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Class C.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

F O R E I G N P O W E R S,

PARTIES TO THE CONVENTIONS BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

1838-9.

THE
MAGAZINE
OF THE
AMERICAN
SOCIETY
OF
MUSIC
TEACHERS
AND
SINGERS
PUBLISHED
BY THE
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FOREIGN POWERS,

PARTIES TO THE CONVENTIONS BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE,

UPON

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From May 1, 1838, to February 2, 1839, inclusive.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
1839.

LONDON:

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

1839.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY 101

LECTURE NOTES

PLATO'S THEORY OF FORMS

THE DIVISION OF LABOR

THE ALLEGORY OF THE CAVE

THE PHILOSOPHER-KING

THE GOOD

THE SUN

THE DIVINE PART

Class C. 1838-9.

LIST OF PAPERS.

FRANCE.

No.	Date and Receipt.		SUBJECT.	Page
	1838.	1838.		
1.	Mr. Bourquency to Viscount Palmerston	May 12 May 14	Asking for Evidence respecting the "Voltigeur"	1
2.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville	May 24	Printed Papers presented to Parliament	2
3.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville	June 9	Address of the House of Commons	2
4.	Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston	June 15 June 18	Address of the House of Commons	2
5.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bourquency	Aug. 2	"Voltigeur"	3
6.	Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville	Nov. 6	Thanks for the support of the French Minister at Rio de Janeiro	3

DENMARK.

	1838.		1838.	SUBJECT.	Page
7.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Wynn	May 24		Printed Papers	4
8.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Wynn	May 28		Negroes landed at Danish St. Thomas	4
9.	Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Wynn	June 9		Address voted by the House of Commons	4
10.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston	June 1 June 19		Acknowledgment of Despatches	5
11.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	June 9 June 19		Negroes landed at Danish St. Thomas	5
12.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	July 7 July 14		Negroes landed at Danish St. Thomas	5
13.	Sir H. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston Two Enclosures	1839. Jan. 11 1839. Jan. 28		Negroes landed at Danish St. Thomas	7

HANS TOWNS.

14.	Mr. Canning to Viscount Palmerston	May 1 May 4	Acknowledgment of printed copies of Treaties	15
15.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Canning	May 16	Convention: proposed additional Protocol refused	15
16.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Canning	May 24	Printed Papers	16
17.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Canning	June 9	Address of the House of Commons	16

TUSCANY.

18.	Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston	May 15 May 21	Acknowledgment of printed Treaties	17
19.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie	May 24	Papers presented to Parliament	17
20.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie	June 9	Address voted by the House of Commons	17
21.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	June 15 June 26	Acknowledgment of Despatches	18
22.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	June 22 July 6	Address of the House of Commons	18
23.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston One Enclosure	July 26 July 6	Address of the House of Commons	18
24.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	July 7 July 17	Suspected Vessels at Leghorn	19
25.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	July 10 July 20	"Cleopatra" and "San Guiseppe" at Leghorn	20
26.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	July 24 Aug. 3	"San Guiseppe"	20

LIST OF PAPERS.

No.		Date and Receipt.		SUBJECT.	Page
27.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	July 25	Aug. 5	Convention. Question as to the limits of the Right of Search - - -	21
28.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin	Aug. 15		Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	21
29.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin	Aug. 23		Export of Slaves in the Levant - - -	21
	One Enclosure	1838.	1838.		
30.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Aug. 27	Sep. 7	Convention. Delay in the publication of a penal Law - - -	22
31.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Sep. 3	Sep. 14	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	22
	One Enclosure				
32.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin	Oct. 5		Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	23
	Four Enclosures				
33.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 19	Oct. 30	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	26
	One Enclosure				
34.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 22	Nov. 2	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	27
	One Enclosure				
35.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Oct. 26	Nov. 6	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	28
	One Enclosure				
36.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin	Nov. 9		Transport of Slaves in the Levant. Application has been made to Austria -	29
37.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Nov. 21	Dec. 5	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	29
	One Enclosure				
38.	Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston	Nov. 23	Dec. 5	Transport of Slaves in the Levant - - -	30
	One Enclosure				

TWO SICILIES.

39.	Mr. Temple to Viscount Palmerston	May 5	May 21	Convention. Ratifications exchanged February 14 -	31
40.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Temple	May 24		Printed Papers - - -	31
41.	Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Temple	June 9		Address voted by the House of Commons - - -	32
42.	Mr. Temple to Viscount Palmerston	June 3	June 20	Convention. Ratifications exchanged between Naples and France - - -	32

Class C.—1838-9.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS,

PARTIES TO CONVENTIONS.

FRANCE.

No. 1.

M. de Bourqueney to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 14.)

MY LORD,

Londres, Mai 12, 1838.

UNE information judiciaire s'instruit à ce moment à Bordeaux, contre l'armateur et l'équipage du brick le "*Voltigeur*," pour participation à la traite des noirs. Il résulte des déclarations faites par deux matelots, que le "*Voltigeur*," au moment où il transportait à la Havane, sous Pavillon Portugais, un chargement de noirs, aurait été capturé en Juin 1837, par la Goëlette de guerre le "*Griffon*," et conduit à la Dominique. Le Gouvernement Anglais doit posséder sur cette affaire des renseignements nécessaires à la procédure qui s'instruit; et je viens, My Lord, au nom de mon Gouvernement, prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien me mettre à même de transmettre à Paris les documens, qui seraient directement parvenus à l'administration Anglaise.

Veuillez agréer, My Lord, &c.

(Signé)

BOURQUENEY.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

(Translation.)

MY LORD,

London, May 12, 1838.

A JUDICIAL process is now in progress at Bordeaux against the fitter out, and the crew of the brig, the "*Voltigeur*," for being concerned in the Slave Trade. From the declarations made by two sailors, it results, that the "*Voltigeur*," while transporting a cargo of slaves to the Havana, under the Portuguese flag, was captured, in June 1837, by the sloop of war "*Griffon*," and carried into Dominica. The English Government probably have some information as to this Affair, which would be necessary in the proceedings now in progress; and I am now, my Lord, to ask in the name of my Government, that your Excellency will be kind enough to enable me to transmit to Paris the documents which may have come direct to the English administration.

Accept, my Lord, &c.

(Signed)

BOURQUENEY.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, May 24th, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, three copies of two series of papers relating to the Slave Trade, which have been presented to the two Houses of Parliament during the present Session, by Her Majesty's command.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

To His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution, which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer, which, on the 23d of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

You will see, from these papers, the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of this country, for the extinction of the traffic in Slaves.

I am commanded by Her Majesty to instruct you, to communicate these papers to the French Government, and earnestly to press upon them the immediate conclusion of the negotiations, with which you are charged on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

To His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 4.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 18th.)

MY LORD,

Paris, June 15th, 1838.

I YESTERDAY received your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 9th June; and I have this day, in conformity to the instructions contained in it, communicated to Count Molé the resolution unanimously voted by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon the Slave Trade, and the answer which Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

I, at the same time, expressed my hope to the French Minister, that this manifestation of the unceasing and anxious desire of the British Parliament and British Government, for the extinction of the traffic in Slaves, would be met by a corresponding feeling in France; and that the French Government, considering how inefficacious had been the means hitherto employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade, will be disposed to concur in the adoption of such further measures, as may appear best calculated to effect its entire abolition: and I particularly called His Excellency's attention to the length of time which had elapsed, since I addressed to the French Government a note, proposing a draft of a treaty between the five great Powers for the entire suppression of the Slave Trade, and to which note no answer had been as yet returned.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GRANVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 5.

*Viscount Palmerston to M. Bourquenev.**Foreign Office, August 2d, 1838.*

THE UNDERSIGNED, &c. has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note, which was addressed to him on the 12th of May, 1838, by M. Bourquenev, &c., requesting such information and documents, as Her Majesty's Government may be able to procure, in aid of judicial proceedings in the case of the French brig "*Le Voltigeur*," stated to have been captured in June, 1837, by Her Majesty's ship "*Griffon*," while transporting a cargo of negroes to the Havana, under Portuguese colours.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty were requested to send to this office, for communication to M. Bourquenev all the papers which they possessed on the subject.

But the Admiralty have answered, that they possess no information on the subject of the "*Voltigeur*." Their Lordships have therefore been requested to institute an inquiry into the circumstances of the case, and to send to this office any information which can be obtained about it.

The undersigned will lose no time in communicating to M. de Bourquenev the result of these further inquiries.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

M. de Bourquenev,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

MY LORD,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1838.

I AM informed by a Despatch, which I have recently received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Brazil, that Baron Rouen, the French Minister at Rio de Janeiro, has addressed a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he supports the representations, made by Mr. Ouseley for the purpose of inducing the Brazilian Government to issue to the Brazilian Members of the Mixed Slave Trade Commission instructions, similar to those which the British Members of that Commission have received, relative to the conditions which are to entitle a vessel, sailing under the Portuguese flag, to be considered a Portuguese vessel.

And I have to instruct your Excellency to convey to the French Minister, the expression of the thanks of Her Majesty's Government, for the cordial assistance which Baron Rouen afforded to Mr. Ouseley on the occasion in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

His Excellency Earl Granville, G.C.B.

&c.

&c.

&c.

DENMARK.

No. 7.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. W. Wynn.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 24th May, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, a copy of two series of Papers relating to the Slave Trade, which have been presented to the two Houses of Parliament, during the present session, by Her Majesty's command.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

No. 8.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. W. Wynn.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1838.

It appears from a communication, which I have recently received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, that the Spanish Schooner "*Con la Boca*," Ferreira, master, arrived at the Havana on the 25th of February, 1838, from Africa; that it was stated, that in her way from Africa she had stopped at the Danish island of St. Thomas, and that she had landed her cargo of slaves at the last-mentioned possession. You will communicate this statement to the Danish Government, and suggest to them to cause inquiry to be made into the facts of the case, with a view to put a stop to practices of Slave Trade in the Danish West India colonies.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

No. 9.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. W. Wynn.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a Resolution, which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer which, on the 23rd of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that Address.

You will see from these Papers the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of this country, for the extinction of the traffic in slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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

No. 10.

Sir H. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 19.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, June 1st, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches of this series, dated the 19th of April and the 24th of May:—the first, covering copies of Treaties concluded with Holland and the Hanse Towns respectively for the prevention of the traffic in Slaves:—and the other, covering two series of papers, relating to the Slave Trade presented to Parliament during the present session.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 11.

Sir H. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 19th.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, June 9th, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, of this Series, dated the 28th ultimo, relating to the disembarkation of Slaves at the Danish Island of St. Thomas, from on board the Spanish schooner "*Con la Boca.*" In compliance with your Lordship's orders, I have addressed the enclosed note to the Danish Minister, and your Lordship may rest satisfied that the strictest inquiry will be directed to be made into the case. In the meantime, I have had a conversation on the subject with a person just returned from St. Croix, where he held a confidential official situation; he professed himself ignorant of anything of the kind, which could hardly have occurred without it's coming to his knowledge. He suspects that the master has made this declaration at the Havana, in order to conceal more nefarious practices during the voyage.

The price of slaves is at present so low in the Danish West India Colonies, that nothing but the circumstance of being chased would induce a slave trader to bring them there; and he would then probably seek temporary refuge in one of the neighbouring keys or rocky islands which afford harbours.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

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

&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 11.

*Sir H. W. Wynn to M. de Krabbe.**Copenhagen, 5th June, 1838.*

THE undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has received orders to inform his Excellency M. de Crabbe Carisius, that from communications lately received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, it appears that the Spanish schooner "*Con la Boca,*" Ferreira master, arrived there on the 28th of February, and that it was stated, that on her way from Africa she had stopped at the Island of St. Thomas, and had there disposed of her cargo of slaves.

In bringing this circumstance to the knowledge of M. de Crabbe, the undersigned has been instructed to express the conviction of Her Majesty's Government, that every inquiry will be made into the truth of these alleged facts, with a view to putting an effectual stop to practices of Slave Trade in the Danish West India colonies.

The undersigned, &c.

His Excellency M. de Krabbe Carisius, (Signed) H. W. W. WYNN.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

Sir H. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 14.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, 7th July, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a note, which I have received from M. de Krabbe Carisius, in answer to that which I addressed to him on the subject of the supposed landing of slaves at St. Thomas, from on board the Spanish schooner "*Con le Boca*."

Your Lordship will observe, that the Danish Minister promises that every inquiry shall be made into the case; but that by the regular lists of arrivals and departures received from St. Thomas it appears, that the "*Con le Boca*" arrived there on the 11th of February, in ballast, and sailed again the next day, having only landed four passengers.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 12.

M. de Krabbe to Sir H. W. Wynn.

MONSIEUR LE CHEVALIER,

Copenhagen, ce 22 Juin, 1838.

J'AI l'honneur de vous prévenir, en réponse à l'office que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser, en date du 5 du courant, que j'ai d'abord engagé l'autorité compétente à faire faire des recherches à St. Thomas, pour découvrir si le bâtiment Espagnol "*Con la Boca*," Capitaine Ferreira, y auroit effectivement débarqué et vendu une cargaison d'esclaves, et pour faire poursuivre les coupables selon la rigueur des lois. Aussitôt que je serai informé du résultat de ces recherches, je m'empresserai, Monsieur le Chevalier, de vous en faire part, mais je dois néanmoins porter préalablement à votre connaissance, que la Chambre Royale des Douanes et de Commerce vient de recevoir de St. Thomas un rapport, d'après lequel le dit bâtiment, de la capacité de 115 tonneaux, y seroit entré le 11 Février dernier sur son lest, sans aucune cargaison quelconque, et qu'il seroit reparti le lendemain, en ne débarquant à St. Thomas que 4 passagers, qu'il avait eûs à son bord.

Agréez, &c.

Sir H. W. Wynn,

(Signé)

KRABBE CARISIUS.

&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No 12.

(Translation.)

M. de Krabbe to Sir H. W. Wynn.

MONSIEUR LE CHEVALIER,

Copenhagen, June 22, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, in reply to the note which you kindly addressed to me under date of the 5th instant, that I have already desired the proper authority to cause inquiries to be made at St. Thomas, to discover whether the Spanish vessel "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, did really disembark and sell a cargo of slaves there, and to cause the guilty parties to be prosecuted with the rigour of the laws. As soon as I shall be informed of the result of these inquiries, I shall hasten to communicate the same to you; but I must, nevertheless, in the first place, bring to your knowledge, that the Royal Chamber of Customs and Commerce has just received from St. Thomas a report, according to which the said vessel, of 115 tons burthen, entered in ballast on the 11th of February last, without any cargo whatever, and departed thence the next day, only landing at St. Thomas four passengers whom she had on board.

Accept, &c.

Sir H. W. Wynn,

(Signed)

KRABBE CARISIUS.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 13.

Sir H. W. Wynn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 28.)

MY LORD,

Copenhagen, January 4th, 1839.

IN reference to my Despatches of this series, dated the 9th June and the 7th July, 1838, I have the honour to enclose a note from M. de Krabbe, covering a copy of the examinations which have taken place at St. Thomas, on the subject of the Spanish schooner "*Con la Boca*," from on board which it was suspected that slaves had been landed.

Your Lordship will observe, that there does not appear to have been any ground for this accusation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. W. W. WYNN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

First Enclosure in No. 13.

M. de Krabbe to Sir H. W. Wynn.

MONSIEUR LE CHEVALIER,

(No date.)

C'est en me référant à mon office du 22 Juin dernier, que j'ai l'honneur aujourd'hui de vous faire parvenir ci joint, le procès verbal des interrogatoires du Tribunal de l'Isle de St. Thomas, qui ont eu lieu pour decouvrir si le batiment Espagnol "*Con la Boca*," Capt. Ferreira, aurait effectivement débarqué et vendu dans l'isle, une cargaison d'esclaves. D'après les depositions des temoins, on ne saurait admettre qu'un tel fait eût eu lieu, et il y a une circonstance qui semble devoir lever tous les doutes à cet egard, c'est que le navire était muni de papiers de bord des autorités Anglaises, prouvant qu'il vint sur *son lest* de *Sierra Leone*, d'ou on ne peut supposer que le Gouverneur de Sa Majesté Britannique pouvait permettre l'exportation d'esclaves.

Veuillez recevoir, &c.

(Signé)

KRABBE CARISIUS.

To Sir H. W. Wynn,

&c. &c. &c.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR LE CHEVALIER,

(No date.)

It is with reference to my letter of the 22nd June last, that I have now the honour to send to you herewith the procès-verbal of the examination, which took place before the Tribunal of the Island of St. Thomas, for the purpose of discovering if the Spanish vessel "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, had really disembarked and sold a cargo of slaves in that Island.

According to the depositions of the witnesses, it cannot be admitted that such a thing took place; and there is one circumstance, which apparently ought to remove all doubt in this respect, and that is, that the vessel was furnished with papers from the authorities at Sierra Leone, proving that she came in ballast from Sierra Leone, from which place it cannot be supposed that Her Britannic Majesty's Governor would permit the export of slaves.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

KRABBE CARISIUS.

To Sir H. W. Wynn,

&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure in No. 13.

Minutes of Evidence taken in the Police Courts at St Thomas.

I, Hans Henrich Berg, Knight of the Dannebrog, and of the Legion of Honour, Councillor of State, Town Sheriff, and Master of Police in the Jurisdiction of St. Thomas, do hereby certify, that on the 5th October, 1838, at one

o'clock, p. m., the Police Court of St. Thomas was opened, held, and administered by the undersigned, in presence of the witnesses Hoyer and Brixen, when the Court proceeded to the following

Examination of Evidence, for the purpose of investigating the truth of a report, that a Spanish schooner, "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, had touched at this Island, and there sold a cargo of slaves.

The Police Master produced the Government order for instituting this examination, together with the letter therein referred to from the Royal General Board of Customs and Commerce.

The said documents are worded as follows :

Translation of the Government Order.

His Excellency the Governor-General has written to me under date the 20th instant, as follows :

" In transmitting the accompanying letter from the Royal General Board of Customs and Commerce, of the 19th January this year, I have, in conformity with the tenor of the same, to request you will cause an accurate investigation to be made, as to how far what has been reported concerning the cargo of slaves mentioned in the same, is founded in truth, and that you will send information here of the result as soon as possible.

In reference to the above, and transmitting along with this the above-mentioned letter from the General Board of Customs and Commerce, I have to request you to institute the investigation commanded, and thereafter, as soon as possible, to communicate the result here.

Government of St. Thomas and St. John's, St. Thomas, 24th Sept. 1838.

To M. Police Master Gad.

F. OXHOLM.

Produced in the Police Court of St. Thomas, 5th October, 1838.

H. H. BERG.

Translation of the Letter from the General Board of Customs and Commerce.

The Department of Foreign Affairs has informed this Board, that the British Ambassador here has reported to the same, that the British Commissioners established at Havana for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have reported that a Spanish schooner, "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, which came to Havana on the 28th February this year, did, on her voyage from Africa, call at St. Thomas, where the cargo of slaves she had on board was sold.

On this occasion, this Board, at the instance of the Foreign Department, must request the Governor-General to cause an investigation to be made as to whether this is really the case ; and if so, to proceed against the parties concerned according to law.

The General Board hopes to receive the earliest possible information of the result of this.

General Board of Customs and Commerce, 19th June, 1838.

SCHMANN,

WEDEL,

THONNING,

FRANCKE,

MALLING,

PRUESSER.

To the General Government of the Danish West India Islands.

Produced in the Police Court of St. Thomas, 5th October, 1838.

H. H. BERG.

In reference to the above, the Police Master had requested the Royal Custom house, and also the Harbour Office, to communicate to him such elucidations as they might be able to furnish ; in consequence of which he yesterday received from the Custom-house, and to-day from the Harbour Office, the reports which are now produced.

These reports are worded as follows :

Translation of the Report from the Custom-house.

Your Honour has requested me to transmit you all the information which the Custom-house is able to furnish respecting a Spanish schooner called "*Con la Boca*," which, according to the information sent to the General Board of Customs and Commerce, arrived at Havana on the 28th February this year, and on her way

from Africa touched at St. Thomas, where it is said that the cargo of slaves that she had on board was sold.

- According to what is shown by the Custom-house books, the said schooner "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, having arrived here on Sunday the 11th February this year, was cleared in on the 12th, in ballast from Sierra Leone, and on the same day was cleared out again in ballast to Havana. Both the inward and outward entries were made through the broker's office; and it follows as a matter of course, that the Captain must have exhibited a clearance and other ship's papers issued at Sierra Leone, from which place I presume that no slaves can possibly be exported.

On the days in question I was at St. Croix, but my clerk, at the broker's office, assures me that the schooner's papers from Sierra Leone were in complete order, that the Captain himself made the clearance, and that no one accompanied him to the Custom-house.

As during a long period of years no vessel with slaves had called at St. Thomas, the arrival of such a cargo must have awakened general attention; but I have never heard any surmise of such a thing having happened, and one should think that nobody here would venture to have anything whatever to do with this disgraceful and prohibited traffic.

St. Thomas, Custom-house, 4th October, 1838.

With the greatest respect,

C. D. ECKHARD.

To Sir H. H. Berg.

Councillor of State, Police Master, &c.

Produced in the Police Court, St. Thomas, 5th October, 1838.

H. H. BERG.

Translation of the Report from the Harbour Office.

In consequence of your Honour's application for information respecting the schooner "*Con la Boca*," occasioned by a letter from the Royal General Board of Customs and Commerce, dated 19th June, this year, I have, by the present, the honour to mention that I was at the time Harbour Assistant, under Captain Rhode, the Captain of the Harbour, but from the 1st to the 14th February I was lying sick of fever, and a person who was then in my private service, of the name of John Moller, did at that time attend to my duties in the Harbour.

It is found by the Harbour books, that the said schooner came in here on the 11th February from Sierra Leone in ballast, and sailed again on the 12th February to Havana, in the same way as she came in, and that she reported a 22 days' passage and 4 passengers.

There cannot be any doubt but that the said vessel had a clearance from Sierra Leone in ballast; since, on the arrival of each vessel, her clearance manifest, maritime pass and muster-roll, and whatsoever other documents may serve to give information of ship and cargo, are always, without exception, called for.

The aforesaid Moller has stated to me, that he recollects that at the time in question, there came in a schooner from Sierra Leone in ballast, with ship's papers from thence, and that when she came into the harbour her hatches were open, and that she had ballast of stones and of casks with water, and that the Captain stated that he had bought the schooner in Sierra Leone. Moller remarked also that he had heard at the same time some watermen, who were alongside of the schooner, say that they thought she was the same schooner that some days before had been lying off and on near the south coast of St. Thomas; and is not able to give any more information on the matter.

I consider that it would be an impossibility for a slave ship to land slaves on this Island without such being discovered; but possibly the said schooner, on her voyage from Sierra Leone may have called at the slave coast, have taken on board a cargo of negroes there, landed them at Porto Rico, cleared the ship, and thereafter have come into this harbour, as direct from Sierra Leone.

Harbour Office, St. Thomas, 5th October, 1838.

With the greatest respect,

F. A. KLÆR.

To State Councillor Berg,
Police Master, Knight, &c.

Produced in the Police Court, St. Thomas, 5th October, 1838.

H. H. BERG.

CLASS C.

In consequence of the above, the Police Master sent for the person mentioned in the Report of the Harbour Master, viz. John Moller, who now appeared, and who, on being interrogated, deposed, that he recollects that in February last, there came into this port a Spanish schooner in ballast, with muster-roll and clearance from Sierra Leone; her hatches were open, and, in addition to the ballast, which was of stone or gravel, she had some water casks, he believes only five. The deponent does not remember the name either of the Captain or of the vessel, but he recollects that the Captain mentioned he had bought the schooner in Sierra Leone. He also recollects having heard some watermen, who came alongside of the schooner, say that they thought that the same schooner had, some days previously, been lying off and on near the south coast of St. Thomas. The deponent cannot at all recollect who these watermen were, and is unable to give any more information on this matter. Being asked who went along with him when he was on board the said schooner, the deponent answered that he went on board the vessel on the part of the Harbour Master; the Harbour Assistant, Captain Kiær, was at that time ill. Besides the deponent there were in the harbour-boat two men, viz. Nicholas, a negro, belonging to Miss Bentzen, and Charles, a free mulatto, who belongs to Tortola. Being asked whether he can recollect having subsequently seen any person belonging to the said vessel, he said no, and that he had not particularly noticed them. Dismissed.

As the Report of the Harbour Master states, that four passengers came here with the aforesaid schooner, the lists of travellers kept at the police office were accordingly inspected, and it was thereby found that four persons, viz. E. Campbell, Jean Porrier, Adolph Gaspard, and Martin Isebia, are reported on the 12th February last as having come here with the Spanish schooner "*Con la Boca*," Captain Gaspar Ferreira, from Sierra Leone. In consequence of this two officers were immediately despatched by the Police Master, to find out the said passengers, and bring them into the Court.

Nicholas, a negro belonging to Miss Bentzen, appeared. He states his age to be 19 years, and that he professes the Catholic religion. After having been cautioned to speak the truth, he deposed, that he, along with mulatto Charles, did in the beginning of this year, the precise time he cannot recollect, row John Moller to a schooner which had come from Sierra Leone. The deponent did not hear either the schooner's or the Captain's name mentioned; he recollects that the hatches were open, and that she had nothing else in than ballast and some water casks. The deponent does not recollect any of the crew, or of the passengers that were on board, and it would also be a difficult matter for him to recollect, inasmuch as he who rows the harbour-boat sees strangers continually; he, however, recollects that a waterman who was alongside of the schooner said that she had passed by a day or two before, but who that waterman was he cannot recollect. He added that he knows no more whatsoever in the way of information. Dismissed.

Charles, a free mulatto, born in Tortola, appeared. He knows not his age, he supposes he is about twenty years old. He says that he does not know to what religion he belongs, but, nevertheless, he occasionally attends the Catholic Church. Whereupon, after being cautioned to speak the truth, he further deposed; that he was in the habit of rowing the harbour-boat along with the negro Nicholas, and was employed in this way in February this year. He has not, however, the least knowledge of or recollection about any schooner which came from Sierra Leone, neither does he recollect at any time having heard any waterman make any remark about any schooner having lain to, or off and on, near this island. On being interrogated, the deponent further declares, that he recollects that Captain Kiær was ill in the beginning of this year, and that John Moller went out in the harbour boat in his stead, but the deponent cannot recollect if at that time they went on board any schooner arrived from Sierra Leone. Dismissed.

The Police Master stated that the passengers in question, who had come with the said ship, were not to be found by the officers who had been sent in quest of them, and who reported that they had left the island, on which occasion it was found by inspection, that Edward Cambell had, on the 17th July this year, taken a passport for Guayana, and that Adolph Gaspard, likewise had, on the 23rd July, taken a passport for Hayti.

In consequence of its being noted in the column of "Remarks," that E. Cambell had said that he was to be found at Vidals, a messenger was despatched for the latter person, who attended and appeared in Court. He stated his name to be

Cécil Vidal, and that he is a burgher and merchant of this place. He was cautioned to speak the truth, and thereupon deposed, that he knows E. Cambell who is a seafaring person; he recollects that he came hither in the beginning of the year with a schooner from Sierra Leone; this he had told the deponent, but he did not mention, or at all events the deponent does not recollect his having mentioned, the name of either the schooner or the captain. The deponent has never heard that a cargo of slaves was sold here from any such schooner, and knows nothing whatever to communicate on the subject. It is known to the deponent that Cambell is gone to Porto Rico. Dismissed.

After the messengers who had been despatched had further stated, that Jean Porrier and Martin Isebia were not to be found, but, according to the report of Anthony Marselly, had quitted the island, this last-mentioned person whose name appears in the column of remarks, opposite the names of the other two persons, was sent for, whereupon he appeared and declared, that he had known Jean Porrier and Martin Isebia at Curaçoa, to which they belong, and that they both quitted this island as sailors, but with what vessels he knows not. He recollects that they both came here from Sierra Leone in the beginning of this year; the precise time he cannot specify, but with what vessel or captain he knows not, and it is entirely unknown to him, whether or not any slaves were sold from the vessel by which they came, whereabout for the rest, the deponent has not heard anything whatsoever, nor is he possessed of any information on the subject. Dismissed.

As it was ascertained that the Adolph Gaspard had lodged some time with a person of the name of Antoine Plocq, who keeps an eating-house for the lower classes, the latter person was accordingly sent for, and now appeared. After being cautioned to speak the truth, he deposed, that Adolph Gaspard came in the beginning of the year to this island, by the same conveyance as a person of the name of Cambell from Sierra Leone, but with what vessel or captain, he knows not; the deponent never heard that the vessel in question had sold slaves here; as far as the deponent understood from Gaspard, she had been taken by the English off the coast of Africa; this is all the deponent knows about the matter.

Some time after Gaspard's arrival he went into partnership with the deponent as keepers of an eating-house, and remained in that connexion about two months and a half, when, having received letters from his family in France, he left this for Hayti, with a view of proceeding from thence to Havre de Grace. Dismissed.

The Police Master remarked that on inspection being made, it appears that, in the list of travellers arriving, Edward Cambell is entered as having arrived from Puerto Rico on the 23rd of February, to which island it is found that he took a passport on the 14th of the same month, consequently, two days after his first arrival; further, it appears that Adolph Gaspard is entered as having arrived from Puerto Rico on the 20th of February, and that he took lodgings at the house of Joseph Donadiello.

In consequence whereof the said Joseph Donadiello was sent for, who now appeared and deposed *præminaliter*, that he was born at Naples, professes the Catholic religion, and keeps a house for sailors. After having been cautioned to speak the truth, he deposed, that he recollects Adolph Gaspard, who, from what he told him, came from Sierra Leone in company with a person of the name of Cambell and that he understood they had both been made prisoners by the English in Africa, but by what conveyance or with what captain the deponent knows not; he has not the least knowledge as to any slaves having been sold from any vessel with which Gaspard and Cambell had come, and he has never heard a word on the subject; the deponent does not know Cambell; it is known to the deponent that Adolph Gaspard, who was a cook by profession, some days after his arrival here, went to Puerto Rico with a view, as he mentioned, of getting some money which was owing to him for two voyages, which the deponent thought he could remember that Gaspard said were made from Africa to Puerto Rico; he had not communicated any more on the subject, and the deponent can give no more information thereabout. Shortly afterwards, Adolph Gaspard came back from Puerto Rico, and after the lapse of some time he entered into partnership with Plocq, the keeper of an eating-house; he subsequently quitted this for France. Dismissed.

The Police Master stated, that he had not been able to procure any further intelligence of what had become of Jean Porrier and Martin Isebia, than what Anthony Marselly had reported. But, as it would be very desirable towards the further possible elucidation of the case, to get these persons examined, and as there were no sufficiently satisfactory accounts of their having left the Island, this

examination was therefore adjourned to Monday next, and it was enjoined the police-officers to renew their search after these persons.

The above proceedings certified by

H. H. BERG.

On the 8th October, 1838, at 11 o'clock A.M., the Police Court of St. Thomas was opened, held, and administered by the undersigned in presence of the witnesses, Hoyer and Eichingen, when the preceding examination was continued—

The Police Master stated, that Jean Porrier and Martin Isebia, have been in vain searched for by the Police. He thereafter produced a letter from the Harbour-office, of this day's date.

The said letter is worded as follows:—

In reference to my letter of 5th instant, regarding the schooner "*Con la Boca*," I have the honour to inform you that I have since heard the Clerk of the Harbour-office, M. J. de Pontevice, say, that he believed he could recollect, that when the said schooner was cleared out, a clerk from the commercial house of Anduze, Yverne, and Co., came to the office along with the captain, as his conductor.

With the greatest respect,

(Signed)

J. A. KIÆR.

Harbour-office, St. Thomas, 8th October, 1838.

To His Honour, State Councillor Berg,

Police Master, K. D., &c. &c.

Produced in the Police Court, St. Thomas, 8th October, 1838,

(Signed)

H. H. BERG.

In consequence of the above letter, and in pursuance of a summons sent, there attended and appeared in Court, Jean de Pontevice, clerk to the Harbour-office. He depones, that as there was lately made inquiry at the Harbour-office on the part of the Police, respecting the Spanish schooner "*Con la Boca*," Captain Ferreira, the Register was accordingly examined, when it was found that the said schooner and captain arrived on the 11th February this year, and sailed again on the following day. According to the entries made, she came from Sierra Leone in ballast, and went likewise in ballast to Havana. In calling to mind the name "*Con la Boca*," it struck the deponent that a clerk from the commercial house of Anduze, Yverne, and Co., had attended the captain as his conductor, but the deponent is by no means sure of this, and the deponent would not have been able to recollect anything about the matter, were it not that the name "*Con la Boca*," as a remarkable name, excited his attention, and occasioned him to ask the person who went along with the captain what it signified, who gave this curious reply in English:—"It means with the mouth." The name of this person, the deponent cannot recollect, and, as before said, it merely struck him that he was one of Anduze, Yverne, and Co.'s clerks. The deponent has never before now heard, that the said vessel sold here a cargo of slaves; that is to say, all the information he has on the subject is, what is contained in the letter from the Board of Customs and Commerce. The deponent is of opinion, that the report of a cargo of slaves having been sold here, is utterly false, and that such a transaction could not possibly take at this island, and so much the less in this particular instance, as the schooner came from an English settlement, and scarcely remained here longer than from the evening of one day till the morning of the next, as she was one of the last vessels that arrived here on the 11th of February this year, and one of the first that cleared out on the following morning. The deponent declared that he knows nothing further to communicate in elucidation of this matter. Remanded.

Jean Baptiste Anduze, burgher and merchant of this place, chief of the commercial house of Anduze, Yverne, and Co., having been sent for, now attended and appeared in Court. On being interrogated, he deposed, that he knows of no schooner, "*Con la Boca*," commanded by Captain Ferreira, and has not the least knowledge of any such schooner having been here from St. Thomas; and he is perfectly certain that no such vessel was addressed to his house, or that his house had anything in the least degree to do with it. He has never heard of any vessel having sold a cargo of slaves at this island. He was thereupon informed by the Court of the opinion which had been started, that one of the clerks of his house had accompanied Captain Ferreira to the Harbour-office, to which he answered, that this must be a mistake, as none of his clerks had anything to do with him, for that he, the deponent, having heard that it had been mentioned at the Custom-house, that one of his clerks had accompanied the captain, he had accordingly questioned his clerks whether this was the case or not, when they all

answered that they knew nothing about the matter. The house has at present three clerks, viz., Pierre Constant, Peché Goyriis, and Jules Anduze. Being asked whether these clerks were in his service on the 11th February this year, the deponent answered, that he is not certain whether Peché was in the employment of the house, or in Yverne's private service. It is only about two months since Goyriis entered into the service of the house; but Jules Anduze was in the service of the house. The deponent then further stated, that at the time in question there was another person in his service of the name of Mancilla.—Dismissed.

Jean de Pontevice again appeared, who, on being interrogated, deposed that it is quite correct that M. Anduze (after it had been mentioned at the Harbour-office that one of the clerks of his house accompanied the Captain,) had caused inquiry to be made respecting the report. His partner, M. Gremon, had on that occasion called and asked about it, to which the deponent answered in the same manner as he has above explained, that it had struck him that such was the case, but only faintly.

Pierre Consant Peché, clerk to Anduze, Yverne and Co., appeared. He stated that he had been in this house's service ever since it was established, and consequently he was in its service in February last. Being interrogated, he thereafter deposed that he knows nothing of any schooner, "*Con la Boca*," commanded by Captain Ferreira, and that no such vessel has ever been consigned to the house of his principals, neither has he gone along with the Captain of any such vessel. Being asked of whom the house's clerks consisted in the month of February last, the deponent answered, that, in addition to himself, there were two persons, named Mancilla and Jules Anduze.—Dismissed.

Jean de Pontevice, who was present, declared that he is certain that this Pierre Constant Peché was not the person who accompanied Captain Ferreira, in the manner above described by the deponent.

Victor Mancilla having been sent for, appeared, and deposed that he has been employed as a clerk by the house of Anduze, Yverne and Co., and was in their service in the month of February last. He has never heard the name "*Con la Boca*" until now in this Court, and knows of no such schooner; neither does he know Captain Ferreira, much less has he accompanied any such Captain to the Harbour-office or Custom-house; nor has he any knowledge whatever of any such vessel having been consigned to the house of his *then* principals: he adds, that his duties were always confined to the house, and that he never attended at the Custom-house or Harbour-office. On being interrogated, the deponent further stated that beside him there were no others in the service of the house than Constant and Jules Anduze in the month of February last.—Dismissed.

Jean de Pontevice, who was present, declared, in reference to the last deponent, that he never saw him in the Harbour-office or Custom-house, and consequently he is not the person who attended Captain Ferreira. In respect to Jules Anduze, the deponent added that he knows him perfectly well, and is perfectly certain that it was not him either who called with Captain Ferreira.—Jean de Pontevice dismissed.

José Yverne, burger and merchant in this place, partner of the commercial house of Anduze, Yverne and Co., appeared. On being interrogated, he deposed that he does not know any schooner of the name "*Con la Boca*;" he, however, knows three brothers of the name Ferrer, but none of the name of Ferreira; the three brothers whom the deponent knows are natives of Catalonia. No such schooner as the one in question has been consigned to his house; for which reason he was not a little surprised, a couple of days ago, at hearing that it had been mentioned that a clerk of their house had attended the Captain to the Custom-house and Harbour-office; on which occasion M. Anduze had questioned the house's clerks, who knew nothing about the matter; and he likewise caused inquiry to be made at the Custom-house. On being interrogated, the deponent declares that he has not heard of any cargo of slaves having been sold at this island; and being further interrogated, he added that his house's clerks in the month of February this year consisted of Pierre Constant Peché, Mancilla and Jules Anduze.—Dismissed.

Adolph Gremon, burger and merchant of this place, and partner of the commercial house of Anduze, Yverne and Co., appeared. Being interrogated, he deposed that he knows no schooner of the name of "*Con la Boca*," neither does he know Captain Ferreira. It was only a couple of days ago that he heard that it had been reported that a clerk of their house had been along with the Captain to the Custom-house or Harbour-office, which occasioned M. Anduze to question the clerks in the

house, who knew nothing about it; and on this occasion the deponent called at the Custom-house, to get information as to how the matter was, but there had been no clerk from the deponent's house at the Custom-house. On the other hand he heard that it was M. Pontevice, the clerk of the Harbour-office, who had said that it was one of the clerks of the house who had been along with Captain Ferreira. Whereupon the deponent took Pierre Constant Peché along with him, and confronted him with Pontevice, who maintained that he was the person, and that he would take his oath on it, although Constant Peché denied it in the most positive manner. On being interrogated, the deponent added that in last February the house's clerks consisted of the said Constant Peché, Mancilla, and Jules Anduze; he further added, that he has no knowledge whatever of any vessel having sold a cargo of slaves at this island, and that no such vessel had been consigned to the deponent's house, nor had his house in any the least degree had anything to do with such a vessel.—Dismissed.

The Police Master remarked, that in consequence of Gremon's deposition he sees reason for again examining Jean Pontevice and Pierre Constant Peché. But as both these persons had left the Court, and as the time besides was expired, this matter was therefore adjourned till to-morrow at 10 o'clock. Whereupon the Court broke up.

Above proceedings certified by

H. H. BERG.

On the 9th October, 1838, at 10 o'clock A.M., the Police Court of St. Thomas was opened, held, and administered by the undersigned, in the presence of the witnesses Hoyer and Eichingen: when the preceding examination was continued.—

Pierre Constant Peché attended in consequence of a summons received, and appeared in Court. On being asked "whether he had not been at the Harbour-office along with Mr. Gremon to get an explanation of what had passed in reference to the schooner '*Con la Boca*,'" he answered, that such was really the case; viz. that he had gone along with Gremon both to the Custom-house and to the Harbour-office. At the Custom-house nobody recollected having seen any person with Captain Ferreira when he cleared; but Pontevice, the clerk at the Harbour-office, said that it was the deponent who had been with the Captain, and that he had asked deponent "what the name '*Con la Boca*' meant," and that the deponent had translated it, although he, the deponent, affirmed that he had not attended the Captain, that he had never been asked, nor had he translated what the name "*Con la Boca*" meant; still Pontevice had persisted in erroneously maintaining that it was the deponent whom he had seen with the Captain; and he had even gone so far as to say he would take his oath on it. The deponent had asked him how he could take upon himself to say such thing, and on what he could ground such an assertion. Whereupon Pontevice had answered, that he grounded it on his memory. Latterly, however, he has become convinced of his error, and on this occasion has begged the deponent to pardon the mistake he had been guilty of.

Jean de Pontevice likewise appeared, to whom was pointed out the contradiction which exists between his deposition and that which Gremon and also Peché had made. To which he replied, that he certainly had been under the impression that it was Peché who came along with the Captain, and that it seemed to him so certain, that he had said that he would swear to it; but subsequently, on mature reflection, it appears to him that he was mistaken, and to such a degree, that he is quite sure, as he already stated yesterday, that it was not the present Constant Peché who had attended the Captain. He, however, added, on being more closely questioned by the Court, that he is not so very sure about it as that he can swear that it was not Constant Peché; but, on the other hand, he is ready to affirm on oath that, according to the best of his recollection, it was not Constant Peché who accompanied Captain Ferreira.—Dismissed.

As no more evidence was to be obtained at the time, the examination was closed, in order to be written out and sent to his Honour the Governor. Whereupon the Court broke up.

The above proceedings certified by

H. H. BERG.

Conformable with the Police Journal of St. Thomas, and with the documents produced.

Witness the Jurisdiction Seal, and my Signature,

(Signed)

H. H. BERG. (L.S.)

These are to certify that the foregoing is a faithful Translation of the Original Danish Document exhibited to me.

Witness my Hand and Seal,

(Signed)

J. MAC CAUL, *Interp. Reg. Jour.*

Copenhagen, 31st December, 1838.

HANS TOWNS.

No. 14.

Mr. Henry Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 4th.)

MY LORD,

Hamburgh, 1st May, 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, dated April 19th, transmitting to me two printed copies of an additional article to the Treaty concluded at the Hague on the 4th of May, 1818, between Great Britain and the Netherlands, for the prevention of the traffic in slaves:— Also two printed copies of a Treaty by which the Hanse Towns have acceded to the Conventions between His late Majesty and the King of the French, for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves; and also two printed copies of a Treaty, by which the Grand Duke of Tuscany has acceded to the above-mentioned Convention between His late Majesty and the King of the French.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY CANNING.

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

No. 15.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Henry Canning.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 16th, 1838.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 6th of February, relating to the provisions of the Sixth Article of the Convention of accession of the Hanse Towns, to the Conventions between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

It appears from your Despatch, that apprehensions have been entertained by some of the merchants of Bremen and Hamburgh, that the provisions of that Article might expose to the risk of capture or detention, their merchant ships fitted up *bonâ fide* for carrying free emigrants as passengers; and that for the purpose of guarding against such apprehended risk, a proposition had been made on the part of the Senates of the Hanse Towns, that the Plenipotentiaries who signed the said Convention of Accession, should further sign and make public a Declaratory Protocol, giving power to the Senates to grant to masters of vessels a particular form of passport or certificate, under which vessels should pass free of seizure.

I entirely approve of the objection which you stated to the plan for empowering the Senates to issue to the masters of vessels any certificate to the effect proposed; for it cannot be doubted that such a measure would be open to abuse, and would be liable to be taken advantage of by fraudulent persons, for the purpose of evading the objects of the Convention.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, decline to agree to the Protocol, and its accompanying certificate; but you will state to the Senate of the Hanse Towns, that no inconvenience whatever has hitherto resulted from the Article in question, to the emigrant ships of France and England, and that there does not appear to be any reason to apprehend, that those of the Hanse Towns, when bound on legal pursuits only, will suffer any molestation from the operation of that Article.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON,

Henry Canning, Esq.
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Henry Canning.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24th, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, four copies of two series of papers relating to the Slave Trade, which have been presented to Parliament, during the present Session, by Her Majesty's command.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Henry Canning, Esq.,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 17.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Henry Canning.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9th, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer, which, on the 23rd of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

You will see from these papers the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of this country, for the extinction of the traffic in slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Henry Canning, Esq.
 &c. &c. &c.

TUSCANY.

No. 18.

Mr. Abercrombie to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 15.)

MY LORD,

Florence, May 5, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Slave Trade Despatch of the 19th of April, 1838, transmitting to me two printed copies of an additional Article to the Treaty concluded at the Hague on the 4th of May, 1818, between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the prevention of the traffic in slaves; two printed copies of a Convention, by which the Hans Towns have acceded to the Conventions between His late Majesty and the King of the French, for the same object; and two printed copies of a Convention, by which the Grand Duke of Tuscany has acceded to the above-mentioned Conventions between His late Majesty and the King of the French, also for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

In acknowledging the receipt of these various documents, I beg to express to your Lordship my thanks for the communication of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RALPH ABERCROMBIE.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 19.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit for your information, a copy of two series of papers relating to the Slave Trade, which have been presented to the two Houses of Parliament during the present Session, by Her Majesty's command.

I am, &c,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

To Ralph Abercrombie, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Abercrombie.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution, which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer, which, on the 23rd of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

You will see from these papers the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of this country for the extinction of the traffic in slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

To Ralph Abercrombie, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 21.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 26.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 15th June, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches of the 24th and 28th ult. addressed to Mr. Abercrombie, and I beg leave to mention, that the enclosures referred to in the former were not received with the Despatch, a circumstance which I attribute to the size of the papers, they being probably too voluminous to be transmitted by the ordinary post.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS AUBIN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 22.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 6.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 22nd June, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 19th instant, addressed to Mr. Abercrombie, enclosing the copy of a resolution which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an address to Her Majesty upon the Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer, which on the 23rd of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

I beg to inform your Lordship that I have communicated those papers to the Tuscan Government, in order that they may see from them the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of Great Britain for the extinction of the traffic in slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS AUBIN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 23.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 6.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 26th June, 1838.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to enclose herewith to your Lordship the copy of Count Fossombroni's reply to my letter, transmitting to His Excellency a copy of the address unanimously voted to Her Majesty by the House of Commons, on the 10th of May, for the extinction of the traffic in slaves, and of the answer which Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address on the 23rd of the same month.

Count Fossombroni's reply is to the effect, that he has read those papers with the highest interest and laid them before his Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS AUBIN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Count Fossombroni to Mr. Aubin.

LE soussigné, &c., a eu l'honneur de recevoir la note en date du 22 courant, par la quelle M. Aubin, &c., a bien voulu lui transmettre un exemplaire imprimé

d'une instance adressée par le Parlement à Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, au sujet de l'extinction de la traite des noirs, et de la réponse qui y a été faite par Sa Majesté.

En offrant à M. Aubin bien de remerciemens de la communication de la dite pièce, qui a été lue avec le plus vif intérêt et qui va être élevée à la connaissance de S. A. I. & R. Monseigneur le Grand Duc, le soussigné prie, &c.

(Signé) V. FOSSOMBRONI.

Florence, le 25 Juin, 1838.

(Translation.)

THE undersigned, Secretary of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has had the honour to receive the note, dated the 22nd instant, by which Mr. Aubin, Chargé d'Affaires of England, has sent a printed copy of a prayer, addressed by Parliament to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, on the subject of the extinction of the Slave Trade, together with the answer made by Her Majesty thereto.

In offering to Mr. Aubin many thanks for the communication of this document, which has been read with the liveliest interest, and which is about to be brought to the notice of His Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke, the undersigned begs, &c.

(Signed) V. FOSSOMBRONI.

The British Chargé d'Affaires.

No. 24.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 17.)

MY LORD,

Florence, July 7, 1838.

IT was reported to Mr. Abercrombie at Leghorn, that a Spanish vessel from Malaga came to that port three months back, and underwent very extensive repairs; that she was sold, or nominally so, in order to change her flag, and obtain Tuscan papers; and that, having succeeded in this, she cleared out from Leghorn in the beginning of May, ostensibly for Gibraltar, but that she was really intended for the Slave Trade on the coast of Guinea. Her name is the "*Cleopatra*," about 250 tons. She has three masts, and is a remarkably good sailer.

Having received these particulars, I communicated them to Count Fossombroni, giving him to understand that I supposed the Grand Duke's Government already knew them. I did so likewise to M. Casini, the Under Secretary of State.

Count Fossombroni and M. Casini both expressed their conviction, that the information was incorrect, as far as related to the carrying on of the Slave Trade; but said that a ship called the "*San Guiseppe*," commanded by a man of the name of Cremoni, a native of Tuscany, had come to Leghorn, and that there were so many circumstances relating to her similar to those I had stated of the "*Cleopatra*," that Cremoni's ship must be the one alluded to.

The "*San Guiseppe*" came from some port in Spain to Leghorn about the time when the "*Cleopatra*" is said to have arrived there. She underwent repairs, and sailed about the 12th of April for Genoa, where she arrived on the 14th.

M. Casini assured me that the repairs made in her at Leghorn gave not the smallest indication that she was intended to take slaves on board. The impression of the Government was, that she was fitting, for the purpose of carrying on a contraband trade on the coast of Spain, or perhaps to convey arms and assistance to the Carlists.

Tuscan papers, and the Tuscan flag, were granted to the "*San Guiseppe*," the ship being, as I am told, entitled to them, in consideration of two-thirds of her crew being composed of Tuscan sailors, who were engaged at Leghorn.

At Genoa, some articles of merchandise, consisting of silks, were taken on board; and the captain armed the ship with two guns, a thing which he had been prevented from doing at Leghorn.

Since Genoa, no intelligence has been received here of her, notwithstanding that the Tuscan Consuls at Barcelona and Gibraltar have had particular instructions to keep watch over her proceedings, and report them, if she should put into those ports.

Though Count Fossombroni and M. Casini are of opinion that the "*Cleopatra*" and the "*San Guiseppe*" are the same ship, and that the information is incorrect as to what regards the Slave Trade, I am not entirely convinced myself upon that point; and I have taken steps, by writing to Leghorn, which will enable me, I hope, to see clearer into the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 25.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 20.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 10th July, 1838.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 7th inst. I have the honour to state to your Lordship, that the information which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Leghorn, in answer to the inquiries I made respecting the two ships repaired and fitted out at that port during the spring, under suspicious circumstances, amounts to the following:—

The "*San Guiseppe*" and "*Cleopatra*" cleared out from Leghorn, under Tuscan colours, the former on the 17th of April, with a cargo of grain and manufactures for Genoa; the latter on the 24th of the same month, in ballast for Gibraltar.

The "*Cleopatra*," said to be originally Greek, came from Gibraltar, furnished with a *passavanti* from the Tuscan Consul there, and obtained the Tuscan flag at Leghorn, in consequence, as it is presumed, of having become Tuscan property.

The "*San Guiseppe*" was Spanish, and must have obtained the Tuscan flag under similar circumstances. She is said to have arrived at Gibraltar.

It has been rumoured that the "*Cleopatra*" had formerly been engaged as a slaver, and that she has returned to her old trade; but this requires confirmation.

The foregoing information, taken in connexion with what I had already had the honour to report to your Lordship, shows, that if decided proofs be wanted as to the "*Cleopatra*" being intended for the Slave Trade, yet there are circumstances relating to that ship which render her very suspicious.

With regard to the "*San Guiseppe*," she is also involved in mystery; and whether she remains in the Mediterranean or sails out of it, her proceedings will deserve to be watched.

If she passes the Straits of Gibraltar she will probably prove to be a slaver; and if she remain in the Mediterranean, it is more than probable that she will be employed in serving the Carlists.

I shall take an early opportunity of speaking to Count Fossombroni on this matter, and make his Excellency understand that Tuscany, having now a Slave Trade Convention with England, it behoves the Government of the Grand Duke to be on the alert, and to examine well into cases like those of the "*Cleopatra*" and "*San Guiseppe*," before Tuscan papers and the Tuscan flag are granted to such ships.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 26.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 24th July, 1838.

WITH reference to what I had the honour to state to your Lordship in my Despatch of the 7th inst. relative to the ship "*San Guiseppe*," I beg now to inform your Lordship that the Tuscan Consul at Gibraltar has reported to his Government that that ship has been sold there to a foreigner, and that Cremoni the Commander has deposited in the hands of the Consul the papers which authorized the

"*San Guiseppe*" to sail under the Tuscan flag. She is consequently struck off the list of merchantmen belonging to the Grand Duchy.

This Government could not inform me of what nation was the foreigner that became the purchaser, or what flag she was to carry, nor whether Cremoni, and the Tuscan sailors, who formed the chief part of her crew, were to continue to remain in her.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 27.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 5.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 25th July, 1838.

THE Marquis of Lajatico, Under Secretary of State in the Foreign Department here, called upon me yesterday to say, that at Alexandria Her Majesty's Consul had told the Consul of His Imperial and Royal Highness, the Grand Duke, that, by virtue of the Slave Trade Convention, concluded between Great Britain and Tuscany, a steam-boat in which he, the Tuscan Consul, has a share, was liable to be searched and confiscated, if any slaves were found on board.

This has alarmed the Tuscan Consul for the share he owns in the steamer; because among the persons who embark as passengers in her there are some, at times, that have Moorish and Egyptian servants, who may be considered as slaves. As, however, they are domestics, and not brought on board for the purpose of being sold, the Tuscan Consul has written to inquire of his Government, whether the meaning given to the Convention by the Consul of Her Majesty in this particular is not too much strained.

The Marquis of Lajatico begged to know my opinion; but as there may be something more to be told on the subject than what has been communicated by the Tuscan Consul, I said it would be better for me to refer the question to your Lordship, who no doubt would deal with it, and decide it as it merited.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 28.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 15th August, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 25th ultimo upon the subject of an alarm, felt by the Tuscan Consul at Alexandria, least a steam-boat, in which it appears he has a share, should be captured under the Slave Trade Convention with Tuscany, in consequence of her having on board Moorish and Egyptian servants who may be considered as slaves; and I have to refer you, on this point, to those Stipulations of the Conventions in question, which fix the limits within which the right of search granted by those Conventions is confined.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON

Thomas Aubin, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 29.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 23rd August, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a communication, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria, stating that a considerable number of negroes are conveyed from Egypt, in European vessels, to Turkey and Bar-

bary to be retained as slaves there, and suggesting some regulations for preventing that practice, and for securing liberty to the negroes conveyed in European vessels to African ports in the Mediterranean.

I desire that you will communicate the paper in question to the Government to which you are accredited, and add, that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion, that the suggestions of Mr. Thurburn may be adopted with benefit to the cause of the suppression of Slave Trade, and that Her Majesty's Government hope, that the Tuscan Government will give instructions to their Consuls in the Mediterranean to carry into effect the regulations proposed by him.

Thomas Aubin, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 29.

Mr. Thurburn to Viscount Palmerston, Alexandria, July 16, 1838.

(See Class D., No. 25, page 15.)

No. 30.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 7.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 27th August, 1838.

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

Shortly after the receipt of it, I called at the Office for Foreign Affairs, and communicated to the Marquis of Lajatico, Under Secretary of State, what your Lordship is pleased to point out, concerning the Stipulations of the Slave Trade Conventions between Great Britain and Tuscany, which fix the limits within which the right of search granted by those Conventions is confined.

The Marquis of Lajatico immediately referred to the Stipulations; and after having read them, said he would forward a copy to the Tuscan Consul at Alexandria, to ease him of his fears for the share he owns in the steam-boat that sometimes carries Moorish and Egyptian servants, who may be considered as slaves.

This led me to inquire how it was that the Tuscan Government had not yet published the Convention.

The Marquis of Lajatico replied, that the Government wished, when they published it, to promulgate, at the same time, a penal law for the severe punishment of Tuscans convicted of being engaged in the Slave Trade. The law not being ready, the publication of the Convention has been delayed, but the Marquis of Lajatico assured me it should not be put off much longer.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 31.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 14.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 3rd September, 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the 23d ult. In obedience to the instructions it contained, I have addressed to Count Fossombroni a note, of which I enclose the copy, and wherewith I transmitted to his Excellency the communication, addressed by Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria to your Lordship, respecting the negroes conveyed from Egypt in European vessels to Turkey and Barbary, to be retained as slaves there.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

Enclosure in No. 31.

Mr. Aubin to Count Fossombroni.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Florence, 3rd September, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that I have been instructed by my Government to make known to the Government of His Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke, a communication, of which a copy is herewith enclosed, addressed to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, by Mr. Thurburn, British Consul at Alexandria, stating that a considerable number of negroes are conveyed from Egypt in European vessels to Turkey and Barbary, to be retained as slaves there, and suggesting some regulations for preventing that practice, and for securing liberty to the negroes, conveyed in European vessels to African ports in the Mediterranean.

I am at the same time instructed to add, that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion, that the suggestions of Mr. Thurburn may be adopted with benefit to the cause of the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that her Majesty's Government hope that the Tuscan Government will give instructions to their Consuls in the Mediterranean to carry the regulations proposed by him into effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

The Count Fossombroni,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 32.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 5th October, 1838.

I HAVE received a communication from Mr. Thurburn, enclosing copy of a Despatch, addressed by the Tuscan Government to their Consul at Alexandria, respecting the alleged exportation of slaves from Alexandria to Constantinople, in Tuscan vessels.

I herewith enclose a copy of the Despatch in question; and I have to desire that you will suggest to the Tuscan Government, that some more positive orders, than those which are contained in that Despatch, ought to be given by the Tuscan Government, to prevent Tuscan ships and the Tuscan flag from being employed in a trade, which has been reprobated and stigmatised by the general consent of Christendom.

The Tuscan Minister observes, that the only circumstance to be noted by any person who transports slaves in a vessel under the Tuscan flag, is, that slaves put on board Tuscan ships become from that moment free, if they claim the protection of that flag. But this declaration, so far as the helpless slaves in question are concerned, becomes, in practice, entirely nugatory.

These slaves speak no European language; they have no means of becoming acquainted with the right, which the Tuscan Government acknowledges they possess; and being probably held under restraint by their masters during the whole voyage, they must be utterly destitute of any means of availing themselves of such right. Besides, it is to be remembered, that to tell such persons that they are free, without providing for them some means of existence, and some temporary protection, is almost a mockery; and for these reasons it is evident, that some more effective measures are required to be taken by the Tuscan Government upon the subject.

Other Governments have declared that vessels concerned in such an employment, in any part of the world, shall receive no protection from their flag; and the Government of Russia, in particular, has made such a declaration in a formal and public manner.

I enclose to you a copy of the Proclamation, issued to Russian Consuls on this subject.

I enclose also a copy of the Portuguese Order, recently issued for the prohibition of the Slave Trade.

I enclose likewise a copy of a Circular to her Majesty's Consuls in the Levant,

issued in 1832, prohibiting, under the severest penalties, the employment of the British flag, in the very occupation in which the Tuscan vessels are now said to be ordinarily engaged.

The Tuscan Government will doubtless be willing to follow examples thus set them by other Powers.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government, that the simplest and most unobjectionable way of securing the Tuscan flag from the discredit which attaches to such an occupation, will be to prohibit positively, and under severe penalties, the employment of any Tuscan ship in that manner, and to instruct all the Tuscan Consuls to use their utmost diligence to enforce the law which shall inflict such penalties.

An opportunity for an enactment to this effect will be afforded by the passing of the law which, in your Despatch of the 27th of August last, you state is in preparation, for the punishment of Tuscan subjects convicted of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

You will therefore communicate the observations contained in this Despatch to the Tuscan Minister, and will suggest to him the propriety of extending the provisions of that law, specifically to the carrying of slaves, under any pretext whatever, in those seas in which, by the Convention of the 30th of November, 1831, the mutual right of search cannot be exercised.

Thomas Aubin, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

First Enclosure in No. 32.

Mr. Thurburn to Viscount Palmerston, Alexandria, August 14, 1838.
(See Class D., No. 27, page 16.)

Second Enclosure in No. 32.

Circular to Russian Consuls.
(See Enclosure in No. 176, p. 130, Class B. 1835.)

Third Enclosure in No. 32.

Portuguese Decree, December 10, 1836.
(See Enclosure in No. 72, p. 41, Class B. 1836.)

Fourth Enclosure in No. 32.

Circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in the Levant.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 13th July, 1832.

THE attention of His Majesty's Government having been drawn to a practice which is said to exist in the Levant, of transporting slaves between Turkish ports by vessels under the British flag, I have to call your attention to a proclamation issued by the Governor of Malta, under date of the 21st of March, 1823, making known the determination of His Majesty's Government to enforce, with the utmost strictness, the provisions of the Act of the 46 Geo. III. cap. 52, which imposes penalties on all persons who should, in the slightest degree, be concerned in the traffic in slaves; and I have to desire that you will give the utmost publicity to the before-mentioned proclamation, and that you will use all the means in your power to discountenance the practice of transporting Turkish slaves in British vessels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Her Majesty's Consuls in the Levant.

Sub Enclosure in No. 32.

Proclamation.

The Right Honourable Sir Thomas Maitland, Governor, &c.

Although the anxiety of His Majesty's Government to annihilate *in toto* the disgraceful traffic in slaves must be known to every individual,—and, though the public at large must be aware of the fixed determination of the British Government to carry this humane object into effect, still there may be many persons who are ignorant of the legal penalties they are liable to incur, from being, even in the slightest manner, concerned in the above most inhuman traffic.

His Excellency the Governor, therefore, deems it advisable to proclaim and direct as follows:—

1st. All offences of this kind, committed within the Ports or Harbours of these Islands, or upon the high seas, or any parts within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, will be tried before the Court established in this Island for the trial of piratical offences.

2nd. It is the most positive determination of His Excellency, in all instances connected with this infamous traffic, to enforce the law with the utmost strictness and severity.

3rd. The last Acts of the British Parliament, relative to the abolition of the Slave Trade, shall forthwith be printed in the Italian language, and kept at the Government Printing Office for public distribution.

4th. It having come to the knowledge of Government, that many slaves have been made during the present unhappy and sanguinary contest in Greece, and that, in some instances, such slaves have been transported in British or Maltese vessels, it is clearly to be understood, though not specifically mentioned in the Acts of Parliament above alluded to, that in every instance the carrying of even a single slave will make all such vessels amenable to the general laws for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

5th. All Magistrates, Custom-house Officers, and every other Functionary of Government to whom it may apply, are hereby enjoined and commanded to exert themselves with unremitting vigilance and industry, in carrying into effect the purport of the present proclamation.

Palace, Valetta, 21st March, 1823.

By Command of His Excellency,
RICHARD PLASKET,
Chief Secretary to Government.
CLASS C.

L'Onorabilissimo Sir Thomas Maitland, Governatore, ecc.

Quantunque a ciascun individuo debba esser nota la sollecitudine del Governo di Sua Maestà, di totalmente annichilire l'ignominioso Traffico negli Schiavi;— e quantunque il pubblico in generale debba essere informato della decisa determinazione del Governo Britannico, di portare ad effetto questo umano oggetto, pure, possono esservi persone che ignorino le penalità legali, a cui si assoggettano ingerendosi, nel benchè menomo grado, in tale inumanissimo traffico.

Sua Eccellenza il Governatore, pertanto, crede proprio di proclamare ed ordinare quanto segue:—

1mo. Di tutt' i delitti di questa specie, commessi nei porti di queste Isole, od in alto mare, od in qualunque luogo entro la giurisdizione dell' Ammiragliato, si prenderà cognizione della Corte stabilita in quest' Isola, pel giudizio di delitto de di Pirateria.

2do. L'Eccellenza Sua è nella positiva determinazione di far eseguire la legge, colla massima rigidezza e severità, in qualunque caso avente relazione con questo infame traffico.

3zo. Gli ultimi Statuti del Parlamento Britannico, relativi all' abolimento del Commercio negli Schiavi, saranno tosto stampati in lingua Italiana, e tenuti per distribuirsi al pubblico, nella Stamperia del Governo.

4to. Essendo venuto alla cognizione del Governo, che, nel decorso dell' attuale disgraziata e sanguinosa lotta nella Grecia, siano stati fatti molti Schiavi, e che questi siano stati, in alcuni casi, trasportato a bordo di Bastimenti Inglesi o Maltesi, si dee chiaramente intendere, (quantunque non specificamente menzionato negli Statuti del Parlamento sopra accennati) che, in qualunque caso, il trasporto di un solo Schiavo assoggetterà simili Bastimenti alle leggi generali fatte per l'abolimento del Commercio negli Schiavi.

5o. Tutt' i Magistrati, Ufficiali di Dogana, e qualunque altro Funizionario del Governo, a cui possa risguardare, vengono col presente ingiunti e comandati d'impegnarsi, con incessante vigilanza ed industria, a portare ad effetto l'oggetto di questo Proclama.

Dal Palazzo, la Valetta, a' dì
21 Marzo, 1823.

Per Comando Eccellenza,
RICHARD PLASKET,
Principale Segretario di Governo.

No. 33.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30, 1838.)

MY LORD.

Florence, October 19th, 1838.

WITH reference to my Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 3rd of September, I have the honour to enclose copy of the answer, which I yesterday received from the Tuscan Government to my communication of the 3rd ultimo.

Having, soon after the receipt of the answer, met Prince Neri Corsini, who, in the absence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, had written it, I brought the subject into consideration, with a view to make the Prince explain himself in more definite terms than he had done in his note. He is of opinion, that the regulations suggested by Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria are so far unnecessary with regard to Tuscan vessels, that as soon as a slave puts his foot on board a ship bearing the Tuscan flag, he by that act becomes a free man, and is from that time at liberty to quit whom he will, or to follow whom he pleases.

Upon this point I remarked to Prince Neri Corsini, that it was with a view to secure the liberty thus acquired to the individuals, who had been fortunate enough to gain it, that the regulations in question had been proposed; moreover, as it must sometimes happen, that slaves are conveyed in Tuscan vessels from one port to another in the Levant, without knowing that they have acquired their freedom by being under the Tuscan flag, they would no longer remain ignorant of this benefit if the regulations in question were adopted.

The Prince also objected to bring the Convention of the 24th of November, 1837, into operation, within a space to which its provisions did not apply; but I observed, that, if the provisions of the Convention be confined within certain limits, it did not follow that the spirit of humanity must be restricted, which actuated the parties to the Convention when they made it. He did not deny this; but still as there was a Convention it was desirable, he said, that it should be adhered to, till the Tuscan Government saw what steps were taken by other States in the Mediterranean, who had a similar Convention with Great Britain.

I have since received from Prince Neri Corsini a letter, informing me that he was going away on leave of absence for about twenty days, and requesting that I would address any communication I might desire to make, to the Minister of Finance, who would supply his place, and that of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, till their return.

Conceiving that it would be useless to press the subject of this Despatch any more at present, upon the attention of the Tuscan Government, I shall wait for further instructions from your Lordship relative to it.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 33.

(Translation.)

Prince Corsini to Mr. Aubin.

M. LE CHEVALIER,

Florence, 17th October, 1838.

HAVING taken into consideration the Report of the British Consul at Alexandria, which you did me the honour to communicate to me by your letter of the 3rd of September last, I have observed that the proposals therein contained, tended towards the extension of measures for the repression of the Slave Trade in the Mediterranean Sea, which is not comprised in the Convention of November, 24, 1837.

Looking at the matter in this point of view, the conviction forced itself on me, and, I hope, will on you, that the measures which it might be considered proper to take, could never attain their philanthropic object, without the concurrence of the other Powers who have acceded to the Convention above-mentioned.

It is in consequence of this consideration that I have to inform you, Sir, that

Tuscany, without taking the lead in this important affair, reserves her decision till the dispositions of the other Powers shall be known.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) NERI CORSINI.

The British Chargé d'Affaires.

No. 34.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 2.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 22d October, 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the 5th instant marked Slave Trade, of the 5th instant, with its enclosures, brought to me yesterday by the messenger Waring

I enclose a copy of the note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in it, I have addressed to the Count Fossombroni, respecting the exportation of slaves in Tuscan vessels in the ports of the Levant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS AUBIN.

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

&c. &c. &c.,

Enclosure in No. 34.

Mr. Aubin to Count Fossombroni.

MONSIEUR LA COMTE,

Florence, 22nd October, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that a communication has been received by my Government from the British Consul at Alexandria, enclosing a copy of a Despatch addressed on the 21st of July last by the Government of his Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Tuscany to M. A. de Rosetti, respecting the alleged exportation of slaves from Alexandria to Constantinople in Tuscan vessels.

I have, in consequence, been instructed by the Government of Her Majesty to suggest to the Government of his Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke, that some more positive orders than those which are contained in that Despatch ought to be given by the Tuscan Government to prevent Tuscan ships and the Tuscan flag from being employed in a trade which has been reprobated and stigmatised by the general consent of Christendom.

In the Despatch to M. de Rosetti it is stated that the only circumstance to be noted by any person who transports slaves in a vessel under the Tuscan flag is, that slaves put on board Tuscan ships become from that moment free, if they claim the protection of that flag.

But this declaration, so far as the helpless slaves in question are concerned, becomes in practice entirely nugatory.

These slaves speak no European language; they have no means of becoming acquainted with the right which the Tuscan Government acknowledges that they possess; and being probably held under restraint by their masters during the whole of the voyage, they must be utterly destitute of any means of availing themselves of such right. Besides, it is to be remembered, that to tell such persons that they are free, without providing for them some means of existence, and some temporary protection, is almost a mockery, and for these reasons it is evident, that some more effective measures are required to be taken by the Tuscan Government upon the subject.

Other Governments have declared that vessels concerned in such an employment, in any part of the world, shall receive no protection from their flag, and the Government of Russia in particular has made such a declaration in a formal and public manner.

I enclose to your Excellency a copy of the proclamation issued to Russian Consuls on this subject. I enclose also a copy of the Portuguese order, recently issued for the prohibition of the Slave Trade:

I enclose, likewise, copy of circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in the Levant,

issued in 1823, prohibiting, under the several penalties, the employment of the British flag in the very occupation in which the Tuscan vessels are now said to be ordinarily engaged. The Tuscan Government will doubtless be willing to follow examples thus set them by other Powers.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government, that the simplest and most unobjectionable way of effectually securing Tuscan ships and the Tuscan flag from the discredit which attaches to such an occupation, will be to prohibit positively, and under severe penalties, the employing any Tuscan ship in that manner, and to instruct all the Tuscan Consuls to use their utmost diligence to enforce the law which shall inflict such penalties.

An opportunity for an enactment to this effect will be afforded by the passing of the law which has been announced to me to be in preparation, by the Government of the Grand Duke for the punishment of Tuscan subjects convicted of being engaged in the Slave Trade; and I am instructed to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of extending the provisions of that law specifically to the carrying of slaves under any pretext whatever in those seas, in which, by the Convention of the 30th November, 1831, the mutual right of search cannot be exercised.

I shall avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 17th instant, in answer to mine of the 3rd September last. In doing so, I cannot help saying, that it gave me infinite pain to see so little warmth manifested in it upon a subject of such exciting interest.

Surely the parties who entered into a Convention for the suppression of a most barbarous traffic in the Atlantic, will not stifle their sentiments of humanity in the Mediterranean, when it is discovered that similar provisions are called for there.

It may be true that the conveyance of slaves from one port to another of Turkey in European vessels, is not attended with the same horrors which stigmatise the traffic on the Western Coast of Africa, yet it is a branch of that iniquitous commerce; it promotes it by creating a demand for slaves in the interior parts of the country, and it therefore deserves the most serious attention of every civilized Government.

With regard to the reluctance, which your Excellency states to be felt by the Tuscan Government, to step forward in so important an affair, by reason that there are other parties to the Convention, I would with all humility suggest, that if the Tuscan Government think it expedient to stand upon formalities on this ground, it can, at all events, till such scruples be satisfied, prohibit its own flag from being employed in the occupation in which it is said to be engaged in the Levant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

No. 35.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 6.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 26th October, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the copy of a note, which I have received from the Tuscan acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, in acknowledgment of mine of the 22nd instant to Count Fossombroni, respecting the conveyance of slaves on board Tuscan vessels, from one port to another in the Levant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

Enclosure in No. 35.

(Translation.)

M. Cempini to Mr. Aubin.

Florence, 23rd October, 1838.

SIR,

I HASTEN to acknowledge the receipt of the letter with its printed enclosures, which you did me the honour to address me yesterday. By the same letter

you convey to me the wishes of the English Ministry that the Government of His Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Tuscany would provide—

1st. That the Consular Agents of Tuscany should receive very precise instructions, with regard to the abolition and the repression of the Slave Trade, with a notification of the penalties which every Tuscan subject will incur who may enter into such odious speculations.

2nd. That until a unanimous agreement takes place between all the Powers, who have adhered to the Treaties in force between England and France for the abolition of the Slave Trade, Tuscany will at once take measures to prevent the transport on board her vessels of Africans, who pass from the ports of Egypt to other ports of the Ottoman Empire, as domestics in the suit of their master.

With respect to the first of these matters, I am delighted to be able to assure you, that our judicial authorities are already at work on a penitentiary system for the crimes concerning the Slave Trade, and that, as soon as this system is complete, the customary publication and notifications will be proceeded with.

As to the second matter, although I communicated to you in my former letter of the 17th, the opinion which the authorities whom it concerns had given as to the small advantage which can be hoped for from the isolated act of Tuscany, without the simultaneous concurrence of other maritime States, I nevertheless beg you to be persuaded, that I will not fail to call their attention again to the subject in question.

Accept, &c.

For the Minister,
(Signed) F. CEMPINI.

The British Chargé d'Affaires,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 36.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Aubin.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th November, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatches marked Slave Trade, up to that of the 26th October, 1838.

You will acquaint the Tuscan Government, that application has already been made, by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of Austria, to adopt measures, similar to those which you have been desired to press upon the Tuscan Government, in order to prevent the conveyance of African slaves across the Mediterranean sea; and that application to the same effect will also be made, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to the Government of any other States, whose flag shall appear to be used for the purposes above described.

I am, &c.

Thomas Aubin, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 37.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December, 5.)

MY LORD,

Florence, November, 21, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the copy of a Note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade of the 9th instant, I have addressed to Count Fossombroni, respecting the steps taken on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to prevent the conveyance of African slaves across the Mediterranean Sea.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

Enclosure in No. 37.

Mr. Aubin to Count Fossombroni.

MONSIEUR LE COMTE,

Florence, 20th November, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received the instructions of the Government of His Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke, that application has already been made by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of Austria, to adopt measures similar to those which it has been my duty to press, in former communications, upon the Government of Tuscany in order to prevent the conveyance of African slaves across the Mediterranean Sea; and that application to the same effect will also be made, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to the Government of any other State, whose flag shall appear to be used for the purpose above described.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

*His Excellency Count Fossombroni,**&c. &c. &c.*

No. 38.

Mr. Aubin to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 5.)

MY LORD,

Florence, 23rd November, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the copy of a Note, signed by Prince Neri Corsini, which I have received in answer to mine, dated the 20th inst., to Count Fossombroni, respecting the adoption of measures by Her Majesty's Government, to prevent the conveyance of African slaves across the Mediterranean.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS AUBIN.

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

Enclosure in No. 38.

(Translation.)

Prince Corsini to Mr. Aubin.

SIR,

Florence, 22nd Nov. 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 20th instant, by which you informed me that communications to the same effect with those contained in your Note of the 22nd October last, concerning the few blacks passing from ports of Egypt to others of the Ottoman Empire, are to be made in the name of the British Government to the other States, whose vessels are more especially engaged in the navigation of the Mediterranean.

In offering you many thanks for this communication, I beg you to rest persuaded, that as soon as you may let me know the result of the said measures, and the determination of each of the Governments above alluded to, I shall hasten to make the proper use thereof, as regards the vessels and flag of this country.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

For the Minister,

NERI CORSINI.

*To the British Chargé d'Affaires,**&c. &c. &c.*

TWO SICILIES.

No. 39.

Hon. William Temple to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 21.)

MY LORD,

Naples, May 5, 1838.

THE messenger Haviland arrived here on the evening of the 26th ult.: and I received by him your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, together with the Queen's ratification, under the Great Seal, of the Convention, which I had the honour of signing in conjunction with the Plenipotentiaries of France and of the Two Sicilies on the 14th of February last; and which contained the accession of His Sicilian Majesty to two Conventions between Great Britain and France, which have for their object the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

On the following morning I called upon Prince Cassaro, who informed me that the Sicilian Ratification was prepared, and only required the signature of the King of Naples, which his Excellency hoped to procure on the 30th, on which day His Majesty, who was then staying at Capua with his troops, was expected to come to Naples. The King, however, not having arrived on that day, Prince Cassaro went down to Capua on the 2nd instant, and obtained His Majesty's signature to the Ratification. On the 4th instant I called upon Prince Cassaro by appointment, when I exchanged with him Her Majesty's Ratification, against the Ratification of the King of the Two Sicilies, and I have now the satisfaction of transmitting the latter to your Lordship, together with the accompanying certificate, which was signed by myself and Prince Cassaro upon the exchange of the Ratifications, according to your Lordship's instructions. We also signed a Document of a similar nature, to be preserved in the archives of this Government.

The Plenipotentiary of France has not yet received the Ratification of the Convention from his Court; but he hopes that it will not be long before it arrives, as he had written some time ago to his Government, to urge them to hasten its transmission to him.

I beg to assure your Lordship, that it is a source of the highest gratification to me to learn, that my conduct during the negotiation of this Treaty has met with the approbation of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM TEMPLE.

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

No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to Hon. W. Temple.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit for your information a copy of two series of papers relating to the Slave Trade, which have been presented to the two Houses of Parliament, during the present Session, by Her Majesty's command.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

The Hon. W. Temple,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 41.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. W. Temple.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th of May, 1838, for an Address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade, and a copy of the answer, which, on the 23rd of the same month Her Majesty was pleased to return to that Address.

You will see from these papers the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of this country for the extinction of the traffic in slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

The Hon William Temple,
 &c. &c. &c.

No. 42.

Hon. William Temple to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

MY LORD,

Naples, June 3, 1838.

The Ratification of His Majesty the King of the French, of the Convention, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, signed at Naples, on the 14th of February last by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, and the Two Sicilies, having been received by the French Chargé d'Affaires, M. de Tallenay has exchanged it with Prince Cassaro against a similar instrument, ratified by the King of the Two Sicilies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM TEMPLE.

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