortuna.	303	{ Jozé Raposa Hermenigildo, and Antonio Barbosa de Almeida. }	{ Joaquim Henry Tavares. }	38	. . . . .	{ 3,298 bales of tobacco, 12 pipes and 6 barrels of rum, 6 barrels of tobacco, and 48 laurel planks. }
Nov. 18.	Portuguese.	Brig.	{ Leal Portuensa. }	299	{ Manoel Martius Lopez. }	{ John Maria de Carvalho. }	18	Angola.	{ 197 pipes of rum, 17 dozen of leather-bottomed chairs, 13 canopies and 1 sofa of same, 4 small boxes with images, a quantity of earthenware, 100 arrobas of Brazilian oakum, 40 barrels of powder, 27 bales of dry goods, 3 barrels of beads, 4 barrels of knives, 5 barrels of nails, and 4 boxes of shoes. }
,, 27.	Brazilian.	{ Brig-schooner. }	Clara.	133	. . . . .	{ Jozé Souza Teixeira. }	15	Ditto.	Rum.

* Owner of vessel and cargo.

Second Enclosure in No. 58.

List of Vessels that have arrived here from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of July, 1833, to 31st December, 1833.

(Translation.)

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Captain.	Crew.	Whence.	CARGO.
1833. July 19.	Spanish.	Brig.	Llobregat.	186	{ Juan Bantul de Arrerte. }	37	{ Havana, in 14 days. }	In ballast.
,, 22.	Brazilian.	Schooner.	{ Maria Damiana }	109	Robert Pereira.	16	{ Oni and Ajuda, in 37 days. }	
Sept. 6.	Portuguese.	Brig.	{ Leal Portuensa. }	..	{ John Maria de Carvalho. }	..	{ Angola, in 32 days. }	Bees' wax.
Oct. 20.	Ditto.	Schooner.	Josephina.	70	Manoel Dias.	..	{ Africa, in 30 days. }	{ Tobacco, rum, and dry goods. This schooner discharged no cargo on the coast, having returned with the same taken from here with manifest. }
,, 28.	Brazilian.	Brig.	Our Glory.	120	{ Manoel Simons da Silva. }	13	{ Princes Island, in 37 days. }	2,700 logs of dye wood.
,,	Portuguese.	{ Brig-schooner. }	Atrevido.	150	John Garcia.	24	{ Princes Island, in 24 days. }	6 casks palm oil and ballast.
Nov. 24.	Portuguese.	{ Brig-schooner. }	Theresa.	130	{ Joaquim José Correia. }	23	In 21 days.	In ballast.
Dec. 4.	Portuguese.	Schooner.	Olinda.	135	{ Philip Antonio Escrivanes }	22	{ Angola, in 37 days. }	{ 421 parcels copal gum, 257 wooden basins, (large,) 100 quintals African rope, destined for Lisbon. }
,, 20.	Portuguese.	{ Brig-schooner. }	{ Maria Theresa. }	90	{ Pedro Jozé Netto. }	15	{ Coast of Guinea, in 24 days }	In ballast.

No. 59.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

MY LORD,

Bahia, 11th April, 1834.

I HAVE the honour respectfully to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of an Affidavit, made before me, by one of the crew of the Spanish brig-schooner "*Musca*," detailing the particulars of another successful landing of slaves in the vicinity of this Port. My informant in this case assures me that, when the "*Musca*" reached this Coast, her provisions and water were so low as to make it matter of serious question whether the slaves should be kept or thrown overboard.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.**The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,*

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 59.

On this 10th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1834, personally came and appeared before me, Rufino Alexandre, a native of Manilla, and seaman belonging to the Spanish brig-schooner "*Musca*;" and being voluntarily sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did solemnly declare to the following effect, namely,—that, being at the Havana about 13 months ago, he shipped as seaman in the said brig-schooner, and proceeded in her to the coast of Africa, under the command of Senhor Juan Eressa, half Owner of the "*Musca*," in conjunction with Senhor Francisco Felix de Souza; (Chá Chá,) the Owner of the other half; that after touching at various places without finding a cargo, they finally obtained one from Senhor Francisco Felix de Souza (Chá Chá) aforesaid, at Ajuda, and receiving on board from him 255 male and female slaves; that they then proceeded on their voyage to the Brazil, and made the "*Torre*," a few leagues to the northward of Bahia, on or about the 8th day of March last; that the Mate of the vessel went on shore to concert with the Consignee, and the brig-schooner cruized off and on for the space of 4 or 5 days; that as he, the deponent, supposed and verily believes, a large launch, or fishing-vessel, called "*Garoupeira*," was sent out from the Port of Bahia, and joined company with the "*Musca*;" and having discharged into her a cargo of stone ballast, the surviving slaves, namely, 228, (27 having died on the passage,) were trans-shipped into the launch, "*Garoupeira*," and, as he verily believes they were safely landed at night in or about Bahia; that, on or about the 14th of March last past, the brig-schooner "*Musca*" came to an anchor in this Port.

(Signed)

RUFFINO ALEXANDRE, his X mark.

(Signed)

JOSE LOURENCO SOBRAL (Witness.)

Sworn before me this 10th day }
of April, 1834.

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.*

No. 60.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Parkinson.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

J. Parkinson, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 61.

Mr. Parkinson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Nov. 6.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Bahia, 1st July, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information, "Lists A. and B. of Vessels which have cleared out from Bahia to the Coast of Africa, and entered this Port from that Coast, during the 6 Months ending 30th June, 1834."

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN PARKINSON, *Consul.**The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,*

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 61.

List of Vessels which have arrived from the Coast of Africa within the 6 Months ending the 30th June, 1834.

(Translation.)

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Owner.	Master.	Mate.	Passengers.	Crew.	Whence.	CARGO.
1834. Feb. 1.	Spanish.	Schooner.	{ Tres Ma- nuélas. }	107	. . .	José Marques.	. . .	. . .	25	{ St. Thomas, in 24 days. }	{ In ballast, con- signed to André Pinto da Silveira.
(Signed) G. MANCEBO, Second Lieutenant, and Visiting Officer.											
March 25	Spanish.	{ Brig- schooner. }	Zephiro.	124	. . .	José Morra.	. . .	{ Manoel Car- doso dos Santos, Ma- noel Tarafa, and Sabino Joaquim de Amorim, José Bar- bosa, and José Ma- noel Pi- canço. }	25	{ Gold Coast, in 26 days. }	{ Oil and ballast, to Manoel Cardoso dos Santos.
April 3.	Brazilian.	Brig.	{ Novo Destino. }	530	{ Antonio Pedroso de Albuquer- que. }	. . .	{ João An- tonio No- gueira. }	. . .	18	{ Princes Is- land, in 33 days. }	Dyewoods.
May 16.	French.	Brig.	{ Circum- stance. }	238	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	9	{ Havana, in 69 days. }	{ 150 pipes of spi- rits, 180 cases of sugar, 20,000 segars, and 30 straw hats. In ballast.
June 30.	Portuguese.	Schooner.	Deligencia.	106	João Pereira.	João Pereira.	. . .	. . .	8	Gold Coast.	

Second Enclosure in No. 61.

List of Vessels which have sailed for the Coast of Africa, commencing the 1st January, and ending the 30th June, 1834.

(Translation.)

Date.	Country.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Master.	Crew.	Whither bound.	CARGO.
1834. Jan. 19.	Portuguese.	{ Brig- schooner. }	Theresa.	184	{ Joaquim José Correia. }	27	{ St. Thomas and Princes Islands. }	{ 346 small rolls of to- bacco, 25 pipes of spirits, and 35 cases of goods, consigned to Manoel Cardoso dos Santos.
Feb. 4.	Brazilian.	Snow.	{ Maria Damiana }	154	{ Manoel Ro- berto Pereira. }	18	Coast of Mina.	{ 3,141 small rolls of tobacco, 53 pipes and 2 half-pipes of spi- rits, and six bales of goods.
Mar. 12.	Spanish.	Schooner.	{ Tres Manu- élas. }	107	José Marques.	22	Coast of Africa.	1,050 rolls of tobacco.
,, 23.	Brazilian.	Patacho.	Boa Sorte.	109	{ José Teixeira da Nobrega. }	14	Gold Coast.	{ 2,270 rolls of tobacco, 40 pipes and 4 barrels of spirits, consigned to Bernardo Alves de Moura.
April 13.	French.	Barque.	Reparateur.	206	B. J. Beauprés.	13	Ditto.	{ Tobacco and spirits, consigned to Vicente de Paula.
,, 18.	Portuguese.	Brig.	Atrevido.	157	João Garcia.	25	Ditto.	Tobacco and spirits.
May 11.	Spanish.	Snow.	Mosca.	53	João Esiva.	15	Ajudá.	{ 928 arrobas of tobacco, in small rolls, and 4 barrels of spirits.
,, 12.	Spanish.	{ Brig- schooner. }	Zephiro.	128	José Mora.	23	Gold Coast.	{ 2,615 small rolls of tobacco, 25 pipes of spirits, and 15 barrels of bad tobacco.
,, 18.	Portuguese.	Brig.	D* Theresa.	157	{ Bernardo Xa- vier da Costa. }	19	Loanda.	General cargo.

BRAZIL. (*Consular.*) MARANHAM.

No. 62.

Mr. Tanton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 12.)

MY LORD,

Consul's Office, Maranham, 2d January, 1834.

ON the evening of the 31st ultimo, His Majesty's brig "Dispatch," under the command of George Daniell, Esq., arrived off this Port from Barbadoes, and reported that, at about 6 o'clock in the evening of the 25th of same month, in latitude 2° 36' North, and longitude 39° 3' West, boarded and captured the Spanish schooner "Roza," of about 80 or 90 tons burthen, with a crew of 22 men, and armed with 2 guns and small arms, having on board 292 slaves.

The Captain of the "Roza," a native of Barcelona, reported to have brought the slaves from near Whydah, in the Bight of Benin, on the Coast of Africa, and that she was bound for the Havana.

That 293 slaves had been received on board, but 1 had died during the voyage; and, from the date of her Papers, it appeared that she had left the Coast of Africa about the 23d November.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES F. TANTON, *Deputy Consul.*

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

FRANCE.

No. 63.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 23d. January, 1834.

WITH reference to my Despatch to Mr. Aston, of the 5th of September, 1833, and to my Despatch to your Excellency of the 8th of October following, upon the subject of the proposed invitation to Maritime Powers to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France on the 30th of November, 1831, and the 22d of March, 1833, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, I herewith transmit to your Excellency the Draft of a Note of Invitation to the Governments of Austria, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Naples, which you will submit to the Duc de Broglie; proposing, at the same time, that a Draft of a Note, couched in these terms, should be forwarded by the British and French Governments, respectively, to the Representatives of Great Britain and France at Vienna, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Turin, and Naples, to be presented by those Ministers to the several Governments to which they are accredited.

I am, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B., (Signed)

PALMERSTON.

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 63.

The Undersigned, &c., has received Orders from his Court to make the following communication to, &c.

Two Conventions, one of them Principal, the other Supplementary, both of which have for their object the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, were concluded, the one on the 30th of November, 1831, and the other on the 22d of March 1833, between His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the French.

By Article 9 of the Principal Convention, the 2 High Contracting Parties stipulated that they would, in concert, invite the accession of the other Maritime Powers, within as short a period as possible.

In consequence of this stipulation, the undersigned has been directed to transmit, for the information of , the accompanying Copies of the 2 Conventions above mentioned, as well as of the several documents annexed to them; and to invite His (Imperial) Majesty, in the name of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to accord his accession thereto, by the execution of a formal Treaty to that effect with the Contracting Parties to the original Conventions.

No. 64.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 10.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 7th February, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of the Answer I have just received from the Duc de Broglie to the Note, which, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I addressed to His Excellency on the 27th ultimo, communicating to him the Draft of the Note in which it is intended by His Majesty's Government to invite those of Austria, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Naples, to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France in November, 1831, and March, 1833, for the suppression of the Slave Trade. His Excellency, in this Note, suggests to the consideration of your Lordship the expediency of adding to the Note addressed to those Governments, in the event of their assenting to this invitation, a proposition for the execution of a formal Treaty by which their accession may be carried into some practical effect.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

Enclosure in No. 64.

The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 1er Février, 1834.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 27 de ce mois, le projet d'une Note que votre Gouvernement propose de faire présenter simultanément par les Représentans de Sa Majesté Britannique, et par les Représentans du Roi, mon Souverain, aux Cours d'Autriche, de Prusse, de Russie, de Sardaigne, et de Naples, à l'effet de provoquer leur accession aux Conventions conclues entre la France et la Grande Bretagne le 30 Novembre, 1831, et le 22 Mars, 1833, au sujet de la répression de la Traite des Noirs.

Je m'empresse d'annoncer à votre Excellence que ce projet de Note répond parfaitement aux vues du Gouvernement du Roi, et que je vais, en conséquence, en transmettre une traduction à MM. les Ambassadeurs de Sa Majesté à Vienne, à St. Pétersbourg, à Naples, et à Turin, ainsi qu'au Ministre du Roi à Berlin, en les invitant à se concerter avec MM. les Représentans de Sa Majesté Britannique pour passer simultanément aux Gouvernemens près desquels ils sont respectivement accrédités, des Notes textuellement pareilles au projet.

Le Cabinet de Sa Majesté Britannique jugera toutefois s'il ne serait pas convenable d'ajouter immédiatement à la demande d'accession, la proposition de *réaliser l'accession au moyen d'un Traité formel*. J'autoriserai éventuellement MM. les Agens du Roi à terminer par cette proposition, la Note qu'ils auront à remettre, dans le cas où votre Gouvernement croirait devoir y autoriser également les Agens de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé)

V. BROGLIE.

Son Excellence Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 1st February, 1834.

I HAVE received, with the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 27th instant, the project of a Note which your Government proposes to have presented simultaneously by the Representatives of his Britannic Majesty, and by those of the King, my Sovereign, to the Courts of Austria, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Naples, with the view of obtaining their accession to the Conventions concluded between France and Great Britain, on the 30th November, 1831, and the 22d March, 1833, on the subject of the repression of the Slave Trade.

I hasten to inform your Excellency that this project of a Note perfectly answers the views of the King's Government, and that accordingly I shall send a translation of it to His Majesty's Ambassadors at Vienna, St. Petersburg, Naples, and Turin, as well as to the King's Minister at Berlin, requesting them to communicate with the Representatives of His Britannic Majesty, with the view of transmitting simultaneously, to the Governments to which they are respectively accredited, Notes of the same import as the project.

The Cabinet of His Britannic Majesty will, nevertheless, consider whether it would not be advisable to add immediately to the request of accession, the proposal of *realizing the accession by means of a formal Treaty*. I shall eventually authorize the King's Agents to conclude with this proposal the Note which they will have to present, in case your Government should think proper likewise to authorize the Agents of His Britannic Majesty thereto.

Receive, &c.

(Signed)

V. BROGLIE.

His Excellency Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 65.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 27th February, 1834.

THE Board of Admiralty have requested, by a Letter of which I transmit to your Excellency a Copy, that Warrants, under the recent Conventions with France on Slave Trade, may be issued for the Brazil Station, by the French Government, to His Majesty's ships "Snake," Commander William Robertson; "Satellite," Commander Robert Smart; and "Rapid," Lieutenant and Commander Frederick Patten; in lieu of Warrants which have been already issued by the French Government, for the same Station, to the Commanders of the "Rattlesnake," the "Samarang," and the "Pylades," which latter Warrants are herewith returned to be transmitted to the French Government, in order to be cancelled.

I have to desire, therefore, that your Excellency will make the necessary application to the French Government for a compliance with the present request of the Board of Admiralty.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(B.)

Enclosure in No. 65.

Mr. Barrow to Sir George Shee.

SIR,

THE Admiral commanding the British squadron on the South American station, having requested that the vessels named in the margin* should be supplied with Warrants under the Slave Trade Conventions with France, in lieu of the "Samarang," "Rattlesnake," and "Pylades;" I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith the Warrants which had been issued for the "Samarang," "Rattlesnake," and "Pylades," and to request that you will move Viscount Palmerston to cause the same to be returned to the French Government, to be cancelled, and to request that Warrants for the Brazil Station may, in lieu thereof, be transmitted [to this office for the following vessels:

"Snake," Commander William Robertson; "Satellite," Commander Robert Smart; "Rapid," Lieutenant and Commander Frederick Patten.

*Sir George Shee, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.*

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

JOHN BARROW.

* "Snake," "Satellite," "Rapid."

No. 66.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 13.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 10th March, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Copy of a Note* which I have received from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, enclosing the Warrants for His Majesty's ships "Snake," "Satellite," and "Rapid," on the Brazilian Station, in execution of the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France for the better suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

*The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.*

* Sent to the Admiralty March 17, 1834.

No. 67.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 17.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 14th March, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note addressed to me by the Duc de Broglie, in which, with reference to the 6th Article of the Convention between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, stipulating that the other Maritime Powers be invited to accede to the principles laid down by the 2 Contracting Parties, he desires to be informed whether it is intended by His Majesty's Government to leave the respective Treaties, made by them with certain Maritime Powers, still in force; or whether it is in contemplation to rescind such Treaties already existing, and to supply their place by a general Agreement between all Maritime Powers, upon the basis of the Convention of the 30th November, as developed by the Supplementary Convention of the 22d March, 1833. Should His Majesty's Government prefer to adopt the former course, the French Government would then, separately, and with reference to France only, invite those Powers to accede to the Convention of the 30th November.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

*The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.*

Enclosure in No. 67.

The Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 11 Mars, 1834.

L'ARTICLE 6 de la Convention conclue entre la France et la Grande Bretagne, le 30 Novembre, 1831, au sujet de la répression de la Traite des Noirs, stipule que les 2 Parties Contractantes provoqueront l'accession de toutes les Puissances Maritimes aux principes convenus entre elles.

Jusqu'à présent aucune démarche commune n'a été faite, en exécution de cet Article, auprès des Puissances avec lesquelles la Grande Bretagne avait précédemment conclu des Traités particuliers pour assurer le concours de sa marine à la répression des crimes de traite commis sous leurs pavillons.

Le Gouvernement du Roi désire savoir s'il entre dans les intentions de Sa Majesté Britannique de renoncer à ces Traités particuliers et de fonder un Accord général entre toutes les Puissances Maritimes sur les bases de la Convention du 30 Novembre développées par la Convention supplémentaire du 22 Mars, 1833, ou, s'il préfère s'en tenir à ses engagements particuliers vis-à-vis des diverses Puissances, avec lesquelles il en existe en ce moment? Dans ce dernier cas, le Gouvernement du Roi provoquerait isolément l'accession de ces Puissances à la Convention du 30 Novembre, mais à l'égard de la France seulement.

Je vous prie, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, de vouloir bien soumettre cette question, ainsi que cette observation, à votre Gouvernement, et de me faire connaître sa réponse.

Agréé, &c.,

Son Excellence Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signé)

V. BROGLIE.

(Translation.)

Duc de Broglie to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 11th March, 1834.

THE 6th Article of the Convention concluded between France and Great Britain, on the 30th November, 1831, relative to the repression of the Slave Trade, stipulates that the 2 Contracting Parties shall procure the accession of all Maritime Powers to the principles agreed on between them.

Hitherto no common step has been taken, in execution of that Article, with the Powers with whom Great Britain had previously concluded particular Treaties for the purpose of ensuring the aid of their navy towards the repression of the crimes of the Slave Trade committed under their flags.

The King's Government would be glad to know whether it enters into the views of His Britannic Majesty to relinquish these particular Treaties, and to bring about a general Agreement among all the seafaring Powers, on the basis of the Convention of the 30th November, laid down by the Supplementary Convention of March 22, 1833; or, whether it prefers abiding by its special engagements with the different Powers with whom there subsist any at this moment? In this latter case the King's Government would alone entreat the accession of those Powers to the Convention of the 30th November, but in relation to France only.

I request, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, that you will have the goodness to lay this question and this observation before your Government, and to inform me of its answer.

Receive, &c.,

His Excellency Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

V. BROGLIE.

No. 68.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 19th April, 1834.

I HAVE received your Excellency's Despatch of the 14th ultimo, together with its Enclosure, respecting the Agreement contained in the 9th Article of the Convention with France of the 30th of November 1831, for inviting the Maritime Powers of Europe to accede to the Convention. In conformity with that Agreement, an invitation has already been addressed to the United States of America; Denmark has also been invited, and has expressed her readiness to accede; and the Ministers of Great Britain at Turin, at Naples, at Berlin, at St. Petersburg, and at Vienna, have been instructed to address, in concert with their colleagues of France, invitations to the Courts to which they are respectively accredited.

With Portugal, Brazil, the Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden, Great Britain has already contracted Treaties, which contain more extensive stipulations, and afford more effectual means for the suppression of the Slave Trade, than are contained in the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France, and it would tend, therefore, to defeat, instead of promoting, the object of the Conventions between Great Britain and France, if Great Britain were to invite Courts with whom she has concluded such Treaties, as above described, to rescind those Treaties, and to substitute in their stead an accession to a Convention of a less effectual character.

Your Excellency is instructed to state to the French Minister, that, for the above reasons, it is not the intention of Great Britain to address any invitation on this subject to Portugal, to Brazil, to the Netherlands, to Spain, or to Sweden.

The Conventions, however, with France contain 2 very important stipulations, which have not yet been acceded to by all of the above-mentioned Powers.

These are, first, the stipulation whereby ships found to be equipped for the Slave Trade are to be dealt with in the same manner as if they actually had slaves on board; and, secondly, the stipulation by which ships, after being condemned for Slave Trade, are to be broken up before they are sold.

The first of these stipulations is contained in our Treaties with the Netherlands and with Sweden; but not in those with Spain, with Portugal, and with Brazil: the second is not contained in any Treaty which Great Britain has yet concluded, except that with France.

The French Government might, therefore, render an important service to the humane cause in which all the parties are engaged, if they would, in concert with the Ministers of His Majesty, press upon the Governments of the States just named the expediency of entering with Great Britain into the 2 last-mentioned stipulations.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 69.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 15.)

MY LORD, *Paris, 12th May, 1834.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which I have addressed to the Count de Rigny, conformably to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 19th of April of the present year.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 69.

Lord Granville to the Comte de Rigny.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Paris, 6th May, 1834.

WITH reference to the note which your Excellency's predecessor in office addressed to me on the 11th of last March, having for object to ascertain whether, with respect to the 6th Article of the Convention concluded between Great Britain and France of the 30th November, 1831, His Majesty's Government intended to leave the respective Treaties made by them with certain Maritime Powers still in force, or if it was in contemplation to rescind such Treaties already existing, and to substitute in their stead a general Agreement, founded upon the basis of that Convention, I am instructed to submit to your Excellency, in answer, the following observations:

In conformity with the aforesaid agreement, an invitation has already been addressed to the United States of America. Denmark has also been invited, and has expressed her readiness to accede; and the Ministers of Great Britain, at Turin, at Naples, at Berlin, at St. Petersburg, and at Vienna, have been instructed to address, in concert with their colleagues of France, invitations to the Courts to which they are respectively accredited.

With Portugal, Brazil, the Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden, Great Britain has already contracted Treaties, which contain more extensive stipulations, and afford more effectual means for the suppression of the Slave Trade, than are contained in the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France; and it would tend therefore to defeat, instead of promoting, the object of the Conventions between Great Britain and France, if Great Britain were to invite Courts, with whom she has concluded such Treaties as above described, to rescind those Treaties, and to substitute in their stead an accession to a Convention of a less effectual character. For these reasons it is not the intention of His Majesty's Government to address any invitation on this subject to Portugal, to Brazil, to the Netherlands, to Spain, or to Sweden.

The Conventions, however, with France, contain 2 very important stipulations, which have not yet been acceded to by all the above-mentioned Powers.

These are, first, the stipulation whereby ships, found to be equipped for the Slave Trade, are to be dealt with in the same manner as if they actually had slaves on board; and, secondly, the stipulations by which ships, after being condemned for Slave Trade, are to be broken up before they are sold.

The first of these stipulations is contained in the Treaties concluded between Great Britain and the Netherlands, and with Sweden; the second is not contained in any Treaty which Great Britain has yet concluded, except that with France.

The French Government may therefore render an important service to the humane cause in which all the parties are engaged, if they will, in concert with the Ministers of His Majesty, press upon the Governments of the States just named, the expediency of entering with Great Britain into the 2 last-mentioned stipulations, and I am therefore directed to invite your Excellency to cause Instructions to that effect to be given to the Ministers of the French Government at the above-mentioned Courts.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

His Excellency the Comte de Rigny,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 70.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD, *Foreign Office, 3d June, 1834.*

YOUR Excellency will perceive, by the accompanying Copy of a Despatch* which I have received from Sir Charles Vaughan, that the President of the

* See No. 122.

United States of America had returned an unfavourable answer to the proposal which was made to him on the part of the British and French Governments, to accede to the Conventions on the subject of Slave Trade which were recently concluded between Great Britain and France.

His Majesty's Government, however, are unwilling to consider the answer of the President as an absolute refusal, and they wish to make another effort to obtain a favourable reception of this proposal.

They are desirous, therefore, provided the French Government shall concur, that the Ministers of Great Britain and France shall be furnished with an Instruction to renew to the United States' Government the proposal to accede to the Conventions in question, without any stipulation for extending the right of search to the Coasts of America.

It was to this last-mentioned stipulation that the American Minister limited his objection when he declined the proposal which was made to him by Sir C. Vaughan, and His Majesty's Government are of opinion that it will be expedient to remove the difficulty by yielding the contested point.

I send to your Excellency a Draft* of a proposed Instruction to Sir C. Vaughan, and you are instructed to communicate it to the French Government, together with the Despatch from Sir C. Vaughan above adverted to, and to propose that similar Instructions should be given by them to their Minister at Washington.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

* See No. 123.

No. 71.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 12.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 9th June, 1834.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the 3d instant, and, in conformity with the Instructions therein contained, I addressed a Note to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, a Copy of which is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 71.

Earl Granville to the Comte de Rigny.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Paris, 6th June, 1834.

INTELLIGENCE has been received by His Majesty's Government, from the British Minister at Washington, that the President of the United States has returned an unfavourable answer to the proposal which was made to him, on the part of the British and French Governments, to accede to the Conventions on the subject of Slave Trade which were recently concluded between Great Britain and France.

His Majesty's Government, however, are unwilling to consider the answer of the President as an absolute refusal, and they wish to make another effort to obtain a favourable reception of their proposal.

I am instructed, therefore, to express to your Excellency the desire of His Majesty's Government that the Ministers of Great Britain and France at Washington shall be furnished with Instructions to renew to the Government of the United States the proposal to accede to the Conventions in question without any stipulation for extending the right of search to the Coasts of North America.

It was to this last-mentioned stipulation that the American Minister limited his objection when he declined the proposal which was made to him by His Majesty's Envoy; and His Majesty's Government are of opinion that it will be expedient to remove the difficulty by yielding the contested point.

I have the honour to enclose* the Draft of a proposed Instruction to Sir Charles Vaughan, together with a Copy of a Despatch from that Minister upon the subject adverted to; and His Majesty's Government, feeling persuaded that the French Government will readily co-operate towards the conclusion of so desirable an arrangement, have directed me to propose to your Excellency that similar Instructions should be given to the French Minister in the United States.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The Comte de Rigny,
&c. &c. &c.

* See Nos. 122 and 123.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 30.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 27th June, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy of a Note which I have received from the Count De Rigny, in reply to a representation I addressed to His Excellency, in compliance with the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, of the 3d instant, in which His Excellency states that Instructions will be forwarded to the French Minister at Washington, to renew to the Government of the United States, in concert with His Majesty's Minister at that place, the proposal to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France on the subject of the Slave Trade, without any stipulation for extending the right of search to the Coasts of North America.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 72.

The Comte de Rigny to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, ce 21 Juin, 1834.

VOTRE Excellence, par la Note qu'elle m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 6 de ce mois, m'exprime, au nom de son Gouvernement, le désir que le Ministre du Roi à Washington soit autorisé à faire, de concert avec le Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique, de nouvelles démarches pour déterminer le Gouvernement des Etats Unis à acceder aux Conventions conclues entre la France et l'Angleterre pour la répression de la Traite des Noirs; votre Excellence ajoute que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, dans le but de faciliter le succès de ces démarches, renonce à la proposition qu'il avait faite isolément d'étendre le droit de visite aux Côtes des Etats Unis, proposition qui semble avoir été le motif principal du refus opposé par le Gouvernement Fédéral à la demande collective d'accession formée au nom des 2 Puissances. Le Gouvernement du Roi aurait eu peu d'espoir d'amener par de nouvelles instances le Gouvernement des Etats Unis, à adhérer aux principes consacrés entre la France et la Grande Bretagne, pour la répression plus efficace de l'odieux Trafic des Noirs, si le Cabinet de Sa Majesté Britannique avait jugé devoir insister sur l'adoption d'une Clause qui, dans les négociations directes qu'il avait suivies il y a quelques années avec les Etats Unis, avait déjà soulevé de la part de ces derniers de vives objections. Mais cette Clause se trouvant écartée, de nouvelles démarches peuvent avoir plus de chances de succès; suivant le vœu que votre Excellence a été chargé de transmettre au Gouvernement du Roi, j'adresse au Ministre de Sa Majesté à Washington les instructions nécessaires pour l'autoriser à les entreprendre et à les suivre avec instance, de concert avec le Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé)

COMTE DE RIGNY.

Son Excellence Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

The Comte de Rigny to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 21st June, 1834.

YOUR Excellency, by the Note which you did me the honour to address to me on the 6th instant, expresses to me, in the name of your Government, the wish that the King's Minister at Washington may be authorized to take, in concert with His Britannic Majesty's Minister, fresh steps for determining the Government of the United States to accede to the Conventions concluded between France and England for the repression of the Slave Trade, adding that his Britannic Majesty's Government, with the view of facilitating the success of these steps, gives up the proposition which it had made separately to extend the right of search to the Coasts of the United States, which proposition seems to have been the principal ground for the refusal given by the Federal Government to the united request of accession preferred in the name of the 2 Powers. The King's Government would have entertained little hope of inducing the Government of the United States, by fresh representations, to embrace the principles acted upon by France and Great Britain, for the purpose of more effectually repressing the hateful Slave Trade, if His Britannic Majesty's Cabinet had thought proper to insist on the adoption of a Clause which, in the direct negotiations it had some years since conducted with the United States, had already, on the part of the latter, given rise to such serious objections. As, however, by the waving of this Clause, new steps may have a better chance of success, I have, in compliance with the wish which your Excellency has been directed to state to the King's Government, transmitted to His Majesty's Minister at Washington the requisite instructions for authorizing him to commence and follow them up diligently in conjunction with His Britannic Majesty's Minister.

Receive, &c.
(Signed)

COMTE DE RIGNY.

His Excellency Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 73.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, 3 Copies of Papers, marked A and B, relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,
The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B., (Signed) PALMERSTON.
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 74

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 16.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 14th July, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which I have received from the Count de Rigny, in reply to the representation which, conformably to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 19th April, I addressed to His Excellency upon the subject of inviting the Governments of Portugal, of Brazil, of the Netherlands, of Spain, and of Sweden, to accede to certain stipulations in the recent Conventions upon Slave Trade, between Great Britain and France, which are not contained in the Treaties which Great Britain has yet concluded with the above-mentioned Powers.

I have, &c.,
 (Signed) GRANVILLE.
The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 74.

The Comte de Rigny to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 11 Juillet, 1834.

D'APRÈS les observations que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de me transmettre le 6 Mai dernier, le Gouvernement du Roi a donné aux Agens de Sa Majesté auprès des Cours d'Espagne, de Portugal, du Brésil, de Suède, et des Pays-Bas, avec lesquelles la Grande Bretagne se trouve liée relativement à la répression de la traite, par des engagements particuliers, l'ordre d'inviter ces Puissances à accéder vis-à-vis de la France seulement aux stipulations des Conventions conclues sur le même objet, entre le Roi et Sa Majesté Britannique, le 30 Novembre, 1831, et le 22 Mars, 1833.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté se flatte que le Cabinet Britannique voudra bien prêter son office aux démarches que les Agens du Roi auront à faire en conséquence: de son côté ayant égard au vœu que votre Excellence a été chargé de lui exprimer, il s'est empressé d'autoriser les Missions Françaises auprès des Cours ci-dessus nommées à joindre leurs instances à celles des Agens de Sa Majesté Britannique, pour faire ajouter aux Traités particuliers de la Grande Bretagne avec ces Cours, quelques unes des clauses des Conventions conclues avec la France.

Agréé, &c.
 (Signé) COMTE DE RIGNY.
Son Excellence Earl Granville,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

The Comte de Rigny to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 11th July, 1834.

IN consequence of the observations which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 6th of May last, the King's Government has transmitted to His Majesty's Agents at the Courts of Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Sweden, and the Netherlands, with which Great Britain is on amicable terms, respecting the repression of the Slave Trade by particular engagements, the order of requesting these Powers to accede, in as far only as France is concerned, to the stipulations of the Conventions concluded on that subject between the King and His Britannic Majesty on the 30th November, 1831, and the 22d March, 1833.

His Majesty's Government flatters itself that the British Cabinet will be pleased to aid with its good offices the steps which the King's Agents will have to take accordingly: on its part, in reference to the wish which your Excellency has been directed to express to it, it has lost no time in authorizing the French Missions at the above Courts to unite their entreaties to those of the Agents of His Britannic Majesty to induce them to add to the particular Treaties of Great Britain with those Courts some of the clauses of the Conventions concluded with France.

Receivé, &c.
 (Signed) COMTE DE RIGNY.
His Excellency Earl Granville,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 75.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 31st July, 1834.

I HAVE received and laid before the King, your Excellency's Despatch of the 14th of July, 1834; and I herewith forward* to your Excellency the Copy of an Instruction, which, by His Majesty's Command, I have addressed to His Majesty's Ministers at Madrid, Lisbon, the Hague, Stockholm, and Rio de Janeiro, directing them to render every assistance in their power to the Ministers of France at the above-mentioned Courts, in their endeavours to prevail upon those Courts to accede to the Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

I am, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See Nos. 12 and 23, 34, 39, 107.

No. 76.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 30th September, 1834.

WITH reference to the invitation which has been addressed to the Emperor of Russia, to accede to the 2 Conventions concluded between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, I transmit* to your Excellency the Copy of a Despatch which I have received from Mr. Bligh, enclosing a Copy of a Note addressed to him by Count Nesselrode in answer to that invitation.

I also transmit† a Copy of the Despatch which, by His Majesty's Command, I have addressed to Mr. Bligh, in reply to the Russian Note.

Your Excellency will communicate these Papers to the French Government.

I am, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See No. 103.

† See No. 104.

No. 77.

The Duke of Wellington to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 29th December, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, and for communication to the Government of His Majesty the King of the French, the Copies of 2 Despatches,* and of their Enclosures, which have been received from Sir Charles Richard Vaughan, His Majesty's Envoy to the United States of America, containing the Answer of the Government of the United States to the proposal made to them to accede to the Conventions recently concluded between this Country and France for the more effectual suppression of the African Slave Trade.

You will perceive that the United States' Government have expressed themselves decidedly adverse to acceding to these Conventions under any modifications of them which can be suggested.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

WELLINGTON.

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

* See Nos. 127 and 128.

DENMARK.

No. 78.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. W. W. Wynn.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 10th May, 1834.

HIS Majesty's Government have had under consideration the Proposition for mutually restoring British and Danish fugitive slaves.

His Majesty's Government admit the force of the Observations made on this subject by the Minister of Denmark. In order, however, to meet the wishes of the Danish Government, as expressed in Mr. Krabbe's Note, it would be necessary that a change should be made in the existing Laws of this Country, because the Executive Government of England has not, at present, any power to deliver up a slave in any English Colony, in order that such slave may be conveyed away from that Colony, and restored to his former Master.

Whilst slavery was legally recognised in the British West India Colonies, a Law granting such power might perhaps have been proposed with success; but, after the Enactments which the Legislature has recently passed on the subject of slavery, it cannot be expected that Parliament would consent to the Proposition.

Parliament would not for an instant listen to a Proposal that Foreign slaves, who had found their way to Great Britain, should be delivered up to their former Masters.

But when the Measure of Emancipation now actually in progress shall have been carried into full effect, there will, with respect to slavery, be no difference between these Colonies and the Mother Country.

It would, therefore, be as fruitless to propose to Parliament a delivering up of slaves in the Colonies as in Great Britain.

Under these circumstances, His Majesty's Government feel that they cannot properly enter into negotiation for the arrangement, which is urged by the Danish Minister, on this subject; and I have to direct you to make a communication to the Danish Government to that effect.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 79.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 30.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, 25th May, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, of the 10th instant, informing me of the impossibility of acceding to the Proposition made by this Government, for the mutual delivery of fugitive slaves in the British and Danish West India Islands. I have now the honour of enclosing a Copy of a Note, which I have drawn up according to the tenor of your Lordship's Despatch. When I delivered it to Monsieur de Krabbe he informed me that this Government, aware of the impediment which the new Acts of the Legislature would throw in the way of any such arrangement, had given orders, which had already been acted on by the Governor, not to give refuge to any fugitive slaves from the British Islands, but to send them back immediately, as, being in general of bad character, their presence only tended to promote crime and discontent among the Danish slaves.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

H. W. WILLIAMS WYNN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

(B.)

Enclosure in No. 79.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn to the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Copenhagen, 21st May, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been instructed by His Majesty's Government, to inform Monsieur de Krabbe, &c., that they have had under their consideration the Proposition for mutually restoring British and Danish slaves.

His Majesty's Government admit the force of the Observations made on this subject. In order, however, to meet the wishes of the Danish Government, as expressed in Monsieur de Krabbe's Note, it would be necessary that a change should be made in the existing Laws of the Country, because the Executive Government of England has not at present any power to deliver up a slave in any English Colony, in order that such slave may be conveyed away from that Colony, and restored to his former Master. Whilst slavery was legally recognised in the British West India Colonies, a Law granting such power might perhaps have been proposed with success; but, after such Enactments as the Legislature has recently passed on the subject of Slavery, it cannot be expected that Parliament would consent to the Proposition; and when the Measure of Emancipation now actually in progress shall have been carried into effect, there will, with respect to slavery, be no difference between the Colonies and the Mother Country. It would, therefore, be as fruitless to propose to Parliament a delivering up of the slaves in the Colonies as in Great Britain.

Under these circumstances, His Majesty's Government feel that they cannot properly enter into negotiation for the arrangement proposed by Monsieur de Krabbe.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

His Excellency M. de Krabbe,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 80.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Copenhagen, 27th July, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a Copy of the Treaty of Accession of the King of Denmark to the Conventions between Great Britain and France, on Slave Trade.

(Signed)

H. W. WILLIAMS WYNN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

SARDINIA.

No. 81.

Sir Augustus Foster to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 27.)

(Extract.)

Turin, 11th August, 1834.

It is with great satisfaction that I now have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the Treaty of Accession of His Sardinian Majesty to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France, for the suppression of the Slave Trade; the said Treaty having been signed, on the 8th instant, in triplicate, by the Count de la Tour, the French Ambassador, and myself.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS FOSTER.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 82.

The Hon. H. E. Fox to the Duke of Wellington.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Turin, 8th December, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Grace that the Ratifications of the Slave Trade Treaty were this day exchanged, and at the same time the Additional Article to the Treaty was signed by M. de Barante, Count de la Tour, and myself, together with the Protocol preceding it.

(Signed) HENRY EDWARD FOX.

His Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

AUSTRIA.

No. 83.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Frederick Lamb.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 18th February, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency the Copies of a Convention which was concluded on the 30th of November, 1831, and of a Supplementary Convention, which was concluded on the 22d of March, 1833, between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

By the 9th Article of the first-mentioned Convention, the Contracting Parties agree to invite the accession of the other Maritime Powers; and I, accordingly, send to you the Draft of a Note which, in concert with the French Minister at Vienna, your Excellency will present to the Austrian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of inviting the Government of the Emperor of Austria to accede to the above-mentioned Conventions. His Majesty's Government, and the Government of the King of the French, are aware that, by the Declaration, at the Congress of Vienna, of the 8th of February, 1815, the Government of Austria proclaimed, in the face of Europe, its wish to put an end to the Slave Trade, which was designated, in that Document, as a scourge which had long desolated Africa, degraded Europe, and afflicted humanity; and the Declaration further states, that no proper means of securing the attainment, and of accelerating the progress, of the object desired should be rejected, and that the Engagement contracted in that Declaration, between the Sovereigns who were parties to it, could not be considered as completely fulfilled until the period of the universal abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

The Governments of Great Britain and France, therefore, confidently hope that the answer which will be returned to this Communication will announce the readiness of the Emperor of Austria to accede to the Conventions in question.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lamb, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 83.

Note to be presented to the Austrian Government.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received orders from his Court to make the following Communications to, &c.

Two Conventions, one of them Principal, the other Supplementary, both of which have for their object the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, were concluded,—the one on the 30th of November, 1831, and the other on the 22d of March, 1833,—between His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and His Majesty the King of the French.

By Article 9 of the Principal Convention, the 2 High Contracting Parties stipulated that they would, in concert, invite the accession of the other Maritime Powers, within as short a period as possible.

In consequence of this Stipulation, the Undersigned has been directed to transmit, for the information of the accompanying Copies of the 2 Conventions above mentioned, as well as of the several Documents annexed to them, and to invite His (Imperial) Majesty, in the name of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to accord his accession thereto, by the execution of a formal Treaty to that effect with the Contracting Parties to the original Conventions.

No. 84.

Sir Frederick Lamb to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 15.)

MY LORD,

Vienna, 4th March, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 18th ultimo. As the French Ambassador has not yet received any

Instructions upon the subject from his Government, I shall defer the execution of your Lordship's orders until they arrive.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

F. LAMB.

The Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No: 85.

Sir Frederick Lamb to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 21.)

MY LORD,

Vienna, 9th May, 1834.

IN obedience to your Lordship's Despatch of the 18th ultimo, I presented, on the 7th instant, the Note enclosed in that Despatch. The French Ambassador, having received orders to act in conjunction with me, presented, at the same time, a Note which had been transmitted to him for that purpose.

I enclose a Copy of it, with which he has had the goodness to furnish me, and have given him a Copy of mine, for communication to his Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

F. LAMB.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 85.

The French Ambassador at Vienna to the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

LE Soussigné, &c., &c., &c., a reçu de son Gouvernement l'ordre d'adresser à Son Altesse le Prince de Metternich, &c., &c., &c., la Communication suivante :

Deux Conventions, l'une Principale, l'autre Supplémentaire, ont été conclues le 30 Novembre, 1831, et le 22 Mars, 1833, entre Sa Majesté le Roi des François, et Sa Majesté le Roi du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et Irlande, dans le but de rendre plus efficace la répression de la Traite des Noirs.

Par l'Article 9 de la Convention Principale, les 2 Hautes Parties Contractantes ont stipulé qu'elle inviteroient de concert les autres Puissances Maritimes à y accéder dans le plus bref délai possible.

En conséquence de cette Stipulation, le Soussigné a été chargé de porter à la connoissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche le Texte des 2 Conventions susdites, ainsi que de leurs Annexes, et de l'inviter, au nom de Sa Majesté le Roi des François, à vouloir bien y accéder en concluant à cet effet un Traité formel avec les Parties Contractantes des Conventions ci-jointes.

Le Soussigné, &c.,

(Signé)

STE. AULAIRE.

Son Altesse Monsieur le Prince de Metternich,
&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., &c., &c., has been directed by his Government to address to His Highness Prince Metternich, &c., &c., &c., the following Communication :

Two Conventions, the one Principal, and the other Supplementary were concluded on the 30th November, 1831, and the 22d March, 1833, between His Majesty the King of the French, and His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with the view of rendering the repression of the Slave Trade more efficacious.

By Article 9 of the Principal Convention, the 2 High Contracting Parties have stipulated, by concert, to request the other Maritime Powers to accede thereto as speedily as possible.

In consequence of this Stipulation, the Undersigned has been directed to communicate to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Austria the contents of the above 2 Conventions, as well as of their Annexes, and to request it, in the name of His Majesty the King of the French, to be pleased to accede thereto, by concluding to that effect a formal Treaty with the Contracting Parties to the enclosed Conventions.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed)

STE AULAIRE.

His Highness Prince Metternich,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 86.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Frederick Lamb.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lamb, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

PRUSSIA.

No. 87.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto.

Foreign Office, 18th February, 1834.

(AN Instruction similar to that sent to Mr. F. Lamb, of the same date.—See No 83.)

No. 88.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship, for your information, a Copy of Papers marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

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

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 89.

Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 11.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 6th August, 1834.

I YESTERDAY sent Monsieur Ancillon a Note, of which the Draft had reached me in your Lordship's Despatch of the 18th February last, requesting the adhesion of the Prussian Government to the Treaties concluded between the Governments of England and France, for the suppression of the Slave Trade. It is necessary that I should explain to your Lordship that the delay in executing your Instructions on this subject has arisen solely from the want of similar Instructions from the French Government to its Minister here, and which have only very recently reached Monsieur Bresson.

I have not been able to see Monsieur Ancillon to-day, but I hope next post to be able to state to your Lordship that the Prussian Government has acceded to the Treaties.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

MINTO.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 90.

Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 19.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 13th August, 1834.

THERE is likely to be more difficulty than I had anticipated in obtaining the accession of this Government to our Conventions with France for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

M. Ancillon, indeed, does not deny the obligation which his Government had contracted to employ its best efforts for the extinction of this Trade, and he professes to participate in all our anxiety for the attainment of that object: but he says that the Prussian Flag never has been, and never can be, employed to cover the Traffic in Slaves; that Prussia has but little commerce with Countries within the limits to which these Conventions are applicable; and that what she has is exclusively carried on in ships of the Maritime Company, and of the Company

of Elberfeldt, both sufficiently under the control of the Government to render their participation in the Slave Trade impossible. Such being the case, the accession of Prussia to our Conventions would, he says, be a gratuitous concession of the principle of the right of search where no opportunity of exercising it could occur, and from which, consequently, no benefit could accrue.

I observed that, if the Prussian flag had not hitherto appeared in the Slave Trade, it was because those who were engaged in the traffic could navigate securely under other colours; but that, when protection was withdrawn from them in one quarter, they would seek it in another, and that the general concurrence of all Maritime States was therefore necessary to give effect to our exertions in this cause. It might be true, I said, that not a single Prussian ship would be actually subjected to search under the provisions of these Conventions, which might thus appear to be nugatory as regarded his Government, but that, in appreciating the importance of the measure, he must consider what would be the consequence of inviting the Slave Trader, by the rejection of our proposal, to take refuge under the Prussian flag. The registry, to which foreign-built ships are admitted in the ports of Prussia, and the absence of a national navy, whose cruizers might have been troublesome, were, I observed, in themselves, circumstances presenting peculiar facilities for carrying on the Slave Trade, which were not likely to be overlooked by those who were engaged in it; and, if to this were added the assurance of immunity from all molestation by the ships of war of other Nations, the Slave Trader, under the protection of the Prussian colours, might continue to elude the vigilance of the French and British Navies.

As M. Ancillon himself admitted that no practical inconvenience could result from his accession to our Conventions, I expressed my earnest hope that he would give this proposal a more favourable attention than it had yet obtained from him. He promised that it should be submitted to the serious consideration of the Government, and that no Answer should be returned to my Note till he had an opportunity of conversing further with me upon the subject.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

MINTO.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 91.

Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Sept. 2.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 27th August, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 8th ultimo, enclosing Papers A. and B.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

MINTO.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 92.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th September, 1834.

I HAVE received your Lordship's Despatch, of the 13th of August, 1834, on the subject of the proposed accession of His Prussian Majesty to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France, relative to Slave Trade.

I observe that the Prussian Government admits its obligation to employ its best efforts for the extinction of the trade, and professes to participate in our anxiety for the attainment of the object; but M. Ancillon declines to accede to the Conventions in question, contending that the Prussian flag has never yet been employed to cover the traffic in Slaves, and never can be so employed in future; that Prussia has but little commerce with Countries within the limits to which these Conventions are applicable; and that what she has is carried on exclusively in ships of the Maritime Company, and of the Company of Elberfeldt, both sufficiently under the control of the Government to render their partici-

pation in the Slave Trade impossible. Such being the case, M. Ancillon contends that the accession of Prussia to these Conventions would be a gratuitous concession, on her part, of the principle of the right of search, where no opportunity of exercising that right by Prussian ships of war would ever occur; and that Prussia could, therefore, derive no benefit whatever from such a concession.

Notwithstanding these objections, your Lordship is instructed to renew your application for the formal accession of Prussia to these Conventions; for I feel persuaded that the Prussian Government will, on further consideration, be disposed to admit that their arguments are less conclusive than they may at first have imagined them to be, and will see that their objections may easily be obviated by reservations in the Treaty of Accession.

In discussing the subject with the Prussian Government, you will state that although the commercial navy of His Prussian Majesty may not much frequent the seas in which the Slave Trade is carried on, and may never have engaged in that Trade, and may be so completely under the control of the Government as to preclude the possibility of its being so engaged, yet if His Prussian Majesty should not accede to these Treaties, ships of other Countries may fraudulently assume the flag of Prussia, in order to protect themselves from search and hinderance in their traffic; and thus, in a matter in which Prussian subjects have no interest, the flag of Prussia might be prostituted by strangers to purposes abhorrent to the benevolent sentiments of His Prussian Majesty.

You will further remark, that the concession of the right of search would be mutual between Prussia, Great Britain, and France; would stand upon specific Convention; and would be limited, in the case of each Nation, to vessels met with under circumstances which may give just cause of suspecting that they are employed in Slave Trade.

His Prussian Majesty, therefore, without any inconvenience to his own subjects, or any interference with their interests, and without infringing upon any international principles, would, by acceding to these Conventions, be enabled to afford to the World an additional and honourable proof of those enlightened and humane sentiments by which His Prussian Majesty is so well known to be animated; and would, at the same time, have the satisfaction of giving to England and France a most important aid in accomplishing the benevolent objects which those Powers have in view.

You will add, that the enclosed Draft of Treaty has been prepared with a view to meet the peculiar feelings and position of His Prussian Majesty with regard to all the above points; and you will express the confident hope of His Majesty's Government that the enclosed Draft may meet with the concurrence of the Prussian Government.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 93.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Minto.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 15th September, 1834.

WITH reference to my previous Despatches to your Lordship on the subject of the proposed Treaty of Accession of the King of Prussia to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade, I herewith furnish your Lordship with the forms, in English, of the Warrants, Instructions, and Signals, to be used by the Commanders of the cruizers, English and Prussian, respectively, acting under the Treaty of Accession referred to.

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

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 94.

Earl Minto to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 30.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 24th September, 1834.

I HAVE communicated to M. Ancillon your Lordship's Despatches of the 8th and 15th instant, and His Excellency admits that the modifications which it

is proposed to introduce into the Treaty, may have the effect of meeting some of his objections. He had previously suggested that we might perhaps be satisfied with an Engagement to furnish His Majesty's Government with a List and Description of any Ships fitting out in the Ports of Prussia, to trade within the limits to which the Treaty proposed by us was applicable. The means of distinguishing these ships, for whose pursuits the Prussian Government rendered itself responsible, could, he said, easily be afforded to us, and that, whilst these were respected by our cruisers, we might securely deal as we please with all others who assumed the Prussian colours, and who could only be pirates.

After pointing out to M. Ancillon the various objections to such an expedient which present themselves at first sight, I observed that his proposals implied concessions, on the part of Prussia, much beyond any thing that we had sought, and such as, I was sure, it was impossible he could contemplate; that it went to authorize a British cruiser to examine and detain every Prussian ship which might be found in certain latitudes, with the exception of such as might have sailed last from a Prussian Port, and this without a reciprocal concession on our side. His Excellency appeared to feel the force of this objection, which had not occurred to him, and undertook to communicate the Draft of the Treaty and of the Instructions, which I left in his hands, to the Minister of Finance and Commerce, from whom a Report has been required before the Government takes any steps in this affair.

After I had made him more distinctly understand the object and provisions of our Treaty, His Excellency expressed his conviction that we should have no difficulty in coming to a satisfactory arrangement; but no direct assurance or opinion can be obtained from him before the Report of the Minister of Finance is received.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B., (Signed) MINTO.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 95.

Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 23.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 13th October, 1834.

I HAD this morning an opportunity of asking M. Ancillon what progress had been made in drawing up the answer of the Prussian Government to the Convention which Lord Minto had proposed by order of your Lordship.

His Excellency informed me, that the Report which he had expected to receive from the Ministers, his colleagues, had not yet reached him, but that it could not be much longer retarded: M. Ancillon then said, that he had heard that the Russian Government, in answer to the same proposal on the part of His Majesty's Government, had expressed a wish that Conferences should be opened in London upon the subject, in which the Plenipotentiaries of the Powers interested might take part.

His Excellency M. Ancillon, however, did not appear to be willing to adopt the proposal of the Russian Cabinet, and added, that he did not conceive that such a course would tend to a more speedy arrangement of the object so anxiously desired by His Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

R. ABERCROMBIE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 96.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 27th October, 1834.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 13th instant, in which you mention that M. Ancillon had alluded to the proposal which had been made by the Russian Government, that Conferences should be opened in London for the

(B.)

purpose of seeking out the most effectual means of preventing the Slave Trade, and of punishing those who engage in that traffic.

His Majesty's Government have declined this proposition; and I transmit to you the Copy of the Despatch,* which, by His Majesty's Command, I addressed to Mr. Bligh, in reply to the Russian Note upon this subject.

You are at liberty to read that Despatch to Mr. Ancillon.

R. Abercrombie, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

* See No. 104.

No. 97.

Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 11.)

MY LORD,

Berlin, 4th November, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, of the 27th ultimo, together with its Enclosure.

I this morning communicated to His Excellency, Monsieur Ancillon, your Lordship's Despatch to Mr. Bligh, in answer to the Note of Count Nesselrode; and His Excellency having requested me to leave it with him, that he might read it more attentively, I complied with his desire.

His Excellency stated to me that the loss of M. de Maassen, Minister of Finance, whose decease took place on Sunday last, will retard for a short time his official answer to the propositions of His Majesty's Government, but that he thought an arrangement could be made which would satisfy all parties, by the adoption of an expedient which His Excellency had already mentioned to Lord Minto,—that British Commanders on certain Stations should be furnished by the Prussian Government with authority to search, in the name of the Prussian Government, such Prussian vessels as were suspected of being engaged in this cruel and revolting traffic.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

R. ABERCROMBIE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

RUSSIA.

No. 98.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. D. Bligh.

Foreign Office, 18th Feb. 1834.

(A SIMILAR Instruction to that sent to Sir F. Lamb on the same day.—
See No. 83.)

No. 99.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 26.)

MY LORD,

St. Petersburg, 14th May, 1834.

I FORWARDED to Count Nesselrode 3 days ago, as instructed in your Lordship's Despatch of February 18, the Note of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy. At a subsequent interview, I pointed out to His Excellency the reasons why the Russian Government, as clearly explained in that Despatch, should not be backward amongst the Maritime Powers in acceding to this invitation of His Majesty's Government, to agree to measures which can alone effect the annihilation of a Traffic so disgraceful to humanity.

Count Nesselrode replied that it was a question in which Russia, from the circumstances of her position, was little interested, but that, before he could give any answer to the proposal of His Majesty's Government, he must refer to what had passed on this subject at the Congresses of Vienna and Aix-la-Chapelle.

The French Ambassador, who presented to Count Nesselrode, at the same time, a Note, conceived in the same sense as the enclosed, did not receive authority to move in this business until a few days ago; and, as I was instructed to act in concert with him, I was prevented from fulfilling sooner your Lordship's wishes.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 99.

Mr. Bligh to the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

St. Petersburg, 10th May, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received orders from his Court to make the following Communication to His Excellency the Vice Chancellor Count Nesselrode :

Two Conventions, one of them Principal, the other Supplementary, both of which have for their object the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, were concluded, the one on the 30th of November, 1831, and the other on the 22d of March, 1833, between His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the French.

By Article 9 of the Principal Convention, the two High Contracting Parties stipulated that they would, in concert, invite the accession of the other Maritime Powers within as short a period as possible.

In consequence of this stipulation, the Undersigned has been directed to transmit, for the information of His Excellency the Vice Chancellor Count Nesselrode, the accompanying Copies of the 2 Conventions above mentioned, as well as of the several Documents annexed to them, and to invite His Imperial Majesty, in the name of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to accord his accession thereto by the execution of a formal Treaty to that effect with the Contracting Parties to the original Conventions.

The Undersigned seizes, &c., &c.

(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

His Excellency Count Nesselrode,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 100.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. D. Bligh.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 6th June, 1834.

I HAVE received, and laid before the King, your Despatch of the 14th instant, reporting that you had, in compliance with Instructions from me, addressed a proposal to the Russian Government, for their accession to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I regret to find, from your Despatch, that Count Nesselrode has expressed an opinion that Russia is but little interested in this question; but I have no doubt that, when he has made the reference, which he announced to you his intention of making, to what passed at the Congresses of Vienna and Aix-la-Chapelle upon this subject, he will admit that the sentiments then expressed on the part of Russia were by no means in unison with those which he seems now to entertain.

If, however, the Russian Government should, on the ground stated by Count Nesselrode, make a difficulty in acquiescing in the proposal, you will be careful to point out to that Minister, that, though Russia may not, at first sight, appear to have any direct interest in this matter, yet, if she does not accede, her flag may be assumed by persons engaged in this disgraceful traffic, and the protection of that flag may thus be prostituted to bad purposes in a way that cannot be conducive to her honour as a great Power.

You will urge, therefore, upon Count Nesselrode, that, as a point of honour, and even setting aside those principles of humanity which, in the reign of the Emperor Alexander, so strongly influenced the policy of the Imperial Cabinet on this subject, Russia has a sufficient interest in this matter to lead her to accede to these Conventions.

The Hon J. D. Bligh,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 101.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. D. Bligh.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A and B, relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 102.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 15.)

MY LORD,

St. Petersburg, 3d September, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches of the 6th June and 8th July, 1834; the latter enclosing Papers presented to Parliament.

I am still without any reply to the Note to Count Nesselrode, by which, as instructed by your Lordship, I invited the Russian Government to accede to the Conventions concluded on the 30th November, 1831, and 22d March, 1833, between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves; but Count Nesselrode has, on more than one occasion, told me that the Answer to be returned to that invitation was under consideration, and he lately promised me that it would not be delayed above a few days.

In my conversations with His Excellency on the subject, I have not failed to urge the reasons adduced in your Lordship's Despatch, of the 6th June, why His Majesty's Government have grounds for expecting that the decision of the Russian Government in this matter will be in accordance with their wishes.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 103.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston. (Received September 19.)

MY LORD,

St. Petersburg, 10th September, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note from Count Nesselrode, in answer to mine of the 11th May, inviting the Russian Government to adhere to the Conventions, concluded between His Majesty's and the French Government, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, by which your Lordship will see that the efficacy of the measures agreed upon in those Conventions is fully admitted, an undiminished desire to contribute to the end proposed is assumed on the part of the Russian Government, and a readiness expressed to allow a mutual right of search in furtherance of that end, but that they decline being Parties to any Convention of that nature without a renewal of Negotiations on the subject, in concert with the Austrian, French, British, and Prussian Governments, which Count Nesselrode declares the willingness of the Emperor to enter upon without delay.

I have given Count Nesselrode a verbal acknowledgment of this Note, without at all commenting upon it.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 103.

*The Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Bligh.**St. Petersburg, le 27 Août, 1834.*

Le Soussigné a porté à la Connaissance de l'Empereur la Note que Monsieur Bligh, Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté le Roi du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, lui a fait l'honneur de lui adresser le ^{29 Avril,} _{11 Mai,} ainsi que les 2 Conventions qui s'y trouvaient annexées, et qui ont été conclues, l'une le 30 Novembre, 1831, l'autre le 22 Mars, 1833, entre Sa Majesté le Roi du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande et sa Majesté le Roi des Français, dans le but de rendre plus efficace la répression de la Traite des Noirs.

Une Communication absolument semblable a été adressée au Cabinet Impérial, au nom et de la part de Sa Majesté le Roi des Français.

L'une et l'autre sont accompagnées de la proposition d'accéder aux 2 Conventions susdites et de réaliser cette accession au moyen d'un Traité formel.

Cette ouverture a été examinée par Sa Majesté Impériale avec une sérieuse attention et ce juste intérêt que le Cabinet de Russie a pris de tout temps aux délibérations et aux mesures qui avaient pour but l'abolition définitive et générale de la Traite des Nègres.

Sa Majesté Impériale ne saurait oublier, et les Cabinets Anglais et Français se rappelleront, sans doute, la vive sollicitude et la co-opération loyale que l'Empereur Alexandre de glorieuse mémoire vouait à cet objet important. Partageant à cet égard les sentimens de Son Auguste Prédécesseur, Sa Majesté n'a cessé de former elle-même des vœux pour que les Puissances qui sont le plus directement intéressées à l'extinction du Trafic des Noirs, et qui disposent seules des moyens de le faire cesser entièrement, puissent enfin tomber d'accord entre elles sur un système de répression efficace. C'est dans cet esprit que l'Empereur a examiné d'une part la proposition qui vient de lui être faite par les 2 Cours d'Angleterre et de France, et que de l'autre il s'est rendu compte à lui-même des engagements que son Cabinet a contractés à l'égard d'une question qui a fait pendant de si longues années l'objet des délibérations des 5 Grandes Puissances.

Et d'abord, Sa Majesté se plaît à féliciter les 2 Cabinets de Londres et de Paris de s'être réunis dans l'adoption de mesure de répression commune, que les Plénipotentiaires de Sa Majesté Britannique aux Congrès d'Aix-la-Chapelle et de Vérone représentèrent dès lors comme la seule efficace pour faire cesser le Trafic des Noirs.

Il semble, en effet, que par l'adhésion de la France au système de visite réciproque, un résultat important a été obtenu dans l'intérêt d'une cause à laquelle le Cabinet Britannique a voué de si nobles et de si constans efforts. Pour compléter ce système, les Parties Contractantes sont convenues de lui obtenir l'accession des autres Puissances Maritimes. Celle des Etats dont les bâtimens marchands couvrent l'Océan Atlantique paraît effectivement nécessaire, si l'on ne veut que la cupidité qui ne recule devant aucun moyen, quelque coupable qu'il soit d'ailleurs, rende illusoirs les mesures les mieux combinées.

Dans les négociations antérieures, le Cabinet Impérial a toujours exprimé cette conviction. Quant à lui-même, il ne saurait se dissimuler sans doute que la Russie ne peut avoir à cette question d'autre intérêt que celui qu'inspirent des sentimens de morale et d'humanité. Jamais son pavillon n'a servi, ni ne saurait même dans l'état actuel de son commerce maritime, servir à des entreprises du genre de celles qu'il s'agit de réprimer. Il n'est donc guère à prévoir que l'application du droit de visite réciproque puisse jamais atteindre un navire Russe, ou que le Gouvernement soit dans le cas de sévir contre un de ses sujets pour contravention aux lois sur la traite. D'un autre côté, la position géographique de la Russie ne lui permet pas d'entretenir des stations navales permanentes dans les parages où se poursuit la Traite des Nègres; et, d'ailleurs, l'exécution de la mesure sur laquelle l'Angleterre et la France sont tombées d'accord entre elles, n'a pas besoin, pour atteindre son but, de sa co-opération active et immédiate.

Néanmoins, Sa Majesté Impériale, fidèle à la ligne de conduite suivie par Son Auguste Prédécesseur, consent à ne pas rester en dehors d'une combinaison qu'il n'a pas dépendu du Cabinet Impérial de

voir réaliser plutôt. Le Soussigné est, en conséquence, autorisé à annoncer à Monsieur Bligh, que l'Empereur, son Maître, à la suite de l'invitation amicale qui vient de lui être faite, est disposé à reprendre, conformément au mode suivi antérieurement, le fil des négociations relatives à l'abolition de la Traite des Nègres ; que comme, en vertu de l'Article Additionnel au Traité du 4^o Novembre, 1815, ainsi que des Protocoles d'Aix-la-Chapelle et de Vérone, le siège de ces négociations s'est trouvé établi à Londres, Sa Majesté propose de les y ouvrir de nouveau avec le concours des Cabinets d'Autriche et de Prusse, et dans le but d'une entente commune entre les 5 Puissances signataires de ces transactions ; que, quant au principal objet de ces délibérations, clairement défini dans la déclaration signée à Vérone, le 28 Novembre, 1822, ce serait *la recherche des moyens les plus efficaces pour prévenir le Trafic des Noirs, et pour punir rigoureusement ceux qui le poursuivent en contravention manifeste aux lois qui l'ont déjà proscrit, et l'examen de toute mesure compatible avec les droits des Cabinets respectifs et avec les intérêts de leurs sujets, à l'effet d'amener un résultat constatant aux yeux du monde la sincérité de leurs vœux en faveur d'une cause digne de leur sollicitude commune* ; que, sous ce rapport l'Empereur n'hésite point à déclarer dès à présent qu'il est prêt, pour sa part, d'adhérer en principe, et pour un espace de temps à déterminer, au système de surveillance maritime, déjà convenu entre l'Angleterre et la France, et dont un droit de visite réciproque, mais limité, forme la base ; que, sans pouvoir prendre aucun engagement quant à une co-opération active de la Russie à ce système de surveillance maritime, Sa Majesté Impériale se réserverait expressément à cet égard une entière réciprocité de droits et de concessions ; enfin, pour ce qui concerne plus particulièrement l'application de ce système à la situation de la Russie, et les stipulations de détail qu'il s'agirait d'arrêter d'un commun accord, à l'effet d'assurer à cette nouvelle combinaison ce caractère de juste réciprocité qui doit former la base de toute transaction entre Gouvernements, comme elle en fait la plus sure garantie, le Cabinet Impérial attendra avec intérêt les propositions ultérieures que les 2 Cabinets de Londres et de Paris voudront bien lui faire parvenir.

Le Soussigné, en s'acquittant des ordres de son Souverain, par cette communication, qui est également adressée à M. l'Ambassadeur de France, prie Monsieur Bligh de vouloir bien le porter à la connaissance de sa Cour. Aussitôt que l'Empereur aura été informé de l'acquiescement du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique et de celui de Sa Majesté le Roi des Français au plan proposé ci-dessus, Sa Majesté Impériale fera tracer à son Représentant à Londres les Instructions, et le munira des pouvoirs nécessaires pour le mettre à même de prendre part aux délibérations.

Le Soussigné, &c.,
(Signé)

NESSELRODE.

A. M. M. Bligh,
&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

St. Petersburg, 27th August, 1834.

THE Undersigned has laid before the Emperor the Note which Mr. Bligh, Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, did him the honour to address to him on the 29th April, (11th May,) as well as the 2 Conventions thereto annexed, and which were concluded, the one on the 30th November, 1831, and the other on the 22d of March, 1833, between His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and his Majesty the King of the French, for the purpose of rendering the repression of the Slave Trade more efficacious.

An entirely similar communication has been addressed to the Imperial Cabinet, in the name and on the part of His Majesty the King of the French.

Both communications are accompanied by the proposal to accede to the above 2 Conventions, and to realize this accession by means of a formal Treaty.

This offer has been examined by His Imperial Majesty with serious attention, and with the just interest taken all along by the Russian Cabinet in the deliberations and measures which had the final and general abolition of the Slave Trade for their object.

His Imperial Majesty cannot forget, and the English and French Cabinets will no doubt recollect, the lively solicitude and the cordial co-operation which the Emperor Alexander, of glorious memory, devoted to this important object. Sharing in this respect the sentiments of his august Predecessor, His Majesty has himself uniformly entertained the wish that the Powers most directly interested in the extinction of the Slave Trade, and who alone are in the possession of the means to put entirely an end to it, might at length agree among themselves on some system of effectual repression. In this spirit the Emperor has examined, on the one hand, the proposal made him by the 2 Courts of England and France, and has, on the other, considered the engagements which his Cabinet has contracted in regard to a question which for so many years has been the object of the deliberations of the 5 great Powers.

In the first place, His Majesty is happy to find that the 2 Cabinets of London and Paris have united in adopting the measure of common repression which the Plenipotentiaries of His Britannic Majesty, at the Congresses of Aix-la-Chapelle and Vienna, represented, even then, as the only effectual mode of putting a stop to the Slave Trade.

It certainly appears that, by the approbation given by France to the system of reciprocal search, an important result has been obtained in the interest of a cause to which the British Cabinet has devoted such noble and constant efforts. In order to complete this system, the Contracting Parties have agreed to procure for it the accession of the other Maritime Powers. Those of the States whose merchant ships cover the Atlantic Ocean seem really necessary, unless it be wished that cupidity, which is reckless of any means, however culpable they may be in other respects, should render the best combined measures illusory.

During the former negotiations the Imperial Cabinet always manifested this conviction. As to herself, Russia is fully aware that she cannot have any other interest in this question than that inspired by the sentiments of morality and humanity. Her flag never has been, and in the present state of her maritime commerce never can be, employed in such enterprises as those which it is the question to repress. It is therefore not likely that the application of the right of reciprocal search should ever extend to any Russian ship, or that the Government should have occasion for rigorous measures against any of its subjects on account of having transgressed the laws relative to the Slave Trade. On the other hand, the geographical position of Russia does not permit her to keep up permanent naval stations in the latitudes where the Slave Trade is carried on ; and, besides, the execution of the

measure on which England and France have agreed among themselves, needs not, in order to attain its object, her active and immediate co-operation.

Nevertheless His Imperial Majesty, faithful to the line of conduct pursued by his august Predecessor, is willing not to keep aloof from a combination which it has not been the fault of the Imperial Cabinet not to have seen realized earlier. The Undersigned is, therefore, authorized to inform Mr. Bligh that the Emperor, his master, is disposed, in consequence of the friendly invitation addressed to him, to take up, according to the manner pursued formerly, the thread of the negotiations relative to the abolition of the Slave Trade; that as, in virtue of the additional article to the Treaty of 2^d November, 1815, as well as of the Protocols of Aix-la-Chapelle and of Verona, the seat of these negotiations was established at London, His Majesty proposes to open them there again, with the concurrence of the Cabinets of Austria and of Prussia, and with the view of coming to a common understanding between the 5 Powers who signed those transactions; that, as to the principal object of these deliberations, which was clearly defined in the declaration signed at Verona, on the 28th November, 1822, that object would consist in *discovering the most effectual means for preventing the Slave Trade, and for rigorously punishing those who carry it on in open contravention of the laws which have already proscribed it, and in examining every measure compatible with the rights of the respective Cabinets and with the interests of their subjects, to the end of bringing about a result manifesting in the eyes of the world the sincerity of their wishes in favour of a cause deserving their common solicitude*; that, under this point of view, the Emperor hesitates not immediately to declare, that he is ready, on his part, to adhere, in principle, and for a period to be fixed, to the system of maritime surveillance, already agreed upon between England and France, and of which the right of reciprocal, but limited, search, forms the basis; that, without being able to enter into any engagement respecting an active co-operation of Russia towards this system of maritime surveillance, His Imperial Majesty would expressly reserve to himself in this respect an entire reciprocity of rights and concessions; and, finally, as to what concerns more particularly the application of this system to the situation of Russia, and the stipulations in detail which it would be necessary to enter into by concert, in order to insure to this new combination the character of just reciprocity which must form the basis of every agreement between Governments, as it constitutes the surest guarantee of them, the Imperial Cabinet looks forward with interest to the further propositions which the 2 Cabinets of London and Paris will be pleased to communicate to it.

The Undersigned, in complying with the orders of His Sovereign by the present Communication, which is likewise addressed to the Ambassador of France, requests Mr. Bligh to have the goodness to transmit it to his Court. As soon as the Emperor shall have been informed of the acquiescence of the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and of that of His Majesty the King of the French, in the plan proposed above, His Imperial Majesty will order his Representative in London to be furnished with instructions, and provide him with the necessary powers to enable him to take part in the deliberations.

The Honourable Mr. Bligh,
&c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed)

NESSELRODE.

No. 104.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. D. Bligh.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th September, 1834.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatch of the 10th instant, enclosing the Copy of a Note from Count Nesselrode, in answer to that which you addressed to him on the 11th of May last, inviting the Emperor of Russia to accede to the Conventions concluded between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

You will express to Count Nesselrode the satisfaction with which His Majesty's Government have learnt, by this Note, that the same sentiments of generous humanity which were felt and acted upon by the Emperor Alexander, with respect to this detestable traffic, continue to animate the Councils of the Russian Government; and that His Imperial Majesty, not content with a barren expression of these honourable feelings, is prepared to carry them actively into execution, and to co-operate with Great Britain and France, and with the other Maritime Powers of Europe, in the measures best calculated to extinguish finally and effectually a practice which deserves rather to be called piracy than commerce, and which is so entirely repugnant to the sentiments and principles of His Imperial Majesty.

It is true, as stated by Count Nesselrode, that Russia has no other interest in this matter than that which arises from her sentiments of morality and humanity; that her commercial flag is not likely to be employed in such undertakings as those which we are now striving to prevent; and that her own merchant ships, therefore, can scarcely ever be exposed to the operation of the mutual right of search; it may be true that the geographical position of Russia does not allow her permanently to keep up a naval force in those parts of the world where the Slave Trade is carried on, and that, consequently, her active assistance in the execution of the proposed measures could hardly be afforded.

But all these considerations appear to His Majesty's Government to be so many reasons which ought to induce the Government of Russia to accede, without hesitation, to the Conventions which have now been proposed to her.

If Russian subjects and Russian ships were engaged in carrying on the Slave Trade, or if Russia had Colonies in which slave labour was employed for the cultivation of the soil, the Russian Government might contend,—as many persons in England and France have, at various times contended,—that interests which have grown up under the sanction of the law, however immoral in principle that law may be, ought not to be crushed at once, or without compensation, by the rigid and immediate enforcement of sounder maxims, that some delay ought to be allowed to the parties concerned, in order to enable them to adapt their arrangements to the more enlightened opinions which have now begun to prevail: but the Russian Government is free from the difficulties in this respect which the English and French Governments have had to contend with.

Russia is not called upon to sacrifice, in the remotest degree, any Russian interest to the principles of humanity, and the Russian Government, therefore, is able to give full and entire effect to its benevolent sentiments, without the slightest injury to any class whatever of its subjects. All that Great Britain and France now ask of Russia is to enter into an agreement, by the effect of which pirates, and outlaw adventurers of other Countries, shall be forbidden from fraudulently assuming the Russian flag as a cloak for their own base traffic; shall be deprived of the means of prostituting that flag to purposes abhorrent to the sentiments of the Russian Government; and shall be prevented from casting upon the Russian name dishonour which it does not deserve.

If Russian ships of war are not likely to be sent to stations where this traffic is carried on, still no material inconvenience will arise from this circumstance; for Great Britain and France have means enough of their own to execute the provisions of the Conventions, and thus the Russian Government will have the satisfaction of knowing that, by its accession to the Conventions, it will have afforded to Great Britain and France additional facilities for carrying their humane purposes into effect, while, at the same time, the Russian navy will not be required to take any share in the unwholesome, laborious, and irksome service connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade.

But the Russian Government, while it declares its complete and entire concurrence in the principles upon which the present proposition has been founded, expresses its preference for another method of carrying those principles into effect; and, instead of acceding at once to the Conventions which have been concluded by Great Britain and France, suggests that fresh Negotiations should be opened, either in London or elsewhere, for the purpose of “seeking out the most effectual means of preventing the Slave Trade, and of punishing those who engage in it; and for the purpose of examining what measures could be adopted for this end, compatible with the rights of the respective Governments, and the interest of their subjects;” quoting, on this occasion, the words of a Resolution entered into at the Congress of Verona in 1822.

His Majesty’s Government would be far from wishing pertinaciously to adhere to their own proposal, if the object which they have in view could be equally attained by another mode of proceeding; but they cannot refrain from submitting, for the consideration of the Russian Cabinet, that the proposition of Count Nesselrode is not applicable to the present state of the questions to which it relates, and that to adopt it would be going backwards, instead of forwards, in this matter.

In 1822 it was a great point gained to have succeeded in engaging all the Powers who were represented at Verona to pledge themselves to the principles laid down in the resolution quoted by Count Nesselrode; but, in the 12 years which have since elapsed, great progress has been made towards the practical execution of those principles, various Treaties have been concluded for that purpose between the several Powers of Christendom, the mutual right of search has been conceded for this end by Great Britain and France, and Great Britain has gone further still in the practical application of the principles which she professes, for she has absolutely abolished slavery in her Colonies at the cost of no less a sum than £20,000,000 sterling, granted as compensation to her Colonial Proprietors.

It would, therefore, be a useless waste of time for the Powers of Europe now to replace themselves, with respect to this question, in the situation in which they stood in 1822, merely in order to work back again, by a process of negotiation, to the point at which Great Britain and France have already arrived by their own reciprocal and spontaneous engagements.

‘The most effectual means of preventing the Traffic in Slaves’ need no longer be investigated, because they have already been found out; and they are contained in the Conventions to which the Russian accession is required.

Those means are,—mutual right of search within certain latitudes and longitudes; the condemnation of vessels fitted up in a particular manner, although no slaves should actually be found on board; the breaking up of all vessels which may be condemned for Slave Trading; and the application of these means has, by the Conventions in question, been so arranged as to be “compatible with the rights of the respective Governments, and with the lawful interests of their subjects.”

His Majesty’s Government, therefore, can see no possible advantage which could arise from the opening of such Conferences as those suggested by Count Nesselrode.

If the Russian Government thinks that there are any peculiarities in the geographical, political, or commercial situation of Russia which would require that she should attach modifications or reservations to her accession to the Conventions of 1831 and 1833, the Governments of Great Britain and France would, of course, be ready to take such modifications and reservations into consideration, and if they were found not to interfere with the efficacy of the Conventions, Great Britain and France would no doubt consent to accept them; but it cannot be necessary to open a Conference of the Great Powers of Europe in order to make and consider such propositions.

You will, therefore, again urge the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to accede to the proposal which has been made to it by those of London and Paris; and you will express the anxious hope of His Majesty’s Government, that the concurrence of His Imperial Majesty will not be withheld from stipulations, the only object of which is to carry into practical execution those principles which the Russian Government has, on all occasions, so warmly and so decidedly asserted.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 105.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Oct. 27.)

MY LORD,

St. Petersburg, 15th October, 1834.

I COMMUNICATED, *in extenso*, to Count Nesselrode your Lordship’s Despatch of the 30th ultimo, which I had the honour to receive by last post, as the best mode of laying before the Russian Government the objections felt by His Majesty’s Government to the plan proposed in Count Nesselrode’s Note of the ^{27th August,} _{26th September,} for obtaining the object which the Conventions signed by His Majesty and the King of the French were so well calculated to ensure, without the delay which the adoption of His Excellency’s proposition would occasion.

In the conversation which ensued, when I strongly urged Count Nesselrode not, for a question of form, to let slip the opportunity of at once affording the sanction of the Russian Government to a measure, which, if adopted by all civilized Powers, must so effectually tend to the suppression of a traffic held so much in horror both by the Emperor and by his Predecessor, His Excellency assured me, that your Lordship was mistaken in supposing that the wish of the Russian Government was to retrograde in the business by proposing to reopen discussions upon the subject, but merely to proceed in the regular course by obtaining, in conference with the other Powers who were Parties to what had previously been agreed upon, their adhesion to the Conventions signed by England and France, the efficacy of which Russia was far from disputing.

Count Nesselrode promised that your Lordship’s reasoning on this matter should be taken into serious consideration, but that he would suspend giving any official Answer until after the return of the Emperor.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(B.)

SARDINIA.

No. 106.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your Information, a Copy of Papers marked A. and B., relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

Sir E. Disbrowe,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 107.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. Disbrowe.

Foreign Office, 25th July, 1834.

(AN INSTRUCTION similar to those sent to Mr. Villiers and Lord Howard de Walden.—See Nos. 12 and 23.)

No. 108.

The Hon. J. A. D. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Aug. 25.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 15th August, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, addressed to Sir Edward Disbrowe, of the 25th ultimo, and its several Enclosures, being Copies of Communications which have passed between His Majesty's Government and that of France, upon the subject of the proposed invitation to Foreign Powers to accede to the 2 Conventions recently concluded between Great Britain and France, having for their object the more effectual abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

I have inquired of the French Chargé d'Affaires if he has received from his Court any Instructions on this subject, but none have as yet reached him.

I shall not fail, at the proper time, and according to your Lordship's Instructions, to aid the French Mission in its efforts to induce the Swedish Government to accede to the Conventions in question.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

TWO SICILIES.

No. 109.

*Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. W. Temple.**Foreign Office, 18th February, 1834.*

(AN Instruction similar to that sent to Sir Frederick Lamb.—See No. 83.)

No. 110.

The Hon. W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

MY LORD,

Naples, 24th March, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, of the 18th February, enclosing Copies of the 2 Conventions concluded between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, together with the Draft of a Note which I was instructed to present, in concert with the French Ambassador, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of inviting the Government of the King of the Two Sicilies to accede to the above-mentioned Conventions.

On the receipt of this Despatch, which reached me on the 8th instant, I called upon M. de Mareuil, who informed me that he had received Instructions to the same effect from his Government, and on comparing the Draft of the Notes which had been sent to us from our respective Courts, they were found to be similar in all respects, except that as M. de Mareuil's Instructions were sent to him before it had been settled in London whether the King of Naples was to be invited to accede to the Conventions by a formal Treaty or not; His Excellency was desired to shape his Note in conformity with the Instructions which would be sent to me upon the subject, and he accordingly did so.

On the 10th, the Notes, with their Enclosures, were transmitted to Prince Cassaro by M. de Mareuil and myself; and at an interview which I had subsequently with Prince Cassaro, I communicated to him the substance of your Lordship's Despatch, when His Excellency assured me, as he had the Baron de Mareuil, that His Sicilian Majesty was fully disposed to co-operate, as far as circumstances would allow him, with the Governments of England and France in their endeavours to put an end to the Slave Trade. No answer has, however, been returned to our Notes, and the departure of the King of Naples for Rome will probably cause some time to elapse before any will be given.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

W. TEMPLE.

*The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,**&c.**&c.**&c.*

No. 111.

The Honourable W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

MY LORD,

Naples, 26th March, 1834.

SINCE writing my Despatch to your Lordship of the 24th instant, I have received a Note from Prince Cassaro, dated the 24th instant, but which has only been delivered to me this evening, in answer to the Note which, according to your Lordship's Instructions, I addressed to him in concert with the French Ambassador, inviting His Sicilian Majesty to accede, by a formal Treaty, to the 2 Conventions, concluded between the British and French Courts, for the sup-

pression of the Slave Trade. I have the honour of enclosing a Translation of this Note to your Lordship, from which it appears that for reasons therein stated His Sicilian Majesty declines entering into a formal Treaty with England upon the subject, but expresses his readiness to renew his adhesion to the principles upon which the Conventions are founded.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

W. TEMPLE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 111.

Sicilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Honourable W. Temple.

Naples, 24th March, 1834.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., has lost no time in submitting to the knowledge of the King, his august Sovereign, the contents of the Note of the 10th instant, in which Mr. Temple, &c., stating the Convention, entered into between England and France, for the purpose of rendering more efficacious the abolition of the Slave Trade, invites the Sicilian Government to adhere to the same, and guarantee it by a formal Treaty.

The Undersigned, in reply to the aforesaid Communication, has the honour to inform His Excellency that His Sicilian Majesty, by his accession to the acts of the Congress of Vienna, has already admitted the principle upon which repose the recent Conventions entered into by the King of Great Britain and the King of the French, for the abolition of the aforesaid trade, and that His Sicilian Majesty would be willingly disposed to confirm it by a fresh adherence, were such a step considered necessary; but as the above-mentioned Conventions relate to the means by which the resolutions entered into by the Powers assembled at the Congress of Vienna should be carried into effect, it would not now be possible for His Sicilian Majesty to enter into the engagements contained in the said stipulations by means of a formal Treaty with England.

1. Because His Majesty does not possess Colonies where the labour of negroes is required.
2. Because the commercial navy of this Kingdom never extends its navigation as far as those seas in which this unlawful traffic is carried on; and,
3. Because His Sicilian Majesty does not find himself in a state to furnish men-of-war to cruise, and which, according to the letter of the Convention, should station themselves on the Western Coast of Africa, from Cape de Verd to the distance of 10 degrees south of the Equator, round the Island of Madagascar and Cuba, and Porto Rico, and on the Coast of the Brazils.

His Sicilian Majesty, for the above-mentioned reasons, entertains a firm persuasion that His Majesty the King of Great Britain will feel the justice of the motives which render the wise dispositions of the above-mentioned Treaties inapplicable to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, although His Sicilian Majesty perceives fully the provident intentions of the same, and sincerely approves the truly philanthropic maxims which have actuated His Britannic Majesty to treat for the good of humanity.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed)

CASSARO.

His Excellency William Temple,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 112.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. William Temple.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 24th April, 1834.

I HAVE received your Despatches, of the 24th and 26th March, 1834, on the subject of the proposed accession of His Sicilian Majesty to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France relative to Slave Trade.

I observe that the Sicilian Government express their concurrence in the principles of these Conventions, but object to accede formally, by Treaty, to the engagements contained therein: first, because Sicily has no Slave Colonies; secondly, because the Sicilian Commerce does not extend to those Seas where Slave Trade is carried on; and, thirdly, because it would not be convenient to His Sicilian Majesty to furnish men-of-war to cruise on the stations specified in the Conventions.

Notwithstanding these objections, however, on the part of the Sicilian Government, you are instructed to renew your application for the formal accession of the King of the Two Sicilies to these Conventions; for I feel persuaded that the Sicilian Government will, on further consideration, be disposed to admit that their objections are less weighty than they at first imagined, or that those objections might easily be obviated by reservations in the Treaty of Accession.

In discussing the subject with the Sicilian Government you will state, first, that if His Sicilian Majesty has no Colonies, that circumstance is, at least for the present purpose, attended with this advantage, that there can be no portion of his subjects who could fancy, even erroneously, that his accession to these Conven-

tions would be prejudicial to their local interests; secondly, that although the commercial navy of His Sicilian Majesty may not frequent the seas in which the Slave Trade is carried on, yet, if His Majesty should not accede to these Treaties, ships of other countries might fraudulently assume the flag of Naples, in order to protect themselves from search, and hindrance in their traffic; and thus, in a matter in which Neapolitan subjects had no interest, direct or indirect, the flag of Naples might be prostituted by strangers to purposes abhorrent to the benevolent sentiments of His Majesty; finally, you will state, that the knowledge that His Sicilian Majesty had acceded to the Conventions would, of itself, effectually prevent such an abuse of His Majesty's flag, and thus the other Contracting Parties would never have occasion to require His Majesty actually to send cruizers to the seas of Western Africa; His Sicilian Majesty would therefore, without any inconvenience to his own naval service, and without any interference with the interests of his subjects, be enabled to afford to the world an additional and honourable proof of those enlightened and humane sentiments by which His Majesty is so well known to be animated; and His Majesty would, at the same time, have the satisfaction of affording to England and France an important aid in accomplishing the humane objects which those Powers have in view.

You will add, that the enclosed Draft of Treaty has been prepared with a view to meet the feelings and position of His Sicilian Majesty with regard to all these above points, and you will express the confident hope of His Majesty's Government that this Draft may meet with the concurrence of the Sicilian Government.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

His Excellency William Temple,
&c. &c. &c.

BUENOS AYRES.

No. 113.

Mr. Gore to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 26, 1834.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 12th December, 1833.

I HAVE deemed it my duty, under the 14th Article of the Treaty existing between Great Britain and the Argentine Republic, to call the attention of this Government to the subject of the Slave Trade, which, I have strong reason to believe, has latterly been carried on pretty largely at Buenos Ayres, in contradiction to the spirit of that Treaty, and in defiance of the laws of the Country.

In my conversations with the Minister upon this topic, I carefully avoided alluding to the employment of repressive measures, on the part of His Majesty's cruisers, for the prevention of the Black Trade, if prosecuted under the Buenos Ayrean flag. To such an extent I did not conceive myself authorized to go; and I appealed, therefore, simply to those principles of humanity which may be supposed to actuate this Government, and to its promised co-operation with that of His Majesty for the extinction of the traffic.

His Majesty's Consul General at Monte Video will, I conclude, have brought to your Lordship's knowledge the slaving transactions which are now said to be taking place in the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay.

The evil, however, was not likely to cease there. The Monte-Videan speculators have had doubtless in view not only to supply slaves to the Oriental territory, but to introduce them into the southern parts of Brazil, and also into the Provinces of La Plata; and, accordingly, some of the Negroes thus imported have, as I am credibly informed, been subsequently conveyed to Buenos Ayres, where they have been sold with little concealment.

More have been introduced in vessels under the flag of Brazil, trading between Buenos Ayres and Santos, or ports of the Empire, while others, I have reason to believe, have been imported here direct from the Coast of Africa.

I have the satisfaction to enclose the translation of a Decree which has been issued, within these few days, by this Government, calling into full vigour the various enactments of the State against slave-dealing, more particularly the Law of the 15th November, 1824, declaring the same piracy, and I have been further assured that the utmost endeavours will be used by the Buenos-Ayrean Authorities to put an effectual stop to these abuses.

But it is matter of regret that the Oriental Republic, scarce emerged from its political tutelage, should think fit to countenance this odious traffic in the face of the efforts of the great Maritime Powers of the world to procure its final abolition.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

PHILIP Y. GORE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 113.

(Translation.)

DECREE.

Buenos Ayres, November 26th, 1833, 24th year of Liberty and 18th of Independence.

WHEN the Government, by its Decree of the 15th of October, 1831, annulling that of the 3d of September, 1824, granted permission to import slaves which should be introduced in the class of *servants*, it was very far from believing that this measure, adopted to improve the condition of slaves, who, without doubt, are benefited when placed under the protection of our laws, would have been a pretext for infringing them, and oppressing humanity. These considerations, and the knowledge that the Government possesses, that under the pretence and title of *servants*, black slaves are introduced from the Coast of Africa, and from other points in which they are an article of contraband, make it a duty to prevent such acts from being committed; and it resolves and decrees the following:

ARTICLE I.

The enactments prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves are declared to be in full vigour, and more especially the Law of the 15th of November, 1824.

ARTICLE II.

In the act of visiting all vessels coming from Foreign Ports, the Captain of the Port shall require a List, upon oath, of the Slaves on board, with a specification of their Masters.

ARTICLE III.

The list required by the preceding Article shall be immediately passed to the Department of Police, where the Proprietors shall present themselves with their Slaves; and account for them.

ARTICLE IV.

If the excessive number of freshly-imported Slaves, introduced by an individual, shall induce a suspicion that they may be imported contrary to law, the Chief of Police shall direct that a brief statement of the fact be drawn up, and shall inform the Government of the same, for its resolution thereon, making the proprietor, meanwhile, responsible for the existence of the negroes, and prohibiting their transfer to others.

ARTICLE V.

The slaves, which shall be introduced in whatever manner contrary to the provisions of the present Decree, shall be declared forfeited, and shall be awarded, "*en patronato*," to the denouncer, on the conditions established as the general rule.

The Captain of the Port shall take care that, in the act of visiting vessels on their arrival, their Captains and Passengers shall be advised of the contents of the present Decree, in order that they may not allege ignorance of the same.

Let it be communicated, published, and inserted in the Official Register.

MANUEL J. GARCIA.

No. 114.

Mr. Gore to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 4.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 2d May, 1834.

HAVING received information which gave me the strongest reason to believe that a vessel, called the "*Flor del Rio*," under the Argentine flag, was fitting out in this Port, for the purpose of very shortly proceeding to the Coast of Africa for Slaves, I invited the attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to this circumstance.

His Excellency, while assuring me, in reply, of the anxiety of his Government to give full effect, as well to the Laws of the Country, as to its engagements with Great Britain, for the suppression of this odious traffic, has communicated to me the Document which I have herewith the honour to enclose, in Translation, whereby your Lordship will learn the measures that have been adopted by the Buenos Ayrean Authorities for frustrating the unlawful designs of the Owners of the above-named vessel.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

PHILIP Y. GORE.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 114.

(Translation.)

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE.

Buenos Ayres, April 11th, 1834, 25th year of Liberty and 19th of Independence.

TO THE COMMANDANT OF REGISTERS.

UNDER this day's date, the Minister of Government communicates to the Minister of War the following:

"The Government has been given to understand that the Packet '*Flor del Rio*' is preparing to quit this Port for the purpose of being employed in the Traffic in Slaves on the Coast of Africa, contrary to the provisions of the existing Law of the Province of the 15th November, 1824, which declares this traffic to be an act of Piracy, and imposes upon those who are employed in it the penalties applicable to pirates. On this account it has ordered that all the necessary precautions be taken by the Minister of War to prevent the packet '*Flor del Rio*' proceeding from hence with this object."

And the same shall be transcribed to the office of the Commandant of Registers, in order that without loss of time an investigation take place respecting the objects of the voyage of the packet "*Flor del Rio*," intimating to her Captain that the Government, resolved to prevent by every means within its reach the dishonourable and criminal traffic of the human race from being renewed upon the Coasts of the Republic, declares that if it be proved to have been engaged in, should he be a native, he shall be held up to the public as unworthy of the citizenship of the Argentine Republic, and tried as a pirate; and if a foreigner, he shall suffer all the rigour of the Laws enacted against pirates, being for ever prohibited from treading the territory of the Province of Buenos Ayres, in case it should not be possible to bring him to trial. The Captain of the packet shall sign the notification of what is contained in the present Note, which shall be inserted in the Archives of the Office of Commandant of Registers.

God preserve, &c. &c.,

(Signed)

THOMAS GUIDO.

No. 115.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hamilton Hamilton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1834.

By article 14 of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, between His Majesty and the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata, of the 2d of February 1825, the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata engaged to "co-operate with His Britannic Majesty for the completion of the beneficent work of abolishing the Slave Trade, and to prohibit all persons inhabiting within the said United Provinces, or subject to their jurisdiction, in the most effectual manner, and by the most solemn Laws, from taking any share in such trade."

I herewith transmit to you the Draft of a Treaty, and of 3 Annexes thereto, marked A., B., and C., drawn up with a view of embracing all those detailed stipulations which experience has shown to be necessary, in order to prevent the subjects and citizens of the Contracting Parties to the Treaty from engaging in any way whatever in the trade; and in order to prevent the flag of either party from being used with impunity, for the purpose of covering and protecting undertakings contrary to those stipulations.

I have to convey to you the King's commands, that you use your utmost endeavours to induce the Government of the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata to conclude with Great Britain a Treaty, upon the basis laid down in the accompanying Draft, and thus to give a proof to the civilized world of the good faith with which they are prepared to carry into practice the principles which they have professed in the compacts which they made with His Majesty in the year 1825.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

*H. C. J. Hamilton, Esq.,**&c. &c. &c.*

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 116.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hamilton Hamilton.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th September, 1834.

I ENCLOSE to you Copies* of Communications which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Monte Video.

You will see from them that the 131st Article of the Constitution of Monte Video declares that all Children born of Slave Parents are free; and that the Importation of Slaves into Monte Video, and all Traffic in Slaves by the Citizens of that Republic, should be deemed unlawful after the 10th of September, 1829. You will, however, observe that, very soon after this Law came into operation, the Government of Monte Video relaxed in the enforcement of it; and that, shortly afterwards, the Law ceased wholly to be carried into effect.

The consequence has been, that the Slave Trade is now increasing in the River Plata, supported by the capital of Monte-Videan Citizens, and covered by the flag of the United Provinces of the Uruguay.

Unless, therefore, this mischief be promptly checked, the endeavours which have been made to extinguish the Traffic will be entirely frustrated.

His Majesty's Government, impressed with this conviction, mindful of the sacrifices and efforts of Great Britain to effect the entire abolition of the Slave Trade, and anxious that those efforts should not, at last, prove unavailing, desire that you will take an early opportunity to open an official Communication with the Authorities at Monte Video on the subject of the Slave Trade.

You will represent to the Monte-Videan Authorities the deep disgrace to which they are exposing their Country, by affording fresh facilities to a Traffic which has been denounced by every other civilized Power in Europe and America.

If the United Provinces of the Uruguay attach any value to the good opinion of the rest of the world, they will lose no time in freeing their flag from the stain which is cast upon it by the protection which it affords to a barbarous and disgraceful practice, deserving rather to be stigmatized as piracy, than to be dignified by the appellation of trade.

I trust that you will have little difficulty in inducing the Monte-Videan Authorities to enter into Negotiation with you for the conclusion of a Treaty between Great Britain and that Republic for the purpose of entirely and effectually preventing this trade from being carried on either by the Citizens of the Republic, or under cover of its flag.

I herewith transmit to you the Draft of such a Treaty, with its Annexes, A, B, and C; and I have to convey to you His Majesty's express Commands that you use your utmost endeavours to bring this Negotiation, without delay, to a successful issue.

H. C. J. Hamilton, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.,
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

* See Class B. No. 87 of 1832, No. 65 of 1833, No. 118 of 1834.

MONTE VIDEO. (*Consular.*) MONTE VIDEO.

No. 117.

Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 19, 1834.)

(Extract.)

Monte Video, 10th November, 1833.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that, on the 26th, the schooner "*Aguila Primera*," under the flag of this place, arrived from Benguela, and landed 239 negro slaves, denominated Colonists; and that, on the 27th of the same month, the schooner "*Porfia*," under Brazilian colours, sailed, in ballast, for Angola, publicly and professedly on a slaving voyage; and further, that the Brazilian brig "*Baron de Rio de Prata*" had, at the time of the "*Aguila Primera's*" sailing from Benguela, nearly all her slaves collected, from which it may be expected she will arrive shortly. Fifteen vessels were lying at Benguela, at the time of the "*Primera's*" departure, waiting for slaves.

In my Despatch of the 10th of February, I stated that the Minister had granted a Licence to a Society of Merchants (Brazilians and Natives) to import 2,000 slaves as Colonists; but as the "*Aguila Primera*" did not belong to that Society, the slaves were, on landing, seized, as being an infraction of the Contract, and re-delivered by an order of the Government, upon the proprietor of this vessel paying to the Contractors a compensation, which it was agreed should be 14,000 dollars.

(Signed) THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 118.

Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

MY LORD,

Monte Video, 25th February, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to notify the arrival of the brig "*Barão do Rio da Prata*," at Maldonado, with a cargo of 450 negro slaves.

This vessel, which belongs to Theodore Villaso, a Brazilian merchant resident here, sailed from hence, last year under Brazilian colours, bound for Benguela, at which place, I learn, a fictitious sale took place, by which the vessel was put under Portuguese colours, to avoid the penalties they might otherwise have been exposed to if captured under the Brazilian flag.

Since Brazil declared trading in slaves to be felony, the great bulk of Brazilian traders have resorted to the use of the Old Portuguese flag, which they obtain from the Authorities at the Portuguese Settlements on the Coast of Africa, who are now the great fomenters of this traffic to this part of America; but, as I can see no other benefit likely to result from this simulation of character than a hope of escaping the penalties of felony to which they are exposed under the Brazilian flag; and as Article I. Section IV. of the Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, bearing date the 28th July, 1817, expressly prohibits slaves being carried in Portuguese vessels to places not within the Dominions of His Majesty the King of Portugal, which will, no doubt, expose vessels employed as I have described to condemnation; I feel impelled to apprise your Lordship of the apprehension I entertain that the flag of this Republic may be discovered to offer protection for both persons and property.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 119.

Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 5.)

MY LORD,

Monte Video, 10th April, 1834.

IT is my duty to inform your Lordship that the Brazilian brig-schooner "*Porfia*" arrived at this port on the 6th instant, with a cargo of 300 negro slaves, which she brought from Angola.

These slaves (principally children) were landed openly, and are now publicly exhibited for sale, in a mart recently established at the gates of the city.

I have also to announce the departure of the schooner "*Aguila Primera*," under the flag of, and belonging to Don José Platero, a citizen of this Republic, bound to Africa for slaves.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

No. 120.

Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 9, 1834.)

(Extract.)

Washington, 12th December, 1833.

It was understood that the decision of the Government upon their Accession to the recent Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, was deferred until the meeting of Congress should enable the Secretary of State to ascertain the opinions of the leading Members of the Legislature, as an Accession to the Conventions would imply a concession of a mutual and restricted right of search, which had been refused by the Senate in 1824.

A sufficient time having elapsed, since the meeting of Congress, for sounding the opinions of the Members, I stated to Mr. M'Lane that, with the consent and concurrence of the French Minister, I must now require an answer to the invitation, which, according to Instructions from our respective Governments, we had addressed to him, simultaneously and in concert, in the month of August last. Having submitted the Draft of a Note to Mr. M'Lane to the French Minister, of which he approved, and requested me to add that it met with his consent and concurrence, on the 10th instant I delivered to the Secretary of State the Note, a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

I think that it is time to press this Government to a decision. Mr. M'Lane speaks to me of the apprehension of aggravating the excited feelings of the Southern States, and that, at this time, the endeavours to get up Anti-Slavery Societies have roused the jealousy of all the Slave-holders throughout the Union, about the General Government touching in any shape the question of the Slave Trade, notwithstanding the Accession to the Conventions has nothing to do with slavery, as it exists in the States. A domestic Slave Trade is carrying on now throughout the Union, in consequence of the increased demand for slaves, for the cultivation of sugar and cotton.

I have repeatedly urged on the consideration of the Government that their Accession to the Conventions will not imply a concession of the principle of a right to search their vessels, in time of war, for British seamen,—that it is a mutual and restricted right of search, strictly in conformity with the concession recommended by the House of Representatives in 1821 and 1822,—and that a subserviency of the Government to the feelings of their Slave-holders, by refusing to accede to the Conventions, will do infinite mischief to their national character in Europe. Your Lordship has directed me not to relax in my efforts to surmount the difficulties which have been raised to the Accession of the United States; and I beg leave to assure your Lordship, that it is not less my inclination than my duty to exert myself.

As Mr. M'Lane observed that he had not had any intercourse with the French Minister on this subject since his audience, when he delivered the invitation of his Government, I have sent to him a Copy of my Note to Mr. M'Lane, and have reminded him of his offer to see the Secretary of State, and requested him to use his best endeavours to bring about a compliance with the wishes of our Governments.

While the Executive at Washington appears to shrink from bringing forward, in any shape, a question, upon which depends the completion of their former object, the utter and universal Abolition of the Slave Trade, from an apprehension of alarming the Southern States, I am happy to observe, in a Message just published of Governor Hayne to the Legislature of South Carolina, a recommendation to them to amend their Laws for the government, the trial, and the punishment, of slaves and persons of colour. Some reform, he asserts, from his own experience, is imperiously called for,—while discipline is enforced, the Law ought to afford protection against injustice. The Courts are so arranged, that

the slaves are denied an impartial trial; the Justices and Freeholders are selected by the prosecutor,—capital offences committed by slaves are tried by Courts ignorant of Law, and without the aid of Counsel. To remedy this, Governor Hayne recommends that the Freeholders should be drawn by lot, as Jurors are drawn, and that prosecutions of slaves, in capital cases, should be conducted, in the name and behalf of the State, by the Attorney and Solicitor General, or Gentlemen of the Bar authorised to act for them, and no sentence to be executed before it has been submitted to the Executive of the State.

I cannot but call your Lordship's attention to the disposition manifested in the principal slave-holding State, "to extend (to use Governor Hayne's words) justice to those who are, from their peculiar condition, so entirely at their mercy."

It may, perhaps, justly be considered as the result of the recent discussions in the British Parliament, which have forced upon the consideration of the Southern planters the condition of their slaves, and a timely amelioration of it, to prevent the retribution with which they are menaced.

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 120.

Sir C. Vaughan to the American Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Washington, 10th December, 1833.

THE Undersigned, &c., cannot refrain from expressing to the Secretary of State of the United States his anxiety to receive an answer to the invitation which he had the honour to present in the month of August last, simultaneously and in concert with the Minister of France, to the Government of the United States, to accede to the Conventions concluded between those Powers for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Governments of Great Britain and France decided that the first overture inviting Accession to the Conventions was due to the United States, and a confident expectation is entertained that their Accession will be followed by that of the other Maritime States. It becomes, therefore, of importance, that the Governments of Great Britain and France should be in possession, as soon as possible, of the decision of the Government of the United States.

The sincere co-operation hitherto of the American Government in the suppression of the Slave Trade, which they were the first to denounce as piracy, and as the mutual right to examine all vessels engaged in that traffic conceded by the Conventions is strictly in conformity with the concession recommended in the Resolution of the House of Representatives in 1821 and 1822, the Undersigned trusts that the Government of the United States will not refuse to co-operate with Great Britain and France in the measures which they have now adopted, and which promise the utter and universal extinction of that disgraceful traffic.

It is with the entire approbation and concurrence of His Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of France that the Undersigned has the honour to address this Note to the Secretary of State of the United States, and he may rest assured that the anxiety felt by the Government of France to receive the Accession of the United States to the Conventions is not less than that of the Government of His Britannic Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Hon. Louis M'Lane,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 121.

Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 22, 1834.)

(Extract.)

Washington, December 22, 1833.

SINCE my last Despatch, Mr. M'Lane has called upon me to request that I would give him, in writing, a statement of the right of search which it was expected that the United States would concede. I transmitted to him immediately a Note, a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 121.

Sir C. Vaughan to the American Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Washington, 25th December, 1833.

THE Undersigned, &c., apprehending from a late interview with the Secretary of State of the United States that the nature of the provisions which it will be necessary to include in the Act of Accession of the United States to the Conventions between Great Britain and France, for the effectual

abolition of the Slave Trade, may not be exactly understood, he has the honour to state that in the Act of Accession with America it will be necessary that the right of search should be extended to the coasts of the United States, as well as to the other portions of coast on which the right is given under the 1st article of the Convention with France, of the 30th November, 1831; and His Majesty's Government have no objection to extend the stipulations to the coasts of the British West India Colonies.

It will be necessary likewise to fix upon the place to which vessels suspected of Slave Trade shall be carried for adjudication.

A reciprocal right of search, therefore, is to be conceded by the United States, limited as to place, and subject to specified restrictions. It is to be employed only in repressing the Slave Trade, and to be exercised under a written and specific authority, conferred on the Commander of the visiting ship by the Government of the country to which the ship visited may belong. It cannot, therefore, imply any pretence of jurisdiction by the ships of war of one Country over the flag of the other.

Conventions are offered for the Accession of the United States, by which the British and French Governments have been enabled without any sacrifice of national honour to give each other effectual assistance in extinguishing a disgraceful traffic. The obvious necessity of conceding for this purpose a mutual right of search was acknowledged in the Resolutions of the House of Representatives in 1821 and 1822, and the Undersigned trusts that whatever jealousy former misunderstandings between Great Britain and the United States, with respect to the right of search, may have produced, the Accession to the Conventions now proposed will be received with a feeling more consonant with the confidence which is due by each Nation to the other.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Hon. Louis M'Lane,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 122.

Sir C. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 5.)

MY LORD,

Washington, 28th March, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of a Note which I have received from the Secretary of State of the United States, stating, for the information of His Majesty's Government, that the President declines to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

The necessity of extending to the coasts of America the right to examine vessels suspected of being engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, it is declared in the enclosed Note, would at any time have led the President to decline altogether, and under any circumstances, to accept the invitation of Great Britain and France.

M. Serurier, the Envoy from the Court of France, has received an answer in the same terms as those contained in the Note of Mr. M'Lane addressed to myself.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

C. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 122.

The American Minister for Foreign Affairs to Sir C. Vaughan.

Department of State, Washington, 24th March, 1834.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Sir Charles R. Vaughan, &c., that after the receipt of his Note of 18th August last, inviting, by direction of his Government, the Accession of the United States to the recent Conventions concluded between His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, he took an early opportunity, as he has already stated verbally, of laying it before the President, together with the Note of M. Serurier, &c., to the same effect. He has also submitted to the President the subsequent Note written by Sir Charles R. Vaughan with the concurrence of M. Serurier, on the 10th December, and the other of the 25th December last, on the same subject.

The Undersigned is now charged to acquaint Sir Charles, for the information of His Britannic Majesty's Government, that the President duly appreciates the considerations which have influenced the 2 High Contracting Parties in inviting the Accession of the United States to the Conventions which they have entered into for the suppression of that odious traffic, and that he will always be ready to promote such measures for that object as may be consistent with the rights and dignity of the United States, and the security and just interests of their Citizens.

In the opinion of the President, however, these Conventions are substantially liable to the objections which, on former occasions, have been deemed insuperable; but if he had doubted as to the propriety of declining, on that ground, to make the United States a party to them, the information communicated in Sir Charles R. Vaughan's Note of the 25th December, "that in the Act of Accession with America it will be necessary that the right of search should be extended to the coasts of the United States," would have led him, under any circumstances, altogether to decline it.

It is proper also to observe, that such an extension to the right of search as Sir Charles R. Vaughan is instructed to require from the United States would not be an Accession to the existing Conventions according to their present terms, but an interpolation of a new article, giving a new and broader and inadmissible scope to the original limitations, not contemplated by the High Parties.

Though the President cannot unite in the measures proposed by these Conventions, he is happy to see the determination which they manifest on the part of the 2 powerful Nations to put an end to the iniquitous traffic which they are designed to break up. A similar feeling on the subject is gaining ground in other Countries; and though no plan of general co-operation may be agreed upon, the President persuades himself that, by proper exertions on the part of each, that great object, the abolition of the Slave Trade,—an object in which every branch of the Government and the whole people of the United States feel a deep solicitude,—will be speedily accomplished.

The Right Hon. Sir C. R. Vaughan, G.C.H.,
&c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed)

LOUIS M'LANE.

No. 123.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Charles Vaughan,

SIR,

Foreign Office, 7th July, 1834.

YOUR Despatch of the 28th March of this year has been received, and laid before the King.

His Majesty's Government have learned, with much regret, that the President of the United States has declined acquiescing in the proposition which you were instructed to make to him for his Accession to the Conventions recently concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of Slave Trade; and His Majesty's Government are the more disappointed at this refusal, as they had indulged an expectation that the Government of the United States, animated by an earnest desire to assist in suppressing that inhuman Traffic, would have eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity which the above proposition afforded them of co-operating effectually towards the accomplishment of that purpose.

His Majesty's Government, however, after an attentive consideration of the reasons which the President of the United States has assigned for refusing his accession to the Treaty in question, are unwilling to abandon the hope of still succeeding in obtaining that accession; for while, on the one hand, the objections which the President has urged to the proposal are not in themselves without weight, on the other hand the stipulations to which those objections refer, although essentially conducive to the complete attainment of the purpose in view, are, however, not absolutely indispensable.

Mr. M'Lane, while he renews the objections originally urged by the American Government to an extension of the right of search to the coasts of the United States, observes, that a clause, proposing such extension, would not be an Accession to the existing Conventions according to their present terms, but an interpolation of a new article, giving a fresh and broader scope to the original limitations, and not contemplated by the High Parties.

This observation is undoubtedly true; and the mere fact that this objection has been taken by the Government of the United States is a sufficient reason for not further pressing the adoption of such an article.

But, however desirable such an article would be if the Government of the United States could be prevailed upon to agree to it, still, even without such a stipulation, a very important advantage would be gained for the interests of humanity by the Accession of the Government of the United States to the Conventions as they stand. If the flag of the United States was prevented by Special Treaty from being assumed by the Dealers in the Human Race, as a protection for their nefarious Traffic on the coast of Africa and in the West Indian seas, and if these enemies of mankind were obliged to run the gauntlet, through the cruisers of almost all the naval Powers of Christendom, over some thousand miles of sea, unprotected by any flag by which they might attempt to cover their iniquity, it might well be hoped that their course would be arrested before they could reach any latitude within which the national pride of the United States could be wounded by the measures necessary for submitting them to stoppage or search.

Taking these circumstances into consideration, His Majesty's Government are willing to abandon that part of their proposition to which Mr. M'Lane's objections are directed; and you are therefore instructed to renew your application to

the United States' Government for their Accession to the Convention, omitting the stipulation for the extension of the right of search to the coasts of the United States.

In addressing the American Government again on this subject, you will state that His Majesty's Government have derived high gratification from learning, by Mr. M'Lane's Note, the earnest and unceasing solicitude felt in the United States, both by the Government and by the Nation, for the entire annihilation of the odious Traffic in Slaves; and you will express the earnest hope of His Majesty's Government, that sentiments, which reflect so much honour upon the United States, will induce the American Government to waive any further objections to a measure calculated to contribute, in so important a manner, to bring about the result which all parties thus ardently desire.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles Vaughan, G.C.H.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 124.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Charles Vaughan.

SIR,

Foreign Office, July 8th, 1834.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a Copy of Papers, marked A and B, relating to the Slave Trade, which have this day been presented, by His Majesty's Command, to both Houses of Parliament.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

The Right Hon. Sir Charles Vaughan, G.C.H.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 125.

Sir Charles Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 2.)

MY LORD,

Washington, 28th August, 1834.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I addressed a Note, on the 23d instant, in conformity with your Lordship's Instructions, contained in your Despatch of the 7th ultimo, to the Secretary of State of the United States, renewing the application to the American Government for their Accession to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves. I do not think it necessary to enclose a Copy of my Note, as it was almost entirely a Transcript of your Lordship's Despatch.

As I did not find, in your Lordship's Instructions, that my Note to the Government of the United States was to be presented conjointly with a Note from the French Minister, who is absent from Washington, and who, on a former occasion, preferred presenting a separate Note, I addressed a Letter to him, on the 21st August, a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose, informing him that I had received my Instructions, in which I did not find any directions to address a Note conjointly with himself, and that, therefore, I should proceed to renew my application to the American Government without delay; and that I should be ready to communicate to him the contents of my Note, and to continue, as heretofore, to act in concert with him, which, I was sure, would meet the wishes of His Majesty's Government.

The absence of the President of the United States from Washington will delay any decision upon the renewal of the application of His Majesty's Government. I have had an interview with Mr. Forsyth upon the subject, and I have endeavoured to impress upon him the absolute necessity of the Government of the United States contributing, in every shape that they can, to the success of the measures adopted by Great Britain and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade. I cannot venture to infer, from what passed, a favourable reconsideration of the renewed application for the Accession of the United States.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 125.

*Sir Charles Vaughan to the French Envoy at Washington.**Washington, 21st August, 1834.*

SIR,

THE instructions which your Excellency prepared me to expect to receive from His Majesty's Government when we met at New York, to renew the application for the accession of the Government of the United States to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, were received by me yesterday.

It appears, from those instructions, that His Majesty's Government no longer desire to press upon the Government of the United States the adoption of a clause in their Act of Accession, providing for the extension of a Right of Search to the Coasts of the United States. Mr. M'Lane, in his Note in reply to our application in concert last year, observed, that such a clause would be an interpolation of a new Article, and would not be an accession to the existing Conventions, according to their present terms, and would give a greater scope to the original limitations than was contemplated by the High Contracting Parties. His Majesty's Government, therefore, are willing to abandon that part of their proposition, and I am instructed to renew my application to the United States Government, for their accession to the Conventions, omitting the stipulation for the extension of the Right of Search to the Coast of the United States.

I presume that your Excellency will have received similar instructions from the Government of France. In the Despatch which I have had the honour to receive, the directions formerly given to present my Note, jointly or simultaneously with your Excellency, are omitted, but I presume that it is expected by our respective Governments that we should act in concert as before. I shall be obliged to you to inform me in what respect your instructions may differ from mine. It is my intention to address a Note to the Secretary of State of the United States, according to the tenour of the instructions which I have received, and I shall be anxious to communicate with you, and to act entirely in concert with you, to carry the object which our Governments have so much at heart.

Though the Secretary of State is at Washington, the absence of the President will prevent us from receiving an answer to our intended applications for some time.

I am, &c.

His Excellency M. Serurier,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

No. 126.

Sir Charles Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 22.)

MY LORD,

Washington, 27th September, 1834.

HAVING sent to M. Serurier, the French Minister, at his request, a Copy of my Note addressed to the Government of the United States, renewing the application for their Accession to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, I have received, in return, a Copy of his Note to this Government, which I have now the honour to enclose to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 126.

*The French Envoy to the American Minister for Foreign Affairs.**New Port, (Rhode Island,) ce 12 Septembre, 1834.*

Le Soussigné Ministre de France aux Etats-Unis a passé l'hiver dernier en commun avec Son Excellence Monsieur Le Chevalier Vaughan, Envoi Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique à Washington une note à M. le Secrétaire d'Etat des Etats-Unis, par laquelle ces Ministres présentaient au Gouvernement Américain par ordre de leurs Cabinets respectifs les 2 Conventions conclues entre la France et l'Angleterre les 30 Novembre, 1831, et 22 Mars, 1833, ayant pour objet la suppression plus effective de la Traite des Noirs, et invitaient le Gouvernement de l'Union à accéder à ces Conventions.

Postérieurement, le Ministre Britannique proposa au Gouvernement Fédéral que le droit de visite fût étendu au Littoral des Etats-Unis.

Dans la réponse faite par l'Honorable Mr. M'Lane au Soussigné et à son collègue d'Angleterre, en date du 24 Mars dernier, le Secrétaire d'Etat, prédécesseur de Mr. Forsyth, plaçait à la tête des considérations qui faisaient répugner le Gouvernement de la République à accéder à ces Conventions, cette clause de l'extension de visite aux côtes de l'Union.

Le Gouvernement Anglais ayant récemment déferé aux objections du Gouvernement Fédéral, et ayant retiré cette clause de sa demande d'accession, le Soussigné se flatte que Son Excellence M. le Président des Etats-Unis n'y trouvera plus les inconvéniens qu'il avait pu y voir d'abord. Ces Conventions après tout ont pour but un résultat qui ne peut qu'intéresser un Gouvernement aussi humain que celui des Etats-Unis, puisqu'il vise à l'abolition définitive d'un odieux commerce d'hommes, que la République a pris de bonne heure l'honorable initiative de flétrir, et de dénoncer à la Chrétienté. L'Europe ne l'a pas oublié, et les Etats-Unis ne peuvent vouloir que leur œuvre demeure imparfaite.

(B.)

Il paraît au Soussigné que la pensée, qui a préoccupé jusqu'ici singulièrement le Gouvernement de la République dans l'examen des Conventions offertes à son adoption, est l'ancienne question de l'Impressment, avec laquelle elles n'ont cependant aucune connexion ou rapport nécessaire. M. le Secrétaire d'Etat veut, en effet, jeter les yeux sur les instructions données aux Commandeurs de Vaisseaux de Guerre chargés de la visite des bâtimens suspectés de l'infâme trafic, il observera avec quelle loyale prévoyance toutes les précautions ont été prises par les 2 Gouvernemens pour y prévenir tout abus possible. Il pourra se convaincre, surtout en lisant l'Article 4 de ces instructions annexées à la Convention du 22 Mars 1833, qui dit expressément *que nul ne devra être distrait du bord du navire arrêté*; cette garantie est nette et positive, et semble éminemment propre à dissiper dans l'esprit du Gouvernement Fédéral toute possibilité d'appréhensions qui se rattacheraient à la question d'Impressment.

Le Gouvernement du Roi convaincu donc que les Conventions offertes à l'accession de la République ne peuvent avoir d'effets autres que celui, que les 2 Hautes Parties Contractantes déclarent y avoir cherché, c'est à dire la seule répression plus efficace de l'odieuse traite, et ne peuvent être une cause d'ombrage fondé pour aucune des Puissances appelées à y concourir, par toutes les sages réserves dont cette mesure est environnée, a donné au Soussigné l'ordre de présenter une seconde fois les Conventions avec ces réflexions à la considération sérieuse du Gouvernement Fédéral, et d'insister de nouveau auprès de lui, de concert avec M. le Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique, pour que Son Excellence M. Le Président y donne son accession.

Son Excellence M. Forsyth,
&c. &c. &c.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

SERURIER.

(Translation.)

New Port, Rhode Island, 12th September, 1834.

THE Undersigned, Minister of France at the United States, transmitted last winter, in common with His Excellency Sir Charles Vaughan, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty at Washington, a Note to the Secretary of State of the United States, in which they, by order of their respective Cabinets, communicated to the American Government the 2 Conventions concluded between France and England, the 30th November 1831, and the 22d March 1833, having for their object the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, and invited the Government of the Union to accede to those Conventions.

Subsequently, the British Minister proposed to the Federal Government to extend the Right of Search to the coasts of the United States.

In the answer returned by the Honourable Mr. McLane to the Undersigned, and to his English colleague, dated the 24th of March last, the Secretary of State, who was the predecessor of Mr. Forsyth, laid the greatest stress, among the considerations which disinclined the Government of the Republic from acceding to the above Conventions, on the clause of extending the search to the coasts of the Union.

The English Government having attended to the objections of the Federal Government, and withdrawn this clause from its application respecting the accession, the Undersigned flatters himself that His Excellency the President of the United States will no longer find in it the inconvenience which he might in the beginning. These Conventions have, after all, for their object a result which must be interesting to so humane a Government as that of the United States, inasmuch as it contemplates the definitive abolition of a hateful traffic in men, which the Republic, much to its credit, was the first in reprobating and denouncing to Christendom. Europe has not forgotten it, and the United States cannot wish that their work should remain imperfect.

The Undersigned suspects that the idea which has all along somewhat misled the Government of the Republic, in examining the Conventions presented for its adoption, is the ancient question of Impressment, with which, however, they have no necessary connexion or relation. In fact, if the Secretary of State will run his eye over the instructions furnished to the commanders of the men-of-war directed to search the ships suspected of the infamous traffic, he will find with what honest foresight all precautions have been taken by the 2 Governments to prevent every abuse in it. He may convince himself particularly by reading Article 4 of these instructions, annexed to the Conventions of March 22, 1833, which expressly says, *that no one shall be taken out of any detained vessel*; a guarantee so clear and positive, that it seems eminently calculated to remove from the mind of the Federal Government every possibility of apprehensions that would attach to the question of Impressment.

Accordingly, the King's Government, convinced that the Conventions presented for the accession of the Republic can have no other effect than that which the 2 High Contracting Parties declare to have had in view, that is, solely the more effectual repression of the odious trade, and which cannot furnish a motive of well-grounded suspicion to any of the Powers invited to join in it, by all the wise precautions with which this measure is surrounded, has directed the Undersigned to offer once more the Conventions, with these reflections, to the serious consideration of the Federal Government, and to urge it again in concert with His Britannic Majesty's Minister, in order to induce His Excellency the President to signify its accession thereto.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

SERURIER.

The Hon. Mr. Forsyth,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 128.

Sir Charles Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 8.)

MY LORD,

Washington, 12th October, 1834.

IN my Despatch of the 4th instant, I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of the Note of the Secretary of State, communicating the determination of the President of the United States not to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have now the honour to enclose a Copy of my Note, acknowledging the receipt to Mr. Forsyth, which the time fixed for the sailing of the last packet for England prevented me from transmitting in my last Despatch.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 128.

*Sir C. Vaughan to the American Minister for Foreign Affairs.**Washington, 5th October, 1834.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Note of Mr. Forsyth, &c., communicating the determination of the President not to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France, for the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

As the Secretary of State has declared, in his Note, that the opinion has been "definitely formed, not to make the United States a party to any Convention on the subject of the Slave Trade," the Undersigned refrains from entering into any discussion, whether the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and the Government of the King of the French, have comprehended the full force and effect of the Note of Mr. M'Lane, of the 24th March, 1834, and to invite explanation of the new provisions which the Secretary of State seems to think would be necessary before the United States could be parties to a Conventional Police, for the suppression of a disgraceful Traffic, which, to the honour of the United States, they were the first to denounce as Piracy.

The Undersigned sincerely regrets that the Governments of Great Britain and France must be deprived of the co-operation of the United States in the measures which they have adopted for the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. R. VAUGHAN.

The Honourable John Forsyth,

&c.

&c.

&c.

LONDON :

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, 14, CHARING CROSS,

FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.