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Class D.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

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

NOT PARTIES TO CONVENTIONS

GIVING RIGHT OF SEARCH OF VESSELS SUSPECTED OF

THE SLAVE TRADE.

1838-9.

Class D.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS,

NOT PARTIES TO CONVENTIONS

GIVING RIGHT OF SEARCH OF VESSELS SUSPECTED OF

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.

Class D. 1838.

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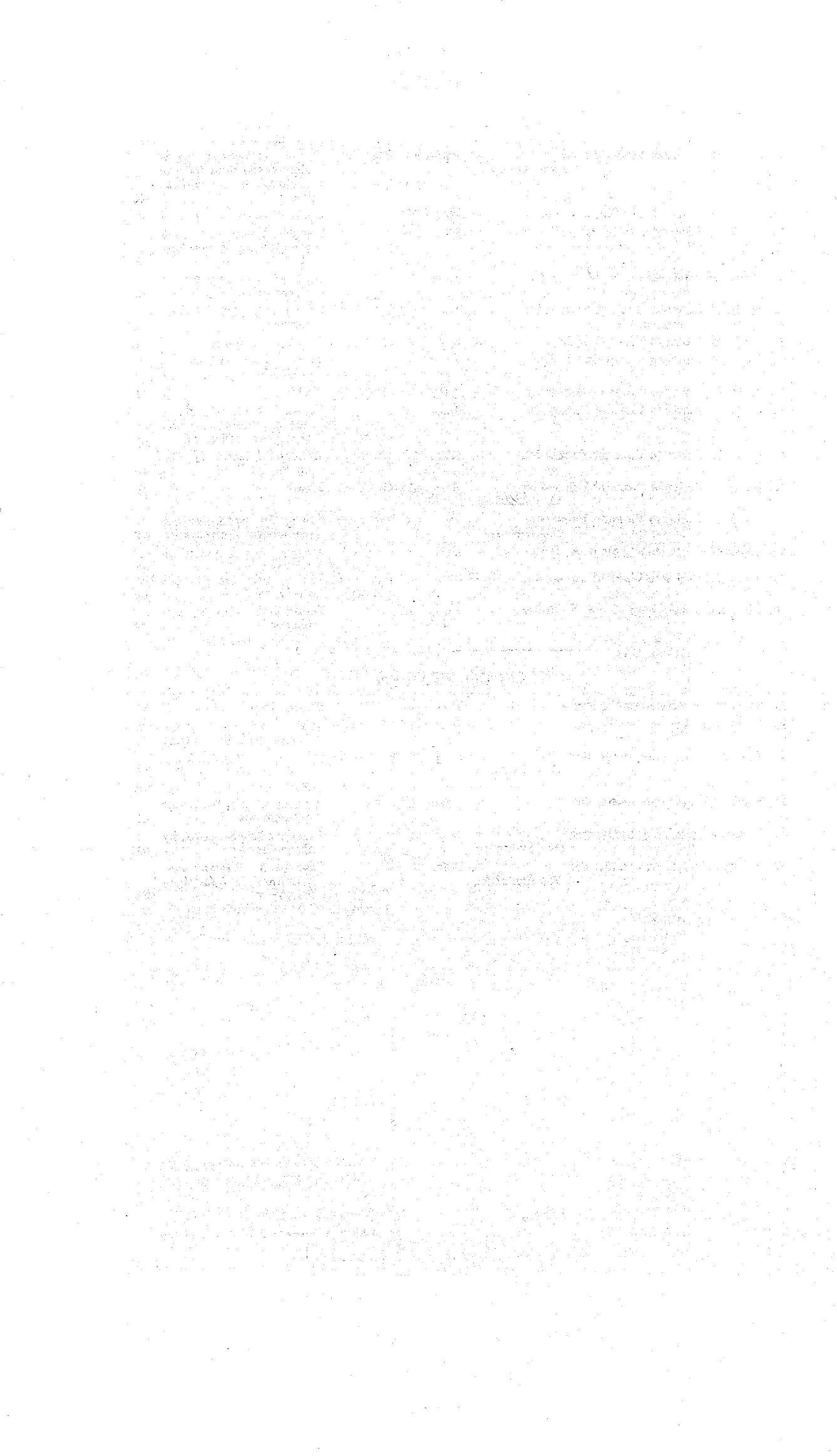
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Class D.—1838.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS

NOT PARTIES TO CONVENTIONS.

CONFERENCES IN LONDON.

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to the Representatives of France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia.

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON has the honour to invite his Excellency _____ to meet him at the Foreign Office on Wednesday next, the 12th instant, at two o'clock, in order to continue, in concert with the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, those negotiations for a general agreement of the Powers of Europe for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which were begun at Vienna in the year 1815, and have since, at various times, been continued.

Viscount Palmerston avails himself, &c.

Foreign Office, December 11th, 1838.

No. 2.

Protocole de la Conférence tenue au Département des Affaires Etrangères à Londres, le 12 Decembre, 1838.

PRESENS :

Les Plénipotentiaires d'AUTRICHE, de FRANCE, de la GRANDE BRETAGNE, de PRUSSE, et de RUSSIE.

Les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche, de France, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse et de Russie, s'étant réunis en conférence, d'après l'invitation des Plénipotentiaires de France et de la Grande Bretagne, afin de continuer les négociations pour un concert général des Puissances de l'Europe, ayant pour objet la suppression de la Traite des Noirs; négociations qui furent commencées à Vienne l'an 1815, et continuées depuis à Vérone l'an 1822; les Plénipotentiaires de France et de la Grande Bretagne proposèrent aux Plénipotentiaires des trois autres Puissances, aujourd'hui réunis en conférence, le Projet de Traité, annexe A.

Les Plénipotentiaires de France et de la Grande Bretagne prièrent les Plénipotentiaires des trois Cours, de transmettre le dit Projet à leurs Gouvernemens respectifs, dans l'espoir, que les arrangemens renfermés dans ce Projet pourraient être trouvés compatibles avec les droits et les intérêts des sujets des Souverains respectifs, et propres à aider à faire cesser le trafic criminel dont il s'agit.

Les Plénipotentiaires des trois Puissances se chargèrent de transmettre le dit Projet de Traité à leurs Gouvernemens respectifs, et de demander des instructions à cet égard.

Sans préjuger les déterminations que leurs Cours pourraient prendre, les dits Plénipotentiaires, chacun pour sa part, déclarèrent, que leurs Gouvernemens respectifs ont de tout temps partagé les sentimens d'indignation qu'inspirent au Gouvernement Britannique les actes criminels, que les mesures, dont il est question, ont pour but de faire cesser.

CLASS D.

Les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche, de Prusse, et de Russie ajoutèrent que leurs Gouvernemens désirent, aussi ardemment que peuvent le faire ceux de France et de la Grande Bretagne, d'empêcher, que leurs sujets ou leurs Pavillons respectifs, ne participent d'une manière quelconque au Trafic des Noirs.

Les Plénipotentiaires de France et de la Grande Bretagne déclarèrent, que leurs Gouvernemens rendent une entière justice aux sentimens philanthropiques et généreux des Gouvernemens d'Autriche, de Prusse, et de Russie, et sont les premiers à reconnaître, que ni les sujets ni les Pavillons de ces trois Puissances ne prennent aucune part au Trafic des Noirs.

Mais le but, dont les Gouvernemens de France et de la Grande Bretagne se proposent l'accomplissement au moyen du Traité en question, est celui d'empêcher, que les bandits et les pirates d'autres pays, qui s'adonnent à ce commerce infame, ne puissent se prévaloir des Pavillons des trois Puissances, afin de poursuivre impunément leurs criminelles entreprises.

(Signed)

HUMMELAUER,
H. SEBASTIANI,
PALMERSTON,

BULOW,
POZZO DE BORGO.

Translation.

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office in London on the 12th December, 1838.

PRESENT.

THE PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF AUSTRIA, FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, PRUSSIA,
AND RUSSIA.

THE Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, having assembled in conference, in pursuance of an invitation from the Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain, in order to continue those negociations for a general concert of the Powers of Europe, for the suppression of the slave trade, which were begun at Vienna in the year 1815, and subsequently continued at Verona in the year 1822; the Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain proposed to the Plenipotentiaries of the three other Powers, assembled this day in conference, the project of treaty, annex A.

The Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain requested the Plenipotentiaries of the three Courts, to transmit the said project to their respective Governments, in the hope that the arrangements contained in that project might be found compatible with the rights and interests of the subjects of the respective sovereigns, and well calculated to contribute to the suppression of the criminal traffic in question.

The Plenipotentiaries of the three Powers undertook to transmit the said project of treaty to their respective Governments, and to ask for instructions thereupon.

Without prejudging the determinations which their Courts might take, the said Plenipotentiaries, each and severally, declared that their respective Governments have at all times shared the sentiments of indignation, entertained by the British Government at the criminal acts, which the measures in question are intended to put an end to.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Prussia, and Russia added, that their Governments are as earnestly desirous, as those of France and Great Britain can be, to prevent their respective subjects or flags from being engaged, in any manner whatever, in the traffic in slaves. The Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain declared, that their Governments do full justice to the philanthropic and generous sentiments of the Governments of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, and are quite ready to acknowledge, that neither the subjects nor the flags of these three Powers take any part whatever in the traffic in slaves.

But the object which the Governments of France and Great Britain propose to accomplish by means of the Treaty in question, is that of preventing the outlaws and pirates of other countries, who give themselves up to this infamous commerce, from availing themselves of the flags of the three Powers, in order to pursue their criminal enterprises with impunity.

(Signed)

HUMMELAUER,
H. SEBASTIANI,
PALMERSTON,

BULOW,
POZZI DE BORGO.

AUSTRIA.

No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Frederick Lamb.

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.

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

No. 4.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Frederick Lamb.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th June, 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.

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

No. 5.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Frederick Lamb.

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 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 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 Austrian Government will give instructions to their Consuls in the Mediterranean, to carry the regulations proposed by him into effect.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 5.

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

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

RUSSIA.

No. 6.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Milbanke.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24th, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, two 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.

J. R. Milbanke, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 7.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Milbanke.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution, which was voted unanimately by the House of Commons on the 10th 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.

J. R. Milbanke, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 8.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Milbanke.

SIR,

Foreign Office, July, 13, 1838.

It appears from a communication, which I have recently received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, that the Russian brig "*Golupka*," Bernandes, Master, had on the 26th April last arrived at the Havana from a Slave Trading expedition on the Coast of Africa.

The information given states, that this vessel was fitted out from Odessa; and it is also stated that another vessel fitted out at Odessa was, at the date of the information, engaged in Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa.

You will communicate this statement to the Russian Government; and you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of His Imperial Majesty will cause inquiry to be made into the facts of these cases, with a view to carry into effect the benevolent intentions of the Emperor of Russia for the suppression of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

J. R. Milbanke, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 9.

The Marquis of Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 26.)

MY LORD,

St. Petersburg, 30th November, 1838.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch to Mr. Milbanke of the 13th July last, marked Slave Trade, on the subject of the Russian brig "*Goloubka*," Bernandes, Master, which had arrived at the Havana from a Slave Trading expedition on the Coast of Africa, I have the honour to enclose a copy of a note, which I have received from Count Nesselrode, in reply to one presented to his Excellency by Mr. Milbanke, and from which it appears that the vessel in question sailed from Odessa for Barcelona on the 4th, (16th) December, 1836, where she arrived in March, 1837, since which time no information has been received respecting her, by the person to whom she belongs.

Orders have been given for ascertaining, on the return of the "*Goloubka*" to Odessa, how far she may have been engaged in the Slave Trade, and for punishing the parties who shall prove to have been guilty.

Count Nesselrode can procure no information respecting the other vessel referred to in your Lordship's Despatch, as Mr. Milbanke was unable to furnish him with her name, or with that of the Master.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLANRICARDE.

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

Enclosure in No. 9.

(Translation.) *Count Nesselrode to the Marquis of Clanricarde.**St. Petersburg 10th (22nd) November, 1838.*

THE undersigned has laid before his August Master the note (of the 12 (24) July last), by which Mr. Milbanke acquainted the Imperial Cabinet with the suspicions, which have arisen against two ships belonging to Odessa, accused of being engaged in the Slave Trade on the coast of Africa. The Emperor has consequently given orders to the Governor-General of New Russia to ascertain, by inquiry, the truth of the facts alleged in the note of the Minister of Her Britannic Majesty; and it is in consequence of the measures taken by the Count of Woronzoff, that the undersigned is enabled to communicate the following details to His Excellency the Marquis of Clanricarde, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty. It appears, from the information furnished by the direction of the Quarantine of Odessa, that the brig "*L'Immutable*," commanded by Captain Tomaso Bernandes, entered the port of that town on the 22nd of October, 1836, under the Spanish flag. She belonged, at that time, to Antonio Aleka, and was consigned to the commercial house of Bager at Odessa.

The "*Immutable*" had on board 14 sailors, six of whom were English subjects, viz., Gaetano Vingello, Felice Aculana, Angello Georgio, Michel Spatieri, Carmello Casano, Giovanni Cutai, and eight Spanish subjects, Paolo Comas, Clemenzio Catolez, Giacomo Garara, Giacomo Vilent, Antonio Cliret, Bartolomeo Mutates, Guiseppe Alkarey, and Michel Borno. This vessel afterwards became the property of a merchant of Odessa Laoura; it took the name of "*Goloubka*," freighted by the merchant Bager; she left that town on the 4th of December, 1836, to go to Barcelona, under the command of the said Captain Tomaso Bernandes, and having on board the same sailors, except the English subject Giovanni Cutai, who engaged himself on board another vessel.

M. Laoura, when called upon in his turn to furnish more ample information as to the destination of his vessel, declared that the brigantine the "*Goloubka*" had been despatched for Barcelona, to the house of Roig and Jacas, where she had arrived in the month of March of the year 1837, after having performed quarantine at Mahon; that he had received advice in the mean time that this vessel was ready to set sail from Marseilles to Barcelona; but that since this he had not received any news of her, and that he did not know even where she is at present; that although he still continues to be her proprietor, it has never come to

his knowledge that Captain Bernandes was engaged in the Slave Trade; on the contrary, he affirms that he had never any intention that one of his ships should be employed in a traffic contrary to humanity, and interdicted by Treaties; and that an imputation of this nature could never attach to him. M. Laoura expresses finally, a desire that the Imperial Government would order the necessary measures to clear up the fact, and that Captain Bernandes, if he is really guilty of the crime of which he is accused, may be punished with all the rigour of the laws.

This information being of a nature to induce a supposition that the vessel the "*Goloubka*," formerly the "*Immutable*," is the same as that pointed out to the British Government by the English Commissary Judge at the Havana, the necessary measures have already been taken by the Imperial Government to secure the person of the accused, and if at his return to Odessa his culpability should be sufficiently established, he will without delay be brought before the Courts.

As to the other vessel of the Russian merchant navy, which may have been engaged in the same traffic, it will be indispensable to know the names of the ship, and of the Captain who commands her, seeing that without this information the Imperial Government could not, with any chance of success, enter upon the necessary investigation respecting her. To conclude, the Directory of the Quarantine at Odessa has on its part renewed the order to all the proprietors of Russian ships to watch that their Captains do not venture to employ them in the Slave Trade; and this order has besides been made known to the merchants at Odessa by the Council of Commerce of that town.

In making this communication, the undersigned is glad to believe that the Marquis Clanricarde will see the readiness with which the Imperial Government has endeavoured to clear up the doubts raised as to these two Russian vessels, suspected of having been employed in Slave Trade, and how much it is interested to prevent, by all its means, a renewal of that shameful traffic of which Russia, equally with England, highly disapproves.

He avails himself at the same time, &c.

(Signed) NESSELRODE.

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

BUENOS AYRES.

No. 10.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 5th February, 1838.

NOT having received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs any answer to my note of the 20th of January of last year, in which I again brought forward the arguments your Lordship had supplied me with, to induce the Government of Buenos Ayres to conclude a Convention with Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, although I have often urged him to reply to it; and having, in the repeated conversations, which I have had with his Excellency upon the subject of this note, found him always adhering to the determination announced in his note enclosed in my Slave Trade, Despatch of January 20, 1837, of not concluding a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless it be accompanied by what he calls a modification of various articles of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce of 1825, I have thought it my duty no longer to delay putting into execution the instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade, of June 10 of last year, and I this day addressed a note to Don Felipe de Arana, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Mr. Mandeville to Don Felipe de Arana.

THE undersigned, &c., has received instructions to state to His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana, with reference to the declarations contained in His Excellency's note *verbale* of January, 1837, which have been confirmed in different conversations the undersigned has had the honour to have with His Excellency on this subject, that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty regrets extremely that the Government of Buenos Ayres, instead of assenting to a proposal so reasonable, and so much in conformity with the professions of the Buenos Ayrean Government, as that made by Great Britain, should have deemed it expedient to repeat again a proposition, which the British Government has already declared to be inadmissible.

The undersigned is, however, again instructed to declare, that the British Government cannot mix up two matters, which are in their nature so distinct, as the abolition of the Slave Trade, and a revision of commercial regulations, and Her Majesty's Government hopes, that it will not be called upon again to state its fixed determination upon this point.

The Government of Buenos Ayres has urged in Señor Arana's note *verbale* as their chief reason for not concluding the proposed Slave Trade Convention, that to do so would be a virtual acknowledgment that Buenos Ayres has not fulfilled the engagement, which it contracted by the 14th Article of the Treaty of 1825, that such an acknowledgment would be inconsistent with fact, and that new states ought to be particularly jealous of their reputation for good faith. Now, Her Majesty's Government denies the first of these propositions, and contends that the Con-

vention in question, so far from being a virtual impeachment of the good faith of Buenos Ayres would, on the contrary, be the most signal and indisputable proof of the good faith of that state, inasmuch as it would provide effectual means for the fulfilment of the engagement, contracted in the above-mentioned article of the Treaty of 1825.

For what is the substance of that article? It contains two engagements: first, That Buenos Ayres shall *co-operate* with Her Britannic Majesty for the *completion* of the beneficent work of "*totally abolishing the Slave Trade*;" and secondly, that Buenos Ayres shall prohibit the Trade within its own territory, and prevent all persons inhabiting within its jurisdiction, from taking any share in such trade.

Now, these two engagements were obviously separate and distinct from each other: the first was general; the second, particular. The first, was applicable to all parts of the world, where Slave Trade *is* or *may* be carried on; the second confined to the territory of Buenos Ayres, and to persons inhabiting therein.

The first was an engagement to co-operate with England in *totally* abolishing the Slave Trade, that is to say, in endeavouring to abolish it all over the world; the second was an engagement to abolish it by specific laws, within the dominions over which the republic has, and exercises jurisdiction. Now, how stands the fact as to the second proposition of the Buenos Ayrean Government, namely, that it has faithfully executed the engagements contracted by the 14th article?

Her Majesty's Government is compelled, with infinite regret, to say, that these engagements have hitherto not been fulfilled.

The lesser engagement has indeed been executed. The greater one remains a dead letter. The Slave Trade has, it is true, been prohibited within the territory of Buenos Ayres, but no step whatever has been taken by the Buenos Ayrean Government to co-operate with Her Britannic Majesty, for the total abolition of Slave Trade in other parts of the Globe. No co-operation whatever has been afforded by Buenos Ayres for the accomplishment of that beneficent object, as the Treaty very justly described it, although nearly thirteen years have elapsed since that Treaty was concluded.

Her Majesty's Government therefore, concurring entirely with that of Buenos Ayres in the third of the above-mentioned propositions, that it peculiarly behoves new states to be careful to establish, by their early dealings with other powers, a high reputation for good faith, finds upon this very maxim, its renewed appeal to the honour and justice of the Government of Buenos Ayres; and the undersigned is instructed to press upon the consideration of the Argentine Government, that when a solemn engagement of a Treaty has remained for more than twelve years entirely neglected, and unexecuted, notwithstanding repeated applications for fulfilment, it is by carrying such engagement promptly and fully into effect, and not by refusing to act upon it, that a character for good faith can be established among the nations of the world.

The Convention which the undersigned has been instructed again to propose, contains in detail those mutual stipulations and arrangements, which will enable Great Britain and Buenos Ayres to *co-operate* for the total extinction of the Slave Trade, and Her Majesty's Government confidently hope that, when the Government of Buenos Ayres shall have maturely weighed the considerations, which have thus been submitted to their judgment, they will no longer hesitate to agree to that Convention.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

His Excellency Don Felipe de Arana,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 11.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

Foreign Office, May 24, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit for your information, two 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 J. H. Mandeville, Esq.

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 12.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 6th.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, January 16th, 1838.

I HAVE had the honour to execute the instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 24th October last, and I have expressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of this Republic the satisfaction, with which Her Majesty's Government received the intelligence of the confiscation, by the Government of Buenos Ayres, of the Brazilian schooner brig "*Eloisa*," together with every thing on board, for having been equipped for the Slave Trade.

His Excellency assured me that nothing would be more gratifying to the Governor of this Province, charged with the foreign relations of the Republic, than to obtain, by his acts, the satisfaction and esteem of Her Majesty's Government, more particularly when, at the same time, he was able to evince his sincere desire to act up to the spirit, as well as the letter, of the treaty existing between this country and Great Britain.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 13.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

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 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 Government of Buenos Ayres, 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.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 14.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received 24th September.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, July 5th, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 19th April, transmitting to me two printed copies of an additional Article to the Treaty concluded at the Hague, on the 14th of May, 1818, between Great Britain and the Netherlands, for the prevention of the traffic in Slaves; likewise two printed copies of a Treaty, by which the Hans 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)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 15.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 24th, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 5th of February, 1838, inclosing the copy of a note, which you had addressed to the Minister of Buenos Ayres, pressing him to conclude a Treaty between Great Britain and the Argentine Republic, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government approve of that note; and I herewith send you a Draft of a Treaty, containing, in an amended form, the propositions which were contained in the Draft which was sent out to Mr. Hamilton, on the 8th of September, 1834.

I have to desire that you will propose this amended Draft to the Government of Buenos Ayres for their adoption.

In case the Government of Buenos Ayres should, on account of expense, or for any other reason, object to appoint Commissioners to act, on the part of the Argentine Republic, in the Mixed Court of Justice to be established under the Treaty, you may meet such objection by proposing two additional articles, which I herewith send you.

Her Majesty's Government is most anxious to unite all the maritime States of Christendom in a league against Slave Trade; and I am commanded by Her Majesty to instruct you to use your best efforts to induce the Government to which you are accredited to sign the Treaty which I now send you.

I am, &c.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

• No. 16.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 30.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 23rd August, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 24th of May last, transmitting to me, for my information, two 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 have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 17.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 16.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 26th September, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 9th June last, transmitting to me the copy of a Resolution which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons, on the 10th May of this year, 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.

In obedience to your Lordship's directions, I shall not fail to communicate these Papers to the Government of Buenos Ayres, and earnestly press upon them the immediate conclusion of the negotiations, with which I am charged, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 18.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 7, 1839.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 14th October, 1838.

WHEN I communicated to this Government the Address to Her Majesty of the House of Commons of the 10th May last, upon Slave Trade, and Her Majesty's answer, I laid great stress upon the expediency of an immediate conclusion of the negotiations, with which I am charged, for the suppression of this abominable traffic. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a note, which I have received from M. de Arana in reply, in which he states that the Governor observes from this communication the incessant desire of the Parliament and of the Government of Great Britain for the extinction of the traffic in slaves, and has become acquainted thereby, that I have received orders from my sovereign to urge the Government of Buenos Ayres to an immediate conclusion of the negotiation with which I am charged on this subject. In consequence of which he, M. de Arana, has been commanded by his Excellency to signify to me the sincere and friendly disposition of the Argentine Government, to adhere to and conclude the above-mentioned negotiations, and that the Government will enter upon them as early as the numerous occupations, arising out of the present unjust blockade by the French squadron, will permit.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 18.

Don Felipe Arana to Mr. Mandeville.

(Translation.)

Buenos Ayres, 12th October, 1838.

THE undersigned has had the pleasure to lay before his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General of the Province the note from your Excellency, under date of the 4th instant, accompanied with a copy of a certain Resolution, unanimously voted by the House of Commons on the 10th of May last, for an Address to be presented to Her Britannic Majesty on the subject of the Slave Trade, and Her Majesty's answer thereto, dated on the 23rd of the same month.

His Excellency observes from the tenor of these copies the incessant and anxious desire of the Parliament and Government of Great Britain for the extinction of the traffic in slaves, and has become acquainted thereby, that your Excellency has received orders from Her Majesty to urge effectively the Government of Buenos Ayres on the immediate conclusion of the negotiations, which your Excellency has been empowered to enter upon, relating to this subject.

The undersigned has it in command from His Excellency the Governor, in answer to your Excellency's before-mentioned note, to signify to your Excellency the sincere and friendly disposition of the Argentine Government, to adhere to and conclude the before-cited negotiations relative to the extinction of the traffic in slaves, and that the Government will enter upon them as early as the numerous attentions, which arise out of the present unjust blockade by the naval forces of His Majesty the King of the French, and consequent pretensions, will permit.

God grant your Excellency many years,

The British Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

FELIPE ARANA.

No. 19.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

SIR,

Foreign Office, January 17, 1839.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 14th October, 1838, containing the answer of M. Arana to the pressing invitation which you made

to that Minister, to agree to the immediate conclusion of a Treaty between Great Britain and Buenos Ayres, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have now to instruct you again to urge the Government of Buenos Ayres to conclude this Treaty.

You will point out to the Buenos Ayrean Minister, that the French blockade seems to have no natural connexion with the Slave Trade treaty, and ought not to prevent the Argentine Government from concluding an arrangement, which would be so honourable to the Republic.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

EGYPT.

No. 20.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Campbell.

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.

Lieut.-Colonel Campbell,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 21.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Campbell.

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.

Lieut.-Colonel Campbell,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 22.

Colonel Campbell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 18.)

MY LORD,

Alexandria, May 5, 1838.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 17th of January last, I lost no time in bringing the subject of it under the notice of Boghos Bey, and requesting of him to transmit a copy of the Despatch to the Viceroy, who was then in the Delta.

For this purpose I gave a French translation to Boghos Bey, who, in a few days after, informed me, that the Pacha would communicate verbally with me on the Slave Trade question, on his return to Alexandria.

The Pacha returned here on the 28th of April; and I have now the honour to report the particulars of my interview with him on that subject.

I began by recapitulating to Mehemet Ali the different points of your Lordship's Despatch, and by explaining to His Highness the very warm and humane, as well as generous interest, taken in the abolition of that nefarious and cruel traffic, the Slave Trade, by the entire British people of every class and description; and that every step which His Highness would take in this abolition, would tend to raise him in the estimation of all Europe, and would, more than anything else, endear him to the people of England.

I added, that I hoped that he would enable me to make such a report to her Majesty's Government, as would prove his desire to attend to their humane wishes, and to answer to the expectations, which they had formed from the well-known enlightened character of Mehemet Ali. I told him that I hoped I should have a reply in writing, which would be still more satisfactory than a verbal communication.

Mehemet Ali replied, that he had the most anxious desire to conform in everything to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, and to do all in his power to obtain the good opinion of the people of England; but that the abolition of slavery could not take place in any Musulman country, unless by very slow degrees, which could only be brought about by time, and the union of circumstances. He said that he would not permit his officers in the interior to seize slaves; but as some of those officers had their harems and families in Cairo and in Alexandria, it would be too serious an undertaking for him to prevent his officers from doing what was done by all other classes, and which must continue, more or less, so long as Turks had harems; but he repeated that he was desirous to do all in his power to ameliorate slavery, and leave the rest to time.

I then asked, if his Highness would favour me with a reply in writing to that effect, and express his own sentiments for the gradual abolition of slavery, as far as possible in the present state of the countries subject to his Government. He replied that he must positively decline giving to me any reply in writing; as he had seen that my former communications with him, and his order to his Governors, had been published in the Augsburg Gazette, and that he was persuaded that Her Majesty's Government would see how much and how seriously any manifestation by him, of an intention to abolish slavery, would injure him in the eyes of every Musulman in every part.

From the manner in which Mehemet Ali refused to reply in writing, I felt that it would be useless to press that point; and I contented myself by stating my hopes, that he would do what he could to ameliorate the condition of the slaves, and to lay hold of any opportunity which might present itself for lessening the traffic. To this he replied, that he would do so most willingly; and on my stating the fact, that some Europeans carried on this most abominable trade between the Upper Country (Nubia and Soudan) and Cairo and Alexandria, he replied that I must be quite aware, that although he reprobated such conduct on the part of Europeans, still he could not interfere, as they were only amenable to their own Consuls, who alone were to be blamed for permitting it.

I am glad to say, that Mehemet Ali himself does not now purchase any more slaves for his own use or service.

Mohamed Bey (a Turk), the chief constructor of the Arsenal here, is married to an English woman, and is the father of four children, all of whom, with the mother, dress in the European manner.

Mohamed Bey walks publicly with his wife and children, and no notice is now taken of this by other Turks, with all of whom he appears to be on good terms; and his conduct as a husband and as a father is most correct.

Examples of this kind will, I hope, multiply, and will work the gradual abolition of the Slave Trade; and it is only by his own example that Mehemet Ali has made the name of European and Christian to be respected in Egypt and Syria, and that such perfect toleration of religion is permitted, that I have witnessed Turks, who have been in England, attending the Protestant chapel in Cairo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PATRICK CAMPBELL.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 23.

Colonel Campbell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 17.)

MY LORD,

Alexandria, June 7, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch Slave Trade, of the 24th May, transmitting to me printed copies of papers connected with that subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PATRICK CAMPBELL.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 24.

Colonel Campbell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 14.)

MY LORD,

Alexandria, July 4, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatches and their Enclosures of the 24th May and the 9th June last, marked Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PATRICK CAMPBELL.

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

No. 25.

Mr. Thurnburn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 14.)

MY LORD,

Alexandria, July 16, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that a considerable number of negroes from the interior of Africa are conveyed from this country, in European vessels, to different ports of Turkey and Barbary. These individuals are generally brought to this place by the Mussulmen Pilgrims, on their return from Mecca; and the restrictions respecting the conveyance of slaves are evaded, by passing them under the denomination of servants, or by causing a declaration to be made on the part of their masters before the Local Tribunal, that they have obtained their liberty; a stipulation which, however, there is too much reason to believe is in most cases revoked, on their arrival at the port of destination. My attention was of late more particularly called to the intercourse thus kept up, by the departure of the Cadi of Mecca, on his return, through this country, with his family, in whose suite not less than thirty individuals, male and female, similarly circumstanced, were embarked for Constantinople on board a steamer under Tuscan colours, the management of which is confided to M. de Rosetti the Consul-General of Tuscany at this Port. On becoming acquainted with that fact, I obtained from Colonel Campbell a copy of the Convention concluded between Her Majesty and the Grand Duke of Tuscany on the 24th of November, 1837, and communicated it to M. de Rosetti, pointing out to him the risk of seizure, to which any vessel carrying passengers of the description alluded to would be exposed. He stated that he had not the most distant idea of conniving at a traffic in slaves, and that a declaration had been formally made in his office, that the individuals in question were servants. He said that he had not had any previous knowledge of the Convention of the 24th of November, 1837, which having never been communicated to him by the Tuscan Government, he considered as more particularly directed against the trade carried on beyond the Straits of Gibraltar, but that he would refer immediately to his Government for instructions, as to the extent of its application to this country. Austrian vessels are prohibited by their Government from carrying slaves, but their Consular Authorities in the Levant think that they have done everything that their duty strictly requires of them, when a declaration is produced by the parties embarking negroes on board the vessel of that nation, that they are servants, or have obtained their liberty.

As domestic slavery in Turkey is exempted from many of those circumstances of cruelty, with which the condition of slaves in other countries is chargeable, and as they are viewed by the Mussulmans more in the light of adopted children, and are even entitled by law to a portion of their master's property at his death, the advocates of the system consider that a distinction should be made, between slaves purchased for the Colonies, and those employed for domestic purposes in the East; but whatever modifications the traffic in slaves may be subject to in this quarter, it cannot be doubted that it has a tendency to keep alive that barbarous commerce in the interior of Africa; and so long as the absolute right of property of the master over the person of the slave is admitted by law, the principle is equally revolting to humanity, and must be reprobated by the nation, that has made so many efforts and pecuniary sacrifices for the suppression of that traffic.

I beg, therefore, to solicit from your Lordship, instructions as to the course to be adopted on such occasions, with respect to vessels of those States, which have entered into Treaties with Great Britain for the abolition of the trade in slaves;

and I venture to suggest, that some advantage might be derived from the adoption by the Consular Authorities generally, of a regulation, requiring that each individual negro embarked at this Port should be provided with a document from the Mehkémé, recognising his or her freedom, and that all negroes proceeding from hence to other Ports should be called before the Consuls of the respective vessels here, and informed that they are free. As a further precaution, those certificates of freedom might be lodged with the master of the vessel carrying passengers of that description, and by him, on his arrival at the Port of destination, deposited with his Consul, for the purpose of being delivered to the individuals in question. In virtue of those documents, the Consul might claim the right of protecting all negroes conveyed by European vessels from being again enslaved, a right in the exercise of which your Lordship would, no doubt, have the co-operation of every enlightened Government. The arrangement here proposed, though it might not put an immediate and entire stop to the trade in slaves, would, by throwing additional obstacles in the way of their transportation, have the effect of diminishing the demand in the markets of the Red Sea, and thus advance another step towards the final suppression of the trade in that quarter; and I have reason to believe, that the Pacha of Egypt would be far from raising any difficulties, to retard the accomplishment of so desirable an object.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. THURBURN.

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

No. 26.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Thurburn.

SIR,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 16th of July, 1838.

I have sent copies of that Despatch to Her Majesty's Ministers at Vienna, and at Florence; and I have recommended the adoption of the regulations which you suggest for preventing negroes, who are carried by European vessels in the Mediterranean, from being consigned to slavery.

I observe by the remarks which you state yourself to have made to M. Rossetti upon this subject, that you are not aware, that the Conventions on Slave Trade, to which the coast of Tuscany has acceded, do not authorise the search and seizure of vessels in the Mediterranean Sea.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

R. Thurburn, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 27.

Mr. Thurburn to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 12.)

MY LORD,

Alexandria, August 14th, 1838.

WITH reference to my Despatch of the 16th of July, on Slave Trade, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the answer, received by the Tuscan Consul-General here, from Prince Corsini, Minister for Foreign Affairs at Florence, on the subject of the interpretation to be given to the convention, entered into with Tuscany on the 24th of November, 1837, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

There being no stipulation in that Convention, expressly referring to the Mediterranean Sea, though it embraces part of the African coast, the Government of Tuscany does not admit the right of search for slaves, within the Straits of Gibraltar, the limits for the exertion of that right being between the 10th degree of south and the 15th degree of north latitude; but, as Prince Corsini, in the Despatch referred to, has established the rule, that all slaves become free, from the moment of their embarkation on board Tuscan vessels, or landing on Tuscan territory, His Highness the Grand Duke will, no doubt, be disposed to second Her Majesty's Government in any arrangement, which they may deem it advisable to propose, with the view of giving full effect to that rule, and of ensuring in the Mediterranean, as well as in the Atlantic, the complete suppression of the Slave Trade.

The conveyance of slaves from port to port of Turkey in European vessels, though not attended with any of those horrors, which stigmatise the traffic on the western coast of Africa, is nevertheless a branch of that iniquitous commerce, and equally deserving the attention of the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. THURBURN.

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

Enclosure in No. 27.

(Translation)—*Communication from the Minister of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany to M. A. de Rosetti, their Consul-General in Egypt.*

SIR,

Florence, 21st July, 1838.

It is quite true that in November last Tuscany acceded to the Conventions, by means of which France and Great Britain proposed to themselves to oppose obstacles to the Slave Trade. But the accession of Tuscany, as likewise the tenor of the Conventions existing between the aforesaid nations, refers only to the prevention of the transport of slaves in a mass, for the purpose of carrying on there-with a guilty commerce, as well as of the attempt so to transport them; which, as you will see, has nothing in common with the transport of servants, either black or white, as the case may be, which may be carried on (entirely without any view to the Slave Trade) in ordinary vessels.

I have reason to believe that in a short time the above-mentioned Treaty of Accession of Tuscany will be published, together with the penalties, to be pronounced by our laws against the transgressors, and then the same will be communicated to you. It will then be very easy for you to persuade the British Consul of the evident mistake he is in, seeing that, besides the plain characteristics which distinguish a vessel destined to the forcible detention and transport of those unhappy slaves, (characteristics which are naturally never apparent in other vessels, destined for the ordinary transport of passengers or merchandise,) it is certain that the search and detention of any vessel whatever cannot take place in the waters, which must be passed over on a voyage between Alexandria and Constantinople, since the nearest bounds within which the cruisers may act are those which extend from the 10th degree of south to the 15th degree of north latitude, which, as every body knows, puts out of the question any search of the vessels which make a voyage between Alexandria and Constantinople.

The only circumstance to be noted by whoever wishes to transport slaves, either into Tuscany, or in a vessel covered with the Grand Ducal flag, is, that the slave, as soon as he has put his foot on board a Tuscan vessel, or on Tuscan soil, passes under the protection of our laws, and ought, therefore, if he demand it, to be set at liberty.

(Signed)

(For the Minister)

N. CORSINI.

M. A. de Rosetti,
&c. &c. &c.

HAYTI.

No. 28.

Viscount Palmerston to Captain Courtenay.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 21st December, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you six copies of two Conventions, concluded in 1831 and 1833, between Great Britain and France on Slave Trade.

I also send to you two copies of the Treaties, by which the Governments of Denmark, Sardinia, the Hanse Towns, Tuscany, and Naples, have acceded to those Conventions, and I have to instruct you, that when you shall have concluded and signed the Commercial Treaty, which you are charged to negotiate with the Government of Hayti, you will communicate to the President the Conventions as above-mentioned; and you will propose to his Excellency, that the Plenipotentiary of Hayti shall conclude with you a Treaty, acceding, on the part of the Government of Hayti, to those Conventions, in the same manner as the other states above mentioned have done.

These Conventions assume that the States, which are parties to them have enacted laws, punishing persons, and confiscating ships, engaged in Slave Trade. If, therefore, you shall find the President of Hayti disposed to conclude a Treaty of Accession, you will suggest to him the expediency of passing immediately laws against Slave Trade, as a foundation for such Treaty.

I transmit to you, herewith, Her Majesty's full power to enable you to conclude and sign.

*Captain Courtenay, R.N.,
&c. &c. &c.*

I am, &c.
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

MEXICO.

No 29.

Mr. Ashburnham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 21.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, 6th March, 1838.

SINCE the re-appointment of Señor Cuevas, and with reference to that part of the Report presented by him to the Congress, and forming the subject of my other Despatch of this day, I took occasion to inquire of his Excellency whether, and if so, what, steps had been adopted by the Government, in conformity with the conversation I had the honour to report to your Lordship by my Despatch marked *Slave Trade*, of the 7th November last, towards the re-opening of negotiations with Her Majesty's Government for the conclusion of the Treaty for the suppression of that traffic. His Excellency replied, that nothing had yet been done, as the Congress had only within a day or two rendered their decision upon the Report given in by the Committee; that the Congress were no less anxious than the Government, that a measure so interesting to the cause of humanity and honourable to both countries, should be completed with as little delay as possible; and had accordingly recommended to the Government to open a fresh negotiation with Her Majesty's Government.

On being reminded by me of my suggestion, that the proper course, as well as apparently the more expeditious, would have been to furnish the Mexican Minister in London with full powers for that purpose, Señor Cuevas alleged the necessity of submitting the Treaty when signed, and previous to ratification, to the Chambers, and the probability, if not certainty, of many alterations being suggested by that body, which must be adopted, as likely to render the negotiation more tedious than it would be if carried on here.

I do not see the force of his Excellency's argument; but not having yet received any instructions from your Lordship on the subject, I did not think it expedient to press the matter any further, the more so as I believe Señor Gutierrez de Estrada is absent from England, and that there is reason to look before long for the return of Mr. Pakenham.

I must not conceal from your Lordship, that one great objection in the eyes of the Legislature is, the mutual right of search,—the pivot, it appears to me, upon which the whole measure turns,—an objection arising from the jealousy of what they call the free navigation of these seas; and the humiliation they seem to see in the fact, that while the British cruisers may have frequent occasion to detain and search trading vessels bearing the Mexican flag, the scanty number of their navy will allow them but few opportunities of exercising their right with regard to British vessels.

It was in vain that I showed Señor Cuevas that the very concession of the right of searching suspected vessels bearing the Mexican flag would be the surest means of preventing the frequent recurrence of the actual search; and that in fact the measure was more directed against the ships of other countries, who, having entered into such treaties with Great Britain, could not with any safety carry on that traffic, unless under the flag of a country unfettered by such compacts.

I pointed out to his Excellency the benefits which this measure would confer on Mexico with regard to Texas, by checking the importation of slaves to that, there is reason to believe, the best market for them now existing. His Excellency, though seemingly convinced of the force of these sufficiently obvious remarks, still urged the impossibility of conquering the prejudice of the people.

I have the honour to enclose a copy and translation of a note I only received late last night from Señor Cuevas, enclosing a copy of the decision of Congress against the Treaty concluded by Mr. Pakenham, and authorizing the Government to take measures for the conclusion of a new one.

Enclosure in No. 29.

(Translation.)

*M. Cuevas to Mr. Ashburnham.**Palace of the National Government, Mexico,
5th March, 1838.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to Mr. Ashburnham a copy of the two Articles with which the opinion of the respective Commission concludes, and which were approved by the Chambers of Deputies, relative to the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, concluded between this Republic and England.

Conformably to the assurance of the second of these Articles, the Supreme Government will occupy itself as soon as possible with the affair, in order that the negotiation may again be opened, and the undersigned will have the pleasure of communicating it immediately to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affairs, to whom, &c.

(Signed) LUIS. G. GUEVAS.

1st. The Treaty concluded between the Plenipotentiaries appointed by the Government of Mexico, and that of her Britannic Majesty, for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and signed in Mexico, 16th April, 1837, is not approved.

2nd. Let this document be transmitted to the Government, in order that, taking cognizance of it, they may again open negotiations, and conclude another treaty.
Mexico, 5th March, 1835.

(Signed) CUEVAS.

No. 30.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Ashburnham.

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.

*The Hon. Charles Ashburnham,
&c. &c. &c.*

No. 31.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Ashburnham.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th June, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution which was voted unanimously by the House of Commons on the 10th 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, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

*The Hon. Charles Ashburnham,
&c. &c. &c.*

No. 32.

Mr. Ashburnham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 20.)

MY LORD,

Mexico, 5th May, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 15th February, instructing me to state to the Mexican Government the readiness of that of Her Majesty to meet the wishes of the Mexican

Republic upon some points of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, signed by Mr. Pakenham on the 16th April, 1837, which, as I have had the mortification to announce to your Lordship, has been rejected by the Chamber of Deputies; and to the introduction of certain modifications in the shape of two additional Articles.

I lost no time in obeying your Lordship's command; but Señor Cuevas, at the same time that he expressed the greatest willingness to conclude this affair to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government, declared his inability, in the present state of affairs, to give it that attention which it required, in order to carry it through the Congress.

I begged him to fix a day before the departure of this packet for holding a conference on the subject, which he promised, if possible, to do; but, as I feared would be the case, I have waited in vain for his summons; and am thus obliged to hope that the peculiar circumstances of the Government at this conjuncture will excuse in your Lordship's eyes my inability at present to announce anything definitive, as to the views of this Government on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. ASHBURNHAM.

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

No. 33.

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

MY LORD,

Mexico, 24th May, 1838.

I REGRET that it is still out of my power to announce to your Lordship any progress, towards the completion of the Treaty with this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have neglected no opportunity of directing the attention of Señor Cuevas to the subject, as one to which Her Majesty's Government attaches the highest importance; and with a view to obtain an interview for the purpose of making known to his Excellency the propositions, by means of which Her Majesty's Government proposes to remove the objections raised by the Committee, and concurred in by the Congress, if only to be enabled to inform your Lordship, whether the introduction into the Treaty signed last year of the modifications suggested, might not appear to the Mexican Government preferable to the more tedious and laborious operation of making an entirely new Treaty, I addressed to his Excellency a note, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose, which, I am sorry to say, and as your Lordship will see by the accompanying copy of his Excellency's answer, was not more successful than my verbal representations of the urgency of the matter.

I must, however, do Señor Cuevas the justice to express my belief, that the postponement of the consideration of your Lordship's propositions is not the result of any indifference to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government. The whole attention and energies of the Government are fully employed in seeking, not an arrangement of their differences with France, for that is hopeless at this moment, but the means of carrying on the Government from day to day; and in defending themselves rather against their domestic than their foreign enemy.

It must also be observed, that the Chambers are now assembled in extraordinary session; and that it would have been extremely difficult, especially at the present conjuncture, to obtain their consideration of the Treaty, even had it been possible to make the proposed modifications, immediately upon the receipt of your Lordship's Slave Trade Despatch of the 15th February.

I believe, however, that I may assure your Lordship, that the Mexican Government is most anxious to meet the wishes of that of Her Majesty, by a speedy termination of this affair; and on my part no vigilance shall be wanting to seize the earliest opportunity of bringing the subject before them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. ASHBURNHAM.

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

No. 34.

Mr. Ashburnham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 4.)

MY LORD,

Mexico, 1st October, 1838.

HAVING, in obedience to your Lordship's commands, notified in your Despatch marked Slave Trade of the 9th of June last, communicated to Señor Cuevas the resolution unanimously voted by the House of Commons on the 10th of May for an address to Her Majesty upon the Slave Trade, and the answer which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to return thereto, I took occasion, in conformity with your Lordship's further directions, to impress upon his Excellency the great importance attached by Her Majesty's Government to the speedy completion of the Treaty, negotiated by Mr. Pakenham and the Mexican Plenipotentiaries, and earnestly pressed him to fix an early day, when I might submit to his consideration the proposals which I was charged by your Lordship to make, for such modifications as might meet the difficulties raised by the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, against the ratification of that Treaty in its present form.

For the reasons mentioned in my Despatch on the subject of the 24th of May, I entertained but slight hopes of success in this fresh representation; and by the enclosed copy and translation of the answer I received, your Lordship will see, that at the same time that his Excellency professes the greatest desire to conclude the negociations, notwithstanding the pressure of his duties at this moment, it would lead to no result until the opening of the next session, the present being wholly devoted to the laborious and difficult task of arranging the financial system of the country.

His Excellency has also confidentially assured me, that it was to the interest of the object in view to wait until next session; as at that period the present Chambers will be renewed, that of the Deputies by one-half of its present members, the senate by one-third, and that the ministry entertain confident hopes, that the returns of the new elections will add greatly to its influence, and enable it to carry this measure with less opposition than they could at the present moment, even supposing that it were possible to present the matter to the Congress during its extraordinary sessions.

(Signed)

I have, &c.

C. ASHBURNHAM.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 34.

*M. Cuevas to Mr. Ashburnham.**Palace of the National Government, Mexico,
27th August, 1838.*

THE undersigned, &c., has received the note of Mr. Charles Ashburnham, dated the 25th instant, wherein, in consequence of fresh orders which he had received from his Government, he urges the speedy termination of the negotiations, pending with respect to the abolition of the Slave Trade. The undersigned has already had the honour to assure Mr. Ashburnham verbally, and has now the honour to repeat that assurance, that the Mexican Government entertain the same desires as those which animate that of Her Britannic Majesty upon this question, and that they will experience the greatest satisfaction in contributing by every means in their power to the extinction of so inhuman a traffic, and that, with so noble an object in view, they will omit no exertion in order that the already commenced negotiations may be entered upon again and be brought to a prosperous conclusion. But in order that this object be happily attained, the undersigned has deemed it expedient, as he has already mentioned to Mr. Ashburnham, that the preliminary steps should be deferred until the month of December next, to the end that, the undersigned having concerted measures with the Committees of Foreign Relations of both Chambers of the General Congress, the new Treaty

my be forthwith concluded, and be submitted to their approbation during the next period of their ordinary Sessions; seeing that during the present one, as Mr. Ashburnham is aware, solely questions relative to the national revenue can be discussed.

The undersigned submits the above explanation, in answer to the aforementioned note of Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, to whom he repeats, &c.

(Signed) LUIS G. CUEVAS.

The Hon. C. Ashburnham,
&c. &c. &c.

MONTEVIDEO.

No. 35.

Mr. Hood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 22.)

MY LORD,

Monte Video, February 18, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the Legislative Chambers of this Republic met in General Assembly on the 15th instant. The House being opened for the dispatch of business by the Vice-President, the annual Message from the Executive Power was delivered and read; a printed copy of which I herewith enclose, accompanied by a translation of that part of it which has reference to its relations with Great Britain.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) THOMAS SAMUEL HOOD.

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

Enclosure in No. 35.

An EXTRACT from the Message of the President of the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay to the General Assembly, upon opening the Chambers on the 15th February, 1838.

(Translation.)

England, in its character of a great maritime and commercial power, has not desired any other condition than that of perfect equality with those nations who may be found in the same position with itself. Founded upon this principle, the negotiation of the Treaty of Commerce, navigation, and friendship, proposed by its Sovereign, might have terminated in a manner reciprocally advantageous if that basis, so acceptable as well as just, had not brought prepared, various other stipulations making illusory the principle which gave rise to the intended amendments in the Protocols of 1835. The Minister of the Republic to the Court of Madrid had some conferences in London with the Principal Secretary for the Foreign Affairs of His Majesty, to clear up whatever might be equivocal in the true spirit of them, and to approximate the conclusion of the Treaty, by relaxing some modifications, and withdrawing others whose importance was no longer vital, in consequence of time having obliterated them, or because other well-considered motives required it. The negotiation was renewed to all appearance under better auspices by the Plenipotentiary of the King in the Argentine Provinces, but the Government had the sorrow to perceive that his faculties were not less restrictive than those of his predecessor. Presuming from this that the result of the new discussion would not be more satisfactory than the first, the explicit declarations, mutually exchanged in this affair, made the contracting parties know how unprofitable was their reciprocal persistence, and the necessity to put an end in this state to the extended and useless correspondence which had been begun. An equal fate attended the Convention proposed for the abolition of the traffic in slaves, whose ratification, as stated by the ministers of His Majesty, was made dependent on that of the Treaty which it accompanied.

They (the Montevidean Government) have recognized nevertheless that if the interests of the one and the other country have not been able to conciliate in this negotiation what ought to serve as a basis of our external political system, the Governments who bring good faith for their guide, are not for this the less deserving of confidence, without there being necessary the stipulation of a Treaty to

CLASS D.

restrain them within the limits which are imposed by a sense of equity, when it would be very unjust to impute solely to an interested motive the cause of the friendship which they cultivate; but if it be true that the union of this feeling and a sense of duty form the tie of friendship, with a firmer character than what would be effected by the former of these two titles alone, it is likewise so that the justice and generosity of the great British people will never allow the friendship of a new-born country, who owes to its mediation in a great measure the happiness of its political existence, to depend upon any other basis than those which can increase it, and secure to it its sympathy.

It is, finally, flattering that the Executive power can manifest to you that the appreciable relations with that Cabinet will be as unalterable and well sustained, as are sincere the sentiments which animate them, and faithful the good offices which it does not cease to shower forth to strengthen them in the double ties of gratitude.

Upon these titles, as well as amongst the recollections which the benevolent reign of the late monarch William IV. has left behind, are engraved the intensity of the grief which all classes of the Republic manifested on receiving the fatal news of his separation from this life, and it can only be mitigated by the flattering security that, under the auspices of his august successor will be maintained, with equal consistency, the ties of the same friendship.

No. 36.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hood.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24th, 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.

To Thomas S. Hood, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 37.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 6th, 1838.

I HAVE to instruct you to present a note to the President of the State of Uruguay, requesting him publicly to correct a misstatement which is contained in a part of His Excellency's Message to the Legislative Assembly, in which, referring to the relations between Great Britain and Uruguay, His Excellency states that the British Government had declared that Great Britain would not conclude with Monte Video, a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the Government of Monte Video was prepared to conclude, at the same time, a Treaty of Commerce with Great Britain. This erroneous assertion was no doubt occasioned by some misconception or misunderstanding: but you will find by my Despatch of the 25th of July, 1834, that Mr. Hamilton was instructed to make to the Government of Monte Video, a statement directly the reverse; and to say that, even if the British and Montevidean Governments were agreed as to a Treaty of Commerce, the British Government would refuse to conclude such a Treaty with Monte Video, unless Monte Video would consent to conclude simultaneously a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

You will say, that Her Majesty's Government, in order that a false impression may not remain as to their sentiments on this matter, request that the correction of this misrepresentation of their communication may be made by the Montevidean Government, in the same manner in which the misstatement itself was made.

You will further say that the British Government is ready at once to conclude with Monte Video, a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, without waiting for the signature of a Treaty of Commerce; and you will add, that the

Montevidean Government is earnestly invited by that of Great Britain, immediately to sign and conclude such a Slave Trade Treaty.

To J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 38.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hood.

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 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.

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 Montevidean Government, and earnestly to press upon them the immediate conclusion of the negotiations with which you are charged on this subject.

I am, &c.

To Thomas S. Hood, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 39.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 12.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 18th May, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 22nd February last, of this year, acquainting me that, with regard to the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Montevideo, your Lordship has referred to the Board of Trade the several points upon which the Montevidean Minister is desirous that modifications should be made; and that, in order to obviate the objections which the Montevidean Government has raised, to conclude the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, arising out of the inconveniences which its fulfilment would occasion, owing to the want of a national maritime force, and of a revenue sufficient to defray the expenses of officers to be employed in the Mixed Commission, your Lordship has been pleased to furnish me with instructions to enable me to make proposals for the purpose of obviating these difficulties.

I shall gladly avail myself of the facilities, which these instructions will give me in treating with the Montevidean Government, so soon as any disposition appears on their part to renew the negotiations.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Mandeville.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 17th August, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 18th of May, 1838, and I have to desire that you will not postpone acting upon the instructions conveyed to you in my Despatch, Slave Trade of the 22nd February, of this year, until the Montevidean Government shall have expressed a disposition to resume the negotiations for the conclusion of a Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain; but that you will, upon the receipt of this Despatch, make a direct proposal to the Montevidean Minister, to renew the negotiations for the purpose above stated, and that you will in the

course of those negotiations avail yourself of the instructions conveyed to you in my Despatch above-mentioned of this series, in order to arrive at a successful issue with as little delay as possible.

I am, &c.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 41.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 30.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 23rd August, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 6th June, directing me to present a note to the President of the State of Uruguay, requesting him publicly to correct a misstatement, which is contained in a part of his Excellency's Message to the Legislative Assembly, wherein it is stated, that the British Government had declared, that Great Britain would not conclude with Montevideo a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the Montevidean Government was prepared to conclude at the same time a Treaty of Commerce with Great Britain.

By the last accounts from Montevideo, that town was closely invested by General Rivera's troops, and sanguinary scenes were daily taking place under its walls.

I trust that your Lordship will not, therefore, disapprove of my deferring for a short time to address this note to the President of that Republic, until the Government of that country assume a somewhat more settled form, when I shall not fail to make the representation in the manner prescribed by your Lordship's Despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

No. 42.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 16.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, 5th September, 1838.

ALTHOUGH the position of the Government of Montevideo has not much improved since I last had the honour to address your Lordship, still, as it may hold on for some time longer, I have, in obedience to the directions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade of the 6th June, addressed a note to the President of the State of the Uruguay, of which the enclosed is a copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

Enclosure in No. 42.

Mr. Mandeville to the President of the Republic of Uruguay.

Buenos Ayres, September 5th, 1838.

THE undersigned, &c., has received instructions from Viscount Palmerston, &c. directing him to request of His Excellency the President of the Republic of the Uruguay publicly to correct a mistatement, which is contained in part of His Excellency's Message to the Legislative Assembly of this year, in which, referring to the relations between Great Britain and the Republic, His Excellency states that the British Government had declared that Great Britain would not conclude with Montevideo a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the Government of Montevideo was prepared to conclude, at the same time, a Treaty of Commerce with Great Britain..

It is difficult to conceive how this erroneous assertion took its rise, or from what misconception or misunderstanding it proceeded, for not only did Mr. Hamilton, in the year 1835, make a statement directly the reverse to the Government of Montevideo, and said that, even if the British and Montevidean Governments were agreed as to a Treaty of Amity and Commerce, the British Government would refuse to conclude such a Treaty with Montevideo, unless Montevideo would consent to conclude simultaneously a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade; but the undersigned, after the rupture of his negotiations for a Treaty of Commerce, in a note addressed by him, October 27th, 1826, to M. Llambi, Minister for Foreign Affairs at that time, represented to His Excellency "that whatever might have been the motives which induced the Government of the Uruguay to throw obstacles in the way of the negotiations of a Treaty of Amity and Commerce, which the British Government proposed to it through Mr. Hamilton during the last year, or to make demands of a nature which the Government of the Uruguay, in preferring them, might have been certain that Great Britain would never consent to; still there can exist no motive that a free state could bring forward, to prevent the Montevidean Government from negotiating a Treaty for the extinction of the abominable traffic in slaves;" and the undersigned proceeded in this note to urge that Government to conclude the Treaty; and further, in his reply to Don Benito Blanco's note of Sept. 9th, of last year, when negotiations for a Treaty of Amity and Commerce were renewed between His Excellency and the undersigned, he observed to that Minister in these words, "The obstacles in the way of the completion of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce being now on the part of the Montevidean Government, I trust, overcome, there remains only the objections which your Excellency has raised against concluding a Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, as proposed by my predecessor, which, if not destroyed, all that we have done and all that we may do, with regard to the conclusion of the first-mentioned Treaty are as nothing. I have the honour to repeat to your Excellency with the greatest respect and truth, that the ratification of the power by the British Government is made dependent upon the conclusion of the latter.

In order, therefore that a false impression may not remain as to the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government on this matter, the undersigned is instructed to request that the correction of this misrepresentation of their communication may be made by the Montevidean Government, in the same manner in which the mistatement itself was made.

The British Government is ready at once to conclude with Montevideo a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, without waiting for the signature of a Treaty of Commerce; and the Government of the Republic of the Uruguay is earnestly invited by that of Great Britain immediately to sign and conclude such a Slave Trade Treaty.

The undersigned, &c. &c.

(Signed) J. H. MANDEVILLE.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of the Uruguay,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 43.

Mr. Mandeville to Viscount Palmerston—(Received December 16th.)

MY LORD,

Buenos Ayres, September 28th, 1838.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note, which the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Uruguay has sent to me, in reply to the note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 6th of June of this year, I addressed to the President of that Republic, requesting His Excellency to correct a mistatement which appeared in his Messsge to the Legislative Assembly, in which His Excellency observed that the British Government would not conclude with the Republic a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the Government of Montevideo was prepared to conclude at the same time a Treaty of Commerce with Great Britain.

M. Villademoros informs me, that when sufficient time has elapsed to meditate and resolve upon a business of such importance, His Excellency the President will

not hesitate, if there be grounds, to afford to the Government of Her Majesty complete satisfaction, which is no sacrifice, since justice, and therefore the dignity of the Oriental Republic requires it.

(Signed)

I have, &c.,
J. H. MANDEVILLE.

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

Enclosure in No. 43.

(Translation.) *M. Villademoros to Mr. Mandeville.*

Department of Foreign Affairs, Montevideo, September 25, 1838.

HIS Excellency, the President of the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay, has been informed of the contents of the note which Mr. Mandeville, &c., has been pleased to address him, requiring that a public correction should be made of a *wrong conception* contained in part of the *message* of his Excellency to the Legislative Assembly of this year, in which, referring to the relations between Great Britain and the Republic, he affirms that the British Government had declared that Great Britain would not conclude any Treaty with Montevideo for the suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the Government of Montevideo should be prepared to conclude at the same time a Treaty of commerce with Great Britain.

The undersigned, &c., has in consequence been authorized to reply, that as soon as the time absolutely necessary to meditate and resolve upon a business of such importance has been taken, his Excellency will not hesitate, if there be an opportunity, to afford to the Government of her Britannic Majesty complete satisfaction, which is no sacrifice, since justice requires it, and therefore the dignity itself of the Oriental Republic.

(Signed)

The undersigned, &c. &c.
CARLOS G. VILLADEMOROS.

J. H. Mandeville, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

NEW GRANADA.

No. 44.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Turner.

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.

William Turner, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 45.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Turner.

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

William Turner, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 46.

Mr. Adams to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 28.)

MY LORD,

Bogota, August 23rd, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch marked Slave Trade, of 19th April last, addressed to Mr. Turner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

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

No. 47.

Mr. Adams to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 9.)

MY LORD,

Bogota, 27th September, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of 9th June last, addressed to Mr. Turner.

In compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I communicated to the Granadian Government a copy of a resolution of the House of Commons of 10th May

last, 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.

With reference to that part of your Lordship's instructions, which enjoins me to press upon the Government of this country the conclusion of negotiations respecting Slave Trade, I have the honour to state, that no negotiations are at present pending at Bogota, having for their object the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves.

It occurred, however, in the course of conversation with the Granadian Minister before the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, that his Excellency mentioned to me the prevalence of a report, that the Granadian flag had in some instances been used for the prosecution of the detestable commerce, though he was not in possession of any official information on the subject. General Herrau likewise expressed the anxiety of his Government for its final extinction, and inquired of me what steps had recently been taken by Her Majesty's Government to effect that object, observing the language of my instructions, and that of the resolution of the House of Commons, and believing that this Government are sincerely desirous of contributing to the same object I ventured to address a note to the Granadian Minister, of which the enclosed is a copy, transmitting copies of the Conventions between Great Britain and France of 30th November, 1831, and 22nd March, 1833, and inviting the Government of New Granada to a careful consideration of their contents.

I have informed the French Chargé d'Affaires of my proceedings in this affair, who is not in possession of any instructions on the subject. As soon as I receive an answer from the Granadian Minister, I shall have the honour of communicating it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

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

Enclosure in No. 47.

Mr. Adams to General Herrau.

British Legation, Bogota, 8th September, 1838.

THE undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has received instructions from his Government to communicate to His Excellency, General Herrau, the Granadian Minister for Foreign Relations, the enclosed copy of a resolution which was voted unanimously by the British House of Commons on 10th May last, for an address to Her Majesty upon the subject of the Slave Trade, and the copy of the answer, which, on the 23rd of the same month, Her Majesty was pleased to return to that address.

The Granadian Government will see from these papers, the unceasing and anxious desire of the Parliament, and Government of Great Britain, for the extinction of the traffic in slaves; and the undersigned being well aware of the sympathy of the Government of General Herrau, in the endeavours of the nations of Europe to put an end to the Slave Trade, has the honour likewise to transmit to His Excellency, copies of two Conventions between the sovereigns of Great Britain and France, signed at Paris on the 30th November, 1831, and 22nd March, 1833, respectively, "for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves," and begs leave to invite the Government of New Granada to a careful consideration of their stipulations: he adds a copy of the Treaty by which the Grand Duke of Tuscany has acceded to the above-mentioned Conventions between Great Britain and France, being the last of many similar acts of accession which has reached his hands.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

To General Herrau,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 48.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Adams.

SIR,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 27th of September, 1838, enclosing the copy of a note which you had addressed to the Minister of Granada, pressing him to conclude a Treaty between Great Britain and the Republic of Granada, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I herewith send to you a Draft of a Treaty for this purpose, similar to those Treaties which have recently been proposed by Her Majesty's Government to the Governments of Chile, of Buenos Ayres, and of other Republics in South America.

The stipulations of these Treaties are different in many essential respects, from the stipulations of the Treaty, concluded between Great Britain and France, upon Slave Trade, which you communicated to the Granadian Minister by your note to His Excellency, of the 8th of September, 1838.

The most essential difference between the Treaty, of which I now send you a Draft, and the Conventions concluded with France is, that by the last-mentioned Conventions vessels detained for slave trading, are, together with their crews, to be delivered over to the ordinary Tribunals of the countries whose flag they bear, in order to be tried by the laws of such country; whereas, by the Treaty of which I send you a Draft, vessels so detained are to be sent for adjudication before Mixed Commissions, established for the special purposes of taking cognizance of such cases. The latter arrangement seems to be most suitable to the case of New Granada; and is the arrangement contained in the Treaties, which Great Britain has concluded with Spain, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Sweden; and the same arrangement also has uniformly been included in the several Treaties on Slave Trade, which have been proposed by Great Britain to the South American States. If the Granadian Government should, on account of expense, or for any other reason, object to appoint Commissioners, to act on the part of the Granadian Republic, in the Mixed Courts of Justice to be established under the Treaty, you may meet such objection, by proposing two additional articles, which I herewith send you.

I enclose with this Despatch full powers from Her Majesty, to enable you to conclude and sign the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government is most anxious to unite all the maritime states of Christendom, in a league against Slave Trade; and I am commanded by Her Majesty to instruct you to use your best efforts to induce the Government, to which you are accredited, to sign the Treaty which I now send you.

W. P. Adams, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

No. 49.

Mr. Adams to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 7, 1839.)

(Extract.)

Bogota, October 25, 1838.

IN my last Despatch, I had the honour of enclosing a copy of a note I had addressed to the Granadian Minister, in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, and to state that I had invited the Government of this country to a careful consideration of the stipulations of the Conventions between Great Britain and France for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in slaves. On the 6th instant I received an answer, of which copy and translation are enclosed, from the Granadian Minister, which, while it so far mistakes the object of my note, as to construe it into an invitation to proceed at once to the negotiation of a Convention on the subject of the Slave Trade, expresses at the same time an earnest desire to co-operate in the most efficacious manner towards the final suppression of that dreadful traffic, and concludes with informing me, that the President of the republic had conferred full powers on General Herrau, the Secretary of State for the Interior and Foreign Relations, for the purpose of entering with me into negotiations on this subject.

Upon the receipt of the above note, I sought an interview with his Excellency, and explained to him, that my instructions did not authorise me to enter immediately

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upon the negotiation of a Slave Trade Convention; that in all the acts of accession hitherto received by the mission, France had been a party, as well as Great Britain; and that the French Chargé d'Affaires had informed me he was furnished with no instructions on the subject; that my object was to ascertain whether the Granadian Government could accede to the general principle of the Conventions, in order to inform my Government on the subject; and that I felt confident their ready acquiescence, as manifested in the note of 6th October, would be duly appreciated by your Lordship.

General Herrau replied that his Government was able and willing to accede to the general principle of the Conventions; and that the details could be readily adapted to the circumstances of this country.

General Herrau then informed me, that a vessel had been fitted out in one of the ports of the republic for the African Slave Trade, but that she had not sailed, in consequence of her owner and captain having been detained upon conviction for some other crime. This latter circumstance, he said, had also prevented him from furnishing me with any official documents respecting the vessel in question.

I have the honour to add a copy of the official answer I returned, on the 9th instant, to the proposal for negotiation on the part of the Granadian Government.

First Enclosure in No. 49.

General Herrau to Mr. Adams.

(Translation)

Bogota, 6th October, 1838.

THE Undersigned having received and submitted to his Excellency the President of the Republic the note of Mr. Adams, &c., in which, when enclosing to him printed copies of the Address presented to the English Throne by the House of Commons, upon the suppression of the Slave Trade, of Her Majesty's concurrence in that Address, and of the Conventions concluded for that purpose with the King of the French and the Grand Duke of Tuscany, he states that he has received instructions from his Government to proceed to the conclusion, with that of New Granada, of a Convention for the same purpose.

The Granadian Government, whose philanthropic and liberal principles are well known, has long witnessed, with the greatest pleasure, the efforts employed by that of Her Britannic Majesty for the complete abolition of the dreadful traffic in slaves; and, sympathizing in such ideas, it will effectually co-operate, on its side, for its complete and perpetual abolition, in this age, when enlightened Governments adopt with enthusiasm, and practice with constancy, everything which is in harmony with the principles of a well-understood advancement. For this purpose His Excellency the President of the Republic, with the previous advice and consent of the Council of State, has been pleased to grant to the Undersigned full powers for proceeding to negotiate with Mr. Adams a Treaty, with the laudable object above mentioned; which negotiation may be commenced next week, if Mr. Adams has no objection to that course.

*W. P. Adams, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.*

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed) R. A. HERRAU.

Second Enclosure in No. 49.

Mr. Adams to General Herrau.

British Legation, Bogota, 9th October, 1838.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the 6th instant, in which his Excellency, General Herrau, the Granadian Minister for Foreign Relations, informs him, that, with the view of co-operating in the most effectual manner in the endeavours of Her Majesty's Government for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, the President of the Republic had conferred upon his Excellency full powers for the negotiation of a Treaty on the subject, for which purpose he does the Undersigned the honour to invite him to a conference.

When in pursuance of his instructions, the Undersigned addressed General Herrau on the 8th of last month, he transmitted to his Excellency copies of Conventions between Great Britain and France, "for the more effectual suppression of the traffic in Slaves," and invited the Government of New Grenada to a consideration of their stipulations, his object was to demonstrate the anxiety of Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and to ascertain whether the Government of this country could acquiesce in the general principles of the above-mentioned Conventions, with the view of communicating the result of his inquiries to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, but he did not intend to imply that he was in possession of the necessary full powers and other authority, for entering at once upon the negociation of a Convention, without further instructions from his Government.

The Undersigned will feel the highest satisfaction in acquainting the Government of Her Majesty with the noble sublimity and prompt concurrence of the Government of New Granada, and has the honour to renew to his Excellency. General Herrau, the assurance of his highest and most distinguished consideration.

General Herrau,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

W. P. ADAMS.

No. 50.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Adams.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st January, 1839.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 25th October, 1838.

You will express to the Granadian Government the great satisfaction, which Her Majesty's Government has experienced at learning the anxious and zealous desire of the Granadian Government to co-operate with that of Great Britain, in suppressing the Slave Trade; and you will say, that Her Majesty's Government is thence led to hope that the Treaty, of which a draft was sent to you with my Despatch of the 15th December, 1838, will be agreed to.

W. P. Adams, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

PERU.

No. 51.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Wilson.

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.

B. H. Wilson, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Wilson.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th June, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution, which was voted unanimately 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 commanded by Her Majesty to instruct you to communicate these papers to the Peru-Bolivian Government; and earnestly to press upon them the immediate conclusion of the negotiations with which you are charged on this subject.

I am, &c.

To B. H. Wilson, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 53.

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

MY LORD,

Her Majesty's Legation, Lima, 16th June, 1838.

WITH reference to my Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 22nd of October, 1836, stating the willingness of His Excellency the Protector of Santa Cruz to negotiate a Treaty with Great Britain, for the total abolition of that inhuman traffic, and for declaring it to be "*Piracy*," and soliciting further instructions upon this subject, I have the honour to state that the speedy transmission to me of full powers to negotiate such a Treaty with the Peru-Bolivian Confederation, would possibly facilitate its success.

I have urgently represented to His Excellency the Protector, the propriety, expediency, and humanity of introducing a clause into the projected constitution of the Peru-Bolivian Confederation, formally abolishing the Slave Trade, and declaring it to be piracy; and I hope the suggestion will be acted upon.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

BELFORD H. WILSON.

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

&c. &c. &c.

No. 54.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Wilson.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th November, 1838.

IN reply to your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 16th of June, 1838, on the expediency of your being furnished with full powers to negotiate a Treaty on Slave Trade with the Peru-Bolivian Confederation, I have to refer you to my Despatch of the 30th of April, 1838, in which a full power for that purpose was transmitted to you.

To B. H. Wilson, Esq.
 &c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

VENEZUELA.

No. 55.

Sir Robert Ker Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 9.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, 13 March, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that the sanction, on the part of the Chambers of Congress, to the Treaty for the abolition of the traffic in slaves (signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries in May last) has not yet been given.

Early in February the Treaty was transmitted, by order of the Executive, to the Chamber of the Senate, which assembled forthwith and referred it to a Committee to report upon. The report thereon was presented on the 12th ultimo (a copy of which I enclose), wherein reasons are set forth, why Venezuela ought not to enter into the Convention stipulated; yet admitting, at the same time, a full sense of admiration of the philanthropy of Great Britain, in so ardently having stepped forth, as the active and powerful promoter in putting an end to a traffic so iniquitous and disgraceful to human nature. On the Report being read, the Senate voted almost unanimously, against the ratification of the Treaty; and directed that it should be passed without delay to the Chamber of Representatives, together with a project of a Decree on the above decision (for its approbation also), which was instantly done.

In the Lower Chamber again the Treaty was referred to a committee. Expecting day after day to learn the report of the second committee, I refrained from requesting the Government to urge the Chamber to come to its decision on the business pending; but finding that the domestic finance, and affairs of the interior alone, seemed wholly to absorb its time, I wrote to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 7th instant, begging him to call the immediate attention of the Executive, to the great delay, as well as procedure of Congress, on the pending Treaty, particularly as the term for the exchange on ratification was so nearly expired, which thus made it absolutely necessary for both Chambers to give their prompt decision thereon; and I also had to observe that perhaps numbers of the members were not aware that, according to the 13th Article of the Treaty of Amity, &c., &c., existing between Great Britain and this Republic, "*Venezuela engages to co-operate with His Britannic Majesty for the total abolition of the Traffic in Slaves;*" but that the proceedings in Congress touching the Slave Treaty, appeared to be in direct opposition to *this co-operation*; and if the Chambers persisted in refusing their approbation to the Treaty, such would be equivalent to a virtual infraction of the Article above cited. On receiving this Despatch from me, the Minister submitted it to the Executive, who directed him immediately to send a copy of it (in translation) to the Chamber of Representatives, for its information and guidance in the matter. This took place on the 8th instant, when my communication was ordered to be placed in the hands of the Committee.

Thus then rests at present this affair. And the moment I learn officially whether the Lower Chamber coincides in opinion with the Upper, or sends back its decision for reconsideration, I will inform you.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 55.

(Translation.)

REPORT of the Commission for Foreign Affairs of the Chamber of the Senate, relative to the Treaty concluded with Great Britain on the Extinction of the traffic in Slaves.

HONOURABLE CHAMBER,

The Commission for Foreign Affairs having maturely meditated on the Treaty, concluded between the Republic of Venezuela and His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries, on the extinction of the traffic in slaves; and, for reasons about to be expressed, declare to the Senate that, according to its judgment, the approbation thereon is not convenient.

That Great Britain endeavours by every means in her power to put an end to this traffic, and that to attain which, concludes Treaties with other Nations, that their maritime strength may give to hers the most efficacious assistance; it is such philanthropic measures, that all must applaud, displaying a conduct not less humane than generous.

The Constituent Congress of Colombian, even before witnessing the expulsion from the territory of Venezuela of the soldiers of the Peninsula, at the moment of sanctioning the fundamental Code of the Republic, gave a most unequivocal proof of the interest existing on the situation of the slaves, by the law of the 21st of June, 1821, on manumission.

It was not easy to make an act for the extinction of servitude without violating the right of property, but to do all possible towards it compatible therewith. The first article opens the doors of freedom to the children of the slaves, born after the publication of the law in the capitals of provinces. Hence the results are so beneficial and just, an arrangement will in a few years free all the inhabitants of Colombia, and duly inscribed as such in the public registers. The seventh Article clearly and positively prohibits the introduction of slaves in any manner whatever, and assigns penalties to the transgressors; and those which follow have for their object the formation of a fund, destined exclusively for the slaves, who had the misfortune to be born previously, and consequently are not comprehended in the law cited.

The social compact that united Venezuela with the rest of Colombia is broken; if then some laws fell into disuse, and others were expressly derogated, still that on the manumission did not suffer; on the contrary, all its dispositions were not only confirmed by the Constituent Congress of Venezuela, on the 2nd of October, 1830, but by it the condition of the slaves was ameliorated, and the fund, of which we have already spoken, augmented, by the property of those persons who died intestate, not leaving relations within the class prescribed as heirs by law; and should this fund not be found sufficient to manumit at least 20 slaves, the amount wanting was to be supplied out of the Public Treasury.

This slight review of our legislation on what touches the slaves is enough, in the belief of the Commission, to prove that Venezuela would regard with the greatest pleasure the destruction of the traffic in human beings, which, with disgrace to the intelligence of the present century, even continues to be carried on, although still in a clandestine manner; but the inability of efficaciously co-operating in so laudable and just an enterprize is a motive, which naturally ought to draw Venezuela back from contracting compromises with Great Britain, having for their object the active pursuit of slave vessels employed in that traffic.

By the first Article of the Treaty in question Venezuela will declare abolished the traffic in slaves in all parts of the world, without excepting, it is understood, Australia; and by the third Article is to dictate the means necessary for assimilating, as soon as may be possible, the laws of the Republic with those of Great Britain, as far as are relative to the punishment for trafficking in slaves. The second obliges Venezuela to publish a penal law, two months after the exchange of the ratifications, imposing the most severe punishment on those citizens of the Republic who, under any pretext whatever, take part in the traffic in slaves, and yet it is left to be discussed. That this arrangement is certainly unnecessary, as it respects a country like ours, which, from its want of marine, and by its laws, finds itself almost in the impossibility of exercising such an iniquitous species of traffic.

Our navigation is in its infancy, although it is certainly grievous to confess it ; our vessels scarcely place us in a state to compete with foreigners in the commerce of the neighbouring islands : and the Commission is ignorant whether there be any that do really visit the coasts of Europe. Thus situated, it would appear almost ridiculous that the Government of the Republic should prohibit its citizens, by means of severe laws, a traffic that neither at present, nor ever, was probable, nor even could it be carried on, would find protection in our legislation. Rejoiced indeed would Venezuela be to behold herself in a position effectually to aid Great Britain in the great and philanthropic design of extirpating a traffic, reprobated as contrary to natural rights by every lover of humanity.

Annexed to the Treaty, and forming an integral portion of it, are the instructions with which the cruisers must be provided (belonging to both the contracting parties), destined for the suppression of this traffic. These set forth, besides other things (without doubt just), that the British vessels detained by Venezuelan cruisers in the Brazilian seas, are to be brought to the colony of Demerara ; that those detained in the seas of the West Indies are to be brought to Jamaica ; that those detained in the seas of Madagascar are to be brought to the Cape of Good Hope ; and lastly, that those detained in the African seas are to be conducted to Bathurst in the river Gambia ; and in all these cases to be delivered over to their respective British authorities.

The Commission has extracted this part of the instructions, with a view merely to show more clearly what it has already had the honour of stating ; namely, that Venezuela, by its nullity as a naval power, ought not to conclude Treaties which she cannot fulfil, although she may be able in the course of years ; and, for inasmuch as the Commission applauds the humane and generous conduct of England, feels most profound regret in giving its opinion, *that the Senate do withhold its approbation of the Treaty on the traffic in slaves*, concluded and signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries of Venezuela and Great Britain, on the 19th May, 1837.

(Signed) ANGEL QUINTERO.
JUAN MANUEL CAGIGAL.
J. B. CALCANO.

Caracas, 12th February, 1838.

Second Enclosure in No. 55.

Sir R. K. Porter to Colonel Smith.

SIR,

British Legation, Caracas, 7th March, 1838.

IN consequence of the circumstances that have occurred in Congress, relative to the Treaty for the abolition of the traffic in slaves, as agreed upon by the respective Governments of Venezuela and Great Britain, I beg leave to call the immediate and serious attention of the Executive to this important point thereon, namely, its having been mutually agreed upon, that the ratifications be exchanged within the space of ten months from the day of signing the Treaty by the two Plenipotentiaries, which took place on the 19th May, 1837 ; and as there scarcely remain three weeks of this term unexpired, I earnestly trust that his Excellency the Vice-President (charged with the executive power) will forthwith urge the Legislative Chambers of the Republic to a speedy decision on this affair, in order that I may be enabled to transmit such decision to Her Majesty's Government without delay.

I take this opportunity of observing (and which circumstance most of the members of Congress do not seem to recollect) that, by the existing Treaty of Amity, entered into between this Republic and Great Britain (Art. 13th), "the Government of Venezuela engages to co-operate with Her Britannic Majesty for the total abolition of the Slave Trade." Now, as the present proceedings of the Congress are in direct opposition to such pledge of co-operation, and should the Chambers persist in their refusal of the Abolition Slave Trade Treaty (for as it stands so was it agreed to by the last and present Executive), it will certainly amount to a virtual infraction of the Article above cited.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT KER PORTER.

*The Hon. Colonel William Smith,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

No. 56.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, 11th April, 1838.

IN my Despatch of March 13th, marked Slave Trade, I had the honour of stating to your Lordship, that the Treaty on the abolition of the traffic in slaves had been rejected by the Senate of the Congress, which was transmitted by that body, together with the project of a decree thereon, to the Chamber of the Representatives; and I accompanied my Despatch with documents connected with those proceedings.

I have now to state, that the Lower Chamber permitted the Treaty to remain in the hands of its commission, until the expiration of the period fixed for its ratification and exchange. In consequence of this apparent neglect, I addressed the Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressing my sentiments on the conduct of both Chambers; this obliged the Executive to call on the Chamber of Representatives to turn its attention to the subject, notwithstanding the almost closed period of the session.

On the 7th instant I received an answer to my communication, palliating the neglect of the Chamber, on account of its having been so unceasingly occupied with the complicated and distressing financial affairs of the Republic; and at the same time informing me, that the Commission (to whom the Treaty had been referred) had at length given in its report, proposing that the project of the decree sent from the Senate, refusing its consent and approbation for ratification, should not be admitted to discussion, but that the whole be returned to the Senate for reconsideration; particularly as the opinion of the Chamber may prove so very different to that expressed by the members of the other House.

The Minister then expresses the deep regret of the Executive on the unavoidable delay, which has impeded the final settlement of this affair, setting forth the impossibility of the Congress being able to dedicate that attention the subject requires during the few days remaining of the present session. His Excellency therefore informs me that, as the ten months agreed upon for the ratification of the Treaty have already expired, the Government proposes to renew and extend the period to that of twelve, beginning from the 1st day of May next, and terminating on the same day and month of 1839, requesting I would make such proposal known to my own Government, which I now have the honour of doing, and I shall await your Lordship's directions thereon, in order to negotiate the new arrangement. Being in possession of Her Majesty's full powers for continuing the negotiation of the Treaty, this duty on my part can be executed without delay; and I trust next year to be enabled to inform your Lordship that the business is at last satisfactorily settled.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

&c. &c. &c.

First Enclosure in No. 56.

Sir R. K. Porter to Colonel Smith.

SIR,

British Legation, Caracas, 22nd March, 1838.

I HAD the honour of addressing you on the 7th instant, requesting you would call the immediate attention of the Executive to the delay on the part of Congress, respecting the Treaty for the extinction of the traffic in Slaves, and likewise to the short time then remaining of the period agreed upon by its respective Plenipotentiaries for exchange after ratification. From what I observed had taken place on the part of the Executive, in consequence of the above-named communication (as detailed in the "Conciso"), I was led to suppose, that his Excellency deemed it of sufficient weight in itself not to render necessary anything more should be said by the Government thereon, therefore transmitted my Despatch (in translation) to the Chamber of Representatives, by which body, on being read, it was referred to a Committee; and I now, with much regret, remark, that this Chamber, as well as its Committee, appear to have regarded the importance of the Treaty of so little consequence, as never to give it a thought since; thus permitting the 19th of the present month to pass away, without taking any farther notice whatever of it, although fully aware, from my officio, that on that day would expire the term for

CLASS D.

its ratification or not. In the first instance, the Treaty was rejected by the Senate, for reasons, and in a manner, far from doing credit either to the sound judgment or the national policy of that body. And again, in the second instance, on the day of its being received by the Chamber of the Representatives, it was placed in the hands of a Committee, with whom it remained a dead letter, together with your communication enclosing my Despatch of the 7th, and where, doubtless, the whole of these papers are, and will yet long remain unnoticed.

In consequence of the procedure of both Chambers since the Treaty came before them, I feel it my duty to express, unreservedly, my opinion thereon; but more particularly on the conduct of that of the Representatives, wherein has been manifested a most extraordinary want of common courtesy, even to a degree displaying no trifling disrespect towards the nation, that had so long and so undeviatingly shown itself the sincere friend of Venezuela. And I must indeed add, that an increase of this disrespect has been shown by the Chamber, in allowing, not only the representation made by the British Diplomatic Agent (on the necessity of coming to a speedy decision on the Treaty one way or other) to remain totally unheeded, but likewise augmenting the measure of neglect, by letting the period expire fixed for its ratification, without even deigning to ask whether the members of its Committee had thought of, or intended to fulfil their duty respecting it.

Of course every country follows its own system of national policy; yet it is generally supposed, that such nations as base their independence and respectability on freedom and free institutions, would gladly support and strengthen, as far as lay in their power, that which really constitutes the vital spirit of their own social existence; for should they even find themselves incapable of lending any active aid to that end, at least they ought to render it by a nominal sanction. Taken in this point of view, had the Congress therefore ratified the Treaty in question, Venezuela would not have incurred any other obligation. No active measures from her are therein demanded, much less obliging her (as has been asserted) to maintain vessels of war to follow them up; in fact, the House of the National Legislature has rejected this additional proof of the wish, on the part of Great Britain, not only to cement the existing amity and relations between the two states, but also to raise the country still higher, as a distinguished transatlantic nation in the eyes of those of Europe.

I have now only to say, that I have, by the mail of the present month, transmitted to Her Majesty's Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs all the details in my power, touching the opinion and conduct of the Congress on the Treaty, together with my own correspondence, and other documents connected therewith. However, I await from your Department an official Report of what has been and what may be done on the matter.

(Signed)

I have, &c.
ROBERT KER PORTER.

*The Hon. Colonel William Smith,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

Second Enclosure in No. 56.

Colonel Smith to Sir R. K. Porter.

REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA.

Secretary of State's Office, Department of Foreign Affairs.

SIR,

Caracas, April 7, 1838.

ON the 8th of March last, I transmitted to the Honourable Chamber of Representatives your note of the day preceding, soliciting a prompt resolution on the affair of the Treaty for the abolition of the traffic in slaves, which had already occupied the attention of that body. In expectation of speedily receiving a decision thereon, I have thus long delayed answering your communication, which I now have the honour of doing, as well as that of the 22nd of the same month.

The Secretary of the Honourable Chamber, in his Despatch to this Department, of yesterday, states, that, when he received your note of the 8th of March, the affair was then under the consideration of an especial Commission, which Commission presented its report to this effect: That the project of the decree sent from the Senate, denying its consent and approbation to the Treaty, be not admit-

ted for discussion, but that the Chamber of Representatives do examine it in conformity with its constitutional faculties, and express its sentiments; also calling on the Senate to reconsider the matter, particularly as the opinion of the Chamber may prove very different from that given by its members.

The Secretary adds, that as the Chamber of Representatives is now so pressingly occupied with most urgent affairs of the State, and the period for terminating the Session being so near, renders it impossible to dedicate to this subject the due attention it requires, he therefore fears that it will become necessary to defer its consideration until the Legislative Assembly of 1839.

In fact, the attention of the Representatives had been almost entirely taken up in regulating the national finances, and in forming laws bearing thereon. These particular duties have occupied by far the greater portion of the Session; and the very few days now remaining ere it closes, are already pledged to the actual conclusion of such subjects as cannot be dispensed with.

The Executive deeply regrets the delay that has taken place, and which must be apparent to you as unavoidable, from conflicting circumstances that have so completely engrossed the attention of the Chamber of Representatives. The Government, considering, therefore, that the ten months agreed upon in the Treaty for the exchange of the ratifications, having already expired on the 19th of March last, directs me to propose to you, the adjustment of a new period for the act in question, which will embrace a year, beginning from the 1st of May next, until the same day and month of 1839. Hoping you will be good enough to make known to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, the necessity for this prolongation of time, as also to obtain its approbation of it,

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. SMITH.

To Sir Robert Ker Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 57.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. K. Porter.

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.

To Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 58.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. K. Porter.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch marked Slave Trade, of the 11th of April, 1828, expressing the wish of the Government of Venezuela, that the term for the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty between Great Britain and Venezuela for the suppression of the Slave Trade, may be renewed for twelve months, from the 1st of May, 1838, so as to give time to enable the Congress of Venezuela to take that Treaty into consideration, in their ordinary Session for the year 1839.

You will state to the Government of Venezuela in reply, that Her Majesty's Government readily consent to renew the term for the exchange of the ratifications of the said Treaty; but you will at the same time say, that Her Majesty's Government hope, and as a matter of right, expect, that the Government of Venezuela will take the earliest opportunity of obtaining the aforesaid ratification.

I am, &c.

To Sir R. K. Porter.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 59.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. K. Porter.

SIR,

Foreign Office, June 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a resolution, which was voted un-
animously 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 Parlia-
ment 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 Venezuelan Government, and earnestly to press upon them the immediate
conclu-sion of the negotiations with which you are charged on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

*To Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.*

No. 60.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 19.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, June 6, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade,
of April 23, in answer to mine of May 27, 1837, transmitting the Treaty I had
concluded with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, for the abolition of
the traffic in slaves. Your Lordship, will, I trust, have received from me by a
recent mail the full statement of what took place in the last Session of Congress
here, relative to the Treaty, whereby the final decision of approval thereon was de-
ferred until the reassembling of that body in 1839.

I feel highly flattered, that my diligence and zeal in bringing the negotiation to
a successful conclusion, as far as depended on my exertions, has met with the appro-
bation of Her Majesty; and it will be ever the greatest pride of my existence to
discharge my duty towards my Sovereign and my country, so as to merit a con-
tinuance of such distinguished and enviable expressions of satisfaction.

Should Her Majesty's Government deem it right to accede to the wish of the
Executive of this Republic, by extending the period for ratification and exchange
of the Treaty, to May 1, 1839, I ardently hope that ere its expiration, to have the
honour and gratification of transmitting it to Downing Street, finally ratified by
both Chambers, and signed by the President of the State.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 61.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 19.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, June 6, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the printed copies of the
additional Article to the Convention, concluded at the Hague in 1818, for the pre-
vention of the traffic in slaves, as also of the Treaty entered into between the Hanse
Towns and the King of the French for the like purpose, together with two copies
of that concluded with the same Sovereign on the part of the Grand Duke of
Tuscany.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 62.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. Ker Porter.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 3d August, 1838.

I HAVE received your Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 13th March, 1838, stating that the Chambers of the Senate of Venezuela had refused to ratify the Treaty concluded between Great Britain and that Republic on Slave Trade; that it had been referred to the Chamber of Representatives, and that you had addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs a note, of which you enclose to me a copy, pressing for the ratification of that Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your note; and I have to instruct you to declare to the Minister of Venezuela the just expectation of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Venezuela will fulfil the engagement which it has taken by the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, with Columbia, of the 18th April, 1825, confirmed by the Convention between Great Britain and Venezuela of the 29th October, 1834, to co-operate with Great Britain for the final and entire abolition of Slave Trade.

Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
 (Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 63.

Sir R. Ker Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 10.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, July 5, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of May 31, 1838, acceding to the wish of the Venezuelan Government, for a renewal of the term of exchange of the Ratifications of the Treaty between Great Britain and Venezuela, on the suppression of the Slave Trade; and shall not fail stating to the Executive, that Her Majesty's Government certainly expect that of Venezuela will take the earliest possible opportunity of obtaining the Ratification in question.

I seize this occasion of acknowledging the receipt of the two Series of Papers, relating to the Slave Trade,—first and second Series, A and B, 1837-S, presented to the two Houses of Parliament during the present Session.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 64.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

Caracas, July 23, 1838.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the original document (signed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and myself,) on the renewal of the period for the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty for the abolition of the traffic in slaves, to twelve months longer, commencing from the 1st day of May, of the present year; and I have every reason to believe, from a conversation I had with the Vice President, that one of the first acts of the Congress for 1839, will be decreeing the approval of the Treaty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 65.

Sir R. Ker Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 17.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, 10th August, 1838.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging your Lordship's Despatch of June 9th, transmitting a printed copy of the unanimous resolution of the House of Commons, on the 10th May last, for an Address to Her Majesty upon Slave Trade; and also a copy of Her Majesty's gracious Answer to that Address. Being fully aware of the unceasing and ardent desire of the British Parliament and Government for the extinction of the disgraceful traffic in slaves, believe me, my Lord, that every exertion on my part has been made, and shall continue to be made, until I have carried through successfully the negociations with which I am charged; and shall instantly communicate to this Government the transmitted papers, at the same time, according to Her Majesty's commands, earnestly press on them, that they urge on the meeting of the Congress for 1839, and that its first act be the approval of the pending Treaty between Great Britain and the Republic, on the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 66.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 18th.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, August 27th, 1838.

I HAVE the honour of enclosing to your Lordship a copy, in translation and original, of a Despatch recently received from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to this Republic, in answer to mine, transmitting to the Venezuelan Government copies of the unanimous resolution of the House of Commons, of the 10th of May last, relative to the petition to Her Majesty on the suppression of the traffic in slaves, and of her Majesty's reply thereto. The Venezuelan Minister in his communication, repeats the assurances, already given to me on the part of the Vice President, that every exertion will be made by His Excellency during the first sessions of the Congress for 1839, to the end that the pending Treaty on the Abolition of Slavery be approved and ratified, within the extended period agreed upon in July last.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

Enclosure in No. 66.

(Translation.)

Colonel Smith to Sir R. K. Porter.

REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA.

Secretary of State's Office for Foreign Affairs,

SIR,

Caraccas, August 25th, 1838.

TOGETHER with your official note of the 13th instant, I had the honour to receive the copy of the resolution, unanimously voted by the British House of Commons on the 10th May last, in order that a petition might be presented to Her Majesty on the suppression of the traffic in slaves, and of the answer thereto by Her Majesty on the 22nd of the same month. It is extremely satisfactory for the Government of Venezuela to observe in these interesting documents the unceasing and ardent desire of the Parliament and Government of Great Britain for the extinction of the traffic in slaves; and his Excellency the Vice-President will fulfil, with the greatest pleasure, the promise he has already made to you of reiterating to the Congress of 1839 his arguments, to the end that, during its first Sessions, approbation may be given to the treaty of the 19th of May, 1837, so that the Rati-

fication may take place within the period fixed upon, in accordance with the agreement entered into on the 20th of July last, which so well corresponds with the basis of international friendship; and, at the same time, will likewise exhibit a new proof of the philanthropic and humane principles, moral and political, that have ever guided Venezuela.

To Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

WM. SMITH.

No. 67.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 23rd.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, October 2nd, 1838.

IN consequence of the Vice President, charged with the executive power of this Republic, having again reflected on the substance of your Lordship's Despatch of August the 13th, stating the unanimous vote of the House of Commons, on a petition being presented to Her Majesty relative to the suppression of the traffic in slaves, and His Excellency being extremely anxious, that the final conclusion and ratification of the Treaty thereon between the two countries should not be longer delayed than during the sessions of the approaching Congress, directed his Minister for Foreign Affairs to state to me that, notwithstanding the Government fully expected the legislative body would give its approbation to the Treaty of the 19th May, 1837, still, in case of the contrary, the executive wishing to be prepared, he had been directed to transmit to me the project of a new treaty, which, with very slight alterations, was the same as that now pending; the only *really new portion of which consisted in an additional article*, drawn up with the object of fixing in a clearer light the spirit of that of the "First Article," in order that the view taken of it by the generality might no longer offer motives for controversy in the Chambers; adding, that although slaves still exist in Venezuela, but whose emancipation must gradually take place in conformity with the laws, yet, in conformity to them, slaves can be sold *within the territory* of the Republic. Hence it was the anxious wish of the Executive I should read and transmit to your Lordship the alterations in question (with as little delay as possible,) which I now do, that, in the event of their approval, they may be returned, accompanied by a corresponding authorization to me (should any additional one than the present full powers from Her Majesty be necessary) for the conclusion of this new Treaty, in time sufficient for its being laid before the Chambers of the State, ere their sessions terminate in the course of April next.

As the whole of the alterations made consist merely in the second Article of the present Treaty, and in the additional one before-named, I have therefore only transmitted copies of such. Every other part of the convention stands the same.

The Venezuelan Minister likewise informs me, it is notwithstanding the wish and hope of this Government that the Congress do approve the Treaty of the 19th May, 1837, and if so, then this new project will only be considered as explanatory of the sense of the First Article.

As the approaching Sessions of Congress commence towards the close of January next, may I beg the early attention of your Lordship to the subject of this Despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

Enclosure in No. 67.

(Translation.)

Colonel Smith to Sir Robert Ker Porter.

SIR,

Secretary of State's Office for Foreign Affairs,
Caracas, Sept. 29, 1838.

ALTHOUGH the Government expects that the next Congress will give its approbation to the Treaty on the abolition of the traffic in slaves, concluded between

Venezuela and Great Britain on the 19th May, 1837, its wish however is to be prepared to enter into a new Treaty, in case of the contrary, on the terms you will see in the subjoined project, which with very slight alterations is the same Treaty as already submitted for the approbation of Congress. There is only new in it an additional article, having for its object to fix in a clearer light the sense of the First Article, in order that the view the generality have conceived of it, may no longer offer motives for controversy; for, although slaves still exist within the territory of Venezuela (whose emancipation must gradually take place as the result of our laws), yet, in conformity with the laws, they can be sold within the country.

Be good enough to examine this new project, and consult thereon the Government of Her Britannic Majesty with the greatest brevity, so that its approval, and the corresponding authorization to its Minister, may come before the Sessions of the approaching Congress terminate, to enable the new Treaty to be presented for deliberation.

If, as is the hope and wish of the Government, the Congress approve the Treaty of the 19th May, 1837, the new project will then be considered nearly as explanatory of the sense of the First Article on which the high contracting parties should agree.

To Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

WILLIAM SMITH.

No. 68.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. K. Porter.

SIR,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1838.

I HAVE had under consideration your Despatch, Slave Trade, of the 2nd October last, and its enclosures.

I see no objection to the alterations which are therein proposed to be made in the Treaty, concluded between Great Britain and Venezuela on the 19th May, 1837, for the suppression of the Slave Trade; provided only that, in the explanatory Article, instead of the words "que sa van a entrar de les Costas de Africa," words shall be inserted to the effect of "which are brought into the territory of Venezuela by sea or by land, from any place which is out of that territory."

If, therefore, it shall be found, that the Congress of Venezuela object to the ratification of the Treaty, as it was concluded on the 19th of May, 1837, you will state to the Venezuelan Minister, that Her Majesty's Government, for the sake of obtaining the ratification to a treaty of this nature, consent at once that the alterations, contained in his communication to you of the 29th September last, shall be made, taking care only that the single amendment which I have now proposed in those alterations shall be adopted; and you will conclude and sign the Treaty thus altered accordingly.

The full power, which you already possess, will enable you to conduct and conclude this negotiation.

Sir R. Ker Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 69.

Sir R. K. Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 7, 1839.)

MY LORD,

Caracas, October 18, 1838.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging your Lordship's Despatch, Slave Trade, of August 3, 1838, and feel highly gratified that Her Majesty's Government fully approved of the note I addressed to that of Venezuela on the 7th of last March, pressing for the ratification of the Treaty on the abolition of the traffic in slaves. I have already strongly urged (and lose no opportunity of urging) to the Venezuelan Minister the just expectations of the British Government, that this

republic do fulfil the sacred pledge given by Treaty, to co-operate with Great Britain for the final and entire abolition of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT KER PORTER.

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

No. 70.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir R. K. Porter.

SIR,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1839.

I HAVE received your Despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 18th October, 1838; and I have to desire that you will renew your application to the Government of Venezuela for the ratification of the Treaty, already concluded between Great Britain and Venezuela, for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and that you will, in your renewed application, express the just expectation of Her Majesty's Government, that the Venezuelan Government will fulfil the pledge, which that republic has given to Great Britain, to complete and carry that Treaty into effect.

I have, &c.

To Sir R. K. Porter,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

UNITED STATES.

No. 71.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit, for your information, two 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.

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

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 72.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st May, 1838.

I HAVE received information from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, that persons, who are engaged in the Slave Trade in Cuba, and who are desirous to evade the effect of the stipulations of the Treaty, of the 28th June, 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, have lately made a practice of purchasing vessels in the United States, and of sending them, equipped for Slave Trade, under American colours, to the Cape de Verde Islands, or to the coast of Africa; that a mock sale of such vessels is there made, and the vessel is pretended to be transferred to Spanish or Portuguese owners; the name of the vessel being changed, and all vestige of her former character lost.

You will communicate these circumstances to the Government of the United States; and will suggest to that Government, that such measures may be taken as shall appear to them to be most proper for preventing this abuse of the flag of the Union for purposes of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

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

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 73.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 31st May, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you the copy of a Despatch, which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Havana, stating that a schooner, under American colours, had landed a cargo of between 200 and 300 negroes, near Matanzas.

You will communicate the facts of this case to the American Government, and you will point out to Mr. Forsyth, that, although there may have been none but Spaniards on board, this case is, nevertheless, an instance of impunity afforded to Slave Trade by the shelter of the American flag.

I am, &c.

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

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 73.

Havana Commissioners, April 21st, 1838.

(See Class A. No. 55.)

No. 74.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 9th June, 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.

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

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 75.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, October 12, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for communication to the Government of the United States, an extract from a Despatch, which I have received from Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court at Havana, upon the subject of the continued employment of the American Flag in aid of Slave Trade undertakings.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

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

Enclosure in No. 75.

Havana Commissioners, 22nd August, 1838.

(See Class A. No. 82)

No. 76.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

SIR,

Foreign Office, November 9, 1838.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a Despatch and of its enclosure, which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, appointed to carry into execution Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, giving an account of the case of the Portuguese schooner "*Prova*," which was recently captured, with a cargo of slaves on board, by Her Majesty's ship "*Pylades*."

It appears from the papers of the "*Prova*," that she had been suffered to clear out on the voyage on which she was captured from the American Port of Charleston, where she had been lying many months, and whence she had departed with her Slave Trade equipment on board.

You will communicate the papers on this case to the American Minister, and express the confidence of Her Majesty's Government that the United States Government will take such measures, as in their opinion, shall be best calculated to prevent, in future, vessels evidently intended for Slave Trade from clearing out from a Port of the United States.

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

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

Enclosure in No. 76.

Sierra Leone Commissioners, 31st July, 1838.

(See Class A. No. 36.)

London : Printed by WILLIAM CLOWES and Sons, Stamford Street,
for Her Majesty's Stationery Office.