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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

1836.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty,
1837.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1837.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

SPAIN.

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 26th April, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copy of a Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, relating to the treatment of the negroes recently emancipated there by the Mixed Commission, and left to the care of the Spanish Government.

By the Treaty of the 23d of September, 1817, it is stipulated (Regulations for the Commissioners, Article 7) that the slaves "shall be delivered over to the Government on whose territory the Commission which shall have so judged them shall be established, to be employed as servants or free labourers, and each of the two Governments binds itself to guarantee the liberty of such portion of these individuals as shall be respectively consigned to it."

This stipulation is, indeed, still more strongly and fully expressed in the Treaty concluded on the 28th of June, 1835, but I quote by preference the words of the Treaty of 1817, under the provisions of which the Spanish Authorities are still acting.

The true meaning of the stipulation appears likely to be departed from in the case of the negroes about whom the Commissioners now write, and you will therefore make to the Spanish Ministry a representation on the subject, urging them to take measures for securing to these emancipated negroes the final and complete emancipation to which they are entitled under the Treaty.

You will recall to the attention of the Spanish Government, the obligation under which each Government stands in respect to those negroes who are consigned to its care: and you will insist, in a friendly manner, on the right which this Government has, under the Treaty, to inquire how far the obligation in question has been fulfilled by Spain.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Havana Commissioners, 17th February, 1836.

(See Class A, No. 84.)

No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 5th May, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, Copies of a Correspondence which has lately passed between this Department, the British Commissioners at the Havana, and the Colonial Department; from which you will perceive that, under the Provisions of Article 2, of Annex C, to the recent Treaty with Spain, His Majesty's Government have determined to appoint an Officer to take charge of all the negroes

CLASS B.

who may be captured by British cruisers and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana.

His Majesty has been pleased to nominate Dr. Richard Robert Madden to this office; and I have to desire that you will communicate this appointment to the Spanish Government, and that you will request them to give the necessary orders to the Authorities at the Havana to afford to Dr. Madden all the assistance in their power, to enable him to execute the duties confided to him under the before-mentioned Article of the Treaty between His Majesty and the Queen of Spain.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosures in No. 2.
(See Class A, No. 89.)

No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 25th May, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you the Copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone and at the Havana, acquainting them that Bond will be taken by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs from the Owners of British vessels entering outwards with casks or vessels on board intended to contain palm-oil, previously to the issue of the Certificate, required for such vessels, under the 6th Clause of the 10th Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I have to desire that you will press upon the Spanish Government the obvious necessity of taking a similar Bond from the Owners of Spanish vessels, previously to the issue to them of the Certificate required under the before-mentioned Article of the Treaty.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 3.
(See Class A, No. 22.)

No. 4.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 26th May, 1836.

I SEND to you the Copy of a Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, enclosing the Translation of a Note from the Captain-General of Cuba, by which it appears that the Spanish Commissioners are now duly authorized to act under the New Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 4.
(See Class A, No. 94.)

No. 5.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 27th May, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you the Copies of two Despatches, with their several Enclosures, which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, upon the subject of a quarantine recently imposed in that port upon His Majesty's ships-of-war having charge of captured slave-trading vessels.

It appears that this measure, to which His Majesty's ship "Champion" was

subjected, was founded on the decision of the Superior Board of Health, dated 15th of January last, in execution of "Royal Orders" in respect to quarantine.

The Correspondence will show that there has been some little display of temper, both on the part of the Spanish Authorities and of the Commander of His Majesty's ship. On the part of the latter this may be in some measure excusable, from the absurdity of subjecting to an equal duration of quarantine at the Havana a British ship-of-war and a slave-vessel full of negroes; the more especially when it is a known fact, that cargoes of negroes are often landed in the immediate vicinity of the city, and sometimes marched through it. Such circumstances cannot but be irritating to His Majesty's Naval Officers, who are necessarily led to conclude that measures, nominally sanative, are in reality intended to put them to inconvenience, and to obstruct them in the performance of their duty in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It appears also, that in this recent Royal Order there is not the usual distinction between ships-of-war and merchant-vessels, in respect to the duration of the quarantine.

I have, accordingly, to desire that you will make a representation upon this subject to the Spanish Government, and that you will urge them to send orders to the Havana to place His Majesty's ships in that port, in regard to quarantine, upon the footing on which they stood previously to the issue of the Decrees of the Board of Health of the 15th of January, 1836; or, if the present quarantine of 7 days must be persisted in, then and in that case to admit His Majesty's ships to *pratique* immediately on entering the port, provided they shall have kept the sea 7 days after having had direct communication with a prize.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed)

I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

Enclosures in No 5.
(See Class A, Nos. 92 and 96.)

No. 6.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 6.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 29th May, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatches up to that of the 5th May last.

I enclose a Copy of the Note which I have addressed to M. Isturiz, in obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 6th April last, upon the conduct of the Captain-General of Cuba, with respect to negroes emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 6.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Don Francisco Xavier Isturiz.

SIR,

Madrid, 27th May, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to state to your Excellency that my Government have received information, on which they have reason to rely, that the present Captain-General of Cuba, so far from watching over the faithful fulfilment of the Treaties existing between this country and Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, is departing from a most important provision of both the Treaty of 1817 and the late one, signed in June of last year, with respect to the treatment of captured negroes.

By the Treaty of the 23d of September, 1817, it is stipulated (Regulations for the Commissioners, Art. 7) that the slaves "shall be delivered over to the Government on whose territory the Commission which shall have so judged them shall be established, to be employed as servants or free labourers: and each of the two Governments binds itself to guarantee the liberty of such portion of these individuals as shall be respectively consigned to it."

This stipulation is indeed still more strongly expressed in the Treaty concluded on the 28th of June, 1835; from which I refrain from quoting, as it appears the Authorities of the Havana are still acting under the Treaty of 1817.

It appears, however, that the negroes which have been lately captured, instead of being employed as free labourers, and having their liberty guaranteed by the Authorities of Her Catholic Majesty in the Havana, are made over to planters in the interior at the price of nine ounces per head; which, though this is only the third part of the value of a slave, cannot be considered in any other light than a sale:

seeing that the negroes are thus removed beyond the control or inspection of the Officers appointed for their supervision.

I am instructed by my Government to urge upon your Excellency to take measures for putting a stop to this abuse, and for securing to these liberated negroes the final and complete emancipation to which they are entitled under the Treaty.

In the effecting a scrupulous fulfilment of the solemn Treaties existing between the two countries, I rely with such perfect confidence on your Excellency's zealous co-operation, that I feel it unnecessary for me to insist upon the right which His Britannic Majesty's Government have, under the Treaty, to inquire how far the obligation, in respect to those negroes consigned to the care of the Spanish Authorities, has been fulfilled by Spain.

Don Francisco, Xavier de Isturiz,
&c. &c. &c.

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

No. 7.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 6.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 29th May, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy of the Note which, in obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, marked "Slave Trade," of the 5th May last, I have addressed to M. Isturiz, informing him that His Majesty's Government have appointed Dr. Madden to take charge of the negroes captured by British cruisers, and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana.

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

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

Enclosure in No. 7.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz.

SIR,

Madrid, 29th May, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that His Britannic Majesty's Government have determined to appoint an Officer to take charge of all negroes who may be captured by British cruisers and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana, under the provisions of Article 2, of Annex C, to the recent Treaty with Spain, for the effectual abolition of the Spanish Slave Trade.

I have, accordingly, received Instructions to communicate to the Spanish Government that His Britannic Majesty has been pleased to nominate Dr. Richard Robert Madden to this office; and to request that your Excellency will give the necessary orders to the Authorities at the Havana to afford to Dr. Madden all the assistance in their power to enable him to execute the duties confided to him under the before-mentioned Article of the Treaty between His Britannic Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen of Spain.

Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz,
&c. &c. &c.

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

No. 8.

(Circular.) *Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.*

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th June, 1836.

I TRANSMIT, for your information, the Extract of a Despatch from His Majesty's Consul-General at Monte Video, enclosing the Copy of a Decree issued by that Government, placing all vessels coming in *ballast* from the Coast of Africa under a quarantine discretion of the Government.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Mr. Hood, Monte Video, 29th February, 1836.

No. 9.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 12th June, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatches, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th, 26th, and 27th ultimo.

In obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 25th of May, I addressed a Note, of which I enclose the Copy, to M. Isturiz, stating that His Majesty's Government had directed that Bond should be taken from the Owners of British vessels entering outwards with casks intended to contain palm-oil, and pressing upon the Spanish Government the necessity of taking similar steps with regard to the Owners of Spanish vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 9.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz.

Madrid, 9th June, 1836.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the British Government have thought it necessary to direct that the Commissioners of His Britannic Majesty's Customs should take a Bond from the Owners of British vessels entering outwards with casks or vessels on board intended to contain palm-oil, previously to the issue of the Certificate required for such vessels, under the 6th clause of the 10th Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I have received Instructions from my Government to make this communication to your Excellency, and to press upon the Spanish Government the obvious necessity of taking a similar Bond from the Owners of Spanish vessels previously to the issue to them of the Certificate required under the before-mentioned Article of Treaty.

Thinking that it may be desirable to preserve uniformity in the Documents used by the two Governments for the same purpose, I have the honour to enclose Copies of the Bond and Certificate which His Britannic Majesty's Government have thought proper to approve.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 10.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

Madrid, 12th June, 1836.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy and Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Isturiz, stating that, in consequence of the Note which his Excellency had received from me on the 27th ultimo, the most positive orders should be immediately issued to the Captain-General of Cuba to provide for the due execution of the stipulations contained in the Treaties of 1817 and 1835 between Great Britain and Spain, for insuring to emancipated negroes their complete freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 10.

(Translation.)

M. Isturiz to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

I HAVE laid before the August Queen Regent the contents of the Note which you were pleased to address to me on the 27th of last month, complaining, by order of your Government, of the non-execution, on the part of the Authorities of the Havana, of the engagements contained in the Treaties existing between Spain and Great Britain for the effectual abolition of the Slave Trade, relative to the treatment to be given to the captured negroes; and Her Majesty, after having been made acquainted with this subject, has been pleased to command me to inform you, as I have the honour to do, that the most positive orders shall be immediately issued to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, directing him, in conformity with what has been stipulated by the two countries upon this subject, in the two Treaties of 1817 and 1835, to pay the greatest attention to the due execution of all the stipulations contained in those Treaties for insuring to the emancipated negroes their complete freedom.

In making, by order of my August Mistress the Queen Regent, this communication to you, I avail myself of this opportunity, &c.

The British Minister,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

XAVIER DE ISTURIZ.

No. 11.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 12th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy and Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Isturiz, communicating to me, for the information of His Majesty's Government, that the Captain-General of Cuba had officially reported to the Ministry of State his having received the Orders and Instructions which were addressed to him respecting the Treaty signed on the 28th of June of last year, and that he had taken the necessary steps for their punctual execution.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 11.

(Translation.)

M. Isturiz to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Madrid, 4th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, in order that you may communicate the same to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, that the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, under date of the 29th of March last, has reported to this Office his having received the Orders and Instructions which were addressed to him respecting the Treaty signed on the 28th of June of last year, between Her Catholic Majesty and His Britannic Majesty, for the effectual abolition of the Slave Trade; adding that he would accordingly regulate his conduct agreeably to the tenour of those Instructions, he having already transmitted printed Copies of the above-mentioned Treaty to the Officer commanding in chief Her Majesty's naval forces on that station, in order that the Commanders of the Spanish ships destined to cruise in those waters may faithfully and exactly execute what has been stipulated by both countries with respect to the examination and detention of vessels engaged in this unlawful trade; and also that he had made a similar communication to the Mixed Commission and to the other Authorities of that Island for the due execution thereof.

In making, by order of Her Majesty the August Queen Regent, this communication to you, I renew to you the assurances, &c.

The British Minister,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

XAVIER DE ISTURIZ.

No. 12.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 12th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy and Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Isturiz, in acknowledgment of the one in which I communicated to his Excellency the appointment of Dr. Richard Robert Madden to take charge of all negroes who may be captured by British cruisers and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana. M. Isturiz, in this Note, expresses his desire that His Majesty's Government may be pleased to direct Dr. Madden to adopt the measures which shall be thought most expedient to prevent the accumulation of emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba, where they cannot remain for any length of time without danger to the public tranquillity.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 12.

(Translation.)

M. Isturiz to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Madrid, 4th June, 1836.

I HAVE laid before Her Majesty the August Queen Regent your Note, dated the 27th of May last, in which, at the same time that you inform Her Majesty of the appointment made by His Britannic Majesty's Government of Dr. Richard Robert Madden to take charge of all negroes who may be captured by British cruisers, and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana, you request that the proper orders may be issued to the Authorities of the Island of Cuba, in order that they may afford to the above-mentioned British Commissioner the co-operation and assistance which, in the execution of his functions, he may require.

Her Majesty, after having been made acquainted with your request, has been pleased to command me to transmit to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba (as by Royal Order I do) the orders which you solicit; directing him, at the same time, to dictate, in accordance with Dr. Richard Robert Madden, such measures as may be deemed expedient for preventing the excessive accumulation of

emancipated negroes and their prolonged sojourn in Her Majesty's Islands. The safety of the ultramarine possessions, and obvious reasons of public interest, have compelled Her Majesty to take this determination, the justice of which, I doubt not, will be acknowledged by the British Government; and will also induce it to recommend to Dr. Madden the adoption of measures, on his part, for preventing the dreadful evils which may be expected from the agglomeration of emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba, where they cannot remain for any long time without seriously endangering the public tranquillity.

Her Majesty flatters herself that the enlightened Government of His Britannic Majesty will accede to the desire which I have just announced to you; a desire as just as the interest is sincere which Her Majesty takes in causing the compacts which bind together both nations to be fulfilled.

The British Minister,
&c. &c.

I avail myself, &c.
(Signed) XAVIER DE ISTURIZ.

No. 13.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 7th July, 1836.

MR. W. S. MACLEAY, His Majesty's Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice at the Havana, having left that Colony on leave of absence on account of his health, and Mr. Schenley, his colleague, having in consequence become His Majesty's Judge, the King has been pleased to appoint Richard Robert Madden, Esq., to His Majesty's Arbitration, *pro tempore*, in the place of Mr. Schenley. I have, therefore, to instruct you to communicate this appointment to the Spanish Government, and to request that Instructions may be sent to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, to acknowledge Mr. Madden in the office to which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint him.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 14.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a Copy of a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioner at Havana, reporting that, in the month of April last, 4 Spanish vessels arrived there from the Coast of Africa, all of which had previously succeeded in landing their cargoes upon the Coast of Cuba.

It appears that, lately, vessels clearing out for the Coast of Africa have not been reported in the public journals, and that there will in future be a difficulty in transmitting correct Lists of Departures for Africa.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 14.

(See Class A, No. 103.)

No. 15.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 10.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 2d July, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th June.

In obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 27th ultimo, I have addressed a Note to M. Isturiz, of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy to your Lordship, upon the subject of a quarantine which has recently been imposed at the Havana upon His Majesty's ships-of-war having charge of captured slave-vessels.

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

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

ERRATUM.

Page 7, line 20, for "to His Majesty's Arbitration" read "to be His Majesty's Arbitrator."

Enclosure in No. 15.

G. Villiers, Esq., to His Excellency Don Francisco Xavier Isturiz.

SIR,

Madrid, 30th June, 1836.

I HAVE received the Instructions of my Government to call your Excellency's attention to the subject of a quarantine which has recently been imposed in the Havana upon His Britannic Majesty's ships-of-war having charge of captured slave-vessels.

The regulation which has been acted upon since the 9th January last ordains, that captured slave-vessels, and *any other ships having had communication with them*, shall be placed, on arrival in that port, in a quarantine of 7 days. As the Captor necessarily has communication with the vessel he has captured, this provision exposes any of His Majesty's ships bringing in a slave-vessel, not having clean Bills of Health, to a detention of 7 days before being admitted to *pratique*. The regulation emanates from the Supreme Board of Health at the Havana, and is alleged to be in conformity with certain recent Royal Orders.

Without endeavouring to dispute for one moment the right of the Authorities of the Island of Cuba to make such regulations for the preservation of the health of its inhabitants as it may see fit, and as are in accordance with the Ordinances of the Supreme Government, your Excellency will permit me to point out that a wide difference ought to be observed between the sanitary treatment of a vessel crowded with an infected cargo, and one of His Majesty's ships-of-war,—vessels notorious for the strict attention paid to health, cleanliness, and those rules which contribute to the avoidance of every class of disorders; and that to subject both these ships to exactly the same ordeal has every appearance of injustice and harshness, and is apt to produce feelings between the Officers of His Majesty's Navy and the Authorities of the Island such as ought not to exist between the servants of the Governments of two countries priding themselves upon the intimacy and closeness of their friendly alliance.

In the British and all other ports, an essential distinction is taken, as is just, between the treatment of a ship-of-war and the duration of its quarantine, and that of an ordinary vessel with merchandize of any character whatever: in the port of the Havana, however, for the first time, the inconsiderateness of a local order has placed the flag of His Britannic Majesty's Navy not only on a level with the lowest merchantman, but with an infected slave-ship, simply from the fact of having communicated with her under all those regulations and precautions so admirably laid down and maintained by the internal economy and discipline of a British vessel-of-war.

Under these circumstances, I have the honour to request that your Excellency will cause orders to be sent to the Havana to place His Majesty's ships in that part upon the footing on which they stood previously to the issue of the Decrees of the Board of Health of January, 1836; or, if it should be thought essential that British ships-of-war should, on bringing in a captured slaver, be subject to some short period of observation, I take the liberty of urging your Excellency to adopt the steps necessary for having it reduced to the smallest possible period, and alleviated by such considerations and attentions as are due to the character of these ships and the Officers by whom they are commanded.

I have, &c.

Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

No. 16.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 9.)

MY LORD,

St. Ildefonso, 31st July, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatches, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th of June, and the 7th and 8th instant, and a Circular Despatch of June 15th.

In obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 7th instant, I have addressed a Note, of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy, to M. Isturiz, communicating to His Excellency that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Dr. Madden Arbitrator, *pro tempore*, in the place of Mr. Schenley, in the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 16.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz.

SIR,

St. Ildefonso, 29th July, 1836.

IN pursuance of Instructions which I have received from my Government, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Mr. William Sharp Macleay, His Britannic Majesty's Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice at the Havana, having left that Colony on leave of absence, on account of his health, and Mr. Schenley, his colleague, having in consequence become His Britannic Majesty's Judge, the King my master has been pleased to appoint Richard Robert Madden, Esq., to be His Britannic Majesty's Arbitrator, *pro tempore*, in the place of Mr. Schenley. And I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to send Instructions to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba to acknowledge Mr. Madden in the office to which he has been appointed.

I have, &c.

Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

No. 17.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 9.)

MY LORD,

St. Ildefonso, 31st July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which, upon the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 8th July last, I addressed to M. Isturiz respecting 4 slave-ships which have landed their cargoes in the Island of Cuba, and the discontinuance of the practice of publishing at the Havana the departure of vessels clearing out for the Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 17.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Don Francisco Xavier de Isturiz.

SIR,

St. Ildefonso, 29th July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that His Britannic Majesty's Government have received intelligence from the Havana, by which it appears that, in the month of April last, 4 Spanish vessels arrived there from the Coast of Africa, all of which had previously succeeded in landing their cargoes upon the Coast of Cuba.

I need not remind your Excellency that these proceedings are in defiance of solemn Treaties existing between the two countries, and prove that the Authorities of the Island continue to be remiss in carrying into execution the provisions of the compact entered into by the Spanish Government even so lately as the year 1834.

In further proof that the Authorities of the Havana fail to act with that honour and good faith which I am sure the Spanish Government would desire, it is my duty to communicate to your Excellency, that the public journals of Cuba have of late ceased to report the departure of vessels clearing out for the Coast of Africa, lest intelligence of their sailing should reach the cruizers, which, under the provisions of the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade between Great Britain and Spain, are employed for the purpose of putting an end to the horrible commerce in which they are engaged.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

Don Francis Xavier de Isturiz,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 18.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 1st September, 1836.

I HEREWITH enclose, for your information, a List of slave-vessels which His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana have reported to me as having entered that port during the month of June last, after safely landing cargoes of slaves upon the Coast of Cuba.

Of the 6 vessels enumerated in the List, 4 were under the flag of Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

G. Villiers, Esq.
 &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18.

(See List in No. 112, Class A.)

No. 19.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 2d September, 1836.

THE Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have directed the Admiral on the Jamaica station to send from time to time to His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana a List of such of His Majesty's ships as may be furnished with Instructions under the present Treaty with Spain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, with a view to satisfy the Spanish Commissioners of the legality of the capture of any Spanish slaver by British cruizers, and thereby render unnecessary the presence of the Captor before the Mixed Court of Justice, in Cases in which sufficient evidence may otherwise exist for condemnation.

The Treaty makes it optional with the Captor either to send or take in for adjudication any detained vessel; therefore, if the Spanish Commissioners should insist,

CLASS B.

as they have done hitherto, to have the Captor present before they will consent to adjudge his prize, it is evident that the option which the Treaty gives will become a dead letter, and advantage will be taken of the Captor's absence from his cruising station to carry on the Slave Trade as usual.

In order that no unnecessary delay may arise on this point in Cases which may come before the Mixed Court, I have to instruct you to express the hope of His Majesty's Government that the Government of Spain will lose no time in sending Instructions to their Commissioners at the Havana not to insist upon the presence of the Captor at the adjudication of a prize, provided the vessel he commands is included in the List of those ships of His Majesty's Navy which the Admiral on the station may certify to be duly furnished with Instructions annexed to the Treaty of the 28th June, 1835.

I enclose, for your information, Copies of two Despatches from His Majesty's Commissioners upon this subject.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 19.

Havana Commissioners, 28th May and 2d July, 1836.

(See Nos. 107 and 114, Class A.)

No. 20.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 19.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 10th September, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Calatrava, in answer to the one I addressed to M. Isturiz on the 30th June last, upon the subject of the quarantine lately imposed at the Havana on His Majesty's ships which arrived in that port in charge of slave-vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 20.

M. Calatrava to G. Villiers, Esq.

(Translation.)

SIR,

Palace, 2d September, 1836.

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you that satisfaction has been given for the remonstrance which, in the name of your Government, you addressed to this office in your Note of the 30th June last, against the quarantine lately imposed at the Havana on His Britannic Majesty's ships which arrived there in charge of slave-vessels; since Her Majesty, having thought proper to concur in the opinion of the Supreme Board of Health of the kingdom, has been pleased to command that the above-mentioned ships of His Britannic Majesty, which may enter the ports of the Island of Cuba in charge or in custody of slave-vessels, shall be forthwith admitted to free *pratique* and commerce without being subject to any quarantine whatsoever; which resolution the Secretary of State for the Interior has communicated to the Captain-General of that Island, under date of the 12th ultimo.

I avail myself of this opportunity, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE M. CALATRAVA.

The British Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 21.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 2.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 24th October, 1836:

I HAVE the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatches of the 1st and 2d of September, marked Slave Trade.

I enclose the Copy of a Note which, in obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 2d September, I have addressed to M. Calatrava respecting the presence of the Captor at the adjudication of a prize before the Mixed Court of Justice.

I have, &c.

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 21.

G. Villiers, Esq., to M. Calatrava.

Madrid, 22d October, 1836.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to request your Excellency's immediate attention to a point of form, arising under the Treaty lately concluded between Great Britain and this country for the abolition of the Slave Trade, respecting the presence of the Captor at the adjudication of the prize.

The Captain of the cruiser who shall capture any vessel under the Articles of the said Treaty is expressly allowed either to take or send the vessel for adjudication to the Court of the Mixed Commission: in case of his *sending* the vessel, and not appearing in person, it is necessary that the Commission who are to try the legality of the capture should be aware that the Captor has been duly authorized by the Instructions of his Government to make slave captures.

I have, therefore, the honour to request that your Excellency will instruct the Spanish Commissioners at the Havana, as the British Government has instructed the British Commissioners, that they shall consider as sufficient evidence that the Captor has been duly authorized to make prizes under the Treaty, if the name of the ship is found in a List which the Admiral on the Jamaica station has been directed to send in, from time to time, to His Britannic Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, of such of his Britannic Majesty's cruisers as shall be furnished with Instructions under the above-mentioned Treaty with Spain; and which List shall have been officially communicated by them to the Commissioners of Her Catholic Majesty.

His Excellency M. Calatrava,
&c. &c.

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

No. 22.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 7.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 26th November 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Calatrava in answer to mine of the 22d ultimo (a Copy of which was enclosed in my Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 24th ultimo, to your Lordship), acquainting me that Instructions shall be sent to the Spanish Commissioners at the Havana to consider the Captor of a slave-vessel duly authorized, provided the name of his ship be found in the List of English cruisers furnished to the Commissioners by the Admiral on the station.

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

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

Enclosure in No. 22.

M. Calatrava to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Madrid, 25th November, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, in reply to the Note which you were pleased to address to me on the 22d of October last, that Her Majesty, finding, conformable with the provisions of the last Treaty concluded for the abolition of the Slave Trade, the proposal made in your above cited Note, that Instructions should be given to the Spanish Commissioners at the Havana, as the British Government has instructed theirs, that they shall consider the Captor duly authorized, provided the name of the ship is found in the List of English cruisers which the Admiral on the Jamaica station is to send in, from time to time, to the British Commissioners at the Havana, has been pleased to resolve that your proposal be communicated, for its punctual fulfilment, to the Spanish Commissioners in that place.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I avail myself, &c.
(Signed) JOSE M. CALATRAVA.

No. 23.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 21st December, 1836.

HIS Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, in reporting to me the Case of the Spanish schooner *Eliza*, condemned under a charge of slave-trading, bring to my notice the fact, that the Custom-house Clearance from St. Jago de Cuba permitted the *Eliza* to carry a case containing 120 leg-irons, as part of her cargo.

HIS Majesty's Commissioners observe that this fact is a striking proof of the determined spirit of opposition with which the New Treaty has been met, not only by those personally engaged in slaving-adventures, but also by the Spanish Authorities at Cuba.

I herewith transmit a translated Copy of the Clearance in question. In laying this Document before the Spanish Government, you will request that the miscon-

duct of the Officers who gave it may be censured, as they were guilty of con-
 niving at a breach of the Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Spain,
 which prohibits, under penalty of confiscation, such articles from being found on
 board a vessel.

You will further add, that His Majesty's Government doubt not that orders will
 be given to prevent such illegal proceedings in future.

G. Villiers, Esq.
 &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 23.

(See Clearance enclosed in No. 53, p. 102, Class A.)

No. 24.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 22d December, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit Copies of Despatches which have been addressed to
 me by His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, reporting the circumstances
 which had induced him to avail himself of the condemned Spanish slave-schooner
 "*Preciosa*" to convey, from Havana to Belize, the liberated Africans who formed
 the cargo of that vessel.

I have approved of the arrangement which, under the peculiar circumstances,
 was adopted, in that instance, by Mr. Schenley's proposal, that condemned slave-
 vessels should, in future, be employed in this manner, because such employment
 would be an infringement of the 12th Article of the Treaty, which directs that
 slave-ships shall be broken up *immediately* after condemnation; and because, if the
 execution of this important provision of the Treaty should, on the plea of expedi-
 ency, be delayed or neglected by British Officers, a pretence might be afforded
 to the Spanish Authorities for attempting, under a similar plea, to defer or defeat
 other provisions of the Treaty.

I have, therefore, given directions that the provisions of the 12th Article of the
 Treaty shall henceforward be strictly carried into execution.

You will perceive, by the enclosed Papers, that the Captain-General of Cuba
 has signified to Mr. Schenley his determination not to allow negroes liberated by
 the Mixed Court of Justice to be landed at the Havana, and that he has,
 with reluctance, consented to permit the sick negroes belonging to the cargo of the
 "*Preciosa*" to be put on shore for the recovery of their health.

This determination of the Captain-General may be productive of great evil in
 regard to the health of the negroes; it may also occasion much inconvenience to
 His Majesty's Superintendent of liberated Africans at the Havana, who may be
 unable, at the precise moment when the negroes are liberated, to procure vessels
 either for their temporal reception, or for transporting them at once to the British
 Colonies.

With the view, therefore, of preventing the inconveniences which the above-
 mentioned decision of the Captain-General is calculated to create, His Majesty's
 Government intend to send to the Havana a hulk, to be commanded by a
 Lieutenant in His Majesty's Navy, and to be manned with a suitable crew.

This hulk will be stationed in the port of the Havana, to receive negroes liberated
 by the Mixed Court of Justice, during the period that may elapse between the time
 when the Court shall pronounce its sentence and the time when the negroes can
 be sent to their ultimate destination.

You will make this proposed plan known to the Spanish Government, and you
 will request them to send Instructions to the Captain-General of Cuba to give every
 aid in his power to carry it into execution.

This floating depôt will not, however, afford adequate means of making the
 necessary separation between the sick and healthy negroes, and I have, therefore,
 to desire that you will request the Spanish Government to direct the Captain-
 General to concert with the Commissioners some arrangement for providing, in
 some unobjectionable place on shore, a lazaret for the small number of negroes
 whose health may require greater accommodation than it may be possible to afford
 to them on board the hulk.

G. Villiers, Esq.
 &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

ERRATUM.

Page 12, line 20, for "adopted in that instance by Mr. Scheuley's proposal" read "adopted
 in that instance by Mr. Schenley; but I have objected to Mr. Schenley's proposal."

Enclosures in No. 24.

Havana Commissioners, 30th July and 26th August, 1836.

(See Class A, Nos. 123, 137.)

No. 25.

*G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 3, 1837.)**Madrid, 24th December, 1836.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Letter which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, stating that the Spanish vessel "*Victoria*" had cleared out from that port for the Coast of Guinea, and that another vessel, the "*Scorpion*," was shortly expected to sail upon a similar expedition.

I have forwarded this information to His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Mr. Brackenbury to G. Villiers, Esq.

(Copy.)

British Consulate, Cadiz, 14th December, 1836.

SIR,

I BEG to acquaint you that the Spanish brig "*El Portento*," José R. de Ibarra, Master, arrived in this harbour on the 23d of September last, in ballast, from Ayuda, on the Coast of Africa, and sailed on the 25th for Lisbon; from whence she returned, under Portuguese colours, as the "*Victoria*," commanded by José Lopez Ferreira, on the 7th of November; cleared out on the 5th, and sailed on the 8th instant for Princes Island, on the Gulf of Guinea, doubtless for a cargo of slaves, in which inhuman traffic she has been previously employed under Spanish colours.

The Portuguese brig-schooner "*Scorpion*," Juan Carlos, Master, arrived in this harbour on the 19th ultimo, in ballast, from Cabo Verde, and will shortly be fitted out for a similar destination.

I will not fail to acquaint you as soon as I can learn further particulars respecting her.

Both these vessels are owned by Don Pedro Felipe del Campo and Don Pedro Martinez, the great slave-traders of this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. M. BRACKENBURY.

G. Villiers, Esq.

&c. &c.

No. 26.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 30.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 21st January, 1837.

IN obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 21st ultimo, I have addressed a note, of which I herewith enclose the Copy, to M. Calatrava, communicating to his Excellency the violation of the Treaty which had been committed by the Custom-house Authorities of St. Jago de Cuba, in allowing the slave-ship "*Eliza*" to clear out with 120 pairs of leg-irons on board.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 26.

G. Villiers, Esq., to M. Calatrava.

(Copy.)

SIR,

Madrid, 19th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that it has appeared from the proceedings in the Case of the Spanish schooner "*Eliza*," condemned at Sierra Leone for slave-trading, that the Officers of the Custom-house of St. Jago de Cuba gave formal permission to that vessel to carry on board 120 pairs of leg-shackles.

I have the honour to enclose to your Excellency a Translation of the Clearance, by which your Excellency will perceive who are the Officers who have authorized an act in violation of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade between Spain and Great Britain, and by which the vessel was made liable to confiscation.

I feel it perfectly unnecessary to make any observations on this fact, well aware that no authority,

acting under the Government of which your Excellency is the chief, will be permitted to violate with impunity the solemn engagement entered into by Her Catholic Majesty.

His Excellency M. Calatrava,
&c. &c.

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

No. 27.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 30.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 21st January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which, according to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 22d of December of last year, I have addressed to M. Calatrava, informing his Excellency of the intention of His Majesty's Government to send a hulk to the Havana, and requesting that orders may be sent to the Captain-General of the Island to fit up a lazaret on shore, for the accommodation of liberated negroes who may be sick during the time that may elapse previously to their being sent to their ultimate destination.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 27,

(Copy.)

G. Villiers, Esq., to M. Calatrava.

SIR,

Madrid, 19th January, 1837.

IN consequence of the Captain-General of Cuba having signified to the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana his determination not to permit negroes, liberated under the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, to be put on shore, and as this determination may be productive of great evil in regard to the health of negroes, as well as occasion much inconvenience to the British Officers charged with the superintendence of these unfortunate beings, who, at the precise moment when the negroes are liberated, may be unable to procure vessels either for their temporary reception or for transporting them at once to the British Colonies, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that His Britannic Majesty's Government have resolved to send to the Havana a hulk or floating depôt, in order to receive negroes liberated by the Mixed Court of Justice during the period that may elapse between the time when the Court shall pronounce its sentence and the time when the negroes can be sent to their ultimate destination.

I have been instructed to communicate this proposed plan, dictated alike by humanity and the necessity of the case, to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, and to request that your Excellency will cause directions to be sent to the Captain-General of Cuba to give every aid in his power towards carrying it into execution.

The hulk will be commanded by a Lieutenant of the British Navy, and manned with a suitable crew. It will be stationed in the harbour of the Havana, and be fitted up in such a manner as to avoid some of the numerous evils likely to flow from the determination of the Captain-General of Cuba.

But this floating depôt will not afford adequate means of making the necessary separation between the sick and healthy negroes; and I am, therefore, instructed to request the Spanish Government to direct the Captain-General to concert with the Commissioners an arrangement for providing, in some unobjectionable house on shore, a lazaret for the small number of negroes whose health may require greater accommodation than it may be possible to afford them on board the hulk.

In the case of the "*Preciosa*," recently condemned by the Mixed Court at the Havana, the determination of the Captain-General not to permit the liberated negroes to be landed made it necessary for the British Commissioner (with the concurrence of the Captain-General) to despatch the slave-vessel to Honduras with her cargo, instead of having her broken up immediately, according to the sentence of the Court and the 12th Article of the Treaty. This infraction of the Treaty, justifiable under the particular circumstances of the Case, has been approved by His Britannic Majesty's Government; but, resolved as they are that every provision of that Treaty shall be religiously observed on their part, they have forbidden that any such measure should be had recourse to in future, and have provided for any similar difficulty by the resolution to station a floating depôt in the harbour.

I have, &c.

His Excellency M. Calatrava,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE VILLIERS.

No. 28.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 6.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 28th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Translation of a Note, which I have received from M. Calatrava in reply to the one I addressed to his Excellency on

the 19th instant with respect to 120 pair of leg-irons having been permitted to be shipped by the Custom-house Officers of St. Jago de Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 28.

M. Calatrava to G. Villiers, Esq.

(Translation.)

Madrid, 21st January, 1837.

SIR,

I HAVE received the Note which you were pleased to address to me, under date of the 19th instant, in which, referring to the stipulations of the Treaty existing for the suppression of the Slave Trade, you represent against the proceedings of the Officers of the Custom-house of St. Jago de Cuba, in having granted permission to embark and carry on board the Spanish schooner "Eliza" 120 pairs of leg-shackles, of which permission you send me a Copy; and I have the honour to inform you in reply that Her Majesty's Government will take measures to ascertain the truth, and that, in case any violation of the Treaty to which you refer has been committed, it shall not be left unpunished.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA CALATRAVA.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 29.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 6.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 28th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Translation of a Note which I have received from M. Calatrava in acknowledgment of one which I addressed to his Excellency on the 19th instant, announcing the intention of His Majesty's Government to establish a hulk at the Havana for the temporary reception of liberated negroes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

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

Enclosure in No. 29.

M. Calatrava to G. Villiers, Esq.

(Translation.)

Madrid, 21st January, 1837.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, in reply to the Note which you were pleased to address to me under date of the 19th instant, respecting the hulk the British Government has resolved to station in the harbour of the Havana, in order to receive negroes liberated by the Mixed Court of Justice of that place until the negroes can be sent to their ultimate destination; and that orders should be transmitted to the Captain-General of Cuba to concert with the Commissioners for the establishment on shore of a lazaret for the reception of the small number of negroes whose ill health may not permit of their remaining on board the hulk, that Her Majesty's Government will immediately take into consideration both subjects; and I shall hasten to communicate to you the result.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA CALATRAVA.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 30.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 10th February, 1837.

HIS Majesty was pleased, on the 10th of February, 1837, to appoint James Kennedy, Esq., to be His Majesty's Judge in the room of William Sharp Macleay, Esq., to the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice established at the Havana, under the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

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 without delay to the Havana for a formal recognition of Mr. Kennedy in the character above mentioned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 31.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 28th February, 1837.

I HEREWITH transmit a Copy of a Despatch, and of its Enclosures, from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, containing a Report upon the Slave Trade carried on at that port during the year 1836.

From these Papers you will perceive that merchants of the Havana still continue to carry on the Slave Trade to a great extent, availing themselves in some instances of the flag of Portugal as a cover for their illegal proceedings.

You will, therefore, communicate the principal facts detailed in the enclosed Papers to the Spanish Government, and you will inquire whether any measures have yet been taken for the fulfilment of the provisions of Article 2 of the Treaty of June 28th, 1835, by the promulgation of a law inflicting severe punishment on all those subjects of Her Catholic Majesty who shall take any part whatever in the traffic in slaves.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 32.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 13.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 4th March, 1837.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 10th of February last, and, in obedience to the Instructions it contains, I have this day communicated to M. Calatrava the appointment of Mr. Kennedy as Judge to the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana, in the room of Mr. Macleay, and requested that orders might be sent to the Havana for the formal recognition of Mr. Kennedy in the above-mentioned character.

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

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

No. 33.

G. Villiers, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 19.)

MY LORD,

Madrid, 11th March, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Translation of a Note which I have received from the Under Secretary of State (in the absence of M. Calatrava from indisposition), acquainting me that Instructions have been sent to the Captain-General of Cuba to recognize Mr. James Kennedy as Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana in the room of Mr. Macleay.

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

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

Enclosure in No. 33.

(Translation.)

M. Calatrava to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Madrid, 8th March, 1837.

By the communication which you were pleased to address to me, dated the 4th instant, I am informed that His Britannic Majesty has thought fit to appoint Mr. James Kennedy to exercise the functions of Judge, in the place of Mr. William Sharpe Macleay, in the Mixed English and Spanish Court of Justice established at the Havana in virtue of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and Her Majesty, to whom I have reported the said appointment, has been pleased to resolve that I should communicate it to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, as I do this day, in order that Mr. Kennedy may be known there to be invested with the above-mentioned character.

On this occasion I repeat to you the assurances, &c. (in the absence from indisposition of the Secretary of State).

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) GABRIEL JOSE GARCIA.

No. 34.

Viscount Palmerston to G. Villiers, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th March, 1837.

I BEG to refer you to your Despatch marked Slave Trade of the 12th of June last, announcing your having proposed to the Spanish Government the adoption of the Form of Bond and Certificate used by the British Custom-house, in Cases of vessels clearing out for the Coast of Africa with casks on board; and I herewith transmit to you the Translation of a Certificate found among the Papers of the Spanish schooner "*Luisita*," respecting the extra quantity of casks embarked at the Havana on board that vessel, which was condemned on the 16th of December, on a charge of having been engaged in illegal Slave Trade.

This Certificate was produced to the Mixed Court as the Document pointed out by the 6th Section of the 10th Article of the Treaty with Spain as necessary to authorize the vessel to carry such extra water-casks; but, as the Paper in question makes no mention of any security having been given for the lawful employment of the casks specified therein, the Mixed Commission very properly declined to acknowledge its validity.

This is not the only instance in which an imperfect Certificate has been presented to the Court; and I have therefore to instruct you to bring the question once more under the consideration of the Spanish Government, and to represent how desirable it is that some Form of Certificate, framed in the spirit and according to the meaning of the Equipment Article, should be adopted by the Spanish Custom-house, and communicated to the British and Spanish Mixed Courts of Justice, in order that the Commissioners may be enabled to decide at once as to the value which should attach to Documents of this nature which may hereafter be produced by the Masters of Spanish vessels brought before the Courts for adjudication.

I am, &c.

G. Villiers, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

SPAIN. (*Consular.—Cadiz.*)

No. 35.

Mr. Pro-Consul Brackenbury to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 29.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Cadiz, 17th December, 1836.

I BEG to acquaint your Lordship that the Spanish brig "*El Portento*," José R. de Ibarra, Master, arrived in this harbour on the 23d of September last, in ballast, from Ayuda on the Coast of Africa, and sailed 2 days afterwards for Lisbon, from whence she returned, under Portuguese colours, as the "*Victoria*," commanded by Joseph Lopez Ferreira, on the 7th of November, cleared out on the 5th, and sailed on the 8th instant for Princes Island, on the Gulf of Guinea, doubtless, for a cargo of slaves, in which inhuman traffic she has been previously employed under Spanish colours.

The Portuguese brig-schooner "*Scorpion*," Juan Carlos, Master, arrived in this harbour on the 19th ultimo, in ballast, from Cape Verde, and will shortly be fitted out for a similar destination.

Both these vessels are owned by Don Pedro Felipe del Campo, and Don Pedro Martinez, the great slave-traders of this city.

I have communicated this intelligence to Mr. Villiers, at Madrid, and shall transmit it by the earliest opportunity to Rear-Admiral Sir William Hall Gage at Lisbon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. BRACKENBURY.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

SPAIN. (*Consular.—Cuba.*)

No. 36.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 21.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 15th June, 1836.

FREQUENTLY called upon to certify the signatures of public Officers of this place, I have of late observed that some of the Documents presented to me for that formality were the Custom-house Clearances of Spanish vessels.

I have not considered myself justified to withhold Certificates which went only to legalize Official Papers; but, as it seems to me probable that some of the Clearances in question are of vessels destined for the Slave Trade, I take leave to wait upon your Lordship with Translations of 3 such, and shall continue to forward all that appear of an equally suspicious nature. The parties interested are aware that it is my intention so to do.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul.*

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

First Enclosure in No. 36.

Clearance—"Socorro."

I, DON TOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs of Her Catholic Majesty at this place,

Certify, that according to the Register of the Spanish ship "*Socorro*," Captain Edward Antonio Muzard, destined for the Philippine Islands, her cargo is composed of the following effects, named in Policies No. 1 and No. 2, and duly entered by the said Captain:—

Policy No. 1.—Twelve pipes tafia; 6 ditto red wine.

Policy No. 2.—One box, containing 900 bunches of small beads, and 2 dozen razors; 1 case, containing 20 dozen bottles Cologne water; 1 ditto, 6,000 cigars; 1 barrel, containing 1,000 knives with wooden handles, 3,000 feet boards, 120 ditto joists; 70 casks for whale oil, 40 pipes for water, 24,000 Spanish dollars. And for the ends required I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Administrador-General.

Havana, 26th May, 1836.

(Signed)

TOMAS DE YURRE.

Second Enclosure in No. 36.

I, TOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish schooner "*Luisita*," Captain Font y Esclus, bound for St. Tomé and the Island of Principe, according to the Policy No. 6, the said Captain has entered the following effects, viz.:—8 dozen lumber, 5 tons of goods, 3 cases with muskets, 3 ditto, containing barrels of powder, 6 pipes of water, 4 barrels ditto, and 2 empty pipes, intended to be filled with palm-oil. In testimony of which I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller.

Havana, 6th June, 1836.

(Signed)

TOMAS DE YURRE.

Third Enclosure in No. 36.

I, DON TOMAS DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the paquebot called the "*Gata*," Captain José Vicente Larrasabal, bound to the River Bonny, according to Policy No. 3, the said Captain has entered the following effects, viz.:—6 barrels of rice for sale; 8 hogsheads tafia; 16 casks of water, to be afterwards filled with palm-oil.

And for the ends required I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Administrador-General.

Havana, 8th June, 1836.

(Signed)

TOMAS DE YURRE.

No. 37.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Consul Tolmé.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 10th August, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th June last, transmitting translated Copies of the Clearances of 3 Spanish vessels, which

you had certified in your capacity of British Consul, although you apprehended that those vessels were destined for the Slave Trade.

It is not clearly stated for what purpose your Certificate was required to those Clearances, but as one of the vessels, the "*Socorro*," was a notorious slaver, and had been repeatedly reported in that character by His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, she could scarcely be unknown to you. But your Certificate might have tended to mislead the Commander of His Majesty's cruisers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have therefore to inform you, that you ought not, under the circumstances of the Case, to have added your Certificate as British Consul to the Papers of the "*Socorro*," and that you acted incorrectly in certifying the Papers of the other vessels in question; and I have to desire that you will abstain from giving such Certificates in future.

It is no part of the duty of a British Consul to give Certificates respecting the Papers of vessels not belonging to subjects of His Majesty.

C. D. Tolmé, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 38.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 28.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 16th July, 1836.

IN my Despatch of the 15th ultimo I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship Translations of the Custom-house Clearances of 3 vessels, supposed to be slavers, which had been submitted to me, in order that I might certify the signature of the Accountant-General of the Customs at this place; and I now beg to enclose 7, bearing the same character, which have since then been presented.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. D. TOLME, Consul.

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

First Enclosure in No. 38.

I, DON FRANCISCO GRANADOS DE LA OLDOA, Senior Officer and Accountant of the Customs at this place,

Certify, that in the Register despatched by this Custom-house, on the 19th of December last past, to the Spanish schooner "*General Mina*," Captain John Rodriguez, bound to San Tomé, according to Policy No. 6, which the said Captain opened, amongst other things are to be found, 6 hogsheads of rice, 14 hogsheads or pipes, and 10 cigarros or tuns in staves, which together may be computed to contain about 52 pipes, to be filled with palm-oil at the place of destination, the stipulated and corresponding security remaining in this Office. And for the ends required I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General.

Havana, 18th April, 1836.

(Signed) FRANCISCO GRANADOS.

Second Enclosure in No. 38.

I CERTIFY, that the Register closed in this Custom-house on the 17th of March in this present year by the Spanish schooner "*Primera Union*," Captain M. Barquini, bound to St. Tomé, the said Captain has entered in Policy No. 4 the following effects, viz:—9 pipes tafia, 2 hogsheads, 2 pipes, 9 half-pipes, 14 cigarros, and 31 barrels; in all these vessels are contained effects belonging to the Invoice of the cargo of the said schooner, which, according to the corresponding Policy of destination, are to be filled with palm-oil, for a return cargo, the necessary securities having been already given and remaining in this department. For the ends required I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General.

Havana, 30th April, 1836.

(Signed) THOMAS DE YURRE.

Third Enclosure in No. 38.

I, DON THOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish schooner "*Arguila Vengadora*," bound for the Philippine Islands and Madagascar, according to Policy No. 1 of the said Register, that the before-named Captain embarks the following, viz:—260 bags of rice for sale, 23 hogsheads of water, 2 barrels ditto, 17 pipes ditto, 11 casks ditto, 8 half ditto, and 20 half-casks containing biscuit; all which, being filled with the said articles, are on the return of the vessel to be filled with whale oil.

In testimony of which I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General.}

Havana, 18th June, 1836.

(Signed) THOMAS DE YURRE.

Fourth Enclosure in No. 38.

I, DON THOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, principal Accountant of the Customs to Her Catholic Majesty at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish schooner named "*Antonica*," Captain Hieronimus Giscafra, bound to San Pablo de Loando, according to Policy No. 3, which the said Captain has opened, there are the following effects:—26 tuns filled with water, 5 hogsheads ditto ditto, 6 hogsheads with powder; which tuns or hogsheads, on the return of the vessel, are to be filled with palm-oil. For the ends required I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General.

Havana, 26th June, 1836.

(Signed)

THOMAS DE YURRE.

Fifth Enclosure in No. 38.

I, DON THOMAS DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, principal Accountant to the Customs of Her Catholic Majesty at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish brig "*Diogenes*," Captain John T. Peoli, bound to Goa, in Asia, according to Policy No. 3, which the said Captain opened, with the necessary securities, amongst other things the following effects are entered:—25 barrels made of cedar wood, computed to contain 140 pipes of rice, for a return cargo.

For the ends required, and by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General, I give this.

Havana, 27th June, 1836.

(Signed)

THOMAS DE YURRE.

Sixth Enclosure in No. 38.

I, DON THOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs to Her Catholic Majesty at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish schooner "*Justica*," Captain Jose Moyano, bound to the Canaries and Cape de Verd Islands, according to the Policies opened by the said Captain; in Policy No. 2, amongst other Articles, are entered, 110 bags of rice for sale. Policy No. 5.—Six hogsheads of 3½ pipes each, 5 cigarros; which in all contain 5,080 gallons of water for the outward-bound voyage, on the return of the vessel to be filled with palm-oil, the corresponding securities having been lodged in this department.

In testimony whereof I give the present, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller-General.

Havana, 2d July, 1836.

(Signed)

THOMAS DE YURRE.

Seventh Enclosure in No. 38.

I, THOMAS RODRIGUEZ DE YURRE Y ECHAVARRI, Accountant-General of the Customs to Her Catholic Majesty at this place,

Certify, that in the Register of the Spanish brig "*Jacinto*," Captain T. Sauchey, bound to Bahia of All Saints and Angola, according to Policies Nos. 1 and 2 of the said Register, the said Captain entered the following:—

Policy No. 1, amongst other effects, 20 hogsheads of rice, to the consignment, in Bahia, of Vicente de Paula Silva; and in Angola, to Donna Ana de Pintos.

Policy No. 2.—Sixteen hapers and 12 half-pipes, containing together 12,000 gallons of water, to be filled, on the return of the vessel, with palm-oil and other articles of legal commerce, the appointed and corresponding securities having been deposited in this department.

And for the ends required I give this, by virtue of a Decree of the Comptroller.

Havana, 9th July, 1836.

(Signed)

THOMAS DE YURRE.

No. 39.

Mr. Consul Hardy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 3.)

MY LORD,

St. Jago de Cuba, 9th July, 1836.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship that various applications having been made, for the first time, to the competent Authorities at the Havana for captured Africans, on terms of apprenticeship, to be employed in the working of copper-mines in this district, it would appear that the Agents in this Island of the Messrs. Williams, carrying on business as copper-smelters at Swansea, have succeeded in obtaining 70, of which number 25 arrived about a month ago from the Havana, who were immediately sent out to the township of Cobre, about 4 leagues distant from this place, to be applied to this service.

I have no doubt that so long as these labourers shall remain under the control of Englishmen they will meet fair treatment, and will be ultimately liberated in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty; but, as a leading commercial house of this city, who are also candidates on the same object, have avowed to me that, should they succeed in obtaining the unlimited number they have applied for at the capital of the Island for the same service, and with no limitation as to the amount of gratuity, they would pursue the system, so long successful in the western province

of the Island, of retaining them in bondage by subterfuges of the usual kind; and as others may in course be tempted to follow their example, I consider it to be my duty to bring the matter at once under your Lordship's notice.

So much information must have been transmitted from time to time from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana relative to this branch of the slave system, that it may be needless for me to add that, should this intention be acted on, it would meet with no opposition on the part of the Local Authorities. But your Lordship will perhaps permit me to observe that a counteracting mean would easily be found in any arrangement that might be entered into with the Spanish Government, in which it should be stipulated that the names of all apprenticed Africans brought to this province (having been originally captured by a British cruiser) should be entered into a Book of Registry to be kept by His Majesty's Consul at this port, with the injunction that, previous to such registry being taken, they should be brought before him; that this Officer should be at liberty (jointly with a civil Officer of the Spanish Crown, the King's Fiscal for instance) to visit, during the first year once every 3 months, and during the subsequent years of their apprenticeship once every 6 months, the respective properties on which such apprentices may be domiciled, in order to take cognizance of their persons; that he should be at liberty to represent to the Executive Authority all cases of cruelty, neglect of the objects of the Treaty, or injudicious treatment coming within the sphere of his knowledge or observation; and that, at the expiration of the term of service, he should be permitted, as the protector of the apprentice, to apply for his emancipation.

I observe clearly, my Lord, that this is an extensive jurisdiction to be awarded to a foreign Officer, and one much at variance with the bent of Spanish jealousy; yet the facilities almost daily afforded throughout the country for the evasion of the benevolent objects of the Treaty would seem to call for some vigorous remedy, and I do not see why, in a country where a Municipal Officer is annually elected to watch over the comforts of the slave, to interpose his authority between him and the wayward will of his master, and to facilitate his means of self-emancipation, it should not cease to be a matter of surprise or of opposition that His Majesty's Government should, in their solicitude for the welfare of the unprotected African, claim some right to an insight, through their accredited Agent, into his condition during the term of his apprenticeship, as well as to the means of being officially assured that he has, at the expiration of that apprenticeship, been visited with the blessings of freedom, in defiance of the fraudulent intentions of the speculator, or the purchased connivance of authority.

I have, &c.

JOHN HARDY, junior, *Consul*.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 40.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 5.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 22d September, 1836.

I HAVE the honour of receiving your Lordship's Despatch of the 10th August last, Slave Trade, and am extremely sorry to see that I have acted incorrectly in certifying the Custom-house List of cargo (not "the Papers") of vessels supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I could never for a moment think that such Certificate could possibly mislead the Commanders of His Majesty's cruisers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, whilst I imagined that in furnishing them I might gain information calculated to forward the views of His Majesty's Government in putting down this infamous traffic. I shall, however, of course act in future according to your Lordship's orders, as it is my duty, as well as desire, to do in this as in every other case, and have the honour to be,

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul*.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 41.

*Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Consul Hardy.**Foreign Office, 29th September, 1836.*

SIR,

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 9th of July last, upon the subject of the employment of negroes emancipated by the Court of Mixed Commission at Havana, under the Treaty of 1817 for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as apprentices to work in the copper-mines in the district of St. Jago de Cuba.

With respect to your suggestion, that the emancipated negroes so employed should be placed under the joint care of a British and Spanish Officer, I have to acquaint you that, by the Treaty of 1817, the negroes emancipated at Havana are made over to the care of the Government of Spain; and that, although His Majesty's Government has a right to watch over, and to insist upon, the strict fulfilment of the stipulations of that Treaty in respect to emancipated negroes, yet the Spanish Government has evinced so much jealousy of any more active interference on the part of His Majesty's Government, that it has been deemed expedient not to attempt to extend such interference beyond the limits to which it is confined by the Treaty.

You will, however, collect and transmit to His Majesty's Government all the information upon this subject which you may think worthy of attention. But you will carefully avoid interfering in your official capacity with the management or treatment of the emancipated negroes who may be employed in the district of St. Jago de Cuba.

I think it right, at the same time, to draw your attention to a report that some of the newly imported negroes are employed in the copper-mines.

From accounts which have reached His Majesty's Government there is but too much reason to fear that many of the negroes who are landed on the shores of Cuba pass into the hands of parties engaged in working those mines.

The fact that these mining concerns are almost without exception carried on by British capital, renders His Majesty's Government anxious for information on this point.

You will, therefore, spare no pains to ascertain whether this abuse exists, and to what extent; and you will report to me the result of your inquiries, which should be principally directed towards those properties on which a British manager may be resident.

J. Hardy, Esq.,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 42.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 28.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 15th October, 1836.

As a considerable period has elapsed since the Treaty between His Majesty and the Queen Regent of Spain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, signed at Madrid on the 28th of June, 1835, was promulgated here, and some conception may now be formed of the effects it is likely to have on the illicit traffic, as far as the Island of Cuba is concerned, I take leave to resume the subject; for, although I have not failed to communicate to His Majesty's Commissioners, in conversation, such matters regarding it as have come to my knowledge, and although I doubt not that they, in their zeal for the public service, and for the suppression of a commerce iniquitous in itself and injurious to our colonial interests, will have collected and communicated to your Lordship more important facts, and superadded more valuable opinions than I am able to furnish, yet I conceive it to be within the line of my duty to make known to your Lordship, from time to time, the little information I may acquire, and to offer with deference the ideas I may form upon the premises.

When the intelligence first reached this place of such a Treaty having been signed, a great alarm was spread among the slave-traders: many expeditions, at that time preparing, were given up entirely; others, then in progress, were not immediately carried forward; and the Insurance Companies, which had previously taken risks on slave-vessels for the voyage round, refused to underwrite except for the voyage home.

But the interval which your Lordship will recollect occurred between the signing of the Treaty and its promulgation in this Island, gave the speculators hopes that

it would never be ratified, or that if ratified, having the Spanish Authorities on their side (for such was and is to the present day their intimate conviction), its stipulations might be easily evaded; so that, again taking courage, they recommenced their cruel business, and after August and September, in which months there was a pause in their operations, they despatched before the end of the year about 20 vessels.

But shortly after they began to acquire a certainty of the efficacy of the Treaty, at least as far as the Equipment Article goes; and though some, too reckless to be intimidated, continued to send their vessels as before, some despatched them in ballast, forwarding stores for their equipment, and merchandize for the purchase of negroes, by foreign bottoms, chartered to take entire cargoes to the Coast; and some directed their ships to the Cape de Verde Islands, there to assume the Portuguese flag.

There was thus, it appears, for a time a diversity of opinion among the slave-dealers as to the manner of continuing their mal-practices, but no intention of desisting from them.

Their inclination for the trade even increased with the new hazards and the new profits that were like to attend it, and their only hesitation was as to the *modus operandi*.

This, at length, they seem to have agreed upon.

The underwriters are not yet fully convinced of the efficacy of the plan, as they still refuse to insure except against the risk between the time of the slaves being on board and their delivery here; this they are doing at about 20 per cent.

But the speculators have no such doubts, great and small they are pursuing the trade; and there is every reason to believe that the advance in the price of bozal negroes (now worth by the cargo about 300 dollars each), and the augmentation of the risk increasing the gains and the hazard of the game, will work on their innate taste for play, and induce them to carry it on with renewed ardour.

No one Planter, Creole or Spaniard, whatever his speculative opinions on the subject, will afford the slightest assistance towards abolishing this inhuman traffic.

To our own acts we must alone look for its suppression; and, under this conviction, I take leave to repeat again, what I had the honour of writing to your Lordship on the 19th of May, 1835, that "it would be requisite to augment the number of cruisers on the Coast, as well of this Island, as within that line of the African Continent to which the trade is chiefly confined; and that an overpowering force, such as would render the escape of the majority of the slavers next to impossible, continued on the station for a couple of years, would, I am convinced, by ruining one-half of the speculators and frightening the other, be the most economical as well as surest way of ending the trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul*.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 43.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 28.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 22d October, 1836.

ON Sunday last two schooners belonging to a company of slave-dealers, the "*Manuelita*" and the "*Dolores*," left this port for the Coast; yesterday a third, the "*Carlota*," went out; and to-day or to-morrow a fourth, the "*Rosarita*," belonging to the same fleet, will sail to join it.

The "*Fanny Butler*," under American colours, is about to leave for the Cape de Verds, for transnationalization.

A ketch, called the "*Moratin*," has also sailed under American colours, probably with the same object.

Other expeditions are in progress, of which I hope to be able to give your Lordship and His Majesty's Commissioners particulars, though information on the subject of such undertakings is no longer so easily to be procured as formerly.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul*.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 44.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 6.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 5th November, 1836.

I HAD the honour of addressing to your Lordship, on the 15th and 20th ultimo, two Despatches. The substance of these Despatches, in pursuance of the directions of his Grace the Duke of Wellington, conveyed to me in Mr. Backhouse's letter of the 17th January, 1835, I communicated to His Majesty's Commissioners in this place, and I added some information respecting the distribution of the emancipated Africans, in a Letter to them, dated the 25th, of which I beg to enclose a Copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul.*

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 44.

(Copy.)

Mr. Consul Tolmé to His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana.

GENTLEMEN,

British Consulate, Havana, 25th October, 1836.

REFERRING to an inquiry verbally addressed to me by His Majesty's Judge 2 or 3 days back, I beg to say that I have reason to believe that his Excellency the Captain-General has continued "to prefer to distribute," in the words of his Despatch to Mr. Macleay, the emancipated Africans "to persons of responsibility who have made voluntary donations in aid of the public works."

For such distribution, and the arrangement of such voluntary donations, it is reported that a broker is employed, but of this fact I have only hearsay evidence. I know, however, from a friend, that he did perceive, I think for 7 years, a certain number of such persons as apprentices; and I am told, on good authority, that a British Mining Company, near St. Jago, has also engaged several on the same terms, both parties having made what is called a "voluntary contribution" of 10 ounces for each negro, subscribing, at the same time, to those conditions enclosed in the Governor's above-mentioned Letter.

I have no doubt whatever that my friend, who on no other consideration would have received them, and the Company will strictly comply with the apprenticeship clause in the Contract, and, therefore, that they have the best chance of ultimate freedom. But, at the same time, I cannot let this opportunity of alluding to the subject pass without saying that I am confident the distribution in question, generally speaking, will prove a complete infraction of the original Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, and will tend, for the most part, to perpetuate the slavery of those who were intended to be emancipated by it, however different may have been the intention of the Local Government in making such distributions.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul.*

His Majesty's Commissioners,

&c.

&c.

No. 45.

Mr. Consul Tolmé to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 16, 1837.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Havana, 12th December, 1836.

I HAD the honour of addressing your Lordship on the 15th October, in a Despatch, marked Slave Trade, my ideas as to the manner in which that traffic would henceforth be carried on, and as to the only mode in which, under the existing Treaties, it was likely to be materially diminished. What has since passed has tended to confirm the opinion I then gave.

Vessels have continued to be fitted out under the Portuguese flag, Spaniards have been despatched without any of the equipment articles, and Americans have been engaged to carry to the Coast of Africa the necessary armament, utensils, stores, and provisions, for the use of homeward-bound vessels; and as the price of bozals has materially risen (one cargo of 471 was sold for about 200,000 dollars), and the inducement for carrying on the Slave Trade is thus increased, there is no doubt that it will be persevered in by the most daring adventurers.

But the report of many captures on the Coast of Africa, and the blow struck by His Majesty's ship "Vestal," when, in 8 days, she took the "*Empresa*," the "*Phœnix*," and the "*Negrata*," all owned here, caused an extraordinary sensation; several persons who had hitherto been in the trade resolved to relinquish it, and there is no doubt that two or three such fortunate occurrences would tend, more than any other cause short of its being declared piracy, to the abolition of the traffic.

Under these circumstances, I would again, my Lord, venture to suggest that our naval force employed on the Coast of Africa and Cuba should be materially increased; that the exertions of a part of that force should be directed exclusively and uninterruptedly to the abolition of the trade; that a small fleet of cruisers should

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be formed for this purpose, and this alone, and not liable to be called away from its station for the exigencies of the public services; and, however great the expense for the moment, I am convinced that this would prove not only the most efficacious, but also, in the end, the most economical mode of obtaining the object in view.

Since I last addressed your Lordship, the number of vessels sent out from hence for the Coast has been rather smaller; but, as the Spanish craft that now leave in ballast no longer require to assemble here, as they formerly did, for the purpose of taking such part of their cargo as consisted of bonded articles, this being the only bonding port in the Island, it is probable that several have gone from other places, whilst some having cleared here under circumstances which excite no suspicion may have escaped notice.

But of arrivals several have come to my knowledge: the "*Manuelita*" with 471 negroes; the "*Nueva Union*" with 175; the *Isabel* with 470; the "*Dos Hermanos*" with 170; the "*Isabella Segunda*," or "*Felicidad*," with 593; and the "*Terpsichore*" with 270; and I do not pretend to say that there may not have been more.

I shall continue to inform your Lordship of such facts as come to my knowledge.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. D. TOLME, *Consul*.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 46.

Mr. Consul Hardy to Viscount Palmerston—(Received March 7, 1837.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

St. Jago de Cuba, 27th December, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's Despatch of the 29th September, and, in obedience to the desire conveyed therein, that I should report to your Lordship the result of my inquiries respecting the means of labour resorted to for working the copper-mines in this district, beg to state,

That early in the year 1830 an association was formed by 6 individuals, as follows:—Don Antonio San Hemeterio, Don Joaquin de Arrieta, Don Prudencio Casamayor, and Don José Touson, Spaniards; John Hardy, senior, and John Hardy, junior, Englishmen; for the purpose of reviving the copper-mines in the vicinity of this city, they being placed under the superintendence and control of Don Prudencio Casamayor.

That having found every effort to induce the free population to apply themselves to this branch of industry fruitless, recourse was had to the most available means of labour afforded by the country, and purchases were then effected of negroes distrained for debt, *irreclaimable slaves* (who, through judicious treatment, have become the most steady, and placed in posts of trust), acclimated Africans of long standing, and all such as were dissatisfied with their masters and offered themselves for purchase.

That at the commencement of the year 1835 the association was converted into a public company, on account of the magnitude the enterprise had assumed, and with the view of stamping it, for better security against innovation, with a British character, at which period I was offered its exclusive management as resident Director, at a salary of £1,500 a year, which I accepted on condition.—

1. That the slave population should not be increased.

2. That I should be permitted to introduce, uncontrolledly, such system in their treatment as might appear to me best calculated to combine the prosperity of the enterprise with the comforts and religious instruction, in the Catholic persuasion, of the negro; and,

3. That no expense should be spared in order to increase the number of white labourers.

Acting on these principles from the moment of my return to the country in February last, I have succeeded in raising the establishment to its present standard, one which may be termed a phenomenon in the mineral kingdom.

A second association was formed early this year, working in our vicinity, under the superintendence of a Mr. Oddy and Captain Mitchell, and on account of the Messrs. Williams and others, of London. Their force is composed of Englishmen, hired labourers, and emancipated and acclimated Africans.

A third is also in progress with the assistance of foreign capital; but, like the second, has as yet met with no success. The force consists of Englishmen, hired labourers, and Africans.

There are several mines being worked on the north side of the Island, but on a very small scale; and, as far as I have been able to learn, their workings are carried on by the abstraction of labourers from the sugar and coffee estates in the neighbourhood. It is the general opinion that these will prove unproductive.

I have to acquaint your Lordship that, with the exception of a small Portuguese vessel which arrived a month ago with 206 slaves, no vessel engaged in this traffic has arrived within the last 6 months, though 10 are over-due, and are supposed to have been carried into Sierra Leone.

I have the honour of enclosing a Copy of the statement issued to the public at the period I consented to accept the management of the mines belonging to the Royal Consolidated Cobre Mining Association, as well as an attested summary of the distribution of operatives under my guidance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HARDY, junior, *Consul.*

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 46.

Summary of the Distribution of the Operatives employed at the Royal Consolidated Cobre Mines.

Negroes belonging to the Establishment	184	
,, hired	238	
	—	422
Free Men labourers	18	
,, Women ,,	19	
,, Adults ,,	15	
,, Carpenters	18	
,, Masons	10	
	—	80
,, Coloured Overseers, pasture grounds	7	
,, White ,,	4	
,, Copper weighers (one white)	2	
,, Under Overseers	2	
,, Blacksmith	1	
,, Housekeepers and Nurses	3	
	—	19
Englishmen in general, including Officers	80	
Carriers and Assistants	50	
	—	
Total	651	

(Signed) W. REYNOLDS.

(Signed) JOHN HARDY, junior, *Consul.*

(A true Copy.)

No. 47.

Mr. Consul Hardy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 14.)

MY LORD.

St. Jago de Cuba, 20th January, 1837.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship that a schooner under Portuguese colours, called the "Tradado," Juan Luiz S. Cardozo, Master, of 86 tons, with a crew of 19 men and 7 passengers, and owned at the Havana, landed yesterday, in the small embayment of Juragua, 6 leagues to windward of this port, 316 Africans of all years. This vessel, and another under similar colours, that arrived at the same spot about 6 weeks since, with 206 on board, are the only arrivals that have taken place for 6 months; but it is calculated that about 1,700 had been landed during the first 6 months of the year.

There are no vessels fitting out at this moment for Africa; but the fact having been ascertained that His Majesty's cruisers round the Island had been called off to join the blockading squadron off Carthagena, will necessarily facilitate the chances of arrival to such as may be due.

The Africans on board both Portuguese vessels were purchased by the coffee and sugar planters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HARDY, junior, *Consul.*

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Consul Hardy.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 21st March, 1837.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 27th of December, 1836, together with its Enclosures, upon the subject of the means of labour resorted to for working the copper-mines situated within the district of your Consulate.

I must, in the first place, refer you to the latter paragraph of my Despatch to you of the 29th of September last, by which you were specially instructed to report as to the alleged employment of newly imported negroes in these mines. Upon this point your Despatch contains no positive information whatever.

I observe that three classes of negro labourers are specified by you as employed in these mines; viz. :—

1. Free negroes.
2. Emancipated Africans.
3. Acclimated Africans.

With regard to this latter class, His Majesty's Government is desirous of obtaining more particular information than can be gathered from your Despatch; and I am therefore to desire that you will report to this Office, as correctly as you can, the number of the individuals of this class who are employed as miners, their ages, the average duration of their lives, and whether they are generally bought or hired out; together with any further information which may appear to you likely to throw any light upon the means resorted to for obtaining them.

You will also send an exact Return of the name and description of every person employed in the mines of which you state yourself to be resident Director, distinguishing the slaves from free men, and the whites from blacks.

I am, &c.

John Hardy, Esq.,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

PORTUGAL.

No. 49.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 7.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 22d April, 1836.

I REPEATED to your Lordship in my Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 20th ultimo, the arrival in this port of the reputed slaver "*Paquete de Madera.*"

I have since obtained information that 2 vessels are now fitting out for the Slave Trade. I have spoken to the Minister of Marine, who admits his belief to the fact, but declares his inability to interfere with them, so long as they keep within the letter of the law. He assures me that he has consulted the first legal authorities on the subject, who give it as their opinion that, in the actual state of the law, it is impossible to interpose any effectual check to the fitting out slavers in the port of Lisbon.

The system of granting Clearances to vessels weeks before they sail tends to facilitate the evasion of the law; as, having once obtained their Clearance, they can put to sea the moment they have been able, either under cover of night, or by corrupting the Custom-house guards on board, to effect the embarkation of such stores, &c. as might be considered evidence against them. I am informed that there is a depôt in one of the Cape de Verd Islands, where slave-vessels fitted out at Lisbon are supplied with every necessary which it is not safe to take on board in the Tagus, particularly chains and bolts.

The "*Paquete de Madera*" is almost ready for sea; the other vessel is, I understand, in a less advanced state.

Should His Majesty's Government consider the practice of fitting out vessels in the Tagus for the Slave Trade of sufficient importance to justify the appointment of a fast-sailing vessel avowedly to the service of watching and following suspected vessels to the Cape de Verd Islands and elsewhere, I am of opinion it would at once put an end to this system.

I have ascertained that the constant inquiries made respecting all suspected vessels, and the attempt on my part, although an unsuccessful one, to prevent the departure of the "*Esperança*" last year, has created great anxiety among the parties engaged in the trade, and has increased the expense and difficulties of equipment, by the additional precautions which it is considered advisable to adopt to escape possible detection.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 50.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 29.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 13th May, 1836.

HAVING learned that another slaver was about to be equipped in the Tagus, I addressed a Note to Count Villa Real on the subject, of which I have the honour to transmit a Copy to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 50.

Lord Howard de Walden to Count Villa Real.

M. LE COMTE,

Lisbon, 9th May, 1836.

I HAVE been informed on good authority, that the French brig "*Clementine*" has just been sold by the Agent of her Owners, S. Perfumo, to a Portuguese subject, Gil Thomaz dos Santos, and that the said vessel is destined for the Slave Trade.

I feel confident that it is unnecessary further to remind your Excellency of the notorious fact of slave-vessels being actually at this moment fitting out in the Tagus, to induce your Excellency to direct your earnest attention to the extreme importance, with reference to humanity, of bringing to a conclusion, without loss of time, the Treaty for the extinction of that infamous and disgraceful traffic, on every principle of which the Governments of Her Most Faithful Majesty and His Britannic Majesty are perfectly unanimous, and thus relieve the capital of Portugal from the stigma which must attach to its port, while the avowed inefficiency of the law gives open encouragement to the perpetration of all the horrors and cruelties attendant on that debasing traffic.

His Excellency Count Villa Real,
&c. &c. &c.

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

No. 51.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 29.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 14th May, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a description of the "*Clementine*," the vessel which I reported to your Lordship, in my Despatch of the 13th instant, as destined for the traffic in slaves.

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

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

Enclosure in No. 51.

Brig "Clementine."

ABOUT 140 tons, painted yellow streak with 10 ports of a side, lower rigging turned into hearts, one to each shroud and attached to the chain plates; lower masts, trysail masts, and gaffs scraped and polished with oil or varnish; lower masts' rake aft; the main considerably more than the fore; black woman's head, with her hair twisted behind, for a figure head; she is very sharp forward; sides very round and of great beam.

No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 15th June, 1836.

I TRANSMIT, for your Lordship's information, the Extract of a Despatch from His Majesty's Consul-General at Monte Video, enclosing the Copy of a Decree issued by that Government placing all vessels coming in *ballast* from the Coast of Africa under a quarantine, at the discretion of the Government.

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

I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

No. 53.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 16th June, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 30th of April last, enclosing the Copy of a Note which, by His Majesty's Commands, I had addressed to the Baron de Moncorvo upon the subject of the Slave Trade of Portugal, I now transmit, for your Lordship's information, the Copy of the reply which I have received from the Portuguese Minister.

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

I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 53.
(See Class B, 1835, No. 58.)

No. 54.

(Extract.) *Mr. Merrill to Mr. Bidwell.—(Received June 23.)*

SIR,

Cape Verd Islands, 20th April, 1836.

YOU will discover, by reference to the Return ending 31st December, a greater number by far of the Spanish than I have heretofore reported.

You may be aware of the object of their stopping here, as I have already communicated with the cruizers; if not, I have the honour to apprise you, that it is to change their flags, to evade the late Decree and Instructions to the squadron upon this station, all of them being destined for slaves. Since the 1st January, 6 have arrived, and many more are expected.

This nefarious pursuit of the Spaniards has arrived to such a pitch that it is about time the Queen of Portugal should forbid her servants conceding Papers, especially when they are sensible of the object.

While His Majesty's brig "Rolla" was here the other day, 4 free blacks from Sierra Leone (employed to navigate the "*Norma*" from thence to this place, all with Passports) were confined on board, and not permitted to communicate with the "Rolla," or shore; and had it not been for one of them knowing me personally for years, and requesting a person from the shore to apprise me of their confinement, after the "Rolla" had left, God knows how long they would have been retained in bondage—perhaps for life. This is the second attempt here to enslave free men. In January I liberated 7, and obtained passages home, free from expense, in an American schooner; but the 4 last are still upon my hands: notwithstanding, however, I hope the service in liberating British subjects from slavery will be apprized.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. MERRILL,

His Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul.

John Bidwell, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 55.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 25th June, 1836.

By the accompanying Extract of a Report from the British Acting Vice-Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands, your Lordship will perceive that a very large additional number of Spanish vessels have lately touched at those Islands for the purpose of obtaining Papers from the Portugese Authorities there, and of changing their flag to that of Portugal, in order to evade the operation of the New Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

In your Lordship's communications with the Portugese Minister, you will make use of the information contained in the enclosed Papers, to press the conclusion of the Treaty between His Majesty and the Queen of Portugal for the entire abolition of the Slave Trade.

Every account I receive shows either the supineness or the cupidity of the Portugese Colonial Authorities in fostering the traffic in slaves; and I am convinced that nothing short of the Treaty, as you are now instructed to sign it, will put an end to these enormities.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 55.

(See No. 54.)

No. 56.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1836.

YOUR Lordship has been informed that the Brazilian Government has more than once complained that the flag of Portugal now protects the slave-trading adventures of parties residing in Brazil, to an extent at once afflicting to humanity and alarming to the best interests of Brazil.

With the view to counteract this deplorable state of things, and to check the continued abuse of the Portugese flag, the Brazilian Government decided upon nominating a Consul-General to reside on the Coast of Africa.

Such nomination was actually made, and the individual selected was an Officer in the Brazilian Navy, Lieutenant E. A. da Viega, who had displayed much zeal in repressing the Slave Trade, while in command of the "*Libre*," a Brazilian vessel-of-war.

His Majesty's Government have, however, been informed by His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro that, on the arrival of Lieutenant da Viega at Loando, the Authorities of that place refused to receive him, and the Exequatur having been denied him at Lisbon, he was under the necessity of returning to Brazil.

The professions which the Crown of Portugal has published to the world would have led His Majesty's Government to believe that an arrangement calculated to assist in suppressing the Slave Trade would have been acceded to, without hesitation, by the Government of Portugal.

It has been asserted that the Government of Portugal refused Exequatur to Lieutenant da Viega on the ground that Loando is a colonial possession of Portugal. But His Majesty's Government has had for years a Consul residing in St. Jago, one of the Cape de Verde Islands, whose express duty, as the Portuguese Government is well aware of, is to watch over and to report the extent to which illicit traffic in slaves is carried on in that quarter; and, although St. Jago is a colonial possession of Portugal, the Government of Portugal did not refuse its Exequatur to His Majesty's Agent.

His Majesty's Government are loth to believe that the refusal of the Portuguese Government to admit a Brazilian Consul at Loando arises from their wish not to take all the means in their power to suppress the traffic in slaves; and I have to instruct you to press upon the attention of the Portuguese Minister the good effect which the residence of a Brazilian Consul at Loando would be likely to have towards the suppression of the Slave Trade, and you will endeavour to prevail upon the Portuguese Government to consent to such an arrangement.

P. S. I enclose a Copy of the Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro upon this subject.

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

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 56.

Rio Commissioners, 5th March, 1836.

No. 57.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 8.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 25th June, 1836.

WITH reference to your Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 19th of March last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of the Note which, according to your Lordship's Instructions, I addressed to the Count de Villa Real, respecting the Papers granted by the Authorities on Princes Island to the Portuguese slave-schooner "*Theresa*," together with a Copy and Translation of his Excellency's reply.

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

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

First Enclosure in No. 57.

Lord Howard de Walden to Count Villa Real.

Lisbon, 23d May, 1836.

M. LE COMTE,

THE accompanying Copy of a Despatch, and of its Enclosure, from His Britannic Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, gives an account of the Portuguese schooner "*Theresa*," recently condemned at Sierra Leone, with a cargo of 202 slaves on board, embarked in that vessel as objects of commerce.

In this Case it was proved before the Commissioners, that the vessel was Portuguese, the Master and all the crew were Portuguese subjects; that the Owner of the vessel was also a Portuguese subject, and resident at the Portuguese Settlement at Whydah; that the Owner of the slaves was also a Portuguese subject, and resident at Whydah; that he was a known slave-dealer, and father-in-law of the Owner of the vessel; that the vessel came from Whydah to Princes Island for the express purpose of obtaining Papers for the *Costa da Mina*, with which she might hope to trade with impunity in slaves; and that the Authorities in Princes Island granted these Papers, with which she returned to Whydah, and thence proceeded to Lagos, and shipped there the cargo of slaves with which she was condemned.

In bringing these facts to the knowledge of the Portuguese Government, I must request your Excellency's attention to the observation made by the Commissioners, that in every Case of Portuguese vessels which had come before the Court at Sierra Leone, throughout the year 1835, the vessels had been furnished from the Provisional Government at Princes Island with the Papers enabling them immediately to carry on their Slave Trade.

In communicating these points to the Portuguese Government, I am instructed to express to your Excellency the expectation of His Majesty's Government that the Government of Portugal will not any longer permit the Authorities at Princes Island to afford these facilities to the proscribed trade in slaves, but will, on the contrary, take measures to put down the trade, wherever it may be in their power; and that they will further cause proceedings to be adopted for bringing to punishment those Portuguese subjects, mentioned in the accompanying Despatch, who are notoriously dealers in this hateful traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

His Excellency Count Villa Real,
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 57.

Count Villa Real to Lord Howard de Walden.

Foreign Office, 4th June, 1836.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

IN answer to your Lordship's Note of the 23d of last May, complaining that the Portuguese Authorities at Princes Island afforded protection to the Slave Trade by legalizing the Papers of the schooner "*Theresa*," which was condemned at Sierra Leone with a cargo of 202 slaves, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Minister of Marine has informed me, on the 1st instant, that, as regards the Portuguese Authorities who legalized the Papers in question, they will be changed immediately upon the arrival there of the Governor newly appointed; and, as regards other precautions, it being recognized that any which might be taken there would be useless and hardly legal, it is intended to send a vessel-of-war to cruise in those seas.

God preserve your Lordship, &c.

(Signed) COUNT DE VILLA REAL.

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

No. 58.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston. (Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Cintra, 21st July, 1836.

UNDERSTANDING that the "*Clementine*," the French vessel which I reported to your Lordship as having been transferred to a Portuguese, and supposed to be destined for the Slave Trade, is about to leave the Tagus, I have addressed a Note to Count Villa Real on the subject, of which I enclose to your Lordship a Copy. A complete description of the vessel in question has been sent to Rear-admiral Sir William Gage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

P. S. I add a Copy and Translation of a Note which I have received this day from Count Villa Real, acknowledging the receipt of my Note above referred to.

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

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 58.

Lord Howard de Walden to Count Villa Real.

Cintra, 18th July, 1836.

M. LE COMTE,

WITH reference to a former communication to your Excellency on the subject of the "*Clementine*," I have the honour to make known to your Excellency that it has been reported to me that

CLASS B.

this vessel, now called the "*Rapina*," is preparing for sea, and that she is bound to the small bay of Lourenço Marquez, on the Coast of Africa. The circumstance of this brig being destined for the Slave Trade is so notorious that I feel it my duty earnestly to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact; to remind them of the proceedings which took place in the Case of the "*Esperança*;" and to urge them to institute in the present instance the strictest examination of the vessel immediately previous to sailing, by persons trustworthy and competent of judging whether her equipment is strictly legal, and such as is usual in a fair trader, and that after examination she may not be allowed the opportunity of taking anything else on board.

Your Excellency is probably aware that it is the habit of the slavers equipped in the port of Lisbon to obtain their Clearances many days and even weeks previously to sailing; that they wait a favourable opportunity of a dark night, and the turn of duty of some authority who has been gained to smuggle such prohibited articles as are indispensably necessary on board, such as fetters, bolts, iron rings, and thumb-screws, after which they immediately start. Your Excellency will, therefore, I am sure, agree with me in considering that the only mode of securing an effectual examination is to institute a search as the vessel is leaving the port.

If, when the search is made, your Excellency would allow the presence of a British Naval Officer (not ex-officer of course), I conceive that such a proof of the determination of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government to deprive the slave-traders of Lisbon of every possible facility under the old system of bribery would tend perhaps more than any other measure (short of the signature of the Treaty now before Her Most Faithful Majesty) to annihilate the system which unfortunately at present converts the Tagus into an entrepôt for slave-vessels.

His Excellency Count Villa Real,
&c. &c. &c.

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

Second Enclosure in No. 58.

(Translation.)
MY LORD,

Count Villa Real to Lord Howard de Walden.

20th July, 1836.

In answer to your Lordship's Note of the 18th instant concerning the suspicion that the vessel the "*Clementine*," now called the "*Rapina*," is being fitted out for the Slave Trade, I have to inform your Lordship that I will give the necessary orders for the institution of a rigorous examination of the Case by the Home Department. The assistance of a British Officer in the examination about to take place is however impossible, on account of reasons which, on slight reflection, will not fail to occur to your Lordship, and to which it is unnecessary to refer here.

God preserve your Lordship, &c.

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

(Signed) COUNT DE VILLA REAL.

No. 59.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston. (Rec. August 9.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 31st July, 1836.

Having in the month of May received information that 3 vessels were fitting out for the Slave Trade, I addressed a Note to Count Villa Real on the subject, of which I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy, as well as of the answer, which I have only just received from his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

First Enclosure in No. 59.

Lord Howard de Walden to Count Villa Real.

M. LE COMTE,

Lisbon, 22d May, 1836.

It has been reported to me that two vessels, the "*Ferina*" and the "*Rubicon*," lately arrived in this port from the Island of Cuba, are engaged in the Slave Trade; that they had landed slaves at the Havana, and in return loaded with the produce of the Islands; and that the "*Twenty-fourth of July*," which arrived here on the 13th from Pernambuco, has been sent to this port to be fitted out for the Slave Trade. I therefore think it my duty to convey this information to your Excellency, and to entreat the Portuguese Government to reflect on the stigma cast on this country by the notoriety with which the fitting out of slave-traders is permitted in this port, and which is caused by the disregard of the Portuguese Government to the repeated and most solemn assurances given to me by every successive Secretary of State at the head of the Foreign Department; that a new law should be enacted at once to put an end to the disgraceful proceedings attendant on the state of the actual law, which, while it does not actually legalize the traffic, affords positive encouragement to it under the very windows of the Public Offices.

His Excellency Count Villa Real,
&c. &c. &c.

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

Second Enclosure in No. 59.

Count Villa Real to Lord Howard de Walden.

20th July, 1836.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the enclosed Copy of the information which, in consequence of your Lordship's Note of the 22d of last May, I required from the Civil Governor of this capital and district relative to the suspicions which had arisen that the vessels "*Ferina*," "*Rubicon*," and "*Twenty-fourth of July*" were about to be employed in the Slave Trade. Its contents cannot fail to obtain your Lordship's approbation for the sincerity and frankness with which it is drawn up, and to disprove the injurious insinuations which have been made against the Authorities. The two former vessels, as your Lordship will perceive, cannot be objects of suspicion as regards the voyages which they are about to undertake; the same cannot, however, be said of the third, the real destination of which is, for more than one reason, a matter of doubt and suspicion. Although, however, there may be no doubt that such is the case, as well as that the two former vessels may have been employed on former voyages in the Slave Trade, it is certain that they cannot be proceeded against for transgressing a law which does not yet exist; and it is only after the promulgation of such a law, or the conclusion and ratification of the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, that vessels can be prevented from taking in, in this port, articles proper to the Slave Trade, or from making such arrangements and preparations as serve for the transport of slaves.

God preserve your Excellency, &c.

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

(Signed) COUNT DE VILLA REAL.

No. 60.

The Baron Moncorvo to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 10.)

MONSIEUR LE VICOMTE,

Londres, 10e Août, 1836.

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Très-Fidèle ayant appris, avec autant de surprise que de regret, les procédés qui ont eu lieu à Rio de Janeiro envers un bâtiment Portugais nommé "*Orion*," m'a ordonné de m'adresser à votre Excellence à ce sujet, afin que les mêmes procédés soient déclarés nuls, et que toute l'affaire concernant ce bâtiment prenne le cours légal qu'indiquent les Traités et Conventions entre le Portugal et la Grande Bretagne à l'égard de la traite des nègres.

Le Cas du navire "*Orion*" n'est que trop connu par votre Excellence pour qu'il me soit nécessaire d'entrer dans tous les détails qui ont précédé et suivi sa prise par la corvette-de-guerre "*Satellite*" de la marine Royale Britannique sur la Côte du Brésil. Je crois aussi qu'il ne me sera non plus nécessaire d'assurer votre Excellence que dans les démarches qui me sont ordonnées de faire, rien n'est plus loin des intentions du Gouvernement Portugais que de protéger directe ou indirectement un commerce qui lui répugne tant par principe d'humanité, que dans les intérêts de ses Possessions Africaines. Il ne serait que trop injuste que d'attribuer des pareilles vues à mon Gouvernement au moment où il est sincèrement disposé à concourir de sa part pour mettre une fin entière à ce commerce par un Traité avec la Grande Bretagne. Mais c'est justement parceque le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Très-Fidèle désire voir la fin à ce trafic d'êtres humains, qu'il souhaite aussi que les lois existantes soient strictement observées dans la punition de ceux qui osent les enfreindre, comme dans la protection qu'elles accordent à ceux qui lui obéissent.

Que le bâtiment "*Orion*" soit déclaré bonne prise si son crime est évidemment prouvé; mais qu'il le soit par le tribunal et par les autorités compétentes, et non par celles qui n'ont aucun droit de juger des propriétés Portugaises. C'est contre le fait du jugement par lequel "*l'Orion*" a été condamné, puisqu'il fut rendu par un tribunal incompetent qu'il n'est ordonné de réclamer, et non contre le principe de la condamnation si les preuves sont évidentes.

Ayant donc eu l'honneur d'exposer verbalement à votre Excellence les vues et les principes de mon Gouvernement dans cette circonstance, je les répète maintenant par écrit, afin que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique puisse ordonner ce que la justice réclame, et ce que le Gouvernement Portugais a droit d'attendre dans un cas où les dispositions des Traités et des Conventions sont claires et positives.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé)

LE BARON.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR LE VICOMTE,

London, 10th August, 1836.

HER most Faithful Majesty's Government having learned, with as much surprise as regret, the proceedings which lately took place at Rio de Janeiro with regard to a Portuguese vessel named "*Orion*," has desired me to address your Excellency on the subject, with the view that the said proceedings may be declared null, and that the whole affair concerning the said vessel should follow the legal course pointed out in the Treaties between Portugal and Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

The Case of the ship "*Orion*" is already too well known to your Excellency to render it necessary for me to enter into all the details which preceded and followed her capture by the British sloop-of-war "*Satellite*," off the Brazilian Coast. It does not appear to me to be necessary to assure your Excellency that, in following my Instructions, nothing is further from the intentions of the Portuguese Government to protect, directly or indirectly, a commerce so repugnant to her feelings, as much from the principles of humanity, as from the interest she takes in her African Possessions.

It would, indeed, be an act of injustice to attribute such motives to my Government, when she is sincerely disposed to render her aid to put a final termination to the Slave Trade by a Treaty between herself and Great Britain. But it is exactly because Her most Faithful Majesty is anxious to see an end to this traffic in human beings, that she also wishes the existing laws to be strictly observed in the punishment of those who may dare to infringe them, as well as in the protection she affords to those who obey them.

Let the "*Orion*" be declared lawful prize, if her crime be evidently proved; but let it be so by a tribunal, and by competent and authorized authorities, but not by those who have no right to dispose of Portuguese property. It is against the judgment by which the "*Orion*" was condemned, since it was given by an incompetent tribunal, that I am desired to protest, and not against the principle of condemnation, if the proofs are sufficiently established.

Having already had the honour to explain verbally to your Excellency the views and principles of my Government on this subject, I repeat them in writing, to enable His Britannic Majesty's Government to take them into consideration, and grant that justice which the nature of the Case demands, and that which the Portuguese Government has a right to expect in a Case where the conditions of Treaties and Conventions are clear and positive.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LE BARON DE MONCORVO.

No. 61.

Viscount Palmerston to Baron de Moncorvo.

Foreign Office, 30th August, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c. has had the honour to receive the Letter addressed to him on the 10th instant by the Baron de Moncorvo, &c., protesting against and demanding a revision of the proceedings in the Case of the brig "*Orion*," which, whilst sailing under Portuguese colours, was detained by His Majesty's ship "*Satellite*," carried into Rio de Janeiro, and condemned by the Mixed British and Brazilian Court at that place, for illegally trafficking in slaves.

As the Baron de Moncorvo does not call in question the justness of the sentence which condemned the "*Orion*," it is unnecessary for the Undersigned to enter into a detailed statement of those facts of the Case which fully prove that the "*Orion*," under the pretext of conveying black colonists from Angola to Moçambique, was carrying a cargo of slaves to be illegally imported into Brazil.

The Protest of the Baron de Moncorvo against the sentence is grounded on the assumption that it was pronounced by a tribunal which had no right to adjudicate the property of Portuguese subjects; and, in reply, the Undersigned has to call the attention of the Baron de Moncorvo to the following brief statement of facts:—

In February, 1835, the "*Orion*," then bearing another name, was a Brazilian vessel; on the 4th of that month she was transferred to one Joao Luiz de Ribero, who claimed to be a Portuguese subject: her name was changed, and she was called the "*Orion*." Shortly afterwards she sailed, under the flag of Portugal, from Rio de Janeiro to Angola, where, under the sanction of the Custom-house Authorities, she shipped 242 slaves, under the pretext, as before stated, of taking them as colonists to Moçambique, on the Eastern Coast of Africa; she was afterwards detained with the slaves on board, off the Coast of Brazil, by His Majesty's ship "*Satellite*."

The Undersigned trusts that M. de Moncorvo will admit the general principle, that every vessel claiming the protection of the country whose flag she bears is bound to be provided with Documents from the Government of that country proving her nationality.

Now the parties interested in the "*Orion*" had full opportunity afforded them to produce the Papers requisite to prove their vessel to be Portuguese; they endeavoured to do so, but they failed, and, after a long and patient investigation, the "*Orion*" was proved to have no Papers that could establish her assumed national

character ; she, therefore, could not be considered as being a Portuguese vessel, and could only be dealt with according to her original and real character.

It was, therefore, as a Brazilian, and not as a Portuguese vessel, that the "*Orion*" was decreed by the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission to be a lawful prize, and was condemned for carrying on the Slave Trade ; and here the Undersigned may remark, that if the "*Orion*" had not been, *de facto*, a Brazilian vessel, fraudulently carried by the flag of Portugal, the Brazilian Judge would not have agreed to her confiscation. The decision of the Mixed Court on this vessel was, in the opinion of the Undersigned, not only just in the particular Case, but important as a general example, because it strikes at the root of an abuse prevalent at Rio de Janeiro, where vessels of all nations are nominally transferred to the flag of Portugal, in order that they may be employed in the Slave Trade. If the Mixed Court had decided to release the "*Orion*," and had thereby acknowledged that vessels thus fraudulently transferred were entitled to be treated as being *bonâ fide* Portuguese, a fresh and extensive facility would thereby have been afforded to slave-dealers.

The Undersigned is persuaded that, upon a full consideration of the above-mentioned circumstances, the Government of Portugal will be of opinion that the "*Orion*" was condemned by a competent Court, and that her confiscation was a punishment well deserved by the parties interested in her.

M. De Moncorvo,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

No. 62.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden,

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1836.

I HEREWITH enclose, for your Lordship's information, the Copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by the Baron de Moncorvo, protesting against and demanding a revision of the proceedings in the Case of the brig "*Orion*," which vessel, whilst sailing under Portuguese colours, was detained by His Majesty's ship "*Satellite*," carried into Rio de Janeiro, and condemned by the Mixed British and Brazilian Court at that place for illegally trafficking in slaves.

I also transmit a Copy of the reply which I have returned to the representation made by the Baron de Moncorvo.

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

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

No. 63.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 1st September, 1836.

By the enclosed List of slave-vessels, which His Majesty's Commissioners, at the Havanna have reported to me as having entered that port during the month of June last, your Lordship will perceive that no less than 4 out of the 6 enumerated in that List were under the Portuguese flag, and had safely landed cargoes of slaves upon the Coast of Cuba.

Your Lordship will bring this fact to the knowledge of the Government of Portugal, and you will make use of it as an additional reason for pressing the conclusion of the Treaty for the total suppression of the Slave Trade under the flag of Portugal.

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

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 63.

Enclosure in Havana Commissioners of June 30, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 64.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 9.)

MY LORD,

Cintra, 27th August, 1836.

I ENCLOSE herewith an Extract of a Letter from Don Domingo de Saldanha the present Governor of Angola, to his brother the Marquis de Saldanha. As such a proceeding on the part of a Governor, or indeed of any Authority whatever, named either by the Queen of Portugal or by one of her Ministers, as that of attempting to check the Slave Trade, either in Her Most Faithful Majesty's dominions, or any other part of the world, is, I believe, not before on record, I have thought it due to him to report this singular occurrence to your Lordship; anticipating the satisfaction it will cause to your Lordship to learn the hopes which may fairly be entertained of one of the public functionaries of Portugal acting up to the general duties of humanity, which all those most loud in this country in proclaiming liberal principles are the first to profess and the last to practise.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 64.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor of Angola, Domingos de Saldana Oliveira e Daun, to his Brother the Marquis de Saldanha, dated 7th March, 1836.

WITH regard to the Slave Trade, you will be surprised to learn that I found upon my arrival 40 vessels laden with negroes. Being still on board, and not having entered upon my functions, I sent to request that no vessel should go out without my knowledge; and, as soon as it was in my power to give orders, I gave them in such a manner, that there was not one of these unfortunate wretches who did not disembark. I then called upon the merchants and represented to them the criminality of this traffic, and the real advantages they might derive from industry and agriculture in this virgin soil; and, to their honour be it said, they lent themselves with the utmost willingness to the formation of a Company which I proposed to them, and which is already formed, as you will perceive from the enclosed Copy of its regulations, entitled the "Company of Agriculture and Industry of Angola and Benzuella." I beg of you to take some shares; and do me the justice to believe that, as far as lies in my power, I will check the Slave Trade in this kingdom as long as I remain Governor.

Cintra, 22d August, 1836.

(A True Copy.)

(Signed)

SALDANHA.

No. 65.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 10th September, 1836.

YOUR Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 27th of August last, has been received and laid before the King.

His Majesty's Government have derived much satisfaction from the communication contained in that Despatch of the measures pursued with respect to the Slave Trade by Don Domingo de Saldanha, the newly appointed Governor of Angola, on his arrival at the seat of his Government; and I have to instruct you to express to Marshal Saldanha the high sense entertained by His Majesty's Government of the generous sentiments expressed, and of the noble conduct pursued, on this occasion by his brother Don Domingo.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Lord Howard de Walden,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 66.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 11th October, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship the Copy of a Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Arbitrator in the Court of Mixed Commission established at the Havana, stating that during the month of July, several vessels have been observed to arrive at and depart from the port under Portuguese colours, and which were doubtless all engaged in the Slave Trade.

This Report is rendered more worthy of notice because, from the enclosed De-

spatch, it appears that there has been, at the same time, a decrease in the number of Spanish vessels engaged in the trade; I have, therefore, to instruct your Lordship to draw the attention of the Portuguese Government to the statement made by Mr. Schenley, as affording an additional proof of the increasing extent to which the flag of Portugal is made use of by adventurers of all nations to cover transactions in Slave Trade.

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

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 66.

Havana Commissioners, 31st July, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 67.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 26th November, 1836.

I ENCLOSE to your Lordship an Extract from a Despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro, showing that the Slave Trade is carried on with the greatest activity and daring in Brazil; and that this increased activity is mainly to be attributed to the facilities which are afforded by Portuguese Authorities abroad to the fraudulent assumption of the flag of Portugal by foreign vessels.

Your Lordship will bring to the notice of the Portuguese Government the facts mentioned in the Commissioners' Despatch. They will serve as an additional argument, if such be necessary, to induce the Portuguese Government to put a stop to such a state of things, by the conclusion of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade under the flag of Portugal.

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

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 67.

Rio Commissioners, 30th September, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 68.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

HIS Majesty's Government has been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade. It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba. The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders.

I have, therefore, to instruct your Lordship to request the Portuguese Government to issue Instructions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Portugal has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Portuguese subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

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

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 69.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 19.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 11th December, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches of the Slave Trade Series, to that of the 26th ultimo inclusive.

I have again pressed the Viscount Sâ da Bandeira to lose no time in bringing the ministerial discussion respecting the law for the entire prohibition of the Slave Trade to a conclusion.

His Excellency has assured me that he has at last met all the objections of his colleagues; that he has altered his project of Decree accordingly; and that, when written out, it will be immediately submitted to the Queen for her Majesty's signature.

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

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

No. 70.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 21st December, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit Copies of two Despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners, and from Mr. Consul Tolmé, at the Havana, reporting the continuance of the Slave Trade at Cuba under the cover of the Portuguese flag.

You will make use of the facts stated in these Despatches as additional reasons for pressing upon the Portuguese Government the necessity that exists for the immediate conclusion of the Slave Trade Treaty which your Lordship is now negotiating; and you will add that delay aggravates the evil which His Majesty's Government have so often complained of.

The daring effrontery of slave-dealers in assuming the flag of Portugal to cover their traffic, emboldened by the apparent repugnance of the Portuguese Government to conclude the pending Treaty, seems likely to increase the evil to an extent that will hardly leave to His Majesty's Government an option as to the course which it will have to pursue for obtaining a fulfilment of the ends which the existing Treaty with Portugal professes to accomplish.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

First Enclosure in No. 70.

Havana Commissioners, 30th September, 1836.

(See Class A.)

Second Enclosure in No. 70.

Mr. Consul Tolmé, 22d October, 1836.

(See Spain, No. 44.)

No. 71.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 7th January, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship an Extract of a Despatch from Mr. Pro-Consul Brackenbury, at Cadiz, reporting to me the Cases of 2 vessels

which are intended to be employed in the Slave Trade under the Portuguese flag, although both of them are owned by Spanish subjects.

I have to instruct you to lay a statement of the facts of these 2 Cases, as selected by Mr. Brackenbury, before the Portuguese Government, in further proof of the necessity which exists for the immediate conclusion of the Slave Trade Treaty which has already been too long in course of negotiation with the Portuguese Government.

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

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 71.

Mr. Brackenbury to Viscount Palmerston, dated Cadiz, 17th December, 1836.
(See No. 26.)

No. 72.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 10, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Lisbon, 22d December, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the long-promised Decree for the total abolition of the Slave Trade throughout the dominions of the Queen of Portugal, which was published yesterday in the *Diorio do Governo*, and is become law.

The provisions of this Act are extremely comprehensive, not only as regards the penalties which all individuals guilty of the crime of trafficking in slaves incur thereby, but also with respect to the precautionary measures which are taken to render the first equipment and clearance of any vessel for the Coast of Africa hazardous and embarrassing to the Owners. Connivance in facilitating any Slave Trade enterprise, or dereliction of duty on the part of the Portuguese Authorities in not proceeding against those guilty of an infraction of the law, is visited with summary and very severe penalties.

Your Lordship will, however, observe with regret, that the exportation of slaves to the African Islands, although under a numerical restriction, is permitted. I am to have an interview next week with Viscount Sà Bandeira on the subject of the Treaty for carrying into effect the laws of Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, when I may perhaps be able, by representing to his Excellency the facilities which that reservation in favour of the Islands will afford to the evasion of the law, to convince him of the policy of restricting this right to the Settlements immediately adjoining the Coast of Africa, and of excepting the more distant, Princes, St. Thomas, and the Cape de Verd islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

Enclosure in No. 72.

(Translation.)

Report of the Secretaries of State.

MADAM,

THE civilization of Africa has been, during these latter times, the favourite idea of philanthropists, and an object of assiduous attention to the principal Governments, who, both in the old and the new world, lead the advancement and promote the amelioration of the human race, while Portugal, who had laboured for centuries in this great work, now, instead of promoting it, throws obstacles in its way.

The first title which our great kings, your Majesty's ancestors, added to that of King of Portugal, was that of Lords of Guinea and of the countries beyond the seas, in Africa; borne by the hands of our navigators, directed by the daring science of our astronomers, the Portuguese flag waved successively over the seas of Centa, the fertile regions bathed by the Senegal and Gambia, and the eastern Coast of Africa, where we founded factories, built fortresses, and conquered nations.

In our deeds of arms in Africa modern historians have calumniously represented us as trafficking, sword in hand, with the lives and possessions of the nations we discovered; but there is not one Document extant which does not prove that the principal and almost only aim of the Portuguese Government was their civilization by means of the Gospel: trade was but a secondary object, although likewise a means of civilization, and dominion was a necessary consequence, and not an object.

The errors of religious doctrine and the defects of political measures were imputable to the age, not to the men.

CLASS B.

India, in the first instance, and the Brazils next, made us abandon Africa, the most natural field for our labours; but the colonization of the Brazils and the exploration of its mines, and, soon afterwards, the interest which all other nations took in America, were the greatest enemies to the civilization of Africa, which we alone had begun at so great a sacrifice of our lives and property.

The infamous Slave Traffic is certainly an indelible stain upon the history of modern nations, but we were neither the only, the principal, nor the most guilty. Those of our accomplices, who afterwards reproached us so severely, were deeper in guilt than ourselves.

To repair, therefore, the evil done, to prevent its repetition, are duties binding upon the honour of the Portuguese nation, and conducive to the interests of your Majesty's Crown; for the dominions which we yet possess in that part of the world, are as yet the most extensive, the most important, and the most valuable possessed by any European nation in Southern Africa.

In order to appreciate their value, we are to consider not only what they are, but what they are susceptible of. Their present state is owing not only to the misrule of the mother country, but to the latter's having given her almost exclusive attention to the Brazils.

The natives of Africa were captured and conveyed across the Atlantic to enrich a country whose inhabitants refused to exert themselves for its civilization.

We read in an ancient record that there were formerly 17 sugar-mills on the Island of St. Thomas, which the Government of Portugal caused to be destroyed, in order not to injure the cultivation of the sugar-cane, which they were then promoting in the Brazils.

Our African provinces contain rich mines of gold, copper, iron, and precious stones. We can there cultivate all that is cultivated in America. We possess lands of the greatest fertility in the Cape de Verd Islands, in Guinea, Angola, and Moçambique: great and navigable rivers fertilize some of our provinces, and facilitate their commerce. In those vast regions we can cultivate largely the sugar-cane, rice, indigo, coffee, cotton, and cocoa, in short, all those articles commonly called colonial, as well as all the spice plants of the Moluccas and Ceylon, in such abundance as not only to suffice for the consumption of Portugal, but for exportation in very large quantities to the other markets of Europe, and at a less price than those of America; since the African cultivator would not be obliged to seek for and purchase labourers, and then transport them across the Atlantic, while the high price paid by the Brazilian for the slaves he employs is further increased by the risks attendant upon the contraband traffic by which he obtains them.

Let us promote in Africa the colonization of Europeans, the development of its industry, the employment of its capital, and in a few years we shall again derive the same benefits that we formerly did. But for this purpose a thorough reform of our Colonial Laws is necessary.

If any system of legislation can be judged of by its results, none can be worse than that by which our Colonies have been ruled. Centuries have passed away since first they came under our dominion, and they are but little more civilized than they were when we conquered them; while, as a contrast, the neighbouring Colony of the Cape of Good Hope has, within much less time, increased rapidly in white population and in wealth.

The glory of continuing the great undertaking commenced by King John the Second was reserved for your Majesty. The civilization of Africa, of which so many powerful nations have despaired, is more feasible to the Queen of Portugal, who holds in her hands the key of the principal gates at which it can enter, and whose authority is obeyed in various parts of that vast continent, at distances of more than 200 leagues from the sea; and as it was possible for the former sovereigns of Portugal to open roads for civilization, a step which no other prince had ventured upon, so it will be possible to make that beneficial plant thrive and flourish in those regions.

As an indispensable preliminary to any measures which for this great purpose your Majesty, in accordance with the General Cortes, may take, your Secretaries of State have the honour to propose the following project of a Decree for the entire and complete abolition of the Slave Trade in your dominions.

Foreign Office, 10th December, 1836.

(Signed by all the Ministers.)

Decree.

Taking into consideration the Reports of the Secretaries of State of the different Departments, I hereby issue the following Decree:—

Art. 1. That the exportation of slaves be henceforth prohibited, both by sea and land, in the Portuguese dominions, as well to the north as to the south of the Equator, from the day on which the present Decree shall be published in the different capitals of the said dominions.

Art. 2. The importation of slaves by sea is also strictly prohibited under any pretext whatever.

S. 1. Due notification must be given of any slaves that may be brought by land into any of the Portuguese territories.

Art. 3. Any planter, whether native or foreigner, who, from any part of the Portuguese dominions in Africa, may establish himself in any other part of the said dominions, on the continent or islands on the Coast of Africa, is exempted from the rules laid down in the first and second Article relating to the exportation and importation of slaves.

S. 1. The same exemption from the rule established in Article 2 also extends to the importation of slaves by sea made by any planter, whether native or foreigner, who, from any port not subject to my power, may establish himself in any of my dominions in Africa.

Art. 4. The powers granted by the preceding Article of this Decree shall be regulated as follows:—

S. 1. The number of slaves exported or imported under the exceptions treated of in the said third Article can never exceed 10.

S. 2. Previous to the exportation of slaves the Owner of the same shall make a Declaration, before the chief authorities of the Custom-house of the port of embarkation, of the number intended to be shipped, giving substantial bond equal to double the value of the slaves to be shipped, and also that they shall be actually landed at the place of their declared destination.

S. 3. The object of the foregoing clause being complied with, the transaction shall be registered in a book, to be kept for that purpose at the Custom-house, with the addition of the Declaration made by the Owner of the slaves, and the conditions of the security given.

S. 4. The chief authority of the Custom-house, wherein the Documents referred to in the foregoing clause shall be registered, shall transmit an authentic Copy of the same, under the official seal, to the chief authority of the Custom-house of the port, declared by the Owner of the slaves to be their destination.

S. 5. The Owner of the slaves may, by virtue of the Certificate of their delivery, given by the chief authority of the Custom-house of the port of their declared destination, demand the cancelling of the bond given at the port of their shipment, and it shall be immediately granted.

S. 6. Should the Owner of the slaves not appear personally with them within 6 months from the date of the Act treated of in the third section, before the superior authority of the port of the declared destination, the latter shall make an official communication to the superior authority of the Custom-house where the transaction was registered, in order that proper measures may be taken to give effect to the bond.

S. 7. The bondsman shall be released from his bond on proof of shipwreck, or of the death of the person for whom he stood bound.

S. 8. On proof of the death of the whole or part of the slaves declared in the Manifest, the bondsman shall also be released from the whole or corresponding amount of his bond.

Art. 5. For every slave exported, according to the mode prescribed in the beginning of the third Article, the same duties shall be levied as were paid when the exportation of slaves was permitted.

S. 1. The same duties shall be paid for each slave imported in the cases allowed by the clause to the third Article.

S. 2. The same duties shall be paid for each slave imported by land.

Art. 6. Passports shall not be given to merchant-vessels for any part of Africa to the south of the 20th degree of north latitude, unless the Owner or Master shall first have signed a bond not to receive on board any slaves but those, the exportation of whom is permitted by the third Article of this Decree.

Art. 7. Vessels, whether Portuguese or foreign, fitting out in the ports of this kingdom, and its adjacent islands, and in the other ports of the monarchy, to navigate to Africa, to the south of the 20th degree of north latitude, shall be searched on the day of their departure by the civil authority of the port, accompanied by one of the chief functionaries of the Custom-house, or, in his absence, by some trusty officer, who, on their own responsibility, shall, with the most scrupulous care, search the vessel, and not finding anything to excite suspicion, shall allow her to depart freely.

S. 1. If, however, any articles indicative of her destination to the Slave Trade be found, they shall be seized as contraband, and the Owners, Captains, Mate, and shippers shall incur the penalties specified in the seventeenth Article below.

S. 2. After the search nothing can be received on board the ship.

S. 3. In the event of the vessels not being condemned, but cause of suspicion still existing that she is intended for the Slave Trade, the competent authority may expect sufficient security that the parties interested in her will not employ her in that trade.

S. 4. If within 18 months there be no charge preferred against the party for whom bail is given, or if within that space of time he shall have been prosecuted and acquitted, the bond of security shall become cancelled.

Art. 8. The articles considered to indicate the design of employing the vessel in the Slave Trade are mentioned in the list annexed to this Decree; and which constitutes part thereof. This list was signed this day by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who presides over the Council of Ministers.

Art. 9. In the passports granted to merchant-vessels for the before-mentioned African territories, a clause shall always be inserted, that if found contravening this Decree by Portuguese ships-of-war, they may be seized by them.

Art. 10. On arrival at any of the ports of the said territories, the Master of each vessel shall be obliged, as soon as he casts anchor, to send the passport of his vessel to the chief authorities of the Custom-house, who shall retain it till the day of her departure.

S. 1. On the day of her sailing the said authority shall deliver the passport to an Officer of the Custom-house, for whom he shall be responsible, and who, having proceeded on board and ascertained, upon strict search, that she has no slaves on board, such as are alluded to in the third Article, nor any of the articles enumerated in the list annexed to this Decree, shall deliver the passport to the Captain, but not till he has weighed anchor and is in the act of sailing; and in proof of his having so done, the said Officer shall furnish a written Document to the chief of the Custom-house, who shall deposit it in the archives.

S. 2. Should the Officer, however, find on board slaves whose exportation is prohibited by this Decree, or any of the articles enumerated in the annexed list, he shall report the case, by writing, to the chief of the Custom-house, in order for the latter to proceed in conformity with this Decree.

Art. 11. Each transgression of this Decree shall be punished with the forfeiture of the slaves who formed the subject matter of the offence.

S. 1. Every slave so forfeited shall immediately become free, and the competent authority shall furnish him with a Certificate of Manumission, on pain of suspension for non-fulfilment of this duty.

S. 2. The public authority is the legitimate guardian and trustee of those who have thus become freedmen; and it shall apprentice them by Public Auction to artizans, who shall enter into an undertaking to instruct them in their trades.

Art. 12. If in such cases in which, according to the preceding Articles, forfeiture of slaves takes place, the whole or any part of them be not found in the act of seizure, a sequestration shall be laid on the goods of the Owners, buyers, sellers, or conductors, all of whom shall be rendered responsible, *in solidum*, for the value of the slaves missing.

S. 1. The value of the slaves missing shall always be computed by the market price for the best slaves at the time of sequestration.

S. 2. The sequestration shall be made in such manner as to insure the fullest extent of responsibility, in case the value of the slaves missing should require to be multiplied, conformably with the penalties imposed on smugglers.

Art. 13. Non-compliance with the provisions of the clause to second Article shall be punished, over and above the forfeiture of the slaves, with the other penalties imposed upon contraband traffic, which shall be applied in their different degrees, according to the importance of the circumstances.

Art. 14. In all cases of omission or incorrectness in the fulfilment of the fourth Article, the chief of the Custom-house shall incur such penalty as may be awarded against him, according to the gravity of his offence.

S. 1. The minimum of penalty shall be a mulct of 400 milreis.

S. 2. The maximum shall be a mulct of 1,200 milreis, with loss of office and inability to hold any other.

Art. 15. Every Master or Captain of a vessel met to the southward of the 20th degree of north latitude, and at less than 200 miles distance from the Continent of Africa, without a passport in the form prescribed by the sixth Article, or convicted of having performed that navigation without such passport, shall be punished with 3 years' confinement in the galleys: and the Owners, Captain, or Master of such vessel shall be liable, *in solidum*, to a mulct equal to half the value of the vessel.

Art. 16. The omission or negligence on the part of the civil authority, or of the functionary or officer referred to in Article 7, shall be punished with a mulct of 600 milreis, payable by every one of them.

S. 1. This mulct shall be trebled, with forfeiture of their offices, and disqualification for all others, in case that any connivance on their part be proved.

Art. 17. The penalties imposed for smuggling are to be applied to the transgressors against the provisions contained in the first and second clauses of the seventh Article.

In the case provided for by this Article, an embargo shall immediately be laid upon the ship and her cargo, as a security for the mulcts which the Captain or Master, the Mate, Owner, or shipper may have incurred, and for which they will have to answer *in solidum*.

Art. 18. Every Custom-house officer who, in the Case specified in the first clause of the tenth Article, gives in a false report, shall lose his office, become disqualified for every other, and pay a mulct of 400 milreis.

S. 1. The chief authority at the Custom-house, who employed the officer by whom the false report was given in, shall likewise pay a mulct of 600,000 reis, if there should have been any negligence on his own part; which mulct shall be trebled, with forfeiture of office, and disqualification for all other, should there be proof of his having been guilty of connivance.

Art. 19. The Governors, or principal authorities acting for them, in any part of the Portuguese dominions, where it may be proved that owing to their remissness or negligence any exportation or importation of slaves, other than that permitted by the third Article of this Decree, has taken place, shall forfeit their respective offices, and be rendered, during 5 years, incapable of exercising any others. Should there, however, be proof of connivance on their part too, they shall moreover be condemned to 5 years' transportation to some of the Settlements in the interior of Africa, besides a mulct of 2,000 milreis each.

S. 1. The Captains or Masters and Mates of slaving-vessels, as well as the persons charged with the purchase or sale of the slaves, or their conveyance on board such vessels, shall be confined in the galleys during a period of from 2 to 5 years, and pay a mulct of from 500 to 2,000 milreis each, and *in solidum*.

S. 2. All other individuals found on board vessels employed in the said traffic, not comprised in the foregoing clause, shall be condemned to serve from 2 to 4 years on board national ships-of-war, without pay, and in the rating awarded to them by their sentence, according to the importance of the circumstances.

Art. 20. All contravention of the provisions of this Decree is hereby declared to be a public crime; and its prosecution becomes a special duty of the Procuradores Regios (Crown Attorneys) and their delegates, on pain of suspension. Any person, however, shall be competent to give information of such contravention.

Art. 21. With regard to the transgressions against this Decree, no prescriptions shall prevent the taking cognizance of, or imposing penalties for them.

Art. 22. The magistrates of the several districts are the competent persons to take cognizance of offences against this Decree, but their decisions may always be appealed from to the supreme tribunal of commerce.

S. 1. The magistrates, as well as the said tribunal, shall apportion the penalties, as may be just, and within the limits prescribed by this Decree.

Art. 23. The Consuls and Vice-Consuls of Portugal, at any ports frequented by Portuguese vessels, are charged with the execution of the present Decree, and may, on learning any transgression of it, require of the competent authorities of the country the detention of the vessel and the arrest of the criminal parties, whereupon they shall send the ship, her cargo, and the prisoners to the Ministry of Marine, in order that cognizance may be taken of the Case by the competent authority.

S. 1. Any Consul or Vice-Consul convicted of remissness in the execution of this Article, shall be punished with the forfeiture of his office and disqualification for any other.

S. 2. In case of connivance, he shall, in addition to incurring the penalties mentioned in the preceding clause, pay a mulct of from 2,000 to 5,000 milreis.

Art. 24. Of the sums arising from all the penalties imposed and bonds unredeemed, one half shall go to the Treasury, and the other half to a fund from which the wants of the freedmen, who, by virtue of this Decree are to obtain their manumission, shall be supplied.

S. 1. The municipal chamber of each district shall administer this fund, and render an account of its administration to the competent authority.

S. 2. In case of information being given, the amount of the penalty shall be divided into three portions, one to go to the Treasury, another to the freedmen's fund, and the third to the informer.

S. 3. In case of apprehension effected on land or in port, the sum which legally belongs to the apprehenders shall be set apart before the division stated in the preceding clause is proceeded to.

S. 4. In cases of capture at sea, the dispositions of the anterior laws and regulations shall be followed in the division of the prize.

Art. 25. The present Decree shall be published in the usual form by the governors of the ultramarine dominions, as soon as received by them; and they shall, moreover, give a Copy of it to each of the municipal chambers, to the respective Custom-houses, and to the *juizes de direito* (magistrates.)

S. 1. Copies of this Decree shall be sent from the Foreign Office to the Portuguese Legations and Consulates in every foreign country.

The Secretaries of State of the several departments shall so understand it, and cause it to be carried into effect.

Palace of Necessidades, 10th December, 1836.

(Signed) by the QUEEN, and Countersigned by all Her Majesty's Ministers.

List of articles which, being found on board of any vessel, must be considered as indications of her being intended for the Slave Trade, and to subject her to the provisions of the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, of which this list constitutes a part.

1. Hatchways with open gratings, instead of being closed, according to the practice of merchant-vessels.
2. A flush-deck, or a greater number of compartments than is usual or necessary on board fair traders.
3. Planks ready fitted to form a second deck, as used by slavers.
4. Collars, manacles, thumb-screws, or chains.
5. A greater quantity of water in casks or tanks than is necessary for the crew of a merchant-vessel.
6. An extraordinary number of pipes or casks to contain liquids, should the Captain not be able to present a Certificate from the Custom-house from which he cleared out, showing that the Owners of the vessel gave bond for them, and that they are intended to receive palm or fish oil, or for any other purpose of licit commerce.
7. A greater number of buckets, tubs, or mess-trays than necessary for the crew of a merchant-vessel.
8. A boiler of larger dimensions than usual, and than would be required for the use of the crew: or several boilers in greater number than would be necessary for that purpose.
9. An extraordinary quantity of rice, beans, salt meat, and fish, Mandioca maize, wheaten or any other flour, beyond that required for the use of the crew, unless such articles should form part of the cargo, and be duly manifested.

Foreign Office, 10th December, 1836. (Signed) VISCONDE DE SA BANDEIRA.

No. 73.

Lord Howard de Walden to Viscount Palmerston,—(Received January 9, 1837.)

MY LORD, Lisbon, 30th December, 1836.

IN pursuance of your Lordship's Instructions, contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 15th instant, desiring that general publicity should be given to the engagements of the Crown of Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I proceeded to the Foreign Office, and Viscount Sà da Bandeira being in the country, I addressed myself to the Under Secretary of State, Senhor Paulo Midosi, from whom I have since received the accompanying Copy of the Relatorio of the Government and of Her Majesty's decree on the subject of the total abolition of the Slave Trade, with the Lists annexed of the functionaries out of Her Majesty's dominions to whom they have been sent as Circular Instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN.

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

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 73.

(Translation.) To all the Legations and Missions of Portugal.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| To Joao Baptista Moreira | Consul-General, Rio de Janeiro. |
| Jorge J. Cottaço | Ditto Tangiers. |
| Felippe Ravina | Consul, Teneriffe. |
| Francisco Hortega | Ditto, Corunna. |
| Manuel Ant. de Riguiêredo, | Ditto, Bayonne. |
| Leonardo de S. Leite Azerdo, | Ditto, Montevideo. |
| Joaquim Baptista Moreim | Ditto, Pernambuco. |
| Francisco J. de N. Feital | Ditto, Bahia. |
| Fernando J. da Silva | Ditto, Parà. |
| J. P. C. Cazado Giraldez | Ditto, Genoa. |
| João Hortega | Ditto, Vigo. |
| J. J. Ramos Zuzarte | Ditto, Barcelona. |
| M. de S. Machado | Ditto, Cadiz. |
| R. J. Lopez d'Andrea | Ditto, Gibraltar. |
| J. Miguel Fernandez | Ditto, Havana. |
| J. R. dos Santos | Ditto, Denmark. |
| J. Ferreira Borges | Consul-General, Russia. |
| Gustavus Beyer | Consul, Stockholm. |
| Luiz Carlos Rebello | Consul-General, Amsterdam. |
| N. Menterì | Consul, Lyons. |
| Antonio Barao Mascarenhos, | Consul-General, Bristol. |
| Jorge Manserr | Consul, Cork. |
| F. J. Wanzaller | Consul-General, London. |
| Barao d'Alcocheta | Ditto Paris. |
| The Governors of the Cape Verde and other Islands. | |

No. 74.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howard de Walden.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 17th January, 1837.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatches, marked Slave Trade, up to that of the 30th ultimo inclusive.

I have much satisfaction in conveying to your Lordship my entire approval of the language held by you, in your conversation with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, as to the good policy of abolishing slavery in the Portuguese Islands.

Your Lordship will take an early opportunity of expressing to the Portuguese Minister how highly His Majesty's Government appreciates the enlightened policy, the generous sentiments, and spirit of good faith which dictated the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, for the abolition of the Slave Trade of Portugal; and you will say how proud Great Britain would feel of her ally if the Portuguese Government were to go forward in the honourable course into which it has entered, and should not only sign the Treaty with Great Britain which has already been so nearly concluded, but should also abolish the degraded condition of slavery in the Portuguese Islands.

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

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 75.

Sir A. Malet to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 12.)

MY LORD,

The Hague, 10th June, 1836.

A PARAGRAPH having appeared in one of the Dutch papers stating that the Government was about to send a superior Officer to Africa for the purpose of raising negro troops for the service of their East Indian Possessions, I have made some inquiries which confirm the published statement.

The person designated for this employment is General Verveer, a Frenchman, formerly in the service of Napoleon; he has himself spoken on the subject to a person on whose information I can rely, and it appears that he is to proceed from one of the Dutch Settlements on the western Coast on an accredited Mission from this Government to the King of the Ashantees, the declared object of the Mission being that which I have stated above.

I have thought it my duty to lose no time in acquainting your Lordship with this circumstance before the departure of the General, and have marked my Despatch as above, the negotiation with the negro sovereign, which is to precede the transportation of his subjects, hardly seeming to exempt the transaction from the provisions of the Treaties which subsist between the two countries for the suppression of that traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. MALET.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 76.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Malet.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 8th July, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 10th of June last, reporting the intention of the Government of Holland to send a Mission to the King of the Ashantees, for the purpose of raising negro troops from among his subjects to serve in the Dutch Possessions in the East Indies.

I have referred your Despatch to His Majesty's Advocate-General for his opinion thereon, and that Officer has reported to me that the contemplated transaction is exempt from the provisions of the Treaty subsisting between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, however, to observe, that you did perfectly right in bringing the matter in question to the notice of His Majesty's Government, and Instructions have been issued to the Magistrates of Cape Coast Castle to watch the course of the negotiation with all practicable vigilance, and to transmit any information by which it should appear that any subjects of the King of Ashantee are to be transported from Africa as slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Sir A. Malet.

No. 77.

Sir A. Malet to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 15.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

The Hague, 11th July, 1836.

GENERAL VERVEER is, I learn, on the point of departure for the Coast of Africa to fulfil his Mission, with a suite of 3 or 4 Officers of inferior rank, and several Serjeants and non-commissioned Officers.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. MALET.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 78.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 28th July, 1836.

I HAVE received Sir A. Malet's Despatch of the 11th instant, reporting the intended early departure of General Vermeer to fulfil the Mission with which he has been intrusted by the Government of Holland to the King of the Ashantees.

You are already aware that His Majesty's Advocate-General has reported that the contemplated transaction does not, strictly speaking, fall within the prohibitory provisions of the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that, as no part of the Ashantee country is within the dominions of His Majesty, the only step which His Majesty's Government can take is to instruct the Magistrates at Cape Coast Castle to watch the proceedings of General Vermeer with all practicable vigilance, and to report to His Majesty's Government any information showing that any subjects of the King of Ashantee are to be transported as slaves.

His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies having desired the Committee for managing the affairs of the Gold Coast to apprise the Authorities there of General Vermeer's intended Mission, has received from those gentlemen a communication of which I send you a Copy, together with a Copy therein enclosed of an Extract from a Letter from a gentleman at Winnebah, near Cape Coast Castle, dated the 17th March, and received 25th June, 1836, on this subject.

You will observe from this correspondence that strong apprehensions are entertained that "whatever colour may be given to General Vermeer's negotiation, the effect of it must be slave-dealing, and that a transaction of the kind cannot take place in the interior of Africa without unsettling the minds of the people, and putting to hazard the tranquillity of the country."

You will lose no time in communicating these observations to the Government of Holland, and you will express the confident hope of His Majesty's Government that the same liberal and humane sentiments which led the Netherlands Government to concur so frankly in engagements with Great Britain for the entire suppression of the Slave Trade, will not fail to animate that Government on the present occasion; and that His Netherlands Majesty, acting up to the spirit as well as to the letter of the Treaty, will be most eager to take care that this Mission of General Vermeer shall not renew the evil in a district where it has now ceased to exist, and that the peaceful occupations of the inhabitants shall not be interrupted, and their personal security endangered, by attempts to kidnap men under pretence of enlisting them in the Dutch service.

But His Majesty's Government cannot too strongly impress upon the Cabinet of the Hague, that the almost inevitable tendency of this scheme seems to be to renew those scenes of violence and misery in Africa which it has long been the anxious desire of the two Governments to put an end to.

I am, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 78.

The Gold Coast Committee to Mr. Stephen.

SIR,

Sun Court, 27th June, 1836.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 22d instant, desiring us to apprise the Authorities on the Gold Coast that General Vermeer is about to proceed on an accredited Mission from the Dutch Government to the King of Ashantee, for the purpose of raising a body of negroes to be employed as troops in the Dutch East Indian Possessions.

We shall feel it our duty to fulfil, with the most anxious attention, the Instructions thus confidently communicated to us by Lord Glenelg on this important subject, and shall lose no time in acquainting the President and Council of Cape Coast Castle with the object the Dutch Government has in view, with such advice as you may further deem necessary for their government, in watching the progress of the measure contemplated, and in preventing any injury that might arise from it to the British interest.

Should the Mission take effect with the objects and in the manner proposed by the Dutch Government, we could not but feel the most intense anxiety in its results on the tranquillity and trade of the country and on the moral welfare of the natives. Under whatever pretext such a Mission into the interior of Africa may be undertaken, no person acquainted with the nature of the Government and the social relation of the people can entertain a doubt of the means by which it must be accomplished if successfully carried into effect. The natives are wholly under the control, and, in fact, the property of the King and his subordinate Chiefs, who will on no account be induced to part with them

for exportation without being paid in some shape or other, and whatever colour may be given to the negotiation the effect of it must be slave-dealing; and we feel convinced that a transaction of the kind cannot take place in the interior without unsettling the minds of the people, and putting to hazard the immense advantages now resulting from the tranquillity of the country, as established by the unceasing labour of the President and Council.

With these impressions, we shall feel it our duty to instruct them to use all possible means in their power to prevent the evil consequences of such a proceeding; for which purpose we shall direct them to communicate, if necessary, with the King of Ashantee, in order that the Treaty existing between the Chief and the British Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade may not be infringed under any pretence. And as the Dutch and Danish settlers at Elmino and Aura, in the immediate neighbourhood of our forts, may be supposed to be equally interested with the British in maintaining the peace and promoting the commerce of the interior, we purpose advising the President and Council to put themselves in friendly communication with the Authorities of those Settlements, with a view of using their united influence to prevent any step being taken, under the sanction of the Dutch Government, for carrying into effect the object in question in any manner inconsistent with our Treaties with the natives or injurious to the common interest of the respective Settlements. We shall further direct them that, should they fail in preventing the execution of the proposed scheme by friendly remonstrance with the Dutch Authorities, or by the negotiations with the King of Ashantee, in that case they must carefully mark the progress of the measure, and ascertain as correctly as possible the terms and conditions upon which the negroes are obtained, the mode of transporting them from the country, and all other matters relating to the transaction, and report the same to us with as little delay as possible, for the information of His Majesty's Government.

We would also respectfully suggest to Lord Glenelg whether some instructions should not be given in relation to this subject by the Lord of the Admiralty to the Admiral on the Station for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

JOSEPH RUFID.

W. M. HUTTON.

J. GEO. NICHOLLS.

James Stephen, Esq.
&c. &c.

Extract of a Letter dated Winnebah, near Cape Coast Castle, 17th March 1836.—(Received June 25th, 1836.)

"THE Governor of Elmina is at present recruiting for the troops in Batavia; he gives a bounty of £2, and guarantees to the master or family of the person enlisting 45s. a year for 6 years; has even sent to the King of Ashantee for people on the same terms."

No. 79.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 5.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 2d August, 1836.

I HAVE lost no time in conveying to Baron Verstolk the view taken by your Lordship of the Mission of General Verveer from the Government of the Netherlands to the King of the Ashantees, and I have read to his Excellency the answer which the Commissioners for managing the affairs of the Gold Coast have addressed to the Colonial Office.

His Excellency, in reply, informed me, and requested I would convey to your Lordship the assurance that the Government of the Netherlands feels as anxious as that of Great Britain to put an effectual end to the Slave Trade, and would do nothing likely to renew so detestable a traffic.

That with regard to the Mission of General Verveer, it would be conducted with the greatest caution, in order to avoid every appearance even of dealing in slaves. That the enlistments should be voluntary, and for a term of years, at the expiration of which the men who enlisted would be at liberty to return to their native land.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 80.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 5.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 3d August, 1836.

WHEN I was conversing with Baron Verstolk on the subject of General Verveer's Mission to Ashantee, his Excellency alluded to the mode in which the black regiments in the British service are recruited.

CLASS B.

Having been informed that the recruits were all taken from those who had been liberated by the Mixed Courts of Adjudication in Africa, I thought it advisable to write the Note of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 80.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Baron Verstolk.

M. LE BARON,

Hague, 3d August, 1836.

WHEN I had the honour of speaking to your Excellency yesterday morning on the subject of General Verveer's Mission to the King of the Ashantees, I was unable to inform you positively how and where the black regiments in the British service were recruited; and, if I understood your Excellency right, you were of opinion that some mode analogous to that now to be carried into execution by General Verveer was practised by Great Britain.

I have now the pleasure to inform you that our regiments are recruited from those persons who have been liberated from slavery by the exertions of our cruizers, after capture and condemnation, and that the enrolments are perfectly voluntary.

I take the liberty, therefore, of throwing out for your consideration (as a suggestion), whether the Netherland black regiments could not also be recruited by a similar process, without resorting to Africa for such a purpose; for whatever precaution may be taken by the Netherland Government and its agents in the mode of recruiting, it is much to be feared that a different interpretation will be put on this proceeding in Africa; and as, in one way or other, the people are considered as the property of their Sovereign, the recruits can only be obtained by purchase, and a transaction of this kind runs the risk of being looked on as a modified renewal of the Slave Trade, and cannot take place in the interior of Africa without unsettling men's minds, and putting to hazard the tranquillity of the country.

In a cause so interesting to humanity it is quite a secondary question when I allude to the commercial interests of the British and Netherland establishments on the Gold Coast. It cannot be doubted that they also must suffer from the suspicions, however unjust, to which such a transaction may lead.

It is to be hoped that all these circumstances will be weighed before General Verveer is sent on a Mission which, however carefully his Instructions may be drawn up, may lead to such cruel consequences.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

His Excellency Baron Verstolk de Soëlen.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 81.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 19.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 16th August, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which I have received from Baron Verstolk in reply to the one I addressed to him on the 3d instant, from which I am given to understand that the Netherland Government conceive they have taken sufficient measures to prevent the Mission of General Verveer from leading to a renewal of the Slave Trade.

I learn that the General will embark at Rotterdam at the end of the month.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 81.

(Translation.)

M. Le Clercq to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Hague, 12th August, 1836.

I HAVE had the honour to receive the Note which you kindly addressed to me, under date of the 3d instant, and by which you obligingly communicated to me some particulars on the subject of the recruiting of the black regiments in the service of Great Britain.

In begging you to accept my sincere thanks for this information, I must be allowed to refer to our two conversations concerning the Mission of General Verveer, and to your Despatch, with the perusal of which you favoured me, containing the explanation given by me, which was entirely conformable to the opinion expressed by his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State of His Britannic Majesty, viz., that the said Mission, having for its object such enlistments only as were absolutely voluntary, is not in any way contrary to the engagements entered into for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I avail myself, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe,

(Signed) for the Minister who is absent,

A. LE CLERCQ,
Secretary-General.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 82.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 12.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 9th September, 1836.

I HAVE to inform your Lordship that Baron Mortier, the French Minister, has been instructed, in conformity with the 9th Article of our Treaty with the King of the French, to request the Government of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands to accede to the existing Treaties between Great Britain and France for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

E. C. DISBROWE.

(Signed)

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

No. 83.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 16th September, 1836.

YOUR Despatches marked Slave Trade to that of the 16th ultimo, upon the subject of General Verveer's Mission to Ashantee, for the purpose of raising troops for the Dutch service, have been duly received.

With reference to the allusion mentioned in your Despatch, No. 2, as having been made by Baron Verstolk to the mode in which the black troops in the British service are recruited, I herewith transmit to you the Copy of a Letter which has been received from the office of the Commander-in-Chief, in reply to a request for information upon this subject. It appears from thence that you were correct in the statement made in your Letter, of August 3d, to Baron Verstolk, that the British regiments are recruited from among the Africans liberated from slavery by the exertions of British cruisers, and that the enlistments are perfectly voluntary.

I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

(Signed)

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 83.

Lord Fitzroy Somerset to John Backhouse, Esq.

SIR,

Horse Guards, 30th August, 1836.

HAVING had the honour to receive and lay before the General Commanding in Chief your Letter of the 19th instant, relative to the recruiting of the West India regiments on the Coast of Africa, I am directed to acquaint you, for the further information of Viscount Palmerston, that the recruits are raised from among the native population or free negroes at Sierra Leone, where a detachment of each West India regiment is stationed for the purpose, and that they enlist for unlimited service.

A bounty is allowed of £3. 7s. 6d. per man, of which £1. 7s. 6d. is payable to the recruit in Africa, to supply him with such necessaries as he may require, and the remainder of the sum is payable to him on his joining the regiment in the West Indies, for his equipment.

I have, &c.

FITZROY SOMERSET.

(Signed)

John Backhouse, Esq.
 &c. &c.

No. 84.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 23d September, 1836.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 9th instant, stating that Baron Mortier, the French Minister, had been instructed to request the King of the Netherlands to accede to the Treaties between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

By reference to my Despatch to Mr. Jerningham, marked Slave Trade, dated the 25th July, 1834, you will learn the reason why His Majesty's Government did not intend to address an invitation to the Government of the Netherlands to accede to the Treaties between Great Britain and France.

The existing Treaty between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands, and the additional Articles thereto, contain more extensive stipulations for the effectual

suppression of the Slave Trade than the Conventions with France; but there is one stipulation in the latter which is not contained in the Treaty with the Netherlands,— it is that by which ships, after being condemned for slave-trading, are to be broken up before they are sold.

It is very desirable that this important stipulation should be added to our Treaty with the Netherlands; I have therefore to instruct you to urge the Netherland Government to accede to it.

The most convenient form for this purpose would be an additional Article to the original Treaty of the 4th of May, 1818, between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands.

So soon as I shall learn from you that the Netherland Government is prepared to agree to this proposal, I will transmit to you full powers to sign the Article.

I am, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 85.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 7.)

MY LORD.

Hague, 4th November, 1836.

IN reference to your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 23d of September, I have the honour to inform you that I proposed to Baron Verstolk to draw up an Article to be added to the Treaty with Great Britain, by which ships, after being condemned for slave-trading, are to be broken up before they are sold.

I find that the Dutch Government is inclined to refuse the stipulation for entirely breaking them up, for reasons already stated to Mr. Jerningham; but as there seems to exist a disposition to consider whether means may not be found to render the vessels unfit for slave-trading without actually breaking them up, I have engaged to discuss such an Article, for the purpose of submitting it to your Lordship's consideration.

I understand that Baron Verstolk has refused to enter into any Treaty with the French Government relative to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

No. 86.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 25th November, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatch to you of the 28th of July last, respecting a plan of the Government of Holland for obtaining, from among the natives of Africa on the Gold Coast, recruits for the Dutch army in the East Indies, I have now to inform you that His Majesty's Government has received authentic information that the Agents of the Government of the Netherlands, at the Settlement of Elmina, having failed in their endeavours to procure the free and voluntary enlistment of a sufficient number of the natives of the Gold Coast, have had recourse to the expedient of offering for every native who could be engaged to enter for a term of years into His Netherland Majesty's service, a bounty of 1 ounce of gold dust and an annuity of 36 guilders or florins, payable at Elmina, to the friends, master, or owner of such native; such annuity being payable during the term of service of the individual engaged, and being deducted from his pay as a soldier.

The pecuniary inducement thus held out is stated to be more than sufficient for the absolute purchase, on that part of the Coast, at the present time, of what is termed a "prime slave;" and accordingly many persons on the Gold Coast are said to have availed themselves of this opportunity of gain by purchasing slaves in order subsequently to dispose of them, on the terms above mentioned, to the Agents of the Dutch Government, for the purpose of being sent to Batavia.

I herewith enclose to you a Copy of the Certificate which has been given by the Governor of Elmina to the *master* of a recruit, to secure the payment to the said

master of the ounce of gold, and the annual sum of 36 florins previously mentioned.

It is well known how difficult it is to extirpate the habit of slave-dealing where it has once taken root. Many years elapsed after slave-trading had been declared by the British and Dutch Governments to be illegal, before that trade was put a stop to in the neighbourhood of the settlements of these Governments on the Gold Coast; and after the trade had actually ceased, a much longer period was necessary to wean the minds of the natives from habits to which they had all their lives been accustomed, and to bring them to direct their attention to that legitimate commerce which has of late years superseded the Slave Trade.

Now, however, the minds of the natives, both on the Coast and in the interior, have been unsettled by the system of recruiting thus adopted by the Dutch Government, and the continuance of that system cannot fail to produce the most lamentable consequences, by leading to those scenes of violence and misery of which I expressed my apprehensions in my Despatch of the 28th of July last.

His Majesty's Government have no desire to interfere with the Dutch Government in its endeavours to obtain the free and voluntary enlistment of natives on the Gold Coast to serve as troops in the Dutch East India possessions; but it is obvious that, under the system now pursued by the Government of Holland, the pretended enlistment is the reverse of free and voluntary on the part of the recruit himself, who, as appears from the before-mentioned Certificate, is, in fact, purchased from his master or owner for a price equivalent to the purchase-money of a "prime slave."

You will communicate these particulars to the Government of Holland, and you will, at the same time, state that His Majesty's Government hope that the orders which have been issued to the Governor of Elmina upon this subject have been misconstrued by that officer; and that the Government of Holland, animated by those sentiments of humanity which have always distinguished it, will seize the first opportunity to instruct General Verveer to discontinue a system which is a virtual infraction of the Treaties subsisting between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the repression of the Slave Trade.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 86.

Copy of Certificate.

A. B. has this day engaged himself to the Netherland service for the space of 20 years, and has transferred his bounty money, being one ounce of gold, to his master, C. D.; and the sum of F36, or 14½ ackies* nearly, is yearly to be deducted from his pay and paid to the said C. D.

No. 87.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 7.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 29th November, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th inst., and I beg to enclose the Copy of a Note which, in conformity with those instructions, I have presented to his Excellency Baron Verstolk.

The only point on which I have to remark is, that in a conversation I had with Baron Verstolk, his Excellency seemed to think that the Governor of Elmina had only offered a bounty to the recruit, and therefore I alluded to the agreement in my Note.

I must, however, at the same time, in justice add, that he assured me that if anything had taken place which amounted to an indirect dealing in slaves, he was certain it would at once be put an end to by orders from his Netherland Majesty.

I have, &c.

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

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

* This is a certain portion of gold, 16 of which make an ounce. An ackie is current for 5 shillings; the 14½ above mentioned are equal to £3. 12s. 6d.

Enclosure in No. 87.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to his Excellency Baron Verstolk de Soëlen.

M. LE BARON,

Hague, 29th November, 1836.

THE sentiments of humanity which have at all times distinguished the Government of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and which have induced it to co-operate so effectually with that of His Britannic Majesty to put an end to the traffic in slaves, induce me, without further preamble, to state to your Excellency some circumstances which have just come to the knowledge of my Government concerning the system of recruiting lately pursued on the Coast of Africa, which, if persisted in, will again unsettle the minds of the natives of the Gold Coast, and lead to a renewal of those scenes of violence and misery inseparable from so horrid a traffic.

The British Government has received authentic information that the Agents of the Government of the Netherlands at the Settlement of Elmina, having failed in their endeavours to procure the free and voluntary enrolment of a sufficient number of the natives of the Gold Coast for the Netherland regiments in Java, have had recourse to the expedient of offering for every native who could be engaged to enter for a term of years into His Netherland Majesty's service a bounty of one ounce of gold dust, and an annuity of 36 florins, payable at Elmina to his friends, master, or owner, such annuity being payable during the term of the service of the individual engaged, and being deducted from his pay as a soldier.

Indubitably it may be argued that the ounce of gold is a bounty to the recruit, and even that the annuity deducted from his pay is to be applied to the benefit of his family if left behind; such a transaction in Europe would bear that interpretation; but on the Gold Coast it is quite different, for the pecuniary inducement which is here held out is something above the present price of a prime slave, and, in many instances, the bounty-money and annuity have not been paid to the individual or to his parents, but to the masters of slaves, and many persons have availed themselves of this opportunity of gain by purchasing slaves, in order to dispose of them on the terms above mentioned to the agents of the Netherland Government, for the purpose of being sent to Batavia; and as a proof, I beg leave to enclose, for your Excellency's information, a Copy of one of the Certificates which has been given by the Governor of Elmina to the master of a recruit to secure these payments to the said master.

It is not necessary to expatiate to your Excellency on the great difficulties with which both Governments have had to contend in extirpating the habit of slave-dealing, nor on the danger of once more unsettling the minds of the inhabitants of the Gold Coast on this point, nor to dwell upon the consequences so shocking to humanity which must ensue.

On the other hand, I am confident it is superfluous to observe, that the British Government has no desire to interfere with that of the Netherlands in its endeavours to obtain the free and voluntary enlistment of natives of the Gold Coast to serve as troops in Netherland India; but it would be wanting to itself, and wanting even to its ally in so virtuous a cause, if it did not at once point out the horrible effects which must ensue if the Agents of the Netherland Government at Elmina are not at once checked in their proceedings, which proceedings are, in fact, the payment, under the name of bounty, to a master or owner, the purchase-money of a prime slave.

I therefore fulfil the Instructions of my Government in expressing a hope that orders will be immediately sent out to General Verveer, and all the other Agents of the Netherlands on the Gold Coast, to discontinue a system which tends to establish the Slave Trade.

His Excellency Baron Verstolk de Soëlen,
 &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 88.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

HIS Majesty's Government has been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana, by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade. It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against the Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders.

I have therefore to instruct you to request the Dutch Government to issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Holland has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Dutch subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

I am, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 89.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 22, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 27th December, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Copy of a Note which I have received from his Excellency Baron Verstolk, on the subject of the recruiting for the Netherland regiments in Africa.

His Excellency having alluded to an increase of slaves since the signature of the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and the consequent increase of production, I thought it right to make a remark in the Note, which, according to your Lordship's directions, I was writing relative to the conduct of the Consuls at the Havana. I beg leave to enclose a Copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

First Enclosure in No. 89.

M. Verstolk de Soëlen to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

(Translation.)

SIR,

Hague, 21st December, 1836.

THE negroes of the Coast of Guinea who engage themselves to serve in the Dutch Indies have a right to dispose of a small portion of their pay in favour of parents or other relations whom they leave in their own country. They are enabled to make this sacrifice, seeing that they receive in India the same pay as Europeans, which is very high. A common soldier there receives annually 122 florins 27 centimes besides his equipment.

Among the men thus enrolled are, it is true, found some who were formerly slaves, and who have bought their liberty by means of the cession of a part of their pay to their former masters; but this is by no means contrary to the laws as to the trade, and even would tend rather to restore the slaves to liberty. Nevertheless, to prevent the abuses which might result from this state of things, orders have already been given to enlist no slaves in future; and the Instructions of General Verveer consequently import, that for the future those individuals only can be admitted into the service who are born free, or emancipated according to the laws and customs of the country; and that in no case shall there be engaged individuals made prisoners in war, or condemned to slavery for crimes or offences, or who have lost their personal liberty or their civil rights either for debt or for non-fulfilment of their engagements; in fine, those who, having been free, are in a state of sequestration.

Such, Sir, are the statements which the Department of the Colonies has furnished, after having examined the observations which you did me the honour to address to me in your Note of the 29th ultimo. I flatter myself that they will plainly show that the Netherland Government, no more than the British Government, would wish to do anything which could encourage the Slave Trade.

I must be allowed to add, that no Government is more zealous than that of the Netherlands in its efforts to repress the commerce (in slaves) in its Colonies; efforts, moreover, which are not always crowned with the same success, since, judging from the Official Returns, the number of slaves in the Island of the Mauritius is more than tripled since the abolition of the Slave Trade, and the produce of the sugar estates, which was 8,000,000, now amounts to 50,000,000.

As to the Certificate which accompanies the Note above mentioned, it is to be remarked that, as that Document contains no information either as to persons or names, it will be very difficult to discover anything positive on the subject. All possible inquiries shall, nevertheless, be made.

I have, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

VERSTOLK DE SOELEN.

Second Enclosure in No. 89.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Baron Verstolk de Soëlen.

M. LE BARON,

Hague, 24th December, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 21st instant, on the subject of the Instructions issued to General Verveer and the Netherland Authorities in Africa, relative to the enlistment for the Netherland regiments in the Island of Java, and I shall hasten to transmit a Copy to my Government.

Your Excellency having alluded to an increase in the number of slaves in the Mauritius, I beg to say that it is well known that the British Government has, on every occasion, exerted its influence to put a complete stop to this detestable traffic; and I am quite confident that my Government will feel obliged if that of the Netherlands will point out any infringement of the laws by British subjects which may have come to its knowledge.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Baron Verstolk de Soëlen,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 90.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. C. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 26th January, 1837.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 27th December last, enclosing Copies of your Correspondence with Baron Verstolk relative to the enlistment of negroes in Africa for Dutch colonial regiments. His Majesty's Government has learnt with much satisfaction that orders have been given to General Verveer to enlist into the Dutch service those Africans only who are born free, or who have been emancipated according to the laws and customs of their country.

Your Despatch above mentioned was, together with its Enclosures, transmitted to the Colonial Office, and I now send to you a Copy of the Answer which has been received from that Department, and which you will communicate to M. de Verstolk, in reply to his observations upon the increase which he supposes to have taken place in the slave population of the Mauritius subsequently to the conclusion of the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe, K.G.H.
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 90.

J. G. Stephens, Esq., to John Backhouse, Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, 13th January, 1837.

I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 6th instant, with the Despatch therein enclosed, from His Majesty's Minister at the Hague, covering Copies of a further correspondence with the Dutch Government respecting the enlistment of negroes at the Gold Coast for the Colonial Service; and in the Dutch Minister's Note Lord Glenelg observes an allusion to the increase of the numbers of the slave population of Mauritius since the signature of the Treaty with Holland for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

With respect to the charge which would thus seem to be suggested by the Dutch Government, Lord Glenelg apprehends the answer to be conclusive.

The fact that the French inhabitants persisted in carrying on an illicit Slave Trade for a considerable time after the cession of the Island is not denied, but, on the contrary, may be unequivocally admitted.

But it is to be added that the British Government adopted every possible method to prevent that evil, and succeeded at length in the effectual suppression of it.

Several ships of war were continually stationed in such places as afforded the best prospect of intercepting the slave-traders; an armed Police was established for that purpose on the coasts of the Island; a Court was established, under the presidency of an English Judge, for the trial and punishment of the offenders; large numbers of illegally imported slaves were emancipated by the sentence of that Court; laws were enacted in this country by which a registration was made of all the slaves in the Island, followed by a biennial inspection of them, to detect the illicit importations; Commissioners were sent from Great Britain to ascertain the facts, and to devise the most effectual remedies; and, finally, Great Britain emancipated the whole body of slaves in the Island by the application for that purpose of not less than £2,112,632. 10s. 11d., part of the Parliamentary Grant of £20,000,000. In short, nothing was left undone which the most anxious vigilance could dictate to prevent and punish this breach of the law, and to make reparation to the victims of the Mauritius Slave Trade. As to the alleged increase of the slaves of the Mauritius since the abolition of the Slave Trade, the facts are as follows:—

The British Slave Trade was abolished from the 1st of July, 1808.

The conquest of Mauritius took place on the 3d of December, 1810. From the earliest subsequent Return of the number of the slaves, dated in 1811, they appear to have amounted to 61 918. At the date of the abolition of slavery in the Island they amounted to 68,613. In supposing the number to have increased threefold, the Dutch Government therefore labour under a very extraordinary misapprehension.

The increase in the quantity of sugar is, as the Dutch Government state, enormous. But they omit to notice that every other article of export has undergone a corresponding diminution. The increase was not occasioned by an augmented population, but by the diversion of the capital and labour of the whole society from the culture of coffee, and all other articles, including even provisions, to the growth and production of sugar. That change admits the most simple explanation. So long as there was reason to believe that the Slave Trade continued, sugar of Mauritius was received at Great Britain at the foreign rate of duties. When we succeeded in suppressing that illicit traffic, and not till then, we opened our Ports to Mauritius sugar on the same terms as the sugar from our other Colonies. This occurred in the year 1826, and it is precisely in that year that the increase in the importation of sugar commenced.

However true it unfortunately is that the French Colonists at Mauritius did not at once submit to the Slave Trade Abolition Act, it is also true that no labour and no expense was spared until they had been finally compelled to submit to that law. But the Dutch Government may be confidently challenged to produce even a solitary instance of the importation of African slaves into any other British Colony since the 1st of January, 1808, although we had not less than 18 other Colonies in which the soil has from that hour to the present been cultivated exclusively by negroes.

If there is any one subject which Great Britain might select as a proof of her strict adherence to the faith of Treaties, Lord Glenelg knows not to what we could more confidently appeal than to our unremitting, earnest, and successful efforts to accomplish the entire abolition of the Slave Trade in every part of the British Dominions.

J. Backhouse, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES STEPHENS.

No. 91.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 10.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 7th February, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a separate and additional Article to the Treaty of the 4th May, 1818, which I have this day signed with Baron Verstolk, in pursuance of your Lordship's Instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DRISBOWE.

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

No. 92.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 10.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 7th February, 1837.

I BEG to enclose the Copy of a Note which I have addressed to Baron Verstolk, in obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 26th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

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

Enclosure in No. 92.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Baron Verstolk.

M. LE BARON,

Hague, 4th February, 1837.

WHEN your Excellency did me the honour, on the 21st of last December, to communicate to me the details relative to the mode of enlistment of negroes for the Netherland Regiments in Batavia, I hastened to transmit a Copy of your Excellency's Note to my Government, and I now fulfil with pleasure the instructions I have received to state the great satisfaction with which the British Government has learnt that orders have been given to General Verveer to enlist into the Dutch service those Africans only who have been free, and who have been emancipated according to the laws and customs of their country; and the British Government felt quite convinced that that of the Netherlands would continue, as heretofore, to exert its influence for the destruction of so inhuman a traffic. Your Excellency, in your Note to me of the 21st December, observed, "*qu'à juger par les pièces officielles, le nombre d'esclaves de l'Ile Maurice est plus que triplé depuis l'abolition de la traite des Noirs, et que le produit des sucreries qui était de 6,000,000 d'anciennes livres, y monte maintenant à cinquante millions;*" I took the liberty of replying that the British Government would, I was quite confident, feel obliged to that of the Netherlands, if it would point out any infringement of the laws by British subjects which may have come to its knowledge.

I have now, therefore, to add that the allegations in question have been fully examined into by the Colonial Office in London, at the request of Lord Palmerston, and your Excellency will see at once, by reference to the Despatch, of which I beg to transmit a Copy, that, although it is true that soon after the cession of that island to Great Britain, the French inhabitants did, for a certain time, contrive to evade the law, no exertion or expense was spared by the British Government to put an end to those proceedings; that it is, however, a very considerable error to suppose that the number of slaves was augmented in anything like the proportion stated in your Excellency's Note; and although the quantity of sugar produced did increase, that increase was in a great part owing to the decrease in the cultivation of other productions, not to the importation of slaves; and this sugar, as a further impediment, was taxed on entering Great Britain at the same rate as foreign sugar; and ultimately Great Britain purchased the liberty of all those slaves for a sum of about 25 millions of florins.

In making this communication to your Excellency, I beg, &c.

His Excellency Baron Verstolk de Soëlen,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 93.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir E. Disbrowe.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 21st February, 1837.

I TRANSMIT to you His Majesty's ratification, under the Great Seal, of the additional Article to the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands, for the prevention of the Traffic in Slaves, which was signed by you and Baron Verstolk de Soelen, on the 7th instant; and I am to desire that you will exchange the same against a similar Instrument ratified by His Majesty the King of the Netherlands. I also enclose a Certificate, to be signed by you and M. de Verstolk upon the exchange of the ratification, which Certificate you will return to me at the same time that you transmit the Netherlands ratification.

Sir E. Disbrowe,
 &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 94.

Sir E. C. Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 2.)

MY LORD,

Hague, 27th February, 1837.

I THIS day exchanged with Baron Verstolk de Soelen the ratification of the additional Article to the Slave Trade Treaty, which I signed with his Excellency on the 7th instant. And I have the honour to transmit the ratification of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, together with the proper Certificate of the exchange having taken place.

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

I have, &c.
 (Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

BRAZIL.

No. 95.

Viscount Palmerston to H. C. J. Hamilton, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 26th April, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copy of a communication from the Admiralty upon the subject of a practice, said to exist at Rio de Janeiro, of transferring Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and of placing such vessels under the flag of Portugal, in order to employ them with impunity in the Slave Trade.

You will communicate these Papers to the Government of Brazil, together with a Note, of which I send you a Draft; and you will acquaint me with the result of the representation.

H. C. J. Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

First Enclosure in No. 95.

Admiralty, 8th March, 1836.

(See Class A, p. 107, No. 59.)

Second Enclosure in No. 95.

Draft of a Note to be presented to the Brazilian Minister.

THE Undersigned, &c. is directed by His Majesty's Government to communicate to the Imperial Government of Brazil the accompanying Papers upon the subject of a practice, said to exist at Rio de Janeiro, of transferring Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and of placing such vessels under the flag of Portugal, in order to employ them with impunity in the Slave Trade.

This practice is in some measure similar to that pursued by the Authorities of Portugal in her foreign colonies, and upon the evil result of which urgent representations were recently made to the Portuguese Government at Lisbon by the Brazilian Envoy at that place.

His Majesty's Government doubt not that the Government of Brazil will be anxious to adopt measures which may prevent the evil which is apprehended.

It has been represented to His Majesty's Government that this evil would, so far as Brazil is concerned, be effectually prevented by a law forbidding, within the territories of Brazil, the equipment of vessels for the Slave Trade, the transfer of vessels so equipped, and the entry and departure of any vessels equipped for that traffic.

The Undersigned is therefore directed by His Majesty's Government to suggest, for the consideration of the Brazilian Ministers, the propriety of introducing such a law, and of affixing a heavy penalty to the infraction of it.

The British Government will have much satisfaction in learning, through the Undersigned, that this suggestion has been favourably considered by the Government of Brazil; or that some other measures equally well adapted to the proposed end have been taken by that Government.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 96.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 12.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 28th January, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose Copies of 2 Letters addressed to me by Rear-Admiral Sir Graham E. Hamond, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's naval forces on this station, on the subject of the "*Orion*," a slaver lately condemned by the Mixed English and Brazilian Commission Court at this capital.

In the first, dated 19th January, Sir Graham Hamond appears to have been somewhat premature in announcing the condemnation of the "*Orion*," inasmuch as Sir G. Jackson, His Majesty's Commissioner, informed me that when that announcement was made the Sentence had not yet been signed. Sir Graham Hamond also is of opinion that the delay of 10 days, which has hitherto been allowed in conformity with the usage of Brazilian Law, between the publication of the sentence and its execution, is not admissible, and requests me to demand of the

Imperial Government that they should forthwith relieve him of the charge of the "Orion" and her crew, &c.

I found, upon reference to previous Cases, that the delay of 10 days, against which the Admiral remonstrated, had been allowed by the British Commissioners, and that from the very nature of the organization of their Court, depending as it does upon the Brazilian Government for carrying their sentences into execution, it could not well be avoided.

In the second Letter, dated 26th January, Sir Graham Hamond requests me to urge on the Brazilian Government the necessity of severely punishing the convicted slave-dealers.

Not thinking it expedient to forward, as Sir Graham Hamond wishes, Copies of his Letters to the Brazilian Minister, I took occasion, both in verbal and written communications, to make known the substance of his wishes, and am of opinion that his Excellency showed every readiness to do all that was in his power for expediting the legal proceedings in the Case of the "Orion," which opinion was subsequently confirmed by His Majesty's Commissioners, who stated to me that much less than the usual delay had occurred in getting through the legal forms in the instance of the "Orion," and that they had met with a feeling of prompt co-operation on the part of their Brazilian colleagues and the other Authorities, with whom they had to conclude this Case.

Under these circumstances I wrote the answers, Copies of which I have the honour to enclose, to Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond; and should that gentleman not feel satisfied with their tenour, I have only to assure your Lordship, that I have used every effort to reconcile the co-operation and good understanding which doubtless ought to exist between His Majesty's Mission here and the Commander-in-Chief of the naval forces on this station, with that conciliatory line of conduct which I conceive to be one of the principal duties of my position here to maintain with the Imperial Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. OUSELEY.

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

First Enclosure in No. 96.

Rear-Admiral Sir G. Hamond to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

SIR,

Dublin, Rio de Janeiro, 19th January, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that sentence of condemnation of the slave-brig "Orion," sent into this port, on the 20th December last, by His Majesty's sloop "Satellite," has this day been read officially on board the said brig; and that on my application to the Court of Mixed Commission for an Order for the delivery of the vessel, with her cargo of Africans and her criminal crew, to the Brazilian Government, I have been informed (verbally) by the Commissary Judges that ten days must be allowed for appeal and revision of their sentence, although the Treaty expressly declares that the sentence is final and without appeal.

Under these circumstances, I consider that any delay in the delivery of these poor Africans from their close confinement, and the release of the Officers and men in charge of them from their irksome duty, is occasioned by a want of firmness on the English part of the Commission in not insisting upon the wording of the Treaty being punctually complied with; for the Treaty itself is a special agreement made between the two nations that the Commissioners' decision shall be final, and has nothing whatever to do with the internal law of Brazil; and I maintain that the Commission had no right to impose further restraint and misery on the parties concerned after sentence has been pronounced.

I therefore request you will demand of the Brazilian Government that the vessel, her cargo, and crew, may forthwith be disposed of, as I conceive the British service ought no longer to be burdened with them.

I have been prevented from putting to sea solely by the necessity for guarding this vessel; and now that necessity no longer exists (as she has been regularly condemned and ought to be taken charge of by the Brazilian Authorities), I am desirous of being relieved from the charge, that I may be free to act as circumstances shall require.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRAHAM E. HAMOND.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 96.

Admiral Sir G. Hamond to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

SIR,

Dublin, Rio de Janeiro, 26th January, 1836.

In three days from this date the long protracted delivery of the slave-brig "Orion" is intended to take place; and I have the honour to request you will urge on the Brazilian Government the necessity for strongly marking, by the punishment of the person on board of her, calling himself the Owner

of the vessel, as well as of her Master and crew, its indignation against these daring violations of the law.

These criminals have been guarded hitherto by His Majesty's naval power, but, on the delivery of the vessel and her cargo to the Brazilian Authorities, I confidently look to the Government of the country to take charge of them, and, by actual punishment of such offenders, to discourage their traffic; without which co-operation it is in vain for His Majesty's cruisers to capture them.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRAHAM E. HAMOND.

Third Enclosure in No. 96.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Sir G. Hamond.

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 27th January, 1836.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 19th instant, mentioning the condemnation by the Mixed Commission Court of the "*Orion*," and stating that, having been informed that 10 days were to be allowed to intervene between the signature and publication of the sentence, you were of opinion that any such delay is contrary to the letter of the Treaty under which the Commission Court acts, and that it ought not to be allowed; more particularly as you have been prevented from putting to sea solely by the necessity of guarding the vessel in question, which necessity you consider as no longer existing in point of fact.

I should have had the honour of answering officially your communication some days ago, but as I had not yet been informed from the proper quarter of the condemnation of the "*Orion*," I waited in order not merely to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, but also to ascertain whether it would be possible to avoid altogether the delay against which you complain, or at least to obtain a curtailment of the term allowed, by representing that you were preparing for sea; and that at this very hot and trying season of the year you naturally wished to spare those under your command the harassing duty to which the custody of the vessel and Africans subjected them.

I regret to say that it does not appear possible, in the present instance, to avoid the delay against which you protest, the usage of Brazilian law on this point having been acquiesced in on several previous similar occasions; and should the Commissioners not be, in fact, authorized to consider an agreement or understanding to exist between the two Governments on this subject, they must of necessity have recourse to the Brazilian Authorities for practically carrying into effect the execution of their judicial sentences; and those Authorities will only act in conformity with the usage or laws of this country.

Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, Bart., G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

Fourth Enclosure in No. 96.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Sir G. Hamond.

SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 27th January, 1836.

WITH reference to your Letter of yesterday's date, on the subject of the approaching announcement of the final sentence in the Case of the "*Orion*," I have the honour to inform you that I took an opportunity this day of requesting the Brazilian Minister to take such measures as may prevent any unnecessary delay on the part of the Brazilian Authorities in taking possession of that vessel, as soon as the usual formalities shall have been complied with.

I am happy to say that his Excellency expressed every desire to comply with your wishes on this head, and to relieve you from the inconvenience of the charge of the Africans on board the "*Orion*" as early as possible; although, as Sundays and certain Saints' Days are not in this country considered as legally forming part of the term hitherto allowed for the publication of judicial sentences (Courts not sitting on those days), I fear that you will not be enabled to make over to the Brazilian Authorities the custody of the vessel and of the Africans and others taken on board of her, quite so soon as you expect.

The Brazilian Government has for some time expressed an anxious wish to put in force the laws of this country against those guilty of the crime of slave-dealing, and continues to manifest every desire to co-operate with His Majesty's Government for the complete suppression of that odious traffic.

Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, Bart., G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

No. 97.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 12.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 31st January, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose Copies of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Graham E. Hamond, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's naval forces on this station, to me, dated 26th January, and of my answer thereto, on the subject of fitting out of vessels in this port notoriously for the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa.

The information conveyed in Sir G. Hamond's Letter is in substance,—that vessels are frequently, indeed continually, fitted out here for the purposes of slave-dealing under the Portuguese flag, and proceed to the Coast of Africa without molestation from the Authorities here; and their return, with large numbers of Africans,

is equally connived at by those in the service of the Brazilian Government for certain sums received by them.

The Admiral also states that fresh Instructions are required by His Majesty's cruizers, in order to enable them to detain and examine vessels, under the flag of Portugal, outward-bound from this port; although the intention of Her Most Faithful Majesty appears, by the publication of the Ordinance of October last, to be decidedly to put an end to this traffic under the flag of Portugal.

Sir Graham further requests me strongly to represent the abuses that take place under the present Treaties, and the facilities afforded, *de facto*, by the Portuguese flag, to those concerned in the Slave Trade; in order that, by the intervention of His Majesty's Government with that of Portugal, a remedy may be found for the evils of which he complains.

The Admiral also communicates some details that have come to his knowledge in relation to the Slave Trade as carried on here, which I have every reason to believe are substantially correct.

It is certain that the Brazilian Government, and those connected with it, complain that there is scarcely a Portuguese inhabiting this country who is not, more or less, implicated in this illegal traffic; and that the Portuguese Authorities on the Coast of Africa and elsewhere are ever ready to do all in their power to assist the slave-dealers. A similar accusation might perhaps be brought, with equal justice, against the major part of the Brazilian land-owners, proprietors, and subaltern Authorities.

In the mean time I have stated my opinion to Sir G. Hamond, that English cruizers are warranted in detaining vessels, under suspicious circumstances, outward or inward bound, unless some part of the Naval Instructions goes to prevent it; inasmuch as the Portuguese Government having strictly forbidden slave-dealing under any circumstances whatever, and in every part of the world, clearly takes away all right of appeal to the Portuguese Authorities, on the part of subjects of Her Most Faithful Majesty guilty of slave-dealing; and that other considerations, such, for instance, as the frequent fraudulent changes of flag from Brazilian to Portuguese, and the acquiescence of the Imperial Government in the principle of not allowing personal foreign nationality to cover property evidently Brazilian engaged in the Slave Trade, tend to strengthen this opinion.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. OUSELEY.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 97.

Admiral Sir G. Hamond to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

SIR,

Dublin, Rio de Janeiro, 26th January, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to represent to you that, by the shipping Report in the journal newspaper of this day, 2 vessels (the schooner "*Lealdade*," of 103 tons, which came in under the Argentine flag by name of "*Adelaide*," and the brigantine "*Jupiter*," of 154 tons, late Brazilian, by name "*Labatul*") have cleared out from this port for Angola, with cargoes evidently for slave-dealing under the Portuguese flag.

Within these ten days six similar notifications of the change of flag to Portuguese, and clearing out for Angola with cargoes assorted for the Slave Trade, have taken place here; and not a week passes without several vessels sailing in like manner under that flag for Angola, and returning in BALLAST!

On such arrival the vessel is, *pro forma*, detained by the Police, but being visited by a *juiz de paz* is pronounced "regular," and is released; it being understood that a certain fee of 3 contos (£500 sterling) clears a small vessel, and 6 contos a large one.

The Portuguese Treaty does not authorize His Majesty's cruizers to stop vessels on the outward-bound slave-voyage; but as, from the directions lately published by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to her Consuls abroad to do all in their power for preventing this traffic, I feel assured it is not Her Majesty's intention that such facility for the change of flag, as is now afforded, shall be allowed, I request you will bring this circumstance strongly before His Majesty's Government, in order that the Queen's Government may be informed of those crimes and irregularities; and that the Portuguese law with regard to the registry of merchant-vessels under that flag may be enforced; while, if possible, His Majesty's cruizers may be authorized to detain Portuguese vessels outward-bound, if fitted for slave-dealing.

It is pretty well known that a company here owns many of these vessels; and in proof of it, the "*Jupiter*" has on board, besides her assorted cargo, for the Slave Trade, 250 empty casks, besides 8 boxes and 3 casks of iron-work, which, if closely examined, would probably be found to be fetters, in just proportion to the water-casks, for this and the other vessels belonging to the company that, to preserve appearances, have sailed without them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRAHAM E. HAMOND.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

&c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 97.

*W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Sir G. Hamond.**Rio de Janeiro, 30th January, 1836.*

SIR,

I HAD the honour to receive your Despatch of the 26th instant relating to a subject that has already more than once occupied the attention of this Mission. It was my intention to bring the notorious circumstances which you mention under the consideration of His Majesty's Government, and I shall be most happy to communicate the contents of your Letter to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, more particularly as it corroborates the information that I have received on the subject of the Slave Trade as carried on here; and, moreover, if the Instructions issued to His Majesty's cruisers are defective in the Cases mentioned, depending on our Treaty with Portugal, it points out the particulars in which they require to be rendered more precise.

With respect to vessels under the Portuguese flag, my own opinion, confirmed by those expressed by His Majesty's Commissioners, in conversations which I have taken occasion to have on the subject, is, that the late Ordinance of the Portuguese Government completely forbids any participation in this nefarious traffic by any of Her Most Faithful Majesty's subjects, under any circumstances. Sir G. Jackson expressed his readiness to furnish me with a written official opinion on this point; and if you wish to have it, or think that it may serve any useful purpose, I will without delay write to him on the subject. I cannot but think that, even in the absence of precise Instructions on this head, there are several circumstances which contribute to empower His Majesty's cruisers to detain and search vessels, whether outward-bound or coming from the Coast of Africa, under the Portuguese flag.

In the first place, the facility and frequency with which fraudulent and fictitious changes of flag take place are enough to warrant suspicion, and such frauds are often open to detection. The view lately taken by the Imperial Government of the nationality of foreign property when employed in the Slave Trade, although the ostensible Owner of such property may never have been legally naturalized in Brazil (which view, by a late decision of this Government, is now in conformity with that of His Majesty's Government), but particularly the improbability of any Portuguese Minister or other Authority attempting to screen a vessel detained on account of being fitted for slave-dealing, whether outward or inward-bound, in the face of the late positive prohibition;—all these circumstances appear to me to authorize the detention and examination of vessels fitted for the Slave Trade under the Portuguese flag, unless the nature of the Instructions issued to His Majesty's cruisers is considered, in a naval point of view, to prevent such a line of conduct.

I ought perhaps to mention, that I have been informed that a vessel of considerable size and force, described to me as a fast-sailing American-built corvette of 20 guns, is now fitting out in this harbour, and whether intended as a pirate or slaver (or both), or as is said for the purpose of being ready to put to sea in case of a war between France and the United States, as a privateer, it may perhaps be advisable to observe the movements. Possibly the force and nature of the vessel may be exaggerated, but I have reason to believe that there is some truth in the report that has reached me.

I have, &c.

Rear-Admiral Sir Graham E. Hamond, Bart., G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

No. 98.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston. (Received May 12.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 7th March, 1836.

WITH respect to the proposal of the Brazilian Chargé d'Affaires for concluding a further Convention for the extinction of the traffic in slaves, the Government being about to send an Envoy to the Court of Brazil will furnish him with the necessary Instructions on this head.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. OUSELEY.

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

No. 99.

Viscount Palmerston to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

(Extract.)

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st May, 1836.

I SEND you the Copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Commissioners, instructing them to apprise the chief of His Majesty's Mission with the detention of all Slave Trade vessels, as well as of the final decision of the Court upon all Cases brought before it.

I am, &c.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 99.

(See Class A, No. 179, page 235.)

No. 100.

Viscount Palmerston to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 3d June, 1836.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatches marked Slave Trade up to that of the 5th of March last.

It is with concern that His Majesty's Government observe that all their endeavours to effect a total abolition of that criminal traffic are rendered nugatory by the evasions, subterfuges, and frauds of the parties engaged therein.

His Majesty's Government regret that the Brazilian Legislature had not ratified the additional Articles to the Slave Trade Convention between Great Britain and Brazil signed at Rio de Janeiro on the 27th of July, 1835, as there can be no doubt that the operation of those Articles would go far towards annihilating the system under which Africans are clandestinely and illegally imported into Brazil.

I have, therefore, with reference to my Despatch to Mr. Hamilton of the 26th of March last, to instruct you to state to the Brazilian Minister the great anxiety of His Majesty's Government upon this matter; and you will take every opportunity of entreating that Minister to use his most strenuous efforts to obtain, without further delay, the sanction of the Brazilian Legislature to the Articles in question.

I am, &c.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 101.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston. (Received June 6.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 15th March, 1836.

IN obedience to the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 13th of November last, I communicated a Copy of the Instructions to His Majesty's diplomatic agents in Spanish America (accompanied by a Note, embodying the terms dictated by your Lordship, a Copy of which is enclosed), desiring them to propose for the adoption of the Governments to which they are accredited a Treaty for abolishing the Slave Trade, and for declaring that traffic to be piracy.

Three days ago I received the answer, of which I have the honour to subjoin a Copy and Translation, from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, *ad interim*, Senor Joze I. Borges, in which his Excellency, after declaring that the sentiments of the Imperial Government as to the Slave Trade are completely in conformity with those of His Majesty's Government, states that Instructions have been sent to the Brazilian agents in Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, Chili, and Peru, to second, by every means in their power, the efforts of the British agents to obtain the desired result.

His Excellency, however, seems to evade a positive answer on the subject of the Brazilian Government becoming an active contracting party to the Treaties in question, on which point the wishes of His Majesty's Government are suggested in my Note, agreeably to your Lordship's Instructions. In conversation, however, with Senor Borges, as well as in general terms in his present Note, his Excellency expresses the greatest desire to employ every effectual means, in conjunction with His Majesty's Government, for completely suppressing this traffic.

His Excellency again took occasion to revert, in no measured terms, in conversation, to the encouragement given to the Slave Trade by the Portuguese, and the necessity of causing fresh Instructions or modifications of the Treaty with Portugal to be prepared; and said that one or two examples of the punishment as pirates, in short, the execution of one or more convicted slave-dealers, would at once suppress the trade in this country, but that if merely subjected to the present penalties, it would be hopeless to expect the extinction of the traffic.

I have, &c.

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

W. G. OUSELEY.

First Enclosure in No. 101.

*W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Senor J. I. Borges.**Rio de Janeiro, 29th February, 1836.*

SIR,

IN pursuance of Instructions from His Majesty's Government, I have the honour to forward to your Excellency the Copy of an Instruction which has been addressed by Lord Palmerston to His Majesty's diplomatic agents in Spanish America, desiring them to propose, for the adoption of the Governments of the places where they are resident, a Treaty with Great Britain for abolishing the Slave Trade, and for declaring that traffic to be piracy.

The frequent communications that have already passed on the subject of the enclosed Paper between your Excellency's predecessor and Mr. Fox so strongly prove the anxious desire of the Imperial Government to co-operate with that of Great Britain for the complete suppression of the African Slave Trade under any flag, that it is with full confidence of meeting the wishes of the Brazilian Government that I now request, by desire of His Majesty's Government, that your Excellency will be pleased to cause Instructions to be issued to the Brazilian agents, at the places referred to in the enclosed Documents, to second the efforts of the British agents upon this question.

From the sound judgment and policy, founded on the best interests of humanity, manifested by the Imperial Government on this subject, it is probable that it will wish to be an active contracting party to these Treaties. Should the Brazilian Government so decide, it will afford additional satisfaction to His Majesty's Government.

Senor J. I. Borges,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

Second Enclosure in No. 101.

*Senor J. I. Borges to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.**Rio de Janeiro, 8th March, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, &c. acknowledges the receipt of Mr. Ouseley's official Letter, in which he communicates to him the Instructions sent by Lord Palmerston to the diplomatic agents of his nation, residing at the Governments of the Republics of Spanish America, to treat about obtaining the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, imposing on it the penalties of piracy.

The Undersigned made known to the Regent, in the name of the Emperor, the said Note of Mr. Ouseley, and has the satisfaction of informing him, in answer, that the Imperial Government, in conformity with the philanthropic sentiments of that of Great Britain in an undertaking of so much importance for the welfare of humanity, has sent to the Brazilian agents in Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, Chili, and Peru, orders to second, as much as lies in their power, the efforts of the British agents in order to obtain the desired end. The Undersigned can assure Mr. Ouseley that the Imperial Government has not neglected any measure which can conduce to the total extinction of that infamous traffic, and it confidently flatters itself that His Britannic Majesty will perceive the sincerity of its wishes.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

The Undersigned avails, &c.
(Signed) JOZE IGNACIO BORGES.

No. 102.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston. (Received June 6.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 30th March, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a Copy and Translation of a notification which has been published in this day's "Journal do Commercio" by the Russian Consul-General, to the effect of preventing the Russian flag being rendered a protection to slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

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

Enclosure in No. 102.

(See Class A, Enclosure in No. 181.)

No. 103.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 29.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 19th May, 1836.

By the last Buenos Ayres packet I received from Mr. Hamilton your Lordship's Despatches (Slave Trade) of the 9th of January.

In conformity with the Instructions contained in the first of those Despatches, I addressed a Note to the Brazilian Minister (a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose), dated the 10th instant, embodying the terms in which your Lordship is pleased to express the satisfaction of His Majesty's Government at the apparent

CLASS B.

cordiality with which the Brazilian Government co-operated with that of Great Britain for the final extinction of the Slave Trade. I also stated, as directed, that should the Brazilian Government be of opinion that a general Convention with the South American States would be more conducive to that object than separate Conventions with each of those States, the Instructions to the British agents in South America would be accordingly modified.

Before I forwarded the above-mentioned note to Senor J. Borges, I took an opportunity, during an interview with his Excellency, to mention the receipt of the Despatch in question, and inquired whether any accounts had been received from the Spanish American States relating to the proposed Convention for the suppression of the Slave Trade. His Excellency informed me that the overtures made by the Brazilian Government had been met in the most satisfactory manner by those States, with the exception of Chili and Peru, from whence they had not as yet received any answer. They anticipated, however, a favourable answer from those Governments to the proposals that had been forwarded. Mention is made of the Conventions proposed to His Majesty's Government, as well as to that of Portugal and those of the South American States, in the "Relatorio" or Report of Senor J. I. Borges to the General Legislative Assembly.

I have not yet received an answer to my Note to Senor J. Borges, but I have been assured verbally by his Excellency that the language of His Majesty's Government had given much satisfaction to the Brazilian Government, and that he hoped to be able to send an answer in time for the "Sheldrake" packet; but that if that were not possible, he urged me again (as on previous occasions) to represent in the strongest light to your Lordship the necessity of making such stipulations with the Portuguese Government as will effectually prevent the flag of Her Most Faithful Majesty from continuing to be the means of protection and impunity to the slavers. No difficulties are anticipated by the Imperial Government in any quarter but from Portugal, such is the determined addiction of all classes of Portuguese to this nefarious but profitable traffic; and from all I can ascertain, his Excellency is perfectly justified in thus expressing himself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.

21st May.

P.S. The packet having been detained at the desire of the Brazilian Government, I open this Despatch to enclose to your Lordship a Copy and Translation of a Note which I received yesterday from Senor J. I. Borges in answer to my Note of the 10th instant.

I must take the liberty of referring your Lordship to the Note of the Brazilian Minister, time not allowing me to state more at this moment than that the Imperial Government do not wish to make a general Convention with the South American States, and that they lay much stress on the necessity of an efficient check on the notorious propensities of the Portuguese to slave-dealing.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 103.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to His Excellency J. I. Borges.

Rio de Janeiro, 10th May, 1836.

THE Undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, has the honour to inform his Excellency Senor José I. de Borges, Senator, Minister, and Secretary of State for the Empire, charged with the Department of Foreign Affairs, &c., that he has lately received from his Government Despatches on the subject generally of the Slave Trade suppression, and on the feelings by which the Imperial Government is actuated on that head, and more particularly relating to the general compact (suggested by the Brazilian Government to Mr. Fox, in the months of September and October of last year) to be entered into by all the South American States for the extinction of that odious and impolitic traffic.

In pursuance of the Instructions contained in the above-mentioned Despatches, it becomes the pleasing duty of the Undersigned to convey to His Excellency Senor J. I. Borges, on the part of His Majesty's Government, their acknowledgments and thanks for the zeal and cordiality with which the Brazilian Government appear to be co-operating with that of Great Britain for the final extinction of the Slave Trade.

Further, the Undersigned is directed to state that, if the Imperial Government shall deem that the assistance of the South American States for the abolition of the Slave Trade may be better obtained by one general Convention with those States than by Conventions to the same purport negotiated and concluded by Great Britain and Brazil with each of those States separately, His Majesty's Government will alter, in conformity with such view, those Instructions to the British agents in the southern peninsula of America which the Undersigned had the honour of communicating to the Imperial Government in his Note to Senor J. I. Borges of the 29th February last.

The Undersigned would much earlier have had the honour of making the present communication, but the Despatches which relate to it were forwarded by mistake to Buenos Ayres, from whence they were received at this capital by the last packet.

The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to reiterate to his Excellency, &c. &c.
 His Excellency J. I. de Borges, (Signed) W. G. OUSELEY.
 &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 103.

(Translation.)

The Brazilian Minister to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

Palace, Rio de Janeiro, 17th May, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c. lost no time in laying before the Regent, in the name of his Imperial Majesty, the note that Mr. W. G. Ouseley, &c. addressed to him; and the said Regent was much gratified at seeing that the efforts that the Brazilian Government have made in order to extirpate the infamous traffic in slaves were duly appreciated by the enlightened Government of Great Britain.

The conviction that the Imperial Government has always felt on this subject is such that it was the first to invite the Governments of the republics of the oriental State, of Uruguay, Buenos Ayres, Chily, and Peru, where it has accredited Brazilian diplomatic and consular agents, in order to make a Convention for that end; and for that reason, when Mr. Ouseley, by his Note of the 29th February last, requested that the Brazilian agents above mentioned should co-operate with those of His Britannic Majesty with the view of making such a Convention, the necessary Instructions were immediately forwarded to them.

Although the advantages to be derived from a compact between the said Governments on this very important subject is undeniable, nevertheless it appears to the Imperial Government that it would not be desirable to make the general Convention to which Mr. Ouseley alludes in his Note; inasmuch as there are not Brazilian diplomatic agents in every one of the republics of South America, but also because the most efficient mode of extirpating that nefarious commerce is, in the opinion of the said Government, that Great Britain should negotiate, conjointly with Brazil, in making a Treaty or Convention with Portugal, in which to provide that, 1st, the merchant-vessels of the respective nations should be examined by the vessels-of-war of the contracting Governments; 2dly, that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty should prohibit the egress of the negroes from her Colonies on the Coast of Africa; 3dly, that the punishment of piracy should be inflicted on those convicted of being guilty of that illicit traffic; and that the tribunals of the Mixed Commission of Sierra Leone and Rio de Janeiro should be composed of Commissioners of the three nations, to judge in these cases, otherwise the flag and Authorities of Portugal, as it is well known, will continue to protect this iniquitous trade.

The Undersigned, hoping that Mr. Ouseley will bring the above to the knowledge of his Government, renews the expressions of his consideration and esteem.

His Excellency J. I. de Borges, (Signed) JOZE IGNACIO BORGES.
 &c. &c.

No. 104.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq. to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 29.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 19th May, 1836.

I AM informed privately that more vessels are fitted out at present in this port, or are in a state of preparation, for carrying on the Slave Trade (almost always under the Portuguese flag), than have for some time past been employed in that illegal traffic.

A sort of company or association has been established, to which a number of apparently respectable individuals belong, and they are going to use steam-boats of moderate burthen for the importation of Africans, the better to escape the vigilance of His Majesty's cruisers. Arrangements have been made, it is said, both in the United States and in England, for the purchase and equipment of steam-boats for this purpose.

Insurances can be and are daily effected at Havre, by the slave-dealers, and those connected with them, at as low a rate as 11 per cent., which proves the great profits and comparatively small risk attending this abominable line of business, the principal, but by no means the sole followers of which are Portuguese; the French are also participators in this trade, and the Authorities of Her Most Faithful Majesty, more than indirectly, are interested in encouraging it.

The slave-dealers look upon every effort of Great Britain effectually to interfere with the Government of Portugal for destroying their trade as utterly hopeless, and even express themselves in slighting and highly improper terms on the measures hitherto adopted, or about to be put in force, by His Majesty's Government for its extinction.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. OUSELEY.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 105.

Viscount Palmerston to W. G. Ouseley, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 4th June, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, Slave Trade, enclosing a Copy of a correspondence which you had had with Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, on the subject of the delay in the adjudication of slave-vessels by the Mixed Court at Rio de Janeiro, and on the detention of captured negroes on board of slave-vessels in that port, after sentence of condemnation has been passed.

The subject had already been brought under the consideration of His Majesty's Government; and I transmit, for your information, Copies of two Despatches which I have addressed to His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro, directing them, in any future Cases which may come before them, to abide strictly by the Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil of the 23d of November, 1826, and by the previous Treaty and Convention, and additional Articles therein mentioned between Great Britain and Portugal, and the Regulations and Instructions annexed thereto.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosures in No. 105.

Viscount Palmerston to His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro, March 26 and May 31, 1836.
(See Class A.)

No. 106.

W. G. Ouseley, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 26.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 17th June, 1836.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of 26th March last, I have the honour to inform you that I took an opportunity lately of making inquiries of Mr. Lisboa, the Under Secretary of State (Senor Limpo de Alreo not having yet entered upon the active discharge of the duties of his Office as Minister for Foreign Affairs), as to the steps taken by the Brazilian Government relative to the additional Articles to the Slave Trade Convention, concluded by Mr. Fox and Senor Manoel Alves Branco last July.

Senor Lisboa stated that, as your Lordship is already informed (see Mr. Fox's Despatch of the 28th of October of last year), those Articles were presented to the Chamber of Deputies for ratification, but the Session closed before they came under consideration. They now remain on the list of subjects to be debated during this Session; but I can perceive that the Imperial Government does not think it probable that they will be ratified by the Chambers, but that the question will be evaded as before.

I am the more inclined to coincide in this opinion, as this Session, which will close on the 3d of September next, is the last to be held by this Chamber, and the elections for a new Chamber of Deputies will be then begun.

The Chambers having, by the Law of the Regency, the right of ratifying all Treaties or Conventions with Foreign Powers, and being inclined to take upon themselves, as far as possible, the executive as well as the legislative powers, fetter the measures of the Government at every step; and, in the instance of the additional Articles now awaiting ratification, the Regent has doubtless just reasons to wish for an extension of power being accorded to the supreme Government.

I much fear that there is no probability of the ratification of the Articles in question being agreed upon by the present Chamber, although, as the Government commands a majority therein, the question will not, perhaps, be brought forward at all, or debated at such length as to remain undecided at the end of the Session. Possibly the new Chambers may be more favourably inclined towards this question than the present.

The Brazilian Government would, perhaps, not be disinclined, under certain conditions, to prohibit all intercourse with the Portuguese colonial possessions in Africa. At present the Slave Trade is carried on with more activity than ever;

and fictitious sales are daily made of Brazilian and other vessels to Portuguese subjects for employment in that traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. OUSELEY.

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

No. 107.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 26.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 22d June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 26th of March, marked "Slave Trade," relating to the ratification of certain Articles, additional to the stipulations on Slave Trade already existing between Great Britain and Brazil, which were signed on the 27th July last year.

As I have not entered yet into official communication with the Government, the execution of the orders conveyed to me in the above-mentioned Despatch have of necessity devolved on Mr. Ouseley, His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, and, therefore, to that gentleman's Despatch, dated June 17th, Slave Trade, I must, in the interim, refer your Lordship for information on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

No. 108.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 26.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 25th June, 1836.

The "Goldfinch" packet, which sailed for England yesterday morning, having, off the harbour's mouth, met the "Delight" packet, bringing the English Mail of the 9th May, came to an anchor again in the afternoon for a few hours. I have it thus in my power to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 26th of April, and to assure you that I shall lose no time, after the presentation of my credentials, in acting conformably to the Instructions which it conveys.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

No. 109.

Viscount Palmerston to H. Hamilton, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office August, 1836.

I HAVE received Mr. Ouseley's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 31st of January last, enclosing Copies of a Correspondence with Rear-Admiral Sir Graham Eden Hamond on the subject of the fitting out of vessels in the port of Rio de Janeiro notoriously for the Traffic in Slaves on the Coast of Africa. I have also received from the Admiralty the Copy of the Rear-Admiral's Letter to that department upon the same subject; and I transmit, for your information, the Copy of the Reply which I have caused to be returned to the Admiralty.

You will perceive from this Reply that His Majesty's cruizers cannot lawfully detain Portuguese vessels on their outward voyage from Brazil, notwithstanding such vessels may be fitted and destined for the illegal Traffic in Slaves; and that the right to capture such vessels, and to bring them for adjudication before a Mixed Commission Court, must be confined, as it has hitherto been, within the limitation prescribed by Treaty. The same rule will naturally apply to Brazilian vessels. His Majesty's Government are unceasing in their endeavours to induce the Government of Portugal to conclude and sign the Treaty which has been so long under discussion between the two Governments for the entire suppression of the Slave

Trade under the flag of Portugal; and when that Treaty shall be signed, vessels fitted out for the Slave Trade under the flag of Portugal will be liable to capture and condemnation. It is therefore of the greatest importance towards the final suppression of this trade that the Brazilian Government should ratify the additional Articles to the Slave Trade Treaty with Brazil, which was signed by Mr. W. Fox and by the Brazilian Plenipotentiary, on the 27th of July, 1835. And I have accordingly to instruct you to omit no opportunity to press upon the Brazilian Government the urgent necessity of ratifying those Articles.

I have further to instruct you to bring again to the notice of the Brazilian Government the facility which is afforded in Brazil to the transfer of vessels from the flag of one nation to that of another for the sole purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade.

H. Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 109.

Mr. Strangways to Mr. Wood.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 1st September, 1836.

I HAVE received and laid before Viscount Palmerston your Letter of the 13th of May last, transmitting Copies of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, dated Rio de Janeiro, 28th of January, 1836, and its Enclosure, relative to the transfer, in that port, of merchant-vessels from the Brazilian and other flags to that of Portugal, for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade.

His Lordship having caused the Letter in question, together with other Papers on the same subject, which have been received from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, to be submitted for the consideration of His Majesty's Advocate-General, I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that that Officer has reported it to be his opinion, that His Majesty's cruisers cannot lawfully capture Portuguese vessels on their outward voyage, notwithstanding such vessels may be destined for illegal traffic in slaves.

That the Ordinance issued by the Queen of Portugal in October last, although intended for the discouragement of the Slave Trade, does not, so far at least as the King's Advocate is enabled to judge from the statement made as to its contents, confer upon British ships any additional authority for the seizure of Portuguese vessels; and he therefore apprehends that the right to capture such vessels, and to bring them for adjudication before a Mixed Commission Court, must be confined, as it has hitherto been, within the limitation prescribed by the Treaty.

The King's Advocate adds, however, that he does not in the slightest degree depart from the opinion expressed by the late King's Advocate, "that vessels, though under the Portuguese flag and Papers, and belonging to a native of Portugal, but who is resident in Brazil, and carries on his trade from and to that country, are to be considered as Brazilian vessels, and liable to be proceeded against as such before the Mixed British and Brazilian Commission."

With respect to the practice which prevails at Rio de Janeiro of transferring merchant-vessels from the Brazilian and other flags to that of Portugal, for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade, the Lords of the Admiralty are already aware, by my Letter of the 6th of May last, that His Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro has been instructed to draw the attention of the Brazilian Government to this abuse, in order that steps may be taken to check it.

Charles Wood, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. FOX STRANGWAYS.

No. 110.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 30.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 10th August, 1836.

I REGRET that it should not be in my power to notify to your Lordship, by the present opportunity, the sanction of the Brazilian Legislature to the additional Articles to the Slave Trade Convention with Great Britain.

The affair has made no progress whatever since Mr. Ouseley addressed to your Lordship his Despatch of the 17th June, Slave Trade Series. The Articles are still lying on the table of the Chamber of Deputies, and are there, I fear, likely to remain, at least through this Session also.

Your Lordship may be persuaded that no endeavour of mine shall be wanting to put an end to such a system of evasion and delay; but the hands of the executive are impotent on this occasion: the satisfaction of Treaties does not come within its attributes. I believe, however, both the Regent and his Ministers to be quite sincere in the desire to effect a total abolition of this criminal traffic; but a majority of the most wealthy and most influential Brazilians are decided advocates of it, and participators in its profits; and so long as they hold any control over the votes of their representatives—a control doubly powerful at the eve of a new election

—so long will the system in question baffle all the benevolent exertions of His Majesty's Government.

But the present Session will terminate in about three weeks, a circumstance which of itself would leave little hope, even with a more tractable and laborious Legislature, of any immediate arrangement of this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

No. 111.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 30.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 10th August, 1836.

NOT having received an answer to the representation which, in deference to the Instructions conveyed to me by your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade Series, of the 26th April last, I had the honour to address to the Imperial Government, at the end of June, regarding a practice said to exist here of transferring Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and of placing such vessels under the flag of Portugal, in order to employ them with impunity in the Slave Trade, I have remonstrated once or twice lately upon the subject.

The result has been the Note, of which a Copy is enclosed, acknowledging receipt of my communication, and engaging to give to it that due consideration which so important a matter demands.

Unsatisfactory as this answer cannot but appear, I am assured that the delay which has occurred is attributable solely to the lengthened discussions upon the Budget in the Chamber of Deputies, where it falls principally upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs to explain the views of the Administration, and to vindicate its intentions under the incessant attacks of the opposition. I am aware, at the same time, that some portion of the delay may arise out of the procrastination inseparable from the mode of performing official duties in this country; but for this little remedy can be found; and I can hope to obtain a more positive and satisfactory answer only after the present Session of the Legislature shall have terminated.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 111.

(Translation.) *His Excellency Senor A. P. Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Hamilton.*

THE Undersigned, &c., limiting himself at present to acknowledge the receipt of the Note addressed to him on the 29th of last June, by Mr. Hamilton Hamilton, &c., in which he proposes, by order of his Government, the expediency of prohibiting the equipment of Brazilian vessels which are sold to Portuguese subjects, to the end that, under the flag of that nation, they may be employed with impunity in the Traffic in Slaves, has the honour to inform Mr. Hamilton Hamilton that the Imperial Government will take into due consideration this important subject, and will explain their ideas thereupon to Mr. Hamilton Hamilton, to whom the Undersigned renews the expressions, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 9th August, 1836.

No. 112.

Viscount Palmerston to H. Hamilton, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th September, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit the Copy of a Despatch which I have recently received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone reporting the capture and condemnation of a vessel named the "*Mindello*," sailing under the flag of Portugal, for slave-trading.

The Commissioners draw my attention to certain points connected with the Case of this vessel: that she had been transferred from the Brazilian flag to that of Portugal for the purpose of carrying on the Traffic in Slaves; that she had been fitted out for that trade in the harbour of Rio de Janeiro; and that they were given to believe that Brazilian subjects were connected with the object of her voyage.

You will (in your representation to the Brazilian Government) make use of such of the facts of this Case as may aid you in your endeavour to impress upon that Government how necessary it is that the Legislature of Brazil should consent to the ratification of the additional Article to the Treaty of November, 1835.

You will, at the same time, not neglect to urge them to take effectual measures to prevent slavers from making use of the port and harbours of Brazil to fit out vessels for this traffic; a practice which has become frequent of late, and which it appears to His Majesty's Government might be easily repressed if the Brazilian Authorities would use adequate endeavours to put a stop to this branch of the Slave Trade.

H. Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 112.
(See Class A, No. 64, p. 111.)

No. 113.

Viscount Palmerston to H. Hamilton, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 22d October, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you the Copy of a Letter from Sir Graham E. Hamond to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, detailing some of the evils which result from the delays in the adjudication of slave-vessels brought before the Mixed Court at Rio de Janeiro.

I also transmit to you the Copy of an Instruction which I have addressed to His Majesty's Commissioners, directing them to bring the subject of Sir Graham Hamond's Letter before their Brazilian colleagues, with a view to the adoption of such measures as may be best calculated to put a stop to the evils adverted to in that Letter.

You will use all the means in your power to induce the Brazilian Government to accede to and to enforce the execution of any plan which the Commissioners may devise for this humane object.

H. Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 113.

*Enclosure in Despatch to Rio de Janeiro Commissioners 22d of October.
Admiralty, 30th September, 1836.
(See Class A, No. 195.)*

No. 114.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 16.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 5th September, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in Copy, a Correspondence which has passed between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and myself, relating to the "*Vinte dois de Setembro*," a vessel from the Coast of Africa, under Portuguese colours, which, from the nature of her Manifest, it is to be presumed had been engaged in Slave Trade.

I had very little expectation that, under the defects of the present law upon this matter, any representation of mine would operate favourably; but still I deemed it my duty to give evidence that the connivance of the Custom-house Officers did not pass unobserved by His Majesty's legation, and also to remonstrate against the impunity which is secured to them.

Your Lordship will perceive that the answer of Senor A. P. Limpo de Abreo acknowledges the inability of the Government to fulfil its engagement as regards this abominable traffic; but that it admits, also, without reserve, the vital importance to Brazil of a sincere co-operation on her part towards its extinction.

The engagement taken by the Minister to bring my Note before the Legislature

has been performed: it was read to the Chamber of Deputies on the 2d instant, and immediately referred to the Committee of Criminal Justice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

First Enclosure in No. 114.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to his Excellency Senor Antonio Paulo Limpo de Abreo.

Rio de Janeiro, 23d August, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c. has the honour to call the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to an Extract from the Journal of Commerce of the 19th instant, showing the clearance inwards, at the Imperial Custom-house, of a vessel under Portuguese colours, called the "*Vinte dois de Setembro*," with a nominal cargo from the Coast of Africa.

This vessel is so evidently fresh from the Slave Trade, having actually her water-casks on board, that the Manifest of her nominal cargo is absolutely absurd; and the negligence of the Authorities, whose duty it is to impede the traffic, is so glaring that it cannot but act as an encouragement and a premium for such criminal undertakings. This is the first time that the Undersigned, since he has entered upon the duties of his mission, has had to address the Imperial Government on a subject of this nature—one on which the Government of the King feels so much and such deep anxiety. But the case is not a solitary one; similar occurrences happen continually, and the Undersigned must observe that, so long as the negligence in question shall be permitted by the Imperial Government, the Treaties and Conventions on the subject into which it has entered with other States cannot but remain altogether a dead letter.

The Undersigned renews to his Excellency Senhor Antonio Paulino Limpo de Abreo the expression, &c.

His Excellency Senhor A. P. Limpo de Abreo. (Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.
&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 114.

Senhor A. P. Limpo de Abreo to H. Hamilton, Esq.

Rio de Janeiro, 30th August, 1836.

THE Undersigned acknowledges the receipt of the Note which Mr. Hamilton addressed to him on the 23d instant, stating the fact of a Portuguese vessel, the "*Vinte dois de Setembro*," being admitted to the Custom-house under circumstances therein pointed out, which induce him to believe that she had been employed in the Slave Trade; and observing on the negligence of the Brazilian Authorities, who thereby encourage the infraction of Treaties concluded upon this subject.

The Undersigned laments, with Mr. Hamilton, the illegal continuance, under protection of a foreign flag, of such a nefarious traffic; but he refrains from enumerating proofs of the solicitude with which the Imperial Government has endeavoured to prevent it, at one moment by proposing legislative measures, at another by signing, in conjunction with the British Government, an Article additional to the Convention of the 23d November, 1826; and, in fine, sending out at different times expeditions which, however, cannot now be in a state of activity, from a great number of vessels being at present detached to Rio Grande do Sul and to Pará. This last means the Undersigned considers to be the best and most effectual for the suppression of this illegal traffic; and, so soon as it may be possible, all the disposable vessels of war shall be employed as cruisers against it; the Imperial Government being, in fact, convinced of what vital importance it is to Brazil to afford the most sincere co-operation towards its extinction.

With reference, however, to the particular fact brought forward, whilst it may have some connexion with this infamous illicit trade, still, destitute of other proof, it cannot, according to the laws of this country, and even conformably to the letter of the additional Convention of the 28th July, 1817, and the Instructions annexed, be considered sufficient to warrant the institution of judiciary proceedings at all calculated to effect a condemnation; nor is it possible to take any further steps, unless the General Assembly shall adopt the measures which are called for, it remaining for the Undersigned only to bring before it the Note of Mr. Hamilton.

The Undersigned renews, &c.

(Signed) A. P. LIMPO DE ABREO.

Hamilton Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 115.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 16.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 14th September, 1836.

THE present Session of the General Legislative Assembly of the Empire ought to have terminated at the commencement of this month, but, as various measures of the highest importance were still awaiting discussion, it has been prolonged by a Decree of the Regent until the 2d of next month.

Among the measures referred to is the approval by the Chambers of the Supplementary Article respecting Slave Trade, which was negotiated by my predecessor. I was also not without a hope that, acting upon the suggestion made by your Lord-

CLASS B.

ship, of which I had the honour to be the channel of communication, the Imperial Government would introduce a law calculated to suppress the practice so common in this country of transferring Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and of placing such vessels under the flag of Portugal, in order to employ them with impunity in that nefarious traffic. At all events, however, with a view to prevent any farther procrastination either in one case or in the other, it appeared advisable that I should support in a formal manner the representations which had previously been made thereupon, both verbally and by writing; and I therefore addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the 4th instant, the Note of which the enclosed, No. 1, is a Copy.

The Answer which I have just received (also enclosed under No. 2) is satisfactory so far as it regards the considerations of the Additional Article during the present Session.

With respect to the second point, your Lordship will perceive with regret that it is less favourable; that any immediate arrangement, such as has been contemplated by His Majesty's Government, is out of the question; that the system of delay and postponement is still persisted in, and that we must look forward to the ensuing Session of the Chambers for any endeavour to effect that salutary enactment, which, for the sake of humanity and the interests of Brazilian policy itself, it were far more prudent to accomplish, if possible, in the present.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 115.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to his Excellency Senhor A. P. Limpo de Abreo.

Rio de Janeiro, 4th September, 1836.

THE Undersigned has the honour to address himself to his Excellency Senhor A. P. Limpo de Abreo, Minister of State and for Foreign Affairs, on the following subjects, namely, the ratification of the Additional Articles for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which were signed on the 27th July last year by Mr. Fox and Senhor Manoel Alves Branco; and, secondly, the passing of a new law calculated to correct a practice existing in Rio de Janeiro of transferring Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and placing such vessels under the flag of Portugal, in order to employ them with impunity in the Slave Trade; respecting which practice and law he addressed a Note to his Excellency on the 29th June last, by order of his Government.

It cannot be necessary for the Undersigned to show upon this occasion with what deep concern His Majesty's Government have perceived, that all its endeavours to effect a total abolition of the detestable traffic should have been rendered nugatory up to the present instant by the subterfuges and evasions of the parties engaged therein. The archives of the Imperial Foreign Office contain abundant and irrefragable testimony to the constancy of these endeavours, and to the sincerity of its regrets at their inutility.

But amid all this disappointment, the Government has still had the satisfaction to know that, progressively, the sound and beneficent views by which it is animated have spread and taken root in almost all the other Governments, as well of the New as of the Old World; and that although this odious system is yet unfortunately enabled to exercise its pernicious and demoralizing influence over this hemisphere, much has been accomplished, both in this State and elsewhere, towards its entire destruction.

Among the nations of America Brazil was one of the first to denounce the trade, and to enter into alliance with Great Britain for its suppression, and she has given her co-operation long and zealously to this end; but her benevolent policy has been constantly evaded: fraud and connivance, and clandestine dealing, have rendered illusory engagements taken in probity and good faith. The prejudice and the blindness, however, of a few selfish and mercenary individuals cannot implicate an entire and generous nation, nor even its Government, so long as that Government shall labour strenuously and sincerely to eradicate the evil; and that the Supreme Power which now administers the Empire with so much wisdom and energy will continue to employ, as it has heretofore employed, its most cordial and assiduous efforts for the attainment of this important object, may not stop mid-way in the path of humanity and justice.

Among the means which would assuredly go far towards annihilating the atrocious combination under which Africans are clandestinely and illegally imported into Brazil, the two measures to which the Undersigned has had the honour to call the attention of his Excellency, in the opening paragraph of this Note, are conspicuous.

The latter measure referred to consists in passing a law to prevent the transfer of Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, and the practical evils consequent thereupon. Subsidiary as such a law cannot but prove to the advantages from the operation of the Additional Articles to the Treaty, the Undersigned cannot doubt that the Government will have given to the measure due and mature consideration; but two months have expired since the suggestion was made by him, and it would be agreeable now to learn, previously to the departure of the packet for England, what determination has been taken regarding it.

Respecting the former measure, namely, the ratification of the Additional Articles, the Brazilian Government has given from time to time the most satisfactory pledges; but these Articles were offi

cially submitted to the deliberation of the Chamber of Deputies on the 1st August of last year, and in the period which has elapsed subsequently, one Session of the Legislature has terminated without any resolution being adopted, and another is drawing to a close, and still the same uncertainty prevails. The Undersigned, therefore, feels it to be incumbent upon him to represent to the Imperial Government the propriety of obtaining, without further delay, the sanction of the General Legislative Assembly to the part in question.

In conclusion, the Undersigned has only to express his sincere and confident hope that the two Chambers, eminently distinguished as they are for liberal and enlightened views, will respond in this most interesting matter to those entertained by the Executive; and that by recording their approval of the engagement it has entered into, and by instituting such further measures as may be conducive to the same just and generous purpose, they will powerfully contribute to efface for ever one of the darkest stigmas which ever dishonoured a civilized country, and at the same time to establish upon a solid and durable basis the tranquillity, the prosperity—all the best interests of the Brazilian Empire.

The Undersigned has, &c.

His Excellency Senhor A. P. Limpo de Abreo.
&c. &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

Second Enclosure in No. 115.

His Excellency Senhor Antonio P. Limpo to H. Hamilton, Esq.

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 13th September, 1836.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., acknowledges receipt of the Note, which, on the 5th instant, Mr. H. C. J. Hamilton, &c., addressed to him, requiring, 1st. The ratification of the Additional Articles signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the two Nations on the 27th July of last year, for the more effectual Abolition of the Traffic in Slaves; and, 2dly. The passing of a new law to prevent the transfer, as practised in Rio de Janeiro, of Brazilian vessels to Portuguese subjects, in order that, under the flag of Portugal, they may be employed with impunity in the said traffic.

The Undersigned has to reply to Mr. Hamilton, relatively to the first point, that the Imperial Government has taken the necessary measures to bring the Additional Articles in question, yet in the course of this year, under the consideration of the Legislative power, to which power they appertain according to the law by which the attributes of the Regent, in the name of the Emperor, are regulated; and with regard to the second point, that the Imperial Government cannot undertake to present the law which Mr. Hamilton desires, nor encourage any hope that it could pass, during the present Session, although it is satisfactory to the Undersigned to perceive, that the Brazilian flag is no longer tarnished by being employed in such a detestable traffic.

It is certainly to be deplored that the Portuguese flag should be lent to such an object, but it will be more easy for the British Government to obtain from the Portuguese Government measures calculated to put a stop to such scandalous transactions, thereby giving powerful aid to the efforts which the Imperial Government has not omitted to make, and which are acknowledged by Mr. Hamilton, interested as he feels in an undertaking of so much philanthropy and of such utility to Brazil; and these efforts the Undersigned is well disposed to continue, feeling confident, as he does, of the co-operation of the Government of His Britannic Majesty.

The Undersigned renews to Mr. Hamilton the expression, &c.

H. Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 116.

Viscount Palmerston to H. Hamilton, Esq.

Foreign Office, 24th December, 1836.

SIR,

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 5th September last, transmitting Copies of a Correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs relative to a vessel named the "*Vinte dois de Setembro*," which had arrived from the Coast of Africa under Portuguese colours, and which had been admitted to clear inwards at the Custom-house with a nominal cargo, although evidently fresh from the Slave Trade, and having part of her slaving equipments actually on board.

I fully approve of your having formally brought this Case under the notice of the Brazilian Government, and I request you to do the same with every well authenticated Case of a similar nature which may come to your knowledge.

His Majesty's Government regrets to perceive, that the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his Answer, admits the inability of his Government to fulfil the engagements into which it has entered with Great Britain to effect the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

His Majesty's Government trusts that the Legislature of Brazil will feel it right to pass such laws as shall give full power to the Executive to cause the engagements of Brazil with Foreign States to be carried into execution.

With respect to the alleged difficulty of obtaining judicial proof of frauds like that which is supposed to have been committed in the Case of the "*Vinte dois de Setembro*," His Majesty's Government is of opinion that the Brazilian Government has at present the means in its own hands of putting an effective check to the fraudulent use of foreign flags within Brazilian ports for the prosecution of the Slave Trade. An Order directing the Department of the Customs not to give any vessel under a foreign flag a clearance, without the previous produc-

tion of the national Register and Papers of origin required by the laws of the country under whose flag the vessel sails, would effect this object.

By the enclosed Extract of a Despatch from Sir G. Hamond to the Admiralty, you will perceive that it is the opinion of the Admiral that the Brazilian Government experiences no difficulty in forcing its foreign shipping to comply with such Custom-house regulations as it may think proper to issue.

Hamilton Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 116.

Extract from Admiral Hamond's Letter, dated Dublin, Rio de Janeiro, 3d September, 1836.

"It appears to me my duty to point out that, by simply refusing a clearance at the Custom-house without the production of a vessel's National Register and Papers of Origin required by the law of the country under whose flag the vessel sails, this Government might easily prevent the outfit and entry of these slave-traders in Brazilian Ports, for not one in fifty of them is so furnished with Papers according to law, yet 2 or 3 sail and return in the course of every week, with no other authority than a Consul's Pass or Certificate of Transfer, or a pass from the Governor or other Officers of an African Colony well known to be feed for the furnishing thereof, though it is notorious that of those sailing from hence the greater number have arrived but a short time before under the flags of other countries, or have shifted the flag of Brazil, which they had hitherto borne, for that of their intended career in their nefarious enterprise, which is now almost exclusively the Portuguese flag.

"That the Brazilian Government can make such a regulation at the Custom-house is clear, for it has made some Custom-house Regulations of a very arbitrary and vexatious character as regards foreign shipping in furtherance of its own fiscal arrangements, and which are most pertinaciously adhered to, although contrary to the practice of other nations; and I regret much to observe, that there does not appear on its part equal readiness and determination to maintain the international engagements when the suppression of the traffic in slaves is in question."

No. 117.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 11th November, 1836.

YOUR Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of 1st September last, conveys to me Instructions to omit no opportunity of pressing upon the Brazilian Government the urgent necessity of ratifying the additional Articles to the Slave Trade Treaty with Brazil, which were signed by Mr. Fox and by the Brazilian Plenipotentiary, on the 27th July, 1835; the said additional Articles being of the greatest importance towards the final suppression of this detestable traffic. And the same Despatch further instructs me to bring again to the notice of the Imperial Government the facility which is afforded in Brazil for the transfer of vessels from the flag of one nation to that of another, for the sole purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade.

In reply to the said Despatch, I have to assure your Lordship that I have never ceased to urge upon the Government of His Imperial Majesty as well the advantages as the propriety of acting up to the engagements which it has contracted on this subject; and of contributing to their efficacy by the adoption of preventive measures regarding the transfer of vessels from one flag to another for illicit purposes, and of all other measures subsidiary to the same desirable end. Nor shall I omit hereafter, on every suitable opportunity, to bring these important matters under its consideration. But, unfortunately, while the termination of the Session of the Legislative Assembly has again been the means of deferring the ratification of the additional Articles negotiated by Mr. Fox, as well as of postponing the consideration and adoption of other measures of importance, so also has the interregnum which so long prevailed in the Ministry been, for a time, an obstacle to any further instances on my part at the Foreign Department, and even now the Minister, *ad interim*, has not begun to receive the Diplomatic Agents accredited here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

No. 118.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 11th November, 1836.

SOME eight or ten merchants or shopkeepers established in this capital,

of whom two are French, the others natives of Portugal naturalized, have recently formed themselves into a company of underwriters, for the purpose of effecting the conveyance of slaves from the Coast of Africa to that of Brazil.

These underwriters stipulate to insure solely against capture; that not more than one-half of the amount of the speculation shall be covered, thereby compelling the insured to take a moiety of the risk on themselves; the said condition being obviously intended to protect the said underwriters from any loss which might arise from the negligence of the Captain, &c., &c.

The underwriters divide the amount of the policy equally among themselves, the premium charged being from 8 to 10 per cent., but more frequently the greater sum. The first week after the insurances commenced three slavers arrived safe, which produced 1,300,000 reis premium to each of the underwriters, or to the whole number, say ten, 13,000,000 reis, which sum, at 10 per cent., gives 130,000,000 reis as the value of half of the cargoes insured, the value of the whole being 260,000,000 reis.

The policy is so worded that no illegality is perceptible; but of this your Lordship will be able to judge yourself from the enclosed Copy of one, which, after a good deal of difficulty, I have been enabled to procure. That insurances of the above-mentioned description are the object of the association is denied by many persons; but, however incredible it may appear, I am assured by others that the fact is indisputable, and that the particulars are such as I have represented.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 118.

(Translation.)

Copy of Policy of Insurance.

Maritime Insurance.

THE Undersigned engage to pay to _____, residing at _____, for himself, or through his Agent, each to the amount stated as follows, in part of _____, for his present return voyage to Rio de Janeiro, where the responsibility of the underwriters shall cease so soon as the cargo is disembarked and landed in safety. The underwriters in this contract incur risk only in the event of capture, or of confiscation, by any Power. It being clearly agreed upon and understood that they are not answerable for risks by sea, fire, war, robbery, barratry, or any others of any nature whatever.

The underwriters are never to pay a greater sum than that of half the value of the cargo and vessel. The cargo shall be estimated by the number of bales ("volumes"—meaning individuals) which may be found on board when captured, and each bale ("volume") at the rate of _____, at which rate they are henceforth to be valued, whether they should in future fetch more or less.

The half of the value of the hull shall be fixed by arbitration, at _____. When it may happen that the moiety of the value of the prize amounts to a greater sum than has been underwritten, the underwriters shall pay only the sum which they shall have agreed for, and the insurers shall have no right to any further demand. And when it may happen that the moiety of the value of the prize amounts to a smaller sum than has been underwritten, the underwriters shall pay the whole loss, and shall refund the moiety of the premium on the amount insured exceeding the loss. It is only by intervention of the brokers, Messrs. Le Blon and David, that the insurers can effect the insurance of the remainder of the value of _____ for this voyage, to which this policy of insurance relates. The present contract, if infringed, to remain null; and the premium of insurance to be forfeited.

We have fixed this premium at _____, payable by a bill, at six months' date, which can be set off as part payment in case of loss. The payment to be made to the insurers one month after the loss and its amount shall be ascertained.

Rio de Janeiro.

No. 119.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 11th November, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit your Lordship a Paper exhibiting, correctly as I believe, the state of the Slave Traffic of the Port of Rio de Janeiro during the preceding month of October. It comprehends two lists: one of 13 vessels; arriving from the Coast of Africa; the other of 23, proceeding thither; the former being all under the flag of Portugal, the latter all but two, which were under that of Brazil.

The vessels entering had, of course, deposited their cargoes previously at some of the outports; and were said to be in ballast, by which is understood their having their fresh-water casks filled with salt-water. It is true that, on coming to an anchor, they were generally put under the guard of the police; but such a precaution is useless and illusory.

The vessels proceeding to Africa for the most part take on board what is called a cargo of coast goods, and which consists principally of British manufactures. Under the very great increase, however, which has thus taken place in the trade, the importers have found great difficulty in disposing of their cargoes so readily as before. A glut has ensued in consequence, and prices have declined. Prime slaves, newly imported, and such as some months ago would have fetched 350 to 400 milreis, have been disposed of so low as 210 milreis. In the great depôts, according to the latest accounts, there are said to exist about 8,500; at Macahé 3,000, St. Sebastião 52,000, while in the possession of individuals in this city it is estimated there may be not less than 3,000 more on sale. And on many occasions, when these last-mentioned have been landing, the Juiz de Paz of the district is said to have assisted.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 119.

Return showing the Vessels which arrived at Rio de Janeiro, from the Coast of Africa, in the month of October, 1836; and also the Ports they sailed from, and the Nation to which they belong.

Angolla . .	Brigantine . .	Portuguese . .	Donna Maria Segunda.
Benguela . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Ersina.
Angolla . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Portuense.
" . .	" . .	" . .	Twenty-sixth of May.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Caridade.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Ontario.
" . .	Patacho . .	" . .	Luiza.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Lialdade.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Eugenia.
" . .	Smack . .	" . .	Aguia.
Benguela . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	12 do Outubro.
Loanda . .	" . .	" . .	Pompeo.
Angolla . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Jupiter.

Return showing the Vessels which sailed from Rio de Janeiro, for the Coast of Africa, in the month of October, 1836, and the Nations to which they belong.

Angolla . .	Brigantine . .	Portuguese . .	Joven Africana.
" . .	Bark . .	" . .	Carolina.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Feliz.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Fortuna de Africa.
" . .	Smack . .	Brazilian . .	27 do Julho.
" . .	Bark . .	Portuguese . .	Comodoro.
" . .	Patacho . .	" . .	Activo.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Nimpha.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Venos.
" . .	" . .	" . .	Relampago.
" . .	" . .	" . .	Acciceira.
" . .	Smack . .	" . .	Firmeza.
" . .	Bark . .	" . .	Resoluçãõ.
" . .	Patacho . .	" . .	Feliz.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Heroina.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	Principe Augusto.
" . .	" . .	" . .	Pallas.
" . .	Bark . .	" . .	Julio Cezar.
" . .	Schooner . .	" . .	Carolina.
" . .	Patacho . .	" . .	Reis.
" . .	Brigantine . .	" . .	S. Domingo Eneias.
" . .	" . .	" . .	General Cabreira.
" . .	Smack . .	Brazilian . .	12 do Outubro.

No. 120.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 16, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 19th December, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatches, dated November 11th, Slave Trade Series, relative to the Company recently established in Rio de Janeiro, for insurance against capture of vessels conveying negroes from the Coast of Africa to the Coast of Brazil; and to the present state of the traffic, and of the market in Rio de Janeiro, and at some of the outports; I have the honour to lay before your Lordship a Note, which I have thought it my duty to address to the Imperial Government; concerning Copies of the Enclosures transmitted in those two

Despatches, and of a recent communication from His Majesty's Commissioners on Slave Trade affairs, narrating the particulars of a very disgraceful transaction connected therewith, which has taken place in the immediate vicinity of the capital.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 120.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to the Brazilian Government.

THE Minister Secretary of State, directing *ad interim* the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Empire, is well acquainted with the deep interest taken by the King of England, his Government, and the nation at large, in the complete suppression of that nefarious traffic which is a disgrace on the civilized world.

The efforts directed to this object have been incessant, and much has been accomplished; but with the success of those efforts the activity and the resources of the traders appear to have kept due proportion, and their evasions and artifices to be as constantly on the increase; and great watchfulness, therefore, and very assiduous labour are still indispensable to discover and counteract them.

Among the later endeavours of Great Britain to give validity to the compacts which she has made with Brazil for the attainment of this most important object, are conspicuous, first, the negotiation concluded on the 27th July of last year, of certain additional Articles stipulating for the condemnation and breaking up of vessels equipped for Slave Trade; and, secondly, the suggestion, of which the Undersigned had the honour to be the channel, by his Note, No. 2, of 29th June last, showing the utility of the law forbidding, within the territories of Brazil, the equipment of vessels for that trade; the transfer of vessels so equipped, and the entry and departure of the same; and of affixing a heavy penalty for any infraction of the law.

Unfortunately for the interests of humanity, these wise and benevolent intentions of the British Government have not been responded to by the Brazilian Legislature. The Chambers have separated, after a protracted session, without any effectual endeavour, direct or indirect, to co-operate in a labour of so much interest.

The Government of His Imperial Majesty has not been wanting, however, on its side, in assurances of a lively and sincere desire to concur with Great Britain in the measures which may be requisite to arrest for ever this intolerable scourge; assurances in which the Government of the King has been eager to place implicit credit. And unquestionably the Brazilian Executive has done much to evince its sincerity and redeem its pledge. But has the Executive received from its subordinate officers that fair and frank support which it ought to command? Have the Municipal Authorities of the Empire done all which it is competent for them to do in these matters? Have the powers with which they are invested been exerted to the utmost, loyally and without reserve? Has their co-operation been given zealously and efficiently? With circumstances such as are detailed in the papers which the Undersigned has the honour to transmit herewith, still fresh in recollection, it is hardly possible to reply in the affirmative. Of these Papers, No. 1 is a copy of a blank Policy of Insurance issued by a company of merchants recently associated in this capital, whose object, not patent, but secret, is to insure against capture vessels employed in the conveyance of slaves from the Coast of Africa to the Coast of Brazil. Of the individuals, about 10 in number, composing this association, 2 or 3 are French, the others natives of Portugal naturalized. The rate of insurance is 8, 10, 12, or more per cent., in proportion as the point of departure on the African Coast approaches the Line, and the risk of capture becomes greater. Hitherto the speculation has been highly advantageous to the underwriters, 3 slavers having arrived safely in the first week after the insurances were opened, which produced to each of the underwriters a bonus of 1,300 milreis. Enclosure No. 2 exhibits the state of the Slave Traffic, as connected with the Port of Rio de Janeiro, during the month of October last. It appears that in that period 13 vessels arrived from Africa, and 23 proceeded thither; the former being all under the flag of Portugal, the latter, with two exceptions, under that of Brazil. Of those entering, the cargoes had, of course, been deposited previously at the outports; and they were reported to be in ballast, by which is to be understood that their water-casks had been filled with salt water. It is true that, on coming to an anchor, they were generally placed under the guard of the Police; but such a precaution is altogether nugatory and fallacious. Under the increase which has thus taken place in the trade, the importers have found difficulty in disposing of their stock. A glut in the market has consequently resulted, and the price of the commodity declined. Prime slaves, such as a few months ago brought 350 or 400 milreis, have been disposed of so low as 210 milreis. In the great depôts, according to the last accounts, there are said to be about 8,500 slaves; namely, at Campos, 3,500; at Macahé, 3,000; at St. Sebastião, 2,000; while in the possession of individuals in this city, it is estimated there may be not less than 3,000 more on sale. And, on many occasions, when these last-mentioned have been landing, the Juiz de Paz of the district is said to have assisted.

The third and last enclosure is the Copy of a Letter just received from His Majesty's Commissioners on Slave Trade affairs, communicating the details of a transaction which took place last September, and came to the knowledge of the Undersigned at the time, although he was unwilling, for the credit of the Capital and the Government, to give credence to the story. On this most disgraceful occurrence, as here represented, the Undersigned forbears to comment; but he trusts, if not positively informal, that the request of His Majesty's Commissioners for a Copy of the Report made before the Juiz de Paz may be acceded to.

In bringing to a close this exposition of the measures recently recommended by Great Britain, for the more prompt abolition of the Slave Trade, of its actual state within the Imperial dominions, and of the clandestine means resorted to for its protection by its unprincipled followers and abettors, the Undersigned is happy to express his conviction that the testimony which it so unfortunately affords as

to the too frequent participation of many of the Local Authorities, and to the impunity which follows on such participation, will receive from the Minister of Justice, directing provisionally the Department of Foreign Affairs, that cool and dispassionate consideration which its importance demands. But these evils do not only perpetuate a crime repugnant to humanity, they compromise also, in the most signal manner, the interests and the moral character of the whole country; and as the power and influence of the Executive, as it is at present constituted, do really appear inadequate to provide any effectual remedy for them, the Undersigned cannot but hope that, through the interference of His Excellency, the Brazilian Government may be induced to recognize the expediency, if not on the broad principle of humanity, at least of the welfare, for the very existence of the State itself, of submitting the circumstance to the consideration of the Legislature, and, in the most earnest manner, at a very early period of the ensuing session. A remedy may be found at hand, through the combined effect of the additional Articles negotiated by Mr. Fox, of the new law suggested by the Undersigned, and of that more free and unimpeded action on the part of the Executive which the Legislature may in its wisdom confer on it. By the application of this remedy, that great achievement for which, in the name of suffering humanity, Europe has been labouring so long, and so strenuously, will be accomplished. By the rejection of it this communication will be, not lost, but deferred, and on Brazil will fall, in the interval, all the moral odium, all the guilt of the delay, and all the awful responsibility of the calamities which must ensue.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

Rio de Janeiro, 4th December, 1836.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 120.

Enclosures in Nos. 118 and 119.

His Majesty's Commissioners to Mr. Hamilton, November 29th, 1836.

(See Class A, Rio Commissioners, December 3d.)

No. 121.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 16, 1837.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 19th December, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatch, Slave Trade Series, of this date, I hasten to transmit 2 Returns which I have received since closing the above; the one of vessels engaged in the Slave Trade which have entered and departed from this port within the last 30 days, and of negroes who had previously been landed from the former; the other, of Officers of the Imperial Navy who have been recently, or are actually employed in that Traffic. these Returns also I propose to lay before the Imperial Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 121.

Particulars respecting sundry Vessels engaged in the Slave Trade that have entered this Port, in ballast, or otherwise, during the last 30 days, after having landed their Cargoes of Slaves on the Coast of Brazil.

Portuguese brig "Triunfo" arrived from Angola and Montevideo: she landed 325 slaves at the Island of Labos, in the Province of Santa Catharina, and afterwards proceeded to Montevideo, where she loaded a cargo of produce, and arrived in this port on the 28th November last.

Portuguese brig "Brilhante" entered this port on the 10th of the present month of December, from Quilimane, where she embarked 400 slaves; 75 of these died on the passage, and 325 were landed at the Island of Saint Sebastião, on the 30th November.

Portuguese smack "Jacuby," from Angola, landed 284 slaves at Ponte Negra, a few leagues to the east of this port. This vessel was formerly named the "Vencedora:" she was captured by the "Hornet" packet, in the month of January last, on the identical part of the Coast where she has now landed her cargo of slaves, but was declared by the Mixed Commission to have been illegally captured, because the Commander of the "Hornet" was not furnished with the printed Instructions referred to in the Convention for the suppression of the Slave Trade,

Portuguese schooner "Minerva," from Angola; landed 317 slaves at the estate of a person named Guimaraens, in the Ilha Grande.

Portuguese brig "Brilhante," from Quilimane; landed 408 slaves at Campos.

Portuguese brig "Aventura," from Angola; landed 423 slaves at Campos.

Portuguese brig "Aventureira," from Angola; landed 397 slaves at Itaipû, near the entrance of this port.

Portuguese schooner "Donna Joanna," arrived from Ambriz, on the 14th of this present month of December; she landed 283 slaves at Ponte Negro, a few leagues to the east of this port.

Portuguese brig "Silencio," arrived from Angola on the 15th of this present month of December; she landed 437 slaves at the estate of Joze Carlos d'Almeida Torres.

Number of slaves imported by these 9 vessels, 3,199.

Rio de Janeiro, 17th December, 1836.

Vessels about to sail for the Coast of Africa.

Portuguese bark "*Maria Carlota*" for Angola; she belongs to a person of the name of Verreira, who lately arrived here from the Island of Fayal, and is fitted out to make 2 voyages to the Coast before she returns to this Port.

Brazilian ship "*Flor de Rio*," for Angola, where it is intended, by a fictitious sale, to navigate her under the Portuguese flag; she is also fitted out for 2 voyages before she returns to this Port.

Portuguese schooner "*Flora*," for Angola; she is fitted out for one voyage only.

Portuguese schooner "*Luiza*," for Angola; fitted out for 1 voyage.

Portuguese brig "*Vente Nove do Maio*," for Angola; fitted for 2 voyages.

Portuguese brig "*Flor do Mar*," for Angola; fitted for 1 voyage.

Portuguese brig "*Tejo*," for Angola; fitted out for 1 voyage.

Portuguese brig "*Ontario*." This vessel sailed on the 4th of the present month of December, and is fitted out for 2 voyages.

Rio de Janeiro, 17th December, 1836.

Second Enclosure in No. 121.

Officers of the Brazilian Navy who have been or who are actually engaged in the Slave Trade.

First Lieutenant Diogo José Conny; sailed in command of the Portuguese schooner "*Ethiopia*," and returned to this Port after landing a cargo of slaves. He has lately been called to the Marine Service, and is now in command of the national schooner-of-war "*Doze d'Outubro*."

First Lieutenant Joaquim José d'Oliviera; sailed on 27th November last for the Coast of Africa, in command of the Portuguese brig-schooner "*Doze d'Outubro*," and returns with a cargo of slaves.

First Lieutenant Francisco Pirez do Carvalho; sailed lately from Bahia for Mozambique in command of a Portuguese barque, and returns with a cargo of slaves. This is his second voyage in the Slave Trade.

Rio de Janeiro, 17th December, 1836.

No. 122.

M. Galvao to Viscount Palmerston.

York Terrace, ce 28 Février, 1837.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, vient de recevoir de son Gouvernement des ordres positifs, de rappeler de nouveau au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique toutes les réclamations faites au sujet de la capture des navires Brésiliens "*L'Activo*" et le "*Defensor*."

Le Gouvernement Impérial ne peut considérer ces questions comme définitivement terminées, puisqu'il ne croit pas qu'elles l'aient été avec justice.

A tous les argumens, à toutes les bonnes raisons présentées par mes prédécesseurs sur cet objet, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a toujours répondu, que les indemnités réclamées ne seraient jamais payés. Cette réponse est de nature à faire renouveler la demande.

La Convention additionnelle au Traité du 22 Janvier, 1815, entre la Grande Bretagne et le Portugal, a eû pour bût de commencer graduellement cette grande émancipation de la race des nègres; mais les deux Gouvernemens, par considération pour les grands capitaux employés dans un commerce malheureusement légitime alors, et par respect pour toute propriété provenant de ce même commerce, en le déclarant illégitime, lorsqu'il était fait sur de certains endroits, ont marqué pour la capture des navires négriers des limites, des conditions, et des règles, qui devaient être rigoureusement observées par les bâtimens de guerre des deux pays qui ont souscrit à la dite Convention additionnelle.

La violation des règles établies pour tous les cas de guerre maritime, pour la légitimité des corsaires, pour les blocus, et pour les prises faites par Convention, a toujours pesé sur ceux qui l'ont pratiqué.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a toujours fondé ses refus pour payer les réclamations en question, sur l'esprit de la dite Convention additionnelle; et dans ses raisonnemens on voit toujours respirer la grande, et, sans contredit, la noble idée, de faire disparaître l'esclavage des nègres. Mais, si le Gouvernement Britannique n'a pas voulu réaliser ce grand projet entièrement par la force; s'il a permis que le commerce d'esclaves continue dans quelques pays, et pendant quelque temps; s'il a souscrit à des Articles qui règlent la manière d'empêcher partiellement ce commerce, il doit naturellement les observer, il doit se prêter à toutes les obligations qui se déduisent de l'expression littérale de la dite Convention, et du Règlement fait pour la Commission Mixte de Sierre Léone.

Cette question a déjà été mise sous la considération de son Excellence Monsieur

CLASS B.

le Vicomte Palmerston, tant de fois, que le Soussigné, en obéissance aux ordres de son Gouvernement, croit ne pas pouvoir l'affaiblir par l'omission qu'il fait de tous les motifs, et des raisons de droit qui la soutiennent; cependant le Soussigné ne laissera pas de faire observer à son Excellence, que l'Article 4^{me} des Instructions pour les navires de guerre employés à empêcher le commerce illégal d'esclaves dit — "No Portuguese merchantman or slave-ship shall, on any pretence whatever, be detained, which shall be found anywhere near the land, or on the high seas, south of the equator, unless after a chase that shall have commenced north of the equator."

Rien ne peut être plus clairement établi que la doctrine de cet Article, rien ne peut être plus clairement contraire à cette doctrine que la capture des deux navires en question; et enfin, rien de plus juste que la prétention à un dédommagement pour toutes les conséquences, pour toutes les pertes provenant d'une capture illégalement exécutée.

Les nations étant égales entre elles, et ayant, seules, le droit de punir leurs sujets, ne peuvent reconnaître, ni souffrir, sans faire des justes réclamations, aucun acte qui, par sa nature, semble les dépouiller d'un tel droit.

Le Gouvernement Impérial a soumis les navires de ses sujets employés dans le Commerce d'Esclaves aux navires de guerre de Sa Majesté Britannique seulement avec de certaines conditions: toute capture faite en contrevention de ces conditions est un acte de violence; toute propriété perdue par un tel acte doit être dédommagée.

Le Gouvernement Impérial, en vue de tous ces motifs, espère encore que celui de Sa Majesté Britannique prendra un parti juste pour décider définitivement ces questions.

Le Soussigné profite de cette occasion pour renouveler à son Excellence, Monsieur le Vicomte Palmerston, l'assurance de sa considération très distinguée.

(Signé)

M. A. GALVAO.

Son Excellence Monsieur le Vicomte Palmerston,

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

M. Galvao to Viscount Palmerston.

York Terrace, 28th February, 1837.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, has recently received from his Government positive orders to recall to the Government of His Britannic Majesty all the representations which have been made on the subject of the capture of the Brazilian vessels the "*Activo*" and "*Defensor*."

The Imperial Government cannot consider these questions as definitively terminated, for it does not believe that they have been so with justice.

To all the arguments, to all the good reasons brought forward by my predecessors upon this subject, the Government of His Britannic Majesty has always answered that the indemnities claimed should never be paid. This answer is of a nature to cause the renewal of the demand.

The additional Convention to the Treaty of the 22nd of January, 1815, between Great Britain and Portugal had for its object to commence gradually the general emancipation of the negro race; but the two Governments, out of consideration for the great capitals which were employed in a commerce, unhappily up to that time legal, and out of respect for all property arising out of that commerce, while they declared it illegal in certain parts, laid down certain limits, conditions, and rules, to be rigorously observed in the capture of slave-vessels by the vessels of war of the two countries who signed the said additional Convention.

In all cases of maritime war, of authority given to privateers, of blockade, and of prizes made under Conventions, those who violate the established rules have always been held responsible.

The Government of His Britannic Majesty has always grounded its refusal to pay the Claims in question on the spirit of the Additional Convention, and its arguments breathe throughout the grand and undoubtedly noble idea of entirely extinguishing the slavery of negroes. But if the British Government has not been willing to realize this great project entirely by force; if it has allowed that the Slave Trade may continue in certain countries, and during a certain period; if it has signed articles which regulate the means of partially preventing this commerce, it ought naturally to act up to all the obligations deduced from the literal expressions of the said Convention, and the regulations made for the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone.

This question has already been brought under the consideration of His Excellency Viscount Palmerston so often, that the Undersigned, in obedience to the orders of his Government, believes that he cannot weaken it by omitting, as he does, all the reasonings and legal arguments by which it is supported; nevertheless, the Undersigned will remark to His Excellency that the 4th Article of the Instructions for ships-of-war employed to prevent the illegal traffic in slaves, says,— "No Portuguese merchantman or slave-ship shall, on any pretence whatever, be detained, which shall be found anywhere near the land, or on the high-seas south of the equator, unless after a chase that shall have commenced north of the equator."

Nothing can be more clearly established than the doctrine of this Article; nothing can be more

clearly contrary to this doctrine than the capture of the two ships in question; and finally, nothing can be more just than the claim to an indemnification for all the consequences, for all the losses arising from a capture illegally made.

Nations being equal among each other, and having themselves alone the right to punish their subjects, cannot recognize nor allow, without making just representations, any act which by its nature appears to rob them of such right.

The Imperial Government has submitted such of its vessels and subjects as engage in the Slave Trade to the ships-of-war of His Britannic Majesty, only under certain conditions:—every capture made in contravention of these conditions is an act of violence; all property lost in consequence of such an act ought to be made good.

The Imperial Government, viewing all these arguments, still hopes that the Government of His Britannic Majesty will act with justice in deciding these questions definitively.

The Undersigned profits by this occasion, &c.

(Signed)

M. A. GALVAO.

His Excellency the Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 123.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 23.)

MY LORD,

Rio de Janeiro, 17th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Copy of a Communication which I addressed to the Brazilian Government on the subject of the "*Mindello*" slaver, whose capture and condemnation were reported in your Lordship's Despatch of the 30th September, Slave Trade Series, of last year.

Of this opportunity I took advantage to bring at the same time under the consideration of the Government the facts exhibited in the Reports Nos. 1 and 2, which I had the honour of laying before your Lordship in my Despatch of the 19th December, Slave Trade Series, of last year.

I have not the most remote idea that any immediate utility will arise from these frequent representations on my part, but they will add to the mass of evidence to be submitted to the Legislature in May next on this most opprobrious commerce; and, in the mean time, will have the effect of keeping the attention of the Government awake on a subject over which, above all others, it is disposed to slumber.

In answer to my Note of the 4th December to Senhor Pantoja, forwarded in my Slave Trade Despatch of the 19th December also of last year, I have received a confidential Letter, dated 7th January, of which your Lordship will find a Copy under No. 2; it crossed on the way the one from myself to his Excellency referred to in the first Paragraph of this Despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON..

P.S. Since writing the above, I have received the enclosed additional Returns of the arrival in this Port of ships engaged in the Slave Trade during the latter part of the month of December, 1836.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 123.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to his Excellency Senhor Gustavo Adolfo d'Aguilar Pantoja.

Rio de Janeiro, 7th January, 1837.

THE Undersigned, &c. has at different times had the honour to lay before the Minister Secretary of State directing the Department of Foreign Affairs, for the information of the Imperial Government, various reports tending to prove how intimately many of its subordinate Authorities, together with other individuals in the Empire, still participate in the detestable slave commerce carried on with so much perseverance on the Coasts of Africa.

As a Supplement to these Reports, the Undersigned has now to forward to his Excellency several other Papers connected with the commerce in question. Of these Papers one consists of a Despatch recently received by his Majesty's Government from His Majesty's Commissioner at Sierra Leone, reporting the capture and condemnation of a vessel named the "*Mindello*," sailing under the flag of Portugal, for slave-trading.

In laying this statement before the Imperial Government, the Undersigned has been instructed by His Majesty's Government to draw its particular attention to the following circumstances: 1st. That the vessel had been transferred from the flag of Brazil to that of Portugal, for the purpose of carrying on the slave traffic; 2dly. That she had been fitted out for that trade in the harbour of Rio de Janeiro; and 3dly. That ground exists for believing Brazilian subjects to have been concerned with the objects of her voyage.

This is no solitary instance illustrative of the criminal participation in the trade of His Imperial Majesty's subjects, or of foreigners living under the safeguard of Brazilian laws; it has been the painful duty of his Majesty's Legation in this country to represent many such, and on this occasion

also it becomes its duty, as it has been previously, to impress most forcibly on His Imperial Majesty's Government how necessary it is that the Legislature of Brazil should consent to the ratification of the Articles Additional to the Treaty of November, 1826, and that effectual measures also be taken to prevent slavers from making use of the Ports and Harbours of Brazil for their nefarious purposes, a practice notoriously frequent of late, but which, as it appears to His Majesty's Government, might be put down easily if the Brazilian Authorities would use measures adequate to the attainment of an object so desirable.

Of the 2 other Papers transmitted herewith, 1 is a Return of slavers which cleared out from Rio de Janeiro during the month ending December 17, and of slavers which arrived here during the same period, showing the number of negroes imported in each of the latter, and the outports where they were landed; the other Paper being a Return of Officers who hold regular Commissions in the Imperial Navy, now commanding or having recently commanded slave-vessels.

Such an appointment as the one mentioned in this last Return of Sir D. J. Conny, from the command of a slaver immediately to that of a vessel in the Imperial Navy, will hardly obtain credit abroad; but if the fact be authentic, as the Undersigned believes it to be, he would ask what interpretation it is susceptible of other than that some of the most responsible individuals of the Administration, rather than labour to suppress and abolish the traffic, as they are bound to do by their Ministerial functions, are notoriously zealous in offering a premium for its encouragement and continuance?

The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to offer to his Excellency Senhor G. A. d'Aguilar Pantoja the assurance, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

His Excellency Senhor Gustavo Adolfo d'Aguilar Pantoja.
 &c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 123.

(Translation.) *His Excellency Senhor d'Aguilar Pantoja to H. Hamilton, Esq.*

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS AND EXCELLENT SIR,

Rio de Janeiro, 7th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the confidential Note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 4th December last, and can assure your Excellency that the information which it conveys relative to the scandalous manner in which the individuals concerned in the illicit importation of negroes carry on that traffic, has caused me the greatest grief, showing, as it does, not only that they have established depôts on shore for the sale of slaves, but also that they have formed a Company for insurance against capture, as appears from the policies which your Excellency transmitted.

Your Excellency must be aware, from the Correspondence which has passed with the British Legation, that the Imperial Government is animated by the most sincere desire to put a stop to such an illicit commerce, but unfortunately it is engaged in a continual struggle with the prejudices of the greater portion of the inhabitants of the country, who have always regarded the abolition of the Slave Trade as injurious to the agriculture and the industry of the Empire; and your Excellency well knows how difficult it is to crush, by a single blow, an opinion so general, how erroneous soever it may be.

Your Excellency is also aware that it is by the flag and the subjects of Portugal these shameful proceedings are principally protected; and on this account, therefore, is it that the Imperial Government has proposed, through its Minister at London, to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, the expediency of that Government's calling upon the Government of Portugal to prohibit in its Colonies on the Coast of Africa the fitting out of vessels for the Slave Trade, this appearing to be the only efficacious method of accomplishing the humane intentions which animate both the British and Brazilian Governments; in fact it appears, through the advices received from that Minister by the Packet just arrived, that the negotiation of the above-mentioned proposal was already far advanced, and would indeed have been already concluded, but for the political disturbances which had unfortunately taken place in Portugal.

The most vigorous inquiries will be made in the Department of Justice as to the facts mentioned by your Excellency, and so soon as the Legislative Chambers shall open, the Imperial Government will not fail to urge the adoption of such means as may be calculated to prevent the commission of those atrocious acts of which the wretches employed in this traffic are so continually guilty.

I have, &c.

H. Hamilton, Esq.
 &c. &c.

(Signed) G. A. D'AGUILAR PANTOJA.

Third Enclosure in No. 123.

(Extract.)

Arrivals at Rio, December, 1836.

Particulars of sundry vessels engaged in the Slave Trade under the Portuguese flag, that have arrived at this Port of Rio de Janeiro in ballast during the latter part of the month of December, 1836, after having landed their cargoes of slaves on the Coast of Brazil.

Brig-schooner "*Flor do Rio*," from Angola; landed 314 slaves at the estate of a person named Guimaraes, in the Ilha Grande.

Schooner "*S. Joaozinho*," from Angola; landed 285 slaves at Ubatuba. This vessel is well known to belong to Joze Bernardino de Sa, a Brazilian subject, extensively engaged in the Slave Trade.

Brig "*Generoso*," from Angola; landed 340 slaves at Compos.

Brig "*Temerario*," from Angola; landed 418 slaves at Ubatuba. This vessel also belongs to Joze Bernardino de Sa, and has now made 6 voyages to the Coast.

Brig "*Vinte Quarto de Julho*," from Mozambique; embarked 800 slaves; of these 300 died on the voyage, and 500 were landed at the Island of St. Sebastiao.

(Signed)

DAVID STEVENSON.

Rio de Janeiro, 1st January, 1837.

Total number of slaves imported during the latter part of the month of December last by 5 vessels—1947.

Besides the above vessels that have arrived at this port, there are 2 or 3 that proceeded to Santos after discharging their cargoes of slaves.

By the last accounts from Angola, 55 vessels under the Portuguese flag were waiting for cargoes of slaves.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 123.

Return of Officers of the Imperial Brazilian Navy who have been recently, or are, actually engaged in the Slave Trade.

FIRST Lieutenant Diogo José Conny; sailed for Africa in command of the Portuguese schooner "*Ethiopia*," for slaves. While lying at anchor in the port of discharge, he was surprised by the Brazilian schooner-of-war "*Niger*," when he ran his vessel on shore and effected his escape, leaving behind, however, his Commission as Lieutenant, his naval uniform, and sword, all which were transmitted to the superior Authorities.

Making his re-appearance, after a convenient period, his Commission, uniform, and sword were restored to him, and he was appointed to the command of the Imperial schooner "*Doze d'Outubro*," and sent in her to Rio Grande.

FIRST Lieutenant Joaquim José d'Oliviera; sailed on the 27th November last for the coast of Africa, in command of the Portuguese brig-schooner "*Doze d'Outubro*," and returns with a cargo of slaves.

FIRST Lieutenant Francisco Pires de Carvalho; sailed lately from Bahia for Mozambique in command of a Portuguese barque, and returns with a cargo of slaves, it being his second voyage in this trade.

Individuals thus employed take the precaution not to appear in their real capacity when clearing outwards or inwards. The slave-traders generally contrive to cover the identity of the Brazilian subject who is employed as Master of a slaver by putting on board a Portuguese subject as Flag Commander, to figure before the Brazilian and Portuguese Authorities in Brazil and on the Coast of Africa; but, at the same time, the former, who is the real Master, has the sole direction of the expedition, and the confidence of the Owners.

In this last capacity is it that the three officers who are named above, and who hold regular Commissions in the Imperial navy, have been, or are, employed in this illegal commerce. When about to embark in it, they obtain leave of absence; when their voyage is ended, or their leave of absence has expired, they are again employed in the national service; and during the whole time they are thus absent on leave they receive their half-pay.

No. 124.

Viscount Palmerston to M. Galvao.

Foreign Office, 31st March, 1837.

THE Undersigned, &c. has had the honour to receive the Note addressed to him on the 28th ultimo by M. Galvao, &c., again urging the claims of the Owners of the Brazilian slave-vessels "*Activo*" and "*Perpetuo Defensor*" to compensation.

M. Galvao complains that the only answer returned by the British Government to the representations made by the Brazilian Government upon this subject has been a simple refusal to pay the indemnities claimed; but M. Galvao will find, on reference to the Papers, that the sentence of the Court of Mixed Commission left no other course open for His Majesty's Government to pursue, except to assent or to dissent to granting to the Owners of these vessels additional compensation besides costs of suit awarded by the Court.

Now the grounds upon which His Majesty's Government has refused its assent to such a grant have already been communicated to the Government of Brazil; and as the Note of M. Galvao contains no fresh arguments which can justify His Majesty's Government in taking a different view of the question, it only remains for the Undersigned to express to M. Galvao his regret at feeling himself obliged to decline to accede to the wishes of the Brazilian Government with respect to these claims.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

BRAZIL CONSULAR.

No. 125.

Mr. Robillard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 23, 1836.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Bahia, 31st December, 1835.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the enclosed lists, A and B, of the vessels which have cleared out from Bahia for the Coast of Africa, and have entered this port from that coast within the 6 months ending the 31st December, 1835.

I subscribe myself, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. ROBILLARD,

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

Vice Consul.

&c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 125.

A.—List of Vessels that have arrived at this Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of July, 1835, to 31st December, 1835.

No.	Date.	Nation.	Class.	Name of Vessel.	Tonnage.	Number of Days.	Name of Master.	Number of Crew.	From Whence.	Remarks.
1	July 18	Brazilian	Brig	Tiberio	240	40	F. Nunes Lopez	19	Unim	Included in her Crew, 4 Slaves. A Passenger;—1 Slave. Reported Cargo—Powder.
2	August 3	Portuguese	Schooner	Vigilant	139	33	José F. da Rocha	11	Loanda	
3	September 10	Spanish	Ditto	Joven Maria	128	20	José de Gascay	19	Havana	
4	" "	Ditto	Ditto	Explorador	105	20	José Inje	31	Angola	
5	" "	Portuguese	Ditto	D. Anna	130	25	M. José Pereira	16	Angola	
6	" "	Ditto	Brig-schooner	Palmyra	270	13	J. Ant. de Freitas	13	Ilhe de Prncipio	
7	November 24	Spanish	Brig	Fortuna	228	26	Joao Sayvenas	40	Ditto	
8	December 8	Brazilian	Brig	Esquadro	228	32	F. Tho. Araia	15	Ajuda	
9	" "	Ditto	Brig-schooner	Don Pedro II.	148	75	Mannet José	10	Havana	
10.	" "	Portuguese	Brig	Fortuna	180	26	A. D. B. Ramos	26	Ajuda	

A true List as taken from the Records at the Government Palace.

Bahia, 31st December, 1835.

(Signed)

JOHN H. ROBILLARD, Vice-Consul.

Second Enclosure in No. 125.

B.—List of Vessels sailed from this Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, from 1st of July, 1835, to the 31st of December, 1835.

No.	Date.	Nation.	Class.	Number of Crew.	Tonnage.	Cargo.	Name of Master.	Name of Vessel.	Where Bound.
1	July 5	Spanish	Brig	32	104	Tobacco and Rum	Joao Mancho	Vigilant	Island of St. Thomé.
2	" 9	Portuguese	Brig-schooner	24	150	Sundries	Joaquim F. Coelho	Felicidade	Havana.
3	" 24	Brazilian	Brig	17	280	Tobacco and Rum	J. D. Leix	Novo Destino	Coast of Africa.
4	August 5	Spanish	Schooner	34	229	Ditto	Jeremmo Vellas	Manoelita	Ditto
5	" 19	Portuguese	Brig-schooner	14	140	Not stated.	J. H. d'Oliviera	Comete	Azores.
6	" 21	Ditto	Ditto	25	150	Tobacco, &c.	L. C. Freitas	Novo Iaveje	Angola.
7	September 3	Ditto	Ditto	25	180	Sundries	Joao Pereira	Teresa	Island of St. Thomé, or St. Thomas.
8	" 20	Spanish	Ditto	24	116	Rum, &c.	José Gorag	Joven Maria	Island of Principe, or Prince's Island.
9	" 27	Ditto	Ditto	33	81	Tobacco, &c.	José d'Yaze	Esplorador	Ditto
10	October 14	Ditto	Schooner	9	150	Ditto	J. Esela	Mosca	Coast of Africa.
11	" 21	Portuguese	Brig	20	270	Ditto	J. B. Vieira	Funchalina	Angola.
12	November 6	Ditto	Brig-schooner	26	270	Ditto	J. Ido Freitas	Palmyra	Island of St. Thomas.
13	December 26	Brazilian	Brig	19	266	Sundries	J. N. Lopis	Tiberio	Coast of Africa.

A true List as taken from the Records at the Government Palace.

Bahia, 31st December, 1835.

(Signed)

JOHN H. ROBILLARD, Vice-Consul.

No. 126.

Edward Watts, Esq. to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 17.)

MY LORD,

British Consulate, Pernambuco, 17th March, 1836.

SUCH is the notorious laxity of the Government and the strong incitements to the cupidity of lucre, that the illicit traffic in slaves is prosecuted with entire impunity all along the whole Coast of Brazil.

Very recently several cargoes of slaves have been landed within the vicinities of this port, and particularly a cargo of 400 slaves, which were immediately taken into the interior and distributed amongst the *engenhos*, or sugar-plantations, in the neighbourhood.

Secrecy is scarcely observed on these occasions, and the total impotence of the Provisional Government to adopt energetic means to repress the audacity of this nefarious traffic is confidently relied upon, and serves only to embolden it.

In former times, when that inhuman traffic was pursued without molestation, the produce derived from the sale of a slave scarcely ever exceeded 150 milreis.

A duty was then levied by the Government on the importation of slaves of 12 milreis a-head.

At present the sale of a slave generally produces 400 milreis; and the price of purchase on the African Coast is now computed at 70 milreis. Although the casualties of life are sometimes great on the voyage, yet the enormous gain which ultimately results from that traffic is unfortunately too great a temptation for human cupidity to resist under circumstances which almost ensure ultimate impunity.

The above information I have derived from a person of respectable character here, who was engaged in the traffic of slaves on the Coast of Africa during the former period. This person has also explained to me the system upon which that trade is now prosecuted. At this port the agents from the several *engenhos* resort to make their arrangements with the principals or their representatives engaged in the Slave Trade. One common interest unites these persons in their combinations and arrangements to elude detection or avoid impediments. The periods of the expected return of the slave-vessels are closely calculated, when *jaugados* or rafts are sent out to sweep the coast in the vicinity and make signals, which are answered or anticipated by the slavers; when the men in the *jaugados* repair on board to pilot the vessel to a place of safety for effecting the landing of the slaves, where other signals are also made to deter or encourage, as the case may be. Alarm, in the former event, is soon given, and the slaver is piloted to some other landing place of greater security. Even the municipal officers of the Government are cognizant of these practices; many connive, and more even lend their aid on occasion, for a slight reward.

The intelligence ultimately reaches the knowledge of *Government*, when all the slaves have already been safely landed and distributed among the sugar plantations, whose measures are consequently ineffective and nugatory. The slaver is refitted and proceeds on another voyage. The Portuguese Authorities on the Coast of Africa, fully aware of the illicit trade carried on, supply, upon application, official declarations that the return cargo of the slaver consists of ivory, wax, and other produce of that Coast, although well knowing that the cargo in question is composed wholly of slaves. It is currently reported that since the commencement of this year 19 vessels have been fitted out at this port for the African Slave Trade. They are navigated under the flag of Portugal. Three slavers are now expected here from the African Coast.

I bring the above rumours to your Lordship's notice because they are confidently asserted by the voice of the public; but the following particulars are derived from facts correctly ascertained:—The 4 vessels here undermentioned landed their respective cargoes of slaves within the vicinities of this port within the last month.

The Portuguese brig formerly called "*Leal Portuense*," now the "*Rio Douro*," loaded at Angola 350 slaves and upwards, reported to have been robbed on the Coast of Africa, by a schooner under Spanish colours, of 200 slaves; the remainder brought to the Coast of Brazil, to the south of Cape Saint Augustin, landed and sold. The 4 *de Agosto* landed a cargo of slaves, and the whole were instantly sold.

The "*Feiteceira*" landed several slaves, number not known, at Sarinham in this neighbourhood, which were sold at 350 milreis a head.

The "*Formiga*," Portuguese schooner, entered on the 7th instant, put back from Angola, said to be bound to Cape de Verd.

In addition to the above intelligence I have to mention that the Portuguese brig "*Josefa*," 146 tons and 19 men, cleared from this on the 23d February, 1836, for Angola; cargo 45 barrels and 65 bags of sugar, 27 puncheons of rum.

The Brazilian pataxo "*Bom Fim*," of 181 tons and 17 men, cleared from this port for Angola on the 28th of January, 1836; cargo 43 barrels of sugar, 44 pipes rum, and 44 puncheons of molasses.

His Majesty's ship "*Harriet*," having recently arrived at this port from Bahia, I have communicated to her Commander, Captain Carew, the intelligence of the expected arrival of 3 slavers from the African Coast, with the concerted arrangements to avoid detection; and he intends, on his approaching departure hence, to cruize to the northward and southward of this port.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD WATTS,

His Britannic Majesty's Consul.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

FRANCE.

No. 127.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7, 1836.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 4th March, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 27th ultimo, and, in conformity with the Instructions contained in it, I have addressed a Note to M. Thiers, proposing that a Note of invitation, couched in the terms of the Draft which I received from your Lordship, should be forwarded by the British and French Governments respectively to the Official Agents of Great Britain and France at Hamburg, to be presented by them to the Governments of the Free Hanseatic Cities, for the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 128.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 21.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 18th March, 1836.

IN my Slave Trade Despatch of the 4th instant, I informed your Lordship that, in conformity with your Instructions, I had addressed a Note to M. Thiers, proposing that the British and French Official Agents at Hamburg should respectively, in a Note (couched in the terms of the Draft enclosed in your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 27th February), invite the Governments of the Free Hanseatic Towns to accede to the Conventions of 1831 and 1833, concluded between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

I now have the honour to enclose to your Lordship a Copy of his Excellency's Reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 128.

M. Thiers to Earl Granville.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 14th March, 1836.

I HAVE received, with the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 4th instant, the project of a Note, which the Government of His Britannic Majesty proposes to transmit to the Senates of the Free Towns of Lubeck, Bremen, and Hamburg, in concert with the Government of the King, to request their accession to the Conventions subsisting between France and Great Britain, relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Government of the King is entirely disposed to join in this measure; but as the affairs of France at Hamburg are at present carried on by a Chancelier of Legation only, it is desirable to defer it until the chief of the mission returns to his post, which he will do shortly.

I pray your Excellency to have the goodness to communicate this wish to your Government.

(Signed)

A. THIERS.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 129.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 25th March, 1836.

I HAVE received your Excellency's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 18th instant, and I have to desire that your Excellency will state to M. Thiers that, in conformity with the suggestion of his Excellency, I have instructed His

Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburgh to delay, until further orders, to make the overture proposed to the Hanse Towns, for their accession to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 130.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 24.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 22d April, 1836.

YOUR Lordship will perceive, upon reference to the Enclosure in my Slave Trade Despatch of the 18th ultimo, that M. Thiers suggested that there should be a delay in the presentation, by the British and French Official Agents at Hamburgh, of the Note inviting the Free Hanseatic Towns to accede to the Slave Trade Conventions of 1831 and 1833, between Great Britain and France, until the French Minister then absent should return to his post.

I have this day received a Note from M. Thiers, a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose, notifying to me that the French Secretary of Legation at Hamburgh having received orders to repair thither as Chargé d'Affaires, the French Government are now ready to co-operate with his Majesty's Government in making the proposed overture to the Hanse Towns.

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

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Enclosure in No. 130.

(Translation.)

M. Thiers to Earl Granville.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 22d April, 1836.

THE Secretary of His Majesty's Legation at Hamburgh has received orders to return to his post to act as Chargé d'Affaires. The King's Government is therefore able to co-operate in the measures proposed by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, in order to obtain the accession of the Free Hanseatic Towns to the Conventions existing between France and Great Britain for the repression of the trade (*in slaves*.)

I request that you will make this communication known to your Government, and to receive the assurances, &c.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) A. THIERS.

No. 131.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 6th May, 1836.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Excellency's Despatches, marked Slave Trade, up to the 22d of April last.

I herewith transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, the Copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburgh, instructing him to proceed to make, jointly with the Chargé d'Affaires of France, the overture for the accession of the Free Hanseatic Republics to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 131.

(See Despatch to Mr. Canning, of 30th April, 1836.)

No. 132.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 19.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 16th May, 1836.

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 6th of May, I communicated, in a Note to the French Government, the Instruction which you had addressed to His Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburgh, directing him to proceed to make, conjointly with the Chargé d'Affaires of France, the overture for the accession of the Free Hanseatic Towns to the recent Slave Trade Conventions between Great Britain and France.

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship a Copy of the Reply which I have received from M. Thiers.

I have, &c.

GRANVILLE.

(Signed)

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 132.

M. Thiers to Earl Granville.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, 12th May, 1836.

I HAVE received, with the Letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me the 9th of this month, a Copy of the Instructions transmitted to the Consul-General of His Britannic Majesty at Hamburgh, on the subject of the measures to be taken with the Senates of the Hanseatic Towns, with a view of obtaining their accession to the Conventions concluded between France and Great Britain for the repression of the traffic in slaves.

I thank your Excellency for this communication: the Chargé d'Affaires of the King at Hamburgh has been furnished with similar Instructions.

(Signed)

A. THIERS.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 133.

Viscount Palmerston to Count Sebastiani.

Foreign Office, 31st May, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to state to his Excellency the Count Sebastiani, &c., that, in pursuance of the 9th Article of the Convention, concluded on the 30th November, 1831, between His Majesty and the King of the French for the suppression of the Slave Trade, His Majesty's representatives at the Courts of Austria, Russia, and Prussia were instructed to express His Majesty's earnest wish that the Sovereigns of those countries should accede to the before-mentioned Convention, and to the Convention supplementary thereto, concluded on the 22d of March, 1833.

Although this invitation on the part of His Majesty was not acceded to by the Courts of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, nevertheless those 3 Courts expressed an anxious desire to lend their aid towards the final extinction of a trade abhorrent to the principles of humanity, and proposed that their representatives at the Court of St. James's should meet in conference with the French Ambassador and the Undersigned, for the purpose of making arrangements for the accomplishment of the benevolent object which His Majesty's Government have in view.

The Undersigned has since applied to the representatives of the 3 Courts to ascertain whether they had received Instructions from their respective Governments for the before-mentioned purpose.

The Undersigned has received Answers from the Russian Ambassador and from the Prussian Envoy that they are formally and duly authorized to take part, jointly with the Plenipotentiary of Austria, in the proposed negotiation for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Austrian Minister has replied that he has not yet received formal authority to take part in the proposed negotiation, but that he has no doubt that the requisite authority will speedily be furnished to him.

Upon the receipt of these communications the Undersigned did not delay to prepare the Draft of a Treaty which appeared to him to comprise all the leading stipulations to which the other Powers of Europe had at different times agreed. The Undersigned has the honour to enclose to M. de Sebastiani a Copy of this

Draft of Treaty, and has to request that his Excellency will submit the same for the consideration of the French Government, previously to its being proposed in conference to the representatives of Austria, Russia, and Prussia.

The French Government will observe that the limits proposed for the right of search, in this Draft, are more extensive than those which are specified in the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France; but it has been strongly represented to His Majesty's Government that those last-mentioned limits are too narrow for the complete and effectual accomplishment of the objects of the Conventions, and that it is exceedingly desirable to extend them.

His Excellency Count Sebastiani,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) I have, &c.
PALMERSTON.

No. 134.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 16th June, 1836.

YOU will perceive, from the accompanying Extract of a Letter which I have received from Mr. Temple, His Majesty's Minister at Naples, that the negotiations for the accession of Naples to the Conventions between Great Britain and France for the repression of the Slave Trade have been delayed in consequence of the absence of the French Ambassador from Naples.

Your Excellency is aware how extremely anxious His Majesty's Government is for the total abolition of the Slave Trade, and the importance it attaches to the obtaining the consent of all the Maritime Powers to prohibit that traffic from being carried on under their flag or by their subjects; experience affording but too good grounds for apprehending that whilst the flag of a single Power remains open, daring and unprincipled adventurers will be found ready to avail themselves of it to cover their illegal slave-trading transactions.

In order, therefore, to expedite the completion of the Treaty in question with as little delay as possible, I have to instruct your Excellency to request the French Government to authorize its Chargé d'Affaires at Naples to act upon the Instructions which had been transmitted to the French Ambassador at that Court to co-operate with His Majesty's Minister in the conclusion of the Treaty of Accession.

(Signed) I have, &c.
PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 134.

Extract of a Letter from the Hon. W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston.

Naples, 9th January, 1836.

"THE Duke of Gualtieri appeared willing to renew negotiations for entering into the Treaty for putting down the Slave Trade, which had been deferred in consequence of the absence of the French Ambassador and of Prince Cassaro. As, however, there does not seem to be any probability of Prince Cassaro's return for a long time, and as it is improbable that another Ambassador will be sent from France at a very early period, it would be desirable that the French Chargé d'Affaires here, Monsieur de Béarn, should be instructed by his Government to execute the orders sent out to the French Ambassador, M. de Mareine, as M. de Béarn informed me that he would not feel himself authorized to do so without hearing from his Government on the subject. The example of Sardinia has had great weight with this country, and there would be no unwillingness to make the same Treaty, *mutatis mutandis*, on the part of the Neapolitan Government."

No. 135.

M. de Bourgueney to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 19.)

MILORD,

Londres, ce 18me Juillet, 1836.

LA corvette Française "*La Triomphante*," commandée par M. de Péronne, Capitaine de Frégate, devant partir très-incessamment pour se rendre à la Côte Occidentale d'Afrique, afin d'y rester en station, il serait nécessaire que ce bâtiment eût à sa disposition un mandat Anglais, en vertu duquel il fût autorisé à visiter les navires Anglais soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite des noirs. J'ai l'honneur de

m'adresser à votre Excellence pour obtenir ce mandat, et de la prier de vouloir bien me le faire parvenir le plus promptement possible la corvette "*La Triomphante*," devant partir très-prochainement.

Veillez agréer, Milord, la nouvelle assurance de ma plus haute considération.
Son Excellence Lord Palmerston, (Signé) **BOURGUENÉY.**
 &c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 18th July, 1836.

THE French corvette the "*Triomphante*," commanded by M. de Peronne, Capitaine de Frégate, being about to depart very soon for the Western Coast of Africa, on which she is to be stationed, it will be necessary that she should be provided with an English warrant, in virtue of which she may be authorized to visit English ships suspected of being employed in the Slave Trade. I have the honour of addressing myself to your Excellency to obtain this warrant, which I beg you will have the goodness to forward to me as promptly as possible, as the "*Triomphante*" is to set sail almost immediately.

Accept, my Lord, &c.
His Excellency Lord Palmerston,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) **BOURGUENÉY.**

No. 136.

Viscount Palmerston to M. de Bourgueney.

Foreign Office, 22d July, 1836.

THE Undersigned, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has had the honour to receive the Letter which M. de Bourgueney, Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of the French, addressed to him on the 18th instant, on the subject of a warrant for authorizing a French cruiser to search British vessels, in virtue of the several Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade. The Undersigned has now the honour to forward to M. de Bourgueney, for transmission to his Government, a warrant for the French corvette "*La Triomphante*," the vessel named in the Letter from M. de Bourgueney.

The Undersigned avails himself, &c.

M. de Bourgueney,
 &c. &c.

(Signed) **PALMERSTON.**

No. 137.

M. Bourgueney to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 20.)

MILORD,

Londres, ce 19me Septembre, 1836.

J'AI l'honneur d'adresser ajoin à votre Excellence les trois mandats délivrés à la corvette "*La Thisbé*," au bric "*Le Cuirassier*," et à la corvette de charge "*La Nièvre*," et qui sont devenus inutiles par suite de nouvelles destinations données à ces bâtimens. Le Ministre de la Marine désirerait obtenir trois mandats analogues pour les bâtimens dont les noms suivent :

La frégate " <i>L'Andromède</i> "	Capitaine Henri de Villeneuve, Capitaine de Vaisseau.
La corvette " <i>L'Ariane</i> "	Capitaine Duchanteilly, Capitaine de Frégate.
La goëlette " <i>La Fine</i> "	Capitaine Mallet, Lieutenant de Vaisseau.

J'ai l'honneur de prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien me mettre à même de satisfaire au désir de mon Gouvernement.

Veillez agréer, Milord, l'assurance de ma plus haute considération.
Son Excellence Lord Palmerston, (Signé) **BOURGUENÉY.**
 &c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 19th September, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the accompanying 3 warrants issued to the corvette "*La Thisbé*," the brig "*Le Cuirassier*," and the corvette "*La Nièvre*," and which have become unserviceable in consequence of the change in the destination of these vessels. The Minister of Marine desires to obtain 3 similar warrants for the following ships:—

The Frigate <i>L'Andromède</i>	<i>Brazilian Station.</i>	Captain Henri de Villeneuve.
Corvette <i>L'Ariane</i>		— Duchantilly.

African Station.

The Schooner *La Fine* Captain Mallet,
 I have the honour to request your Excellency to enable me to satisfy the wishes of my Government,
 Accept, My Lord, &c.
 His Excellency *Viscount Palmerston,* (Signed) **BOURGUENEY.**
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 138.

*Viscount Palmerston to M. de Bourgueney.**Foreign Office, 27th October, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, &c., with reference to the Letter addressed to him on the 19th ultimo, by M. de Bourgueney, &c., has the honour to enclose warrants, under the Conventions on Slave Trade between Great Britain and France, for the under-mentioned ships of the French navy: "*L'Andromède*," "*L'Ariane*," "*La Fine*."

The Undersigned, &c.
 (Signed) **PALMERSTON.**
M. de Bourgueney,
 &c. &c.

No. 139.

*Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.**Foreign Office, 27th October, 1836.*

MY LORD,

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency the Extract of a Letter from the Admiralty, returning the warrants which were issued by the French Government to 9 of His Majesty's ships employed as cruizers under the Conventions with France for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and I have to request that, in returning these warrants to the French Government, your Lordship will request that 6 similar warrants may be issued for the ships of His Majesty named in the Letter from the Admiralty above mentioned.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) **PALMERSTON.**

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 139.

*Extract of a Letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty to the Hon. Fox Strangways.**20th October, 1836.*

"I RETURN to you herewith warrants issued by the French Government to His Majesty's ships

Trinculo	African Station.
Britomart	Ditto.
Satellite	Brazilian Station.
Spartiate	Ditto.
North Star	Ditto.
Vernon	West India Station.
Comus	Ditto.
Pike	Ditto.
Scylla	Ditto.

And I am to request you will move Viscount Palmerston to cause these warrants to be returned to the French Government, with a request that similar warrants may be supplied for the following of His Majesty's ships:—

Dolphin, Lieutenant T. L. Roberts	African Station.
Imogene, Captain W. N. Bruce	Brazilian Station.
Racer, Commander James Hope	West India Station.
Nimrod, Commander John Frazer	Ditto.
Harpy, Lieutenant the Hon. G. R. A. Clements	Ditto.
Satellite, Commander John Robb	Ditto.

(Signed) **JOHN BARROW.**

No. 140.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 31st October, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency the Copy of a Note which, by His Majesty's Commands, I addressed to the Count Sebastiani on the 31st of May last, by

which your Excellency will perceive that the Draft of a Treaty between His Majesty the King of the French, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia, having for its object the entire suppression of the Slave Trade, had been prepared and submitted to the French Government previously to its being proposed in conference in London to the representatives of Austria, Russia, and Prussia.

It is now more than 4 months since this Draft of Treaty has been under the consideration of the French Government, but no intimation has yet been made to His Majesty's Government of the views of the French Government upon the subject; I have, therefore, received His Majesty's Commands to instruct your Excellency to bring the subject to the notice of the French Ministers, and to express the hope of His Majesty's Government that the stipulations of the proposed Draft of Treaty may be found unobjectionable, and that the French Ambassador at London may be authorized to propose the same in conference, conjointly with myself, to the representatives of Austria, Russia, and Prussia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 140.

Note to Count Sebastiani, 31st May, 1836.

No. 141.

Count Sebastiani to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 25.)

MILORD,

Londres, ce 24me Novembre, 1836.

J'AI l'honneur d'adresser ajoin à votre Excellence six mandats destinés aux Capitaines des bâtimens ci-après désignés, et qui autorisent ces Officiers à visiter les vaisseaux Français soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite des noirs:—

Dauphin	Lieutenant S. L. Roberts.
L'Imogène	Capitaine Bruce.
Racer	Commandant Hope.
Nimrod	Commandant Frazer.
Harpie	Lieutenant G. Clements.
Satellite	Commandant J. Robb.

Je joins également à ma lettre deux mandats délivrés par le Gouvernement Britannique pour les bâtimens "La Náyade" et "L'Inconstant."

Le Gouvernement Français désirant envoyer quatre nouveaux bâtimens en croisière, me charge de demander à votre Excellence les mandats nécessaires pour autoriser leurs Commandants à visiter les vaisseaux soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite des noirs. Les bâtimens sont—

La frégate La Minerve	Station du Brésil.	Capitaine Herdrain.
Les brics Le Bassard		Le Tourneur.
— L'Alacrité		Hamet Clerly.

La corvette La Náyade	Station des Antilles.	Capitaine Guindet.
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Veuillez agréer, Milord, la nouvelle assurance de ma haute considération.

Son Excellence Lord Palmerston,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signé)

H. SEBASTIANI.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 24th November, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency 6 warrants destined for the Commanders of the vessels hereinafter named, and which authorize those Officers to visit French vessels suspected of engaging in the Slave Trade.

Dauphin	Lieutenant Roberts.
Imogene	Captain Bruce.
Racer	Commander Hope.
Nimrod	Commander Frazer.
Harpy	Lieutenant Clements.
Satellite	Commander J. Robb.

I enclose also 2 warrants issued by the British Government for the vessels "La Náyade" and "L'Inconstant."

As the French Government desires to send 4 other vessels to cruise, I am charged to require from

your Excellency the warrants necessary to authorize their Commanders to visit vessels suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade: the vessels are—

	<i>Brazilian Station.</i>	
The Frigate La Minerve	. . .	Captain Herdrain.
Brig Le Cassare	. . .	——— Le Tourneur.
—— L'Alacrité	——— Hamet Clery.
	<i>Antilles.</i>	
The Corvette La Nayade	. . .	Captain Guindet.
		Accept, &c.
<i>His Excellency Lord Palmerston,</i>		(Signed) H. SEBASTIANI.
<i>&c. &c. &c.</i>		

No. 142.

*Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.**Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.*

MY LORD,

HIS Majesty's Government have been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade.

It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba; and the accompanying Extract of a Report which His Majesty's Government has lately received from the Havana will show how largely French subjects are concerned in that traffic.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with slave-traders.

I have, therefore, to instruct your Excellency to request the French Government to issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign parts to make publicly known the engagements which France has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all French subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 143.

*Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.**Foreign Office, 17th December, 1836.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE received a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, reporting that the cargoes of several vessels about to be employed in the Slave Trade had been shipped by the French house Forçade and Co., of Havana.

Your Excellency will not fail to draw the immediate attention of the French Government to this assertion, and that Government will doubtless take effectual steps to prevent French subjects from aiding in future in any way whatever the traffic in slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 144.

*Viscount Palmerston to Count Sebastiani.**Foreign Office, 22d December, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, &c. has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Letter addressed to him on the 24th ultimo by the Count Sebastiani, &c., and to

CLASS B.

acquaint his Excellency that the Warrants under the Conventions on Slave Trade, contained in that Letter, have been forwarded to the Board of Admiralty.

The Undersigned now transmits to the Count Sebastiani 4 Warrants for the vessels of the French Navy, named by his Excellency in his Letter above mentioned, together with the Warrants issued by the French Admiralty for His Majesty's ships Hyacinth, Snake, and Rapid.

His Excellency Count Sebastiani,
 &c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 145.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 27th December, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatch to your Excellency of the 23d January, 1834, upon the subject of the proposed invitation to Maritime Powers to accede to the Conventions concluded between Great Britain and France on the 30th November, 1831, and 22d 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 Government of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, which you will submit to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, proposing at the same time that the French Minister at Florence should be instructed to address a similar invitation to the Government of the Grand Duke.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 145.

Draft of Note enclosed to Mr. Abercrombie, 27th December, 1836.

No. 146.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 27th December, 1836.

REFERRING your Excellency to my Despatch of the 31st October last, on the subject of the prepared Draft of a Treaty between His Majesty the King of the French, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia, having for its object the entire suppression of the Slave Trade, I have to request that your Excellency will bring the subject again to the notice of the French Government, expressing our hope that it will find nothing in the Draft to which it will see reason to object, and that the French Ambassador in London may be authorized to concur with me in proposing this Draft to the representatives of Austria, Russia, and Prussia at this Court.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 147.

M. de Bourgueney to Viscount Palmerston.

MILORD,

Londres, le 12me Janvier, 1837.

Le canonière-bric, "*La Malonine*," commandée par M. Edouard Penaud Lieutenant de Vaisseau, ayant été désignée pour faire partie de la station extérieure d'Afrique, j'ai l'honneur de prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien me faire adresser un mandat de l'Amirauté Anglaise, qui autorise ce bâtiment à visiter les navires de commerce Anglais soupçonnés de se livrer à la traite des noirs.

Veillez agréer, Milord, &c.
 (Signé) BOURGUENEY.

Son Excellence Lord Palmerston, G.C.B.
 &c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, January 12th, 1837.

THE gun-brig "*La Malonine*," commanded by Mr. Edward Penaud, Lieutenant, being destined to serve on the outer African station, I have the honour to request your Excellency to have the goodness to procure for me a warrant from the British Admiralty, to authorize this vessel to visit British merchant-vessels suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade.

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

Accept my Lord, &c.
(Signed) BOURGUENEY.

No. 148.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, 17th January, 1837.

BY my Despatches, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th and 17th of last month, your Excellency was instructed to draw the attention of the French Government to the fact, that certain French subjects resident at the Havana were extensively engaged in Slave Trade, unchecked by any endeavour on the part of the French Consul in that port to prevent undertakings which France, in pursuance of her engagements with this country, has expressly forbidden to her subjects.

The accompanying Copy of a Despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro shows that the evil complained of is not confined to the Port of Havana; and I have to instruct your Excellency to bring to the notice of the French Minister the statement made by Mr. Hamilton, as to the association of two French subjects with a company of underwriters which has been formed at Rio de Janeiro, for the purpose of insuring slave-vessels against losses by capture and condemnation.

Your Lordship will take this occasion to express the hope of His Majesty's Government, that the French Government will not delay to issue the Instructions which by my Despatch, No. 9, above mentioned, your Excellency was instructed to request might be sent to the Ministers and Consuls of France resident in foreign ports, to warn and exhort French subjects against engaging in the Slave Trade in any manner whatever.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 149.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 19.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 16th January, 1837.

REFERRING to your Lordship's Slave Trade Despatches of the 15th and 17th of last year, relative to the traffic in slaves which is still carried on in the Island of Cuba by certain French subjects, I have the honour to enclose the copy of a Note which I have received from Count Molé in answer to my representation, stating that he will cause inquiries to be made upon the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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

Enclosure in No. 149.

(Translation.)

Count Molé to Earl Granville.

M. L'AMBASSADEUR,

I HAVE received the Communications which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 2d of this month, on the subject of the participation of certain Frenchmen in the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba.

I am about to cause inquiry to be made as to the facts to which your Excellency has called my attention, and I will take care to communicate to you the proceedings which it may seem to me proper to institute thereupon.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) MOLE.

No. 150.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 19.)

MY LORD,

Paris, 16th January, 1837.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch of the 27th December last, transmitting to me the Draft of a Note inviting the Government of the Grand Duke of Tuscany to accede to the Slave Trade Conventions of 1831 and 1833, concluded between Great Britain and France, in which Despatch you instruct me to propose to the French Government that a similar invitation should be presented to the Tuscan Government by the French Minister at Florence, you will perceive by the enclosed Copy of a Note, which Count Molé has addressed to me, that the French Government agree to the proposition.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 150.

Count Molé to Earl Granville.

M. L'AMBASSADEUR,

Paris, le 15me Janvier, 1837.

VOTRE Excellence m'a transmis, par sa Note du 4me de ce mois, la proposition d'inviter la Cour de Toscane à accéder aux Conventions conclues entre le Roi et Sa Majesté Britannique au sujet de la répression de la traite des noirs.

Le Gouvernement du Roi se trouve tout disposé à réclamer cette accession, de concert avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique; je vais, en conséquence, transmettre au Ministre résident de France à Florence une traduction du projet du Note que votre Excellence m'a communiqué, et je l'inviterai à se concerter avec le Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique dans la même résidence pour passer simultanément une Note conforme au Gouvernement de Son Altesse Royale le Grand Duc de Toscane.

Agréé, &c.

(Signed) MOLE.

Son Excellence Comte Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

Paris, 15th January, 1837.

YOUR Excellency transmitted to me, in your Note of the 4th instant, a proposal to invite the Court of Tuscany to accede to the Conventions concluded between the King and His Britannic Majesty, on the subject of the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Government of the King is entirely disposed to invite this accession in concert with the Government of His Britannic Majesty; I will, in consequence, transmit to the Minister of France resident at Florence a Translation of the project of Note which your Excellency has sent to me, and I will instruct him to concert with the Minister of His Britannic Majesty resident at that place the simultaneous presentation of this Note to the Government of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MOLE.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 151.

Count Sebastiani to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 31, 1837.)

MILORD,

Londres, le 24me Décembre, 1836.

J'AI l'honneur de transmettre cijoint à votre Excellence trois mandats délivrés par l'Amirauté Britannique aux Commandants des bâtimens Français "La Créole," "La Badine," et "La Bordelaise." Ces mandats sont devenus inutiles, par suite de la décision qui a changée la destination de ces bâtimens.

Veuillez agréer, Milord,

(Signed)

H. SEBASTIANI.

Son Excellence Lord Palmerston, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, 24th December, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency three warrants issued by the British Admiralty to the commanders of the French vessels "La Créole," "La Badine," and "La Bordelaise." These warrants have become unserviceable in consequence of the change in the destination of these vessels.

Accept, my Lord, &c.

(Signed) H. SEBASTIANI.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 152.

*Viscount Palmerston to M. de Bourgueney.**Foreign Office, 15th February, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, &c. has the honour to transmit to M. de Bourgueney, &c. a warrant, as requested by M. de Bourgueney in his Letter of the 12th ultimo, authorizing the French brig-of-war "*La Malonine*" to visit British merchant-vessels under the Conventions between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

M. de Bourgueney,
&c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

DENMARK.

No. 153.

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

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

HIS Majesty's Government has been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana, by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade.

It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders.

I have, therefore, to instruct you to request the Danish Government to issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports, to make publicly known the engagements which Denmark has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and also to warn and exhort all Danish subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

I am, &c.

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

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 154.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, 12th January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 15th ultimo, of this Series, relating to the omission on the part of the Powers who have concluded Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, to inform their Consuls at Havana and other ports of the stipulations into which they have entered.

I have now the honour of transmitting a Copy of the Note, in which I have communicated to the Danish Minister the substance of your Lordship's Despatch. On conversing on the subject with M. de Krabbe he admitted the propriety of the representations, as far as this Government was concerned, ascribing the omission to the circumstance of the Consular correspondence being in the Department of Commerce. He promised, however, that this omission should be immediately corrected, and Instructions sent to the Danish Consuls to use every endeavour to enforce the stipulations of a Treaty, to the due execution of which His Danish Majesty attached so much importance.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

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

Enclosure in No. 154.

*Sir H. W. W. Wynn to M. de Krabbe.**Copenhagen, 27th December, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has the honour to inform His Excellency M. de Krabbe Carisius, that His Majesty's Government

have reason to believe that the Consuls appointed at the Havana, by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade, which, notwithstanding the late Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, is still carried on there to a great extent.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against the Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with slave-traders.

The Undersigned has therefore been instructed to request the Danish Government to issue directions to their agents resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Denmark has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Danish subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar request has been addressed to all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

The Undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed) H. W. W. WYNN.

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

No. 155.

Sir H. W. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 27.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, 17th February, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Circular Despatch, of this Series, enclosing a Translation of a Decree issued at Lisbon, on the 10th December, 1836, for the abolition of the Slave Trade throughout the Portuguese dominions.

In reference to my Despatch of this Series, No 2, of last year, I have now the honour to enclose a Copy of a Note by which M. de Krabbe officially informs me of the steps which have been taken to communicate to the Danish agents in foreign ports, and particularly at the Havana, the accession of His Danish Majesty to the Treaty for the total suppression of the Slave Trade, and to ensure their assistance in enforcing a due observance of it on the part of His Danish Majesty's subjects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. W. WYNN.

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

Enclosure in No. 155.

(Translation.)

M. de Krabbe to Sir H. W. W. Wynn.

THE Undersigned has the honour to inform Sir H. W. W. Wynn, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty, that, upon receipt of his Note of the 30th ultimo, he hastened to invite the Royal Chambers of Customs and Commerce to furnish the King's Consuls in the countries where the illegal slave traffic may yet be carried on, and particularly to the Danish Consul in the Island of Cuba, with Instructions tending to prevent all participation in this traffic on the part of His Majesty's subjects.

Copies of the Treaty of Accession of His Majesty to the Conventions concluded the 30th November, 1831, and the 22d March, 1833, between His Britannic Majesty and the King of the French, relating to the repression of the Slave Trade, signed at Copenhagen the 26th July, 1834; from which Copies of the penal law against this said traffic have been transmitted to the King's Consuls in the United States of America, the Brazils, Venezuela, Havana, Teneriffe, and to the Azores, and they have been desired to make them known to the Danish subjects actually settled, or being about to settle in those countries, and to warn them of the consequences, and the severe punishment they will incur in taking a part in this traffic, at the contempt of the Laws of their country. Similar Instructions will elsewhere be given to all the Danish Consuls who may be established in those countries where it may be suspected that the traffic is not altogether abolished.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) KRABBE CARISIUS.

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

SARDINIA.

No. 156.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Foster.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th June, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you the Copy of a Letter from the Admiralty, enclosing one from Rear-Admiral Sir Graham Eden Hamond, the Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's naval forces on the Coast of South America, stating the fact, that the "*Orion*," a brig which had been condemned at Rio de Janeiro by the Mixed British and Brazilian Court for slave-trading, had afterwards been sold, and had put to sea under the flag of Sardinia, by the new name of "*Defendente*."

It is hardly possible that this brig, which had so recently been condemned for slave-trading, could have been sold to a Sardinian subject, and employed by him under the Sardinian flag to engage again in the trade, without the knowledge and assistance of the Sardinian Consul at Rio de Janeiro; and I have received His Majesty's Commands to desire that you will bring to the notice of the Sardinian Government this instance of an attempt to carry on the Slave Trade under the flag of Sardinia, notwithstanding the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834.

So far as His Majesty's Government are informed, this is the first instance in which the flag of Sardinia has been made use of for the purpose of aiding the nefarious operations of dealers in slaves; and His Majesty's Government do not for a moment doubt that the Government of His Sardinian Majesty will take the most effectual measures to prevent a recurrence of a circumstance alike abhorrent to the known sentiments of His Sardinian Majesty, and to the engagements into which he has entered with His Majesty and the King of the French for the entire suppression of the Slave Trade.

His Majesty's Government has more than once remonstrated with that of Brazil upon the facilities afforded in that country for the fictitious sale of slave-trading vessels to foreigners, whereby such vessels have been enabled to assume the flag which they might think the best calculated to protect that barbarous traffic. His Majesty's Government now appeal to that of His Sardinian Majesty to issue the most peremptory orders to its Consuls in foreign ports, not in any way to lend themselves to the fraudulent transfer of slave-vessels to Sardinian subjects.

The fact of the assumption of the flag of Russia by a vessel intended for the Slave Trade in the port of Cadiz last year, having been brought to the knowledge of the Russian Government, His Imperial Majesty did not for a moment hesitate to adopt the most effectual means to prevent such an occurrence in future, and issued a Circular* (of which a Copy is annexed) to Russian Authorities in foreign ports, stating that all vessels engaged in the Slave Trade under the Russian flag might be seized by any cruizers; and that such vessel should not be allowed to appeal to that flag for protection from the just punishment they deserved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

P.S. I also enclose herewith the Copy of a Despatch upon this subject which I have received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

* See Class B, p. 130.

First Enclosure in No. 156.

John Barrow, Esq., to the Hon. Fox Strangways.

SIR,

Admiralty, 6th June, 1836.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, a Copy of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Graham Eden Hamond, respecting the "*Orion*" slave-brig, captured by the "*Satellite*," which brig, having been sold, put to sea under Sardinian colours, by the new name of "*Defendente*."

Hon. Fox Strangways,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 156.

*Rear-Admiral Sir G. Hamond to Charles Wood, Esq.**Dublin, Rio de Janeiro, 21st March, 1836.*

SIR,

WITH reference to my Letter of this date, reporting the delivery to the Brazilian Government of the "Orion" slave-brig, captured by the "Satellite," I have to acquaint you, for their Lordships' information, that this same brig, having been sold, put to sea on the 16th instant under Sardinian colours, by the new name of "Defendente," cleared out for Monte Video.

As she went out a gun was fired at her from the Fort of Santa Cruz, and she anchored outside the bar late in the evening. The next morning she was not to be seen, having of course, as might have been expected, gone off in the night.

The newspaper of the day stated that she had been detained by the fort for sailing without a Register.

On this subject I feel it my duty to call their Lordships' attention to the facilities afforded by the Consuls and the Custom-house here for the loose and irregular transfers and changes of flag and names of vessels in this port; and to the very inefficient measures taken by the executive for the repression of these irregularities, which are all in connexion with the Slave Trade.

I have little doubt the vessel will be ere long on this Coast again as a slaver, and I trust we may be fortunate enough to lay hold of her and expose this villany.

Charles Wood, Esq.
&c. &c.

I have, &c.

GRAHAM E. HAMOND,
Rear-Admiral.

Second Enclosure in No. 156.

Rio Commissioners, 14th April, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 157.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Foster.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th June, 1836.

WITH reference to my Despatch to you of the 7th of July, 1834, furnishing you with the forms, in English, of the warrants, instructions, and signals to be used by the Commanders of the cruisers, English and Sardinian respectively, acting under the Treaty of Accession of the King of Sardinia to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade, I now transmit to you a List of His Majesty's vessels which has been received from the Admiralty, for which Sardinian Slave Trade warrants are required.

You will lose no time in furnishing the Sardinian Minister with the names of the ships and vessels of the British Navy to which His Majesty's Government propose that instructions and warrants should be issued, agreeably to the Treaty of Accession; and you will request, in return, a List of the Sardinian cruisers which are to be supplied with warrants from the Lords Commissioners of the British Admiralty.

His Majesty's Government has hitherto looked upon the Treaty of the 8th of August, 1835, rather as a declaration of principles on the part of the Sardinian Government than as a measure rendered expedient by circumstances; but the Case detailed in my other Despatch of this date renders it imperative on both Governments to interchange the necessary warrants for their respective cruisers, in order that they may be furnished with power to check in its infancy a trade which might otherwise grow into a serious evil.

I also transmit, for your information, the Copy of an Instruction which has been addressed to the Governors of His Majesty's Colonies, directing them to receive all negroes who may be found on board Sardinian vessels detained in pursuance of the said Treaty.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

First Enclosure in No. 157.

*Admiralty, 27th June, 1836.**A List of His Majesty's Vessels for which Sardinian Slave Trade Instructions are required.**Cape of Good Hope and African Station.*

Pelican,	Pylades,	Forester,	Lynx,	Charybdis,
Buzzard,	Curlew,	Rolla,	Leveret,	Water Witch.

CLASS B.

South American Station.

Dublin, Blonde, Talbot, North Star, Actæon, Cleopatra,
Sparrowhawk, Rover, Harrier, Rapid, Basilisk.

North American and West India Station.

Racehorse, Gannet, Champion, Wanderer,
Snake, Skipjack, Pickle, Pincher.

Second Enclosure in No. 157.

Circular to the Governors of British Colonies.

SIR,

Downing Street, , 1835.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information and guidance, a Copy of a Treaty which has recently been concluded between His Majesty and the King of the French and the King of Sardinia, by which His Sardinian Majesty accedes to the Conventions of the 30th of November, 1831, and 22d of March, 1833, between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves.

The Despatches were dated
as follows: viz.
Jamaica . . . 18 Sept.
B. Guiana . . . 20 Sept.
Gambia } . . . 20 Oct.
Cape }

By the Annexure to the last-named Treaty of the 22d of March, 1833, it is provided that all British vessels which shall be detained by the cruisers of His Majesty the King of the French on the Madagascar, the Brazilian, the African, and the West India stations shall be carried and delivered up to the jurisdiction of His Britannic Majesty at the Cape, (Bathurst, in the River Gambia), (at Port Royal in Jamaica), (at the Colony of Demerara.)

You will remark that, with a view to obviate the inconvenience which would arise from landing at Genoa negroes captured in Sardinian vessels by English cruisers, the additional Article to the Treaty with the King of Sardinia provides that the negroes found on board such vessels shall be landed at that port or place to which an English slave-vessel, detained under similar circumstances and at the same place by a French cruiser, would, under the Convention with France, be taken.

Sardinian slave-vessels captured by English cruisers at the Cape, the West India, the South American, and the African stations will therefore, according to the Annexure of the British Treaty above adverted to, be carried and delivered up to the jurisdiction of His Majesty at the Cape (at Bathurst) of Good Hope, (at Port Royal in Jamaica), (at British Guiana).

To the several Governors of the Gambia, the Cape,
Jamaica, and British Guiana.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GLENELG.

No. 158.

Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 24.)

MY LORD,

Turin, 16th July, 1836.

I HAD the honour to receive, on the 12th instant, your Lordship's Despatch marked *Slave Trade*, and dated June 30th, together with its Enclosures; and, as the Sardinian frigate "*Euridice*" was on the point of sailing for South America, I lost no time in waiting on Count Solar and addressing him a Note, of which a Copy is enclosed, on the subject of the "*Orion*," the brig that your Lordship stated to have been condemned at Rio Janeiro for slave-trading, and which was afterwards sold and put to sea under the Sardinian flag, with the new name "*Defendente*;" giving him Copies of the Documents contained in your Lordship's Despatch in proof of the facts, and calling on him to take the most effectual measures to prevent a recurrence of such a nefarious circumstance, which could hardly, as your Lordship observed, have taken place without some connivance on the part of the Sardinian Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Count Solar, on receiving my communication, immediately said that he would transmit orders to stop the sailing of the frigate, which will now probably be detained for about a fortnight; while he gave me the most satisfactory assurances that a thorough investigation should be instituted into all the circumstances of the Case, as well as into the conduct of the Consul, and has promised to forward the necessary Instructions for preventing such an occurrence for the future. Enclosed is a Copy of the reply from the Sardinian Minister to my Note on the subject of the "*Orion*," which I received yesterday morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. J. FOSTER.

P.S. I have made the necessary application to the Sardinian Minister for the warrants required for His Majesty's cruisers, which he has promised to get ready as soon as practicable.

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

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 158.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Turin, 10th July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Copy of a Letter which has been addressed to Lord Palmerston from the Admiralty Office, with the Copy of a communication which the said office has just received from Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, commanding in chief His Majesty's naval forces off the Southern Coast of America; also the Copy of a Despatch on the same subject, which Lord Palmerston has received from His Majesty's Commissioners at Rio de Janeiro; which observes that the brig "*Orion*," condemned at Rio de Janeiro by the English and Brazilian Mixed Courts of Justice for having been engaged in illegal Slave Trade, was afterwards sold, and put to sea under the Sardinian flag under a new name, "*La Defendente*."

It is hardly possible, adds the Principal Secretary of State, that this brig, which had been condemned so short a time previous for having been engaged in the traffic of blacks, could have been sold to a subject of His Sardinian Majesty and employed by him under Sardinian colours, with the design of pursuing the same commerce, without the knowledge and aid of the Sardinian Consul at Rio de Janeiro; and consequently Lord Palmerston has desired me, in the name of His Majesty, to bring to the notice of the Sardinian Government this first example (that we know of at least) of an abuse of the flag of Sardinia in favour of this infamous commerce, being at the same time an infringement of the Treaty concluded on the 8th of August, 1834, between the three Courts of Sardinia, France, and England.

The English Government have not the least doubt but that the Government of Sardinia will adopt the most efficacious measures to prevent the renewal of a circumstance as contrary to the known sentiments of His Sardinian Majesty as it is in contradiction with the engagements which exist between His Majesty and the King of the French for the total suppression of all commerce in slaves. His Majesty's Government have more than once made remonstrances to the Government of Brazil on the facilities found to exist in their country for the pretended sale to strangers of vessels which are built with the design of being employed in the traffic of slaves, in virtue of which the Owners of these vessels find the means to adopt the flag which they consider the best to protect this barbarous traffic.

His Majesty's Government now addresses itself to the Government of His Sardinian Majesty, to urge them to give the most peremptory orders to their Consuls in foreign ports, that they may be very careful not to lend themselves in any manner to the fraudulent practice of vessels owned by Sardinian subjects who have been engaged in the traffic of blacks.

A case has occurred where the Russian flag has been hoisted by a vessel destined for the traffic of blacks in the port of Cadiz: it was in the current month of last year. But so soon as the fact had been made known to the Russian Government, His Russian Majesty did not hesitate one moment to adopt the means most efficacious to prevent a similar occurrence, and had a Circular despatched (a Copy of which is enclosed) to the Russian Authorities in foreign ports, by which all vessels dealing in the traffic of slaves under the Russian flag may be seized by any vessel whatsoever, and will forfeit all right to the protection of Russia against the punishment she will have merited.

I have not the least doubt, Monsieur le Comte, of the disposition of the Sardinian Government to take the same precautions, and I seize the opportunity, &c. &c.

Monsieur Le Comte,
&c. &c.

(Signed) A. J. FOSTER.

Second Enclosure in No. 158.

(Translation.)

Count Solar to Sir A. Foster.

Racconis, 14th July, 1836.

THE Undersigned, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, thought it his duty to place before the King the communication which Sir A. Foster, &c. addressed to him under date of the 10th instant relating to the brig "*Orion*," which, after having been condemned at Rio de Janeiro by the Mixed English and Brazilian Courts of Justice for having been engaged in the Slave Trade, was sold to one of His Majesty's subjects, and hoisted the Sardinian flag under the name of "*La Defendente*," with the design of continuing the infamous traffic she was engaged in previously.

His Majesty has learned, with much regret, the abuse committed in this instance against the flag of her commercial shipping, in favour of a commerce which is as contrary to her real sentiments as opposed to the Treaty of the 8th of August, 1834, between her Court and the Courts of England and France.

His Majesty has instructed the Undersigned to use the most efficacious means to prevent a recurrence of an abuse so grave and annoying, and that the individual who has been guilty of the offence be not permitted to escape the punishment which he so deservedly merits, if he can be brought to justice.

The Undersigned hastens in consequence to point out to the Minister of Marine the infringement above alluded to, with the view that the Admiralty, to which affairs of this nature more immediately belong, may take the most desirable measures towards the accomplishment of His Majesty's wishes. On his part, the Undersigned intends reminding all His Majesty's Consuls in foreign ports of the obligation imposed upon them by their Instructions to oppose, by every means in their power, the fraudulent or pretended sales of foreign vessels which might subsequently hoist the Sardinian flag, and to encourage as much as possible the bringing to justice of privateers or Masters of vessels belonging to the commercial shipping of Sardinia which may have rendered themselves guilty of the disgusting traffic in slaves.

As to the line of conduct pursued by His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro in regard to the brig "*Orion*" on the subject in question, the Undersigned flatters himself that the suspicions of a guilty connivance or of exercising an authority still more reprehensible which were brought against this agent of His Majesty, will not be confirmed; he will, nevertheless, take the greatest precaution of being satisfied, by the most scrupulous investigation, if he actually departed from his duties in that grave and critical moment, and nothing shall certainly be wanting on the part of His

Majesty's Government to repress or prevent all infringements against the letter of the aforesaid Treaty.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed) SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

No. 159.

Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

Turin, October , 1836.

IN reference to your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of June 30th, and to mine of the 16th of July last, I now have the honour to forward to you the warrants which, according to the desire of His Majesty's Government, have been issued by His Sardinian Majesty's Board of Admiralty for the ships and vessels of the British navy employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, according to the List furnished in your Lordship's said Despatch, which I lost no time in communicating to the Sardinian Minister. The delay that has occurred in the issue of these warrants has solely arisen from the desire of the Minister of War, M. de Villa Marina, to have a plate engraved for the purpose of preparing them.

Enclosed is a Copy of the Sardinian Minister's Letter which accompanied these Documents, by which your Lordship will see that the Sardinian Government request to have a warrant from His Majesty's Board of Admiralty for their frigate "*Eurydice*," now on the American station.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. J. FOSTER.

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

Enclosure in No. 159.

(Translation.)

Turin, 1st October, 1836.

THE Undersigned, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has just received from Monsieur the Principal Secretary of the War and Marine Department, and which he hastens to transmit to Sir A. Foster, &c. in compliance with the request made in his Letter of the 10th of July last, 29 Articles for the guidance of the English cruizers commissioned to assist in the repression of the traffic in blacks. And confining himself for the moment to solicit the favour of being furnished with a similar Document on the part of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of Great Britain in favour of one ship only of the Royal Navy, the frigate "*L'Eurydice*," he has the honour, &c.

(Signed) SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

No. 160.

Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 29.)

MY LORD,

Turin, 21st October, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the enclosed Copy of a Note which I yesterday received from the Sardinian Minister relating to the Case of the "*Orion*," that forms the subject of your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of 30th of June last.

Count Solar's Note is founded upon Documents transmitted to Turin in regard to this affair by the Sardinian Consul-General at Rio Janeiro previously to the complaint on the subject which I presented by your Lordship's desire; and the Sardinian Minister argues from them that the Consul-General, under the circumstances of the Case, cannot be held responsible for the re-employment of the "*Orion*" in the Slave Trade, supposing it to be true that it was so employed after having been put up for sale.

The Sardinian Minister, however, reserves to himself to write further on this subject, when he shall have received the explanations which he applied for on the departure of the frigate "*Eurydice*" for South America.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. J. FOSTER.

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

Enclosure in No. 160.

*Count Solar to Sir A. Foster.**Turin, 19th October, 1836.*

EVEN before the letter of Sir A. Foster, of the 10th of July last, had reached the Undersigned, the Admiral President, Chief of the Royal Admiralty at Genoa, had received from Rio de Janeiro notice of the sale of the brig "*Orion*," which affords sufficiently precise information as to what passed on this occasion. The Undersigned having received this information, has now the honour to communicate it to Sir A. Foster.

Mr. Caorsi Jean Baptiste, a subject of His Majesty, sold, in the month of February last, to the Brazilian Government, a schooner, "*La Belle Américaine*," of which he was the Owner. He afterwards bought at public auction the brig "*Orion*;" he gave to this brig the new name of "*San Defendente*," as this vessel was to be taken into one of the ports belonging to His Majesty in order that all the prescribed forms for her nationalization might be there complied with. His Majesty's Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro delivered, for this purpose, a provisional *Passavant* to Captain Caorsi, authorizing him to go first to Monte Video for a cargo. Furnished with this *Passavant*, the said Captain was permitted to hoist the Sardinian flag on board his vessel.

The President of the Admiralty has acknowledged that His Majesty's Consul-General has not departed from the rules laid down for the navy in acting as he has done in this Case. He had no reason for suspecting that the said vessel was intended again for the Slave Trade, and, indeed, if the "*San Defendente*" could, as has been supposed, be again employed in this infamous trade, it does not appear that the said consular agent should be liable for that fact.

It is also observable that the vessel in question was not, by its construction, at all specially destined for the Slave Trade; for, in that case, the Anglo-Brazilian Commissioner would have ordered her to be destroyed instead of to be sold at public auction.

Although these statements are of a nature to set aside the suspicions raised against the Sardinian Consul at Rio de Janeiro, the most scrupulous investigation has nevertheless been ordered, as the Undersigned has already had the honour to announce to Sir A. Foster, to ascertain more positively if the conduct of the said Consul has been at all reprehensible or contrary to his duty.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

No. 161.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Foster.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 22d November, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of October last, but not dated, transmitting the warrants which have been issued by His Sardinian Majesty's Board of Admiralty, empowering His Majesty's ships and vessels named in the List sent to you to visit merchant-vessels under the Sardinian flag, suspected of being engaged in the illegal traffic in slaves.

In compliance with the wish of the Sardinian Government, expressed in the Note from Count de Solar, which accompanied your Despatch, I herewith transmit you a warrant signed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, authorizing the Sardinian frigate "*Eurydice*" to visit merchant-vessels under the British flag suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

In forwarding this warrant to Count Solar, you will express to his Excellency the satisfaction of His Majesty's Government at the promptitude with which the Sardinian Government have furnished the warrants for His Majesty's cruizers employed under the Treaty.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

No. 162.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Foster.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

I TRANSMIT to you the Extract of a Letter which a merchant in London has received from Genoa stating that a fast-sailing vessel was fitting out at the last-mentioned port for the Slave Trade.

Such proceedings are in contravention to the spirit of the Treaty between His Majesty and the King of Sardinia for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I have to desire that you will bring the fact to the notice of the Sardinian Government, and request that positive orders may be given to the Authorities at Genoa to prevent vessels from being equipped in Sardinian ports for the purpose of slave-trading.

I enclose under flying seal, for your information, a Despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Consul at Genoa upon the subject of the traffic in slaves. You will seal and forward the Despatch to Consul Sterling.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 162.

Extract of a Letter from a Merchant in London, dated 29th November, 1836.

"I HAD a Letter from Genoa to-day mentioning that a fine, fast-sailing large vessel was fitting out for the Slave Trade. The friends of emancipation should keep a sharp look out; the parties are Genoese; 4 were at Malta at my time. Has your active Consul at Genoa not mentioned it?"

No. 163.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Consul Sterling.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

I SEND to you a printed Copy of a Treaty for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade which was concluded and signed at Turin on the 8th of August, 1834, between His Majesty and the King of the French and the King of Sardinia, and the ratifications of which were exchanged on the 8th December, 1834, and the 15th May, 1835.

I also transmit to you an Extract of a Letter which a merchant in London has received from Genoa, stating that a fast-sailing vessel was fitting out at the last-mentioned port for the Slave Trade. Such proceedings are in contravention of the spirit of the before-mentioned Treaty, and I have to desire you to keep a watchful eye upon all similar undertakings within your Consulate, and to report to His Majesty's Envoy at the Court of Turin the facts of such Cases as may come to your knowledge, in order that such infractions of the Treaty may be brought to the notice of the Sardinian Government.

You will, of course, report to Sir Augustus Foster such information as you may obtain respecting the vessel alluded to in the Letter from Genoa.

Mr. Consul Sterling,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 164.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir A. Foster.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

His Majesty's Government has been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects, resident in Cuba, from engaging in that trade.

It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter, and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders.

I have, therefore, to instruct you to request the Sardinian Government to issue Instructions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Sardinia has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Sardinian subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 165.

*Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 14.)**Turin, 6th February, 1837.*

MY LORD,

I HAD the honour to receive, in due course, your Lordship's Despatch dated 15th December, 1836, adverting to the notorious violation, by persons residing in the Isle of Cuba, of the recent Treaty concluded between Great Britain and Spain, and containing Instructions for me to request the Sardinian Government would issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Sardinia had entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as also to warn and exhort all Sardinian subjects residing in such places abroad not to engage in the said trade.

In conformity with those Instructions, I lost no time in addressing a Note, of which the Copy is enclosed, to Count Solar de la Marguerite; and I have now the honour to communicate to your Lordship his reply, dated the 27th ultimo, from which you will see that the Sardinian Government have hitherto had no Consular Agent at the Isle of Cuba, though the Tuscan Consul at the Havana had, without being authorized to do so, taken upon himself to protect the Sardinian traders; that he nevertheless had taken every precaution to prevent a Sardinian vessel bound for Madagascar from dealing in the Slave Trade; and that if Copies of the Treaty concluded between this Government and that of His Majesty for the suppression of the Slave Trade have not as yet been sufficiently promulgated in foreign ports, it is only owing to the distance of such places; while he assures me that orders will be repeated to the Sardinian agents abroad to oppose the above infamous traffic by every means in their power.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 20th ultimo, transmitting the Translation of a Decree issued at Lisbon for the abolition of the Slave Trade throughout the Portuguese dominions.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. J. FOSTER.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 165.

(Translation.)

*Sir A. Foster to Count Solar.**Turin, 24th December, 1836.*

HIS Majesty's Government has been informed that the Consuls resident at Havana, on the part of those States which have concluded Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their respective Governments to prevent their fellow-subjects residing in the Island of Cuba from engaging in that infamous traffic.

It is fully proved that, in spite of the Treaty recently concluded between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade continues to be carried on, and in great part by persons residing in Cuba.

The Spanish Authorities, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against the Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their countrymen from participating therein, are naturally induced to believe that these Treaties are only considered as mere matters of form by the Contracting Parties, and this circumstance must also contribute to encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with those engaged in the traffic.

The Undersigned, &c., has received orders to beg the Government of the King of Sardinia to instruct its Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements into which Sardinia has entered for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to warn and exhort Sardinian subjects not to engage in this unworthy commerce.

A communication to this effect has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Great Britain has concluded Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned is persuaded that the Count Solar de la Marguerite will not see any difficulty in the issue of the orders requested, and avails himself, &c.

Count Solar de la Marguerite,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

A. J. FOSTER.

Second Enclosure in No. 165.

Count Solar to Sir A. Foster.

(Translation.)

Turin, 27th January, 1837.

By a Note of the 24th December last, Sir A. Foster, &c., acquainted the Undersigned, &c., that, in spite of the Treaties in force for the suppression of the Slave Trade, this unworthy traffic continued to be carried on, especially by persons resident in Cuba, and asked at the same time that the Consular Agents of Sardinia, at Havana and at other foreign ports, might receive orders to make publicly known in the place of their residence the stipulations concluded on this subject between His Majesty's Government and that of Great Britain, and to prevent, by every means in their power, Sardinian subjects from engaging in this criminal traffic.

The Undersigned has the honour to remark to Sir A. Foster that, up to the present time, there has

been no Sardinian Consul in Cuba; that, nevertheless, the Consul of Tuscany at the Havana, who has lately taken upon himself to protect Sardinian merchants and sailors there, without being called upon so to do, has informed the Admiralty at Genoa that, in the month of June last, the ship called "*Le Cheval Marin*," having sailed for Madagascar under the Sardinian flag, he had taken every precaution for preventing Captain Jaccini, who commanded her, from engaging in the Slave Trade.

As soon as a Consul shall be named by His Majesty at the Havana, he shall receive the most positive Instructions to aid, with all his efforts, in the accomplishment of the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834; and, in the mean time, the Undersigned can assure Sir A. Foster that if, owing to the distance, Copies of this Treaty have not yet reached all the Sardinian Consuls in foreign ports, they will not fail to receive them, with fresh Instructions of the tenour of those formerly issued, commanding them to oppose, by all the means in their power, the unworthy commerce in question.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed) SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

No. 166.

Sir A. Foster to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 15.)

MY LORD,

Turin, 8th March, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, enclosed, to your Lordship, the Copy of a Note which I have received from Count Solar de la Marguerite, transmitting to me the printed Copy of a Circular Despatch that he has written to the different Consuls of His Sardinian Majesty for the purpose of calling their attention still more particularly, if possible, to the execution of the Convention concluded in the year 1834 by His Sardinian Majesty with France and England for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and which fresh Circular has been forwarded with a view of conforming to your Lordship's wish, as expressed to me in your Despatch of last year, marked Slave Trade, No. 5, which I communicated to Count Solar, as I had the honour of stating to your Lordship in my Despatch, Slave Trade, No. 2, of this year.

The notification being in the Italian language, I have annexed a Translation to it, which is also enclosed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. J. FOSTER.

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

c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 166.

Count Solar to Sir A. Foster.

Turin, 6th March, 1837.

ALTHOUGH the Consuls of His Majesty have already been furnished with general Instructions relative to the Slave Trade, which is expressly condemned by the Maritime Code of this country; and, notwithstanding that the Conventions between Sardinia, Great Britain, and France, for the suppression of this unworthy traffic, were published by the Admiralty on the 28th July last, the Undersigned, &c., anxious, on his part, to second, in the most complete manner, the wishes recently expressed to him by Sir A. Foster on the part of his Government, has addressed a fresh Circular to the said Consuls to transmit to them a Copy of the above-mentioned Conventions, and to prescribe to them to aid in the fulfilment thereof by their most active and efficient concurrence.

The Undersigned, presuming that it may be agreeable to Sir A. Foster to have some Copies of this Circular, has the honour to enclose 2 Copies, and avails himself, &c.

Sir A. Foster,
&c. &c.

(Signed) SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

Second Enclosure in No. 166.

(Translation.)

Turin, 1st March, 1837.

Royal Secretary of State's Office for Foreign Affairs.

Fourth Division.—Consulships.—Circular No. 63.

His Majesty Our Lord, animated by the same sentiments of humanity which urged his august predecessors to take the strongest measures for preventing all trading in slaves in their dominions, very readily adhered to the Convention which was concluded between France and England for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The fact of such adhesion, with the Convention relative to it, being already known to all the subjects of Sardinia concerned in trade, by its having been published in the principal ports of the country, I now take upon myself the duty of transmitting it to you, to the end that you, being also made acquainted with all its provisions; may be enabled to give effect to them, if necessary, with rigour, according to the obligation entered into by His Majesty towards the High Contracting Parties.

Such obligation being conformable to the feelings of His Majesty's paternal heart, I am persuaded that you, Sir, will do your utmost to see that they are observed, and, therefore, do not think it necessary to use further argument upon the subject in exciting your zeal and vigilant attention.

(Signed) SOLAR DE LA MARGUERITE.

Supreme Council of the Admiralty.

NOTIFICATION with which is published the Convention and Additional Article concluded by His Majesty on the 8th August and 8th December, 1834, with France and England for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

28th July, 1836.

Supreme Council of Admiralty at Genoa.

HIS Majesty Our Lord having concluded a Treaty with France and England to ensure the abolition of the Slave Trade, which had already been rigidly prohibited by Article 104 of the Penal Law, for the merchant ships, of 18th January, 1827, imposing the punishment of the galleys upon all who should violate the said Article, in addition to a pecuniary fine, His Majesty has commissioned us, by his revised Order of the 19th instant, to give publicity to the Convention and Additional Article concluded on the 8th August and 8th December, 1834, which have been transmitted to us by the First Secretary of State for War and the Naval Department, in order that this may serve as a Rule and Regulation for the trading part of the nation. We, therefore, in order to execute the royal commands, notify to the public that the said Convention and Additional Article are as follows:—

* * * * *

SWEDEN.

No. 167.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 23.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 24th May, 1836.

THE Swedish Government having raised some objection to the form of a Treaty of Accession, proposed by the French Government to be given to the negotiations commenced at Stockholm on the subject of the Slave Trade, forwarded a new projet to Paris last April, accompanied by a statement of their objections, which were chiefly founded on the existence of the direct and formal Treaty of the 6th November, 1824, between Great Britain and Sweden.

Count Lowenhielm was charged to communicate to M. Thiers the alterations desired by the Swedish Government, and the counter-projet was favourably received. M. Thiers has since addressed an Instruction to Count Mornag, authorizing him to sign a direct Treaty, and to adopt the preamble proposed, as well as the various stipulations of the Swedish counter-projet, with but few trifling modifications.

The French Plenipotentiaries accordingly communicated their instructions to the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and, as no further alterations were proposed by his Excellency, the Convention was signed on the 21st instant, by Count Wetterstedt, on the part of His Swedish Majesty, and by Count Charles Mornag and M. de Billecocq, on the part of the King of the French.

The stipulations are essentially the same as those contained in the Treaty between Great Britain, France, and Denmark, except on three points:—

1st. The word *Convention* is substituted for *Treaty*.

2d. The Articles 3 and 4 bind the Contracting Parties to notify to each other every year the number of vessels of war which they will equip for the special purpose of suppressing the Traffic in Slaves, but release Sweden from any obligation to send vessels on this service, leaving it at the option of His Swedish Majesty to do so or not, as may suit his naval arrangements. And,

3d. In the *Annex* to the Convention it is stipulated that Swedish vessels captured by French cruizers shall be taken for adjudication to Saint Bartholomew's, French vessels captured by Swedes to one of the following places—Martinique, Cayenne, Goree, or the Isle of Bourbon.

This Convention will be forwarded to Paris by to-night's post, and the period of two months is fixed for the exchange of the ratifications.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 168.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. A. D. Bloomfield.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 29th of January last.

His Majesty's Government have had much satisfaction in receiving the announcement of the intention of the Swedish Government to issue orders to the Authorities of its colonial possessions in the West Indies, declaring all purchases of British negroes illegal effected after the 1st of August, 1834; and stating that the purchasers of such negroes should be required to surrender them without compensation.

There is, however, a passage in Count Wetterstedt's Note to which His Majesty's Government think it necessary to object. It is that in which it is said, that in cases in which it shall appear that the purchase was made in good faith, the

purchaser is to be entitled to a full indemnity, though the negro is equally to be surrendered. If it be intended that the indemnity in these excepted cases shall be provided by Sweden, the British Government, of course, cannot object to such an arrangement; but if it is expected that the indemnity should be paid by the British Government, no such expectation can be held out, because it would be at variance with the principle on which the claims of the British Government in this matter have been advanced, that any such payment should be made by Great Britain.

The British Government is entitled to demand unconditionally the freedom of any British subject, wherever born, and of whatever colour, who may be holden in slavery by a subject, or by the Government of a foreign state.

If a native of Great Britain were so held in slavery, no foreign power would pretend to exact an indemnity from the British Government in favour of the party compelled to restore the kidnapped individual; and the only question that could arise would be, what punishment should be inflicted upon the person who had presumed thus to violate the birthright of a British subject; nor is the right of the British Government to demand the immediate and unconditional release of one of His Majesty's subjects in any degree impaired by the circumstance that such subject is a black.

A communication similar to that which you made to Sweden upon this subject was made to the Danish Government, and that Government promptly declared that any British negro bought subsequently to the 1st of August, 1834, should be given up at once, without any indemnity to the person who had bought him; it being understood that such purchaser should have a right to prosecute for damages the person from whom he bought the negro.

This decision of the Danish Government is undoubtedly founded upon a correct and just view of the matter; and I have to instruct you to communicate these sentiments to the Swedish Government.

The Hon. J. A. D. Bloomfield,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 169.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 16.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 15th July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 22d ultimo, instructing me to communicate to the Swedish Government the objection made by His Majesty's Government to a passage in the Note addressed to me by Count Wetterstedt, on the 25th January, relating to the indemnity which the Swedish Government expected would be granted by that of His Majesty in such Cases of the purchase of negroes, subsequently to the 1st of August, 1834, as should be proved to have been made in good faith.

I called this morning upon Count Wetterstedt, and read to his Excellency your Lordship's Instructions.

According to his desire I have since addressed to him the Note, of which I beg to enclose a Copy, requesting the attention of the Swedish Government to the objection that was raised, and transmitting a Copy of your Lordship's Instructions of the 22d ultimo.

His Excellency did not give me reason to suppose that there would be much difficulty in adopting the course pursued by the Danish Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

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

Enclosure in No. 169.

Mr. Bloomfield to Count Wetterstedt.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Stockholm, 5th July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that His Britannic Majesty's Government, having had under their consideration your Excellency's Note to me of the 26th January, which

declares the illegality of the purchase of British negroes subsequently to the 1st of August, 1834, by subjects of His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, in the West Indies, have instructed me to state to your Excellency that there is a passage in the above-mentioned Note to which they think it necessary to object.

It is that in which it is said that, in Cases in which it shall appear that the purchase was made in good faith, the purchaser is to be entitled to a full indemnity, though the negro is equally to be surrendered; an expectation which I am ordered to declare to the Swedish Government cannot be held out, as it is at variance with the principles on which the claims of the British Government, in this matter, have been advanced that any such payment should be made by Great Britain.

In requesting your Excellency's kind attention to this point, I beg to add that His Majesty's Government trust there may be no objection on the part of that of His Swedish Majesty to adopt the course pursued by the Danish Government, who have declared that any British negro bought subsequently to the 1st of August, 1834, should be given up at once, without any indemnity to the person who had bought him, it being understood that such purchaser should have a right to prosecute for damages the person from whom he bought the negro.

I have the honour to enclose to your Excellency a Copy of the Instructions addressed to me on this subject, and avail myself, &c.

His Excellency Count Wetterstedt.

(Signed) J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

No. 170.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 26.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 15th July, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches marked "Circular," dated the 15th and 27th ultimo, with their several Enclosures, being printed Copies of several Papers relating to the Slave Trade.

In my Despatch of the 5th instant I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of a Note which I had addressed to Count Wetterstedt, in pursuance of your Lordship's Instructions of the 22d June, wherein I communicated to his Excellency the objections raised by His Majesty's Government to a passage in his Note of the 25th of January, on the subject of the indemnity which the Swedish Government expected would be granted by that of His Majesty in such Cases of the purchase of negroes subsequently to the 1st of August, 1834, as should be proved to have been made in good faith.

I have now received an answer from Count Wetterstedt, and I beg herewith to enclose a Copy of it.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Swedish Government, animated by a desire to follow the philanthropic system of His Majesty's Government, will issue fresh Instructions to the Authorities at St. Bartholomew's, in conformity to the wishes of His Majesty's Government, for the immediate restitution, without indemnity, of any British negro who may have been purchased subsequently to the 1st August, 1834.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 170.

Count Wetterstedt to Mr. Bloomfield.

SIR,

Stockholm, 12th July, 1836.

I HAVE submitted to the King your Note of the 5th instant, with the Copy annexed to Lord Palmerston's Despatch, explaining the manner in which the British Government looks upon the reservation of the conditional indemnification which, by my Note of the 26th January last, His Majesty's Government had thought it their duty to adhere to their engagement to prohibit and condemn as illegal in the Island of St. Bartholomew all purchases of ancient English slaves after the 1st August, 1834, the period of their emancipation in the British Colonies.

This reservation of indemnity implied in the only instance where legal proof could show that the good faith of the co'onist purchasing was taken by surprise, and that he acted from a pure motive, appeared to be founded on justice; but since the British Minister finds it incompatible with the principles of the great system of philanthropy which he has in view, His Majesty's Government is far from wishing to oppose a local and secondary interest to that of humanity in general; and I have consequently the honour to inform you, that orders will be given for immediate restitution, without indemnity to any one, of all English slaves purchased at St. Bartholomew's subsequent to the 1st August, 1834.

It must necessarily follow that the legal recourse of the buyer against the persons who sold him the slave cannot suffer any impeachment whatsoever, should it ever extend to an English subject who had rendered himself guilty of so illegal a transaction.

In requesting you to communicate this decision to your Government, I have, &c.

Mr. Bloomfield.

(Signed)

LE COMTE DE WETTERSTEDT.

No. 171.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 2d August, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that a messenger arrived here last week from Paris, with the ratifications of the Convention between Sweden and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which was signed at Stockholm on the 21st of May (as reported in my Despatch of the 24th May).

The ratifications were exchanged here on the 30th ultimo, in the usual form.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 172.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 9th September, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship 2 printed Copies delivered to me by Baron Schulzenheim, of a Convention for the suppression of the Slave Trade between His Swedish Majesty and the King of the French, concluded at Stockholm on the 21st May, 1836.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 173.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. J. Bligh.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th December, 1836.

HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT has been informed that the Consuls appointed at the Havana by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade.

It is well known that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba.

The Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter; and this circumstance must still further encourage the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders.

I have, therefore, to instruct you to request the Swedish Government to issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident in foreign ports to make publicly known the engagements which Sweden has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Swedish subjects residing at such places abroad not to engage in the trade.

A similar communication has been made to the British Ministers at all the Courts with which Slave Trade Treaties have been concluded.

I am, &c.

The Hon. J. Bligh.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 174.

Mr. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 2d January, 1837.

IN the execution of the Instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's Despatch of the 15th December of last year, I have addressed to Count Wetterstedt the Note of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. D. BLIGH.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 174.

Mr. Bligh to Count Wetterstedt.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Stockholm, 2d January, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that intelligence has reached His Majesty's Government that the Consuls appointed at the Havana by those States which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not yet received Instructions from their Governments to use their best endeavours to prevent their fellow-subjects resident in Cuba from engaging in that trade; that, notwithstanding the recent Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent by persons residing in Cuba; that the Spanish Authorities in Cuba, seeing that the Consuls of those Powers who have concluded Treaties against the Slave Trade make no efforts to prevent their fellow-subjects from carrying on that traffic, are naturally led to infer that such Treaties are considered by the Contracting Parties as a mere dead letter, and that the culpable connivance of the Spanish Authorities with the slave-traders is thereby further encouraged.

I am, therefore, instructed to request the Swedish Government to issue directions to their Ministers and Consuls resident at foreign ports to make known the engagements which Sweden has entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also to warn and exhort all Swedish subjects residing in such places abroad not to engage in the trade; and I feel convinced that such a desire to give full effect to the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade exists on the part of the Swedish Government as will induce them promptly to take the measures which I now have the honour of suggesting to your Excellency; and I seize this opportunity of renewing to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

Count Wetterstedt.

(Signed) J. D. BLIGH.

No. 175.

Mr. Bligh to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 21.)

MY LORD,

Stockholm, 9th March, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship Count Wetterstedt's answer to my Note to his Excellency, which was enclosed in my Despatch dated 2d January of the present year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D. BLIGH.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 175.

Count Wetterstedt to Mr. Bligh.

(Translation).

SIR,

Stockholm, 23d February, 1837.

By the Note which you did me the honour to address to me on the 2d of last month, you pointed out to the attention of His Majesty's Government, on the part of the Government of His Britannic Majesty, the continuance of the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba, as also the fact which had come to the knowledge of your Government that the Powers who had concluded Treaties with Great Britain for the suppression of this traffic have not yet furnished their Consuls established at the Havana with the Instructions necessary for preventing their fellow-countrymen in the said Island from engaging in such odious speculations.

As no Consular Agent of Sweden and Norway is established at Cuba, the above remark as to the non-issue of Instructions does not apply to those kingdoms: but His Majesty's Government, desiring above all things to maintain a strict observation of the engagements which it has contracted, has hastened to renew to its Agents in foreign ports the order already given to watch over the rigorous execution of the Treaty of November 6, 1834, and to communicate anew the contents thereof to the traders of Sweden and Norway, and to enjoin them to take no part, either directly or indirectly, in the Slave Trade.

Accept, &c.

The Hon. J. D. Bligh,

(Signed)

LE COMTE DE WETTERSTEDT.

&c.

&c.

TWO SICILIES.

No. 176.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. Wm. Temple.

Foreign Office, 16th September, 1836.

SIR,

WITH reference to my several Despatches to you, upon the subject of the proposed accession of the King of Naples to the Conventions between Great Britain and France for the abolition of the Slave Trade, I herewith transmit to you the Copy of a Despatch which I addressed to Earl Granville in the month of June last, instructing his Excellency to request the French Government to authorize its Chargé d'Affaires at Naples to act upon the Instructions issued to the French Ambassador, M. de Mareuil, to co-operate with you in negotiating the Treaty of Accession.

I have now to instruct you to lose no time in reporting to me, whether the French Chargé d'Affaires has received from his Government the authority above alluded to; and, in that case, whether any steps have been taken by you, in conjunction with that gentleman, for bringing this question once more under the consideration of the Neapolitan Government; and I have further to request that you will not fail to keep me informed, from time to time, of the progress of the negotiation.

I am, &c.

The Hon W. Temple,
 &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON

Enclosure in No. 176.

Despatch to Earl Granville.

(10th June, 1836.)

No. 177.

The Hon. W. Temple to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 27.)

MY LORD,

Naples, 11th October, 1836.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked "Slave Trade," of the 16th ult., enclosing the Copy of the Despatch addressed to Lord Granville, instructing his Excellency to request the French Government to authorize their Chargé d'Affaires at Naples to act upon the Instructions issued to Monsieur de Mareuil, to co-operate with me in obtaining the accession of the King of Naples to the Convention between Great Britain and France for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and I beg to inform your Lordship that, previous to its receipt, Monsieur de Tallenay, the French Chargé d'Affaires, communicated to me that he had received such Instructions.

Monsieur de Tallenay and myself, therefore, took the earliest opportunity of calling upon Prince Cassaro, to express to him the unceasing and anxious desire of our respective Governments for the renewal and immediate conclusion of the negotiation with which we were charged.

In my interview with Prince Cassaro I referred him to the Correspondence which had already taken place upon the subject: to the Note which, in conformity with the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 24th April, 1834, I addressed to him in reply to his Note of the 24th March of that year, enclosing a Draft of a Treaty prepared with a view to meet the feelings and position of His Sicilian Majesty, and calculated to remove all his objections to accede by Treaty to the Conventions between Great Britain and France; and also to the Note which I had addressed to the Duke of Gualtieri, during Prince Cassaro's absence, communicating to him a Copy of the Address of the House of Commons to the King on the subject of the Slave Trade, on the 19th May, 1835, with His Majesty's Answer, proving the strong and unvaried wish felt by the British Parliament and Govern-

ment for the extinction of the abominable traffic in slaves, which could only be effected by the general accession of all the Maritime Powers to those Conventions. I observed to Prince Cassaro, that not only the Maritime Powers which possess colonies, such as Sweden and Denmark, but the Sardinian Government also had acceded to the Conventions, a State which, with respect to its commercial and maritime interests, is placed in a similar position with Naples.

Prince Cassaro promised to take the earliest opportunity of communicating to the King the renewed application of England and France for this accession to the Conventions, and to lay before His Majesty all the Documents relating to the previous negotiation, as well as the observations which Monsieur de Tallenay and myself had thought it our duty to make to him upon the subject. He said that some objection might be felt to the power which the Treaty would confer upon foreign ships to examine vessels under the Neapolitan flag, as it might lead to abuses, and expose them to vexatious proceedings on the part of ships-of-war belonging to other countries.

I replied to him, that the Convention to which this Government was invited to accede was expressly framed for the purpose of preventing the danger of any such abuse; and I added, that unless the Neapolitan Government enacted severe laws against all persons carrying on the Slave Trade under their flag, pointing out the tribunals before which they should be tried, and allowing vessels, sailing under their flag, to be examined by cruizers appointed for the suppression of that inhuman traffic, they would, in fact, be affording protection to it, instead of co-operating in its suppression according to their formal engagement.

Prince Cassaro acknowledged the propriety of enacting such laws, and also allowed that it would be necessary that the cruizers should examine the Papers of suspicious vessels, to prevent the Neapolitan flag being improperly assumed by those not entitled to carry it.

It is with great regret, however, that I have to transmit to your Lordship, with its translation, the enclosed Copy of a Note addressed to me by his Excellency Prince Cassaro, under date of the 30th September, in which he informs me that, although His Sicilian Majesty approves of the sacred principle which actuates the Governments of England and France in endeavouring to put an end to this inhuman and unchristian traffic, and would make it his pride to co-operate with all the means which Providence has placed at his disposal for the attainment of so praiseworthy an object, His Majesty declines acceding to the proposed Treaty for the reasons already explained on a former occasion.

Your Lordship will observe that, although His Sicilian Majesty does not allow the possibility of any Neapolitan vessels being engaged in the Slave Trade, he admits the right of foreign cruizers to examine vessels sailing under the Neapolitan flag, as it would be otherwise impossible for them to use that vigilance which is necessary to enable them to discover the fraudulent abuse of evil-disposed persons who might endeavour to carry on that inhuman traffic under its protection.

Having seen Prince Cassaro since I received his Note, I could not but observe to his Excellency that, if the Neapolitan Government consented to enact severe laws for the punishment of their subjects engaged in the Slave Trade, of which he had admitted the necessity, and if they admitted the right of foreign vessels to examine the Papers of vessels sailing under the Neapolitan flag, they were virtually granting all that was required of them by the Treaty, without obtaining for their flag the security and respect which were so carefully provided for by its stipulations.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

W. TEMPLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 177.

(Translation.)

Prince Cassaro to the Hon. W. Temple.

Naples, 30th September, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c., has made it his duty to submit to the high intelligence of the King, his August Master, the renewed applications which have just been urgently made on the part of the British Cabinet, in order that His Majesty may be induced to accede to the Convention between England and France, stipulated on the 30th November, 1831, having for its object the suppression of the inhuman traffic of negroes.

And His Majesty, as he was pleased from the first to declare, most cordially approves of the holy

principle of destroying by the roots a traffic which dishonours humanity, and is diametrically opposed to the sound tenets of the Christian religion, and he cannot therefore but highly commend the generous exertions which the two contracting Governments are directing towards so laudable an end, in which, as they meet with the sincere approbation of His Royal mind, he would make it his glory to co-operate with all the means which Providence has placed in his hands.

On reconsidering, however, maturely the reasons which restrain him from giving his adhesion to the projected stipulation, he still feels them to be such as to confirm him in the just ideas explained on a former occasion, and to persuade thoroughly and fully the two Cabinets of the Tuileries and of Saint James's, that the Treaty in question is entirely foreign to the commerce, position, and interests of these royal dominions. Since the Royal Government is not in possession of Colonies, nor does the royal commercial shipping sail upon the African Coasts, where the infamous traffic is carried on, few in number being the royal subjects engaged in navigation, who in each year scarcely reach the shores of America only, and finally, the royal navy not being, as is known to every one, in a state to contribute ships of war for cruisers, which, according to the Articles of the Convention, ought to be stationed on the western coasts of Africa, from Cape Verde to the distance of 10 degrees to the south of the Equator, round the Island of Madagascar, and those of Cuba and Porto Rico, and upon the Brazilian coasts.

Nor has His Majesty omitted to consider that the actual circumstances of the High Contracting Parties are such as to allow them to do without the quota of cruisers to be furnished by the Royal Government.

But things being such as they have hitherto been described, His Majesty does not see of what utility his accession could be to the Treaty in question, since neither can there be any occasion for repressing his mercantile shipping in an illicit traffic which it is not in the situation to undertake; nor can the number of cruisers to be stationed ever be increased in those distant seas by a royal ship.

Of slight importance is moreover the supposition, communicated verbally to the Undersigned, that evil-intentioned persons might prostitute the flag of His Sicilian Majesty with the shameful intention of sheltering themselves from a due search; since the ships-of-war which will be cruising will use vigilance in the due examination of the Papers of vessels, and, the fraudulent abuse being ascertained, will take just vengeance upon the guilty; and thus will remain entire the honour due to the royal flag, which it had been endeavoured to make subservient to the private rapacious views of a justly execrated traffic.

Such are precisely the dispositions of His Majesty's mind, and which the Undersigned has the honour of again repeating to his Excellency Mr. Temple, His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

The Undersigned takes advantage of this opportunity, &c.
The Hon. W. Temple,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

PRINCIPE DI CASSARO.

No. 178.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. W. Temple.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st December, 1836.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 11th October last, announcing that the King of Naples had declined the invitation which, conjointly with the French Minister, you had been instructed to make to the Neapolitan Government, to accede to the Conventions between His Majesty and the King of the French for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

His Majesty's Government deeply regret that His Sicilian Majesty has declined to accede to these Treaties, but His Majesty's Government indulge a hope that the Neapolitan Government may be induced to reconsider its determination.

Prince Cassaro, in his Note of the 30th September, signifies the consent of the Neapolitan Government, that foreign cruisers should examine vessels sailing under the Neapolitan flag, and admits that, unless this be done, it would be impossible for our cruisers to use that vigilance which is necessary in order to prevent a fraudulent abuse of the Neapolitan flag for the protection of Slave Trade undertakings.

I have now to instruct you to convey to Prince Cassaro the acknowledgments of His Majesty's Government for this useful and important concession on the part of His Sicilian Majesty, and to say, that Instructions in conformity with the communication from Prince Cassaro have been given to His Majesty's cruisers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

But you will state to Prince Cassaro, that the permission thus liberally conceded by the Neapolitan Government will not be entirely sufficient to guard against another abuse of a similar kind.

Ships employed in the Slave Trade may not only assume a flag which they have no right to bear, but may provide themselves with Papers purporting that they belong to Owners to whom they have been only fictitiously and fraudulently transferred, and this last-mentioned fraud has already been frequently practised.

Thus a slave-ship, which really belongs to Brazilian, Portuguese, or Spanish adventurers, may be found sailing under the Neapolitan flag, and furnished with Papers apparently showing that she is the property of Neapolitan subjects.

CLASS B.

Now in such a case it is evident that the permission given by the King of Naples is not calculated to lead to any effectual result, for the examining cruizer would find it difficult, and perhaps impossible, to detect the fraud, and to deal with the examined vessel, even though she should be found actually to have slaves on board.

You will further state to Prince Cassaro, that in the event, which though improbable is not impossible, that a slave-ship should really and *bonâ fide* be the property of Neapolitan subjects, the permission given by His Sicilian Majesty will be equally unavailing, for such a vessel, even if it had slaves on board, could not be detained and brought to a British port, neither could it be carried before any of the Slave Trade Commissions for adjudication.

As no Treaty on this subject has been concluded with Naples, the British Parliament has passed no act authorizing His Majesty's cruizers to detain, or empowering any of His Majesty's Courts, at home or abroad, to condemn Neapolitan vessels found to be engaged in Slave Trade; and when slave-traders came to discover that Neapolitan Papers, added to the Neapolitan flag, might give impunity to crime, means would not be found wanting to provide a sufficient supply of Neapolitan Papers for ships engaged in this traffic.

His Majesty's Government is persuaded that when the Neapolitan Cabinet gives its attention to these considerations, it will see that the step which it has now taken is not sufficient for the complete attainment of the humane and generous object which His Sicilian Majesty has in view, and that some further measures on the part of His Sicilian Majesty are necessary.

There are two measures which would effect this purpose, and it is difficult to see how, without them, that purpose can be accomplished.

Those measures are, first, the accession of the King of Naples to the Conventions between Great Britain and France; and, secondly, the publication of a new law in Naples, denouncing the most severe punishment for any subject of His Sicilian Majesty who may in any way, directly or indirectly, engage in the Slave Trade. And I have to instruct you to press these two measures most earnestly upon the consideration of the Neapolitan Government.

The Hon. W. Temple,
&c. &c.

(Signed) I am, &c.
PALMERSTON.

HANSE TOWNS.

No. 179.

*Viscount Palmerston to Henry Canning, Esq.**Foreign Office, 25th March, 1836.*

SIR,

I BEG to refer you to my Despatch of this Series, of the 27th February last, directing you to make, in concert with the French Official Agent at Hamburgh, an overture for the accession of the Hanse Towns to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

I have now to send to you the accompanying Copy of a Despatch, and of its Enclosure, from His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, stating that the Government of France agree to the measure; but that, for the reasons given in the Note from M. Thiers, they propose that the execution of it may be delayed for the present.

You will, in accordance with that proposition, delay, until further orders, to send in the Note, which, by my Despatch above mentioned, you were instructed to address upon the subject to the Authorities of the Hanse Towns.

I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

Henry Canning, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed)

Enclosure in No. 179.

Despatch from Earl Granville, March 18, 1836.

No. 180.

Henry Canning, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 3.)

MY LORD,

Hamburgh, 29th March, 1836.

IN the absence of the representative of the French Government here, I was hesitating whether I should proceed alone to execute, on the part of His Majesty's Government, the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Letter, dated 27th February last, relative to the Slave Trade Conventions therein mentioned, or wait the return of the French Minister, when I find myself honoured with your Lordship's Letter, dated the 25th instant; and, in compliance therewith, I shall delay, until further orders, to send in the Note which, by your Lordship's Despatch above mentioned, I was instructed to address to the Authorities of the Hanse Towns.

I have, &c.

HENRY CANNING.

(Signed)

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

No. 181.

Viscount Palmerston to Henry Canning, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 30th April, 1836.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copy of a Despatch and of its Enclosure, which I have received from His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris; and I have to desire that you will now place yourself in communication with the Chargé d'Affaires for France at Hamburgh, and make, jointly with him, the overture to the Hanse Towns, which, by my Despatch to you of the 27th February last, you were directed to make, for the accession of the Free Hanseatic Republics to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

(Signed)

Henry Canning, Esq.
&c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 181.

Despatch from Earl Granville, April 22, 1836.

No. 182.

Henry Canning, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 6.)

MY LORD,

Hamburgh, 30th August, 1836.

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, dated 30th of April last, I no longer delayed to make, simultaneously with the Chargé d'Affaires of France, the overture to the Hanse Towns, which, by your Lordship's Despatch to me of the 27th of February last, I was directed to make, for the accession of the Free Hanseatic Republics to the recent Conventions between Great Britain and France for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

The Senates of the Hanse Towns immediately expressed their willingness to comply with the wishes of Great Britain and France on this subject, and to enter into Treaty with those countries for the purpose intended; and Mr. Syndic Sieveking, of Hamburgh, has been appointed by Bremen, Lubeck, and Hamburgh, as their Plenipotentiary, to negotiate the same with the representatives at the Hanse Towns of Great Britain and France, fully empowered for the purpose.

As no law existed in the Hanse Towns for prohibiting the Slave Trade, it has been necessary in the first instance to make one, and the law has been passed, as regards Hamburgh, with the entire concurrence of the Burgerschaft. Similar laws are in the course of being passed at the two other Hanse Towns.

The Draft of a Treaty has been prepared, and in a few posts I shall have the honour of transmitting it, with the Correspondence which has taken place on the subject, for your Lordship's consideration and approbation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY CANNING.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 183.

Henry Canning, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 21.)

MY LORD,

Hamburgh, 17th March, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that a law has lately been promulgated at Bremen for the total prohibition of the traffic in slaves.

A similar law has been agreed on by the Senate of Lubeck, but has not yet been published.

The Treaty with the Hanse Towns for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade will be ready for signature in a very few days.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY CANNING.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 184.

Viscount Palmerston to Henry Canning, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 29th March, 1837.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 17th instant, informing me that a penal law against the traffic in slaves has been published at Bremen; and I am to desire that you will express to the Senate of Bremen the great satisfaction with which this communication, so honourable to the State of Bremen, has been received by His Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Henry Canning, Esq.

&c.

&c.

No. 185.

Henry Canning, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 28.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Hamburgh, 25th April, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Project of Law, prohibiting the Slave Trade to the subjects of Hamburgh, was proposed by the

Senate, and passed by the Burgerschaft on the 18th of August last, but has not yet been printed or published. The promulgation of it is deferred until the Treaty of Accession of the Hanse Towns to the Conventions on the Slave Trade between Great Britain and France is signed and ratified.

The same is the case with a similar law proposed at Lubeck.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY CANNING.

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

No. 186.

Henry Canning, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 17.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD.

Hamburgh, 13th June, 1837.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, in concurrence with the French Chargé d'Affaires, the Baron Lassalle, I have concluded with the Senates of the Hanse Towns a Treaty of Accession to the Convention between His Majesty and the King of the French, for the suppression of the African Slave Trade; and, having signed the same in virtue of His Majesty's full power intrusted to me for that purpose, I have the honour to transmit it herewith, for His Majesty's gracious ratification.

Accompanying the Treaty will be found Copies of the full powers of the French and Hanse Towns Plenipotentiaries.

Also Copies of the Laws which have been passed at Bremen, Hamburgh, and Lubeck, to prohibit the traffic in slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY CANNING.

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

First Enclosure in No. 186.

(Translation.)

Law passed at Bremen.

ALTHOUGH the Slave Trade is a traffic which has always been foreign to the trade and navigation of Bremen, yet the wish that our laws should accord in regard to it with those of the great Sea Powers, in order to our becoming a party to their Treaties for the total abolition of the traffic in slaves, has occasioned us to take the subject into careful consideration, and has caused the following penal law to be agreed upon at a meeting of the Bürger Convent, in Bremen, on the 4th of November last year.

Penal Law against the Traffic in Slaves.

Art. 1. The traffic known under the name of Slave Trade, which has for object to provide North and South America, or the West Indies, with negro slaves from the African Coast, together with all trades in connexion with it, is hereby prohibited in the free State of Bremen and its dependencies, and shall be deemed criminal.

Art. 2. Whosoever, either as Owner, Freighter, Captain, Mate, or Supercargo, fits out or sails a vessel for the purpose of the Slave Trade mentioned in Article 1, or who carries on the Slave Trade, or allows the fitting out or carrying on through any other person, or takes part therein, or assists in the offence as money-lender or treasurer, shall, according to circumstances, whether the vessel be stopped before her departure from the port of outfit, or after her departure, and even before commencing any slave seizures or slave trade, or lastly, after any actual perpetration of slave seizing or slave trading, be condemned to imprisonment in the house of correction from 1 to 15 years, and to pay a fine of from 200 to 5000 rix dollars, and to the loss of his citizenship and all other municipal rights appertaining to him, and of his right to carry the Bremen flag. And further, according to circumstances, the confiscation of the vessel, her furniture and cargo, also may be made.

Art. 3. Foreigners who in the territory of Bremen, or on board of Bremen vessels, are guilty of the offences described in the foregoing Articles, or who make use of the Bremen flag, or who fit out, or cause to be fitted out, on Bremen territory, vessels under foreign flags to carry on the Slave Trade, shall be punished according to the present law.

Art. 4. All other acts tending to violate the prohibition contained in Article 1, which may not have been named in Articles 2 and 3, are equally subject to fine and imprisonment, according to circumstances, and may equally take away the right to carry the Bremen flag.

The Senate, in promulgating the foregoing law for the observance of every body, places confidence in the inhabitants of Bremen, that they will abstain in future, as they have done hitherto, from any the most distant participation in the dishonourable offence described in the aforesaid law.

Done at Bremen, in the Assembly of the Senate, on the 15th, and promulgated on the 20th February, 1837.

Second Enclosure in No. 186.

HAMBURGH.—*Penal Law against Slave Trade.*

THE Illustrious Senate, in consequence of the invitation addressed to it on the basis of Article 9 of the Convention against the Slave Trade, concluded November 30, 1831, between Great Britain and France, and of the additional Convention thereto of March 22, 1833, having acceded to those Conventions, it is requisite, according to the example of the two Powers above mentioned, and of others who have become parties to these Conventions, to promulgate also in this city a penal law relative to this subject.

It is therefore enacted as follows:—

Art. 1. Every slave, or every prisoner of war, treated as such, becomes free from the moment he enters the Hamburg territory. Violence or ill usage with which he may be treated will be considered and punished as if used against a free person.

Art. 2. The Captain, Mate, or Supercargo of a Hamburg vessel (whether he bears the name or is acting for them), who takes charge of the conveyance of one or more slaves, will be punished with imprisonment in the house of correction of between 6 or 12 months, and likewise pay a fine of from 50 to 100 rix dollars:

Art. 3. Whosoever, in the capacity of Owner, Freighter, Captain, Mate, or Supercargo, fits out a vessel with a view to carry on Slave Trade, sails in her, or carries on the traffic in slaves, or causes this to be done by others, or participates in it, or promotes that crime as money-lender or insurer, shall, according to circumstances, whether the vessel has been seized or taken previous to her departure from the port where she was fitted out, or after her departure, whether previous to the traffic in slaves having taken place, or after having actually taken place, be visited with imprisonment of from 1 year in the house of correction to 10 years in the spinning-house, pay a fine of from 200 to 2,000 rix dollars, lose his rights as a citizen and all other rights appertaining to it, and shall no longer be allowed to use the Hamburg flag.

Art. 4. Foreigners rendering themselves guilty of the crimes stated in the foregoing Articles, within the territory of Hamburg or on board of Hamburg vessels, or who, for the sake of carrying on the Slave Trade, make use of the Hamburg flag, or who fit out vessels under other flags within the territory of Hamburg, in order to carry on Slave Trade, or cause it to be done by others, shall be punished according to the present law.

Foreigners who in other countries have acted against the existing laws regarding Slave Trade, and who are found in the Hamburg territory, shall be delivered up to the Government of the country where the crime has been committed; this, however, only with the concurrence of the Government of the country to whom they belong.

Third Enclosure in No. 186.

LUBECK.—*Penal Law against the Slave Trade.*

THE Senates of the Free Hanse Towns, in consequence of an invitation addressed to them, on the basis of Article 9 of the Convention concluded between Great Britain and France on the 30th November, 1831, and of the Supplementary Convention thereto of March 22, 1833, having formally acceded to both, it has thereby become necessary, according to the examples of the above-mentioned Powers, and of others who have become parties to the above Conventions, to put forth likewise in this city a penal law relative to the subject.

Therefore the following is enacted:—

Art. 1. Every slave, or every prisoner of war, treated as such, becomes free from the moment he enters the Lubeck territory. Violence or ill usage with which he may be treated will be considered and punished as if used against a free person.

Art. 2. The Captain, Mate, or Supercargo of a Lubeck vessel (whether he bears the name or is acting for them), who takes charge of the conveyance of one or more slaves, will be punished with imprisonment in the house of correction of between 6 or 12 months, and likewise pay a fine of from 50 to 100 rix dollars.

Art. 3. Whosoever, in the capacity of Owner, Freighter, Captain, Mate, or Supercargo, fits out a vessel with a view to carry on Slave Trade, sails in her, or carries on the traffic in slaves, or causes this to be done by others, or participates in it, or promotes that crime as money lender or insurer, shall, according to circumstances, whether the vessel has been seized or taken previous to her departure from the port where she was fitted out, or after her departure, whether previous to the traffic in slaves having taken place, or after having actually taken place, be visited with imprisonment of from 1 year in the house of correction to 10 years in the spinning-house, pay a fine of from 200 to 2,000 rix dollars, lose his rights as a citizen, and all other rights appertaining to it, and shall no longer be allowed to use the Lubeck flag.

Art. 4. Foreigners rendering themselves guilty of the crimes stated in the foregoing Articles, within the territory of Lubeck or on board of Lubeck vessels, or who, for the sake of carrying on the Slave Trade, make use of the Lubeck flag, or who fit out vessels under other flags within the territory of Lubeck, in order to carry on Slave Trade, or cause it to be done by others, shall be punished according to the present law.

Foreigners who in other countries have acted against the existing laws regarding Slave Trade, and who are found in the Lubeck territory, shall be delivered up to the Government of the country where the crime has been committed; this, however, only with the concurrence of the Government of the country to whom they belong.

But if the delivery of such foreigners be refused, they shall be punished according to the penalties announced above, regard being had to the laws of the place where the act was perpetrated, should those laws be milder.

TUSCANY.

No. 187.

*Viscount Palmerston to R. Abercrombie, Esq.**Foreign Office, 27th December, 1836.*

SIR,

I HEREWITH transmit to you the Copies of a Convention which was concluded on the 30th November, 1831, and of a Supplementary Convention which was concluded on the 22d 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 other Maritime Powers to accede to it; and I accordingly send to you the Draft of a Note to be presented to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Grand Duke, for the purpose of inviting the Government of Tuscany to accede to the above-mentioned Conventions.

The Government of France has been requested to instruct the French Minister at Florence to address a similar invitation to the Grand Ducal Government, and you will therefore delay presenting the enclosed Note till the French Minister shall be authorized to act in conjunction with you.

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

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 187.

Note to be presented to the Government of the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

(Draft.)

THE Undersigned, &c. has received orders from his Government 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 9th 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 _____, the accompanying Copy of the two Conventions above mentioned, as well as of the several Documents annexed to them, and to invite _____, in the name of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to accord accession thereto, by the execution of a formal Treaty to that effect with the Contracting Parties to the original Conventions.

BUENOS AYRES.

No. 188.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 10th February, 1836.

You will find in the archives of the Mission at Buenos Ayres, Instructions which were addressed to Mr. Hamilton, with a view to the conclusion of Treaties with Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves, and you will consider those Instructions as addressed to yourself.

His Majesty's Government have deeply at heart the suppression of this traffic, and you will let pass no opportunity, and omit no efforts, which may afford you a chance of concluding the Conventions in question.

You will, of course, report to me your proceedings under this Instruction.

I am, &c.

H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 189.

H. Hamilton, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 12.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 23d March, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Copy of a Note received from this Government, regarding the reported capture on the Coast of Brazil, by His Majesty's cruizers, of a slaver alleged to be under the Buenos Ayrean colours.

The denial conveyed in this Note that any vessel of the description there given has been chartered in this country, is the first and only information on the subject which has reached this Mission; but, in conformity with what is stated in my answer (also enclosed), I have written on the subject to the Admiral commanding His Majesty's ships on this station.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

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

First Enclosure in No. 189.

His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana to H. Hamilton, Esq.

(Translation.)

Buenos Ayres, 8th March, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c. has been apprized, by the Consul General of the Republic in the Low Countries, that a brigantine called the "*Pezero*," employed in the Slave Trade, commanded by an old pirate, by name Juan Polaz, and sailing under the Buenos Ayrean flag, has been captured off Puerto Seguro, in Brazil, by some English cruizers, after having effected the landing of a part of her cargo on the Coast, but having some negroes of both sexes still on board.

On the receipt of this information, the Government instituted the most minute investigation, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the said brigantine had been chartered in the Republic, and had authority in consequence to carry the Argentine flag; and it has learned with satisfaction that no vessel of that description has been chartered, and that strict attention has been shown to the explicit orders which have been dictated by the Government with respect thereto, in conformity to its principles, to the sentiments of humanity by which it is animated, and to a faithful observance of the compacts into which it has entered with Great Britain; and his Excellency the Governor has instructed the Undersigned to communicate these circumstances to his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty, for his information.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) FELIPE DE ARANA.

Hamilton Hamilton, Esq.
&c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 189.

*H. Hamilton, Esq. to His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana.**Buenos Ayres, 11th March, 1836.*

THE Undersigned Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty has received the Note of the 8th instant, by which the Minister of Foreign Relations communicates the information, transmitted to the Government of Buenos Ayres by the Consul of the Republic of the Low Countries, regarding the capture on the Coast of Brazil, by the King's cruizers, of the brigantine "*Pezaro*," under the colours of this country, for being engaged in the Slave Trade; and by which he announces also that, having instituted the necessary inquiries, the Government has ascertained with satisfaction that no vessel has been chartered here of that description.

The Undersigned has the honour to acquaint Don Felipe de Arana, in answer, that this is the only information on the subject which has been received by the Legation; that neither His Majesty's Government, nor the Commander of His Majesty's ships on the South American Station, has ever intimated to it the capture of any vessel under Buenos Ayrean colours; but that the Undersigned will, nevertheless, make it his duty to submit to his Government, as also to the Admiral in question, the Note which the Government of Buenos Ayres has deemed it expedient to address to him.

His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana,
&c. &c. &c.

The Undersigned, &c
 (Signed) HAMILTON HAMILTON.

No. 190.

*H. Mandeville, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 20.)**Buenos Ayres, 15th July, 1836.*

MY LORD,

ON the 25th June I received information that a brig called the "*Amelia*," under Brazilian colours, was fitting out in this port for the Coast of Africa, for the purpose of conveying slaves from thence to Rio de Janeiro. Unaware in what state of forwardness the preparations for this intention might be, I immediately sent the enclosed Notes to M. Arana, and to the Chevalier de Lisboa, the Brazilian Chargé d'Affaires. I then proceeded to the port to make further inquiries, and obtain more information on this subject. I found that my information was correct on the principal account; but that the vessel had changed her name, was now called the "*Eloisa*," had cleared out from the Custom-house, and would sail the moment the weather permitted. It was then a dead calm, and had been so for two days.

Upon which I immediately despatched a second Note to each of the above-mentioned gentlemen, correcting my error with respect to the name, adding that of the person to whom she was consigned, and stating that she had cleared out for the Cape of Good Hope, as would be seen by the Official Report in the Government Paper of that morning.

On the 27th, a gentleman from the Foreign Office, accompanied by a naval Officer, came to me, at the desire of the Government, to acquaint me that the departure of the vessel had been stopped immediately upon the reception of my 2 Notes addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and that, by order of the Government, they came to inquire of me if I had obtained any further details which might assist them in the researches they were about to make in an examination of the vessel.

I informed them that the brig had on board a number of casks, containing a much greater supply (80 tons) of water than was necessary for the complement of the ship's company which were on board; as also that the report which had reached me of a flush-deck being secreted somewhere in her was no longer doubtful, as I had discovered the name and residence of the carpenter who had made it; that she had a large quantity of specie on board (1500 doubloons, about £4500 sterling), and if the irons for confining the slaves were not thrown overboard I was very certain that they would be found. Upon the departure of these gentlemen I addressed another Letter to the Chevalier de Lisboa.

In the evening I received a Note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which I have the honour to enclose a Copy. He mentions in it, that, immediately on receiving my Note, the Government had stopped the departure of the "*Eloisa*," that orders had been given to examine the vessel, and that the result would be made known to me.

Enclosed are the Answers which the Chevalier de Lisboa addressed to me in reply to my Notes to him. I called upon Señor Arana this morning to inquire what further progress had been made in this business: he told me that a statement of the examination which has taken place of the vessel and of the crew

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individually has been submitted to the Law Officers of the Government, who will make their Report upon it to the Governor-General; and that when his Excellency has decided upon the merits of the Case, his decision shall be made known to me immediately.

I have, &c.
H. MANDEVILLE.

(Signed)

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

First Enclosure in No. 190.

H. Mandeville, Esq., to His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, 25th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that information has been given to me of a vessel called the "Amelia," under the Brazilian flag, which is now fitting out in this port for the Coast of Africa, for the purpose of conveying slaves from that country to Rio de Janeiro and Santos. I am further told that she belongs to a society at Rio, and their agent here is a person of the name of "Vara," who lives in the Plaza Chiea. Of these minor details, your Excellency will have the means of being much better informed than I am; but the circumstance of the fitting out of the vessel for the traffic of slaves is notorious, and has been mentioned to me by several people. I am confident that, in bringing forward this circumstance to your Excellency's notice, I am doing what will be personally most agreeable to your humane feelings, as well as to those of the Government of this country; inasmuch as it will enable both the Government and your Excellency, by putting an immediate stop to this nefarious transaction, to do what is most accordant to the known sentiments of justice and humanity by which you are guided; and in executing an act, than which nothing can be more desirable to His Majesty's Government, His Minister will see in it a new proof of the friendship and good understanding which animate this State in its transactions with them.

His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana,
 &c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.

H. MANDEVILLE.

Second Enclosure in No. 190.

H. Mandeville, Esq., to Le Chevalier de Lisboa.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, 25th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that information has been given to me of a vessel called the "Amelia," under the Brazilian flag, which is now fitting out in this port for the Coast of Africa for the purpose of conveying slaves from that country to Rio de Janeiro and Santos. I am further told that she belongs to a society at Rio, and their agent here is a person of the name of "Vara," who lives in the Plaza Chiea.

In making this communication to you I should feel that I had nothing to add, which can induce you not to lose a moment in urging upon this Government the adoption of the necessary measures for immediately stopping the departure of the above-mentioned vessel, and thereby to destroy, at the outset, a transaction of this iniquitous nature, had I not been at this moment informed that there is some intention of her sailing this evening for her destination.

Le Chevalier de Lisboa,
 &c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.

H. MANDEVILLE.

Third Enclosure in No. 190.

H. Mandeville, Esq., to His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, 25th June, 1836.

SINCE I had the honour to address your Excellency this morning on the subject of the departure of a vessel, under Brazilian colours, for the Coast of Africa for the traffic in slaves, I have been informed that she is called the "Eloisa," that her Consignee is Don Manuel Acevedo de Ramos, and that she has cleared out for the Cape of Good Hope, as will be seen in the Marine Report of the "Gaceta Mercantil" of this morning.

His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana,
 &c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.

H. MANDEVILLE.

Fourth Enclosure in No. 190.

H. Mandeville, Esq., to Le Chevalier de Lisboa.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, 25th June, 1836.

SINCE I had the honour to address you this morning on the subject of the departure of a vessel, under Brazilian colours, for the Coast of Africa for the traffic in slaves, I have been informed that she is called the "Eloisa," that her Consignee is Don Manuel Acevedo de Ramos, that she has cleared out for the Cape of Good Hope, as will be seen in the Marine Report of the "Gaceta Mercantil" of this morning.

Le Chevalier de Lisboa,
 &c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.

H. MANDEVILLE.

Fifth Enclosure in No. 190.

*H. Mandeville, Esq., to Le Chevalier de Lisboa.**Buenos Ayres, 27th June, 1836.*

SIR, I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that, in addition to the particulars which I have already communicated to you respecting the brig "Eloisa," I am informed that she has on board a number of casks containing a much larger supply of water than she can possibly require for her crew alone; as also that the suspicion of her having a flush-deck on board now amounts to a certainty, as I have discovered the name and residence of the carpenter who made it.

I am further informed that these proofs of the intentions attributed to the equipment of this vessel are concealed beneath an ostensible cargo of rice, sugar, rum, and tobacco. It will be, therefore, necessary to discharge certainly a part, if not the whole of it, in order to establish grounds for her condemnation.

I have, therefore, to request that, knowing these particulars, you will not allow the "Eloisa" to depart until it has been clearly ascertained whether the charges against her are proved or not.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. MANDEVILLE.

Le Chevalier de Lisboa,
&c. &c.

Sixth Enclosure in No. 190.

*Don Felipe Arana to H. Mandeville, Esq.**Buenos Ayres, 27th June, 1836.*

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has received the 2 Notes, dated the 25th instant, which his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty addressed to him, informing him that a Brazilian vessel, called the "Eloisa," consigned to Don Manuel Acevedo Ramos, was fitting out in this port for the Coast of Africa with the object of conveying slaves from that country to Rio de Janeiro and Santos, and that this fact was notorious and had been mentioned to the Señor Minister by several persons, and requesting that this Government, guided by its philanthropic feelings, would be pleased to take such measures as are most conformable to the justice and humanity which it is characterised, thus giving a new proof of the friendship and good understanding which animate this State in its dealings with the Government of His Britannic Majesty. The above-mentioned Notes having been laid before his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General of the Province, he has ordered the Undersigned to inform his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary that, as soon as the Government had received them, he hastened to summon the Captain of the Port before the Undersigned, and ordered him to take the measures necessary for the detention of the said vessel, which were carried into execution on the same day; and that, in accordance with this decision, he proceeded immediately to draw up a formal Order, in virtue of which the Government can refuse her departure according to the requisition made: and he will not fail to let his Excellency know the result in due time. God preserve his Excellency many years.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FELIPE DE ARANA.

His Excellency H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

Seventh Enclosure in No. 190.

*M. de Lisboa to H. Mandeville, Esq.**Buenos Ayres, 28th June, 1836.*

M. LE MINISTRE,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the 2 Letters which your Excellency addressed to me on the 25th of this month, to announce to me that you had been informed that the Brazilian vessel "Eloisa," which was about to set sail, was destined for the Coast of Africa, there to engage in Slave Trade, and to transport her slaves to Rio de Janeiro and Santos. In consequence, you request me to take proper measures for stopping the departure of the said vessel, and for preventing the execution of so iniquitous an undertaking.

Having taken into my serious consideration the interesting communication which you have judged it proper to make to me, I hastened to beg his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs to have the goodness to give the necessary orders for preventing the departure of the "Eloisa," until examination be made whether she have on board the articles of equipment with which vessels employed in this abominable trade are furnished; and I have the pleasure of assuring you that I shall continue to take all the measures in my power which may contribute to the clearing up of this important matter.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed)

LISBOA.

His Excellency H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

Eighth Enclosure in No. 190.

*M. de Lisboa to H. Mandeville, Esq.**Buenos Ayres, 29th June, 1836.*

M. LE MINISTRE,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's Letter, dated the 27th instant, in which you communicate to me the information which has reached you, and which raise suspicions that the Brazilian vessel, the "Eloisa," is destined for the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa; and again requesting me to take measures to stop the departure of the said vessel until examination be made whether these suspicions are well founded or not. And I hasten to reply to you that I have just been informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that orders have been given for arresting the departure of the "Eloisa," and for instituting the examination to clear up the suspicions which have arisen respecting this vessel.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

LISBOA.

His Excellency H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

No. 191.

Viscount Palmerston to H. Mandeville, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 5th October, 1836.

I HAVE received and laid before the King your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 15th July last, containing your correspondence with the Government of Buenos Ayres upon the subject of the Brazilian brig "*Eloisa*," the result of which has been the detention of that vessel, on suspicion of being fitted out for the Slave Trade; and I have much satisfaction in conveying to you the expression of His Majesty's approval of the very praiseworthy zeal and activity displayed by you in drawing the immediate attention of the Government of Buenos Ayres to the Case of this vessel.

H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 192.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 22.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 14th September, 1836.

IN my conversation with Señor Arana this morning I requested to be informed what progress had been made towards the condemnation of the brig "*Eloisa*," whose detention I stated to your Lordship in my Despatch, Slave Trade, of 5th July last.

His Excellency informed me that the investigation of this affair was proceeding in the usual course, and he hoped before the departure of the next packet that he should be enabled to make me acquainted with the result.

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

No. 193.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1837.)

(Extract.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 19th October, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I have sought to obtain all the Decrees which have been issued by the different Governments of this republic since the declaration of its independence in the year 1809, that regard the emancipation of slaves or the destruction of slavery; by which will be seen the power that this Government possesses of executing the above-mentioned Article.

I have the honour to enclose them, with their Translations.

The first Decree of 15th May, 1812, forbids the importation of slaves into the territory of the republic; and all vessels arriving at any of its ports after the 25th of that month shall be ordered to quit them; at the expiration of a year any vessel arriving on the Coasts of the republic shall be confiscated, and the slaves declared free.

The second, of 4th February, 1813, prescribes that all slaves coming from foreign countries, in whatever manner introduced, shall from that day be free as soon as they tread the soil of the territory of the United Provinces.

The third, of 3d December, 1816, relates merely to the exportation of slaves from the provinces, which, by this Decree, is prohibited in future: whether it be carried on by natives, subjects of this country, or by subjects of other powers residing in the republic; and also that slaves belonging to persons residing out of these provinces shall come within these regulations.

The fourth, of 3d September, 1824, forbids all persons, arriving in the province from foreign countries with slaves in the capacity of servants, to dispose of them in any manner, either by sale or by letting them out for hire.

The fifth, of 15th November, 1824, declares that the traffic in negroes on the Coast of Africa is piracy.

The sixth, of 15th October, 1831; permits the entry into the province of Buenos Ayres of slaves who are brought in under the character of servants: every former regulation to the contrary being annulled by this Decree.

The seventh Decree, dated 26th November, 1833; in consideration of the evil effects arising out of the Decree of 15th October, 1831, by which permission was granted to import slaves into the province in the character of servants, declares, in the 1st Article, that the enactments prohibiting the traffic in slaves remain in full vigour, more especially those contained in the law of the 15th November, 1824; the four following Articles contain regulations to be observed by the Masters of vessels coming from foreign ports respecting the slaves which are on board.

I have no reason to think that these Decrees are not honestly executed, they certainly have not been evaded, to my knowledge, since I have been here; but I do not find that any one of them authorizes the Government to punish persons fitting out a vessel in the ports of the republic for the traffic of slaves, either by the confiscation of the vessel or in any other manner.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

First Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Decree prohibiting the Introduction of Slaves.

Buenos Ayres, 15th May, 1812.

ARTICLE 1.—The importation of slaves into the territory of the republic is absolutely prohibited.

Article 2.—Those slave-ships which shall arrive within the term of the year, reckoning from the 25th of the present month of May, shall be ordered instantly to quit our ports.

Article 3.—After the year's expiration the expeditions fitted out for this purpose shall, on arriving on our Coasts, be confiscated, the slaves by them conveyed shall be declared free, and the Government will undertake that they be employed in useful occupations.

Article 4.—All the Authorities of the State are specially enjoined to see that this Decree be duly observed and executed, which shall also be published, circulated, and preserved in the archives of this Government.

Second Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Law upon the Introduction of Slaves.

Buenos Ayres, 4th February, 1813.

THE General Assembly prescribes that all slaves coming from foreign countries, in whatsoever manner introduced, shall from this day forward be free, provided they but even tread the soil of the territory of the United Provinces.

Third Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Decree prohibiting the Exportation of Slaves.

Buenos Ayres, 3d December, 1816.

THE extent to which the practice of exporting slaves from these provinces to foreign parts has been of late carried in this neighbourhood having arrested the attention of the Government, and considering as it does that the circumstance above named proves that there is a design on foot to evade the measures which have been passed, and ought to be taken henceforward for the employment in any contingency of this useful arm in the military service of the country, during such time as the conflicts which menace these provinces may require it, it has been determined that from this day forth the exportation of the said slaves be prohibited under severe penalties, whether it be carried on by natives of this country or by subjects of other powers, always reserving to them the right of disposing of them as they may think fit within the territory of the Union; and in order that this Act be not evaded under any pretext whatsoever, it is declared that henceforth slaves belonging to persons residing out of these provinces shall come beneath its regulations.

Let this be communicated to those whom it concerns, and also be published, in order that it may reach the notice of all.

Fourth Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Buenos Ayres, 3d September, 1824.

THE abuses which begin to result from the Decree of the Sovereign Assembly of the 11th January, 1814, explanatory of that of the 4th February, 1813, being evident to the Government, it has, for the purpose of uprooting these abuses in their early growth, resolved on and now decrees the following:

1. Such persons as shall arrive in this province from foreign countries with slaves in the capacity of servants must draw up an account of them for presentation at the Police Office.
2. It shall not be in their power to sell them or hire them out, whatever be the term applied to them, to any person in the country, not even on the condition of removing them from it.
3. In the event of the infringement of any of the preceding Articles, the slave shall be considered free, conformable to the Decree of the Sovereign Assembly of the 4th February, 1813.
4. The Procurator General Protector of the Poor will exact the fulfilment of the provisions of the said Decree in all the Cases which may come beneath his notice.
5. On the reception at the Police Office of the account required by the first Article, the Owner and introducer of the servant-slave shall be furnished with a certified Copy of the account taken.
6. It shall be incumbent on every person falling under the enactments of the preceding Articles, at the time of his departure from the country, to present at the Police Office the slave whom he should have introduced, or to give notice of the place of his residence.
7. The Captain of the Port shall take care that, at the time of his making the usual visit to ships arriving from foreign ports, the persons-passengers in them be made acquainted with the provisions of this Decree.
8. Let this Decree be transcribed for the use of those it concerns, and be inserted in the Official Register.

(Signed)

HERAS.

MANUEL JOSE GARCIA.

Fifth Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Law of the Government of Buenos Ayres, declaring the Slave Trade to be Piracy.

THE Honourable Junta of Representatives of the Province of Buenos Ayres, in the exercise of the ordinary and extraordinary authority with which it is invested, has sanctioned and decreed as follows, which shall have the force and effect of law:

Article 1.—The traffic in negroes on the Coast of Africa is declared piracy.

Article 2.—The citizens of Buenos Ayres who, after the publication of this Law, shall engage in the traffic in negroes, shall be punished as pirates.

Which, by order of the Honourable Body, is communicated to your Excellency for the consequent effects.

God preserve your Excellency many years.

Hall of Sessions, Buenos Ayres,
15th November, 1824.

(Signed)

MANUEL PINTO, *President.*

(Signed)

JOSE SEVERO MALAVIA, *Secretary.*

His Excellency the Governor and Captain-General of the Province,
&c.

&c.

&c.

Sixth Enclosure in No. 193.

(Translation.)

Decree.

Buenos Ayres, 15th October, 1831.

THE Provisionary Government, considering the commerce and traffic in black slaves upon the Coast of Africa as extinguished, does not impose any restrictions upon the free transfer, so that it be justly made, of every slave who may have been already, or who shall be introduced into this province in the capacity of servant. And in the exercise of the ordinary and extraordinary powers with which it has been invested by the Honourable Chamber of Representatives, has determined on and now decrees the following:

Article 1.—From this time forth the transfer in this Province, provided it be justly made, of every slave who is actually, or who shall be introduced into it in the capacity of servant, subsequent to the publication of the Law of the supreme constitutional General Assembly of the 4th February, 1813, is freely authorized: every other disposition to the contrary being, as it ought, annulled in consequence.

Article 2.—Let this be communicated, published, and inserted in the Official Register.

(Signed)

ANCHORENA.

BALCARCE.

GARCIA.

Seventh Enclosure in No. 193.

Decree of the Government of Buenos Ayres for the Prevention of the Slave Trade.

Buenos Ayres, 26th November, 1833.

WHEN the Government by its Decree of the 15th October, 1831, which annulled that of the 3d September, 1824, granted permission to import such slaves as might be imported in the class of servants, it was very far from anticipating that this measure, which was adopted for the purpose of improving the condition of the slaves, who are without doubt benefited by being placed under the protection of our laws, would have afforded a pretext for infringing them and oppressing humanity. These considerations, and the knowledge that the Government possesses that, under the appearance and denomination of servants, black slaves are introduced from the Coast of Africa, and from other points where they are an article of contraband, make it a duty to prevent the commission of such acts, and it therefore resolves and decrees the following:—

Article 1.—The enactments prohibiting the traffic in slaves are declared to be in full vigour, more especially those contained in the Law of 15th November, 1824.

Article 2.—At the time of visiting all vessels coming from foreign parts, the Captain of the Port shall require a list upon oath of the slaves on board, with a specification of their masters.

Article 3.—The list required by the preceding article shall be immediately communicated to the office of police, where the proprietors shall present themselves with their slaves and give an account of them.

Article 4.—If the excessive number of newly imported slaves introduced by any individual shall induce a suspicion that they may have been 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 any other proprietor.

Article 5.—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 “enpatronato” to the informer, on conditions established as a general regulation.

Article 6.—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.

Article 7.—Let this be communicated and published and inserted in the Official Register.

(Signed)

VIAMONT.
MANUEL GARCIA.

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 194.

Thomas S. Hood, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 6.)

MY LORD,

Monte Video, 29th February, 1836.

THE great influx of slave-vessels in ballast, after having landed their cargoes on the Coast of Brazil, have drawn the attention of this Government to the subject. These vessels are all under Portuguese colours, though I believe nearly the whole are Brazilian property put under the flag of Portugal to avoid the penalties which the laws of Brazil impose.

The remonstrance made by your Lordship's Instructions, which have recently been followed up by a similar one from the Brazilian Government, have induced this Government to throw every impediment which it legally can in the way of this generally proscribed traffic; and with this object the enclosed Decree, placing all vessels coming in *ballast* from the Coast of Africa under quarantine, at the discretion of the Government, has been published.

Your Lordship will estimate how far this Decree may be considered to emanate from a real desire on the part of the Government of placing an impediment on slave-dealing, or whether it has just confined itself to comply, to the letter, with the demand of Brazil.

Without imputing any bad motives to the framers of this Decree, I cannot help observing the strange anomaly, that vessels in *ballast* only should be liable to quarantine. It seems almost to say, we have done our duty to our neighbours, and banished vessels from Africa in ballast from our ports, but if you will bring a hundred weight of wax, an elephant's tooth, or a barrel of oil, you will be welcome.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 194.

DECREE.

Department of War and Marine.

(Translation.)

Monte Video, 20th January, 1836.

To avoid sickness which may be introduced into the country by those vessels from the Coast of Africa (unhealthy country) which have landed at other points their cargo of natives of that country, without being able to know the state of health in which they arrive, the Government resolve and decree:—

Article 1. Every vessel arriving from the Coast of Africa in ballast shall remain in quarantine until a new determination of the Government.

Article 2. Let this be communicated, published, and given to the National Register.

(Signed)

ORIBE.

PEDRO LINGUA.

No. 195.

Thomas S. Hood, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston..

MY LORD,

Monte Video, 21st June, 1836.

I VERY much regret to have to communicate to your Lordship the circumstance of the national schooner "*Aguila Segunda*," belonging to D. Jose Maria Platero, a native of this place, having for some time past been publicly preparing in this port for the Slave Trade.

I enclose the Copy of a Letter which I have addressed to the Naval Commander-in-Chief at Rio de Janeiro, informing him of this event.

Although it is probable that this vessel, to avoid the penalties of the law of this country, may be put under a foreign flag, and trade between Africa and

Brazil, yet, nevertheless, the real property and interests in this vessel, and the traffic in which she may be employed, will remain as they are at present, absolutely Monte Videan.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

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

Enclosure in No. 195.

Thomas S. Hood, Esq., to Sir E. Hamond.

SIR,

Monte Video, 14th June, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that a schooner called the "*Aguila Segunda*," under the flag of Monte Video, and commanded by an Italian of the name of Soriano, has been recently fitting in this port to proceed, *viâ* Rio de Janeiro or Bahia, to the Coast of Africa for a cargo of slaves.

Whether this vessel may undergo a transfer to some other flag or not, I am uninformed; but I think it right to apprise you that she is nearly ready for sea, and in all probability may sail for a port in Brazil (before going on the Coast) in the course of a few days.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

E. Hamond, Esq.
 &c. &c.

MEXICO.

No. 196.

R. Pakenham, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 16.)

MY LORD,

Mexico, 13th March, 1836.

I HAD the honour, on the 1st of this month, to receive your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of November 13th, 1835, whereby I am instructed to invite the Government of Mexico to enter into a Treaty for the more effectual abolition of the Slave Trade, and for declaring it to be piracy.

I immediately proceeded to the fulfilment of your Lordship's Instructions by addressing to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs the Note of which I have the honour herewith to enclose a Copy.

From the answer of the Mexican Government, a Copy and Translation of which I have also the honour to enclose, your Lordship will observe, that they at once accede to the principle of the Treaty proposed to them, reserving to themselves, however, to consider more in detail the several stipulations to which they are invited to subscribe.

There is at present no Brazilian Agent accredited to the Government of this Republic.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in 196.

R. Pakenham Esq., to M. Monasterio.

Mexico, 7th March, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acquaint Senor Don José Maria Ortiz Monasterio that His Majesty's Government and the Government of Brazil, being mutually desirous to put an end to the Slave Trade, have agreed that their Agents in Spanish America shall unite in a joint effort to persuade all the Spanish American Governments to enter into Treaties for abolishing that trade, and for declaring it to be piracy.

In fulfilment of this intention, the Undersigned has been instructed to propose to the Government of Mexico a Treaty to the above effect, and to proceed to negotiate the same on the part of the King his Sovereign, in case the Mexican Government should be prepared to accede to the proposal.

The Undersigned has the honour to enclose, for the consideration of Senor Monasterio, a Paper containing the stipulations to which His Majesty's Government would invite the assent of that of Mexico.

The humane and enlightened views of the Mexican Government upon the subject to which the present overture relates are an earnest to the Undersigned that they will gladly embrace the opportunity now afforded to them of co-operating with His Majesty's Government in effecting the total abolition of a trade, of which they have in fact, by repeated public acts, proclaimed their abhorrence and detestation.

The Undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

M. Monasterio,

&c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 196.

M. Monasterio to R. Pakenham, Esq.

(Translation.)

Palace of the National Government, Mexico, 12th March, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c., has laid before his Excellency the President, *ad interim*, the project of a Treaty which Mr. Richard Pakenham enclosed to him in his Note of the 7th instant; and has the honour to inform him, by order of his Excellency, that, although the wishes of the Mexican Government conform most strictly to those of His Britannic Majesty with respect to the abolition of the Slave Trade, as is proved by the several laws which have been issued in the republic for the extinction of that trade, and consequently desire to co-operate in the humane intentions of the British Government, it is, nevertheless, necessary that they should attentively examine the basis of the project of the Treaty above mentioned. And as soon as that has been done, the Undersigned will communicate to Mr. Pakenham their superior determination.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JOSÉ MARIA ORTIZ MONASTERIO.

R. Pakenham, Esq.,

&c. &c.

No. 197.

*R. Pakenham, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 19.)**Mexico, 25th April, 1836.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour herewith to lay before your Lordship a Treaty which, in fulfilment of the Instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of November 13th, 1835, I have concluded with the Mexican Government, for the effectual prevention of the trade in slaves by the citizens of this Republic.

I humbly hope that it may meet with His Majesty's gracious approbation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

PERU.

No. 198.

Mr. Belford Wilson to Viscount Palmerston,—(Received September 27.)

MY LORD,

Lima, 31st May, 1836.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Circular Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of 13th November last, and, in compliance with the Instruction therein contained, I immediately invited the Brazilian Agent resident in Lima to join with me in endeavouring to induce the Peruvian Government to adopt the principle of the Draft of Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and for declaring it to be piracy, enclosed in your Lordship's Despatch.

Mr. Souza Ferreira has acquainted me, that he has received from his Government Instructions to negotiate with Peru a Convention relative to the same object; but that although he has not been directed to join with me in inducing this Government to adopt the principles of the English Draft of Treaty, yet he is willing so to do; at the same time, however, perfectly coinciding with me in opinion of the utter inutility, and even prejudice to the eventual success of the views of the British and Brazilian Governments, of attempting to enter into any negotiation with this section of Peru under its existing political circumstances, as described in my former Despatches.

But the moment any definitive settlement is made respecting the future political state and government of Peru, this shall be the first subject submitted by us both to its consideration.

In my Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 9th July of last year, I explained the state of this question in Peru; since then, the Decree of General Salaverry, therein referred to, has, in common with all his other public enactments, been formally declared to be inoperative and of no effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

VENEZUELA.

No. 199.

Sir Robert Kerr Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 17.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, 12th January, 1836.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Circular of the 13th of November last, relative to the mutual desire of His Majesty's Government, and that of Brazil, to put an end to the Slave Trade, and enclosing a Draft of the Treaty proposed for that purpose to the States of Buenos Ayres and Monte Video.

I shall lose no time in entering into negotiation with the Government of Venezuela, for concluding a Treaty between Great Britain and this country on the basis of the Draft; and so soon as I obtain the notification of agreement on the part of the executive to enter into negotiations, will instantly inform your Lordship.

There not being any Brazilian Agent in the Caracas at this moment, the task will devolve solely on me of inducing the Government to adopt the principles of the proposed Treaty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KERR PORTER.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

UNITED STATES.

No. 200.

Viscount Palmerston to A. Stevenson, Esq.

Foreign Office, 14th December, 1836.

THE Undersigned, &c. has the honour to transmit to Mr. Stevenson, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States, the enclosed Extract from a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, together with the Copy of a representation made by the Commissioners to the Consul of the United States residing in Cuba, relative to the alleged employment of vessels under the flag of the Union to assist Spanish subjects in carrying on the Slave Trade.

His Majesty's Government cannot entertain a doubt that the Government of the United States, upon receiving this information, will feel anxious to take prompt and effectual measures for preventing the flag of the Union from being used for the protection of a traffic which has been denounced as a capital crime by the laws of the United States.

The Undersigned has the honour, &c.

A. Stevenson, Esq.
&c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 200.

Havana Commissioners, October 25th, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 201.

A. Stevenson, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.

23, Portland Place, 19th December, 1836.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States, begs leave to inform Lord Palmerston, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that he had the honour to receive on the 14th instant his Lordship's Note of that day, transmitting to the Undersigned, for communication to his Government, an Extract of a Despatch from His Majesty's Commissioners at Havana, together with a Copy of a representation made by the Commissioners to the Consul of the United States at Cuba, relative to the alleged employment of vessels under the flag of the Union to assist Spanish subjects in carrying on the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned has the honour to acquaint Lord Palmerston that he will take great pleasure in communicating without delay, for the information of his Government, his Lordship's Note and the accompanying Papers; not doubting but that his Government will omit nothing which may be proper to be done for preventing the flag of the United States from being used for the protection of a traffic which has been denounced as piracy by its laws, and for the abolition of which the united efforts of both countries have been sincerely and honestly directed.

The Undersigned avails himself, &c.

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

(Signed) A. STEVENSON.

No. 202.

Viscount Palmerston to H. S. Fox, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 20th January, 1837.

His Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone have reported to me that

they have condemned the Spanish brig "*El Explorador*" for being equipped for the Slave Trade, in violation of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of the 28th of June, 1835.

It appears from the Papers found on board "*El Explorador*" that she belonged to the slave-trading firm of Blanco and Carballo of Havana, the former of whom, Blanco, is notorious for having, for many years, carried on a flourishing Slave Trade from Gallinas, a place only about 150 miles to the southward of Sierra Leone.

One of the above-mentioned Papers contained Instructions from Blanco and Carballo to Josef de Inza, the Master of the "*El Explorador*," in which they inform him, in case of accident, that their Correspondents at Matanzas are Messrs. Peter Muir and Co.; at Baltimore, Messrs. Peter Harmony and Co.; in New York, Robert Barry, Esq.; in Porto Rico, Mr. Peter Cuarch; in Santiago de Cuba, Messrs. Rafael Maio and Brothers; and in Trinidad, Messrs. Fernandez Bartida and Co., upon either of which firms he may draw on account of the expedition he was engaged in.

His Majesty's Commissioners having transmitted a translated Copy of these Instructions, I herewith forward a Copy thereof to you, and I have to instruct you to bring to the notice of the American Government these facts, affording as they do additional proofs of the aid given by the citizens of the United States to slave-dealers, in opposition, as His Majesty's Government believe, to the laws of the United States of America.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 202.

Sierra Leone Commissioners, 5th September, 1836.

(See Class A.)

No. 203.

Viscount Palmerston to H. S. Fox, Esq.

Foreign Office, 21st January, 1837.

SIR,

I HEREWITH transmit to you Copies of two Despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Commission at Havana, containing a correspondence which passed between that gentleman and the Consul of the United States respecting plans which are said to be arranged by the slave-traders of Havana, in connexion with some citizens of the United States, for the carrying on the Slave Trade in American vessels, and under the flag of the United States.

You will be pleased to lay these Papers before the Government of the United States; and you will draw its attention to the statement that Mr. Trist refuses to receive any communication upon the subject of the employment of the flag and citizens of his country in a traffic which the American Government has declared to be piracy.

The attention of the American Minister at this Court was called to the facts brought forward by Mr. Schenley in his Despatch of the 25th October, 1836; and Mr. Stevenson, in his reply, stated that he would with pleasure communicate the Papers upon the subject to his Government, not doubting but that it would omit nothing which might prevent the flag of the United States from being used for the protection of the Slave Trade.

His Majesty's Government is therefore encouraged to hope that the Government of the United States will not hesitate to instruct its Consuls, not only at the Havana but at all other ports at which slave-trading adventures are carried on, not to reject well-authenticated communications which may tend to the detection of any citizens of the United States who may transgress the laws of their country in this respect, but on the contrary to report to their Government all the information which they may acquire upon the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

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

Enclosures in No. 203.

Havana Commissioners, 25th October, and 30th November, 1836.

(See Class A, Nos. 151 and 165).

No. 204.

Viscount Palmerston to H. S. Fox, Esq.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 28th February, 1837.

I HEREWITH transmit to you an Extract from the Report of His Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana upon the state of the Slave Trade of Cuba, in which it is stated that American citizens are openly engaged in that traffic; and I have to instruct you to communicate this statement to the Government of the United States, in support of the representation which you have already been desired to make upon the abuse of the flag of the United States for purposes of the Slave Trade.

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

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 204.

See Havana Commissioners, 2d January, 1837.(See Class A, No. 175.)
