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Class B.

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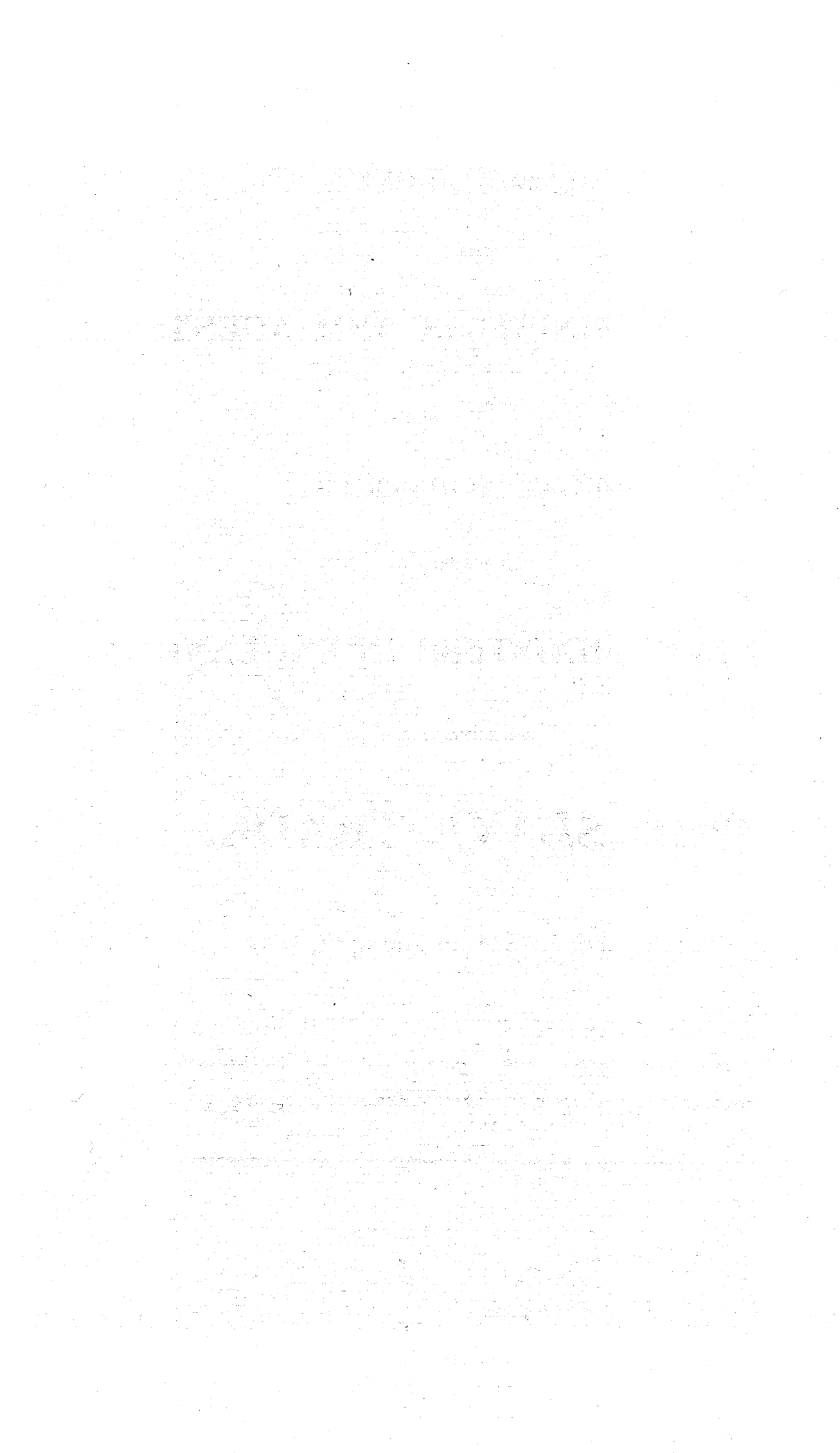
THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1848, to March 31, 1849.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1849.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.



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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

BRAZIL.

No. 1.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that according to the best estimation I have been able to make, above 60,000 Africans have been imported as slaves into Brazil during the year 1847.

There is no doubt that this frightful number has been greatly occasioned by the concentration of the English naval force in the waters of the Plate; at the same time I learn that never have the slave-dealers so perfected all the appurtenances and appliances of their vile trade as at present; never have they so organized the whole range of shore signals from St. Katherine's to Bahia, nor established such facilities for landing their cargoes as now; and I am afraid I may add with perfect truth, that never was the toleration, not to say co-operation, of this Government more open than at the present moment.

It is a well-known fact here that a vessel belonging to this port made five voyages to the Coast during the last year, and landed in safety all her cargoes; at a moderate calculation this single ship must have brought from 2000 to 3000 slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 4, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Lordship the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission Court at the Cape of Good Hope, on the subject of the condemnation, in the Court of Vice-Admiralty of that colony, of the Brazilian vessel "*Alzira*," Theotonio de Souza Machado, master, and Joze de Aranjó Costa, of Rio de Janeiro, owner, which vessel was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Brilliant*," for being fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct your Lordship to bring this case under the notice of the Brazilian Government as another palpable instance of connivance by the authorities of Rio de Janeiro in the fitting out of slave-vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 2.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope to Viscount Palmerston,
February 5, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. No. 69, p. 82.]

No. 3.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, detailing his reasons for not accepting the Slave Trade Treaty which I proposed. I also adjoin a copy of my answer.

As your Lordship forbade me to make any alteration in the draft of the Slave Trade Treaty as delivered*, on receiving the counter-project I shall immediately transmit it to your Lordship, informing the Minister for Foreign Affairs that I cannot enter into any negotiation upon its substance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Senhor P. Bueno to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

February 19, 1848.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of two notes addressed to him on the 8th and 9th instant, by Lord Howden, &c.

In the first, Lord Howden impugns the reasons produced by the Undersigned under date of the 7th, which prohibited the Imperial Government's immediate acceptance, or simple rejection of the projects for treaties which accompanied his communications of 18th and 21st of December last, and insisting on being furnished with a categorical reply thereto, he declares that unless he receives it before the 1st of March next, he will consider the said project to have been rejected.

In the second of the 9th, he refers to the conversation which passed between him and the President of the Council on that same day in the presence of the Undersigned; and in consequence of the explanation then given, that the Government of His Imperial Majesty could not accept the projects in their present state, but would with the least possible delay transmit two counter-projects, he states that if he should still be here, he will forward them to his Government, concluding, after divers considerations, that he will restrict himself, until ulterior orders from Her Britannic Majesty, to such communications as may be absolutely necessary towards the fulfilment of his duties. The Undersigned, with reference to the tenor of the said notes, will first briefly relate in due order the facts which have occurred, and will afterwards reply to the most important topics. Towards the latter end of December of last year Lord Howden offered the Project of Treaties to the Imperial Government, one of them in regard to commerce, and the other in regard to the Trade in Africans. Thirty and some odd days had scarcely elapsed when it pleased His Majesty the Emperor to appoint the Undersigned, on the 29th of January, to the situation of Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

On the 31st January, the Undersigned made the Diplomatic Corps acquainted with this Imperial resolution, and on the 1st February Lord Howden called for an immediate reply in reference to the acceptance or rejection of the treaties which he had presented.

Without pretending to qualify what may be deemed remarkable in such a demand, the Undersigned believes that Lord Howden, on reconsideration of this fact, will agree that the possibility of so prompt a solution was very premature. In the meantime his note was replied to on the 7th, with assurances that the Imperial Government continues to bestow its serious attention to such important subjects; and that though desirous to come to an early decision thereon, it would not do so without taking such time and steps as might be required in order to maturely ascertain that which was most suitable to the interests of the Empire.

On the following day Lord Howden dated his note in reply to the preceding

urging for a reply in regard to the simple acceptance or refusal of the treaties such as they were drawn up; and on the 9th, before time being allowed for a reply, he expressed in a conversation with the President of the Council, in the presence of the Undersigned, that his wish was limited to the desire of being informed whether the said projects were or were not accepted in the precise terms in which they were conceived, and without any modification whatever, adding that in regard to the Traffic in Slaves he could not admit of the slightest alteration.

Lord Howden's demand being then precisely understood, he was told that the Imperial Government, although resolved to treat, could not accept the said projects without alterations, and therefore that it was its intention to frame two counter-projects for the purpose of entering into negotiations.

To this declaration Lord Howden replied that he would lay them before his Government, understanding at the same time that those presented by him were rejected, which he transferred to writing in his note of that same date, the 9th, only delivered on the following day.

Such is the order of facts, the simple exposition whereof will certainly convince the Government of Her Britannic Majesty that the Imperial Government has proceeded not only within the indisputable circle of right, but also is animated by the sincere desire to maintain the best relations between the two Governments.

It is certainly evident that it was not possible for the Undersigned to transmit the categorical answer called for during the first few days of his entrance into the Administration. Although Lord Howden presents in opposition, that notwithstanding his recent entrance into the Administration, the Undersigned became a member of a Cabinet which for a length of time was acquainted with the said project, still there cannot exist a doubt that the last assertion, were it even correct, would not be sufficiently peremptory to inhibit the Undersigned from exercising his judgment on a subject of such magnitude which is committed to his guidance as Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is equally evident that there was no intention, nor does any exist, to delay the expression of the opinion of the Imperial Government, and a proof thereof rests in the fact of the declaration made to him on the 9th, which the Undersigned ratifies as soon as Lord Howden's wish was perfectly understood; and it became manifest that he considered the substitution of the tendered projects as a rejection of them. The Undersigned will be very explicit in his exposition of the opinion of the Imperial Government in regard to the project relative to the Traffic in Africans.

The Imperial Government does not object, nor did it ever object to enter into negotiations on this subject, as shown by official documents of irrefragable proof. Without remounting to anterior dates, the Undersigned will submit that even on the days of the recent sanction of the Bill of 8th August, 1845, which seriously and directly jeopardizes the independence and sovereignty of Brazil, one of his predecessors in office, whilst solemnly protesting against that violent and unjustifiable act, declared in the name and by the order of His Majesty the Emperor, that nevertheless the Imperial Government, giving precedence above all other considerations to the generous sentiments by which it was actuated, was very desirous that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty should accede to an agreement which, in respecting the interests of the lawful trade of Brazilian subjects, should accomplish the desired object of putting a stop to that Traffic, which it deploras and condemns.

The said Minister, a faithful organ of the Imperial Government, immediately after that framed the basis of a project which tended towards that double purpose, which was communicated to Lord Aberdeen, and subsequently was transmitted to Lord Palmerston, and the Brazilian Government is not the cause of its not having produced the desired effect.

It is a fact that until the present day we have not been able to come to an agreement, but impartial reason, if it were consulted, will repeat that which the said predecessor of the Undersigned has already submitted for consideration. The obstacle which has presented itself to the conclusion of a just, prescient, and spontaneous treaty, has been the alternative in which the Imperial Government has been placed, either of refusing, or of being compelled to subscribe to the complete ruin of the lawful commerce of its subjects; an alternative which could have

no other result than a negative on the part of the Imperial Government, as the natural protector of and watcher over the interests of the Empire.

The project actually presented by Lord Howden contains stipulations still more inadmissible. In establishing that the right of visit, search, and detention will not be exercised in the Mediterranean and European Seas, it subjects thereto all the coasting trade of Brazil, it institutes, as sufficient reason for trial and condemnation, suspicions framed even on the most groundless foundations, and refuses compensation even in cases where condemnation is not the result.

A rapid perusal of the 7th Article of the above-mentioned project and of its paragraphs, demonstrates this truth; therein it is declared that any one probable evidence of those alluded to will constitute a proof *prima facie* that the vessels are effectively employed in the Traffic; not even the coasts of Brazil themselves would be respected. In vain would its subjects attempt to enter into any lawful undertaking without being liable to serious vexations; even European colonization, which the country stands so much in need of, would become impossible. With such capital defects, as viewed by the Brazilian Government, Lord Howden requires that his project be purely and simply accepted or rejected, without the possibility of the least modification, and goes so far as to declare that any alteration would render it impracticable as a substitute for the now existing state of things such a fact would amount to the same as an exchange of the bill; against the protest of the Brazilian Government for a substitute, which for the reasons given it cannot subscribe to without attacking the rights of Brazil as a contracting party and as a free and independent nation, Lord Howden whilst he cannot but be satisfied of the right which every supreme Government has to accept or to reject a treaty according to its own judgment or conviction in regard to the legitimate convenience and interests of its country, contradicts his confession by complaining of slow proceedings, incompatible with diplomatic usages, and by the threat of impending collision and others which the Undersigned will further on record.

The march of the Imperial Government has been more just and undeviating, it attempted at sundry periods to negotiate with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and although unsuccessful, it respected its conviction and rights. The Undersigned may also make the same observation in reference to the range of Lord Howden's expression, when he says that his Government prefers the unjust Bill of 1845 to the co-operation of the Imperial Government: propositions of this nature are certainly not conducive towards harmonizing relations between the two countries.

In regard to the Commercial Convention, although it may depend upon the withdrawing of the above-mentioned bill, the Imperial Government has under consideration the project offered by Lord Howden and will make those alterations consonant with the liberal principles it has adopted in its mercantile relations, and will in that negotiation comprehend matters of mutual and deep interest which ought not to remain pending in order that they may not be the origin of future misunderstandings. Meanwhile the Government of Her Britannic Majesty cannot disavow that the note which the Undersigned addressed to Lord Howden under date of 10th instant in the name and by order of the Imperial Government, attests without the least contradiction that the politics of Brazil do not swerve from the principles laid down in the Decree of 1st October last, nor from the means for removing the difficulties now subsisting between the two countries.

The sentiment therefore of the Imperial Government is to treat with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty as soon as it shall have framed the two counter-projects which are to substitute those offered by Lord Howden, they shall be communicated to him and the Undersigned hopes that justice will then be done to the sincere wishes of the Imperial Government.

From what precedes it is concluded that there is no pure nor simple rejection on the part of the Brazilian Government, that the only impediments which obstruct the negotiations are the Bill which attacks the sovereignty and independence of the Empire, the nature of the stipulations proposed and the extraordinary and inadmissible manner in which the concurrence of the Imperial Government is demanded. It is necessary that reciprocal rights should be contemplated, that mutual interests be conciliated, and that recourse to threats be renounced, this being without doubt the worst of all means for smoothing difficulties.

Lord Howden says that these difficulties which it is certainly necessary to remove, have been occasioned by Brazil in consequence of her conduct in reference to the remonstrances of the British Government and to the treatment of its subjects. The Undersigned wishing to avoid all irritating expressions will limit himself to a few observations.

If the British Legation has a few claims pending it is beyond a doubt that many others have been decided, and that those still pending have been discussed and are in train of settlement; whereas on the contrary many claims of the Imperial Legation in London have not only never been discussed, but are unregarded; the argument therefore as to the inconvenience will with greater justice affect the British Government.

Similar to this is the other imputation. The Undersigned must certainly believe that Lord Howden is misinformed in regard to the treatment of the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty in this Empire. They enjoy in Brazil the most ample liberty in common with all other foreigners, not because the Imperial Government measures the force and extent of power of the respective Governments, but because it is the nature of her politics and the effect of the liberal institutions of Brazil. It is Brazilian subjects who have been sacrificed, violently dragged from imperial protection, and subjected to strange tribunals and laws.

It being, however, expedient to waive the discussion of this and of other disagreeable subjects, the Undersigned cannot withhold to repel the insinuation manifested by Lord Howden and which has already been manifested by one of his predecessors, that in the absence of conventions with the Imperial Government he will come to an understanding with the Governments of the provinces where subjects of his nation consider themselves injured by their laws and call upon them for explanations and indemnifications.

Whatever may be the sentiments of the Imperial Government as to the propriety of some of the acts of the provincial assemblies, it is beyond doubt that no Government can pretend to decide the difficulties that they may create. By the Constitution of the Empire, 102nd Article 7th paragraph, the Imperial Government is the only one competent to treat with foreign nations and is sufficiently enlightened and provident not to tolerate such a fact incompatible with all ideas of order and international duties, and on the other hand the provincial Governments are too faithful to their Sovereign to lend themselves to such illegitimate expedients. The Imperial Government trusts that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will always respect in regard to Brazil the same principles it has respected in regard to other nations in similar cases.

Acquainted with Lord Howden's resolution to limit his communications entirely to the fulfilment of his duties, until further orders from his Government the Undersigned will make the observation that he is firmly persuaded no motive has been given to Lord Howden, on which he can with justice found the least cause of resentment.

The Undersigned embraces the opportunity of reiterating, &c.

(Signed) JOSÉ ANTONIO PIMENTA BUENO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Lord Howden to Senhor P. Bueno.

Rio de Janeiro, February 23, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the note which his Excellency Senhor Pimenta Bueno, &c., addressed to him dated the 19th February, 1848.

As his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs states the impossibility of concluding a Treaty for the repression of the Traffic in Slaves in the practical form proposed by the Government of the Queen, and as the conclusion of a Commercial Treaty has been made by the Brazilian Cabinet to depend on the other contingency, the Undersigned will confine his answer to the arguments of his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs to simply informing him that yesterday morning a Brazilian steam-vessel landed 900 Africans just outside the harbour within a few miles of the fort of Santa Cruz, and within view of the

forts of San João and Praia Vermelha. The above fact embraces *in extenso* all the objections of the Brazilian Government to conclude an efficient Slave Trade Treaty, and concisely explains at the same time the desire of the Government of the Queen that such a Treaty should be concluded in consonance with the declaration made by Brazil in Article I of the Treaty of 1826.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

HOWDEN.

No. 4.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 22nd ultimo a steam-vessel called the "*Providencia*" entered this harbour, having landed 1050 negroes at Macahé, a port to the north of Cape Frio

Within the last week two barques have also landed cargoes of slaves at Macahé.

One of the latter left this harbour under French colours on the 7th of November last, and is supposed to have been made over, on the coast of Africa, to Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, the well-known slave-dealer of this place. I have thought it my duty to address a note to the French Minister at this Court, calling his attention to the fact of the French flag having been used for Slave Trading purposes, and expressing a hope that he would take steps to prevent the recurrence of such a proceeding.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWDEN.

No. 5.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

HAVING received information that a brig called the "*Galgo*," was about to sail from this port for the coast of Africa in the beginning of last month, with a slave equipment on board, I requested Commander Tindal, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*," lying in this harbour, to take measures for the capture of the "*Galgo*," should he find himself justified in so doing.

Your Lordship will see from the inclosed copy of a despatch and its inclosures from the British pro-Consul at Rio de Janeiro, and from the extract of a report from Commander Tindal to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert, that the "*Galgo*" left this harbour in the night of the 11th ultimo.

As this proceeding was a direct violation of the port regulations, and could not have occurred without the connivance of the authorities of the port, I addressed a note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling his attention to the circumstance; and I received the inclosed reply from his Excellency, stating that the Imperial Government would inquire into the affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Lord Howden to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, February 5, 1848.

HAVING received information which I believe to be correct, that a very fine brig, called the "*Galgo*," of upwards of 400 tons, will leave this harbour in a few days for the coast of Africa, with certain objects on board destined for the Traffic in Slaves which will be sufficient to prove the criminal object of her

voyage, I request that you will take whatever steps you may think necessary to capture this vessel, and send her to a competent Court to be condemned, if on examination she should prove to be intended for the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Acting Consul Westwood to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 12, 1848.

IN reference to the verbal communication I had with your Lordship on the morning of the 4th instant, respecting the Brazilian brig "*Galgo*," I have the honour to make the following report.

I inclose a copy of a letter that I addressed to Commander Tindal of Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*," in consequence of which when the "*Galgo*" was proceeding to sea on the 6th instant, the "*Grecian*" got under weigh to follow her, but this movement being observed, the "*Galgo*" was anchored inside the fort, where she remained for three days, and then returned to the inner harbour; and it was currently reported that she was discharging her cargo; this, however, appears to have been done as a blind, as she was towed out to sea by a steamer during last night, leaving her anchorage soon after midnight, and at daylight this morning was seen still in tow, nearly hull down.

As it is impossible that the "*Galgo*" could have proceeded to sea without the knowledge of the several police authorities, both on board the guard-vessels and at the fort, this is another proof to the many on record of the assistance given by Brazilian authorities to slave-dealers.

I inclose for your Lordship's information a copy of the port regulations, by the 20th Article of which no vessel is allowed to sail from this port at night.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

Regulation of the Captain of the Port's office, to which the Decree of this date refers.

May 19, 1846.

Chapter II, Article XX.

NO national or foreign vessel is allowed to sail from the port after sun-set or before sun-rise.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Acting Consul Westwood to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that a brig under Brazilian colours, called the "*Galgo*," belonging to the well-known slave-dealer Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, is about sailing from this harbour, bound for the coast of Africa on a slave-trading voyage.

I have every reason to believe that this vessel is regularly fitted out for the Slave Trade; and from the information I have been able to obtain, I expect she will sail in a day or two.

The "*Galgo*" is a very fine-looking brig of about 440 tons, painted black, well-rigged, and carries a gilt ball at each mast head.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 5.

Commander Tindal to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert.

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 16, 1848.

ON the 4th of February I received a letter from Her Majesty's acting Consul at this place, containing information respecting a brig (the "*Galgo*") about to sail for the coast of Africa on a slaving voyage, and on the 5th instant a letter from his Excellency Her Majesty's Minister, desiring me, if possible, to capture this brig, should she sail.

Seeing the "*Galgo*" working out of the harbour on Sunday the 6th, I instantly got the "*Grecian*" under weigh, which the brig perceiving anchored; I then anchored the "*Grecian*" outside the fort, in order to be able to weigh at any time during the night. The port regulations requiring notice to be given before sunset in case any vessel intends to leave port during the night.

On Tuesday I went outside and remained till Thursday the 10th, when meeting the "*Seagull*" packet coming out of harbour, who signalled that the "*Galgo*" had retired inside, I came in and anchored. Her Majesty's Minister and acting Consul informed me that they believed she was going to land everything that could be condemned as a slaver, if boarded by a British man-of-war. But on Saturday the Consul wrote a note in the forenoon informing me that the "*Galgo*" had been towed out of harbour by a steamer during the previous night, and had been seen at daylight hull down outside and still towing out. She had not been seen at all from the vessels in the harbour.

Not being in sight when I received this information, I deemed it inadvisable to follow her, as being senior officer here I had other duties to attend to, and on referring to my orders might have been absent too long from the harbour.

On the 8th, a steamer, the "*Thereza*," of 93 tons, commanded by Francisco Gonçalez, arrived from Macahé, near Cape Frio, having as I understand landed a cargo of slaves at or near that port.

Inclosure 6 in No. 5.

Lord Howden to Senhor P. Bueno.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, February 13, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that in the night of the 11th instant the brig "*Galgo*," belonging to the notorious slave-dealer, Senhor Manoel Fonseca, Knight of the Order of Christ, and Commander of the Imperial Order of the Rose, was towed out of this harbour by a steam-boat.

This brig is destined for the coast of Africa, and has part of her slave equipment on board. I had given instructions to the Captain of Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*" to follow the "*Galgo*," but as he seems very injudiciously to have trusted to the regulations of the port, the brig is now on her voyage in oursuance of her piratical calling.

The connivance of the authorities in Brazil at all times and in all ways when the Slave Trade can be protected or fostered, is so constant and unblushing, that I should hardly have thought it worth while to have brought this example, out of so many, to the attention of your Excellency, who moreover cannot be ignorant of the fact I have here detailed; but as this towing out a merchant-vessel in the dead of night is in direct and flagrant violation of the 20th Article of the regulations which govern the police of this port, I am led to hope that in this point of view it may meet with the reprobation of the Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 7 in No. 5.

*Senhor P. Bueno to Lord Howden.**Rio de Janeiro, Foreign Office,
February 15, 1848.*

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive the communication imparted to him on the 13th instant by Lord Howden, &c., relative to the Brazilian brig "*Galgo*."

In returning thanks for the intimation and information, the Undersigned believes that Lord Howden will be very far from imputing the fact to the Imperial Government of its knowingly and voluntarily shutting its eyes to undertakings of the nature to which he refers.

The Undersigned is going to institute investigations in regard to the occurrence, in order, if the correctness of the information given to Lord Howden be proved, to be able to take such steps as the case requires.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. PIMENTA BUENO.

No. 6.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

I INFORMED your Lordship that a splendid brig, belonging to the notorious slave-dealer Senhor Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, Knight of the Portuguese Order of Christ and Commander of the Brazilian Order of the Rose, was towed out of this harbour some days ago in the dead of night, in direct violation of the rules of this harbour, to enable her to escape the vigilance of Her Majesty's brig "*Grecian*," directed by me to follow her in her course.

I inclose with regret to your Lordship two articles stating that the permission to the "*Galgo*" to leave the harbour at night, was given by Senhor Candido Baptista, Minister of Marine, and lauding him for the facilities thus afforded to a notorious slaver.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

*Article in the "Brazil," dated Rio de Janeiro, February 25, 1848.*GENERAL POLITICS. THE "*GALGO*" AND THE "*GRECIAN*."

(Translation.)

THE "*Correio da Tarde*" published an article wherein, in declaring it is not its intention to defend the present Minister of Marine, and that its pen shall never be prostituted in praising such men as M. Candido Baptista de Oliveira, it furnishes explanations in regard to the circumstance of the recent departure at night of a vessel from our port, and acrimoniously censures the proceedings of the English and the reclamation said to have been made by Lord Howden. The subject is of sufficient gravity to induce us to return to it, and we devote thereto the principle article of this number.

The following is a narrative of facts. A brig was built here at Ponta da Areia according to the precepts of the most improved art; she was a most handsome vessel, and it was sufficient to look at her to know that she was a splendid sea-boat,—so beautiful that whilst still on the stocks she was considered worthy of a visit from His Majesty. That same perfection excited the covetousness of the English, who being implacable enemies to our navigation destined her to be their prize. In short, the "*Galgo*" is cleared out, is to proceed to Maranham and to the Azores, she is going to sea. The English brig "*Grecian*," which glories in so many injuries caused to our navigation, in so many insults

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offered to the dignity of the nation, prepares to accompany her; and here in the interior of the port of Rio de Janeiro the same shameful scene we witnessed about eight or ten years past between an English vessel of war and the Brazilian vessel "*Andorinha*," is reproduced. In short, the "*Galgo*" desists from going to sea; the "*Grecian*" keeps her eye upon her, until one day she looks for her in vain—the "*Galgo*" had left the harbour.

Did the authorities interfere in that contest? The "*Correio da Tarde*" says the "*Galgo*," departed with permission of the Minister of Marine, who could and ought to have given that permission without it being any business of the English Legation. A correspondent of the "*Jornal do Commercio*" says, in defence of his Excellency, that no such order was given, that the "*Galgo*" stole out of port, evading under favour of the night the watch of the port as easily as she did the vigilance of the English brig, which was so very close to her.

In all this affair the worst feature is the want of frankness—the means savour of subterfuges if the authorities have stooped to have recourse to them. Yes, most certainly the English vessel "*Grecian*," was insulting our port in pretending to exercise the office of the police in it; she was acting contrary to all rights in preparing herself here to commit an act of hostility against a Brazilian vessel, which is not even permitted to belligerents in the ports of neutral nations. Yes, most certainly, after a Brazilian vessel having been cleared for a regular voyage by the authorities of the country, it was the duty, the imperious duty of Government to defend her from the privateer which threatened her, and at least to facilitate her departure from the port, protecting her with all possible efficacy as long as she kept within the bounds of the regular voyage for which she had been cleared out.

If therefore when the "*Grecian*" commenced her demonstration of her intention to accompany the "*Galgo*," the Government had addressed an energetic remonstrance to the British Legation, to prevent the iniquitous proceeding, and the further attempts of the vessel belonging to its nation, and even oblige her to leave the port immediately, we should have considered this proceeding just, we should have considered that the Government was acting in the strict line of its duty; if nothing could have been obtained by these means, and the Government had then frankly and openly declared to Lord Howden, that the Brazilian vessel must necessarily go to sea without being accompanied by the "*Grecian*," and had frankly and openly taken the required steps to enforce its declaration, and to render effective the protection to which our national navigation is entitled, we should have applauded everything, because it was still the fulfilment of the rigorous duty of Government towards our citizens, of its duty to maintain the dignity and sovereignty of the nation.

But the "*Galgo*" was destined to go on an illicit voyage, and who tells the English that such is the case? They presume it; and because they do not like the vessel, they immediately convert the presumption into a demonstrated fact, they immediately resolve thereupon to capture the vessel, and take measures to carry it into effect in the most scandalous manner, with the most flagrant violation of international right. The "*Galgo*" had reported the nature of voyage to the Brazilian authorities, was thereto authorized by those who alone were her judges; all proceedings, therefore, on the part of the English, were insults which the Brazilian Government ought to have repelled in a lofty and energetic manner.

And further—on what foundation of right did the "*Grecian*" ground its proceeding against the Brazilian vessel? what foundation of right had she to watch her, to desire to accompany her, to resolve on her capture? To our shame be it said! the basis of right for all the proceeding no longer exists. Was it the treaty we had formerly with England touching the Traffic, the visit, &c., which thus exaggerated by ill will gave rise to those insults? Now that treaty has expired. Even where it ever so clear, and proved that the "*Galgo*" was destined for the Traffic, which is contrary to the legitimate presumption, if even she were met with on the high seas and not watched in a Brazilian port, even in that case the "*Grecian*" could not hinder her voyage and capture her, without violence and insult to our navigation, for the English no longer have under any circumstances, any right over Brazilian ships. The proceeding of the "*Grecian*" is derived from the Aberdeen Bill, is an atrocious exaggeration of the dispositions of that bill, which in itself is a crime against the empire. How therefore did the Government consent to the proceedings of the "*Grecian*," why did it not

openly and frankly afford ample protection to the Brazilian vessel to deliver her from that corsair? If it had done so, if in the diplomatic correspondence which took place on the occasion, it had been the complainant, the remonstrant, we are persuaded, the negotiation would have been less difficult, because it would have been totally founded on justice, and that it would have placed the British Legation in an awkward predicament.

Instead of doing so, in what manner does the Government act? Why, if we are to believe the correspondence of the "Jornal de Commercio," it crosses its arms and allows the "*Galgo*" to defend herself from the "Grecian" as well as she can; it allows an English vessel to extend and to amplify in its execution Lord Aberdeen's Bill within the port of Rio de Janeiro, and reduces the merchants of Brazil to resort to more or less sagacious expedients for the purpose of carrying on even their legitimate speculations. If we are to believe the "Correio da Tarde," it has recourse to subterfuges, as if doubtful of its right, instead of frankly asserting and of boldly exercising it.

The Government of a nation should not proceed in this manner. The "Grecian" insulted us; the insult should have been obviated. The "*Galgo*" was regularly cleared out on a legal voyage, should have been afforded that efficacious protection which Brazilian commerce is entitled to. The Government had a noble and worthy task to perform, it either was entirely neglectful of it, or acted in a feeble manner, and intentionally involved itself in diplomatic difficulties, which, if it had energetically kept within the line of its duty, and of its right would have been avoided.

We do not know what course that correspondence with the British Legation and which has been represented to be acrimonious, has taken—We fully confide in the capacity of the noble Minister for Foreign Affairs, and that he will repel it in a manner suitable to the honour and sovereignty of the nation. It is the British Legation that should account to us for the insulting proceedings of the "Grecian," and not we to the British Legation, because we frustrated her intentions. In regard to what M. Candido Baptista de Oliveira left undone, or did in favour of our national navigation, those are accounts to be settled between the nation and him—the British Legation has nothing to say to it.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

*Article published in the Rio de Janeiro newspaper "Correio da Tarde,"
February 1848.*

(Translation.)

ALTHOUGH we sympathise with Lord Howden for his frank and resolute character, of which he gave us a sample in the negotiation in the River Plate, we nevertheless deplore that his Excellency has, by the two above-mentioned facts, tarnished his reputation. In truth they are of such a nature that we should not have believed them, if they were not publicly known and one of them witnessed by many persons, even to this day many of Lord Howden's countrymen appear to be ashamed when reminded of the capture of Madapolam's Factor, and that his Excellency led him, personally, bound with a handkerchief taken from his own neck, through the public streets of this city at 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon from Cosme Velho to the Hotel of the British Legation on the Praia Flamengo. This fact was concealed from Brazil and from the world, and God will thank and reward those who rendered so important a service to the English Minister.

Although it may not be so scandalous, the fact of the "*Galgo*," of Pinto da Fonseca, is a more serious one and more provocative of public indignation. This vessel was built in one of the ship yards of this capital, and is equal to the most perfect vessels launched in England. She was regularly cleared by our authorities, whose province it is to furnish clearances which according to the public law of nations ought to be considered legitimate and their acts to be respected.

The "*Galgo*" on weighing her anchor on the 30th of January last to proceed on her voyage to the Azores, touching at Maranhão, observed the English brig of war "Grecian," well known for the atrocities committed by her at sea against Brazilian property and persons, likewise preparing to go to sea at the same time; she then became persuaded of the truth of the revelations

made, that the "Grecian" was in this port for the purposes of waging war against the maritime trade of the empire: The "Galgo" in order to spare the English navy one further act of depredation, not to say of piracy, and the Government motives for fresh offence, came to an anchor and did not sail on that day.

It appears that having afterwards obtained permission from the Department of Marine, she sailed a few nights ago, being towed out of this port by a steamer; and it is now reported by the English Legation that Lord Howden has accused the Brazilian Ministry (in a note which he has addressed to them) of protecting the illicit Traffic in Africans, because the "Galgo" belongs to a merchant who is in the habit of carrying on that trade.

This unjust, and with his Excellency's permission, slanderous accusation, shows the foresight of the "Galgo" in not going to sea on the day in question, and is sufficient to convince the most incredulous, that Lord Palmerston selects our ports to maintain cruizers in them for the purpose of annihilating the already much prostrated Brazilian commerce.

It is right that we should here inform our readers that we are very far from taking up the defence of the present Minister of Marine. Our pen shall never be prostituted in praising such men as Candido Baptista de Oliveira.

This, however, does not prevent us from giving our opinion with our usual frankness; the Minister of Marine has a right to allow any vessel to leave this harbour, even at night, provided she be regularly cleared outwards, as was the case with the "Galgo."

No. 7.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

AN intended rising of blacks at a place called Pellotas, near the town of San Pedro do Sul in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, has been discovered and prevented.

The slaves implicated in this plot are exclusively natives of Mina, and come from the north of the Line, to the east of Cape Coast. This race is the same that prepared the nearly successful insurrection of Bahia in 1835, and the slaves belonging to it are entirely and most remarkably different from all other Africans in Brazil, both physically and intellectually. These Mina slaves all speak the same language, have organized societies, and elected chiefs, wherever they meet in any numbers, are remarkable for their habits of order, their serious and dignified deportment, their economy, their prevision, and their sullen courage; and they are corporally the finest specimens of the human race I ever saw. It is said that the inhabitants of the Province of Rio de Janeiro, afraid of the slumbering energies of such men, buy them unwillingly; and in fact, but comparatively few of this easily distinguished race are to be seen in the capital. I have no doubt but this is the people charged by Providence with the dreadful and inevitable retribution of Africa.

No. 8.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1848.

THE existence of no less than three depôts and marts for imported Africans within the port of Rio de Janeiro and in the immediate vicinity of the town, is a notorious fact. The permission lately given by a Minister of the Crown to a slaver to leave this port at night, contrary to regulation (which the Brazilian newspapers stated and applauded with pride), will give your Lordship the measure of the connivance of this Government.

There is not a slave-dealer that comes periodically from the provinces of the interior, who does not know where to go to lay his hand immediately on any number of slaves he may require.

These three depôts are,—One at the Saco de Jurujuba, nearly opposite my house, one at the corner of the Ponta d'Anea, and one at the Ponta de Caju opposite the Ilha do Governador.

The principal importers of captive Africans (as they are mildly called here) are Manoel Pinto de Fonseca and the next, but with a long interval, José Bernardino de Sá, Tomas da Costa Ramos, Francisco Ravinoso y Urguelles, José Antonio de Miranda e Silva, José Antonio Fernandez Lima, Amaral e Bastos, Barboza e Castro.

Many of the above are decorated with the orders both of Portugal and Brazil, and the family alliance of the first on the list was easily sought, for the individual who has this day been named Prime Minister of this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 9.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul here with regard to two suspicious vessels, concerning the object of whose voyages I had myself received previous information.

I shall mention the contents of Mr. Westwood's letter to Mr. Tod, the American Minister, who has always shown a desire for the repression of all such cases as the one therein specified.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Acting Consul Westwood to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the French ship "*Sylphide*," mentioned in my despatch to your Lordship of the 5th of November last as having sailed for Africa, returned to this port on the 6th instant, after landing her cargo on the African coast.

This vessel, as well as the American barque "*Ceres*," which arrived in this port from Ambriz on the same day, entered in ballast; but both brought a great number of passengers, who are all persons directly or indirectly connected with the Slave Trade, and are chiefly seafaring men who belonged to different vessels which have been taken on the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

No. 10.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship copies of a letter from Her Majesty's Acting Consul here, and another from Mr. Weetman and partners to the Consul, in connexion with your Lordship's despatch of the 30th July, 1847.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Acting Consul Westwood to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 6, 1848.

IN my despatch dated November 5 last, I acquainted your Lordship that in conformity to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 30th October last, I had sent for the partners in the firm of Messrs. Hobkirk, Weetman & Co., and acquainted those gentlemen with the view that the law officers of the Crown had taken regarding the chartering of American vessels intended for African voyages; and I have now the honour to transmit a letter that Mr. Weetman has addressed to me in consequence of the communications I then made to himself and partners.

(Signed) JNO. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mr. Weetman to Acting Consul Westwood.

My dear Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, (no date in the original.)

MYSELF and partners feel much obliged to you for affording us a perusal of the "Correspondence on the Slave Trade," on which I have to remark generally that there are a great many misstatements whenever our names, and particularly my name is involved, and above all in the letter of Mr. Wise to Mr. Hamilton, dated July 31, 1846, page 205, wherein it is stated (most unfoundedly) "Mr. Weetman not only negotiated the charters of the 'Monte Video,' 'Sea Eagle,' 'Gannecliffe,' 'Porpoise,' and 'Kentucky,' &c., but since the issuing of Mr. Hesketh's Consular warning, &c., he has in the face of that circular negotiated of late the charters of the 'Pons,' 'Enterprise,' and a number of other vessels, depositions in relation to which I furnish you herewith."

With reference to that part of the above, charging me with chartering vessels after Mr. Hesketh's circular, I beg you will cause to be made known to his Excellency Lord Howden, that the last charter made by us was on the 18th January, 1845, and Mr. Hesketh's circular is dated 23rd January, 1845, and was received by us on the 30th of the same month.

Moreover we had, previous to receipt of said circular, on discovering that Her Majesty's Consul considered such charters of a questionable nature (although we had obtained from England, as you are aware, when first a mere doubt was raised thereon, first rate legal opinion to the contrary), resolved rather than run the slightest risk of having our names compromised, we would negotiate no further charters to the coast of Africa.

This determination we made known to Mr. Hamilton at an interview we had with his Excellency on March 10, 1845, perceiving that he held opinions in regard to these charters similar to those of Her Majesty's Consul.

To this resolution we have strictly adhered, and we must state that we did not negotiate the charter of the "Gannecliffe," or of the "Enterprise," or of the last voyage (in the course of which she was taken) of the "Pons," and a number of other American vessels as mentioned by Mr. Wise, which will convey an idea of how much credit is to be attached to the depositions which Mr. Wise furnishes.

You will oblige me and my partners by having a copy of this conveyed to Lord Howden and our respectful request that he will cause the same to be made known to Her Majesty's Government in order to the setting aside the misstatements which have been made in regard to us.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CARTER THOS. WEETMAN.

No. 11.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Consul Westwood relating to the French barque "*Antoinette*."

Your Lordship will see that this vessel, though in direct contravention to the laws of Brazil, has been released from the embargo that was laid upon her by the Guarda Mayor, Senhor Leopoldo da Camera, a gentleman distinguished by his honourable and consistent opposition to the Traffic in Africans, and has been given up to her owner.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Acting Consul Westwood to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 25, 1848.

I INFORMED your Lordship that the barque "*Antoinette*," which sailed from this port for Africa in November last under the French flag, had landed slaves at Macahé; I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that this vessel entered this port on the 20th instant under the Brazilian flag, and called the "*Tentativa*," reporting herself from Santos.

As the "*Antoinette*" would have no legal right to sail under the Brazilian flag she was detained on arrival by the Guarda Mayor (Harbour Master), but I have just been informed that orders have been issued to deliver her up to her owners.

The "*Antoinette*" could not legally assume the Brazilian flag on the coast of Africa, and consequently was liable to seizure at Macahé if hoisting Brazilian colours, while on the other hand she was subject to arrest if she entered that port under the French flag; because no foreign vessels trading from foreign countries are permitted to enter the Brazilian outports where custom-houses are not established.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

No. 12.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Bahia, May 5, 1848.

ON arriving here I found the town in great excitement from a prize with 500 slaves, made by Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*," having been brought into this harbour. This vessel, called the "*Bella Miguelina*," arrived without the sloop which captured her, and, after anchoring, was attacked at night by three boats from the shore full of armed men. These boats were beaten off, but not without effusion of blood, and, although it is difficult correctly to ascertain the fact, it is averred that three men were killed and a considerable number wounded on the part of the assailants.

Had the expedition from the shore succeeded in re-capturing the slaver there is no doubt but all the prize-crew would have been murdered, and the vessel

carried out of the harbour, with very little chance of ever identifying the perpetrators of the crime.

The captain of the Brazilian frigate "Constituição" behaved extremely well; after the failure of the attack he desired the officer in charge of the "*Bella Miguelina*" to anchor her under the guns of the frigate, to prevent any further attempts.

Had I been at Rio, I should have thought it my duty to demand from the Government a search for the actors in this assault, and to exact reparation for an attack made on a vessel not only carrying the English flag, but on which there was a pendant hoisted.

No. 13.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 23, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of last March, inclosing lists of Brazilian vessels engaged in Slave Trade which have been captured by Her Majesty's cruisers and condemned by the British Courts of Vice-Admiralty, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a note which I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs in obedience to your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor D'Abreu.

Rio de Janeiro, May 17, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to his Excellency Senhor Limpo d'Abreu, &c., a list of Brazilian vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, which have been captured by the cruisers of the Queen between the period extending from the 8th of August, 1845, to the 31st of December, 1847, and condemned by the British Courts of Vice-Admiralty under the Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain, of the 8th of August, 1845.

It will be seen that this list comprises no less than seventy-nine vessels, of which seventy-one were condemned for being equipped for the Slave Trade and eight for having slaves actually on board, the number of which amounted in the aggregate to 2,940: and the Government of the Queen in instructing the Undersigned to present this list to the Imperial Government order the Undersigned to represent to them that Her Majesty's Government cannot imagine that Slave Trade undertakings so extensive as those of which these captures are a proof, could be engaged in by the subjects of the Emperor, if the Brazilian Government had used any endeavours to fulfil the treaty engagements by which the Crown of Brazil has bound itself to the Crown of Great Britain to prevent Brazilian subjects from being in any way concerned in the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned is also instructed to say that although the above-mentioned list affords positive proof of extensive Slave Trade undertakings engaged in by Brazilian subjects, there is good reason to assume that the greater part, if not the whole, of the vessels mentioned in the other list, No. 2 (a copy of which is herewith inclosed), were employed in the Slave Trade of Brazil.

These vessels were captured for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and were condemned on that charge by the Vice-Admiralty Courts as having no nationality. But there is good reason to suppose that the slaves whom they

were to ship were destined for Brazil, because the Cuba Slave Trade has latterly been almost entirely suppressed and because no other Transatlantic State except Brazil now carries on this criminal traffic.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

No. 14.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 23, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of last month, upon the subject of the "*Malaga*," Brazilian slaver, I have the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which in obedience to your Lordship's instructions I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor D'Abreu.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1848.

I AM instructed by my Government to place your Excellency in possession of the following circumstances connected with the capture of a Brazilian slaver called the "*Malaga*."

On the 11th of December last, Commander Sprigg, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Ferret*," being in latitude 3° 37' south, longitude 9° 9' east, Mayumba east by north 60 miles, came up with and hailed a brig (on whose deck masses of slaves were visible), which proved to be the "*Malaga*," three days out from Loango.

On boarding her Captain Sprigg was informed that two months previously she was in Rio de Janeiro without crew or captain; that she was owned by Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, a Portuguese, resident at Rio de Janeiro, notorious for his slave-dealing transactions; that Fonseca had chartered her for the Coast; had sent on board at Rio de Janeiro her slave cargo and equipment, including large coppers for his slave factories in the River Congo.

The crew and captain of the "*Malaga*" were also picked up at Rio de Janeiro, and the usual gross and fraudulent evasion of Brazilian law was practised on the occasion, namely, the real captain, boatswain, cook, and other hands necessary for navigating and doing the ship's duty were embarked as "passengers," being in reality foreigners, for the captain was a Spaniard, and the majority of the crew were Portuguese.

The "*Malaga*" thus owned, manned, and navigated, hoisted the Imperial flag, took on board no less than 850 slaves, and was captured in the manner which I have already detailed to your Excellency.

Her Majesty's Government, under view of these circumstances, instruct me to urge your Excellency to take such measures as will prevent Fonseca and other slave-dealers in Brazil from violating both the Treaty engagements which this empire has contracted with Great Britain and the law of Brazil itself against Slave Trade.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

No. 15.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 23, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship the copies of a correspondence which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, upon the subject of an attack made at that place upon the "*Bella Miguelina*" slaver, (prize to Her Majesty's brig of war "*Grecian*,") while lying in Bahia harbour.

I have also the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in consequence of receiving the above correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Consul Porter to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Bahia, May 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a correspondence* relating to an attack made by a body of armed men of this place on the prize polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," captured by Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*."

This occurrence has caused much excitement among the lower classes, and ill-feeling towards the British residents. Happily no insult has yet been offered to any of them ; and as the "*Grecian*" sailed with her prize on the evening of the 3rd instant, I trust that the excitement will speedily subside.

With reference to the African, John Freeman, it is the intention of the Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*" to keep him on board, and to refer his case to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on this station, as mentioned in his despatch of the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor D'Abreu.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 18, 1848.

THE Consul of the Queen for Bahia informs me in a letter dated the 5th instant, that on the 29th of April, the "*Bella Miguelina*" slaver, with 517 slaves on board, arrived in the harbour of Bahia in charge of Lieutenant D'Aguilar, having been captured by Her Majesty's brig of war "*Grecian*" in latitude 12° 33' south, and longitude 35° 56' west.

The "*Bella Miguelina*," when taken, was found to have but one day's provisions and water on board, and the Commander of the "*Grecian*" ordered her to be carried into the nearest friendly port, there to receive the supplies of which she stood in need.

Having arrived in the harbour of Bahia she was attacked on the night of the 29th of April by a party of armed men, who attempted to board her from two large feluccas.

This attack was, as your Excellency will be glad to learn, repulsed ; but Lieutenant D'Aguilar and two seamen were wounded in defending the ship under his command.

The Consul of the Queen at Bahia immediately addressed the President of the province upon the subject, who at once recognized all the atrocity of an attack by a gang of miscreants, who, living under the protection of the Imperial laws, thus endangered by an act purely piratical, the harmony and good

* See Inclosures in Consul Porter's despatch of May 6, 1848, No. 59.

understanding which so happily subsists in this country between the authorities of the Queen and those of the Empire.

Your Excellency will learn with regret that in spite of the proper feeling shown upon this occasion by the President and other Imperial officers at Bahia, the "*Bella Miguelina*" was attacked a second time by other persons whom it is impossible to designate by any other name than that of pirates.

This attack, like that which preceded it, also failed; but it unfortunately proves the position to which an Imperial officer, the President of one of the most important provinces in this empire is reduced, who, having recognized the piratical and illegal character of the first attack upon the "*Bella Miguelina*," having, with a frankness and loyalty which do his Excellency infinite credit, expressed his opinion of the violence and crime thus committed, was unable, although possessed of the great powers of a Viceroy, to extend the protection of the Imperial Law to the vessel of a friendly nation lying within sight of his own palace.

As the law of this empire has thus been recklessly violated and set at naught by men who are a disgrace to humanity, and a pest to, and the worst enemies of Brazil; and as an officer of the Queen, in discharge of his duty and the instructions of his Government, has been attacked and wounded while lying in a friendly port, under, as he fancied, the powerful protection of Brazilian law, I will not permit myself to doubt that your Excellency will enable me to assure my Government that the speediest and surest measures have been taken to bring to justice the perpetrators of this unexampled act of piracy.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, stating that Major Teixeira, the Governor of Quillimane, had absconded from that place in a slave-ship bound for Rio de Janeiro with 500 slaves on board, and that he was accompanied in his flight by the President of the municipality, a person who had also been for some time suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope to Viscount Palmerston.
March 24, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 71, p. 83.]

No. 17.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of May last upon the subject of an attack made at Bahia upon the "*Bella Miguelina*" slave-vessel, prize to Her Majesty's brig of war "*Grecian*," whilst anchored in Bahia harbour.

I approve of the note which you addressed under date of the 18th of May to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs upon this case.

I have now to instruct you to state to Senhor Limpo d'Abreu that with a view to prevent untoward events like this, which by leading to collisions between subjects of the Emperor and the naval forces of Her Majesty, may tend to endanger the friendly relations between the two countries, it seems desirable that some formal arrangement should be come to in regard to the slave-ships with slaves on board which may be captured by British cruisers and may be brought into Brazilian ports on their way to a British settlement or colony; and Her Majesty's Government would therefore suggest that it would be desirable that the Brazilian Government should issue orders to its officers and authorities in its seaports to give assistance and protection in such cases to the officers and men in charge of such captured slave-vessels, and to afford to them and to any ship of war by which they may be accompanied, all necessary facilities for obtaining speedily such supplies as may be requisite to enable them to continue their voyage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 18.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1848.

THE attention of Her Majesty's Government has been called to the fact that several witnesses examined before the Committee of the House of Commons on Slave Trade which has been sitting during the present session, have expressed an opinion that nothing would so much tend to the suppression of the Slave Trade as the infliction of severe punishment on the persons found engaged in that Traffic.

The transportation of slaves from Africa to America is now, as you are aware, almost entirely directed to the coast of Brazil; and Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that if the masters and crews of vessels engaged in the transport of slaves to that country could be brought to trial and adequately punished, a severe blow would thereby be given to the Traffic.

You are aware that the statute of the 8th and 9th Victoria, cap. 122, by which the British Legislature authorized Her Majesty's cruisers to capture Brazilian vessels found on the high seas engaged in Slave Trade, and empowered the High Court of Admiralty and all Courts of Vice Admiralty to adjudicate upon Brazilian vessels captured by Her Majesty's cruisers or being engaged in Slave Trade, did not give power to any British court of law to inflict punishment on the master, seamen, or other persons found on board such captured vessels.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that Parliament would be fully justified, under the stipulations of Article I of the Convention of the 26th of November, 1826, with Brazil, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, in enacting a law by which Brazilian subjects taken in the fact of Slave Trade should be rendered liable to be tried and to be sentenced to punishment by British courts of law.

But before resorting to this step, Her Majesty's Government are desirous of making a final attempt to put to the test the sincerity of the Brazilian Government in their professed desire to fulfil the engagements of the Treaty of 1826. For if the Government of Brazil would rigidly enforce the Brazilian Laws of 1831 and 1832 against slave-traders, Her Majesty's Government would be relieved from the necessity of adopting measures likely to prove unpalatable to the Brazilian Government.

Accordingly, Her Majesty's Government intend to try the experiment of sending to Rio Janeiro, accompanied by proper witnesses, the master and crew of some Brazilian slave-vessel captured with slaves on board, in order that such offenders may be delivered up to the Brazilian authorities to be tried by a Brazilian court of law.

But before issuing the necessary instructions for this purpose, I have to desire that you will take this subject into your consideration, and that you will

report to me your opinion as to the best manner of carrying the project into effect; and further, that you will state to me the probable time which it would take to bring such persons to trial after their arrival at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 19.

M. Lisboa to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 5.)

Légation du Brésil, 4 Septembre, 1848.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, en déplorant profondément l'état anormal où se trouvent les relations du Brésil et de la Grande Bretagne, depuis la promulgation de la Loi du 8 Août, 1845, mais animé par la nature conciliatrice des rapports qu'il a eus immédiatement après avec le Foreign Office (ainsi que par l'espoir que la mission subséquente de Lord Howden mît un terme prochain à un si fâcheux état de choses), s'est fait une règle de ne pas entraver la marche d'un dénouement si ardemment désiré par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale.

Dans ce but, et pour ne pas aigrir et irriter les esprits, au lieu de les calmer et de les apaiser, le Soussigné s'est même abstenu d'adresser à son Excellence le Très Honorable Lord Vicomte Palmerston, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique au Département des Affaires Etrangères, de fréquentes doléances officielles qui auraient pu le dévier de la ligne de conduite qu'il s'était tracée, attendu qu'il ne lui eût pas toujours été facile d'en régler les termes avec la mesure et le sang froid désirables.

Les captures et les condamnations de navires Brésiliens qui ont suivi la promulgation de la susdite loi du 8 Août, 1845, n'étant d'ailleurs, aux yeux du Gouvernement Impérial, que des fruits odieux de la force et de la violence, le Soussigné pourrait, à la rigueur, se dispenser de répéter, à l'occasion de chaque condamnation, qu'il a, à ce sujet, et en tems opportun, intimé au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, qui lui en a donné acte, une protestation solennelle qu'au nom de l'Empereur le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale a depuis ratifiée et confirmée de la manière la plus formelle.

Cependant, il est une limite à tout ménagement, et en présence de la modification qu'évidemment ont subie les circonstances dont il vient d'être question plus haut, le Soussigné ne peut, sans faillir à son devoir, conserver plus long tems l'attitude expectante à laquelle il s'était condamné. Il vient donc rompre un silence qu'il lui a été parfois pénible de garder, mais, sans fouiller dans un passé qui renferme des griefs multipliés d'une grave nature, et dont son Gouvernement se réserve de demander la réparation quand il lui paraîtra la plus opportun, le Soussigné n'aura l'honneur d'entretenir aujourd'hui Lord Palmerston que de quelques procédés récents qui ont eu lieu à Bahia lors du séjour qu'y a fait un navire Brésilien capturé par un croiseur Anglais.

Vers la fin d'Avril dernier, le bâtiment Brésilien "*Bella Miguelina*" est entré à Bahia, ayant été capturé par le brick de Sa Majesté Britannique "*Grecian*," avec 517 noirs à son bord.

La crainte d'une epidémie, qui paraissait alors imminente sur la "*Bella Miguelina*," fit désirer, en premier lieu, le départ immédiat de ce navire; mais son Excellence le Président de la Province de Bahia changea bientôt d'avis et le notifia officiellement au Consul Anglais.

En attendant, la "*Bella Miguelina*" ayant été abordée par des canots armés—des malheurs déplorables ayant eu lieu dans le conflit—le Président et les autorités subalternes prirent des mesures efficaces pour éviter de nouveaux attentats et firent procéder contre les auteurs du premier, en conformité des lois.

Les plus zélés exécuteurs de la loi Anglaise du 8 Août, 1845, ne sauraient assurément prétendre que les clauses en soient obligatoires pour les sujets de l'Empereur. La "*Bella Miguelina*" était cependant criminelle d'après les

propres lois Brésiliennes, quoique indûment capturée par un navire de guerre Anglais, à qui le Brésil ne reconnaît pas qualité à ce suffisante et légale.

La conséquence naturelle était donc que l'autorité Brésilienne en réclamât la remise au capteur, qui se trouvait dans les limites territoriales de l'Empire, pour la faire juger par qui de droit; cette demande fut éludée, et le Consul répondit au Président que la "*Bella Miguelina*" et le "*Grecian*" étaient déjà partis.

En présence de ce qui précède et des circonstances que le Soussigné vient d'énumérer, son Gouvernement pense qu'il y a eu de la part du Capitaine du brick "*Grecian*," violation flagrante des lois qui établissent la souveraineté, la juridiction des nations libres et indépendantes dans les limites de leurs territoires respectifs: et le Soussigné est chargé de confirmer auprès de Lord Palmerston, comme il confirme par la présente, la protestation qu'a faite à cet égard son Excellence le Président de Bahia, en s'y adressant au Consul de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Mais en donnant même la latitude la plus élastique aux clauses de la loi du 8 Août, 1845, le Soussigné cherche en vain à s'expliquer un second fait qu'il a l'ordre de soumettre à Lord Palmerston, à la charge du Capitaine du brick "*Grecian*."

Un esclave noir, le nommé João Freeman, appartenant à un sujet Brésilien, s'évade de chez son maître et se présente à bord du "*Grecian*" en se disant Anglais; et cette simple assertion, sans la moindre preuve à l'appui, suffit pour que ce noir y soit comme tel admis, reçu et gardé.

Le Président de la province, dans un esprit évident d'équité et de bienveillance, a proposé qu'on gardât le noir en lieu de sûreté, afin de faire bonne justice, soit en sa faveur, soit en faveur du maître—celui-ci pouvant justifier de ce titre, mais il paraît que le Capitaine du "*Grecian*" a une jurisprudence sommaire; à lui, en vertu de laquelle il s'arroge le droit de s'ériger en juge de la nationalité d'autrui, et de substituer son caprice aux formalités consacrées par la législation des pays où il se trouve. Le noir réclamé a quitté le Brésil à bord du "*Grecian*."

En réclamant une satisfaction proportionnée à la gravité de cette offense, et de cette inconcevable déviation de toutes les règles établies pour l'administration de la justice dans tous les pays civilisés, le Gouvernement Impérial demande, en outre, que le noir João Freeman retourne à Bahia et y soit délivré à l'autorité compétente pour les fins ci-dessus indiquées.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale aime aussi à croire que les procédés du Capitaine du "*Grecian*," dont le Soussigné porte plainte en ce moment, ne seront pas sanctionnés par Lord Palmerston, mais qu'au contraire prompt et suffisante réparation en sera faite, et que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique adoptera les mesures convenables pour en éviter la répétition à l'avenir.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

MARQUES LISBOA.

No. 20.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of March last, I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon the condition of the negroes emancipated by order of the Mixed Commission Court at Rio de Janeiro.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 20.

*Mr. Hudson to Senhor de Souza Franco.**Rio de Janeiro, June 26, 1848.*

THE Undersigned, &c., is instructed by his Government to state to his Excellency Senhor Bernardo de Souza Franco, &c., that they have had under their consideration a despatch addressed to them by Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at this Court, inclosing the copy of a note addressed to him by Senhor Saturnino de Souza e Oliveira, late Imperial Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which note is dated the 16th of November last, respecting the condition of the negroes emancipated by the Mixed Commission at Rio de Janeiro and delivered over to the Brazilian Government, to be employed as servants or free labourers.

And the Undersigned is ordered to say to his Excellency Senhor Bernardo de Souza Franco, that Her Majesty's Government have seen with pleasure the expressions contained in the communication of Senhor Saturnino to Lord Howden, of a desire on the part of the Imperial Government to provide for the good treatment of these emancipated negroes.

But Her Majesty's Government observe with regret that this communication is wholly silent as to the detailed arrangements which have been established for carrying these benevolent intentions into effect.

Her Majesty's Government would therefore be glad to know what is the present number of these emancipated negroes? where they now are? and how they are employed? and especially what arrangements had been made for giving them moral and industrial instruction, according to the engagements contained in the Treaty under the provisions of which they were captured? and as the greatest portion of the negroes so captured and decreed by the Mixed Commission to be free must by this time have been for several years in Brazil, and have become entitled to their entire and unrestricted freedom, Her Majesty's Government would wish to have a list of those who have been placed in the full enjoyment of their liberty.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

No. 21.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 4th of May last; upon the subject of the "*Alzira*," fitted for Slave Trade at Rio de Janeiro.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON

Inclosure in No. 21.

*Mr. Hudson to Senhor de Souza Franco.**Rio de Janeiro, June 25, 1848.*

THE Undersigned, &c., is instructed by his Government to bring to the notice of his Excellency Senhor Bernardo de Souza Franco, &c., the following palpable instance of connivance by the authorities of Rio de Janeiro, in the fitting out of vessels for the Slave Trade.

On the 5th of January of this year the Brazilian vessel "*Alzira*," Theodorio de Souza Machado, master, was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Brilliant*," Captain Watson, off Quillimane, in lat. 19° 1' S., long. 36° 36' N.

The "*Alzira*" having been sent to Simon's Bay in charge of Lieutenant Cockroft, the case was brought before the Court of Vice-Admiralty at that place, and from the evidence of the prize officer and her papers, it was shown that she was a barque of 423 tons burthen, owned by Manoel José Araujo Costa, of Rio de Janeiro, which port she left on the 1st of November, 1847, with a crew of twenty-six men, besides her master and first pilot, and ostensibly bound for Goa in ballast; she proceeded direct to Quillimane, where she arrived on the 26th of December, and remained till the 1st of January, when she saw and endeavoured to escape from Her Majesty's ship "Brilliant."

The officers who boarded the "*Alzira*" found her slave-deck laid, with a portion divided off for females, leaguers containing about 160 tons of water, a great quantity of farinha, rice, beans, and jerked beef, mess-kids, a medicine chest, a large cooking apparatus, firewood, hatches fitted with open gratings, and bunks upon deck.

Machado, the master of the "*Alzira*," who had already been thrice taken in slave vessels, did not attempt to conceal that his intention was to have shipped about 700 slaves at Quillimane, which he had already purchased and paid for, as he stated, by bills upon Rio de Janeiro.

Under these circumstances, the Court of Vice-Admiralty at Saint Simon's Bay pronounced the "*Alzira*" to be good prize.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 22.

Viscount Palmerston to M. Lisboa.

Foreign Office, September 18, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note, addressed to him on the 4th instant by M. Lisboa, &c., in which, after expressing his regret at the state in which the relations between Great Britain and Brazil have existed since the promulgation of the Law of 1845 which authorizes British cruisers to capture Brazilian vessels found engaged in Slave Trade, and after stating that his Government look upon all the captures and condemnations of Brazilian vessels made under the authority of that law, in the light of the odious fruits of force and violence, M. Lisboa proceeds to bring under the notice of Her Majesty's Government the case of the "*Bella Miguelina*," a Brazilian slaver, which was captured with 517 slaves on board by Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*," and whilst under the charge of an officer and prize crew from that vessel, was obliged to put into Bahia, being in want of provisions and water. M. Lisboa complains of the conduct of the Commander of the "*Grecian*" in refusing to give up the prize to the authorities of Bahia, when called upon by them to do so, as being a flagrant violation of the laws which establish the jurisdiction and sovereignty of free and independent nations within the limits of their respective territories.

M. Lisboa also calls the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the conduct of the Commander of the "*Grecian*" in receiving on board that vessel, and carrying away from Brazil a negro named John Freeman, who presented himself on board the "*Grecian*" as a British subject, and claimed protection as such, and M. Lisboa demands that this negro be sent back to Bahia, and there delivered to the competent authorities for the purpose of ascertaining his nationality, in order that according to the result, he may be restored to his former master or to freedom: and M. Lisboa concludes by expressing the hope of the Government of Brazil, that the conduct of the Commander of the "*Grecian*" in both these matters will not be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, but that on the contrary prompt and sufficient reparation will be made for it, and that Her Majesty's Government will adopt suitable measures for preventing the recurrence of similar conduct in future.

The Undersigned in reply has the honour to state that none can regret more sincerely than do Her Majesty's Government, the present unfortunate state of the relations between the Government of Brazil and the Government of

Great Britain, and Her Majesty's Government regret the state of things the more because as it has arisen entirely from the conduct pursued by the Government of Brazil, and from its long continued, flagrant, and undisguised violation of the Treaty engagements of Brazil towards Great Britain, Her Majesty's Government are unable by any act of theirs, or by any change in the policy of Great Britain, to apply a remedy to those evils.

The Crown of Brazil engaged by the Treaty of 1826, that after March, 1830, it should not be lawful for the subjects of the Emperor of Brazil to be concerned in the carrying on of the Slave Trade under any pretext or in any manner whatever; and that the carrying on of such trade after that period by any person subject of His Imperial Majesty, should be deemed and treated as piracy.

Such is the still subsisting engagement of the Crown of Brazil; but from the day when that Treaty was signed down to the present time, that engagement has never been executed, but has, on the contrary, been wholly and entirely neglected and disregarded; nay, it has been so systematically and positively violated, that the subjects of His Imperial Majesty who are openly and publicly known to be engaged not merely indirectly but directly and avowedly in this stealing, selling, and buying of the flesh and blood of man, so far from being treated as pirates are received and treated as personal friends and honoured guests by the men in power and authority in Brazil whose duty it has been to carry into execution the treaty engagements of their Sovereign; and the consequence is, that instead of the Brazilian Slave Trade having been long ago put an end to, in conformity with the solemn obligations of the Crown of Brazil, the number of African negroes yearly imported into the Brazilian territory in order there to be sold and bought and worked out as slaves, is supposed to range from 40,000 to 60,000.

In this state of things the Undersigned cannot refrain from expressing some surprise that the Chevalier de Lisboa should, on the part of his Government, voluntarily bring these matters into discussion. But as M. Lisboa has thought fit to do so it has been impossible for the Undersigned to avoid reminding him, and through him the Brazilian Government, of the long-continued violation of the treaty engagements of the Crown of Brazil in regard to these matters.

With respect to the particular cases to which M. Lisboa refers, the Undersigned begs to say that the "*Bella Miguelina*" was captured under the Act of 1845, which was passed by the British Parliament in consequence of the omission of the Government of Brazil to make good its engagements. That Act, indeed, was imperfect for its purpose, inasmuch as it applies only to the ships which may be found engaged in Slave Trade, and does not provide suitable punishment for the pirates who may be found on board of those ships, but such as the law is, it must of course be acted upon, and the Naval Officers commanding Her Majesty's ships of war are bound to obey its enactments, and to execute the instructions which in pursuance thereof they may receive from the Admiralty. It is enough, therefore, with regard to the conduct of the officer commanding the "*Grecian*," to say, that if he had delivered up the "*Bella Miguelina*" to any Brazilian authority, he would have been guilty of a breach of duty, and that it was incumbent upon him to carry her to a British Court of Admiralty, to be there dealt with according to the law; this course, in this respect, has therefore been entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government. Her Majesty's Government might indeed complain of the hostile attack, and unfriendly treatment experienced in the port of Bahia, by the officers and prize crew who were in charge of the "*Bella Miguelina*," but the assailants sustained on the spot from the British crew, a punishment which will probably deter others from attempting a similar outrage on a similar occasion; and Her Majesty's Government trust that the Government of Brazil, mindful of its treaty engagements, will give the proper and necessary orders, that on any future occasion British officers and men who may enter a Brazilian port while employed in carrying into effect the mutual engagements of the two Crowns, shall be received and treated with that courtesy and hospitality to which they will be so justly entitled.

With regard to the case of the British subject who claimed refuge and protection on board the "*Grecian*" it appears to the Undersigned that the Captain of the "*Grecian*," was perfectly right in receiving him, and that he would not have been justified in refusing to do so. The Undersigned has in the first place

to observe that it is presumable that according to the Law of Brazil of the 7th November, 1831, there can be very few negroes now in existence in Brazil who are not legally entitled to their freedom ; for by that law all negroes landed after its date were declared to be *ipso facto* free ; and as the life of a slave is understood, seldom to exceed fifteen years after the beginning of his slavery, it is next to impossible that there should be now living in Brazil any considerable number of negro slaves who were in existence as such in Brazil, at the time of the promulgation of that law ; and it is only, therefore, the small number of negroes in Brazil, who may have been born there, who are now legally held in Slavery. It would appear therefore *primâ facie*, that the negro in question who sought refuge on board the British vessel, was in all probability legally free and not justly subject to be held in bondage, or to be restrained in his liberty by any person whatever. But at all events, no person in Brazil could be entitled to hold in Slavery a British subject, and any officer in Her Majesty's Service will at all times be doing nothing more than his duty, by receiving and protecting in any part of the world, any British subject whom the subject of any other country shall have presumed to hold in bondage ; and so far are Her Majesty's Government from thinking that the Government of Brazil, or any person living in Brazil, can be entitled to make any claim on this score against Her Majesty's Government or the Captain of the "Grecian," that if they could entertain the slightest hope that the Brazilian courts would do justice in a case of this kind, they would take the necessary steps for causing proceedings to be instituted against the person who had held in Slavery the British subject in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 23.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 22, 1848.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the case of the Brazilian steam-vessel "*Bella Miguelina*," captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*," with 518 slaves on board, and piratically attacked in the harbour of Bahia, to which place she had been obliged to resort for provisions ; I herewith transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a note which I have received from the Brazilian Minister at this Court, complaining of the conduct of the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*" : first for not delivering up the "*Bella Miguelina*" to the Brazilian authorities at Bahia ; and secondly, for carrying away from Bahia a slave who had taken refuge on board Her Majesty's ship "*Grecian*," who represented himself to be a British subject, and who claimed protection as such.

I also transmit to you a copy of the reply which I have returned to M. Lisboa's representation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 23.

1. *M. Lisboa to Viscount Palmerston, September 4, 1848.*
2. *Viscount Palmerston to M. Lisboa, September 18, 1848.*

[See Nos. 19 and 22.]

No. 24.

M. Lisboa to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 4.)

Legation Impériale du Brésil, le 3 Octobre, 1848.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, a eu l'honneur de recevoir la note qu'en réponse à la sienne du 4 Septembre dernier, lui a été adressée le 18 du même mois par son Excellence le Très Honorable Lord Vicomte Palmerston, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique au Département des Affaires Etrangères, relativement à la situation générale des rapports actuels des Gouvernemens de leurs dites Majestés, et plus particulièrement au sujet de la capture du navire Brésilien "*Bella Miguelina*," ainsi que des circonstances aggravantes auxquelles a donné lieu le séjour de ce bâtiment dans le port de Bahia.

Le Soussigné est plus peiné que surpris de voir que Lord Palmerston ne maintient la capture de la "*Bella Miguelina*," et le refus de la remettre, pour jugement, aux autorités locales, qu'en s'appuyant sur la Loi de 1845, contre laquelle le Brésil a protesté de la manière la plus formelle avant et après sa promulgation. A ce sujet le Soussigné se bornera à avouer qu'il ne comprend nullement comment une loi spéciale de l'Angleterre peut mettre au néant les droits et les prérogatives qui constituent l'indépendance et la souveraineté d'une nation amie dans les limites de son territoire et de sa juridiction.

La justification des procédés exorbitans qu'on a eus envers l'esclave John Freeman, au mépris des allégations qui précèdent, et parceque, dit-on, il pourrait bien, primâ facie, paraître libre au capitaine d'un navire étranger mouillé dans le port d'un pays où l'Esclavage n'a pas été aboli;—une telle justification ne semble pas assez sérieuse et concluante pour que le Soussigné revienne sur l'argumentation contraire de sa première note.

Il se croit dispensé également de s'arrêter sur la tirade relative à l'hypothèse figurée d'un sujet Britannique retenu en esclavage au Brésil, et des démarches auxquelles le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine aurait actuellement recours "if they could entertain the slightest hope that the Brazilian courts would do justice in a case of this kind." Le Soussigné répète qu'il se croit dispensé d'insister sur ce passage : il ajoutera qu'il s'en félicite—la forme n'en étant pas plus heureuse que le fond, ainsi que le prouve du reste l'aménité de la citation ci-dessus.

En remplissant les ordres de sa Cour, le Soussigné a dû rompre le silence et demander réparation des griefs sérieux qu'il a énumérés ; il obéit aux mêmes injonctions en protestant formellement, comme il proteste par la présente, contre le déni de justice que Lord Palmerston vient de notifier au Soussigné par la note à laquelle il a l'honneur de répondre.

La tâche du Soussigné serait à présent terminée si son Excellence n'avait pas jugé convenable de faire précéder sa décision négative par de vagues récriminations dont la véhémence gratuite suffirait, au besoin, pour en démontrer l'injustice. Blessé de cette étrange et désobligeante déviation des règles et des égards usités dans les relations internationales, le Soussigné n'a pu lire sans le plus vif chagrin, les insinuations passionnées, les déductions offensantes de Lord Palmerston ; il les repousse avec la plus grande énergie de son âme. Aussi contraire à la Traite que Lord Palmerston,—que qui ce soit au monde,—le Soussigné, veut toutefois des raisons plus plausibles pour porter atteinte à l'honneur d'autrui, que l'indice de complicité (le seul clairement formulé par Lord Palmerston) qu'on s'efforce de tirer de l'allégation pure et simple que tel ou tel individu qu'on suppose se livrer à la Traite, soit l'hôte ou le commensal de tel ou tel Ministre. Il répugne au Soussigné de prolonger cette singulière polémique, qu'il regretterait d'ailleurs vivement d'avoir entamée, et il s'abstiendra conséquemment de s'enquérir si les personnes dénoncées n'ont pas dans quelque opulente et philanthropique cité Européenne des commanditaires ou des commettans, et quelle y est la position sociale de ceux-ci.

Quoiqu'il en soit, le fait signalé par Lord Palmerston, de l'incessante importation de noirs au Brésil est sans doute affligeant, et personne ne le déplore plus

sincèrement que le Soussigné, mais le Soussigné en déduit l'enseignement significatif, que les moyens de répression les plus efficaces ne sont assurément pas ceux de l'arbitraire, de l'intimidation, et de la force, auxquels, néanmoins, on paraît donner encore la préférence.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

MARQUES LISBOA.

No. 25.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 5, 1848.

WITH reference to a despatch which I had the honour to address to your Lordship of the 23rd of May last on the subject of the "*Malaga*" said to have been fitted for Slave Trade at Rio de Janeiro, I beg herewith to transmit the copy of a note which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, from which it appears that the "*Malaga*" entered and left this port in her character of an United States' vessel previous to her capture by her Majesty's sloop "*Ferret*" on the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure I in No. 25.

Senhor de Souza Franco to Mr. Hudson.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 10, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., is in receipt of the note addressed to the Secretary of State's Office by Mr. Hudson, &c., wherein, informing him of the capture of a vessel called the "*Malaga*," distant three leagues from Loango with slaves on board, by the English corvette "*Ferret*," Commander Sprigg, Mr. Hudson relates on the report of the said Commander, in reference to that prize, that she sailed from this port under the Brazilian flag, freighted and fitted out for the coast of Africa, having on board as passengers of different nations, the real captain, the boatswain, and other individuals composing her crew.

Mr. Hudson, taking this information for his basis, claims by order of his Government, that measures be taken to prevent the infraction in that manner of the agreement between the Empire and Great Britain and the laws of Brazil against Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, as soon as he was possessed of the tenour of Mr. Hudson's note, hastened to address an official letter to the Minister of Finance, for the purpose of causing the necessary steps to be taken in consequence of the fact alluded to, and has just received from his Excellency the information given by the Administrator of the Board of Customs (Consulado) of this city, a copy whereof is annexed, whereby it is seen that no Brazilian vessel has been registered on that station under the name of "*Malaga*," and that it only appears by the Register of receipts of anchorage dues and the respective clearances, that on the 30th of September of the last year an American brig called the "*Malaga*" was legally cleared out in that department for the coast of Africa, and that she sailed on the 1st of October, as is shown in the official gazette annexed to that information.

The Undersigned hopes that this information will serve as a proof to Mr. Hudson, that the respective Brazilian authorities were not concerned in the fact stated by him, nor can they be responsible for it; and the Brazilian Government deploring that such various methods are resorted to by the

importers of Africans to elude the vigilance of the authorities, hope that by persisting in their efforts to put an end to this illicit traffic, so prejudicial to the Empire, they will bring about the desired result.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

BERNARDO DE S. FRANCO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

Senhor Lazaro de Sá to Senhor de Souza Franco.

(Translation.)

Board of Customs, Consulado,

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

June 15, 1848.

AFTER scrupulously examining the registers of the national vessels, I can assure your Excellency that there is no registry at this board of any Brazilian vessel called the "*Malaga*," whereof Manoel Pinto da Fonseca is owner, as stated in the note from the British Legation which accompanies the despatch of his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The book of receipts for anchorage dues, however, and the respective clearances show that on the 30th of September last year the American brig "*Malaga*" was cleared out in this department for the coast of Africa, having legally manifested the despatch of her cargo outwards, and that she sailed on the 1st day of October of the same year, as is seen in the annexed official gazette under the head of "Movement in the port."

This is all I have the honour to lay before your Excellency on this subject. God preserve your Excellency.

(Signed)

THEODORO LAZARO DE SA.

Extract from the "Gazeta Official do Imperio do Brazil" of October 2, 1847.

(Translation.)

MOVEMENT IN PORT.

SAILED on the 1st, for the coast of Africa, the American brig "*Malaga*," 210 tons, Charles Penfield, master; crew 9; cargo assorted.

No. 26.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith extracts and translations from two newspapers recently established and published in this city, and edited by several Brazilian gentlemen, who are determined to use their best efforts to put a stop to the importation into Brazil of slaves from Africa.

Amongst these public-spirited individuals are some of the most distinguished men in the Chamber of Deputies, in the Senate, and in the Government.

The time appears at last to have arrived when the leading politicians of Brazil have shaken off their former indifference to the question of importing slaves. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to analyse the reasons which have led to the appearance of these distinguished gentlemen in the lists as champions of a cause which, if ably and vigorously handled, will prove as great a source of honour to themselves as it will be beneficial to their country.

All of them, however, are agreed, and some of them have declared in their places in the Chambers, that from the importation of slaves into Brazil flow those vices which corrupt Government and taint society.

On the 12th ultimo, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in replying to a member of the Chamber of Deputies, who had urged upon the Government the necessity of enforcing the law of Brazil against the importation of slaves, said that in his opinion one of the best means of putting a stop to that illegal traffic would be to encourage the immigration of white artisans and labourers, and thoroughly to protect the interests of foreigners and of foreign capital.

His Excellency declared that this is the opinion of his colleagues, who were convinced of the prejudice which resulted to Brazil from the importation of slaves, and who would do everything they could to prevent it.

This declaration met with very cheering symptoms of assent from all parts of the House.

Senhor Christiano Ottoni, one of the most distinguished leaders of the Santa Luzia party, declared in his place in the Chamber of Deputies, no later than the 17th ultimo, that he would give the most frank and decided assistance to any measure which tended to repress the Traffic. He thought no one could be blind to the evils which must inevitably follow in the train of the late enormously increased importations of slaves.

Senhor Terraz, on the 21st ultimo, when debating the peculations which have recently taken place in some of the custom-houses of this country, took occasion to point out how fertile in expedients and in trickery the Trade in Slaves had rendered some of the custom-house officers of Macahé and of Rio de Janeiro.

Under the customs laws of Brazil, goods re-exported pay a duty of 5 per cent. only to the State. The slave importers, therefore, take up goods for re-exportation and ship them as though for the Coast, dispatch their vessels from Rio de Janeiro to Macahé and other outports, there to complete their slave equipment, and at the same time, by connivance with the custom-house officers, land the goods which they shipped at Rio, which are then smuggled up the country, and escape the duties of from 30 to 50 per cent. with which they ought to have been charged.

Senhor Farraz, in commenting upon these facts, declared that in his opinion this vicious state of things sprang from the Traffic in Africans, which demoralised and corrupted everything.

The present mode of carrying on the Slave Trade in Brazil is on the system of a lottery; the profits are enormous, the losses are ruinous. It is a fact that there is a Portuguese in this city who arrived here a pauper and is now worth half a million sterling at least, all made in Slave Trade. This example is not without its effect on other men of the same class; consequently, the army of slave-dealers in this country never wants recruits; if bad luck thins their ranks, there is no want of the needy or of the avaricious to fill their places. If the voyages are prosperous the result is certain wealth.

The law against the importation of slaves may be an obstacle, but the profit made is so enormous, and the pay of Brazilian customs officers so small, that resistance to bribery has gradually become the exception, and one general system of corruption has tainted almost all. But this is not the worst part of the corrupt arts practised by the slave-dealers; the unhappy officer, who is first tempted and then sold to these worst enemies of Brazil, falls with less scruple into the meshes of the net set for him by the smuggler, and thus the revenue which is ample if collected, is sapped and insufficient for the wants of the State.

It was discovered only last month that there was a defalcation in the customs' revenues of Pernambuco to the amount of 40,000*l.* sterling, and that in one department the officers had quietly pocketed the duties, and had kept no accounts at all.

It is calculated at Rio de Janeiro that the public customs' revenue is defrauded to the enormous amount of one-third of the receipts.

Senhor José de Assis, in a remarkable speech delivered in the Chamber of Deputies on the 22nd ultimo, declared that this system of corruption may clearly be traced to the demoralization consequent upon the importation of slaves, hardening the heart, deadening the moral sensibilities, and laying the foundations of the splendid superstructure of vice, which the slave-importers have quickly raised upon them.

Senhor Goes, on the 28th ultimo, said in the Chamber of Deputies, that he had remarked an assertion in the report presented by the Minister of Justice to the Chambers, that vigorous measures would continue to be employed against

the Traffic in Slaves; but it appeared to him that this was the stereotyped expression of every Minister, and was limited entirely to the report; that he was of opinion there were other means of checking the importation of slaves besides violent ones; that the Government ought to favour the immigration of white men; to take advantage of the surplus labour of Europe, and to offer such inducements as would lead white colonists to give to Brazil the advantage of their skill in art and science; that labour was wanted; that the temptation to import slaves was so great in consequence of the lax application of the law, and of the corruption practised by the slave-importers, that slaves would continue to be imported and purchased if other labour was not prepared to supply its place.

I will not trouble your Lordship by a further repetition of opinions uttered upon this topic by other highly distinguished members of the Brazilian legislature.

It has been admitted by public men of every shade of political opinion, that the importation of slaves produces laxity of conduct, corruption and demoralization amongst the public officers of Brazil, and particularly in that class who are employed to guard the interests of and to collect the public revenue.

It appears also at last to have occurred to them that the reason why they cannot find volunteers for the military service of this empire may be traced to the same cause; and public men are beginning to reflect that if 70,000 slaves are imported annually into Brazil, many thousands of white men must be employed in watching them, and consequently that in gaining the labour of so many blacks, the more valuable labour of a certain number of whites must be abstracted from the service of the country.

They feel too that an imported slave may prove an enemy, and never can be a friend.

It has long been admitted that the existence of Slavery is a curse to Brazil; but when to that curse is added the still greater of thousands of barbarians annually imported and introduced into the very heart of society, where they become domestic servants and nurses in Brazilian families, impressing unknown to or unremarked by the Brazilians, their very features upon society in this country, which is gradually and visibly retrograding and becoming more deeply tinged with the blood of the most worthless offcasts of the most worthless family of the human race; where the African is so notoriously sunk even in his own low scale, that the Creole negro spurns him as his dog, and, slave as he is himself, despises and maltreats his brother bondsman.

It must infallibly result from such a state of things that this wretched class of beings carry with them into the very heart's core of Brazil depraved manners and conduct, and a disregard of all moral obligations, and therefore that the Brazilian members of the General Assembly are not wrong in their idea that this stream of corruption, which is silently spreading over the surface of the Brazilian body politic, is tainting and polluting all that it touches.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Article from the "Monarchista" No. 1, Rio de Janeiro, June 27, 1848.

(Translation.)

HAPPILY for our country the time is passed, in which but very few voices dared to condemn the Traffic in Slaves; for although almost every one considered it an evil, still it was considered to be one of such necessity that Brazil could not give it up.

Now-a-days the friends of humanity, and specially those of the greatness and civilization of the empire, observe with pleasure the dissipation of that illusion and error, and that the true interests of the empire are being better understood.

The minds of Brazilians are being impressed with the conviction that far from domestic slavery being necessary for our husbandry, it is only a serious

obstacle to its attaining perfection, and that its influence over all our affairs is most baneful.

It was the conviction of this truth that caused an association, composed of eminent philosophers and lovers of their country—"The Auxiliary of National Industry," to discuss the means for putting an end to those evils.

Not only an association which zealously endeavours to promote the improvement of our industry, but also authorities to whom the destinies of the country are entrusted, begin to entertain the same opinion; and in order to point out one of those authorities, which alone is worth all others, we shall quote the intention of our adored Monarch, in his recommendation to the Brazilian Legislature, of the utility of promoting European colonization to the Empire, and which certainly meant the existing necessity of prudently and providently extinguishing domestic slavery in our country.

But what has been done up to the present moment towards the realization of so humane and patriotic a design? What has been done towards abolishing the Traffic in Slaves, and promoting that colonization which would produce a profitable substitution in their room? Nothing.—with great sorrow we say it—nothing. Whilst we have wasted our time in the discussion of so pressing a subject, we have allowed the evil to increase, and if we go on in this manner, we shall never reach that degree of prosperity and greatness which we ought to attain.

It is only in the journalist's arena that we can militate, and in it we shall take upon ourselves to arouse those, in whose hands the nation has placed its destinies, from their apparent neglect of so very important an object, and to cause the opinions of all our citizens to converge towards the fitness of removing so serious an obstacle to our civilization and greatness.

The extinction of domestic slavery is perhaps the most vital necessity of the empire, but it is proper this measure should be carried out with consummate prudence; for if, led away by the follies of injudicious humane feelings, we were to act with precipitation, we should only draw upon ourselves fatal calamities. We deem it necessary to act with energy, but at the same time with circumspection, as we must respect legitimate private rights, and, above all, the interests of the nation.

Conformably to these ideas we shall combat for the gradual extinguishment of Slavery. We shall not review in this place what we judge to be the most adequate means to attain that end, because we can only do so at considerable length, to give it the necessary development; this will be the subject matter of articles which we shall go on publishing.

We may withal already point out some which we hold as expedient, and which are worthy of being further expatiated upon. Our planters cannot with justice be accused, excepting of the error under which they labour, in imagining that they cannot proceed in their agricultural proceedings without slaves. If we should show them that their true interests call for free labour, the first and most important step in this patriotic undertaking will have been taken; for without any doubt the concurrence of our planters will greatly facilitate the adoption of the next indispensable means, the repression of the Traffic. In conjunction with the measures for the gradual extinction of Slavery it will be necessary to introduce colonists into the country who shall be substituted for slaves, principally in our husbandry, in proportion as these disappear. The means whereby we are to obtain the desired colonization with the greatest advantage to the country is a subject which should claim the attention of all Brazilians, and specially of our legislators.

In this sense we offer those ideas which we consider most suitable to the case, and we begin by saying that, in our opinion, colonists from the north of Europe are unquestionably those most adapted to our necessities, without however forgetting to call to the enjoyment of those blessings, which nature has showered upon us to so considerable an extent, those men who, born in the same country where we first drew breath, lead an erratic and savage life in our forests, and who appear to have more right to our fostering care. Nor is this only a duty of humanity, it is also the interest of Brazil, so much in want of population.

Our object, therefore, is to obtain the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves, the instruction of the aborigines, and European colonization, and without any other ambition than that of discharging the debt which all good citizens owe to

their country, but we shall strenuously strive for the realization of these objects, connected as they are, in our opinion, with true and solid policy.

As Brazilians (the editors of the "Monarchista") we follow the politics of one of the parties into which our society is divided, but, as in the arena of journalism, we only plead the cause of colonization, of the instruction of the aborigines, and of the gradual extinction of Slavery, objects which belong to no one party, but to all parties alike, we do not consider it necessary to pronounce ourselves partial to either of those parties, and we will only say that we observe with great pleasure that, while France, running after dazzling utopias, is precipitating itself into an abyss, we Brazilians are all combined to uphold monarchical institutions, judging peace and good order indispensably necessary towards the development of the greatness and splendour of the Empire of Santa Cruz.

We know that in this undertaking we shall encounter many obstacles, but the love of our country, and the assistance which we reckon upon from those men in whose breasts truly Brazilian hearts are beating, are firm pledges to us that we shall overcome them. And further, we obey our consciences, we do all we can, and if we should succeed in obtaining something in favour of our country we shall consider ourselves amply rewarded for our trouble; if, on the contrary, we should fail, we shall at least have the satisfaction of feeling that we have complied with our duty as citizens.

Extract from the "Nitheroy Journal."

The protectors of the contraband Trade in Slaves, in order to diminish the odium inherent to their crimes, say, that if it were not for that contraband trade our agriculture would cease. In thus seeking for a pretext in the interests of the public, they think it is not generally known that they, the contrabandistas, pay largely for the protection given them; and that, if the contrabandista buys protection of his crime, it is not for our welfare that he carries on the traffic, but with the view to satiate his wishes and hopes of enriching himself in a short time, and without working.

Every one knows the perfidy of such assertions, and if those men find sale for the victims of their greediness, it is because sundry of our administrations have chosen to protect them, and have omitted doing that which intelligent and just administrators ought to have done.

In truth, if we except five or six individuals who possess numerous slaves who cost them nothing, not one proprietor of land exists in Brazil who is unaware of the disadvantage accruing from the employment of slaves in agriculture. Such, however, are the circumstances in which our governors endeavour to keep the country, that, in spite of this knowledge, they are compelled to resort to this only means of cultivating their properties.

There is not a planter in Brazil, on a large or small scale, who does not know that he is acting the part of a player pointing at a faro table, that nothing but hope is on his side, while on the part of the contrabandista all is certain gain.

All possessors of lands know, that in order to cultivate them, they must spend double the value of their property in the purchase of slaves; all of them know what losses they suffer by the mortality of the slaves; they all estimate the diminution of the value of their surviving slaves in the course of time; finally, none of them are ignorant of the fact that they are not working for themselves, that they are toiling for those who furnished them with slaves, but led away by the illusory hopes of gamblers, all of them expect their cards will turn up to the left, and in this eagerness they fall victims to their hopes and to usury.

So general is the knowledge of the disadvantage of cultivation with slave labour that estates are daily offered for sale, and others would be offered if purchasers presented themselves. It is sufficient to compare the total value of an establishment of this nature with its annual net produce, to palpably ascertain that slave labour only suited us, looking only to the question of revenue, when the slave only cost 200 milreis, and coffee was selling at 5 milreis per arroba* (32 lbs.).

* The present price of a newly imported male African is about 500 milreis; and the price of best quality coffee in the market of Rio de Janeiro is about 2000⁸ 700 reis per arroba.

If the employment of slaves in agriculture ruins those planters who raise produce on a large scale, it also produces another and still worse evil, which is, that those who do not enjoy sufficient credit to obtain slaves, do not apply themselves to agriculture. The cultivation of lands being handed over to the slaves, white men fancy it degrading to employ themselves in that way; thus the formation of small agricultural properties is prevented, the development of public wealth and population is impeded, and men are condemned to idleness and celibacy, who would be heads of families and proprietors, if Slavery did not exist in Brazil.

We have an example in Brazil of the truth of these principles. Pernambuco, where the planters were formerly in the really unfortunate state in which those of Rio de Janeiro are at present, and where cultivation was only carried on upon a large scale, has not imported any slaves since 1830. Pernambuco has seen its agricultural proprietors pay off all their debts. Pernambuco has seen its agriculture increase considerably, nay, prodigiously, by the formation of small properties. Pernambuco has seen idleness disappear, and those persons apply themselves to agriculture who, while slaves were imported, were the true parasites of society.

If therefore the introduction of slaves is even prejudicial to the interests of agriculture, what even apparent motive can there be alleged for the protection or toleration of it, seeing that it destroys the fortunes of individuals, and threatens the public with endless calamities.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Article from the "Contemporaneo," of July 21, 1848.

REACTION AGAINST THE SLAVE TRADE.

(Translation.)

WE were present on the 14th at the trial by jury, and had the opportunity to witness the reaction which is being effected on the minds of the public, and even on those of the authorities, against so abominable a traffic, condemned by religion and by our laws. It appears that a merchant, a Commander of the Order of Christ, had received information some months back, that two or three knaves had combined with his overseer to go to his house at San Christovao with the intent to steal some of his blacks, vulgarly called "Meias Caras," and that he in consequence communicated the same to the late chief of police, who, in order to protect said merchant's property, sent some policemen to watch for the robbers at the appointed time; the latter, independent of being sure of their booty, expecting moreover to have a hundred years pardon. The policemen (only according to their report) were successful in their proceeding, because they arrested the Recontrabandistas with the blacks in their possession on the point of embarkation at the beach of San Christavao; but whether it was by a free act of their own, or by order of their superior (which we do not believe), the said policemen, instead of conveying the robbers and the stolen blacks, apprehended by order of the chief of police, to prison, handed over the blacks at a late hour of the night on that solitary beach (we do not know how many blacks there were) to a person who claimed them as his, and who, for what we know, desired them to release one of the supposed robbers (as we heard three were captured), for only two were presented for trial, as appears by the report of proceedings of the tribunal given in the "Jornal do Commercio" of 15th instant.

Many persons who have read that report have expressed astonishment at the facts therein announced. The first is, that the two persons accused by a proprietor merchant, of the rank of the said commander, of the attempt to steal some of his slaves, should go before a jury without an advocate to defend them, and be, notwithstanding that, absolved. The second is, that although an accuser presented himself, the municipality were condemned to pay the costs! But we, who were present at the debate of the jury, were not only not at all surprised, but even found that, with few exceptions, the proceedings, if not in order, were at least conducted on the principle of equity.

From what we have above said, it is clear that the jury could not avoid

acquitting the accused ; because it is not shown in the report of the trial that the slaves, said to have been stolen, were confronted to those persons accused of the attempt to steal them ; that confrontation having been rendered impossible by the delivery of them when apprehended to the accuser, against whom, as was very properly said, according to our recollection, by the presiding judge and attorney-general, the accusation should be turned, not that of an attempt to steal slaves, but that of reducing free men to slavery, an opinion that was applauded by all the spectators and jury present, and was seized by the council of the latter, which unanimously acquitted the two accused persons, the judge at the same time condemning the municipality in the costs, because the accuser cunningly, or perhaps he was too poor to bear the expense, left it to justice to defend his cause, freeing himself by that means from not only the necessity of paying a lawyer and an attorney, but from the costs which, as he calculated, have fallen on the municipality of the very loyal and heroic city of Rio de Janeiro ! It is however the first time we have heard the matter so suitably commented upon as was done by the judge and attorney-general. They deserve praise for their independent language ! But if the Saquaremas were in power, another sort of cock would crow. . . . We can only recommend the accusing commander to be in future as cautious and sparing of his accusations as he is of his purse. Let him keep in mind that witchcraft sometimes turns against the wizard. Some one was on the point of calling him to the bar of the tribunal. We believe that one of the jury proposed this in a loud manner, and if he was not listened to, it may be that the reaction is not yet quite complete. Let us go on thus. . . . We are advancing. . . . If it was the duty of the policemen to apprehend those persons who attempted to perpetrate that robbery, it was also their bounden duty to apprehend the Bozal negroes they found in their possession, and to take them immediately before the competent authority. If they had acted thus, instead of handing them over to the accusing commander ; if the other authorities did not shut their eyes to the scandalous traffic which is carried on even in the centre of this city on a large scale, in the face of all, and in spite of our laws, we should not be witnesses of so many calamities ; we should not be the victims of so many pestilential emanations produced by the accumulation of thousands of those unfortunates in different points, as well in the suburbs as in the capital itself. Those focuses of infection are one of the real causes of the diseases which our sleepy-headed imperial academists pompously term reigning and endemic.

Let that nuisance be removed to a distance ; let those infected lazarettos be duly inspected ; let the attention of the authorities be called to the filthiness of those disgusting depôts of human flesh, frequently the prey of anticipated putrefaction brought on by hideous diseases, and the pestilential small pox, the severe and purulent ophthalmias, the pernicious et ceteras will disappear from the healthy soil of Santa Cruz.

When this kind of traffic was formerly permitted, and that honest merchants sought to make their fortunes by it, the depôts for the blacks were kept clean, there were health officers charged with keeping a watch to prevent dangerous accumulations, not only aver those in a sickly state but also aver the healthy. Now-a-days everything is permitted or tolerated ; the traffic may be carried on, that is winked at, and the result thereof is the great immorality proceeding from the purposed disrespect for and continued disobedience of the laws ; but no one is at liberty to busy himself about or to inveigh against that trade. Thousands of negroes Bozals are allowed to be scattered throughout the empire, but no one considers it his bounden duty to bear in view the innumerable disasters resulting from so licentious a course. The Traffic is now in the hands of vile and interested traders, whose only object is gain, whose consciences, hardened in the career of vice and crime, care not for the sufferings thereby occasioned to humanity. Hardened by the continual sight of the horrid sufferings of the victims daily sacrificed by them in the holds of the small and confined vessels, in which they are heaped like little fish in a dish, and where they die by hundreds, how can those ill doers be expected to reflect on the miasmatic insalubrity which those unfortunate beings may occasion us by being accumulated around our shores ?

Nor do they ever consider that they themselves may sooner or later fall victims to their imprudent covetousness ; their petrified ears do not even choose to listen to the groans of those delegates sent by them to seek death where they expected to find gold.

And may not the mortality among those overseers and captains be, peradventure, a chastisement by Divine Providence, who decimates with an un pitying scythe such bloody instruments of crime.

It does appear as if God's justice does not allow those who go to infringe the laws of humanity, to return without sepulchral marks of infamy engraved on their foreheads, in order that honest men, at the sight of their green-hued cheeks, may avoid coming in contact with their impure and blood-stained hands.

We sincerely hope and trust that the enlightened statesmen who have taken the reins of Government will fully understand the necessity for the regeneration of the human species, and that they will cause greater benefit to be derived from the race which serves us than has hitherto been reaped, both by favouring the planters and large proprietors so as to induce them to improve that species and to civilize them, and to cause them to preserve their progeny better, thus transforming into excellent and very economic colonists those who may have been smuggled into the country, punishing severely those infamous wretches who seek to make slaves of their unfortunate fellow-beings, not with the intention of bringing labourers to Brazil for the purpose of promoting its prosperity, but with the sordid hope of incalculable gains wrenched drop by drop from the blood of human kind.

Whilst all civilized Europe is endeavouring to rise in a body in favour of the regeneration of our species, whilst the most sublime ideas of human genius are beginning to be carried out by reformers, whilst those nations which do not, like us, enjoy innumerable prerogatives and a Constitutional Representative Monarchy, are endeavouring to shake off the despotic yokes of iron sceptres, freeing themselves from the grievous slavery which oppressed them, Brazil, shamefully looking on with indifference at such noble efforts and such worthy sentiments, is consenting that in the midst of a free people, a few ambitious dealers, mostly strangers, in spite of the prohibition, in spite of solemn treaties, and with scandalous disregard of all rules of humanity, of all laws, human and divine, is consenting, we say, to allow these savages to continue to infest our shores with their illicit traffic, and to introduce without cessation into the heart of our population hundreds of slaves, the true germs of demoralization, of retrogradation and of a thousand other calamities.

We are filled with so much indignation in treating on this subject, that it is with difficulty we can indite a few lines on so abject a business, and on the troubles and infinite misfortunes brought on this country by this infamous traffic.

To this plague Brazil is indebted for the excessive immorality into which it has fallen, not only because by the continuance of the Traffic after its abolishment, the people are accustoming themselves to disregard laws which they see daily trampled under foot by the contrabandistas, but also because those ill-doers, availing themselves of their ill-acquired wealth, derived from so impure a source, are unscrupulously bribing and corrupting the subaltern authorities employed to repress this kind of piracy.

This is the sore which is gnawing the vitals of Brazil, by the importation into its bosom of thousands of focuses of contagious rottenness which with the rapidity of lightning disseminate themselves throughout our population, and contaminate it with their immediate and impure contact, thereby producing, and especially among children, those noisome complaints which are the perdition of thousands of families otherwise virtuous, healthy and robust.

And what is the cause of all these evils, taking it for granted that the toleration of the Traffic cannot be avoided? Why, the want of vigilance, the want of proper sanitary laws, the absurdity of admitting vessels laden with filthy slaves suffering from the itch, syphilis, scrofula, and other heinous contagious disorders, into our ports. It is true that our sanitary police place some empty vessels in quarantine, which, having been previously delivered of their burdens on the neighbouring shores have had time to be cleansed and aired, and consequently cannot occasion contagion; but whilst that laughable quarantine is placed on the innocent hulls of vessels which are kept unapproachable for a few days, the real sources of contagion, the infected blacks and whites freely disembarked are introduced into the cities, where they form different focuses of miasmatic infection.

Only a few days since, a brig which we are told belongs to one of our decorated Europeans, and is called the "*Anthipathico*," which had taken

upwards of 1000 slaves on board in Africa, arrived here with only about 300 lank messengers of the plague which immolated their brethren.

These unfortunate beings, attenuated through fatigue, half dead from the want of water, of provisions, of proper treatment on board, appear to have been spared for the purpose of bringing us deadly diseases, the sorrowful inheritance of the victims thrown overboard by them. And the steamers of some of our celebrated companies did not allow them to remain for at least a few days at this place of disembarkation, they brought them in huddled together with many others previously landed to come and keep them up close to the habitation of our beloved monarch, where an accumulation of this sort, added to the putrefaction of the neighbouring swamps, becomes the seat of pestiferous miasmas, which are daily blown upon the unfortunate capital of the empire. Oh, barbarous traffickers, bowless men, who, not contented with the shameful speculations carried on in those caves which you call houses of consignment and pledges, seek further a sordid gain in the commerce of human flesh; how long will you remain deaf to the cries sent from eternity, of so many thousands of miserable beings suffocated by you in the holds of your ships?

When will the hour strike for expelling from the sacred temple of liberty those vile dealers, that reprobate recreant which dishonours society, which degrades the human species?

It is full time that we should remove those cannibals before the patience of the public is exhausted, for less indulgent it may accumulate the moment of reprisals, and may in this world make a beginning to Divine vengeance, for which the afflicted cries of millions of victims are loudly calling from the deep abysses of that sea, the transparency whereof cannot hide the horror of so many crimes, of so many cowardly assassinations, of so many infamies.

No. 27.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that on the 3rd instant the Brazilian Government ordered the imperial steamer "Urania" to put to sea with sealed orders.

She went to sea accordingly, and returned towards Rio at night, disembarking some men on the beach called Praia do Foro, on the eastern side of the mouth of this bay; the detachment then proceeded across the hills to Jurujuba Bay, where is a noted depôt for slaves. They met there another detachment of troops, under the orders of the Viscount de Barbacena, the President of this province, and both then proceeded to the slave depôt, which they entered, and seized all the negro slaves there confined.

This event has caused great consternation to the slave-importers, and comes in proof of that determination of the Imperial Government to put a stop to the Slave Trade, which I have had the honour to report to your Lordship in my other despatch of this day's date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 28.

Viscount Palmerston to M. Lisboa.

Foreign Office, October 18, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 3rd instant by M. Lisboa, &c., acknowledging the receipt of, and containing observations upon, the note which the Undersigned addressed to M. Lisboa on the 18th ultimo, in reply to the complaints made by M. Lisboa against the conduct of the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Grecian:" 1st, for not delivering up to the Brazilian authorities at Bahia, the Brazilian vessel "Bella Miguelema," which had been captured by him, with

518 slaves on board, and had been forced to enter the harbour of Bahia to obtain provisions; and 2ndly, for carrying away from Bahia a slave who had taken refuge on board Her Majesty's ship "Grecian," who represented himself to be a British subject, and who claimed protection as such.

In reply the Undersigned has to state to M. Lisboa that he thinks it only necessary to advert to the last passage of M. Lisboa's note, and to observe with reference thereto, that the large annual importation of negroes into Brazil is not merely a proof that the means of repression hitherto employed by Great Britain have not been fully successful in preventing the Slave Trade, but is also a demonstrative evidence that the Government of Brazil has not hitherto fulfilled, and does not now fulfil those treaty engagements by which it has bound itself to Great Britain to prevent the subjects of the Brazilian Crown from taking part in any way whatever in the Traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 29.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 21, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a statement which has been furnished to me by the Admiralty, showing that during the twenty-one months between the 1st of April, 1844, and the 31st of December, 1845, 96 slave-vessels were captured, and 5,965 slaves released by the British squadron employed on the west coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that during a similar period from the 14th of October, 1846, to the 13th of July, 1848, the number of vessels captured was 131, and the number of slaves released 11,214.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 29.

[See Class A, Inclosure in No. 200, p. 275.]

No. 30.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 12, 1848.

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch of the 5th ultimo that the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs had advocated in his place in the Chamber of Deputies the introduction of white colonists into Brazil in order to supply the place of the Africans whose present illegal importation himself and his colleagues are determined to prevent.

Since that declaration on the part of his Excellency a measure has been brought into the Senate by the Viscount Abrantes, and which is now under discussion by the branch of the Legislature, for the regular and systematic colonization of Brazil by white colonists.

I shall have the honour in due time to report to your Lordship the principal features of this scheme and of its progress through the Chambers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 31.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 12, 1848.

ON the 1st instant the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies commenced the discussion of a project of Law, No. 133, sent down to them by the Senate with certain amendments.

As this project of Law is the same as that against which your Lordship instructed Mr. Hamilton to protest in your despatch of the 4th of December 1837, I considered it my duty to address the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the subject and I have the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which I transmitted to his Excellency on the 4th instant.

Not having up to yesterday morning received any reply to that note I addressed a further remonstrance to his Excellency upon the subject, a copy of which I also inclose.

I do not transmit to your Lordship the decree itself because it is to be found in Mr. Hamilton's despatch to your Lordship of the 3rd July, 1837.

I inclose a short analysis of the debate which has taken place in the Chamber of Deputies, upon this project of law, but which is not yet concluded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor de Souza Franco.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 4, 1848.

UPON several occasions of late I have had the honour to receive from your Excellency assurances conveyed to me in a manner so positive, solemn, and impressive, of the determination of the Imperial Government to put a stop to the scandalous importation of slaves into Brazil, that I did not hesitate to convey them to my Government with entire conviction that Brazil under the auspices of your Excellency and your colleagues, was about to enter upon a series of measures which had for their object the complete and effectual repression of the Traffic in Slaves.

I learnt from your Excellency that the Imperial Cabinet had prepared one measure in particular, complete in all its parts, and sufficiently comprehensive to meet the gigantic evil it was intended to encounter.

From the outline given of that measure I readily recognize it in the project of law No. 133 which came on for discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on the 1st instant, as sent down to them by the Senate, and as amended by the Imperial Government.

Without the slightest pretension in any way to call in question the absolute right of the Imperial Cabinet to frame such laws as are best suited to the taste and temper of the Brazilian people, I cannot forget, as a servant of the Queen, that it is my duty to watch over the interests of a certain class of persons whose rights have been conferred upon them by the mutual consent of the Crowns of Great Britain and Brazil.

The assurances which I received from your Excellency of the determination of the Imperial Cabinet to put a stop to the Traffic in Slaves, the recorded declarations of your Excellency and of your colleagues before the world, as given in your speeches from your places as Ministers of this empire in the Legislative Assembly of Brazil, wearing the solemn air of truth and carrying with them that complete conviction which unsullied justice invariably commands, left no doubt on my mind of the honesty of purpose and singleness of heart which animated and guided the Imperial Councils.

I so expressed it to the Government of the Queen.

It was not therefore without surprise that I recognized in the Project of Law No. 133, the same scheme which the late Marquis of Barbacena presented to the Senate in 1837, and which in its 13th paragraph contains the deadliest blow ever levelled by a Brazilian statesman at the only remedy which Brazilian law affords to the slave to assert his rights to freedom.

The 13th paragraph of this project in three short lines condemns to perpetual slavery thousands of men and their descendants without a hope, without a chance that their doom can be changed—that their cup of bitterness can be drained.

I am willing to believe that your Excellency and your colleagues do not comprehend the drift and scope of the 13th paragraph of this decree, which declares in terms the most positive and clear, that “no action can be commenced in virtue of the Law of the 7th November, 1831, which is hereby repealed, as well as all others to the contrary.”

A comparison of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, with the Project of Law No. 133, now brought forward by the Imperial Government, shows that the difference between them is, that the former establishes the legal presumption of freedom, whereas the latter admits the importation of slaves, and only gives a right to their re-exportation, and entirely destroys the presumption of freedom.

By the Project of Law the legal presumption is of slavery, and can only be destroyed by proof of freedom.

By the Law of 1831 the presumption of freedom must be destroyed by proof of Slavery.

It therefore becomes my duty to call the attention of your Excellency to the position which Brazil is about to assume towards Great Britain, if the 13th paragraph of the Project of Law becomes the law of this empire.

Great Britain and Brazil having mutually engaged to put a stop to the Traffic in Slaves, the negroes found on board vessels employed in that trade, when condemned by the Mixed Commission Court at Rio de Janeiro, were with the consent of that tribunal and of Her Majesty's Government, apprenticed to masters in Brazil.

Your Excellency is aware from the recent correspondence of this Legation—a correspondence which yet remains unanswered by your Excellency—that there are in Brazil many negroes who were released from on board ships captured by Her Majesty's cruisers who have been apprenticed in Brazil, and who have not yet received their freedom.

The repeal of the Law of the 7th November, 1831, will prevent men in the condition of these negroes from coming into court, and from commencing an action at law for the assertion of their just rights and the recovery of their freedom.

They are placed at once beyond the pale of the law. They are reduced to the condition not of slaves or of serfs, but of the beasts which perish.

Your Excellency and your colleagues cannot intend to offer this specimen of the legislation of Brazil to the world as the great and crowning work which your Excellency vaunted to me, and which I was led by you to laud beforehand to my Government.

Your Excellency is surely aware that the Project of Law No. 133 is merely directed against the Traffic in Slaves.

And that the Law of November 1831 contains general dispositions against Slavery.

Your Excellency can scarcely be ignorant that this project contains merely regulations against Slave Trade, and contains no provisions against illegal Slavery; that it establishes a gigantic system of Slavery, and utterly abolishes all legal presumption of freedom.

Your Excellency and your colleagues cannot intend to consign to hopeless and perpetual Slavery men who have a perfect right to freedom, and to whose freedom and to that also of their descendants, Her Majesty's Government are, in my opinion, pledged, and to whom Her Majesty's Government stand in the position of a trustee.

The terms of the 13th paragraph of the project in question are so utterly at variance with the honourable, just, and humane sentiments which I have heard fall from the lips of your Excellency, that I feel assured of your

thanks in offering and inviting you to clear up the inconsistency which exists between the terms of that paragraph and the expressed intentions of the Imperial Cabinet.

Your Excellency, by your speeches, and by your declarations to myself, which as in duty bound I have conveyed to Her Majesty's Government, has taken up a position before the world from which it would surely be your last wish to recede; it is the position of a benefactor, just and firm of purpose. But it appears to me that that position is perilled by the provisions of the 13th paragraph of the measure offered by your Excellency to the Chambers, and I have now the honour to invite you to explain this apparent contradiction.

In any case it is my duty to protest against the provisions of that measure, as infringing the rights of persons who I must consider as being still under the joint tutelage of the British and Brazilian Governments; and who, having acquired by virtue of treaty stipulations, by the law of this country, and by other mutual arrangements between the two Crowns, positive rights, cannot now by any species of Brazilian legislation, be placed in that hopeless position of perpetual slavery to which the project in question would consign both them and their descendants.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor de Souza Franco.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1848.

I HAD the honour, on the 4th instant, to address to your Excellency some general observations upon the project of law No. 133, and to protest particularly against the provisions which are contained in its 13th paragraph, as calculated to affect the interests and just rights of men who were conditionally introduced by Her Majesty's Government into Brazil, under a mutual understanding with the Government of this country.

As I perceive by the reported debates of the Chamber of Deputies, that the discussion on this subject is still in progress, I am led to conclude that the protest which I had the honour to address to your Excellency, has not met with a full share of your Excellency's consideration; and I have therefore the honour to call your Excellency's attention to some further points which it is my duty to lay before you respecting this project of law.

Your Excellency is aware that when this project of law was first presented to the Brazilian Legislature in 1837, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy at this Court, by order of his Government, entered a protest against it as subversive of the spirit of the conventions which Great Britain had concluded with Brazil: and that the then Imperial Cabinet, upon due reflection, acquiesced in that opinion, and withdrew the measure.

It is to be presumed, from the recent declarations of your Excellency, both in public and to myself, that the spirit which heretofore impelled the Imperial Cabinet to resist the importation of slaves into Brazil, has rather increased than diminished; and it might have been supposed that a measure which a former Brazilian Government abandoned as inconsistent with its public obligations, as inadequate for the purpose intended, and as subversive of certain sacred rights, would have found no favour with your Excellency and with your colleagues.

The protest which the Envoy of Her Britannic Majesty at that time addressed to the Brazilian Government, still exists in full, nay, in greater force, so far as its principle is concerned.

The Project of Law No. 133 is even more objectionable now than it was in 1837, and unless your Excellency and your colleagues are prepared to pursue a retrograde system of policy with regard to the Slave Trade, I feel convinced that the reasons which induced the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to protest against that measure, and which led the Imperial Cabinet of that day to withdraw it, will again meet with equal attention and a similar result.

The Law of the 7th November, 1831, enacts that all slaves arriving in Brazil after the date of that law, are, *ipso facto*, freed from Slavery.

CLASS B.

This legal presumption of their freedom continues to exist until it be proved that they arrived in Brazil under one or other of two peculiar circumstances, which exclude them from the benefits of the general provisions of the law.

The other Articles of this law tend to repress Slave Trade, and prescribe the penalties incurred by the slave-importers, in addition to those which are imposed by the Criminal Code on persons who enslave free men.

But the Project of Law No. 133, presented to the Chamber of Deputies, although in the first Article it declares the act of importing slaves to be illegal, does not free them from Slavery.

Whereas, according to the Law of 1831, freedom is the natural and inevitable consequence of their importation.

If therefore this project becomes the law of Brazil, an African imported as a slave into Brazil will be considered in that condition unless he can prove that he was free in the country from whence he was imported.

There is therefore this great and remarkable distinction between the Law of 1831 and this project, that by the latter the legal presumption is of Slavery in all those cases, where the former presumes and supposes freedom :

And this is proved by the eight following articles, which repressing the Slave Trade on the high seas and coast of Brazil, do not contain any regulations respecting the Slave Trade on shore,

Therefore if the slave-trader can evade the cruizer and the police officer, slaves may be landed with impunity, their sale will be lawful, and they will be placed entirely beyond the control and reach of the provisions of this project, which is limited to the material act of carrying slaves by sea.

It follows, therefore, that the slave-trader, having once landed and housed his slaves, runs no further risk, because by Article IX of the project the right to re-exportation is assigned only to those negroes who are captured on the coast or in the ports of the empire.

The XIIIth Article of the project repeals the Law of the 7th November, 1831, and declares that no action can lie in courts of justice under its provisions :

Consequently, all Africans who have been imported into Brazil since the 7th of November, 1831, have no longer any means of claiming their freedom from illegal slavery, because the project being an *ex post facto* law, destroys the importance which previously attached to the period of their importation, and reduces them and their descendants to a condition of *jure et facto* slavery.

The general tendency of this project of law is therefore to enslave freemen in contradiction to Article CLXXIX of the Brazilian Criminal Code.

It becomes therefore my duty to urge these considerations in the most earnest manner upon your Excellency, protesting against the Project of Law No. 133, as inconsistent with and as prejudicing the just rights of persons to whom this Legation of the Queen stands in the position of a trustee ; who have a right to expect that the Power which placed them in this country shall see that no damage is done to their interests ; that their rights are not swept away by a measure springing from one of the parties to the compact and agreement under which they were brought into Brazil.

Great Britain, when she entrusted those persons to the care and custody of her ally, never contemplated the possibility of a measure becoming the law of Brazil, which would reduce these Africans (of whom I speak) as if in mockery of their service to irrecoverable slavery.

This decree, therefore, is a departure from the principles which guided Great Britain and Brazil in concluding the several Conventions and Treaties against Slave Trade ; it is a relapse to that system of law which has once already been discussed by the Brazilian Legislative Assembly ; which has been denounced by its members, and abandoned by an Imperial Government.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 31.

*Discussion in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies. Rio de Janeiro,
September 1, 1848.*

Order of the day.

Discussion of the Project of Law passed in the Senate in 1837 for the Suppression of the Slave Trade.

Discussion of Article I.

SENHOR COELHO BASTOS conceived that the Article in discussion would be better drawn up if it did not prohibit the entrance of free Blacks into the country as colonists; he would propose an amendment in that sense, if the noble Minister would accept it. This being negatived by the Minister, Senhor Bastos withdrew his motion.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE opposed Senhor Bastos' amendment, because he thought that the Article, as it stood, was perfectly clear and intelligible, and ought to be so passed.

NUNES MACHADO declared his utter abhorrence of the Traffic in Slaves; he then demonstrated that the country had been labouring under a terrible error in supposing that its agriculture could not prosper without the introduction of new slaves, for during the period which elapsed from the time when the Traffic in Slaves was declared illegal up to the time when the contraband Trade commenced, the landed proprietors had flourished in a manner they never did before or since. He wished to know whether the interpretation of the Article prohibited the entrance into Brazil of slaves from countries where Slavery was countenanced.

MORAES SARMENTO petitioned that the discussion of this project should be carried on in secret session; several Deputies having opposed this motion, Senhor Sarmento withdrew it: he then entered into the discussion of the project, and said that he hated Slave Trade, and he wished to see it abolished in Brazil, but voted against every one of the Articles because he considered they were inefficacious, and tended rather to increase the Traffic than to repress it; he opposed the introduction into Brazil either of slaves or white or black colonists, and concluded by affirming that the repression of the Traffic depended more upon the Government than upon any legislative act.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS refuted the arguments of Senhor Sarmento on colonization.

September 2.—Continuation of discussion of Article I, upon the suppression of Slave Trade.

SENHOR GOMES DE MENEZES observed that there were three principles for the suppression of Slave Trade: the 1st, Repression in the country; 2nd, Repression out of the country and on the coasts; and 3rdly, The adoption of both these principles together. And that he was inclined to vote in favour of this article, because it adopted the second of these principles. He wished to be informed whether the dispositions of this Article prohibited the entry of free blacks into the country; and further whether persons possessing slaves in their own country where Slavery was tolerated, and who wished to establish themselves in Brazil, would be permitted to introduce their slaves into this country as slaves.

SENHOR JAQUES did not agree with M. Menezes. Was of opinion that the prohibition of the entrance of blacks into Brazil ought to be understood as equally affecting free blacks, who might be members of an independent nation. Observed that this was a new idea, inasmuch as it was mentioned in the Law of 1831, and in the Treaty with England of 1826. That though Government, in its utter inability to effect the total emancipation of slaves in Brazil, was obliged to tolerate it, yet this was no reason why this tolerance should be extended to the slaves of other countries.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE admitted that Senhor Menezes was quite right when he advanced that this project was preferable to the Law of 1831, because

it established the principle of repression at sea and on the coast. That the Law of 1831, which established the repression of Slave Trade in the country, was not only ineffective in its results, but rather productive of contrary effects, and that Government was now in the position either of being obliged to tolerate the scandal and immorality of seeing the Law of 1831 not fulfilled, or to cause a general revolution in the country. That he frankly declared Government was determined, as expressly stated in Article I, to put a stop to the introduction of blacks, either free or slaves, into the country.

SENHOR CARRÃO demonstrated the inutility of mentioning in Article I "slaves," and "the passage from one province of the Empire to another;" and proposed an amendment which should treat only of free blacks.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, whilst showing the unsoundness of the arguments used by Senhor Carrão, sustained the Article in all its parts.

The first Article being put to the vote it was passed by a large majority. Senhor Carrão's amendment being rejected.

Discussion of Article II.

SENHOR JAQUES did not approve of this Article in the manner in which it was drawn up, because though Government tolerated Slavery in the country, this was no reason why it ought to tolerate that of other countries, excepting only with those nations with whom Brazil had Treaties of Reciprocity in such cases.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE stated that M. Jaques did not properly understand the Article in discussion, because if he had paid due attention to the words "in those countries where Slavery is permitted," he would have seen that all possible reciprocity was comprehended in that Article; and if it were drawn up in the manner Senhor Jaques desired, it might prove embarrassing to Brazilian commerce.

A DEPUTY.—On the contrary, it would be an advantage to the country, by forcing the owners of ships to equip them with free sailors.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE continued by saying, if these slaves were to remain in the country it would be an evil; but as they were obliged by the very same Article to be re-conducted, he hoped the Hon. Deputy (M. Jaques) would withdraw his opposition, bearing in mind that paragraph 1 does not, and cannot, refer to those nations where Slavery did not exist.

GOMES MENEZES supported this Article, and seconded the arguments brought forward by the Minister of Justice.

SENHOR JAQUES persisted in his former opinions, alleging that it was not certain that those countries which tolerated Slavery would admit Brazilian vessels manned with slaves, and that Government ought not to bind itself to grant this favour to those countries who might think proper not to treat Brazil with reciprocity, and that therefore it was preferable that this Article should be so drawn up as to oblige those nations to treat with Brazil on this point.

The following amendments were read and seconded:—

To paragraph 1 of Article II is added "to ensure which the master shall bear equal to the expenses attendant on re-exportation."

(Signed) MAGALHAES CALVET.

To the paragraph 2, "Those blacks, Brazilian citizens, who may return to Brazil."

(Signed) BARCELLOS.

Suppress the last part of paragraph 2, "who may have left the country with the consent of their masters."

(Signed) MOURA MAGALHAES.

MOURA MAGALHAES in support of his argument, said that it was not right that a slave who should go with his master's permission to travel in countries where Slavery did not exist, should continue to be a slave on his return to Brazil. That he voted in favour of the 1st paragraph as it stood, because it was favourable to Brazilian commerce, and tended to establish reciprocity with other nations.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS observed that as Brazil could not for some time dispense with manning her merchant-ships with slaves, she must facilitate their admittance into the ports of those nations where Slavery existed, by permitting the entrance of the slaves of those nations into the ports of Brazil; and, therefore, he could not admit M. Jaques' opinion; and as to the other amendments he could not admit them, one as being in opposition to the Constitution, and the other as being illogical.

There not being a house the debate was adjourned.

September 4.

Votation of Article II.

1st paragraph is voted with Senhor Calvet's amendment.

2nd paragraph is voted, M. Moura Magalhães' amendment being rejected.

Discussion of Article III.

The following amendment of Senhor Rodrigues dos Santos was seconded:—

Article [III is to be substituted by the following:—"Brazilian vessels, wheresoever found, or foreign vessels found in the ports, harbours, anchorage grounds, or territorial seas of Brazil, having on board slaves, or free blacks not excepted in Article II, or having disembarked them, shall be captured and considered as having imported slaves. Those who have not slaves on board, or who have not recently disembarked them, but who show indications of being engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, shall be equally captured and considered guilty of having attempted to import slaves.

SENHOR GOMES DE MENEZES observed, that with reference to the first part of the Article, which said "on having disembarked them," it was not properly drawn up; it would be better to say, "or with apparent signs of having disembarked them," because it could not be supposed that a vessel had disembarked slaves without certain signs appearing of having done so; he did not approve of this Article, nor of the amendment proposed by Senhor Santos: was of opinion there was a great difference between the intent to commit a crime and the attempting. That the Article as it now stood might prove injurious to Brazilian commerce, by causing vessels to be repeatedly and unjustly detained on presumption only of their being engaged in Slave Trade; that he begged to propose the following amendment, which was seconded.

"Brazilian vessels wheresoever found and foreign vessels found in the ports, harbours, anchorage grounds, and territorial waters of Brazil, having on board slaves or new free blacks not excepted in Article II, or not having slaves or new free blacks on board, show strong indications of having recently disembarked them, shall be captured and considered as having imported slaves;" the remaining part of the Article and amendment proposed by Government to be suppressed.

(Signed) GOMES DE MENEZES.

RODRIGO DOS SANTOS, in reply to the observations of Senhor Menezes, said, the law in question being a penal one, it treated simply of defining crimes by expressing in the most precise form the manner in which they were committed, and for this reason the article was so drawn up; that by drawing up the Article in the way Senhor Menezes suggested, would produce a contrary effect to that which Senhor Menezes desired, would augment the vexations against commerce, and would establish a legal presumption of crime where only suspicion existed. Senhor Santos then proceeded to prove that the second part of his own amendment was conformable to the spirit of Brazilian criminal jurisprudence, because it admitted the finding of certain materials on board as indicative of being engaged in slave pursuits; and he concluded by saying, that if vessels are not to be adjudged for the attempt at Slave Trade, as set forth in his amendment, he saw no other way by which the condemnation of these vessels could be brought about.

SENHOR SOUZA FRANCO perceived in the project two objects, both of which he opposed. The first, because he could not see the use of making

a law which would have the same fate as the Law of 7th November, which could not be carried into effect on account of its being in opposition to the wishes of nearly the whole nation.

The second, because he would never vote for the passing of a law in the Legislative Assembly which contained a stipulation so iniquitous as that of depriving any one of rights acquired by the Law of 7th November, 1831.

SENHOR CARRAO preferred Senhor Santos' amendment to the Article in discussion, as its terms were more clearly expressed; it appeared to him, however, that the first part, relating to Brazilian vessels wheresoever found and supposed to be employed in the transport of slaves or free blacks, comprehended a case which ought not to be included. Brazilian vessels might be employed in transporting African colons and even slaves for those nations who countenanced the Traffic, and this project would prohibit Brazilian vessels from engaging in this trade, which in this case would be legal, as for instance if blacks were admitted in the Pacific and Brazilian vessels wished to transport them there. He wished to know from the Minister of Justice and the author of the amendment whether it was so to be understood, because, if so, then an alteration was necessary, at least as regarded Brazilian vessels.

In reference to foreign vessels, another question arose. Supposing that a foreign vessel was engaged in the transport of slaves or free blacks, not to the Empire, but to some other place, and that by force of circumstances, of which the sea affords so many, this vessel should touch at some point on the coast of the Empire, would this vessel be considered guilty, and subject to the penalties which the project establishes?

As regarded the second part, it ought to contain the three principles which Criminal Jurisprudence requires, in order to establish the crime of attempting; it was not sufficiently explicit, because all the signs set forth in the Article might exist, and yet there be no attempt at or commencement of execution; and besides there was a great confusion of ideas and many defects which might occasion great difficulty in carrying it out, and that therefore he requested further information.

SENHOR JAQUES accepted the first part of the amendment of Senhor Santos and the second part of the Article in debate. The discussion had turned upon two points:

1. Whether the crime treated of ought to be punished in virtue of legal presumption.

2. Whether the attempt at crime ought to be punished.

The Article adopted the principle that this crime ought to be punished by legal presumption: the Criminal Code however asserted that no presumption, however strong, should be considered as proof.

That the attempt to commit a crime was a much more difficult thing to prove than the commission of a crime.

If legal presumption was admitted in a case of attempt at crime, why then was it not admitted where crime was committed? why was more complete proof required? He saw no reason for this distinction, and therefore he approved of the second part of the Article beginning by ("a quellas embarcações") those vessels, &c.

The noble Deputy for Rio de Janeiro had attacked the project touching the qualification of attempt to commit crime contained in Article III.

The theories on this head were not sufficiently in unison to serve as a guide to the judge or the legislator who might wish to employ them: the legislator in these cases is under the necessity of fixing an arbitration.

The attempt at crime is to be considered as existing when a vessel is destined for the Traffic. By the Criminal Code the attempt does not constitute the Traffic. It is therefore very difficult to decide what constitutes the Traffic, and what the attempt. If a vessel provided with all the appurtenances necessary for Slave Trade is not to be considered as engaged in the Traffic, then it will be impossible to suppress this trade. He begged to call the attention of the Deputies to what would constitute having imported Africans according to the project. In it the crime is considered as consummated before the introduction of Africans into the country.

SENHOR MENEZES.—This is what is called an attempt.

SENHOR JAQUES replied, that then it was necessary to alter the Article completely; for in his opinion the vessel found on the high seas with slaves on

board was already considered as being engaged in the Traffic; because the project did not prohibit the importation of Africans, but prohibited the Traffic.

He concluded by declaring that he adopted the first part of Senhor Santos' amendment, which he believed was proposed by the Council of State and adopted by the Cabinet, with the alteration of Senhor Carrão as regarded the word "proximamente;" and that he approved the second part of the Article, with an amendment in the drawing up relative to the word "empregarem."

The following amendment of Senhor Sarmiento was seconded:—

The words "destined for the Traffic in Slaves" to be substituted by the following:—"Of having been engaged in the Traffic in Slaves, or of having imported free blacks." And the following to be suppressed: "Or attempting to import slaves into Brazil."

MINISTER OF JUSTICE declared that the amendment of the Deputy Senhor Menezes could not be approved of by the Government, nor even merit the assent of the Chamber, for the very reasons set forth by the Honourable Member. That he, Senhor Menezes, had well said when he first spoke, that the object of the project was to establish the principle of repression of the Traffic, not in the country, but at sea, up to the act of disembarkation. That he had further said, for this purpose it was requisite the law should employ all possible means by helping the action of the authorities, in order to bring about so efficacious a result. That the noble deputy agreed in the principle of the law, since he approved of the principle of repression out of the country. If this be the case, and if the project, with the amendments offered by the Honourable Member for San Paul's (Senhor Santos) gave greater action to public authority to fulfil the desired ends, so as firmly to repress the trade out of the country, his (Senhor Menezes') amendment could not be approved, because it would weaken the authority, causing thereby the apprehension only of those vessels on board of which slaves were found, or who showed vehement signs of having recently disembarked them.

The project had two ends in view.

The first determined that Brazilian vessels, wheresoever met with, and foreign vessels found in the ports, anchorage grounds and bays, or on any part of the coast within the reach of artillery, having on board slaves or free blacks not excepted in Article II. should be captured, and considered as guilty of having imported slaves.

The second part determined that, though not having slaves on board, but yet showing signs of having been engaged in the Traffic, these vessels should be punished with the penalties attendant upon the attempt at crime.

Senhor Menezes' amendment mentioned "having strong signs of having recently disembarked slaves." This meant that those vessels which showed no signs of having recently disembarked them could not be captured. The project was more clear, ample, and terminent. The doctrine of the Article with the amendment gave much greater power to the action of Government. That the amendment clearly explained the Article, and therefore could not be dispensed with. He concluded by saying he could not admit any amendment which might tend to weaken the action of the authorities in capturing vessels which intended to carry on the Traffic; but he wished all possible means should be given to Government to impede the Traffic up to the act of disembarkation.

The following sub-amendment of Senhor Carrao was seconded:—

After "on board," read "or free blacks." Instead of "recently," read "three days previous."

MORAES SARMENTO voted for the first part of the Article, but not for the second; and therefore proposed an amendment consigning the principle of punishment only for vessels who have been engaged in the Traffic, and not those who are prepared to do so. He thought it right to propose this amendment, because he considered that in the Traffic in Slaves there could not be an attempt. There must either be crime committed or preparatory acts.

SENHOR JACQUES.—And cannot a legislator convert preparatory acts into an attempt?

SENHOR SARMENTO could not see that a vessel by having on board boilers, a great quantity of provisions, water, and other things necessary to go to the coast of Africa, had committed any harm. The master of this vessel might still think better of it, and not send her on this expedition. Why then immediately consider the master and all others comprehended by the other articles as

being criminally engaged in the Traffic, though no harm as yet had been committed. He concluded by voting against all the amendments.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE observed that the crime of importation of Africans was not one of those which could be committed in such a manner as that the preparations were not salient, indispensable, very especial and characteristic. Could any vessel effect the importation of Africans without first having made indispensable arrangements? And ought this not to be considered as attempt at execution? If the doctrine of the honourable member were followed out, it might easily happen that the country which determined to repress the Traffic, might be forced to undergo the scandal of witnessing within their own ports vessels openly fitting out for the Slave Trade. He concluded by rejecting Senhor Carrao's amendment, and voting for that of Senhor Santos.

SENHOR MENEZES persisted in his amendment, which consigned the idea that those vessels only should be captured who had slaves on board, who were landing them, or who showed strong indications of having disembarked them.

Session of September 5.

Continuation of the debate upon Article III, with the amendments.

MORAES SARMENTO, in support of his amendment to Article III, said that it became unnecessary to classify that which constituted attempt at crime and its penalty by law, as provided for in the Criminal Code, and the judge in trying a case would take that code as his authority and guide.

If the Government were so desirous of putting a stop to the Slave Trade as the Minister of Justice said it was, but which he did not credit, why not, when it knew that a vessel had been prepared and dispatched for the coast of Africa, cause it to be sought after and captured on its return when the crime had been consummated? By this means alone would the importation of Africans be prevented. If the preparatory acts were made punishable, the result would be, that slave-vessels would fit out in other parts of the coast instead of the harbours of Rio and other chief towns.

Moreover the so-called preparatory acts might take place with regard to vessels intended for the conveyance of European colonists. If such acts were to be punished, then they ought to be designated as special crimes, and not as mere attempts at crime.

The Law of 7th November, 1831, had had a contrary effect to that which had been intended; and it was the duty of the Government frankly to state to the Chamber the causes of such a result, in order that the Legislature might remove them. But the Minister had been silent on this point, for the only reason he could adduce was that of the non-execution of the law; and this statement would at once condemn the project under discussion, which would probably have the same fate, and in that case what was wanting was not a new law, but that the first should be carried into effect. The Minister of Justice had declared that the proper means of repression could not be carried out to their full extent in the country. He considered this tantamount to the statement that the laws were not faithfully observed. Why not then declare the reason of such a state of things? Why follow a system of dissimulation, mystery, and tergiversation? If the Slave Trade was beneficial to the country it ought to be frankly declared,—if pernicious, the Government ought to have the courage to make every effort to suppress it, however difficult or dangerous the task. Instead of doing this, however, the Government submitted a project of law to the Chamber which, in fact, tended to re-establish the Slave Trade in the country. Article V provided that when the slaves were once landed they might freely be bought and sold; and when the facility of landing them from the extent of coast, and the indifference of the officers whose duty it was to prevent it were taken into consideration, it was not advancing too much to assert that such was the tendency of the paragraph.

But the Government feared the power of the slave-dealers as well as that of the Opposition, which was not itself averse to the Slave Trade. The Senator Vasconcellos, one of the chiefs of the Saquarema party, was convinced that the agriculture of the country would suffer if Africans were no longer imported. The Government finding itself attacked by both the slave-dealers and the Opposition, turned to the former, and said—The Saquaremas have hitherto winked at the Slave Trade, but we will do more for you,—we will restore the Slave

Trade to you. But this was not what he charged the Government with ; it was its want of sincerity that he condemned. For his part he was an enemy to Slave Trade,—a bronze wall was raised between him and the supporters of the Traffic.

It had been said in the House that the Law of November 1831 had not been carried into effect, because the people were generally favourable to the Slave Trade. This statement he must be allowed to contradict ;—a large proportion of the Brazilian population held a contrary opinion. Several members in the House had denounced the Slave Trade, and many of the farmers of the Province of Minas had written to the deputy for that province, urging him to propose a measure for putting an end to it.

People's minds were well prepared for a measure of the sort. The press and the tribune had long been at work, and a Government which could not carry out such a feeling would not deserve the support of a Chamber, the majority of which belonged to the Liberal party.

A noble Senator had said that the agricultural produce of the country would be diminished 10 per cent. in the event of the Slave Trade being abolished ; but their place would soon be filled by the introduction of colonists and of machinery, whilst the growers would gain much by good treatment of slaves on their property, who would consequently multiply, &c.

The Minister of Justice then rose to defend the Government from the charges made by Senhor Sarmiento, and in proof of their being as anxious as himself for the suppression of Slave Trade, showed that he had given his vote to those Articles which had already passed, instead of rejecting the project which he so much condemned. The Government were most desirous of putting an end to the Slave Trade, but it was not such an easy task as might be supposed, nor could it be done so quickly as might be wished. Since the promulgation of the Law of November 1831, the most eminent men of different parties had been in power, and they had all to contend with the most serious and insurmountable difficulties. A great error had been committed in 1831. In a country where Slavery had been in existence during three centuries, and where it was generally supposed to be a necessity, it was not to be abolished by a stroke of the pen. The country ought to have been prepared for the measure, and free men ought to have been brought over before the blow was struck at the Slave Trade system, this being a country dependant on manual labour for existence. The difficulties being therefore so great under the Law of 1831, in the way of abolishing the Slave Trade, was it reasonable that the Government should try other means ?

The Article was then put to the vote, and the amendment of Senhor R. de Santos agreed to, the original Article and the other amendments being negatived.

No. 32.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 3, 1848.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatches of the 5th of August last : the one reporting that feelings of hostility to Slave Trade were rapidly spreading among the public in Brazil, and that the Brazilian Government had determined to put an end to the importation of slaves ; the other reporting the seizure of slaves in a slave depôt in the neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro, by order of the Imperial Government.

I have also received your despatch of the 12th of September, stating that M. Souza Franco had advocated, in the Chamber of Deputies, the introduction of white colonists into Brazil in lieu of slaves ; and that a measure had been brought into the Senate by Viscount Abrantes for the systematic colonization of Brazil by white colonists.

I have now to instruct you to state to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, that if it really is the wish of the Brazilian Government to encourage immigration of Europeans into Brazil, and if Europeans resorting to Brazil, could upon their arrival be employed as agricultural labourers profitably to

CLASS B.

themselves, and with full security as to their personal liberty, and as to their freedom to dispose of their labour as they chose; and if, moreover, the Brazilian Government would defray the expense of their passage out, there is good reason to believe that a considerable number of families might be found willing to emigrate to Brazil from Ireland, and that there can be no doubt that such emigrants would be a useful and valuable addition to the population of Brazil.

If the Brazilian Government wish to encourage such emigration, and upon such terms, they would do well to send over an agent to this country to make inquiries and arrangements, and such an agent would receive all proper assistance from Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 33.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 22nd of September last, in which I forwarded to you copies of a correspondence between M. Lisboa and myself, on the subject of the proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Grecian," in the case of the Brazilian slave-vessel "*Bella Miguelina*," captured by that ship with 518 slaves on board, and carried into Bahia for provisions.

I herewith transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copies of two notes on that subject which have passed between the Brazilian Minister and myself, since the date of my despatch above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 33.

1. *M. Lisboa to Viscount Palmerston, October 3, 1848.*
2. *Viscount Palmerston to M. Lisboa, October 18, 1848.*

[See Nos. 24 and 28.]

No. 34.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1848.

I HAVE to refer you to my despatch to Lord Howden of the 31st of March last, in which I transmitted to him, for communication to the Brazilian Government, lists of slave-vessels captured by Her Majesty's cruisers and condemned by Her Majesty's Courts of Vice-Admiralty abroad, from the 8th of August, 1845, to the 31st of December, 1847; and I now transmit to you similar lists of slave-vessels condemned from the 1st of January, 1848, up to the latest period, so far as the same have been reported to Her Majesty's Government.

These lists show that no less than sixty-eight vessels have been condemned since the commencement of the present year; sixteen of which were captured for having slaves on board amounting in the whole to 5,659, and fifty-two for being equipped for the illegal Traffic.

I have to instruct you to communicate these lists to the Brazilian Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

LIST of Brazilian Vessels captured by Her Majesty's Cruizers, and condemned by British Courts of the Vice-Admiralty, under the Act of the 8th and 9th Victoria, cap. 122, from January 1, 1848, up to the latest period, so far as the same have been reported to Her Majesty's Government.

Class and Name of Vessel.		Name of Master.	Seizor.		Number of Slaves captured.	Date of Sentence.	By what Court adjudicated.
1. Brigantine	Agua	J. Barcellos ..	Com. Lysaght ..	Grappler ..	747	1848 Jan. 10	Vice-Admiralty Court, Sierra Leone.
2. Brig	Unknown ..	P. J. Netto ..	Com. Sprigg ..	Ferret ..	852	„ 11	do.
3. Brigantine	Agonogro ..	J. J. Marinho ..	Com. Levinge ..	Devastation ..	Condemned for equipment	Feb. 9	do.
4. Brigantine	Maria	J. J. da C. Pinheiro	Com. Dunlop ..	Alert ..	do.	April 27	do.
5. Brig	Dois Amigos ..	A. S. da C. Biten-court	Com. Forbes ..	Bonetta ..	403	„ 28	do.
6. Schooner	Guahyba.. ..	G. J. Almada ..	Com. Ponsonby ..	Firefly ..	270	May 12	do.
7. Schooner	Segunda Andorinha	A. C. C. Giraldes ..	Com. Lysaght and Boyle	Grappler and Dolphin	501	„ 27	do.
8. Brig	Bella Miguelina..	H. J. V. da Silva ..	Com. Tindal ..	Grecian ..	522	June 19	do.
9. Schooner	Pharfao	Unknown	Com. Forbes ..	Bonetta ..	Condemned for equipment	„ 27	do.
10. Brigantine	14 de Novembro	A. P. Nunes ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	Jan. 27	Vice-Admiralty Court, St. Helena.
11. Schooner	Santa Anna ..	G. J. Pinheiro ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 31	do.
12. Barque	Cidade de Angra	J. A. de Alvarenga	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 31	do.
13. Brig	Umbelina ..	J. J. dos Santos ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	Feb. 14	do.
14. Brig	Pedreira	J. F. de Mesquita ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 28	do.
15. Brigantine	Maria Constancia	F. A. de Souza ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 28	do.
16. Brigantine	Leopoldina ..	João Pinto Madureira	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 28	do.
17. Brigantine	Importador ..	F. J. Monteiro ..	Com. Farquhar ..	Albatross ..	do.	Mar. 6	do.
18. Brigantine	Gentil Africano ..	R. A. da Cruz ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	„ 20	do.
19. Brig	Flora	G. J. de F. Costa ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	April 10	do.
20. Schooner	Nereide	J. M. da Camera ..	Com. Kenyon ..	Cygnat ..	354	„ 18	do.
21. Brigantine	Zefiro	J. P. de Souza ..	Com. Edmunds ..	Heroine ..	Condemned for equipment	May 1	do.
22. Brigantine	Venus	F. de P. N. de Oliveira	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 1	do.
23. Cabique	Vigilante ..	J. B. Gonsalvez ..	Com. Lysaght ..	Grappler ..	do.	„ 4	do.
24. Brig	Mercurio ..	J. da Cunha junior	Com. Edmunds ..	Heroine, with Firefly in company	do.	„ 4	do.
25. Brigantine	Temerario ..	J. C. dos Santos ..	Com. Mc Murdo ..	Contest ..	495	„ 30	do.
26. Brig	Princeza Dona Izabel	C. J. Fernandez ..	Com. Chaloner ..	Siren ..	275	„ 30	do.
27. Brig	São Jozé.. ..	F. da C. Sampaio ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Condemned for equipment	June 1	do.
28. Brigantine	São Francisco de Boa Fé	A. P. Nunes ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 1	do.
29. Schooner	Josephina ..	J. V. de Araujo ..	Com. Hope ..	Bittern ..	250	„ 19	do.
30. Brigantine	Paquete do Cabo	J. A. Teixeira ..	Com. Sprigg ..	Ferret ..	Condemned for equipment	„ 19	do.
31. Brigantine	Cazualidade ..	J. C. de Almeida ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	do.	„ 22	do.

Class and Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Seizor.	Number of Slaves captured.	Date of Sentence.	By what Court adjudicated.		
32. Brigantine	Anna Carolina ..	D. J. Coelho ..	Com. Sprigg ..	Ferret ..	Condemned for equipment	1848 June 22	Vice-Admiralty Court, St. Helena
33. Schooner	Flor do Marium ..	J. J. de Miranda ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	do.	„ 26	do.
34. Schooner	Mete Mão ..	M. J. Palacio ..	Com. Kenyon ..	Cygnets ..	do.	July 6	do.
35. Brigantine	Castro 3 ..	M. J. de Carvalho ..	Com. Sprigg ..	Ferret ..	do.	„ 10	do.
36. Brigantine	Marianna ..	A. P. Nunes ..	Com. Edmunds ..	Heroine ..	do.	„ 20	do.
37. Brigantine	Maria Candida ..	J. M. da Camera ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	do.	„ 24	do.
38. Steamer	Thereza, schooner rigged	A. P. C. Cordeiro ..	Captain Jones ..	Penelope ..	do.	„ 27	do.
39. Schooner	Saphira ..	A. G. Soares ..	Com. Lysaght ..	Grappler ..	do.	Aug. 7	do.
40. Brigantine	Felicidade ..	M. R. Flores ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	379	„ 10	do.
41. Brigantine	Santa Cruz ..	J. F. da Cruz ..	Com. Mc Murdo ..	Contest ..	Condemned for equipment	„ 14	do.
42. Schooner	Bella Maria ..	R. R. da Costa ..	Lieutenant Baker	Kestrel ..	do.	Sept. 4	do.
43. Brigantine	Polka ..	F. J. da Costa ..	Com. Chaloner ..	Siren ..	29	„ 4	do.
44. Barque	Alzira ..	T. de S. Machado ..	Captain Watson ..	Brilliant ..	Condemned for equipment	Feb. 4	Vice-Admiralty Court, Cape of Good Hope.
					5,077		

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

LIST of Slave-Vessels captured by Her Majesty's Cruizers and condemned by British Courts of Vice-Admiralty, under the Act of the 2nd and 3rd Victoria, cap. 73, from January 1, 1848, up to the latest period, so far as the same have been reported to Her Majesty's Government.

Class and Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Seizor.	Number of Slaves captured.	Date of Sentence.	By what Court adjudicated.		
1. Brigantine	Unknown, supposed Palma	Unknown ..	Com. Lysaght ..	Grappler ..	1	1848 Jan. 14	Vice-Admiralty Court, Sierra Leone
2. Polacca	Unknown, supposed Nostra Senhora della Gardia	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Condemned for equipment	„ 14	do.
3. Felucca	Unknown ..	Ditto ..	Coms. Wood and Glynn	Philomel and Dart	do.	Feb. 7	do.
4. Schooner	Aurora ..	M. Viadera ..	Com. Wood	Philomel ..	do.	May 20	do.
5. Brigantine	Gaio ..	Unknown ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	Feb. 3	Vice-Admiralty Court, St. Helena
6. Schooner	Unknown ..	Ditto ..	Com. Levinge ..	Devastation	do.	„ 24	do.
7. Schooner	Sylphide ..	Ditto ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	„ 24	do.
8. Schooner	Unknown ..	Ditto ..	Com. Levinge ..	Devastation	do.	„ 28	do.
9. Brig	Unknown ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	do.	„ 28	do.
10. Brigantine	Unknown ..	Ditto ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	„ 28	do.
11. Schooner	Unknown ..	Antonio ..	Com. Wood	Hound ..	48	Mar. 17	do.
12. Brigantine	Adelaide ..	M. S. da Costa ..	Com. Mitchell ..	Devastation	Condemned for equipment	„ 23	do.
13. Schooner	Unknown ..	Unknown ..	Com. Wood	Hound ..	do.	„ 23	do.
14. Brig	Monarcha ..	D. J. Marçal ..	Com. Farquhar ..	Albatross ..	do.	„ 23	do.
15. Schooner	Conceição ..	M. Pereira ..	Com. McMurdo ..	Contest ..	do.	„ 31	do.

Class and Name of Vessel.		Name of Master.	Seizor.		Number of Slaves captured.	Date of Sentence.	By what Court adjudicated.
16. Brigantine	Unknown ..	Antonio Dias ..	Com. McMurdo ..	Contest ..	Condemned for equipment	1848 Mar. 31	Vice-Admiralty Court, St. Helena.
17. Brigantine	Unknown ..	Unknown ..	Com. Chads	Styx ..	do.	„ 31	do.
18. Brigantine	Constancia ..	L. Nunes ..	Com. Farquhar ..	Albatross ..	do.	April 10	do.
19. Schooner-rigged launch	Pagaseira ..	João ..	Com. Sprigg ..	Ferret ..	6	June 26	do.
20. Schooner	Unknown ..	Unknown ..	Com. Edmunds ..	Heroine ..	Condemned for equipment	July 24	do.
21. Brig ..	Oceano ..	Daniel José ..	Com. McMurdo ..	Contest ..	do.	Aug. 7	do.
22. Brig ..	Unknown ..	José Maria ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	527	„ 10	do.
23. Brigantine	Unknown ..	J. L. Teixeira ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Condemned for equipment	„ 14	do.
24. Brigantine	Unknown ..	Unknown ..	Com. Murray ..	Favourite ..	do.	„ 24	do.
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No. 35.

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

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, October 15, 1848.

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch of the 12th ultimo, that the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies were discussing the project of a law the object of which was to repeal the Brazilian law against Slave Trade, of November 7, 1831.

The twelve first articles of that project have passed the Chamber of Deputies with certain amendments, a report of which I have the honour to inclose herewith; but when Article XIII came on for discussion the Chamber determined to discuss it in secret session.

It was so discussed, and on the 26th ultimo Senhor Carvalho Moreira, a deputy for Sergipe, moved as an amendment that its further discussion should be postponed until next year, and this amendment being put to the vote was carried by thirty-two votes to twenty-nine.

I cannot congratulate your Lordship upon this determination of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies.

The measure, with all its hideous features of oppression levelled against an inoffensive, unresisting, unprotected mass of human beings, still hangs suspended and may become law at an early period of next session.

That Brazilian Government which has recently retired from office used every effort to force the Bill through the Chamber. They were met with a determined resistance from a small body of members who, more alive to the honour of their country and to its public engagements with Great Britain, stoutly maintained the position that the Convention against the Slave Trade concluded by Great Britain with Brazil in 1826, is perpetual in the obligations which it imposes on this empire.

This point was contested by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bernardo de Souza Franco, who declared that he considered the project of law as in no wise militating against or as affecting those obligations; but on the contrary, as the project is directed against Slave Trade, it is therefore in entire accordance with the stipulations of the Treaty of 1826.

I can readily believe that the Minister for Foreign Affairs made that declaration, because he said as much to myself at a conference which I had with his Excellency, and at which I remonstrated against the continued progress of the discussion of the project by the Chamber, and before I addressed my second note to him of the 11th of September.

That note, and the one which preceded it on the 4th of the same month, having been read in the Chamber of Deputies during the secret session, a

member said he "understood therefore that the British Legation arrogated to itself the right of trusteeship over all Africans brought into Brazil since 1831.

Your Lordship will have perceived that the argument of those notes is based upon a different assumption. But I am informed that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, though present in the Chamber, was at no pains to set the member right.

That Minister is now fallen; but before his fall he never replied to the notes which I addressed to him upon this subject, and I know that he used his best endeavours to push the project through the Chamber of Deputies.

Your Lordship will remember that in a despatch which I had the honour to address to you on the 5th of August, I related the expressions used by Senhor Bernardo de Souza Franco, when declaring in his place in the Chamber of Deputies, his determination and that of his colleagues to put a stop to the introduction of slaves into Brazil, and to substitute the labour of African slaves by that of white men, who were to be systematically introduced into Brazil under legislative enactment.

These declarations were followed up by the seizure of a small depôt of slaves near Rio, and by the presentation to the Senate of a Bill to encourage the immigration of white colonists.

For a short time the public of this capital believed that the Brazilian Cabinet were sincerely bent upon suppressing Slave Trade.

The Colonization Bill was however no sooner presented than it was abandoned; and it was soon discovered that the slave depôts in and near Rio, where they abound, were not molested; that slave-ships fitted out in this and other Brazilian ports with the same impunity as heretofore; that at no period has the Slave Trade been more active than at present at Rio, Bahia, Macahé, and Santos; and that at no time were slaves landed with less risk of interference on the part of Brazilian authorities.

When this state of things is contrasted with the declarations of the late Cabinet and of Members of the Legislature, with the abandonment of the Colonisation Bill, and with the presentation to and discussion by the Chamber of Deputies, of the Project of Law No. 133, and with the earnestness with which the late Government attempted to pass that Bill through the House; I imagine that your Lordship will agree with me in thinking that the unhappy, unresisting African, the object of all this bitter persecution, cannot trust to the friendship of Brazilian Cabinets.

Certainly at no period of the history of Brazil, and perhaps at no period of the world's history, has a more deliberate attempt been made by a Government civilised and Christian, to reduce vast numbers of men to the condition of brute beasts.

Because this project of law, by substituting the legal presumption of slavery for that of freedom (which is the basis of the Law of November 7, 1831), by repealing that law, and by enacting that no action can lie under its provisions, deliberately puts all slaves brought into Brazil since 1831 beyond the pale of the law.

The legal presumption of freedom being destroyed, is it to be supposed that an African, kidnapped at Congo, can send to Congo for proof that he once was a free man?

As in duty bound, I reported to your Lordship the declarations of the late Brazilian Cabinet against Slave Trade; the same sense of duty now obliges me to declare that it was time only that was wanting when the discussion of this project of law was adjourned till next session. The Budget and many other necessary measures were not voted, and members were anxious to return to their homes.

The animus of the project is evident: it is an attempt to escape from the obligations which Brazil has contracted with Great Britain; and it visits, in a Brazilian sense, upon the head of the unoffending African, the sins of Lord Aberdeen's Bill of 1845.

The Brazilian press has not been altogether silent upon this occasion, and I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the translation of an Article which appeared lately in a newspaper published in this city upon the subject of this project of law.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Project of Law No. 133, said to be for the Repression of Slave Trade, and laid before the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, September 1, 1848.

ARTICLE I.

THE introduction of slaves and free blacks into the territory of Brazil is prohibited, but this does not comprehend their conveyance from one province of the Empire to another.

ARTICLE II.

This prohibition does not include

§ 1. Slaves and free blacks matriculated in the service of vessels belonging to countries where Slavery is permitted, the identity of their persons being verified by the passport, register and other papers of the vessel, and the master signing a document to reconduct them; and in the event of their deserting, they are to be captured and sent out of the country at the cost of the said master immediately they are met with.

§ 2. Slaves who may return to Brazil having fled from the country or having left it with the consent of their masters.

ARTICLE III.

Brazilian vessels, wheresoever met with, and foreign vessels found in the ports, harbours, roadsteads and within gun-shot of any part of the coast, having on board slaves or free blacks not excepted by Article II, shall be captured and considered as importing slaves. Those vessels on board of which may be found signs of being destined for the Traffic in Slaves, shall be, independent of other proofs, equally captured and considered as having imported or attempted to import slaves into Brazil.

ARTICLE IV.

The signs of being destined for the Traffic in Slaves are the following :

§ 1. Hatches with open gratings, instead of being whole, as is customary on board merchant-vessels.

§ 2. Divisions or partitions in the hold or on the deck, in greater number than is necessary for vessels employed in licit trade.

§ 3. A large number of planks for the purpose of forming a second deck, or covering for the slaves.

§ 4. Irons, chains, or manacles, in greater number than required for the police of the vessel.

§ 5. A larger quantity of water in casks or in tanks than is necessary for the consumption of a merchant-vessel with reference to her voyage.

§ 6. An extraordinary number of vessels for containing liquids, the master not being able to produce a certificate of the custom-house, by which it appears that the owners of the said vessel have given the necessary security that these vessels are to be exclusively applied for objects of licit commerce.

§ 7. A larger number of trays or tubs than are required for the use of the crew.

§ 8. A boiler of an extraordinary size, or more boilers than are necessary for the use of the crew of the vessel.

§ 9. An extraordinary quantity of rice, flour, Indian corn, beans, or meat, beyond what is requisite for the consumption of the crew, such provisions not having been declared in the manifest as forming part of the cargo for commerce.

ARTICLE V.

The captain or master, the pilot, and boatswain of the vessel, the supercargo, and the owners of the undertaking shall be considered as principals in the crime

of having imported slaves or free blacks, or of having attempted to import them. Those who assist at the disembarkation of slaves or free blacks on the territory of Brazil shall be considered as accomplices.

ARTICLE VI.

The principals in this crime shall suffer the penalties awarded for piracy as declared in the Criminal Code, and a fine of four contos of reis ; besides this they shall all be condemned in a body, and obliged each one *in solidum* to pay the expenses of the reexportation of the slaves or free blacks to the ports from whence they came, which sum shall be fixed by arbiters.

ARTICLE VII.

The vessels importing or destined to import slaves or free blacks, together with the fittings and cargo found on board, and the boats employed in their disembarkation, concealment, or abduction, shall be confiscated.

ARTICLE VIII.

The amount of the sale of the cargo, the vessel and the boats captured, in the cases not specified in the treaties with England, shall be handed over to the captors, deducting the expenses attendant on the capture, and a fourth part for the informer or informers, if there are any, and Government, the vessel having been declared a *bonâ fide* prize, shall award to the crew of the capturing vessel the sum of forty milreis for each African taken which shall be distributed according to the laws on this head.

ARTICLE IX.

All the slaves and free blacks who may be captured on the high seas or on the coast, shall be reexported at the cost of Government to the ports from whence they came or to whatever other port of Africa that Government may think more convenient ; and until they are so reexported they shall be employed in labour under the care of Government, according to the actual practice.

ARTICLE X.

Passports shall not be given to merchant-vessels bound to the ports of the coast of Africa without their owners, captains, or masters having first signed a declaration not to receive on board any slave, the owner giving security equal to the amount of the value of the vessel and cargo, which bail shall be quashed at the expiration of eighteen months, should the bailed vessel not be captured or denounced in the meanwhile.

ARTICLE XI.

National and foreign vessels dispatched in the ports of Brazil for those of Africa, and those vessels not cleared out for the coast of Africa but who are suspected of and denounced as being destined to that coast, shall be visited on the day of their departure by one of the chief custom-house officers, who shall allow them freely to leave, on not finding on board anything to induce a suspicion of their being destined for the Commerce in Slaves, but finding on board articles mentioned in Article IV, such vessels shall be detained in order that the dispositions of Articles III and VII of this law may be carried into effect.

ARTICLE XII.

The judges of civil and criminal cases (Juiz de Direito) are to be empowered to try the criminal cases of which this law treats, with appeal *ex officio* to the Superior Courts, the local authorities being only empowered to cause seizures, investigations, and inquiries to be made, all which must be referred to the said judges (de direito).

ARTICLE XIII.

No action at law shall be instituted in virtue of the Law of November 7, 1831, which is revoked, as well as all others in a contrary sense.

Amendments to Project of Law No. 133.

ARTICLE I.

Not altered.

ARTICLE II.

To paragraph 1 of this law the following words are to be added, "for which end the master shall give security equal to the expenses of the re-exportation." Paragraph 2 not altered.

ARTICLE III.

Substituted by the following :—

"Brazilian vessels, wheresoever met with, and foreign vessels found in the ports, harbours, roadsteads, or within the territorial seas of Brazil, having slaves or free blacks on board not excepted by Article II, or having disembarked them, shall be captured and considered as having imported slaves.

"Those vessels who have not slaves on board and who have not recently disembarked them, but which show signs of being employed in the Slave Trade, shall equally be captured and considered as having attempted to import slaves."

ARTICLE IV.

Substituted by the following :—

"The Imperial Government will draw up a regulation of the grounds of suspicion which are to constitute legal presumption of vessels being destined for the Slave Trade."

ARTICLE V.

Substituted by the following :—

"The owner, the captain or master, the pilot, the boatswain of the vessel, and the supercargo shall be considered as principals in the crime of having imported slaves or free blacks or of having attempted to import them. The crew and those who assist at the disembarkation of slaves or free blacks on the territory of Brazil, or who endeavour to conceal them from the knowledge of the public authorities, either with a view to prevent their capture at sea or in the act of disembarkation when pursued, shall be considered as accomplices."

ARTICLE VI.

Substituted by the following :—

"The importation of slaves and free blacks into the territory of Brazil is equal to the crime of piracy and shall be punished with the penalty of transportation for four to twelve years, and a fine of four contos of reis (say 400*l.*). The attempt to commit the above crime or any complicity therein shall be punished according to the regulations established in the Criminal Code."

ARTICLE VII.

Struck out altogether.

ARTICLE VIII.

The first paragraph is substituted by the following:—

"The vessels treated of in Articles III and IV, and all the boats employed in the disembarkation, concealment, or abduction of slaves or free blacks, shall be sold, together with all the cargo found on board, and the amount of sale shall
CLASS B.

be awarded to the captors, deducting a fourth part for the informer, if there be any." (And Government, "the vessel having," &c., vide second part of original Article).

ARTICLE IX.

Altered as follows:—After the words "on the coast" must be inserted "before or in the act of disembarkation, or immediately afterwards, in warehouses or deposits on the coasts or in the ports," shall be re-exported, &c.

ARTICLE X.

Not altered.

ARTICLE XI.

Suppressed.

ARTICLE XII.

Substituted by what follows:—

"All captures of vessels treated of in Articles III and IV shall be tried in the first instance by the Council of Marine and in the second by the Council of State. The Government will draw up a regulation of the form of process in the first and second instance, and shall be able to create Auditors of Marine in whatever ports they may think proper; being obliged to serve as auditors the Judges of civil and criminal law of the respective district who may be so appointed. Another Article:—The Auditors of Marine shall be competent to try persons who have incurred the crime of having imported slaves or of having attempted to do so, and shall even proceed as far as to pronounce judgment. The trial however of such persons shall be carried on in the public law courts."

ARTICLE XIII.

This Article was discussed in secret session, and its further debate was finally adjourned till the next session of the Legislative Assembly.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Extract from the "Monarchista" of September 26, 1848.

(Translation.)

THE Chamber of Deputies is discussing a project of a law for the repression of the Traffic in Negroes imported from Africa. This project, protected by the Government and supported by the most prominent Members of the majority firmly attached to the Ministers, pompously called "for the repression of the Traffic," is not, in our humble opinion, anything but the most efficacious and most appropriate incentive which could be held out to encourage the heinous Trade in Negroes.

Our only and glorious aim being that of enlightening our fellow-countrymen, in calling their attention to the increasing evils of the continued increase of domestic Slavery, the dangers of the present, and the still greater dangers of the future, we could not allow the discussion of this pernicious measure, so contrary to the purposes which it is apparently intended to effect, to pass into law without analyzing it and giving our frank opinion on the subject.

The Law of November 7, 1831, contains very explicit dispositions in regard to the Traffic. This law, elaborated with the greatest discernment, and agreeable to the terms of the Treaty agreed to between Brazil and England, was presented to the country as a testimony of the loyalty which the Imperial Government was desirous to evince not only to our fellow-citizens but also to the British nation. This law contains ample and just conditions: it supports the basis of liberty in its plenitude, and it explicitly demonstrates that the views of the legislator were directed towards a future worthy of a nation which had declared, at the solemn moment of its emancipation, that it identified itself with that constitutional freedom which it had sworn to defend and has defended with intrepid constancy.

The Law of 7th November declares that all negroes landed in Brazil should

be free, and be re-exported, either at the expense of the importers or at the expense of Government; it further said that Government would endeavour to establish, by means of purchase or of a treaty, a colony on the coast of Africa, whither to re-export those negroes who might be captured. Thus, through a space of years, the country was preparing itself to strike at the root of the canker which is gnawing it: this generation might be proud of bequeathing the country to future generations, gradually prepared for the extinction of its greatest evil: our descendants would enjoy true liberty.

In order to attain this object, the law should have contained appropriate regulations, such as the designation of the authority whose duty it would be to take cognizance of the criminal cases therein mentioned, which should in all cases be special, and Government should be firm in its decision to enforce the execution of this law. In doing this, everything that could have been desirable would have been done, and Government would have clearly shown its firm intention to put down the Traffic in Negroes. Instead of this we shall have an ostentatious law, which, instead of stopping the Traffic, will encourage it; a law most iniquitous in itself, and which we boldly tell the Legislature it is not legitimately invested with powers to pass as a law of the State.

The 13th Article of the law under discussion says that the negro shall only be declared free, if captured, either on board of the vessel bringing him on the high seas, or at the time of landing on our coast, and as a consequence of the uninterrupted chase of him immediately after disembarking. It follows therefore that the negro being introduced into Brazil, and escaping the before-mentioned chances, would, *ipso facto*, be acknowledged and considered as a slave, to be possessed and sold according to the will of the importer.

Now, can any one in good faith say that this is not the greatest encouragement that could be held out to the heinous Traffic in Negroes?

It further declares that from that date forward all suits shall cease, and that no new process shall be instituted to claim the liberty of such Africans as are clandestinely introduced into the country.

In such case all the negroes smuggled into the country, and who according to the Law of 7 November, and in conformity with the Treaty with England, were free, as soon as they could by themselves or through the medium of a protector, assert their liberties, become, as well as their descendants, reduced to perpetual Slavery. Legislators of Brazil, from what source have you derived the powers you assume?

You present the Brazilian nation to the world as a nation of barbarians, withdrawing rights from, and stripping of their freedom, those who had already acquired both by the laws of the country and by virtue of solemn treaties. For the purpose of passing this measure, you allege false dangers solely engendered in your own minds, and you declare yourselves holding secret sessions, thus hiding from the eyes of the public a discussion which would present in all its heinousness, the ill-judged and opprobrious false step which would cast a stain on the Brazilian nation.

How are we to be judged by other civilized nations of the globe? Why, as a nation that disowns the rights acquired by its own laws, that does not recognise the public international rights of other people; and who act thus, shielding the criminal purchasers of negroes illicitly imported into the country, perhaps even themselves. It is the representatives of Brazil, who pretend to be the greatest liberals, who call for a secret session, in order to conceal votes which cannot be dictated by conscience.

As Brazilians, we pray to God that if such a measure should pass, all the opprobrium and all the misfortunes arising therefrom may fall on the heads of those who have not recoiled from the greatest ignominy which could possibly weigh upon the country of their birth. Brazilians, unloose the bands from your eyes and know the false patriots who have abused your good faith and have sullied your honour, in merely considering their own pitiful and miserable interests. We shall conclude with calling to your minds the words of Franklin, of that celebrated American patriot, spoken in the Congress of his country, "In order to be free, we must in the first place be just."

No. 36.

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

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 15, 1848.

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch of the 12th ultimo, that a measure had been brought into the Senate by Viscount Abrantes, for the regular and systematic colonization of Brazil by white colonists.

The Viscount of Abrantes has informed me that he has abandoned that measure.

The effect of this abandonment will be to give a greater stimulus to Slave Trade; because as the friends of that measure would probably have attempted the cultivation of their estates by white labourers, they have now no other alternative than the purchase of negroes, or the abandonment of their agricultural labours.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 37.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 31, 1848.

I HAVE to refer you to the previous correspondence which has passed between this department and Her Majesty's Legation in Brazil, upon the subject of a brigantine, name and nation unknown, captured with 58 slaves on board by Her Majesty's "Alert" and which, while on her way to Sierra Leone for adjudication, was forced, in consequence of being in an unseaworthy state and in want of provisions, to seek refuge in the port of Maranham, where, during the temporary absence of Lieutenant Wasey, the prize officer in charge, she was visited by an armed force of from thirty to forty men dressed in the uniform of the National Guard. This force representing themselves as having been sent by order of the President of the province and of the British Consul, to conduct the crew and slaves to a place of safety for the night, the vessel being then over her upper deck in water, succeeded, as you will remember, in obtaining, and, with one exception, carrying off into Slavery the whole of the Africans. I have now to instruct you again to bring this case before the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state to him that Her Majesty's Government have perceived with the deepest regret, that notwithstanding so long a period has elapsed since these negroes were carried off in so disgraceful a manner, by an armed force in one of ports of the Brazilian Empire, nothing has been effected either for restoring the negroes to liberty, or for punishing the parties implicated in the transaction; and you will strongly urge the Minister for Foreign Affairs to take such steps as will ensure the recovery of the negroes, in order that they may be sent to a British possession in the West Indies.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 38.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th of September last, inclosing the copies of two notes which I addressed to the Brazilian Government, protesting against the principle of the Project of Law No. 133, which aimed at the repeal of the Brazilian Law against Slave Trade of the 7th November, 1831, I have the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which I have received from the Brazilian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, informing me that the

Imperial Cabinet have abandoned the project of law in question, and that, convinced of the absolute necessity of putting a stop to the African Slave Trade, they intend to present a measure to that effect to the Brazilian Legislature at its next meeting, May 1849.

It is to be hoped that whatever measures the present Cabinet intend to bring forward against Slave Trade, may, if they eventually become law, be more faithfully regarded and executed than the existing Law of 1831, which, if it were duly put in force and honestly acted upon, instead of being constantly evaded and set aside, is quite sufficient for the repression of the Traffic in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Viscount Olinda to Mr. Hudson.

October 26, 1848.

THE Undersigned having laid before the august presence of His Imperial Majesty the notes of the 4th and 11th of September last past, which Mr. Hudson, &c., addressed to his predecessor, in which he explains the reasons which induced him to protest against the Project of Law No. 133 of 1837, the discussion of which took place this year in the Chamber of Deputies; and from the same august personage he received orders to declare to Mr. Hudson, in reply to the above-mentioned notes, that the Imperial Government being convinced of the absolute necessity of forbidding the introduction of Africans into Brazil, will leave no means untried which are at their disposal, in order to effect it; and in the conviction that it is necessary to accomplish these ends by legitimate measures, in which the principles of justice and the vital interests of the Empire shall be consulted, will seek them from the Assembly as soon as that body shall have met. And as it is not the intention of the actual Cabinet to use its means and the influence of which it is legitimately possessed, in order to follow up the adoption of that (above) cited project, but intending to substitute it by another, which, after mature deliberation, is to be presented to the Chambers of the Legislature, it is evident that it becomes useless and unnecessary to discuss the notes to which the Undersigned has the honour to reply; a discussion which thus becomes completely aimless.

The Undersigned is certain that Mr. Hudson having to lay before his Government a knowledge of those intentions which he has thus expressed, will at the same time inform them of the aid which he expects from the representatives of the nation, in order to bring about the effectual repression of the Traffic in Africans.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT OLINDA.

No. 39.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of July 15, upon the subject of the attack made at Bahia upon the "*Bella Miquelina*" slave-vessel, prize to Her Majesty's sloop of war "*Grecian*," whilst anchored in Bahia harbour, and instructing me to represent to the Brazilian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that with a view to prevent untoward events like this, which by leading to collisions between subjects of the Empire and the naval forces of Her Majesty, may tend to endanger the friendly relations between the two countries, it seems desirable that some formal arrangement should be come to in regard to the

slave-ships with slaves on board, which may be captured by British cruisers, and may be brought into Brazilian ports on their way to a British settlement, and suggesting that it would be desirable that the Brazilian Government should issue orders to its officers and authorities in its sea-ports, to give assistance and protection in such cases to the officers and men in charge of such captured slave-vessels, and to afford to them and to any ship of war by which they may be accompanied, all necessary facilities for obtaining speedily such supplies as may be requisite to enable them to continue their voyage; I have the honour to report to your Lordship that on the 2nd instant I read to Viscount Olinda your Lordship's despatch in question, and asked if his Excellency was prepared to enter into the formal arrangement contemplated by Her Majesty's Government, and into the other matters treated of in that despatch, and of the desirableness of which the recent attack upon the "*Bella Miguelina*" left no doubt.

Viscount Olinda replied that he declined to enter into any formal arrangement with respect to slave-ships with slaves on board which may be captured by British cruisers and may be brought into Brazilian ports, because by such an arrangement the Brazilian Government would virtually legalize the capture of Brazilian ships by the cruisers of the Queen, and thus vitiate the protest which had been addressed by their predecessors to Her Majesty's Government in October 1845.

Viscount Olinda added that I might, whilst communicating this determination of the Imperial Government to your Lordship, add the assurance that he was ready to enter into a general arrangement by Convention with Her Majesty's Government, for the utter extinction of the African Slave Trade.

I have read this despatch to Viscount Olinda.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 40.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of August, upon the subject of sending to Rio de Janeiro, accompanied by proper witnesses, the master and crew of some Brazilian slave-vessels captured with slaves on board, in order that such offenders may be delivered up to the Brazilian authorities, to be tried by a Brazilian court of law; and instructing me to report both as to the best mode of carrying the project into effect, and as to the probable time it would take to bring such persons to trial after their arrival in Rio de Janeiro; I have the honour to state that in my opinion the offenders in question would never be brought to trial at all, but upon their arrival at Rio de Janeiro they would be brought up before a judge on a writ of habeas corpus, and discharged from custody.

The Brazilian Law of the 7th of November, 1831, under which alone these offenders could be tried, provides especially that the arrests of persons engaged in Slave Trade shall be made by the Brazilian "national forces."

I believe that this law was purposely thus drawn, in order to provide for the very case which Her Majesty's Government now contemplate, and therefore in the eye of that law, and under the protest of the Brazilian Government of 22nd October, 1845, the capture of these offenders would be held to be illegal, and all further proceedings at law against them would at once be dropped.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 41.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

THE most remarkable events connected with Slave Trade, which has recently occurred in this province, have been the seizure of 110 Bozal negroes, on their passage up the harbour of Rio de Janeiro, to one of the numerous barracoons in and near this city.

These negroes were delivered up to the Brazilian Government, and having been adjudged free, have been apprenticed to the public arsenals.

The other events have been the landing of the cargoes of slaves from vessels named in the inclosed list.

Your Lordship will not fail to remark the unhappy success which attends the employment of steam-power in this iniquitous traffic. The "*Providencia*" steamer, which was built for this trade, has made four successful trips since she was first launched, and has landed nearly 4000 slaves.

I am informed that there is now building in this city a vessel to be propelled by steam, calculated to carry 2000 slaves.

The importation of slaves from Africa into Brazil, in vessels of the United States, will also attract your Lordship's attention.

It used to be said with honest pride, by the citizens of the United States, that they were a "law-abiding people." The inclosed statement, which shows their utter contempt of their own law, its weakness and inefficiency, and the timidity of their own Government when opposed by kidnappers and the very scum of society, will go far to destroy this legitimate source of satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 41

LIST of Ships which have landed full Cargoes of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro.

Month, 1848.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Slaves.
August	Brazilian	Brig	Vareta	Full Cargo
"	Ditto	Schooner	Rival	Ditto
"	United States	Ship	Mary Chilton	Ditto
September	Brazilian	Brig	Igual	Ditto
"	United States	Barque	California	Ditto
"	Ditto	Whaler	Name unknown	Ditto
October	Ditto	Schooner	Clementina	Ditto
"	Brazilian	Steamer	Providencia	990
November	United States	Schooner	Proserpine	Full
"	Ditto	Pilot Boat	Zenobia	Ditto

No. 42.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 12th July, inclosing the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, stating that Major Teixeira, the Governor of Quillimane, had absconded from that place in a slave-ship bound to Rio de Janeiro, with 500 slaves on board; I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Major Teixeira, after having landed the slaves in question on the coast of Brazil, repaired to this city, where he remained but a short time, and then sailed for Portugal, where after being at large for some months, he was, as I am informed, imprisoned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 43.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copies of a correspondence which has passed between Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert and myself upon the subject of a negro named John Freeman, who, claiming to be a British subject, was received on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," Commander Tindal, at Bahia, and was by that officer carried away from Bahia and brought to Rio de Janeiro.

The case having been laid by Commander Tindal before the Commodore, was referred by the latter to myself; and as it appeared that Captain Tindal had not an opportunity of thoroughly investigating the case of Freeman before his departure from Bahia, I deemed it right under all the circumstances of the case to recommend that the negro in question should return to Bahia, proper precautions being taken to secure his personal freedom, in order that the case might be properly and regularly dealt with by Her Majesty's Consul, to whom I addressed a letter of instructions, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose.

In consequence of this recommendation on my part, Freeman left Rio de Janeiro for Bahia in Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," on the 7th ultimo.

The necessity of reference to naval head-quarters at Monte Video has prevented an earlier settlement of this question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

"Raleigh," Monte Video, July 2, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the copy of a letter which I have received from Commander Tindal of the "Grecian," with a correspondence which had taken place between him and Mr. Porter, Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, relative to a negro (John Freeman) who got on board that vessel and claimed protection as a British subject, which he afforded, and, as will appear by the copy of a subsequent letter, discharged him to the "Crescent" receiving ship at Rio de Janeiro. In consequence of this correspondence I shall be happy to receive from you any suggestion you may be pleased to favour me with relative to the disposal of this man.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. HERBERT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

Commander Tindal to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert.

Sir,

"Grecian," off Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I BEG to inform you that while at Bahia, on the 2nd instant, a negro came on board the "Grecian," and claimed the protection of the British flag as a British subject.

On inquiring into his case before two of the officers of the ship (a copy of which inquiry is inclosed), I consider his claim to protection is fully substantiated, and I therefore intend to keep him on board until I receive orders from you concerning his future disposal.

He desired me to send him back to Sierra Leone in the slave-vessel "*Bella Miguelina*," but I did not conceive myself justified in doing so until I had previously communicated with you.

I have written to Mr. Porter, our Consul at Bahia, on the subject, and transmit to you herewith a copy of the correspondence relating to the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 43.

Statement by the Negro John Freeman, claiming protection as a British subject.

NAME, John Freeman; born at Sierra Leone; son to John Freeman, who keeps a small shop in that place; was baptized by Mr. Dove, a missionary, at the missionary school there, which school he left six years ago. Mr. Saunders was the master.

He went as servant to Mr. Golman, a missionary, down to Badagry about a year ago; was kidnapped by a man at that place—sent to Whydah, where he remained some months, and then sent across here in a slaver.

His master is a black man, named San Joachino, living in Bahia, but he cannot describe the place.

NOTE.—This man describes Sierra Leone exactly, and speaks the English language as a person brought up in that colony.

Given under my hand on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," at Bahia, May 2, 1848. (Signed) L. S. TINDAL

Witnesses to above statement by the negro John Freeman,
(Signed) G. M. JACKSON, *Lieutenant.*
STEPHEN JOHNS, *Master.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 43.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," Bahia, May 2, 1848.

A NEGRO, who calls himself by the name of John Freeman, a native of Sierra Leone, and therefore a British subject, and who speaks English perfectly, has come on board Her Majesty's sloop under my command, to ask for a passage to his own country.

He states that he was kidnapped about a year ago at Popo, to which place he had gone with an Englishman as a servant, when he was seized, put on board a slave-vessel, and brought here, where he has been five months.

His master is named San Joachino, a black man; but I cannot find out where he lives.

It is so evident he is a British subject, that I shall not permit him to leave the "Grecian" till I hear from you, who I request will take the necessary steps to have the case investigated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 5 in No. 43.

Consul Porter to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your consideration, the copy of a despatch received from his Excellency the President, respecting the black, John Freeman. In case you decide upon complying with the directions of the President to deliver the said individual to the Commander of the Brazilian frigate, it will be necessary that every possible precaution be taken to ensure his appearance when required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 43.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Extract.)

Palace, Bahia, May 2, 1848.

TO your despatch of to-day respecting the black, John, who has presented himself on board the brig "Grecian," anchored in this port, claiming protection on the ground of being a British subject, I have to make known to you that as this question will be attended with delay, in order that the decision may be come to according to the forms of the law, you will please to give directions that the said black be delivered up to the Commander of the frigate "Constituição," being certain that the judicial authorities of the country will do their duty in an object of such consideration.

Inclosure 7 in No. 43.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day, with an inclosed copy of the despatch from his Excellency the President respecting the black, John Freeman.

He having actually got on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," and claimed the protection of the British flag as a subject of that Power, to which I have every reason to believe him fully entitled, I cannot consistently with my duty permit him to leave this ship until the pleasure of my Commander-in-chief is known, who will be duly informed of the whole transaction.

The boat that this man came in, belonging to his master, is now lying astern of the ship. I shall request the Captain of Her Majesty's steam-frigate "Firebrand" to take charge of it when I leave this port, until the owner comes to claim it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 43.

Commander Tindal to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert.

Sir,

"Grecian," Rio de Janeiro, June 4, 1848.

I HAVE to inform you that I have discharged the negro John Freeman, on board the "Crescent" as a liberated African, to await your further orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 9 in No. 43.

Mr. Hudson to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 18, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd ultimo relative to a negro named John Freeman.

It appears from the communication which you have made to me, and from other documents transmitted to me by Her Majesty's Consul for Bahia, that John Freeman was received on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," Commander Tindal, in the port of Bahia, in the month of May last, and that he claimed protection as a British subject.

This protection Captain Tindal at once, and very properly, extended to Freeman; and a communication subsequently ensued upon the subject between that officer, Her Majesty's Consul for Bahia, and the President of that province.

From that correspondence it appears that on the 2nd May last Captain Tindal reported to Her Majesty's Consul that Freeman had come on board the "Grecian,"—had asked for a passage to Sierra Leone,—had declared that about a year ago he was kidnapped at Popo, to which place he had gone as servant to an Englishman,—that he was put on board a slave-ship,—was carried to this country,—had been at Bahia about five months, and that his Brazilian master was named San Joachino.

Captain Tindal concludes his letter of 3rd May (to Her Majesty's Consul) by declaring that he would not permit Freeman to leave the "Grecian" until he heard from Her Majesty's Consul, whom he requested to take the necessary steps to have the case investigated.

In pursuance of this determination of Captain Tindal, Her Majesty's Consul called upon the President of Bahia to cause an immediate investigation to take place into the claim of Freeman to the rights of a British citizen.

The President, who does not seem to have refused his consent to this investigation, required that Freeman should be placed on board the Brazilian frigate "Constituição," whose Commander had acted with promptness in sending to the relief of the captured slaver "*Bella Miguelina*," when attacked by a gang of miscreants from on shore.

It further appears that Captain Tindal declined following up the steps which he himself had first proposed, and that eventually he sailed from Bahia without waiting for any investigation into the case of Freeman, whom he placed, upon arriving at Rio de Janeiro, on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent," where he now remains subject to your orders.

Under these circumstances I am of opinion that it is to be regretted that Captain Tindal did not, while at Bahia, carry out his first intention of causing inquiry to be made into the facts of Freeman's claim. Because it is not consistent, with the respect due by Her Majesty's servants to the Crown of this country, with which Her Majesty entertains relations of amity, to carry away from the ports of this country, and in defiance of its municipal law, and without investigation, persons who claim the rights and privileges of British citizens.

John Freeman may or may not be a British subject.

In the former case he would have just right to an indemnity from the person who unlawfully held him in bondage; and it would become the duty of Her Majesty's civil servants in this country to see that justice was duly enforced, not only in pursuing the question of indemnity, but also in urging the Imperial Government to put their law in force against the persons who had so flagrantly violated them.

In the latter case, if John Freeman is not a British subject, he could have no claim to a passage on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian;" neither would Captain Tindal be justified in depriving the master of the man in question of the value of his services.

John Freeman, however, cannot now be given up,—he has touched British soil,—he is no longer a slave.

But the question of his claim to British citizenship has yet to be gone into:

You would not, I imagine, be disposed to forego the chance of punishing

the person who, if Freeman proves to be a British subject, has unjustly held him in Slavery.

Neither, I presume, if he proves to be a slave born in Brazil, would you approve of his being sent out of this country, unless his master received the value of his services.

As you have done me the honour to ask my opinion, I would therefore suggest that Freeman be sent back to Bahia in a stout ship, and that his case be properly gone into and investigated under the guidance and direction of Her Majesty's Consul.

If you determine upon this course, I should feel obliged by your communicating your intention to me, in order that I may prepare Her Majesty's Consul for the case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 10 in No. 43.

Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

"*Raleigh*," *Monte Video*, September 16, 1848.

HAVING in conformity with the suggestion contained in your letter to me of the 18th ultimo, directed Commander Tindal, in the "*Grecian*," to proceed to Bahia with John Freeman, to have his case properly investigated and settled, I have the honour to inclose for your information, an extract from the orders given to that officer on the subject, and I have to request you will be pleased to forward by him the necessary instructions to Mr. Porter, Her Majesty's Consul at that place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. HERBERT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 43.

Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert to Commander Tindal.

(Extract.)

WHEN the "*Grecian*" shall be in all respects ready for sea, and shall have received on board, the negro, John Freeman, who has been directed to be discharged to her from the "*Crescent*," and such despatches as Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires may have to send by you, you will proceed in Her Majesty's sloop under your command to Bahia, and deliver to Mr. Porter, Her Majesty's Consul at that place "the accompanying letter which is under a flying seal for your information. The case of the said negro (the particulars of which you are already acquainted with by your correspondence to the 3rd of May last) will then be gone into and investigated under the guidance and direction of Mr. Porter, who will receive instructions to that effect from Mr. Hudson, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro."

Inclosure 12 in No. 43.

Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"*Raleigh*," *Monte Video*, September 16, 1848.

HAVING at the suggestion of Mr. Hudson, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, sent Commander Tindal in the "*Grecian*" to Bahia with the negro John Freeman, to have his case properly investigated under your guidance and direction, and as Mr. Hudson will communicate with you upon the subject, I have only to hope that as little delay as possible may take place, as the services of the "*Grecian*" are so much required for other duties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. HERBERT.

Inclosure 13 in No. 43.

Mr. Hudson to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 12, 1848.

THE Commander-in-chief on this station has asked for my opinion on the case of Freeman, a negro received on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," Commander Tindal, in the month of May last, at Bahia.

I have stated in reply to Sir Thomas Herbert, that as Freeman was unduly carried away from Bahia, he ought as duly to be carried back again, and his case properly decided by the authorities competent to judge it.

Those authorities are yourself and the President of Bahia.

Freeman, who claims to be a British subject, was received on board a British man-of-war, and is still under British protection, and it appears to me cannot now be given up. The case therefore is resolved into one of compensation, and, supposing him not to be a British subject, turns upon the point, whether he was or was not imported into this country before the passing of the Brazilian Law of the 7th November, 1831.

In the former case his master would have a right, in my opinion, to compensation for the loss of his services.

In the latter case his master ought to be punished with the penalties prescribed by the Law of the 7th November, 1831, for the illegal importation of Africans.

Because that law presumes and adopts as its fundamental principle, that all Africans imported into Brazil since it passed are free :

Consequently, the person who claims Freeman must prove him to have been either born in Brazil, or imported before the 7th November, 1831.

From the information in your possession respecting Freeman I imagine you will have no great difficulty in combatting any such evidence.

If, however, evidence be adduced which you cannot disprove, that Freeman was legally a slave, then the case is reduced to one of compensation.

I would therefore advise you to commence at once to procure evidence as to the period when Freeman was imported into Brazil.

There is another point connected with this case which deserves our attention.

The Bahia authorities may insist upon bringing Freeman into court.

You are the best judge of the prudence of his ever landing, and of the chance of his being made away with if he does land.

In my opinion his landing is as unnecessary as is his production in court; and if you have any doubt on the subject you will not permit him to land.

If you are firm on this point and quote the cases which occurred when Mr. Fox was Her Majesty's Minister here, and the more recent case of the polacca under charge of Lieutenant Wasey at Maranham in January 1846, on which occasions several hundreds of Africans were forcibly abducted from British protection, and thus prove the feebleness of Brazilian law when opposed by the overbearing audacity of the slave-trader, your arguments for the non-production of Freeman will be amply sufficient to justify your conduct.

If you should require further argument you may plead orders from myself, which I hereby give you.

As the Commander-in-chief has addressed me officially upon this subject it cannot rest where it is, and I see no other mode than that which I have here pointed out to ward off the accusation which the Brazilian Government is preparing to bring against us for the abduction of a slave and the breach of their municipal regulations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 14 in No. 43.

Mr. Hudson to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, October 3, 1848.

THIS letter will be delivered to you by Captain Tindal, of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," who will communicate with you upon the subject of John Freeman.

I wrote to you so lately upon this case that I have nothing to add to my letter of the 12th ultimo, except that in the event of Freeman proving to be a British subject, he can, if he pleases, be received on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent" in this harbour, until an opportunity occurs of sending him to his native country, in case he desires to return thither.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 44.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 16, 1848.

HER Majesty's Consul at Bahia having applied to me for an opinion upon a point relative to the sale of British vessels in Brazilian ports, and transmitted to me a copy of his despatch to your Lordship of the 9th of September last, I have the honour to submit to your Lordship the answer which I returned to Mr. Porter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Consul Porter to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Bahia, September 18, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, copy of a despatch and inclosures addressed by me to Viscount Palmerston, giving the particulars of an attempt to sell a British vessel at this port, for the purpose of being employed in Slave Traffic.

Inclosures marked No. 2 and No. 4 in the said despatch I have omitted to forward to you, being merely powers of attorney and a protest, which were drawn up in the usual legal form.

As a similar occurrence may take place here before I can possibly receive Viscount Palmerston's instructions as to the necessity of my compliance with the forms stipulated in the Imperial Decree of 1846, relative to the sale of foreign vessels in Brazilian ports, I would gladly have your opinion whether I am bound to grant my permission in writing, for the sale of British vessels, under any circumstances, when required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Mr. Hudson to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 28, 1848.

I RECEIVED by Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," your despatch on the subject of the "*Fuente Santa*" (the sale of which you very properly prevented), and in which despatch you ask my opinion whether you are bound

to grant your permission in writing for the sale of British vessels, under any circumstances, when required.

In reply I have to state it as my opinion, that you are bound, in granting permission for the sale of British vessels, to see, first of all, that British law is exactly fulfilled, without reference to any Brazilian decree whatever; and in cases of so suspicious nature as that of the "*Fuente Santa*," you are bound to prevent the sale altogether.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 45.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 16, 1849.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th of November last, reporting the seizure of 110 Bozal negroes, by the Brazilian authorities; inclosing a list of vessels which had landed cargoes of slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, from August to September last; and calling attention to the success which attends the employment of steam-vessels in Slave Trade, and to the use of United States' vessels in that Traffic.

I have now to instruct you to use your best endeavours, by seeking information from Her Majesty's Consuls, or from other trustworthy quarters, to obtain as accurate an estimate as can be formed, of the number of slaves landed in Brazil in the year 1848.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 46.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1849.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December 16, 1848.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th ultimo, in which I reported the great extension and support given to the Slave Trade by the employment in it of United States' vessels, I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that not only do United States' vessels bring slaves to Brazil, but that they are sold, fitted, and armed for Slave Trade in this port; the purpose of the armament being, as it is publicly stated, to sink the boats of those British cruisers which may venture to overhaul them on the coast.

The United States' brig "*Flora*," of 280 tons, sold to Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, is now being armed and fitted for Slave Trade in this harbour.

The United States' barque "*Globe*" landed 600 slaves, a short time ago, at Rio dos Ostras; and the United States' brig of war "*Perry*" went in pursuit of an American ship known to be intended for Slave Trade, no later than the day before yesterday; but the moment the ship perceived that the brig was following her, she dropped her anchor within the limits of this port, where she still remains, to all intents and purposes guarded and protected by the Brazilian authorities.

The efforts of the United States' Minister at this Court, Colonel Fox, and the United States' Consul for this port, Mr. Parkes, are unceasing to prevent Slave Trade being carried on by United States' citizens; but they are of no avail against the countenance and protection given to the Traffic by the Brazilian Government and authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 47.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 16, 1848.

THE Brazilian Legislature at their last session passed a law increasing the duties levied upon all goods shipped in Brazil for the coast of Africa.

It was said at the time, that this measure was intended to check Slave Trade; but as I conceived its provisions would be evaded by the slave-dealers, I waited to see its operation before reporting upon it to your Lordship.

I have now the honour to state that this law is evaded in the following manner.

The slave-dealer loads his vessel, clears for, and sends her to, Monte Video, or any other neighbouring port. At Monte Video the master receives his certificate of entry, which is transmitted to Rio de Janeiro, where bond has been given at the custom-house that the vessel was not intended for the Coast. The bond is then cancelled; but in the meanwhile the vessel has sailed for Africa and has shipped her cargo of slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 48.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd September, containing your Lordship's opinion of the cases of the "*Bella Miguelina*" and of John Freeman.

I lost no time in transmitting a copy of that despatch to Mr. Consul Porter, in order that he might guide himself thereby in dealing with Freeman's case.

Mr. Porter has acknowledged the receipt of that copy and will follow the principle laid down by your Lordship with regard to that case which he had not entered upon when my letter reached him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 49.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 16, 1848.

AT no period during the history of the Brazilian Slave Trade have so many slave-dealers left Brazil as of late for Africa to purchase slaves; at no period have so many vessels been employed in this traffic, which during the next four months will be increased to a frightful extent.

The only variation which I see in this Trade is, that the slave-dealers are shifting their haunts, and as the port and neighbourhood of Macahé has become even too notorious, the cargoes of human misery and suffering are now directed to Angra dos Reyes, to the southward of Rio de Janeiro, from whence large quantities of slaves are being forwarded to the coffee districts of Minas Geraes.

Your Lordship will imagine the extent to which protection of the Slave Trade had arrived at Macahé, when the Government officers there were paid for their connivance in Slave Trade, by bills at sight on the slave-dealers in Rio.

The larger share of orders for slaves has been sent to the Mozambique coast, because the Rio slave-traders have learnt that that part of Africa is less guarded at this moment than the Western Coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 50.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 26, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, on the subject of the fraudulent abstraction of 57 slaves in the harbour of Maranham, from on board a brigantine in charge of Lieutenant Wasey, of Her Majesty's sloop "Alert," which had been forced to seek refuge in that harbour in the month of January 1846, while on her way to Sierra Leone for adjudication.

I have now to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Maranham, inclosing a deposition made before him by the African, Black Will, who succeeded towards the end of the year 1847 in effecting his escape from the place to which he was conveyed after the abduction, and in gaining the protection of Mr. Consul Corbett, by whom he was sent to this country.

These papers appear to afford a satisfactory clue to the discovery both of the kidnapped negroes and of the authors of the outrage, and I have accordingly to instruct you to communicate them to the Brazilian Government, and to state that Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that it will now be in the power of the Brazilian Government both to rescue the unfortunate survivors of these negroes from Slavery, and to discover and punish their oppressors; and you will add that a failure in accomplishing these objects cannot be looked upon by Her Majesty's Government otherwise than as a deliberate intention on the part of the Brazilian Government to deprive those negroes of that freedom to which they are legally entitled, and to screen the persons who were guilty of so flagrant an outrage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston, November 8, 1848.

[See No. 77.]

No. 51.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 3, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of November 16, 1848, and its inclosures, respecting the case of a man of colour named John Freeman, a native of Sierra Leone, who had been held in slavery at Bahia, and who having, as a British subject, claimed the protection of Commander Tindal of Her Majesty's ship "Grecian," while that vessel was at Bahia in the month of May last, was carried away from Bahia by that officer, and placed on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent" at Rio de Janeiro; and further stating that the negro in question had at your suggestion been sent back to Bahia by order of Commodore Sir T. Herbert, in order that his case might be inquired into at that place.

I have in reply to state to you that two questions arise out of this case. The first is, whether this man is or is not a British subject; and in regard to this point, the full and clear statement which the negro made with respect to himself when he first came on board the "Grecian," the exact description which he gave of Sierra Leone, and the manner in which he speaks English, can leave no reasonable doubt that he is a British subject.

But no British subject can legally be held in slavery in any country; and if a British subject, being held in slavery in Brazil or elsewhere, contrives to escape, and seeks refuge on board a British man-of-war, the commanding

officer thereof is bound to receive him and to protect him, and to convey him away at a convenient opportunity, without asking the concurrence of the authorities, and without making his conduct in such a matter depend in any degree upon any proceeding to be had before any local court of law. Commander Tindal was therefore perfectly right in receiving and affording protection to John Freeman; and I hope that by this time John Freeman has been sent back to Sierra Leone, the only place where the truth or falsehood of his statement could be correctly ascertained.

The second question which arises is whether, supposing Freeman not to be a British subject, he is or is not a slave according to the law of Brazil; and that question certainly turns very much upon the point mentioned by you, namely, whether he was imported before or after the time specified in the Law of 1831. That is an inquiry which undoubtedly could not be carried on except in conjunction with the Brazilian authorities; but you were quite right in not allowing the man to be given up to the Brazilian authorities pending such inquiry.

The result of such inquiry would certainly be, as you state, either that compensation should be made to the owner, if the man was legally a slave, or that punishment ought to be awarded to the owner if the man being legally entitled to his freedom, was illegally detained and dealt with as a slave.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 3, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of November, last, inclosing copies of a correspondence between Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia and yourself, upon the subject of his refusal to give the written permission which is required in such cases by the law of Brazil, to enable the sale of the British felucca "*Fuente Santa*" to be effected by the attorney of her owner; and I now transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Porter in reply to his representation to me on this subject, which you will perceive in substance tallies with your letter to him of the 28th of September last, of which letter I entirely approve.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter, January 11, 1849.

[See No. 71.]

No. 53.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1849.

I WAITED this day upon Viscount Olinda, and placed in his Excellency's hands your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd of November last, stating that Her Majesty's Government would extend to a Brazilian agent sent over to England, all proper assistance in connexion with emigration to Brazil, under certain conditions.

Viscount Olinda having attentively read that despatch, said that the Imperial Government were very sensible of the great benefit to be derived from the immigration of white colonists into Brazil; but as the project of law respecting

colonization which was introduced into the Senate last session had been suspended, there were no resources at the disposal of the Imperial Government, which would enable them to assure immediate employment to the colonists on their arrival in Brazil.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 54.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 13, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th of December last, upon the mode in which the men-stealers of Rio Janeiro evade the operation of the Brazilian Customs' Laws. I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copies of two letters and of their inclosures which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video, upon the subject of an American vessel, named the "*Flora*," which is owned by Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, and the fraudulent sale of which to Fonseca was effected by the agency of one Clapp, a citizen of the United States; the object being on the part of Fonseca, to evade payment of the increased Brazilian export duties of 30 per cent., and on the part of Clapp, to lend his name, for a pecuniary consideration, to the sale of the "*Flora*," and thus enable the kidnapper to sail her under American colours to the Coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

Mr. Hudson to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, December 25, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the copy of a letter (and its inclosures) which has been addressed to me by the Acting British Consul for this province, from which you will perceive that an American vessel the "*Flora*" has been bought by Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, a man-stealer and seller established in this capital, and has been loaded by him with a cargo of goods, intended (as is evident from her manifest) for the Slave Trade, and has been cleared out by him for Monte Video.

It will occur to you, therefore, that as the cargo of the "*Flora*" is intended to be exchanged against slaves, the clearance for Monte Video is intended to cloak some other object, which is this:

The Brazilian Customs' Law enacts that goods cleared from Brazilian ports for the coast of Africa, shall pay increased export duties.

The man-stealers in order to escape the provisions of this enactment, clear out their vessels with coast goods for some neighbouring port, giving bond at the port of clearance.

The vessel then proceeds on her voyage, and arriving at her destination, she receives her certificate of entry, which is sent back to the port whence she sailed, where the owners bond is immediately cancelled at the custom-house.

The vessel in the meanwhile has sailed for the Coast, having escaped the obligations of the Brazilian Code with perfect ease.

In the present case of the voyage of the "*Flora*," I have to suggest that you should watch her proceedings at Monte Video, where she doubtless will put this fraud into execution.

There is moreover another fraud contemplated in this voyage of the "*Flora*," to which I have also to direct your attention.

The "*Flora*" is said to have been owned by a citizen of the United States, and the go-between of the man-stealers of Rio de Janeiro. He lends his name to sales of American vessels, which preserve that character as long as it

suits the purpose of the man-stealer, who thus uses both Brazilian and United States' flags.

The "*Flora*," for instance, having been partly sold to the man-stealer Fonseca by this United States' citizen, sails for Monte Video under American colours, but when she arrives there will probably throw off the mask and proceed under Brazilian colours to the Coast.

This fraudulent use of flags will at once engage your attention, and you will probably be able to defeat the contemplated iniquity, by communicating with the proper authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, December 20, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to make certain verbal communications to you respecting the sale and preparing in this port for an African voyage, of the American brig "*Flora*," and I now beg leave to report that that vessel is nearly ready for sea, and to inclose for your information a memorandum of the cargo that has been shipped on board her.

I understand that the "*Flora*" is to be cleared through the custom-house for Monte Video, but a mere reference to the manifest will immediately prove that the merchandize therein mentioned is in no way adapted for the River Plate market, but a well-assorted cargo for the African coast.

By the "*Lei d'Orcamento*,"* which was published and came into operation a short time since, the export duty to Africa was raised to 30 per cent., and it is to avoid this duty that the "*Flora*" proceeds in the first place to the River Plate, from whence it is intended to continue the voyage to Africa.

It is well known that the "*Flora*" is now the property of Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, although still wearing American colours.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

Memorandum of Merchandize shipped on board the American brig "Flora," bound to the River Plate.

Re-exported by Faustino Pereira de Oliveira Guimarães:

Marks.

J P	4 cases with	240 pieces calico prints.
"	20 ditto	400 ordinary muskets.
[M]	1 ditto	30 pieces cotton goods.
[Z]R	6 ditto	96 ordinary scarlet cloths
"	2 bales with	40 pieces baize.
"	1 ditto	16 pieces ordinary scarlet cloth.
"	1 ditto	20 pieces baize.
"	3 ditto	48 pieces ordinary scarlet cloth.
J R	6 cases with	315 pieces ordinary printed shawls.
R M M	23 bales with	2,160 pieces chillas and coromandas.
"	41 ditto	cotton goods, common drills, and calicos.
R S M	25 cases with	500 common muskets.
"	9 ditto	180 ditto.
[J T]	9 bales with	180 pieces (pannos da costa).
[Z]R	3 ditto	36 pieces common scarlet cloth.
J R	3 cases with	450 pieces common shawls.
[J T]	10 ditto	1000 pieces calico prints.
"	6 bales with	600 pieces ordinary cottons.
"	5 cases with	1000 pieces ordinary handkerchiefs.
R M M	29 bales of ordinary cottons,	coromandas and chillas.
"	33 cases and bales ordinary	handkerchiefs and cotton goods.
[J T]	43 bales of chillas, coromandas,	and pannos da costa.
[Z]R	3 bales common scarlet cloth	and baize.
J P	4 bales with	800 woollen caps.
AB	38 cases glass beads, false coral,	&c.

* Customs Law.

Re-exported by Vicente Manoel Espindola :

Marks.

P	1200 barrels of powder.
"	114 cases and bales various cotton goods, ordinary handkerchiefs, &c.
"	32 cases and bales ditto ditto

Re-exported by Nicolo Ventura Fortuna :

B	40 cases with 800 ordinary muskets.
"	10 ditto 200 ditto

Re-exported by Antonio Vieuva da Cunha :

S M R	25 bales with 3000 pieces chillas and coromandas.
"	2 ditto 240 pieces salampores.
"	1 ditto 120 pieces chillas and coromandas.
"	10 ditto 600 pieces salampores.
"	10 cases with 498 pieces calico prints.
"	30 ditto 1500 ditto
"	50 bales with 6000 pieces chillas and coromandas.
"	50 ditto 6000 ditto ditto
"	6 bales ordinary striped cottons.
H C R & Co.	1016 barrels of powder.

Inclosure 4 in No. 54.

Mr. Hudson to Captain Gore.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1849.

WITH reference to my letter to you of the 25th ultimo on the subject of the "*Flora*" United States' brig, suspected of being employed in Slave Trade, I beg to inform you that as she has been vigilantly watched by the United States' authorities at this capital, her owners have given out that they intend to discharge her cargo of coast goods into the French barque "*Francisca*," of which I have now the honour to apprise you, in order that you may take such steps as seem most advisable upon the arrival of the latter at Monte Video, for which port she has cleared in order, like the "*Flora*," to evade the Brazilian Customs' Law and aid in carrying on Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 55.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 13, 1849

THE avowed and continual employment of United States' vessels in Slave Trade has of late been checked by the vigorous action of the United States' authorities in this capital; and I have the honour to report to your Lordship that the two American vessels, the "*Ann D. Richards*" and the "*Independence*" were seized by order of the United States' Commodore, shortly after they sailed from this port, and have been sent to the United States for trial.

The United States' brig "*Flora*," which forms the subject of my despatch to your Lordship of this date, having been unable to evade the vigilance of the American brig of war "*Perry*," Captain Davis, has been obliged to tranship her cargo into the French barque "*Princesse Francisca*," which also has received the cargo of the United States' pilot boat "*Zenobia*," suspected of being employed in Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Acting Consul has lost no time in addressing the Consul of France upon this subject; and it is to be hoped that the voyage of the "*Francisca*," to which so much suspicion of right attaches, may also be prevented.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the letter which I have received from Mr. Westwood upon this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Acting-Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1848.

YOU are already aware of the steps taken by the American authorities respecting the brig "*Flora*," resulting in the abandonment of that vessel's voyage; and I have now the honour to inform you that the French barque, "*Princesse Francisca*" has been chartered by Manoel Pinto da Fonseca to convey the "*Flora's*" cargo to the African coast, touching at Monte Video, to avoid the export duty to Africa.

Besides the "*Flora's*" cargo, I understand that the "*Princesse Francisca*" is also to take the cargo from the "*Zenobia*," an American pilot boat that was preparing for an African voyage, but which has been abandoned in the same manner as the "*Flora*."

The seizure by the American Commodore, of the "*Ann D. Richards*" and "*Independence*," for the illegal use of the flag of the United States, has caused much alarm among the slave-dealers in this city; and should the American authorities continue their present course towards vessels leaving this port under the American flag for African voyages, it will be a great blow to the Slave Trading interests in this place.

Under actual circumstances, when the slave-dealers are embarrassed by the proceedings of the American authorities, and by the heavy export duty lately imposed by the Brazilian Government on merchandize shipped for Africa, it is the more to be lamented that they so readily obtain for their nefarious purposes the assistance of the French flag; and taking this view of the case, I this morning called upon M. Jaunay, the French Consul, and acquainted him with the circumstances under which the "*Princesse Francisca*" has been chartered, and explained to him the double fraud that is intended to be committed with that vessel. M. Jaunay expressed his regret that the flag of France should be made subservient to slave-trading purposes, at the same time stating that it was not in his power to prevent the intended voyage, but promised that he would watch the proceedings of the "*Princesse Francisca*," and report the same to the French authorities at Monte Video, at which port the first fraud is to be committed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Bahia*.

No. 56.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 22.)

My Lord,

Bahia, March 31, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith returns No. 1 and 2 of the Trade between this place and the coast of Africa, for the quarter ending this day.

The return No. 1 furnishes a startling proof of the extreme avidity with which Slave Traffic is carried on at this place, and fearful risks individuals engaged therein will subject themselves to in order to gain their ends.

It appears incredible, but it is nevertheless a fact, that a ship's long-boat manned by three persons and measuring twenty-four feet extreme length, seven feet breadth, and only three feet nine inches depth, has arrived here from the coast of Africa, in which fifty miserable children had actually been stowed, and thirty-five conducted hither, fifteen having died on the passage.

It is more than probable that every soul on board would have perished for want of water and provisions, had they not been relieved by a merchant-vessel, when reduced to the last extremity.

The authorities here have not taken the slightest notice of this occurrence, although it is generally known and spoken of, numbers having been to see the boat as an object of curiosity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1848.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	1848 January 8	Brazilian	Patache	Maria ..	144	19	M. J. Bata. Gonçalves	L. P. Marinho ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 650 slaves
2	" 16	Spanish ..	Felucca	Calumnia ..	34	8	D. Benito Mayol ..	Not known..	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed 230 slaves
3	" 18	Brazilian	Polacca	Bella Miguelina..	263	18	H. José Viera ..	Not known..	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed 340 slaves
4	" 29	Sardinian	Polacca	Frederico ..	237	12	G. B. Grandona ..	Not known..	General	Ajudá ..	29	Landed slaves at Macahé
5	February 9	Brazilian	Barque	Joven Innocente	320	8	J. M. dos Santos ..	Not known..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	..	Landed slaves at Macahé
6	" 15	Brazilian	Patache	Julia ..	62	14	M. S. N. Chamuseca..	Not known..	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed slaves at Macahé
7	" 17	Brazilian	Yacht	Mete Muao ..	..	12	M. L. de M. Guimaraes	Not known..	Ditto	Ajudá ..	32	Landed 420 slaves
8	" 17	French ..	Barque	Socrate ..	178	10	J. B. Potier ..	Not known..	Ditto	Onim ..	32	Landed 420 slaves
9	" 25	Brazilian	Yacht	Diligencia ..	88	18	M. J. Bata. Fereira ..	Alvarez da Cruz Rios	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 302 slaves, 59 {said to have been killed
10	March 3	Sardinian	Polacca	Archangelo ..	182	14	G. Devoto ..	Not known	Ditto	Ditto ..	44	Landed 35 slaves, 15 {died on passage
11	" 3	Originally an American ship's boat not exceeding 10 tons, crew 3.						..	Ditto	Ditto ..	50	Landed 35 slaves, 15 {died on passage
12	" 5	French ..	Schooner	Mésange ..	102	10	J. Lallemand..	Not known	Ditto	Ajudá ..	32	Landed 35 slaves, 15 {died on passage
13	" 11	French ..	Barque	Joséphine ..	243	12	E. C. D'Endeville ..	Not known	Ditto	Popo ..	30	Landed 430 slaves
14	" 21	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha ..	80	18	M. J. P. de Fonseca..	J. P. Marinho ..	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 430 slaves
15	" 28	French ..	Brig	Saphir ..	251	12	J. Allay ..	Not known	Ditto	Onim ..	40	Landed 180 slaves
16	" 30	Spanish ..	Felucca	Calumnia ..	34	8	D. Benito Mayol ..	Not known	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 180 slaves

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

List of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1848.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1847	Brazilian	Brig ..	Gentil Africano ..	321	28	Romão A. da Cruz	Not known ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for Macahé
2	January 13	French	Schooner	François Xavier ..	103	10	R. G. Moisant	Ditto ..	General	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores
3	" 14	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha ..	80	18	"	J. P. Marinho	Ballast	Ditto	
4	" 17	Brazilian	Polacca	Galileo ..	182	10	"	Not known ..	General	Ditto	
5	" 18	Sardinian	Smack	Concordia ..	103	8	E. Solari ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	
6	" 19	Ditto	Polacca	Giudetta ..	184	11	R. Dodero ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	
7	" 25	Brazilian	Brig ..	Dous Amigos ..	141	26	M. Dodero ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Canaries
8	February 2	Sardinian	Polacca	Vincitore ..	209	10	A. C. da C. Bitencourt	Ditto ..	General	Ditto	
9	" 2	Spanish	Felucca	Calumnia ..	34	8	P. A. Compondonico	Ditto ..	Ballast	Ditto	
10	" 6	Brazilian	Ditto	Vigilante ..	57	22	D. Benito Mayol ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Canaries
11	" 7	Ditto	Brig schooner	Pensamento ..	247	21	M. J. B. Gonçalves	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Ceará
12	" 11	French	Brig ..	La Circonstance ..	253	11	J. P. d'A. Viana ..	Ditto ..	General	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Canaries
13	" 13	Brazilian	Ditto	Linda Flor ..	139	17	J. B. Enet ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Ditto	
14	" 14	Ditto	Ditto	Vareta ..	248	33	J. J. Borges	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Rio Grande
15	" 16	Ditto	Polacca	Dous Amigos ..	395	23	G. R. Germanu ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores
16	" 17	Ditto	Ditto	Bella Miguelina ..	263	29	J. J. Alves Barlozo	Not known ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Macahé
17	" 19	American	Brig ..	Cadet ..	294	10	M. H. J. Viera da Sa.	Ditto ..	General	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores
18	March 1	Brazilian	Patache	Maria ..	144	19	J. Hawson ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Goree	Slaver
19	" 5	French	Ditto	Eclipse ..	150	9	M. J. da Ca. Pinheiro	Not known ..	General	Coast of Africa	
20	" 16	Sardinian	Polacca	Frederico ..	237	12	M. A. C. Poilleu ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	
21	" 18	Brazilian	Schooner	Mete Mão ..	101	14	M. J. Grandona ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Canaries
22	" 22	Ditto	Yacht	2a. Andorinha ..	125	19	M. J. Palacio	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Para
23	" 28	French	Schooner	Mésange ..	152	10	D. da Costa Lage ..	Ditto ..	General	Ditto	
24	" 29	American	Barque	Helena Augusta ..	232	11	J. M. Lallemand	Ditto ..	Rum	Ditto	
25	" 31	Ditto	Yacht	S. W. Kampton ..	191	7	Henry Sinclair	Ditto ..	General	Ambriz	
26	" "	Brazilian	Ditto	Diligencia ..	88	18	M. E. P. Stanhope	Ditto ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for Prince's Isle

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

No. 57.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Bahia, April 25, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 10th of January last, with copy of letter and inclosures from the Admiralty relating to the United States' schooner "*Eleanor*," which traded from this port to the coast of Africa, desiring that I would communicate to your Lordship any circumstances which may have come to my knowledge respecting her.

It appears, by the register of vessels kept at this Consulate, that the schooner "*Eleanor*" arrived here, from Onim on the coast of Africa, in ballast, on October 10, 1845, R. Stanhope master, under the American flag; and continued trading to and from that coast until 1847, as shown by Inclosure No. 1. She appears to have been sold about the month of February 1846, to a noted slave-dealer of this place, J. P. Marinho, a native of Portugal naturalized in Brazil, when she again proceeded to the coast, under the American colours, in charge of a person named Dunham, the principal part of her cargo being shipped by J. P. Marinho; and returned here again in ballast, under command of C. W. Rogers, when she made two more voyages under the American flag, both cargoes being again shipped by the said Marinho.

After her arrival here in May 1847, her name was changed to "*Theodozia*," and taking the Brazilian flag she again proceeded to the coast, where she was captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers.

Inclosure No. 2 will in part substantiate this statement, and which is strengthened by the circumstance of J. P. Marinho having paid into this Consulate the sum claimed by me for stores supplied by Her Majesty's steamer "*Hecate*," in February 1847, to the "*Eleanor*," when under the American flag and in charge of the said C. W. Rogers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

Extract from the List of Vessels trading between this Port and the Coast of Africa.

ARRIVALS.

Date of Arrival.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Cargo.	Where from.	Master.	Consignee of Vessel.
October 10, 1845	United States	Schooner	Eleanor	Ballast	Onim	P. R. Stanhope	..
February 5, 1846	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	Ditto	..
August 9, "	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Onim	W. C. Rogers	J. P. Marinho
November 18, "	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
May 20, 1847	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	Ditto	Ditto

DEPARTURES.

Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Master.	Shipper of Cargo.
November 7, 1845	United States	Schooner	Eleanor	General	Coast of Africa	P. R. Stanhope	J. P. Marinho
March 27, 1846	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Tobacco, rum, and dollars	Ditto	G. T. Dunham	Ditto
September 14, "	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Tobacco, rum, and goods	Ditto	W. C. Rogers	Ditto
December 21, "	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Tobacco, rum, and dollars	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
25, 1847	Brazilian	Ditto	Theodozia	Ballast	Ditto	— Barriga	..

British Consulate, Bahia, April 25, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Mr. Briggs to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Admiralty, October 18, 1848.

I BEG leave to inclose two receipts from Mr. C. Rogers, the master of the schooner "*Eleanor*," for stores supplied to her by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Hecate*," on the 14th February last, amounting to 30*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and it being stated on the receipt that Mr. Fernando Wood, of New York, was the owner, application was accordingly made to him by Her Majesty's Consul there for payment. Mr. Wood however declined satisfying the claim, on the ground, as he states, that the "*Eleanor*" ceased to be his property in February 1846, through the improper conduct of her then master, who sold her to M. Marinho of Bahia, under certain circumstances, without cancelling the American register, and that her present master, C. Rogers, knew M. Marinho to be her owner at the time the stores in question were supplied to the "*Eleanor*." I have therefore to request you will have the goodness to call upon M. Marinho for payment of 30*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and debit yourself therewith, when received, in your cash account with this department, reporting the result.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. T. BRIGGS,
Accountant-General.

Inclosure 3 in No. 57.

*Receipt for Stores supplied to the "Eleanor."**"Hecate," off Lagos, February 14, 1847.*

RECEIVED from Mr. C. J. Pulfer, second master in charge of boatswains' stores, the under-mentioned, for the use of the American schooner "*Eleanor*," under my command, for which payment will be made by Fernando Wood of New York, the owner of the vessel, viz.:—

Anchor, weighing three cwt. One No. stock, weighing two quarters twenty-seven pounds. One No. chain cable, three-quarters inch, ninety-one fathoms.

(Signed)

WM. C. ROGERS,

Master of the American schooner "*Eleanor*."

Approved,

Jos. WEST,

Commander and Senior Officer present.

No. 58.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Bahia, April 26, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of the manifesto of the United States' schooner "*J. W. Kampton*," R. Stanhope, master, which sailed from this for the coast of Africa on the 31st ultimo.

It is reported that the said vessel has been sold to slave-dealers here under the circumstances referred to in my despatch of 31st December last, and there can be no doubt that the quantities of provisions mentioned in the manifest are destined for the sustenance of slaves.

R. Stanhope appears to have been the master of the American schooner "*Eleanor*," mentioned in your Lordship's despatch of 10th January, 1848.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure in No. 58.

*Manifest of the American schooner "J. W. Kampton," cleared 29th March, 1848,
for the Coast of Africa.*

75 pipes rum.
20 bags rice.
40 barrels dried beef.
80 barrels mandioca flour.

British Consulate, Bahia, April 26, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER.

No. 59.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Bahia, May 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the inclosed copies of a correspondence with his Excellency the President of this province and Commander Tindal of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," relative to an attack made by a large party of armed men on the prize polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," having on board 517 slaves, captured by the said sloop, and unfortunately compelled to put into this port for want of water and provisions, unaccompanied by her captor.

This piratical attempt was made at 10 o'clock on the night of the arrival of the said polacca, when anchored under the batteries of the fort and four Brazilian ships of war.

On my hearing the firing and disturbance I hastened to the President, requesting his immediate assistance, which was instantly given, and a communication forwarded to the Commander of the Brazilian naval forces. It arrived however too late to be effective, as the attacking party had already been beaten off by the prize-crew, three of whom were slightly wounded, including the officer in command, Lieutenant D'Aguiar. The attacking party is stated to have consisted of about eighty individuals, of whom two were killed and others wounded.

This affair has caused considerable excitement and ill-feeling towards the British residents; happily no insult has yet been offered to any of them, and as the "Grecian" sailed with her prize on the evening of the 3rd instant I trust it will soon subside.

As Her Majesty's steamer "Firebrand," which arrived here on the 4th instant, leaves again to-day, we shall have no British vessel-of-war in port, which under existing circumstances would have been desirable.

I have likewise the honour to annex further copies of a correspondence relative to an African calling himself John Freeman, who being a slave in this place, presented himself on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," claiming protection as a British subject on the ground of having been born at Sierra Leone. Commander Tindal has decided to keep this individual on board, and to refer his case to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Brazils.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER.

Copies of the inclosed correspondence (1 to 26) have been transmitted to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

Lieutenant D'Aguilar to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Bella Miguelina," Saturday, April 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have arrived in charge of the "*Bella Miguelina*," Brazilian brig, having 517 slaves on board. My having only one day's more provisions on board, and not sufficient provisions and water to leave for my destination, has been the cause of my putting into this port.

The "Grecian" (which ship captured the "*Bella Miguelina*" on the 22nd) is still outside, not having put in from stress of weather.

Any orders you may have for my conduct will be most gratefully received, and the provisions and water which are necessary I shall consider myself authorized in ordering from Messrs. Wilson and Co., who have supplied the "Grecian" with necessaries on other occasions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. J. D'AGUILAR,

Lieutenant of H.M.S. "Grecian," in charge of the prize.

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Lieutenant D'Aguilar.

Sir,

Bahia, Sunday morning, April 30, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of yesterday evening announcing your arrival here in charge of the Brazilian brig "*Bella Miguelina*," with 517 negroes, captured by Her Majesty's ship "Grecian" on 22nd instant, that the want of provisions and water had caused you to put into this port.

I have given directions to Messrs. Wilson & Co. to furnish you with the supplies you require, a portion of which I trust will be put on board to-day.

On my hearing the firing and disturbance on board your vessel at 10 o'clock last night I immediately waited on the President of the province, and requested that orders might be given to the commander of the Brazilian frigate "*Constituição*" to render you assistance if required, and which his Excellency promised me should be done.

As a precautionary measure, should the "Grecian" not make her appearance during the day, would it not be advisable to anchor the "*Bella Miguelina*" nearer to the Brazilian frigate, and if in accordance with the regulations of the service, to hoist a pendant.

I am informed that the prize is at present in quarantine; such is the port regulation with vessels from the coast of Africa.

During the present excited feelings of the populace it will be prudent to have as little communication as possible with the shore.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 59.

Lieutenant D'Aguilar to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Bella Miguelina," Sunday, April 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the "*Bella Miguelina*" was attacked at about half-past 9 last night by a party of armed men, headed by some eight or nine of the white men of the country, who attempted to board my vessel in two large feluccas (market boats), and after some considerable resistance on our part were beaten off. I opened fire on the boats immediately on discerning their piratical intentions, and continued until they retreated, about a quarter of an hour in all. In this petty affair I have been slightly wounded in the head, and two of the men

have received wounds from sabre-cuts. Fortunately no farther injury was sustained on our side. I beg again particularly to bring to your notice the reason of my having put into this port, namely, want of provisions and water, having no more than the sweepings of the provision-room to supply the slaves to-day. I beg to notice the conduct of the captain of the "Constituição," who came on board immediately on our making a signal, and caused a boat to row guard round us all night.

I shall avail myself of his kind permission to allow me to anchor the vessel in my charge under his guns, until the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Grecian."

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. J. D'AGUILAR.

Any advice you can give me for my conduct will be most gratefully received. I dare not leave the ship for fear of another attack.

F. J. D'AGUILAR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Lieutenant D'Aguilar.

Sir,

Bahia, April 30, 1848.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, informing me that the "*Bella Miguelina*" under your command had been attacked at half-past 9 o'clock last night by a party of armed men in two large feluccas or country boats. On attempting to board your vessel you had fired into them; and after considerable resistance on your part they were beaten off; that you had been slightly wounded on the head, and two of your seamen had received sabre-cuts.

You also call my attention to the commendable conduct of the captain of the Brazilian frigate "Constituição," who came to your assistance, and left a boat to row guard round your vessel during the night.

I deeply regret this atrocious outrage, and I shall lose no time in placing the particulars before the President of this province in the hope that such measures will be adopted by his Excellency as may lead to the speedy apprehension of the leaders and instigators of it.

You ask my advice for your future guidance during the time you remain in this port, and state that you will not quit the ship, fearing another attack.

As you have anchored the "*Bella Miguelina*" close to the Brazilian frigate, and requested the protection of the captain, I do not imagine any further attempt will be made to take her. I can only repeat that which I told the young officer last night—"Be vigilant, and fully prepared. Do not visit the shore, or permit any of your crew to do so."

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, April 30, 1848.

THE Brazilian polacca "*Bella Miguelina*" having been captured with a cargo of slaves on board by Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" and anchored in this port in consequence of a want of water and provisions, yesterday at 4 P.M. in charge of Lieutenant F. J. D'Aguilar of Her Majesty's Navy, it becomes my painful duty to acquaint your Excellency that at about half past 9 o'clock on the same evening the said polacca was attacked by a large party of armed men in two country barques who

attempted to board her, but were beaten off after considerable resistance, having wounded the officer in charge and two seamen.

Such a glaring act of violence and piracy committed under the very batteries of the Imperial forts and vessels of war, calls for your Excellency's most active interference in order that the instigators as well as the perpetrators of this lawless and atrocious outrage may be speedily discovered and brought to condign punishment.

It is satisfactory to me to make known to your Excellency that on a signal having been made from the polacca, the Captain of His Imperial Majesty's frigate "Constituição" immediately went on board and caused a boat to row guard round her during the night.

The Commander of the "*Bella Miguelina*" has availed himself of the permission of the captain of the "Constituição," and anchored his vessel under the guns of the frigate, which precautionary measure will I trust be the means of preventing the repetition of such disgraceful proceedings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 59.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 1, 1848.

IN answer to your despatch of yesterday, in which you inform me that the Brazilian polacca "*Belle Miguelina*," taken with a cargo of Africans, slaves, on board, by Her Majesty's brig "*Grecian*," and anchored in this port on account of want of provisions and water, under command of Lieutenant D'Aguilar, was attacked last night about half past 9 o'clock, by a strong party of armed men in two country barques, who, trying to board her, were beaten off after considerable resistance, wounding the said Commander and two sailors. I have to inform you that this Government, acknowledging the gravity of so violent and criminal an act, has given the requisite orders to attach the responsibility upon those who perpetrated it; at the same time congratulating itself that, as communicated by you, the Captain of the Brazilian frigate "Constituição" had assisted Her Britannic Majesty's officer, having presented himself on board the polacca and caused a boat to row guard during the night to prevent another attack. And as to the judicial proceedings which have to be instituted, it is requisite to verify the state of the wounds which have happened by means of a "corpo de delicto" (legal examination) as is prescribed by the laws of the country, I have to request you to cause the wounded, in case they should be able to do so, to present themselves before the Chief of Police, in order that the said act may be proceeded with. Lastly, as the public health must necessarily be endangered by keeping a vessel anchored in this port, on board of which are such a large number of people inevitably afflicted with diseases from the barbarous manner in which they are conveyed, I have to request you to endeavour to cause her departure as soon as possible.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEAO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Bahia, May 1, 1848.

LIEUTENANT D'AGUILAR will have informed you of the attempt made to capture the polacca "*Belle Miguelina*," and how much has been risked by her not having the protection of Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*."

As there is still much excitement among the lower classes, it may be prudent in order to guard against insult, that your officers and crew should not visit the shore more than the service requires.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 8 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir, "Grecian," Bahia, May 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date relative to the polacca brig "*Bella Miguelina*," and cautioning me of the danger in allowing any of the officers or crew to visit the shore more than is absolutely necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 9 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir, "Grecian," at sea, April 30, 1848.

I BEG to inform you that on the 22nd instant, about lat. 12° 33' S., long. 35° 56' W., cruising between the port of Bahia and Maceio, I saw a suspicious looking brig running under all sail before the wind, apparently bound for Bahia. I made sail to cut her off, when she, on discovering me to be one of Her Majesty's vessels, suddenly hauled to the wind. I continued chasing, and came up with her about midnight, she having shown no colours before dark, though a gun was fired at her to make her do so. On boarding her she proved to be the "*Bella Miguelina*," a polacca brig (Brazilian) from Lagos, coast of Africa, bound to Bahia (from which latter place I perceive by the manifest she cleared out on the 17th of February last for the Azores), with a cargo of 518 Africans on board. I immediately took possession of her and sent a prize-crew on board, taking all her own crew out, except the captain and three men, they being requisite by our Convention for her trial.

We found her short of provisions and water. I therefore ordered the prize-master, Lieutenant D'Aguiar of this sloop, to proceed off the port of Bahia, in company with me, where she was to remain outside, while I ran in to procure and bring out to him a supply.

Since her capture we have had very bad weather, which prevented us from arriving here before, and the prize unfortunately parted company during Friday night the 28th instant, having as she informed the evening before but two days' provisions on board. Since that time I have not seen her, and therefore conclude that she has put into Bahia, which I tried by every means to avoid.

May 1.—On hailing a Sardinian vessel that sailed this morning from Bahia, she informed me that the brig "*Bella Miguelina*" has been two days there.

This is a very unfortunate occurrence, from which I anticipate many difficulties will arise, but I trust, as Her Majesty's Consul, you will afford me your best assistance to enable me to surmount them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 10 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," off Bahia, May 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter just received from Lieutenant D'Aguilar, the officer in charge of the captured brig "*Bella Miguelina*," stating the particulars of what occurred last night in consequence of another attempt being made to seize that vessel.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 11 in No. 59.

Lieutenant D'Aguilar to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

"Bella Miguelina," Bahia, May 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that at about half-past 7 last night, a large felucca full of men bore down on us, and after being hailed repeatedly in English and Portuguese, did not alter her course, but came within half pistol shot of our bows, when I ordered a shot to be fired over her and to be hailed again. She did not answer, and still continued to run with the intention of boarding us. I fired into her with all my musketry, and continued doing so until she sheered off and stood in for the land under Fort Gamboa. The boats of the Brazilian men-of-war assisted me in bringing the ship to an anchor in my present position, suspecting another attack in greater force than on the night of the 29th. And I am happy to inform you that the senior officer here has cordially assisted me in all my endeavours for the suppression of any unlawful or piratical attempts on the vessel in my charge.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. J. D'AGUILAR.

Inclosure 12 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Bahia, May 2, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, which did not reach me until late on the 1st instant, announcing the capture of the Brazilian polacca "*Bella Miguelina*."

I now beg leave to hand you the inclosed copy of a despatch* received from his Excellency the President of this province, together with a translation thereof, and have to request that you will be so good as to inform me of the decision you may come to on the points submitted for your consideration.

I have this moment received your letter of the 1st instant, with inclosure addressed to you by Lieutenant D'Aguilar, stating that a second attempt had been made to board the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*" on the night of the 30th of April, the substance of which I shall immediately lay before his Excellency the President.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

* See President's despatch, copy No. 6.

Inclosure 13 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 2, 1848.

IT is with much regret that I have to inform your Excellency that on the night of the 30th ultimo a second attempt was made to board the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*" anchored in this port, by a large country barque full of men, which continued to bear down on said vessel after having been warned to keep away both in the English and Portuguese languages and a shot fired over her. The officer in command was compelled for the safety of his charge, to fire into the said barque, when she sheered off and stood for the land under Fort Gamboa.

It affords me pleasure to state to your Excellency that the senior officer of the Brazilian naval forces has cordially assisted the Lieutenant in charge of the polacca in his endeavours to prevent any unlawful or piratical attempts on that vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 14 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," Bahia, May 2, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date and an inclosed copy of a letter from the President of this place, in which I am desired to cause the wounded to present themselves before the Chief of the Police in case they are able to go. I beg to inform you that if these people are sent, the brig "*Bella Miguelina*" will be detained in port longer than necessary, as I intended her to proceed to sea as soon as she has received her provisions.

There is no doubt that an attack has been made on the vessel; and if the proceedings cannot be carried on against the perpetrators of this outrage without the attendance of the people who are actually wounded, I must detain the vessel in port until these proceedings are completed, and I therefore beg to inform you that the people will be ready to go to any place that you may please to appoint whenever you wish.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 15 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," off Bahia, May 2, 1848.

A NEGRO who calls himself by the name of John Freeman, a native of Sierra Leone and therefore a British subject, and who speaks English perfectly, has come on board Her Majesty's sloop under my command to ask for a passage to his own country.

He states that he was kidnapped about a year ago at Popo, to which place he had gone with an Englishman as servant, when he was seized, put on board a slave-vessel and brought here, where he has been five months.

His master is named San Joachim, a black man, but I cannot find out where he lives.

It is so evident that he is a British subject that I shall not permit him to leave the "Grecian" till I hear from you, who I request will take the necessary steps to have the case investigated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 16 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 2, 1848.

I BEG leave to call your Excellency's attention to the inclosed copy of a letter addressed to me by Commander L. S. Tindal, of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," anchored in this port, stating that a negro who calls himself John Freeman, a native of Sierra Leone, and who speaks English perfectly, had come on board said vessel for protection and requested a passage to his country, having been unlawfully seized at Popo about a year ago and brought to this place as a slave.

It appears so evident from Commander Tindal's statement, that the negro in question is a British subject, that I have to request your Excellency will cause an immediate investigation to take place in order to restore him to freedom.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 17 in No. 59.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 2, 1848.

TO your despatch of to-day respecting the black, John, who has presented himself on board the "Grecian" anchored in this port, claiming protection on the ground of being a British subject, I have to make known to you that as this question will be attended with delay in order that the decision may be come to according to the forms of the law, you will please to give directions that the said black be delivered up to the Commander of the frigate "Constituição," being certain that the judicial authorities of the country will do their duty in an object of such consideration.

Respecting the contents of the second despatch of the same date, I can only say that in conformity with the information received by this Government, no second attack on the polacca has taken place, and that a barque which passed there on her way, caused it to be presumed.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEO.

Inclosure 18 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, saying that the wounded on board the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," were ready to come on shore for the purpose of a judicial examination by the competent authorities.

In answer thereto I beg to state that the authorities have decided on holding the said examination on board the polacca this day at 11 o'clock.

I herewith transmit to you for your consideration, the copy of a despatch received from his Excellency the President respecting the black, John Freeman. In case you decide upon complying with the directions of the President to deliver the said individual to the Commander of the Brazilian frigate, it will be necessary that every possible precaution be taken in order to insure his appearance when required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 19 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day, in which you state that the authorities have decided in holding the examination of the people wounded in the attack on the "*Bella Miguelina*," on board that vessel at 11 o'clock this day; and likewise a copy of the despatch from his Excellency the President respecting the black calling himself John Freeman.

With respect to your letter I have to inform you that the "*Bella Miguelina*," is perfectly ready to proceed to sea, and is only waiting for the examination to take place, to depart from this port. It is now long past the time specified.

With respect to his Excellency's despatch relative to the man John Freeman, he having actually got on board Her Majesty's sloop "*Grecian*" and claimed the protection of the British flag as a subject of that Power, to which I have every reason to believe him fully entitled, I cannot, consistently with my duty permit him to leave this ship until the pleasure of my Commander-in-chief is known, who will be duly informed of the whole transaction.

The boat that this man came in, belonging to his master, is now lying astern of this ship; I shall request the Captain of Her Majesty's steam frigate "*Firebrand*" to take charge of it when I leave this port, until the owner comes to claim it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 20 in No. 59.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 3, 1848.

IN consequence of the circular of the Minister of Justice under date of the 15th March, 1845, by which it was communicated to this Government, that the fifteen years having expired, during which, according to the Conventions between Brazils and Great Britain respecting the abolition of Slave Traffic, the Convention of the 28th July, 1817, continued in force, the right of visit and search on the part of Her Britannic Majesty could no longer take place, all other stipulations contained in the said convention and Additional Articles and Regulations having likewise ceased, and that as long as no particular regulation should be formed for the proceedings with prizes made in consequence of illicit commerce in slaves, the common courts of law of the country should be competent to organize them; it is my duty to annul the recommendation made to you in my despatch of the 1st instant to give directions to make the Brazilian polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," leave this port as soon as possible, and to request that you will give orders to the effect that the decision of the legality of the seizure be left to the competent authorities of the country, the sailing of the said polacca being in the meanwhile put off.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEAO.

Inclosure 21 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Commander Tindal.

Sir,

Bahia, May 3, 1848.

THE inclosed is a copy of a despatch which I have this moment received from his Excellency the Resident of this province. I have the honour to submit it for your consideration.

I beg leave to acquaint you that the chief of the police of this city has not kept the promise which he made to me last night, that of transmitting to me a despatch, under his hand, certifying that the form of the "corpo de delicto" would not be required, or the omission of it prejudice the judicial proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 22 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 4, 1848.

IN answer to your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd instant, respecting the African, John Freeman, who presented himself on board Her Britannic Majesty's sloop "Grecian," claiming protection as a British subject, and whom your Excellency wished to be deposited on board His Imperial Majesty's frigate "Constituição," that a decision might be come to according to the forms of the law of this country, I have the honour to lay before your Excellency the inclosed extract of a despatch addressed to me on the subject by the Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian."

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 23 in No. 59.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

(Extract.)

"Grecian," Bahia, May 3, 1848.

WITH respect to his Excellency's despatch relative to the man John Freeman, he having actually got on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" and claimed the protection of the British flag, as a subject of that Power to which I have every reason to believe him fully entitled, I cannot consistently with my duty permit him to leave this ship until the pleasure of my Commander-in-chief is known, who will be duly informed of the whole transaction.

The boat that this man came in, belonging to his master, is now lying astern of this ship. I shall request the Captain of Her Majesty's steam-frigate "Firebrand" to take charge of it when I leave this port, until the owner comes to claim it.

Inclosure 24 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 3rd instant, requesting that the legality of the seizure of the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*" might be referred for decision to the competent authorities of this country.

I immediately transmitted a copy of the said despatch to the Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," whose answer thereto I have not received.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 25 in No. 59.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I CONSIDER it my duty to communicate to you that the Commander of the frigate "Constituição" having represented to me that, in virtue of the existing orders of the naval station, it is impossible to receive on board in deposit the African John, of whom you speak in your despatch of the 2nd instant, I have given orders that the said individual be received in the Fort do Mar.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEAO.

Inclosure 26 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 4, 1848.

YOUR Excellency's second despatch of the 3rd instant did not reach me until half-past 5 o'clock, and after Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" had got under sail, consequently I regret to say it was out of my power to communicate to Commander Tindal your Excellency's request that the African, John Freeman, should be deposited in the Fort do Mar, as the commander of His Imperial Majesty's frigate "Constituição" had declared that his orders would not admit of the said black being received on board his vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 27 in No. 59.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 5, 1848.

INFORMED by the contents of your despatches of yesterday's date, that the reclamations made by this Government to put off the sailing of the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," in order to submit to the courts of law of the country the examination of the legality of her seizure, as also that the African, John Freeman, slave of this country, and who presented himself on board Her Majesty's brig "Grecian," claiming protection as a British subject, on account of having been born at Sierra Leone, might be deposited in the Fort do Mar have not been attended to, no notice having been taken of the well-founded ground on which they were based, and the rights of the Government of the Brazilian Empire having been offended without any attempt to at least try to justify or authorize such proceedings before the sailing of the said brig; it becomes my most rigorous duty to protest, as I do effectually protest against all these acts, as attacking the national dignity, and that a due reparation may be had of them by the Imperial Government.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEAO.

Inclosure 28 in No. 59.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of this day's date.

I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity to transmit the same to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

No. 60.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Bahia, May 6, 1848.

I TAKE the liberty to transmit to your Lordship the inclosed statement relating to the African John Freeman, who claimed protection as a British subject on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," and referred to in my despatch to your Lordship of this date.

The communication was made by the African in question to an Englishman of respectability.

I beg leave to state to your Lordship that I have not seen the black, John Freeman, he having been kept on board Her Majesty's ship "Grecian;" consequently the whole of this affair is at present in the hands of Commander Tindal, whose intention it is to submit the same to the consideration of the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Brazils.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure in No. 60.

Statement respecting John Freeman.

JOHN FREEMAN went as servant with Mr. Coleman, an English missionary to Badagry, on the coast of Africa, where some black people seized upon him as he was walking out one night, put him in confinement, and in fourteen days afterwards he was carried on board a slave-vessel, where the master and crew told him that if he spoke English he would be immediately thrown overboard. He was brought to this city of Bahia, confined in the *Trapiche* with the other slaves, and was sold to a black man of the name of Joaquin.

No. 61.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 16, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 6th ultimo, inclosing copies of a correspondence which you have held with the President of the Province of Bahia and with Commander Tindal, of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," relative to an attack which had been made by a party of armed men upon the prize polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," which vessel, with 519 slaves on board, had been captured by the "Grecian," and had been compelled for want of water and provisions, to

put into the port of Bahia, unaccompanied by her captor; and also inclosing a correspondence relative to an African calling himself John Freeman, who being held as a slave at Bahia, had presented himself on board the "Grecian," and had claimed protection as a British subject on the ground of having been born at Sierra Leone.

I have to convey to you my approval of the course which you have pursued on both these matters, as reported in your despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 62.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 27.)

My Lord,

Bahia, May 17, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that His Imperial Majesty has appointed Joaquim Jozé Pinheiro de Vasconcellos to the Presidency of this province.

It affords me pleasure to state to your Lordship that his Excellency is greatly opposed to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

No. 63.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 27.)

My Lord,

Bahia, May 23, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship further copies of correspondence relating to the attack made on the prize polacca "*Bella Miguelina*."

The slave-dealers here are fully aware of the weakness of the authorities, and that any act of violence or insult can be committed with impunity. At first the rabble meditated an attack on the Consular residence, from which they were diverted by the idea of attempting to recapture the polacca. They are also under an impression that the latter plan would have been lawful according to the English law, quoting, as they do, the case of the Brazilian schooner "*Felicidade*."

The party who instigated the proceedings against the "*Bella Miguelina*," gave, it is said, to each person engaged the sum of fifty milreis, or about 5*l.* sterling, and sixty milreis to the leader who was killed in the attempt to board the prize.

With the view of making your Lordship acquainted with the opinions generally entertained by the Brazilians relative to the above affair, and of their power to detain the prize by force, I have the honour to lay before you the inclosed extracts from the debates of the Provincial Assembly, by which it appears that the virulence of their remarks is chiefly directed against myself, under the mistaken impression that it was in my power to have prevented the departure of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" and her prize.

I had forewarned Commander Tindal of the great excitement which would take place should he be compelled to bring to this port any captured slaver, but the arrival, without the protection of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," of the "*Bella Miguelina*," whose owners reside in this city, and having slaves on board, greatly increased the exasperation and thirst for revenge, and might have subjected the English residents to insult and annoyance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 63.

Senhor de Leão to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 6, 1848.

WILL you be so good as to give orders to deliver to the Chief of Division, Captain of the Port, the boat belonging to the master of the black John Freeman, which was left in charge of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-frigate.

(Signed) MANOEL MESSIAS DE LEO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 63.

Consul Porter to Captain Hope.

Sir,

Bahia, May 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a despatch from his Excellency the President, requesting that the boat belonging to the master of the black, John Freeman, may be delivered over to the Chief of the Division, Captain of this Port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 63.

Captain Hope to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Firebrand," Bahia, May 6, 1848.

I HAVE to acquaint you that the boat alluded to in your letter of this day's date is given up to an officer from the Captain of the Port's office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 63.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Leão.

Sir,

Bahia, May 6, 1848,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer has given up the boat alluded to in your Excellency's despatch of this date, to an officer from the Captain of the Port, encharged to receive the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 63.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Vasconcellos.

Sir,

Bahia, May 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency copy of letter and inclosure addressed to me by Commander Tindal, and which I received yesterday on the return of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" to this port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 63.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," Bahia, May 14, 1848.

THE inclosed letter (being an answer to a despatch received from you on the afternoon of the 3rd instant) I sent to your office previous to sailing, but there being no one there it was brought back again by the officer who took it.

I now forward it to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 7 in No. 63.

Commander Tindal to Consul Porter.

Sir,

"Grecian," Bahia, May 3, 1848.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from you of this day in which you inform me that the chief of police has not kept his promise in transmitting to you a despatch certifying that the form of "corpo de delicto" would not be required, or the omission of it prejudice the judicial proceedings; and also a copy of a despatch you have received from his Excellency the President, requesting that the sailing of the polacca "*Bella Miguelina*" should be suspended, in order that the Brazilian authorities may judge of the legality of seizure.

With respect to your letter I am very sorry that the course of justice should be retarded by the dilatory proceedings of the Brazilian authorities; and with regard to the despatch from his Excellency the President, my instructions say nothing about delivering up the vessel to be adjudged by the Brazilian authorities; and the "*Bella Miguelina*" being perfectly ready to proceed to sea, it is not in my power to suffer her to be detained any longer in port. I shall therefore proceed and convey her out forthwith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. TINDAL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 63.

Consul Porter to Senhor de Vasconcellos.

Sir,

Bahia, May 15, 1848.

THE intended departure of Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" affords me an opportunity for transmitting despatches to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro; I shall therefore feel obliged if your Excellency will be pleased to inform me whether the measures adopted by this Presidency for the apprehension and bringing to justice of the instigators as well as the perpetrators of the attack made on the officer and crew of the prize brig "*Bella Miguelina*," on the night of the 29th ultimo, have been attended with success.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 9 in No. 63.

Senhor de Vasconcellos to Consul Porter.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, Bahia, May 20, 1848.

I HAVE to inform you in answer to your despatch of 15th instant, that the chief of police, through whom this Presidency has determined to proceed, according to law, against the attack said to be made on the crew of the Brazilian polacca "*Bella Miguelina*," captured by the British sloop "Grecian," has not yet made any report to me as to who were the perpetrators of this attempt.

(Signed)

JOAQUIM JOZE PINHEIRO DE
VASCONCELLOS.

Inclosure 10 in No. 63.

Extract from Debates of the Provincial Assembly of Bahia.

(Translation.)

Bahia, May 8, 1848.

MR. PORTELLA.—The occurrence is such, Gentlemen, that with one voice we ought to cry out with indignation against the enormous insult, the terrible attack, made in contempt of the independence and sovereignty of the Brazilian nation. It is such that to revenge it we ought to rise with one body and one soul! There is nobody in this House who dares gainsay it; nobody, if he have a Brazilian heart.

Therefore, Gentlemen, as I consider a manifestation on the part of this Assembly indispensable and imperiously called for on account of the public interest, I have decided on sending to the table the petition which I am going to read.

I request that the Government be applied to for a copy of all the correspondence which has taken place between it and the British Consul of this province respecting the seizure of the Brazilian polacca "*Bella Miguelina*;" also that the Government be told that in every occurrence the Provincial Assembly is certain that the said Government will proceed with that prudence and energy indispensable to cause the sovereignty and rights of the Brazilian nation to be respected.

Of this fact in all its ominous signification what has resulted? What the consequence of that precipitate despatch, not to classify it in another manner? This: that the Consul, aware of the ignorance and weakness of Brazilian authority, seeing that the latter did not know of what there is most trivial and common respecting this matter, judging it incapable resolutely to sustain our dignity and rights, took it in little or no account, and on receipt of the second despatch, with the shameful retraction of the Presidency despatch, wherein he was now called upon to detain the Brazilian polacca in port to be delivered up to the authorities of this country, the Consul sent to the brig of his nation to set sail immediately with the "*Bella Miguelina*" and to send Brazilian property to Sierra Leone. And Gentlemen, is not this making us, our authorities and our sovereignty, highly ridiculous? Is not M. Messias the only one to blame for this audacity? Shall we allow so great an indignity to pass without the least observation? And did we so, should we not also assist in entirely demoralizing and annihilating the nation to which we belong? Is this speaking to the heart? Is not this speaking truth? What can, what ought to be done in such a case?

What the Government ought to have done is twofold, and one ought not to have been done without the other. Despatch to the British Agent to suspend the sailing of the Brazilian polacca under his responsibility. Despatch to the fort, to the frigate, to the custom-house, to the arsenal,

which have armed boats at their disposal. Despatch proclamation to all the people of Bahia should it be necessary to prevent the insult of the Englishman, the sailing of the polacca! This is what ought to have been done: if the Brazilian vessel lifted her anchor the President ought to have ordered to have fired into the English vessel. What need of vain terrors? they are those which ruin us. In this manner the orders of the Presidency would have been respected; and if the English brig had been dismasted the commercial interests of England would have counselled her prudence and peace; everything would finally have been settled by the exchange of some diplomatic notes.

The noble deputies perceive well that England in the opinion of this lawyer (M. Limpo d'Abreo) must of necessity contemporise with us. England depends more on us than we on her.

THE REV. M. ALMEIDA.—Against the British Agent all our censures ought to be directed, because he is the only one to blame in all this. Finally, Gentlemen, I believe that the petition has obtained its object, and I vote for the former part. Let the proceedings of that refractory Government (England) be known which fattens on other people's property, powerful only to fill itself, making war on all who oppose its hypocrisy, its boundless ambition and its politics, which are always those of the lion with the lamb.

The Vice-President received the news of this affair from the English Consul in person who at 11 o'clock at night went to make it known to him.

M. GOMES.—Raising from the height of this tribunal a shout of indignation against the British Consul and the Commander of the brig-of-war "Grecian," I declare that I detest the English nation.

SEVERAL VOICES.—The nation, no; the Government ought to be detested.

M. GOMES.—Yes, I withdraw the expression; it is the English Government which I detest.

M. PESSOA.—As defrauding.

M. GOMES.—The noble Deputies do not allow me to go on to explain my sentiments. I detest the English politics on account of its excessive pretensions and violence with the nations of the globe, particularly with the weaker ones. But I respect the English nation on account of its patriotic spirit, on account of its respect for its institutions, and finally on account of its genius of industry.

M. LIMA.—I wish to manifest my vote in this discussion in a clear and most explicit manner, and shall begin by saying that I recognise the illegality of the Slave Traffic; it is against humanity and against our laws, and therefore the polacca did very wrong to employ herself in such a traffic. But I ask, who has authorized the English Government to come here and watch over our laws and see them executed, particularly as there exists no treaty between Brazils and England to that effect?

M. PORTELLA.—If the Vice-President does not merit censure for what has taken place he merits it because he has not yet suspended the exequatur in virtue of which the English Consul acts.

No. 64.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 27.)

(Extract.)

Bahia, May 23, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying statement made by the African, John Freeman, and transmitted to me by Commander Tindal.

The authorities here consider that a great indignity has been offered to them by the act of carrying away in Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian" the aforementioned individual, and by Commander Tindal's non-compliance with the request of his Excellency the President to have John Freeman

deposited under his protection, leaving the decision of the case to the national tribunals.

The President has intimated to me his intention to transmit the particulars of this affair to the Central Government.

Inclosure in No. 64.

Statement by the negro John Freeman, claiming protection as a British subject.

NAME, John Freeman; born at Sierra Leone; son to John Freeman, who keeps a small shop at that place; was baptized by Mr. Dove, a missionary at the missionary school there, which school he left six years ago. Mr. Saunders was the master.

He went as servant to Mr. Golman, a missionary, down to Badagry, about a year ago; was kidnapped by a man at that place, sent to Whydah, where he remained some months, and then sent across here in a slaver.

His master is a black man named San Joachino, living in Bahia, but he cannot describe the place.

Note.—This man describes Sierra Leone correctly, and speaks the English language as a person brought up in that colony.

Given under my hand on board Her Majesty's sloop "Grecian," at Bahia, May 2, 1848.

(Signed) L. S. TINDAL, *Commander*.

Witnesses to the above statement by the negro John Freeman,

(Signed) G. M. JACKSON, *Lieutenant*.

STEPHEN JOHNS, *Master, H.M.S. "Grecian."*

No. 65.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

Sr,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 17th of May, informing me that the Emperor of Brazil has appointed Joaquim Joze Pinheiro to the Presidency of the Province of Bahia, and that his Excellency is greatly opposed to the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government have received this intimation with much pleasure; and I have to instruct you to take every opportunity of urging upon the new President the expediency of prompt and energetic measures to prevent and to put down the Slave Trade. You will represent to his Excellency that the continued existence of this crime, and the protection and encouragement afforded to it by many persons in authority in Brazil, are the main causes which obstruct the establishment of those friendly relations between Great Britain and Brazil, which, if cordial and mutual, would conduce so much to the advantage of both countries.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 66.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying lists, No. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa for the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	1847	Brazilian	Brig-schooner	Pensamento	247	21	J. P. d'Ao. Vianna	J. F. Godinho	Ballast	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 456 slaves
2	April	Sardinian	Ditto	St. André	139	11	L. Raggio	Not known	Ditto	Ajudá	42	
3	"	Brazilian	Schooner	Curiosa	118	8	M. M. d'Oliveira Barros	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	45	
4	"	American	Patache	Bridgeton	144	8	N. B. Huttleston	Ditto	General	Ajudá	28	
5	"	Portuguese	Brig	Augusto	177	16	T. J. de Carvalho	Ditto	Ballast	St. Thomas	39	
6	"	Hamburgese	Ditto	Adolph	282	11	L. Ekman	Ditto	Ditto	Ajudá	..	Captured by H.M. steamer "Greecian," with 517 slaves on 22nd
7	"	Brazilian	Polacca	Bella Miguelina	263	29	..	D. G. Bello	Ditto	Lagos	..	Landed 217 slaves
8	"	Ditto	Brig	Vareta	248	33	G. R. Germano	Not known	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	
9	"	French	Schooner	François Xavier	103	10	M. R. G. Moison	Ditto	Ditto	Onim	27	
10	May	Sardinian	Polacca	Galileo	182	10	E. Solari	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	25	
11	"	Ditto	Smack	Concordia	103	8	F. Dodero	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	37	
12	"	Ditto	Polacca	Vencitore	209	10	P. A. Campodonico	Ditto	Ditto	Popo	26	
13	"	Ditto	Ditto	Judita	184	11	M. Dodero	Ditto	Ditto	Onim	25	
14	"	Brazilian	Patache	S. Antonio Triumfo	81	9	M. J. P. de Souza	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 280 slaves
15	June	British	Schooner	Concord	64	5	R. L. Williams	C. G. Ive	Ditto	Sierra Leone	64	Landed 420 slaves, 60 died on passage
16	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Diligencia	88	18	M. J. B. da Faria	J. A. da Cruz Rios	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 500 slaves
17	"	Ditto	Ditto	Andorinha	80	20	M. J. P. de Fonseca	J. P. Marinho	Ditto	Ditto	..	
18	"	Sardinian	Brig	Eridano	231	11	G. B. Scala	Not known	Ditto	Onim	21	
19	"	French	Ditto	Circostance	253	10	J. B. Enet	Ditto	Ditto	Ajudá	18	
20	"	American	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	193	..	— Stanhope	Ditto	Ditto	Ambriz	17	53 passengers. Suspectious
21	"	French	Barque	Socrate	178	11	E. Poirer	Ditto	Ditto	Gallinas	17	
22	"	Ditto	Yacht	Eclipse	150	9	M. Poilleu	Ditto	Ditto	Onim	25	

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1848.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1848										
1	April	French	Barque	Socrate	178	11	P. E. Potier ..	Not known .	General	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for St. Catherina
2	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha	88	20	José Ribas ..	J. P. Marinho	Ballast	Ditto	..
3	"	Sardinian	Brig	Univero	245	11	G. Bonsignore	Not known	General	Ditto	..
4	"	Brazilian	Patacho	Julia	62	11	M. J. A. Pereira	Ditto	Ballast	Ditto	..
5	"	Ditto	Polacca	Novo Asilo de Virtude	142	9	M. J. D'Oliveira	Ditto	General	Ditto	..
6	May	Sardinian	Ditto	Calixto	192	10	G. Grenelli ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
7	"	Ditto	Brig	Penguin	228	14	M. J. B. Doderó	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
8	"	Ditto	Ditto	Empirio	227	11	G. Pittaluga ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
9	"	Brazilian	Schooner	Curiosa	118	17	M. D'Oliveira Barros	Ditto	Ballast	Ditto	..
10	"	Ditto	Brig	Josefa	121	24	M. F. D'Azevedo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
11	"	Sardinian	Polacca	Italia	169	10	L. Ghegara ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
12	June	French	Brig	Les Amis	144	10	N. L. Delamere	Ditto	General	Ditto	..
13	"	Brazilian	Ditto	Tentativa Feliz	195	29	M. R. Chaves	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
14	"	Ditto	Ditto	Vareta	248	26	G. R. Germano	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
15	"	French	Patache	François Xavier	103	9	M. G. R. Moisant	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
16	"	Sardinian	Schooner	Iride	106	10	L. Giustiviano	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
17	"	American	Patache	Bridgeton	144	8	M. D. Burekly	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
18	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Diligencia	88	19	M. J. B. Ferreira	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..
19	"	Sardinian	Polacca	Tereo	185	11	D. Cagnoli ..	J. A. da Cruz Rios	Ditto	Ditto	..
20	"	Brazilian	Ditto	Marinho	239	11	J. M. A. A. Bucellar	Not known	Ballast	Ditto	..

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1848.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

No. 67.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 21, 1848.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of November of last year, on the subject of two slaves, the property of a notorious slave-dealer at Bahia, who had been brought to that port in the Sardinian polacca "Archangelo," and whom the master of that vessel stated to have been forced on board at Onim by an officer of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Grappler," as forming part of the crew of the captured Brazilian slaver "Voadora;" I herewith transmit to you a copy of a letter which has been received at this department from the Admiralty, together with its inclosures, containing the denial of Lieutenant Lysaght of the "Grappler," of the truth of the statement made by the master of the "Archangelo" with respect to the slaves in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 67.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, October 13, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's letter of the 9th of February last, relative to two of the slaves who had formed part of the crew of the Brazilian slave-vessel "Voadora," having been sent to Brazil on board the Sardinian polacca "Archangelo," I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Commodore Sir C. Hotham, dated the 22nd of July last, and of its inclosure from Lieutenant Lysaght, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Grappler," in reply to the charge in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 67.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Ambriz, July 22, 1848.

WITH reference to your despatch dated February 11, 1848, informing me that an officer of Her Majesty's ship "Grappler" had sent two negroes, captured in the "Voador," on board the Sardinian polacca "Archangelo," and that these persons had in consequence been sold into slavery at Bahia; I have the honour to transmit the statement of Lieutenant Lysaght in reply, by which it would appear that the accusation is, as far as regards the "Grappler," erroneous. I shall however give such directions as will prevent the recurrence of a similar accident.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 67.

Lieutenant Lysaght to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

Sir,

"Grappler," Bight of Benin, May 31, 1848.

IN answer to your letter of April 29, relative to the report of the master of the Sardinian brig "Archangelo," I do myself the honour to reply to your inquiries, seriatim:—

1st. Whether the statement therein is true?

Answer. The statement is untrue; I was not the captor of the "Voador" slave brig, and never had her people on board.

2ndly. Whether it is partially true?

Answer. It is not even partially true, as regards the "Grappler," the vessel I have the honour to command.

3rdly. Whether it is founded on truth?

Answer. I do not consider it founded even on truth.

M. Devoto has confused the "Grappler" with some other vessel. I have always personally ascertained whether negro mariners found on board vessels taken by me were free or slaves, with a view to their liberation, and have never put any prisoners on board any vessel by force.

4thly. Whether there were on or about that date circumstances which might have led to error.

Answer. On referring to notes made at the time, I find that on July 27 the prisoners taken in the "Emprendadore" were put on board the Sardinian polaccas "Archangelo" and "Eridano," lying off Lagos.

I have a perfect recollection of seeing M. Devoto myself on the subject before sending the men, when he made no objection. I remember the circumstances from the fact of there being on board the Sardinian vessels persons who formed the crew of the Sardinian polacca brig "Nostra Senora della Guardia," which having been sold to the slave-dealers was burnt by me on the beach the day before.

I am convinced that there was only one negro mariner on board the "Emprendadore," who was the look out man when we sighted her.

That man I personally examined as to his state, as I wished to give him an opportunity of being landed elsewhere, if he was in fear of the crew on account of his vigilance, but he indignantly declared himself free, and wished to go with the rest. I believe he went in the "Eridano." He was an elderly man with a wall eye.

With reference to the practice of putting the men on board the merchant-vessels lying off Lagos, I must inform you it is a matter of mutual convenience to which I never saw any objection made, the surf preventing any communication by ships' boats.

These vessels being consigned to the dealers on shore (in fact being what is generally called their cargo vessels) have no difficulty, by making a well-known signal, in getting canoes off from the shore, and sending the slaver's people to their employers. No canoes on this part of the coast will come near a cruiser.

To prevent the probability of a slave who has once been under the flag being again reduced to slavery, I shall be careful on future occasions to send all blacks to the courts with the vessels they belong to, in order that the authorities there may decide the matter of their freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. H. LYSAGHT.

No. 68.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Bahia, September 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*" of Gibraltar, of about twenty tons burthen, arrived at this port in December last, evidently for the purpose of being sold for slave traffic.

In the month of July following Mr. John Sechino, an Italian merchant and consignee of said vessel, presented himself at this Consulate, requesting a certificate of clearance, to be presented to the public departments of this city; which document having been granted, the said consignee informed me that the falucho had been sold for the sum of 8,500 reis, about 850*l.*, in all probability for the purpose of being employed in the Slave Trade.

A few days afterwards this clearance certificate was returned to me by the consignee, on the ground of its being insufficient; and I was then requested to certify to the identity of a person named Domingo Gaibisso, a Genoese, and to the validity of powers of attorney which had been sent to the said individual, authorizing him to sell the vessel; likewise to give my express permission in writing for the sale of the "*Fuente Santa*," in conformity with the imperial decree of the year 1846, regarding the sale of foreign vessels in Brazil.

Having taken into consideration the following circumstances connected with the said falucho:—

1st. That this vessel had been actually sold to a noted slave-dealer, Joaquim Alves da Cruz Rios, who had already commenced fitting her up for carrying slaves.

2ndly. That Domingo Gaibisso being a Genoese, and non resident in this province, had never presented himself to this Consulate, that his name appears on the muster-roll of the "*Fuente Santa*" as common seaman, he being unable either to read or to write.

3rdly. That the powers of attorney drawn up by a notary public of Gibraltar, had already been authenticated by the Brazilian Vice-Consul of that place, for the purpose of making it valid in this country, had been registered at this Consulate, and the usual certificate of registration endorsed thereon; and lastly, that by granting the certificates required, I should be sanctioning an act in direct contravention of the laws of Great Britain. I therefore deem it my duty to withhold them.

The parties then put forward their request in writing, but not succeeding in altering the decision I had previously come to, they were unable to effect the change of flag; consequently, a judicial protest was served upon me, copy of which I have the honour to inclose.

The falucho "*Fuente Santa*" cleared for Gibraltar and sailed from this on the 16th ultimo. Her papers and the whole proceedings of the parties interested in this vessel, being irregular and suspicious, I addressed a letter to his Excellency the Governor of Gibraltar, likewise to Her Majesty's Consuls at the different ports on this coast.

In a slave-trading country it is at all times difficult to obtain personal confirmation of a fact, however notorious, when relating to slave traffic; such is applicable to the case of the falucho "*Fuente Santa*."

The high price given by slave-dealers for vessels of her class, will I fear lead to the arrival of others, and the British flag be thus made instrumental in facilitating the carrying on of the Slave Trade.—I therefore beg leave to solicit your Lordship's instructions for my guidance, in case my surmise should prove correct, and whether, as Her Majesty's Consul, I am bound to grant when required, my permission in writing for the sale of English vessels at this port in conformity with the first article of the Imperial Decree of 1846, a copy of which I herewith transmit.

The parties interested in the foregoing proceedings are under the

impression that I was not justified under any circumstances in refusing the documents required, the withholding of which has greatly exasperated them, as well as the whole slave-trading community of this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No 68.

Clearance Certificate of the "Fuente Santa."

(Translation.)

THE undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for this City and Province of Bahia, certifies that the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*" of Gibraltar, of the burthen of $19\frac{2}{3}\frac{12}{5}\frac{0}{0}$ tons, owned by Francis Carreras, resident in Gibraltar, is cleared from this Consulate.

Bahia, July 12, 1848.

[L.S.]

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER.

N.B.—Foreign vessels cannot obtain their clearances from the Brazilian public departments without presenting the foregoing form of certificate.

Inclosure 2 in No. 68.

Powers of Attorney from the owners of the "Fuente Santa."

TO all to whom this public instrument of procuration shall come, be it known that on this day the twenty-third of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, before me, James Campbell Relph, notary public by royal authority, duly admitted and sworn domiciled in the city of Gibraltar, came and appeared Mr. Francis Carreras, of the city of Gibraltar, merchant, owner of the falucho or vessel called the "*Fuente Santa*" belonging to this port of Gibraltar, whereof Andres Cassano is master, who declared to have nominated, constituted and appointed as by these presents he doth make, ordain, nominate, constitute, and appoint Mr. Domingo Gaibisso supercargo about to proceed in the said falucho to South America, to be his true and lawful attorney, giving and hereby granting unto his said attorney full power, lawful and absolute authority, for him, the constituent and in his name to contract and agree for the absolute sale of the said falucho to any person or persons whomsoever for such sum as the said attorney in his discretion shall think proper, and for that purpose for and in the name of him, the constituent to sign, seal, and as his act and deed, to deliver any deed or deeds, bill or bills of sale or transfer which may be requisite, necessary, and expedient or proper to be done and executed on his part and behalf to complete the sale of the said falucho and her appurtenances, and also to let and to freight, set the said falucho for any voyage or voyages, to effect repairs, and all other acts to do, touching and concerning the said falucho, and also to receive the purchase money or freight or any part thereof, and upon payment or receipt thereof, for and in the name of him the constituent to make, sign, execute, and deliver good and sufficient receipts, acquitances and discharges, as the person or persons paying the same shall reasonably tender and require, but in case of refusal or delay of payment and satisfaction in the premises thereunto, to compel by all lawful ways and means whatsoever, and to that end, to commence any action, suit, plaint, or other process, and the same to prosecute and carry on to final judgment and execution, and if need be, to appear for the constituent and his person to represent in any court or courts of judicature or other places, and before all magistrates and ministers of justice, there to answer, defend, and reply in, and to all matters and causes respecting the premises, and to do, say, pursue, implead, seize, sequester, arrest, attach, imprison, and to condemn, and therefrom again to deliver. Also to compound, compromise, submit to arbitration, conclude and agree as the said attorney shall see fit; and

generally, to do, perform, and execute all and whatsoever shall be expedient and necessary in the premises, as fully and effectually as the constituent himself might or could do if personally present, even although more ample and special power should be requisite than is hereby given and granted, which he would have understood as fully inserted in these presents; with faculty to the said attorney to substitute in case of need, one or more attorneys under him with the like or more limited authority and the same again to revoke, the constituent hereby promising to allow, ratify, confirm, and hold for good and valid, all and whatsoever his said attorney or his substitute or substitutes shall or may lawfully do or cause to be done in the premises by virtue of these presents. In witness whereof the said Francis Carreras hath hereunto set his hand and seal; thus done and passed in Gibraltar in the presence of the subscribing witnesses, which I attest under my hand and accustomed seal of office, the aforesaid twenty-third day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

(Signed) FRANCIS CARRERAS. [L.S.]

Witnesses,

(Signed) NICHOLAS ANSADO.

W. H. OXBERRY.

In testimonium veritatis,

[L.S.] JAMES C. RELPH,
Notary Public, Gibraltar.

No. 6. Reconheço verdadeira assignatura retro do Senhor James C. Relp, Notario Publico nesta praça e para constar onde convier a pedido do Senhor Francisco Carreras passei a presente que assignei e fiz sellar com o sello das Imperias Armas deste Vice-Consulado do Imperio do Brazil em Gibraltar, aos 24 de Novembro 2847,

Por ausencia do Vice-Consul,
(Assignado) JULIO J. PEIRE,
Encarreg. do V. C.

Inclosure 3 in No. 68.

Domingo Gaibisso to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Bahia, July 22, 1848.

AS there exists no law in Great Britain prohibiting the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty from selling their property, and as I am legally authorized by powers of attorney registered in this Consulate to sell the falucho "*Fuente Santa*,"* but unable to do so without presenting to the authorities of this country a consular certificate declaring that I am the person empowered, I hope that you will not refuse the document required, as I should in that case not be able to fulfil the orders I have received from the owner of the vessel, who is my son-in-law, and to secure myself from eventual responsibilities be under the necessity of protesting, which I am desirous to avoid.

I am, &c.

(Signed) DOMINGO ^{his} GAIBISSO.
_{sign}

Inclosure 4 in No. 68.

Consul Porter to Domingo Gaibisso.

Sir,

Bahia, July 24, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of 22nd instant, in which you state that as there exists no law of Great Britain prohibiting the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty from selling their property, and that you are legally

* This vessel was actually sold on the 10th July. See Broker's certificate, Inclosure No. 4.—E. P.

authorized by powers of attorney registered in this Consulate to sell the falucho "*Fuente Santa*," but unable to do so without presenting to the authorities of this country a consular certificate declaring that you are the person empowered, you hope that I will not refuse the document required, or you will be under the necessity of protesting.

It appears that the falucho "*Fuente Santa*" entered this port from Gibraltar on the 26th December last in charge of the master Andrea Cassano.

On the muster-roll of the said vessel I find entered the name of Domingo Gaibisso, seaman, native of Genoa. You have never presented yourself at this Consulate, and yet you now call upon me to certify to your identity as the person empowered to sell the said falucho.

A power of attorney was presented to this Consulate by Messrs. Sechino Fratelli, Italian merchants of this city; the same has been duly registered, but this act does not warrant my granting the certificate which you request, neither do I consider such to come within my province.

From circumstances which have come to my knowledge connected with the intended disposal of the said falucho "*Fuente Santa*," I consider it my duty to caution you not to commit any act which may hereafter subject yourself and the owner of that vessel to serious responsibility and amenable to the law of England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 68.

Domingo Gaibisso to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Bahia, July 25, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, in answer to mine of the 22nd, wherein you appear to doubt the identity of my being the person nominated in the power of attorney of Mr. Francisco Carreras, owner of the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*," because you find me entered in the muster-roll of that vessel as seaman.

To satisfy your doubts I am ready to present myself at the British Consulate at any hour you may appoint, together with competent witnesses, who having known me at Gibraltar, can prove that I am the person named in the powers of attorney, and although figuring in the muster-roll of the "*Fuente Santa*" as seaman, have the honour to be the father-in-law of the owner of that vessel.

As to any responsibility I may incur by selling my vessel to any person who chooses to buy her, I am persuaded it cannot be any greater than that incurred by the most respectable British merchants of this city, who sell their goods to any person who chooses to pay for them, without inquiring into the object they may be wanted for.

I hope therefore that you will now have no grounds to refuse to grant me the certificate required by the authorities of this country to enable me to sell my property, as I am of opinion that the granting such a document is quite as much incumbent on you as any other clearance or entry certificate necessary to enter or clear vessels at the public offices, and which I consider that you cannot legally refuse without subjecting yourself to most serious consequences.

I am, &c.
(Signed) DOMINGO ^{his} GAIBISSO.
sign

Inclosure 6 in No. 68.

Consul Porter to Domingo Gaibisso.

Sir,

Bahia, July 26, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 68.

Protest of Domingo Gaibisso.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Bahia, August 4, 1848.

IN consequence of a despatch of the Judge of the 2nd district of Civil Administration on the petition of Domingo Gaibisso, supercargo of the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*," and attorney for his father-in-law, Francis Carreras, merchant, of Gibraltar, proprietor of the said falucho, I have to intimate to you the protest made by the said petitioner respecting all losses, damages, and prejudices of whatever nature they may be, which may henceforward be suffered by the said falucho, as also any difference in price, profits lost, or losses eventual without exception or limitation whatever, which may arise from the hindrances placed by you in the way of sale of the said falucho, as also to be present at the legalization of the same protest.

You will be good enough to consider yourself advised of the foregoing, and give me leave to pass the competent certificate.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. ROIZ MENDES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 68.

(Translation.)

TO the Doctor Judge of Law of the Second Civil District, Domingo Gaibisso, supercargo of the English falucho "*Fuente Santa*," and attorney for his father-in-law, Francisco Carreras, merchant of Gibraltar, proprietor of the said falucho, saith, that petitioner having arrived at this port on the 26th December last, and being about to sell said vessel in conformity with the orders received from his constituent, he had to present himself* to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul of this city; and the powers of attorney which fully authorized petitioner to make the sale having remained at Gibraltar, and the said Consul required at the same time that documents should be presented that the vessel belonged to the said Francis Carreras, which was not clearly demonstrated in the respective despatches, these requisitions were immediately sent to Gibraltar, and in the month of July the documents wanting were exhibited at the Consulate. Being received by the Consul, he, having examined all the papers, caused the powers of attorney (document No. 1) to be registered, and found everything so legalized that without the least objection he granted a certificate, declaring the falucho "*Fuente Santa*" cleared from that Consulate. Thus habilitated, petitioner applied himself to the sale of the vessel, and actually succeeded in selling her, through intervention of the broker Carlos Bernardo Sanmiguel, to the Brazilian subject Francisco Lourenco da Silva Couto†, for the sum of 8,500 reis (Document No. 2.) But on the purchaser

* Did not present himself at this Consulate till after the 28th July following. See my letter to him of the 24th of that month, Inclosure No. 3.—E. P.

† A mere substitute for Joaquim Alves da Cruz Rios, a noted slave-dealer.—E. P.

going to pay the duty at the Export Department, in conformity with the law, a Consular document was required of him, certifying that the seller was authorized to dispose of the said vessel (Document No. 3.) This exigency of the Fiscal Establishment having been reported to the above-mentioned Consul, produced in him the unexpected resolution not only of denying the document required, as also of withdrawing the one which had already been granted*, declaring the vessel cleared. This contrariety, unexpected by petitioner, who had acted with good faith and in conformity with the orders received from his constituent, gave rise to a correspondence between the petitioner and said Consul, which began and ended as shown by the annexed copies (Document No. 4); thus the said Consul, without giving any plausible motive which might justify his proceedings, opposed to the interests of the owners of the vessel and the protection due to the licit commercial operations entered into by the subjects of his nation, made it absolutely impossible to realize the sale already agreed for of the falucho, resulting therefrom serious losses to the owner. And these proceedings of the Consul are so much more worthy to be noted, that from the note of registry signed by himself on the powers of attorney (Document No. 1), it is evident that the contents of so important a document were not unknown to him, as he would necessarily read it very carefully before ordering it to be registered therein, is expressly declared by the proprietor of the falucho that she was going to be sold in South America; consequently if the said Consul had any doubt or objection to oppose her sale in Brazils in contradiction to the solemn powers given to petitioner by the interference of an English notary, who would certainly not concur in any act illegal by the laws of Great Britain, it seems that such doubt or objection ought to have appeared in the Act of registering the powers of attorney referred to, because being registered it must necessarily produce all its effects.

In the meantime taking into consideration so formal and invincible a contrariety of the Consul, petitioner having no recourse but to return with his vessel to Gibraltar, he wishes nevertheless to protest, as by these presents he doth protest, against Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Mr. Edward Porter, for all losses, damages, and prejudices of whatever nature they may be which from this day forward the said falucho "*Fuente Santa*" may sustain; as also for any difference in price, gains not realized, or loss ensuing (without exception or limitation whatever), which may arise from the embarrassment caused by the Consul to the proprietor of the vessel, or whomsoever her sale may interest most.

Therefore petitioner requests that this being distributed his protest may be taken in terms and intimated to the said Consul; and that sentence being given the original documents may be returned to petitioner, for which you will return thanks.

(Signed) MANL. JOZE PEREIRA CALDAS,
Procurator.

Despatch.

The petition distributed, let the protest be taken in terms and be intimated by letter to the Consul referred to as required.

Bahia, August 4, 1848.

(Signed) SONTTO.

Broker's Certificate.

I, the Undersigned, commercial agent of this city, certify that on the 10th day of July, of the present year 1848, by order of Mr. Domingo Gaibisso, supercargos, I sold the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*," with everything belonging to her, as seen by her inventory, to M. Francisco Lourenço de Silva Couto for the sum of 8,500 reis. In witness whereof I granted this, in Bahia, the 2nd August, 1848.

(Signed) C. B. SANMIGUEL.

* Was voluntarily returned to this Consulate as useless by the consignee of the vessel.—E. P.

Certificate from the Export Department.

In compliance with the above despatch I certify that Francisco Lourenço da Silva Couto presented himself to this department to pay the duty on the sale of the British falucho "*Fuente Santa*," which wanted to become Brazilian; and that exhibiting the powers of attorney with the visa of registry, signed by the respective Consul, he was not allowed to effect the payment because the said document was insufficient, it being necessary in conformity with superior orders to present a Consular certificate declaring that the vessel is cleared, and that she may be legally sold by the proprietor intending to sell her. This I certify according to truth.

Export Department, Bahia, August 2, 1848.

(Signed) B. A. BACELLAR, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 68.

Consul Porter to the Governor of Gibraltar.

Sir,

Bahia, August 19, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the English falucho, "*Fuente Santa*," of Gibraltar, owned by Francis Carreras, arrived at this port on 26th December last, evidently for the purpose of being sold for Slave Traffic.

The Mediterranean pass No. 7207, and dated 9th November, 1847, states that she is $19\frac{2}{3}\frac{120}{500}$ tons burthen, navigated with twelve men, and commanded by Andrew Cassano.

On her anchoring at this port, only nine men, including the master, were found on board; that number agreeing with a duplicate muster-roll which was presented to the Consulate, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith.

She was actually sold for Slave Traffic, as acknowledged to me by the consignee, Mr. John Sechino, for a sum equivalent to about 850*l.* sterling, by Domingo Gaibisso, a Genoese seaman named in the said muster-roll, and who held powers of attorney for the sale or other disposition of the vessel; however the change of flag was not effected.

The "*Fuente Santa*" cleared from this Consulate for Gibraltar on the 2nd instant; she was afterwards detained by the authorities, four Portuguese being found on board without passports, and not mentioned in the muster-roll. In explaining this occurrence, the master, Andrew Cassano, stated that he was induced to take them in the room of four men who deserted his vessel in January last, no notification of such desertion having been made to this Consulate. I have reason to believe that these men were discharged, also the master, but he was re-engaged on the transfer of the vessel not being effected.

The proceedings of the parties connected with this affair having given me much trouble and inconvenience, I take the liberty to transmit the names of the above four seamen* as given in the muster-roll, three being natives of Gibraltar, in the hope that through your Excellency's interference their statements may be taken as to the manner in which they were discharged.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

P.S.—The "*Fuente Santa*" sailed from this port on the 16th instant.

* Simon Cuello, Migl. M. R. da Sarria, Guillo. Rafael Salaberry, Egnacio Bagetta.

Inclosure 10 in No. 68.

MUSTER-ROLL of the British and Gibraltar seamen qualified to serve as such forming part of the Crew of the Falucho, called the "*Fuente Santa*," whereof Andrew Cassano is master, bound on a voyage to Bahia.

No.	Station.	Names.	Years of age.	Where born.
1	Mate	Guisepe Sn. Felipo	31	Sicily
2	Seaman	Joseph Oliveira	35	Gibraltar
3	Ditto	Domingo Gaibisso	52	Genoa
4	Ditto	Simon Cuello	19	Gibraltar
5	Ditto	Migl. M. R. da Sarria	35	Ditto
6	Ditto	Guillo. Rafael Salaberry	26	Ditto
		Aliens completing the crew.		
7	Ditto	Francisco B. Beso	28	Genoa
8	Ditto	Egnacio Bagetto	36	Ditto

(Signed) ANDREA CASSANO, *Master*.

Gibraltar, November 24, 1847.

By His Majesty's Order in Council of the 30th September, 1825, relative to the owning and navigating such Gibraltar shipping as may not come within the operation of the Navigation Law, it is directed that vessels belonging to Gibraltar may be owned by persons having resided in the garrison during fifteen years, and the persons so qualified may serve masters and mariners in such vessels for the purpose of navigating the same.

Certifico ser o documento anexo a verdadeira matricula do falucho Inglez "*Fuente Santa*," Capitão Andreas Cassano, constante de nove pesaos de tripulação inclusive o dito capitão levando a demais dois passageiros. Em fé do que dou a presente assignado e sellado com o sello das Imps. armas deste Vice-Consulado em Gibraltar, 25 Novembro, 1847.

P. auza. do Vice-Consul.

[L.S.]

(Assignado)

JULIO J. PEIRE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 68.

Consul Porter to Her Majesty's Consuls at Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, Paraiba, and Maceio.

Sir,

Bahia, August 5, 1848.

I HAVE to inform you that the English falucho "*Fuente Santa*," of Gibraltar, about 19 tons burthen, owned by Francis Carreras, native of that city, arrived here in December last, evidently for the purpose of being sold for Slave Traffic. I have been enabled to prevent the sale of her at this port. She has cleared to-day for Gibraltar; but I am informed it is the intention of the master to visit some of the ports on the coast of Brazil, in the hope of effecting his purpose.

I consider it my duty to put your in possession of the above particulars, in case the said falucho should visit _____.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 12 in No. 68.

Imperial Decree relating to the Disposal of Foreign Vessels in the Ports of Brazil.

(Translation.)

MAKING provisions against the inconveniences resulting from the facility wherewith foreign vessels are bought and sold in the port of Brazil.

It being worthy of my Imperial solicitude for the interests and security of property, as well of the subjects of the Empire as of those of foreign and friendly nations, to provide against the serious inconveniences resulting from the facility wherewith foreign vessels are bought and sold in the port of Brazil, without the necessary inquiry as to the legality of the sellers, and of the motive of the sale. I hereby, having consulted the section of the Council of State of Foreign Affairs, ordain that henceforward the following be observed:

Art. 1. No sale of a foreign vessel can be made in the ports of the empire by the captain or commander, any other person of the crew, passengers, or any other national or foreign individual, without the knowledge and express authorization in writing of the Consul of the respective nation, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, residing in the place.

Art. 2. If in the place where the sale is intended to be effected there be no Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent, it cannot take place without authorization by despatch from the civil authority of that place.

Art. 3. The civil authority, to whom a petition for the authorization of sale be made, can only grant the same in one of the following cases:—1st, That powers of attorney, or order from the proprietor with special powers, be presented to them in such a manner authenticated as to admit no doubt;—2ndly, That the captain or commander have proved before it, in a full and conclusive manner, that the vessel he intends to sell is unnavigable.

Art. 4. The unnavigableness can only be considered as substantiated when the following cases are proved:—1st, That there has been a wreck; 2nd; That the vessel has need of repair exceeding three-fourths of her value;—3rd, That the captain or master has not sufficient funds or credit to make the necessary repairs, even if their cost is less than those specified under No. 2.

Art. 5. The authorization from the Consul, or despatch from the civil authority to effect a sale, must be presented to the Fiscal office, where the payment of the respective duties is to be made, and here the “visa” is placed on the authorization or despatch. Without the presentation of contract of sale, together with all the above formalities, the vessel cannot be registered as Brazilian, if the purchaser be a Brazilian, nor can she be permitted to despatch for sailing in the name of the new purchaser, if he be a foreigner.

Art. 6. No notary public shall make out a contract of purchase or sale of a foreign vessel without the preceding formalities being duly accomplished, on pain of being punished for disobedience, besides other punishments he may have incurred.

Antonio Francisco de Paula Hollanda Cavalcanti d’Albuquerque, &c., Minister and Secretary of State, pass the necessary orders for the observance.

Palace, Rio de Janeiro, October 24, 1846.

(Signed) ANTONIO FRANCISCO DE PAULA E HOLLANDA
CAVALCANTI DE ALBUQUERQUE.

By the Emperor.

No. 69.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Bahia, September 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying lists, No. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa, for the quarter ending this day.

I beg leave to call your Lordship's attention to the Brazilian yacht "*Andorinha*," of eighty tons burthen, which vessel has made eight successful voyages to and from the Coast of Africa, having actually landed 3,392 slaves at this port, receiving the usual freight of 120 reis per head, 407,040, amounting to 40,704*l.* sterling, calculated at the current rate of exchange of 24*d.* per milreis.

Her first cost, including everything necessary for the voyage, may have been about 2000*l.* The parties interested in the vessel admit that after deducting all expenses she has left a clear profit of more than 800 per cent.

She has always cleared from this in ballast for different parts of the world, and returned hither after an absence of about sixty days, using the subterfuge of giving entry as having put back to this port in distress.

The "*Andorinha*" landed her first cargo of slaves in December 1846.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

List of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1848.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	1848 July 2	American	Brig	Cadet ..	294	10	J. Hawson ..	Not known	Ballast	Onim ..	29	Landed 350 slaves
2	" 16	Brazilian	Ditto	Josefa ..	121	24	M. F. d'Azevedo ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Coast of Africa ..	..	Landed 604 slaves near Macahé
3	Aug. 14	Ditto	Ditto	Tentativa Feliz ..	195	10	M. R. Chaves ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	..
4	" 17	Sardinian	Ditto	Universo ..	..	11	G. Bonsense ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ajudá ..	27	Landed slaves at Rio S. João
5	" 17	Brazilian	Polacca	Repentino ..	169	13	J. A. Sisneiro ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Coast of Africa ..	..	Landed 207 slaves
6	" 25	Ditto	Schooner	4a. Andorinha ..	99	23	M. V. da Cunha ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed 106 slaves
7	" 25	Ditto	Yacht	Diligencia ..	88	19	M. J. Ferreira ..	J. A. da Cruz Rios	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed slaves at Rio S. João
8	Sept. 4	Ditto	Brig	Vareta ..	248	23	G. R. Germano ..	Not known	Ditto	Ditto ..	..
9	" 6	Sardinian	Patache	Iride ..	116	10	T. Giustiviano ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Onim ..	24	Landed 280 slaves
10	" 8	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha ..	80	18	Joze Ribas ..	J. P. Marinho	Ditto	Coast of Africa ..	..
11	" 10	Sardinian	Polacca	Caristo ..	192	10	M. G. Gunelli ..	Not known	General	Onim ..	24	Landed 569 slaves.
12	" 11	Brazilian	Brig	Vingador ..	247	28	F. P. Pereira ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa ..	..
13	" 23	Sardinian	Ditto	Empirio ..	227	11	G. Pittaluga ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Onim ..	30	

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

Inclosure in 2 No. 69.

List of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1848.

No.	Date of sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1848										
1	July	Sardinian	Smack	Eu não sei	123	10	M. G. Doderó	Not known	General	Coast of Africa	
2	"	Brazilian	Schooner	4a. Andorinha	99	23	M. V. da Cunha	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
3	"	Sardinian	Smack	Concordia	103	9	M. F. Doderó	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
4	"	Ditto	Polacca	Vincitore	209	10	P. A. Campodonico	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
5	"	Ditto	Schooner	S. André	134	10	G. B. Bonsignore	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
6	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha	80	18	Jozé Ribas	J. P. Marinho	Ballast	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Sta. Catherina.
7	"	Ditto	Polacca	Bom Destino	157	18	F. F. Sampaio	Not known	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Macahé.
8	"	Ditto	Brig	Vingador	247	28	F. P. Pereira	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Sta. Catherina.
9	"	American	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	193	7	M. R. Stanhope	Ditto	General	Onim	Suspicious.
10	August	Sardinian	Polacca	Galileo	182	10	— Solari	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	
11	"	Ditto	Brig	Eridano	231	11	J. B. Scala	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
12	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Raspate	110	15	S. M. Chamusca	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Acaraçu.
13	"	Ditto	Brig	Josefa	150	24	J. D. dos Santos	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
14	"	Sardinian	Polacca	Enrico	156	11	G. Bartoletti	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
15	Sept.	Ditto	Patache	Berizo	108	9	M. A. F. Tiscornia	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Canaries.
16	"	Brazilian	Brig	Brasilense	204	27	A. C. Duarte	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
17	"	American	Ditto	Cadet	294	11	S. Hanson	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
18	"	Brazilian	Yacht	Diligencia	88	17	V. J. da Costa	Ditto	Ditto	Loanda	
19	"	Portuguese.	Brig	Augusta	187	21	T. J. de Carvalho	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	
20	"	Sardinian	Ditto	Univero	245	11	G. Bonsignore	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
21	"	Brazilian	Ditto	Luzitano	248	26	J. B. Gonçalves	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
22	"	Ditto	Schooner	4a. Andorinha	99	18	Jozé Ribas	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

No. 70.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Bahia, October 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of 4th July last, desiring me to represent to his Excellency the President of this province the expediency of prompt and energetic measures to put down the Slave Trade, the continuance of which is the principal obstruction to the establishment of more friendly relations between Great Britain and Brazil.

Unfortunately, Senhor Pinheiro de Vasconcellos had been removed from the presidency previous to the receipt of your Lordship's despatch. I nevertheless took an early opportunity of communicating to him your Lordship's suggestions, which he received with due consideration, but remarked that measures to be effectual for the suppression of Slave Traffic must originate with the Central Government, as his best endeavours for that object had always been rendered abortive for want of due authority or co-operation.

I have been informed that the opinions of the new President are opposed to the Slave Trade, and I shall consider it my duty to confer with his Excellency on this subject in conformity with your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

No. 71.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th of September last, reporting the circumstances under which you had refused to give the written permission which is required in such cases by the law of Brazil, to enable Domingo Gaibisso, the attorney of Mr. Francisco Carreras of Gibraltar, the owner of the British felucca "*Fuente Santa*" to effect the sale of that vessel at Bahia; and had also declined to certify the identity of the said Gaibisso.

I have the satisfaction of informing you that the proper law adviser of the Crown, to whom I referred your despatch and its inclosures, has reported it to be his opinion, an opinion in which I entirely concur, that you were perfectly justified in the course which you pursued in this matter. You will accordingly take the opinion so expressed as a rule for your guidance in any future cases of a similar nature.

I approve of your having communicated the particulars of this case to the Governor of Gibraltar, and of the communications which you made thereupon to Her Majesty's Consuls at Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, and Paraiba, and to Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Maceio.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 72.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 31, 1849.)

My Lord,

Bahia, December 31, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, returns, No. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa, for the quarter ending this day.

The slaves landed in this province during the present year amount to about 7,639, being a decrease of 2,425 on the year 1847.

The number of slave-vessels which sailed from this for the coast of Africa, has on the contrary increased, being 93 this year, to 74 in 1847.

The latter circumstance proves that Slave Traffic is still carried on with great activity. The decrease in the importation of slaves is accounted for by the fact, that several cargoes, originally destined for this port, have been landed in the southern provinces, in consequence of the supply of slaves here having exceeded the demand, and there being a large number in the depôts.

A great portion of the requisites for carrying on Slave Traffic is taken from this in Sardinian vessels, thirty having sailed for Africa during the present year.

During the past twelve months, forty-six slave-vessels left for the coast, twenty-three having entered this port with slaves, five cargoes have been landed to the southward, and thirteen vessels are reported as captured.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 72.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1848.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	1848	Sardinian	Smack	Eu nao sei ..	123	10	M. G. Dodero	Not known	Ballast	Ajudá	27	Landed slaves at Rio S. João
2	Sept. 30	Brazilian	Brigantine	Igual ..	213	13	A. S. Araujo	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	
3	Oct. 3	American	Barque	Adeline ..	249	12	S. G. Gamage	Ditto	General	Loanda	25	
4	" 8	Sardinian	Polacca	Italia ..	169	10	L. Ghiliara ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ajudá	39	
5	" 9	French ..	Brig ..	Les Amis ..	144	10	N. L. Delamere	Ditto	Ditto	Porto Novo	31	
6	" 10	Ditto	Barque	Princesse Francaise	217	13	A. Landes ..	Ditto	Ballast	Goree	27	
7	" 12	Ditto	Patache	François Xavier	103	9	M. G. R. Moisant	Ditto	Ditto	Onim ..	46	
8	" 21	Sardinian	Polacca	Vicitore ..	209	10	J. A. Campodonico	Ditto	Ditto	Popo Pequeno	30	
9	" 25	British ..	Schooner	Medora ..	170	11	Philip Amy ..	W. B. Hutton & Sons	General	Cape Coast	25	
10	Nov. 1	American	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	193	6	M. R. Stanhope	Not known	Ballast	Onim ..	30	
11	" 1	Sardinian	Brig ..	Galileo ..	182	10	E. Solari ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	25	32 passengers, crews of captured vessels
12	" 11	American	Patache	Bridgeton ..	144	8	D. Bueldy ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ambriz	22	Landed 480 slaves
13	" 15	Brazilian	Brig ..	Lusitano ..	248	26	G. R. Germano	Pereira da Ca. Bastos	Ditto	Coast of Africa	..	
14	" 20	Sardinian	Polacca	Giudetta ..	184	10	M. Dodero ..	Not known	Ditto	Onim	29	
15	" 25	Ditto	Smack	Canordia ..	103	9	F. Dodero ..	Ditto	Oil	Porto Novo	..	
16	Dec. 9	Ditto	Polacca	Enrico ..	156	11	G. Bartoletto	Ditto	Ballast	Onim	29	
17	" 14	Ditto	Schooner	S. Andre ..	139	10	G. B. Bonsignore	Ditto	Ditto	Ajudá	30	
18	" 17	Ditto	Brig ..	Bocomini ..	159	11	E. Gottozo ..	Ditto	Ditto	Onim ..	19	
19	" 19	Ditto	Ditto ..	Eridano ..	231	11	.. ..	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto ..	27	
20	" 23	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha	80	18	D. da Costa Lage	J. P. Marinho	Ditto	Gallinas	..	Landed 317 slaves
21	" 23	Ditto	Ditto ..	Legredo ..	135	23	J. G. Marinho	J. A. da Cruz Rios	Ditto	Ditto ..	..	Landed 350 slaves, 25 died on the passage.

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 72.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1848.

[No.]	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither.	Remarks.
1	1848	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha	80	18	D. da Costa Lage	J. P. Marinho	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.
2	October 12	French	Patache	Eclipse	150	8	A. C. Poillet	Not known	General	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Sta. Catharina.
3	" 18	Brazilian	Brig	Vingador	247	27	F. de P. Pereira	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
4	" 22	Ditto	Yacht	Legredo	195	14	M. J. G. Marinho	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.
5	" 29	Ditto	Polacca	Ligeiro	167	30	F. C. Madail	J. P. Marinho	Ditto	Di	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.
6	November 2	Sardinian	Brig	Maria Thereza	224	10	G. Colombino	Not known	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
7	" 2	Brazilian	Ditto	Sem Par	893	18	M. Aspres	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
8	" 5	American	Ditto	Harriet	333	9	Thos. Duling	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
9	" 6	French	Polacca	Jeune Paul	149	9	P. Aillard	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
10	" 11	Sardinian	Patache	Iride	116	11	G. Giustiviani	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
11	" 13	Brazilian	Polacca	Repentina	213	13	J. A. da Souza	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
12	" 14	Sardinian	Ditto	Volatrice	337	14	C. Piaggio	Ditto	Ballast	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Buenos Ayres.
13	" 18	Brazilian	Schooner	Bom Successo	119	8	H. de S. Senna	Ditto	General	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
14	" 20	Ditto	Falucho	Dous Amigos	63	8	Lourenço Salvador	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
15	" 24	Sardinian	Schooner	Esperanza	107	9	G. B. Delcanto	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
16	" 29	Brazilian	Brig	Tentativa Feliz	195	26	L. D. da Silva	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro.
17	" 29	Ditto	Brig Schooner	Igual	213	20	J. J. Copque	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Macahé.
18	December 2	American	Schooner	J. W. Kampton	193	7	M. R. Stanhope	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Rio St. João.
19	" 6	Brazilian	Brig	Lustano	248	28	G. R. Germano	Pereira da Ca. Bastos	Ditto	Dit	Suspicious.
20	" 11	French	Ditto	Les Amis	144	10	N. L. Delanere	Not known	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
21	" 13	Ditto	Schooner	François Xavier	103	9	R. Moisant	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
22	" 13	Sardinian	Smack	Eu nao sei	123	9	G. Dodero	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
23	" 16	Ditto	Polacca	Italia	169	10	Q. Chibiazza	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
24	" 17	Brazilian	Brig	Genfil Americano	218	21	M. D. O. Barros	Ditto	Ballast	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.
25	" 22	Ditto	Schooner	Felicidade	159	20	S. M. Chamusca	Ditto	Ditto	Dit	Slaver, cleared for Pará.

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1848.

(Signed)

EDWARD PORTER, Consul.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Maranham.*

No. 73.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Maranham, February 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I have taken upon myself a great responsibility in embarking on board of the British barque "Theresa Jane," William Wright, master, Liverpool, one of the abducted Africans, a Krooman of the name of Black Will, who was forcibly taken from on board the slave prize brigantine to Her Majesty's brig-of-war "Alert" in the month of January 1846. This African, through the means of an interpreter, will be enabled to state to your Lordship the whole of the nefarious proceedings of this abduction, and that a person who is above all law is deeply implicated in the matter, and who is lately returned as one of the Deputies of this province.

I am instructed by Her Majesty's Minister at Rio Janeiro to forward all Africans who may come into my possession belonging the slave prize to Rio de Janeiro; but your Lordship's pardon I crave for deviating from these instructions, inasmuch as I am well aware that this African would be made away with, either by some suborned persons claiming him as a runaway slave, or doing what was done some time ago with an African who was in the late African corps in a neighbouring province, by poisoning and throwing him overboard.

The original examination by myself of this African I shall have the honour to transmit to your Lordship in a few days per "Ann," wishing to forward copies to the Embassy, say Legation at Rio de Janeiro by the steamer.

I have paid the master of the "Theresa Jane" for passage-money, &c., and have stated to him that orders will be sent how he is to dispose of this African. The address of the master is annexed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

The address,—

Captain Wright,
Egremont,
Cheshire, near Liverpool.

No. 74.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Corbett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1848.

ON the 8th of April last I received your despatch of the 15th of February on the subject of a negro called Black Will, who was sent to England by you in the barque "Theresa Jane," being one of the Africans who had been forcibly taken from on board a slave-vessel, prize to Her Majesty's ship "Alert" in the port of Maranham, in the month of January 1846.

I have to state to you that under the circumstances reported in your despatch I approve of your having in this instance deviated from the instruction which you received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, directing you to send to that capital all negroes who might come into your possession who had formed part of the cargo of the "Alert's" prize; and I have to acquaint you that I have caused Black Will to be sent in one of Her Majesty's ships to Sierra Leone, from which colony it appears that he will be enabled to reach his native place.

In your despatch above referred to you stated that it was your intention to transmit to me in a few days by the vessel "Ann," the original examination of Black Will, taken by yourself; but I have to inform you that this document has never reached my hands; and I have therefore to desire that you will forward it to me without delay, unless you have already done so and it has miscarried, in which case you will forward an authenticated copy of it by the first opportunity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 75.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Corbett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 31, 1848.

WITH reference to the case of the brigantine, name and nation unknown, captured with 58 slaves on board by Her Majesty's ship "Alert," and forced on the 2nd of January, 1846, whilst under the charge of Lieutenant Wasey and a prize crew from that vessel into the port of Maranhã, through the unseaworthy state of the prize and want of provisions and water; and also with reference to the abduction of the negroes by a party of from thirty to forty men in the uniform of the national guard; I have to state to you that a letter has been received at this department from Her Majesty's Treasury, inclosing a memorial from the agent to the captors, praying that the proceeds of the vessel and cargo and bounty upon the tonnage and slaves may be paid to them; and also transmitting a report from the legal adviser to the Treasury upon this case, suggesting that application should be made to the Brazilian Government for the restoration to freedom of the slaves so abducted; and also that the vessel, if not wanted for Her Majesty's service, should be broken up and the materials sold in separate parts by public sale, and the proceeds, as well as those of the cargo, transmitted to Her Majesty's Government to be paid over to the captors.

With respect to the liberation of the slaves I have, in accordance with the suggestions of the Lords of the Treasury, instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro to renew the efforts he had made on former occasions for that purpose: and I have also to desire that you will strongly urge the President of the province to cause these slaves to be sought out and to be delivered up to you for removal to a British colony.

With respect, however, to the suggestion as to the breaking up of the vessel and to the sale of her cargo, I perceive by a note* which was addressed on the 5th of August, 1847, by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Lord Howden, that the President of the Province of Maranhã had with your concurrence caused the vessel to be disposed of by public auction; and that the Brazilian Government were about to instruct the President to pay over the proceeds to you. I have therefore to desire that if the proceeds have been already paid over to you you will remit without delay to Her Majesty's Government; but if the proceeds should not have been paid to you you will apply to the President for an account of the sale and for the amount of the net proceeds thereof.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* Class B, 1847, presented 1848, No. 211, page 218.

No. 76.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 13, 1849.)

My Lord,

Maranhã, March 31, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that during the quarter ending this day there has not been any importation of slaves from the coast of Africa, or any outfitting of vessels for slaving purposes within the district of this Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

No. 77.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 13, 1849.)

My Lord,

Maranhã, November 8, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 4th September last, acquainting me that the African Black Will, who was sent to England last February from this place, was by your Lordship's directions conveyed in one of Her Majesty's vessels of war to Sierra Leone.

I beg, my Lord, very respectfully to express my grateful thanks for your Lordship's flattering approval of my having in this instance deviated from the instructions which I had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro.

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship an authenticated copy of the African Black Will's testimony as taken before me.

It is with much satisfaction that I have to make known to your Lordship that two more of the "Alert's" Africans, named Fernando and Alexandre, forming a part of the Cape Lopez Africans, No. 5 and 6, kidnapped at sea, are now deposited in the city jail, after having been duly examined for two days by the chief of police in my presence, and under the sanction of the President of the province, at my instigation. The statements of Black Will were of essential use to me in the examination, and from the evidence of these two free Africans, the perpetrators of this audacious robbery of the 56 Africans are denounced, and the domicile of those that are alive discovered. I have made application this day for a copy in due form of the *autos* or proceedings, and as soon as received I shall address the President on this subject, and inclose the *autos* for his Excellency's perusal, at the same time requesting that the documents may be returned to me. Whether his Excellency the President will follow up the proceedings against the persons denounced, it is doubtful, as one of the infractors, the principal one, Colonel Izidoro Jansen Pereira, Member of the General Assembly at Rio, puts all law at defiance.

On reference to the Slave Trade Correspondence of 1846, Class B, p. 192, No. 150, it is my intention to transmit a translated copy of Mr. Hudson's despatch to the Baron de Cayrú, to the President, in the hope that it may induce him to endeavour to restore the Africans to Her Majesty's authorities, and bring to condign punishment all those concerned in this most flagrant and audacious robbery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure in No. 77.

Examination of Black Will.

ON Saturday, 25th December, 1847, at about 3 o'clock p.m., a black man called at the British Consulate and stated that he wished to speak to the Consul, when he was told by the Consul's servant, a native of the Island of Mauritius, that he was spending his Christmas-day in the country. The black man then asked to show him the flag-staff, which was done, and after that the servant showed him the British arms, which were hung up outside of the Consular Office. The black man then said to the servant he was satisfied that he was in the British Consulate, after which the black man commenced telling the servant that he was one of the Africans that were stolen from the slave prize under the command of Lieutenant Wasey; and the black man also mentioned the name of "Walker," who was a soldier on board. The Consul's servant was then convinced that he was no impostor, and gave him protection in the house.

On the Consul's return at night the servant acquainted him of the African being in the house, and calling him into his presence, after a few words with the African, the Consul was fully satisfied that he was one of the abducted Africans that were taken from on board the slave prize, and on examining his face the Consul discovered that he had the mark of a Krooman. The African was then sent to take his supper, and retire for the night. On the subsequent day the African was called into the Consular office, and the following questions were put to him not only on that day but on others by Her Majesty's Consul.

What is your name? Black Will. Where do you live when you are at home? Mouth of the River Gaboon; worked with Captain Waters, an Englishman; after he left, with George, an American. The fishermen in the River Gaboon go outside and give intelligence to the vessels. He was sent by a Frenchman of the name of Degraux to inquire about a schooner that was outside of the River Gaboon, with nine others, as Degraux expected a vessel to come for palm-oil, barwood, elephant's teeth, &c. On going on board the schooner did not see any black people. The master of the schooner asked where Cape Lopez was. The master then sent them into his cabin to drink spirits, so that they may warm their bodies, and when in the cabin the captain went on deck again. When in the cabin they smelt the "catinga." The master, on going on deck, shut the cabin doors, made sail on the vessel, and soon found out that they were kidnapped. After a little while the master opened the cabin doors, and to their sorrow the ten Africans found that they were on board a slave-schooner with about 45 slaves. After being on board ten days, when off Cape Lopez, they saw a British brig of war, who sent two boats armed to capture them. One boat had three Kroomen and the other four, with two officers, sailors, and soldiers. One of these officers was called Wasey, and he remained with the prize, with three sailors, one soldier, and two Kroomen of the name of Black Will and John.

Names of the 10 Africans kidnapped by the master of the slave schooner:—

1. Black Will.
2. Principe Tom, son of King William. This Black Prince speaks French, English, and Portuguese, and can read a little.
3. Sally.
4. Dough or Duff. Speaks French, and can scribble.
5. Fernando. Cape Lopez African.
6. Alexander. Ditto.
7. Miguel. Ditto.
8. Manoel Duke. Ditto.
9. Domingo. Ditto.
10. Don't recollect his name.

The King's son is now at St. Antonio estate, belonging to Donna Anna Jansen, with four others. This estate is near to Rozario. The white man who governs there is called Marcos. Another five in the Fazenda of Lobo.

The rest in the Fazendas Joãocar, Pirapamba, Chansansandia. Two tall blacks are dead, with the mark on the right breast, and one black girl. A person, a white man, of the name of Izidoro, a tall person, and wearing mustachios, stopped at the Fazenda St. Antonio two days, and gave orders to a white man to send for a padre to baptize all of them, and on the arrival of the padre refused to do so, as he could not baptize negroes *contrabanda*, and his duty was only to baptize creoles. Black Will ran away twice, and was chastised by order of a person called Ricardo, and on the third time running away by order of Marcos. St. Antonio is on the bank of a river, sweet water (*agoa doce*). A canoe was passing by St. Antonio, and this African, Black Will, had two fowls with him on the bank of the river. The people in the canoe, viz., one cabocolo and three negroes, spoke first to him and asked him who he was. He replied he belonged to an Englishman. The cabocolo asked him if he was one of those stolen by Izidoro. The African replied he was. The coloured person asked him why he did not run away, and offered to take him to the city. The first night they slept at a *caza* belonging to Pinto; the next day two black men were going to a place to embark for the city, and the cabocolo told him to go with them. They were five days on foot, and at last came to a place where a gambacca was at anchor with cattle on board, and after two days being on board he arrived in the city. On his arrival in the city could not find the Consul's house, and embarked on board the gambacca again and arrived at a place called Anajataba, took in cattle, and came to the city again. The master of the gambacca paid him six patacas, and on coming on shore paid two different blacks each a pataca to show him the Consul's house, which they did not do. After wandering about he fell in with another black, and asked him where the Consul's house was. He answered he was an Englishman's black, and offered to show the house. On their arrival they rung the bell, and the black fellow who brought him told the Consul's servant that a black fellow who was with him wanted to speak to the Consul.

On being asked how they were taken from on board the schooner, he replied that three soldiers came alongside at night between 9 and 10, saying that the officer and the English Consul sent for them to go ashore. Walker, the soldier, was not for letting them go, and was prevailed by Ben saying that the officer was on shore with the Consul, and all is right. On being asked whether they had English soldiers in King William's Town, on the River Gaboon, replied "Yes," and that they wore red jackets with blue cuffs.

I, Robert Falconer Corbett, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Province of Maranhã, Empire of Brazil, do hereby certify and attest unto all whom it doth, may, or shall concern, that the foregoing examination, hereunto annexed, under my seal of office, of African Black Will, one of the fifty-six Africans stolen in January 1846, from on board the prize sumaca to Her Majesty's brig of war "Alert," was duly taken by the Undersigned, and that the said examination was partly taken in the English, French, Portuguese, and the Cape Lopez languages, through the interpretation of Goodman Descomb, servant to the Undersigned.

Given under my hand and seal of office at the British Consulate, at Maranhã, this 1st day of January, 1848.

(Signed)

R. FALCONER CORBETT.

I, Robert Falconer Corbett, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Province of Maranhã, do hereby certify and attest unto all whom it doth, may, or shall concern, that the foregoing examination, hereunto annexed, is a true and faithful copy, having been carefully collated from the original examination on two sheets of paper attached under my seal of office, dated the 1st day of January, Anno Domini, 1848.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix my seal of office, at Maranhã, this 8th day of November, Anno Domini, 1848.

[L.S.]

(Signed)

R. FALCONER CORBETT.

No. 78.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January 13, 1849.*)

My Lord,

Maranhã, February 29, 1848.

IN reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship the examination of African Black Will*.

This African could only speak a little English and Portuguese, and with his jabbering of Creole French, it was difficult to understand him, but fortunately the person in my service, a native of the Isle of France, understood the Cape Lopez language.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

No. 79.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February 10, 1849.*)

My Lord,

Maranhã, December 21, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the reception of your Lordship's despatch of the 18th September, 1848, instructing me to transmit a list of British subjects who are owners of slaves, resident within the district of this Consulate.

I have the honour to inclose a return of all the owners of slaves, distinguishing the number of slaves employed in domestic affairs, and those in agricultural; this return is not so satisfactory as it ought to be, and I beg leave most respectfully to draw your Lordship's attention to a copy of my circular addressed to Her Majesty's subjects under date of 27th November, 1848, No. 2, and the original replies from three mercantile establishments, marked No. 3.

I have the honour also to acquaint your Lordship that ever since the year 1826 I never possessed a slave, and the one I did possess at that time was immediately emancipated by order of those with whom I am connected in England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

* See Inclosure in No. 77

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

LIST of British Subjects resident in the Province of Maranhã who are owners of Slaves.

Owner's Names.	Domestics.				Predials.				Mining.				OBSERVATIONS.
	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	
John Clarke	2	1	3										
Bingham & Co. ..	4	..	4										
Ryder, Gunston & Co..	2	..	2										
Thos. B. Gunston ..	..	1	1										
Henry Season ..	5	1	6										
Exors. Wellstood & Co.	..	..	..	..	44	34	61	17	..	..	..	..	Sugar Plantation
Ignacio Viega ..	2	2	4	..	3	..	3						
Augustus Garcia ..	12	12	16	8	19	8	27	..	..	..	..	..	In right of his wife, married in 1832
William Wilson ..	3	4	7	..	4	3	7	..	..	..	..	..	In right of his wife, married in March 1833, and in January 1848 emancipated the last slave he held.
Wm. Henderson, of Liverpool	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	In the service of his firm in this city
Wm. Moon, of Liverpool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	When in Maranhã, May 1844, emancipated several slaves upon certain conditions
	31	21	44	8	70	45	98	17					

British Consulate, Maranhã, December 21, 1848.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

Circular issued by Consul Corbett.

MR. CONSUL CORBETT is instructed by the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to transmit two lists of all the British mercantile houses established within the district of the Maranhã Consulate, and also a list of the owners of slaves, in conformity to the tabular forms annexed.

Her Majesty's Consul therefore requests that Her Majesty's subjects will furnish the Consulate with these returns.

British Consulate, November 27, 1848.

Name of Firms. 1848.	Number of Partners.	Place of Residence.	Nature of Business.	Branch Houses at	Observations.
Ditto, 1842					

Slave Owners' Names.	DOMESTICS.				RURAL.				MINING.				Observations.
	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	

Circulars transmitted to the following houses:—

- No. 1. William Wilson, Esq.
 2. Messrs. Moon and Co. } declined making any returns.
 3. Henderson and Co.
 4. John Clarke and Co.
 5. Bingham and Co.
 6. Ryder, Gunston, and Co.
 7. Ely Hill and Co.
 8. Season and Co. and Henry Season, Esq.
 9. Deane and Ede. (No return.)
 10. Smith, Brothers, and Co.
 11. Mr. Ignacio Viega.
 12. Augustus Garcia.
 13. Thomas Gilroy (not a slave-owner, as per reply.)

Mr. Consul Corbett's note to Messrs. Moon and Co. was requesting a reply to the circular of 27th November last.

Inclosure 3 in No. 79.

Messrs. Moon & Co. to Consul Corbett.

December 19, 1848.

MOON & Co., in responding to Mr. Consul Corbett's note of to-day's date, beg to say that as they have no slaves connected with their establishment, they consider that any Consular return would be unnecessary.

Inclosure 4 in No. 79.

Messrs. Henderson & Co. to Consul Corbett.

December 19, 1848.

MESSRS Henderson & Co. regret that Mr. Consul Corbett was prevented from making his Consular returns on their account, especially as they have no return to make.

Inclosure 5 in No. 79.

Messrs. Deane & Ede to Consul Corbett.

December 20, 1848.

MESSRS Deane & Ede decline making the return mentioned by Mr. Consul Corbett in his note of yesterday.

No. 80.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 6.)

My Lord,

Maranhã, December 31, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that there have been no arrivals of slave-vessels from the coast of Africa, or any outfitting of vessels for slaving purposes, within the district of this Consulate, during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

BRAZIL. (Consular)—Para.

No. 81.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

My Lord,

Pará, April 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that we have not had any importation of slaves from the coast of Africa, or other quarter, during the quarter ended yesterday, nor has any attempt been made in any part of this province, during the said interval, to fit out ships for slaving purposes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 82.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 5.)

My Lord,

Pará, July 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that this province happily continues without the importation of slaves from the coast of Africa, nor have any arrived during the quarter ended yesterday from the southern provinces of the empire, or other quarter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 83.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 30.)

My Lord,

Pará, October 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that there has not been, during the quarter ended yesterday, any importation of slaves from Africa, nor have any arrived from the southern provinces of the empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 84.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 20, 1849.)

My Lord,

Pará, December 14, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that a French ship belonging to Cayenne, named "l'Anna," arrived here direct from that colony some days ago, bringing as passengers from thence, seven individuals that formed part of a crew that belonged to the Brazilian ship called the "Aguia," belonging to the port of Maranham. This ship, my Lord, took a cargo of live cattle to Cayenne, and after landing some there

re-sailed for the coast of Brazil, but the "Aguia" foundered at sea during said return voyage on the 8th of September last. The master, named Francisco Solano da Fonseca, junior, with the rest of his crew of nine men, of which seven were Brazilian African slaves, took to their boat, which arrived at Cayenne on the 27th of said month, but with three blacks less, who died during the interval from starvation. Previous to their return, my Lord, to this French colony, the emancipation of the slaves had been fully effected there, and three of the four remaining slaves of the crew refused to leave the colony, on the ground of considering themselves free on French soil; but Captain Fonseca applied to the Governor for their arrest and delivery up to him, with which this functionary complied, sending a police force to secure them and put them by force on board "l'Anna," and at the disposal of Fonseca to return them under the French flag to slavery. This act, my Lord, on the part of the Governor of Cayenne appears the more extraordinary as committed by him in the face of the French ordinance bearing date the 27th April ultimo, whose seventh paragraph says, giving emancipation, "Le principe que le sol de la France affranchit l'esclave que le touche, est appliqué aux colonies et possessions de la République."

The foregoing communication, my Lord, I have had verbally from Captain Fonseca himself, but I failed in prevailing on him to give it to me in writing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 85.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 3, 1849.)

My Lord,

Pará, December 31, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that during the quarter ending to-day there has not been importations from any quarter, of slaves, nor has any attempt been made to fit out ships for slaving purposes within the limits of this province, during said period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Paraiba*.

No. 86.

Consul Newcomen to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 9.)

My Lord,

Paraiba, July 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to state that no vessels have sailed from any port within the district of this Consulate for the coast of Africa, during the quarter ended on the 30th of June last past, nor have any arrived from thence during that period. It is said, however, that a cargo of slaves is shortly expected here; but this is merely an unauthenticated rumour, to which I am not disposed to lend much credence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN.

No. 87.

Consul Newcomen to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 7.)

My Lord,

Paraiba, August 14, 1848.

ON the 17th ultimo the President of this province addressed an official despatch to the Chief of Police, transmitting him copies of advices from the Ministers of Justice, of the Exchequer, and of War, relative to the demoralization and corruption which along the coasts of Brazil affect the local authorities in the public disembarkment not only of Africans but also of merchandise by smuggling, amongst other things, a great quantity of wax, turtle-shell, and ivory, whereby the revenue was defrauded, in order that the said Chief of Police might take the necessary steps, recommending to the police authorities along the coast vigilance and activity, to prevent such scandalous abuses taking place in this province.

No such disembarkments have taken place within the district of this Consulate since my appointment thereto, nor are they at all likely to be attempted, for want of a good and immediate market; it is, however, gratifying to know, that whatever be the motive such instructions have been issued by the Central Government to the Presidents of provinces, as may in some measure tend to impede the importation of contraband slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco.*

No. 88.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, February 19, 1848.

IN accordance with the instructions conveyed to this Consulate in the circular of the 8th of March, 1843, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a report upon the state of Slave Trade and Slavery within this province.

I believe that I can once more report that no slave has been landed in Pernambuco from Africa during the whole of 1847, for it is positively denied that even the "*Calumnia*," which I returned on the 30th September last as having landed 117 slaves, imported any, and if she be excluded there exists no ground for suspecting any other vessel.

The reason of the cessation of Slave Trade is greatly owing to the continuance of the Praiero or Democratic party in power.

The home or coasting Slave Trade has also greatly diminished.

The promised census of the population has not appeared.

The export of the produce of slave labour during the past year was as follows: viz. 25,476 bags of cotton, weighing 1966 tons $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Sugar 49,114 tons $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Hides No. 91,148. Rum, 2,198 pipes and 682 barrels. Sweetmeats, 95,370 lbs., the total value, £950,000.

No alteration whatever has taken place in the laws of the empire respecting slaves,—their general treatment is the same;—a general apprehension exists in the Province of Bahia, that the extension of Slave Trade is hastening the day when that province will fall into the hands of blacks, and the prosperity of this province is there attributed to its cessation from that traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 89.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 20.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, April 1, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship two tables showing the number of vessels which have arrived here from the coast of Africa, and of those which have departed hence with that destination, during the quarter ended yesterday.

Your Lordship will procure with satisfaction that Slave Trade has not revived during that period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

List of Arrivals of Vessels suspected of being employed in Slave Trade, at Pernambuco, from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1847.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Nation.	From what part of the coast.	Remarks.
1848 January 21	Rosa ..	José Francisco da Costa	F. S. Rabello and Son	Brig ..	125	15	Portuguese	Angola ..	Cargo—Wax, Matis, &c. Passengers—Six sailors, one Brazilian, and one American person.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 89.

List of Departures of Vessels suspected of being employed in Slave Trade from Pernambuco to the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending the 31st of March, 1848.

Date of Clearance.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the coast sailed.	Remarks.
1848 March 19	Rosa ..	José Francisco da Costa	F. S. Rabello and Son	Brig.	125	Portuguese.	Angola	236 barrels, 256 lbs of Sugar; 133 pipes, 20 half-pipes of Rum; 45 bags of Rice; 30 boxes of Soap, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

No. 90.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, July 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a return of the number of vessels which have arrived from, or departed for the coast of Africa during the quarter ended the 30th June last.

Your Lordship will perceive that no slaves have been imported here, but what is extraordinary, as occurring for the first time, 21 have been exported to a foreign country, namely to Cuba, in the "*Paqueta de Trinidad*" I shall not fail to observe if this be the commencement of a new branch of that inhuman traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 90.

List of Arrivals of Vessels suspected of being employed in Slave Trade, at Pernambuco and its Vicinity, from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig	No. of crew.	Tonnage.	Nation.	Where from.	Remarks.
1848 April 18	Bom Successo	João Maximilão Pitta	Gabriel Antonio	Brig ..	14	164	Portuguese	Angola ..	Ballast.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 90.

List of Departures of Vessels suspected of being employed in Slave Trade, from Pernambuco, for the Coast of Africa and elsewhere, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

Date of Departure.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig	No. of crew.	Tonnage.	Nation.	Where for.	Remarks.
1848 May 16	Frederick ..	Charles Faulker ..	Amorim Brothers	Brig ..	9	228	American	Ambriz ..	159 pipes 30 barrels, containing 29,700 gallons rum, and 716 Agres, farinha, value £1368.
June 8	Paquete da Trindade	J. Gilpe ..	Captain ..	Patuxo ..	9	85	Spanish ..	Cuba ..	1800 arrobas of 32 lbs. each, of jerked beef, value £442, and twenty-one slaves ("humna porção d'escravos.")

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 91.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 21.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, September 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that no vessel has left this port for Africa during the last quarter; one, a German schooner, called the "Argo" of 106 tons, has been the only arrival thence, and she, together with two Sardinians are now loading here for that destination without the slightest suspicion of any illegality in their voyage.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 92.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 20, 1849.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, December 22, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in conformity with your instructions of the 18th of September last, a list of all the British subjects possessing slaves within the district of this Consulate, with the exception of those resident in the Province of Ceará, from which I have as yet received no return.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 92.

LIST of British Subjects residing within the District of the British Consulate at Pernambuco, who possess Slaves in the year 1848.

Name.	Profession.	Domestic.		Agriculture.		Foundry.		Total.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
PERNAMBUCO.									
Mc Calmont & Co. ..	Merchants ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	2
James Crabtree & Co. ..	Ditto ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Russell, Mellors & Co. ..	Ditto ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
Jas. Corkshott & Co. ..	Ditto ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Johnston, Pater & Co.* ..	Ditto ..	13	5	..	..	..	..	13	5
Geo. Kenworthy & Co. ..	Ditto ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Joseph Latham ..	Ditto ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Fred. Youle ..	Ditto ..	5	2	..	..	..	..	5	2
Augt. S. Corbett ..	Ditto ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	4	4
Nicholas Hartery ..	Ditto ..	9	9	..	..	..	..	9	9
John Mathews* ..	Ditto ..	6	5	..	..	..	..	6	5
Henry Gibson** ..	Ditto ..	4	5	..	..	..	..	4	5
John Stewart ..	Ditto ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	2	1
Edwd. H. J. Fox** ..	Ditto ..	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	3
Jones, Paton & Co. ..	Ditto ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Wm. Collins Cox ..	Ditto ..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
— Arbuckle ..	Physician ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Wm. May ..	Surgeon ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Ewd. de Mornay ..	Civil Engineer ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
D. W. Bourman ..	Engineer ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Chrisr. Starr ..	Ditto ..	2	1	..	..	28	..	30	1
Veitch Bravott & Co. ..	Chemists ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
John Carroll ..	Gentleman Farmer ..	7	3	..	..	..	..	7	3
John Dowsley ..	Ship Chandler ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2
Thoms. Dowsley ..	Ditto ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	2	1
— Scott ..	Engineer ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
— Jones ..	Ditto ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2
John Wilson ..	Shoemaker ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
A. Short ..	Publican ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
M. F. Braga ..	Clerk ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
W. H. Stepples ..	Ditto ..	5	3	..	..	..	..	5	3
— Stepples, sen.* ..	Brazilian Service ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
Josh. Gunston ..	Sexton ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
John Donnelly ..	Tailor ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
David Evans ..	Stable Keeper ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
George Francis ..	Publican ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Richd. R. Noble ..	Cotton Planter ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	..
Wm. Raymond ..	Ship Chandler ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
M. Middleton ..	Laundress ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wm. Purcell ..	Baker ..	8	1	..	..	..	..	8	1
Thos. Purcell ..	Cabinet Maker ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
		101	59	4	..	29	..	134	59
ALAGOAS.									
James Burnett ..	Merchant ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Arthur Mc. Hardy ..	Physician ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Krukenburg & Dennis ..	Merchants ..	3	1	..	..	..	..	3	1
F. H. Mitchell ..	.. ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	2
Chas. de Mornay** ..	Sugar Planter ..	..	..	60	20	..	..	60	20
Dr. Berkhead* ..	Ditto ..	..	..	17	13	..	..	17	13
		7	4	77	33	..	..	84	37

Total Pernambuco 193 slaves.

Total Alagoas 121 „

Grand Total 314 „

OBSERVATIONS.—The number of slaves given against those names marked with a single asterisk are suppositions as the gentlemen who possess them declined giving the requisite information. One individual, Mr. Stepples Son & Co., declined being any longer considered a British subject. Those numbers having two asterisks were returned by these proprietors of the slaves as belonging to their wives, having been received as marriage dowry.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul*.

No. 93.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 26, 1849.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, December 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship returns of the number of vessels engaged in trade from this port to the coast of Africa during the quarter ending to-morrow.

Your Lordship will perceive that three have arrived from and three departed for that coast, but I have no reason for believing that either of them were engaged in Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 93.

List of Arrivals of Vessels at Pernambuco from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1848.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Crew.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the Coast arrived.	Observations.
1848 October 6	Prinzeza Francisca	Lunde	Arrial Brothers	Ship ..	14	278	French ..	Goree	Ballast
December 12	Inveja	Antonio D. de Carvalho	Oliveira Brothers & Co.	Brig ..	27	167	Portuguese ..	Angola	Ditto
" 17	Louisa Breton ..	Chester	F. S. Rabello and Son ..	Ditto ..	9	168	United States	Loanda	Cargo,—19 casks whale-oil, and 7 bales of cotton goods

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 93.

List of Departures of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 30, 1848.

Date of Departure.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Crew.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the Coast cleared for.	Cargo, &c.
1848 October 17	Argo .. ..	.. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	106	Hamburgh	Loanda	147 pipes, 22 hogsheads, 45 barrels rum
November 7	Universo	Jacomo Bonsignor ..	Ber. Lasserre and Co. ..	Brig ..	11	245	Sardinian	Ditto	100 barrels, 200 tins of sugar; 166 pipes, 8 hogsheads, 51 barrels rum; 13 casks molasses
December 21	Adelaide	Saml. G. Gamage ..	M. J. R. Silva	Brig ..	11	249	United States	Africa	340 pipes, 42 barrels rum.

N.B.—The "Universo" arrived here from Bahia, 26th September, with part cargo of farinha and coffee. The "Adelaide" also arrived from Bahia in ballast, chartered in this port.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio de Janeiro.*

No. 94.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 17, 1848.

IN submitting the Annual Report on the state of the Slave Trade and Slavery within the district of this Consulate during the past year, I much regret that I cannot inform your Lordship of any diminution in this odious traffic.

Analysis of the Traffic in 1847.

From the Custom-house returns it appears that the departures from this port to Africa and arrivals from that coast, during the year, were as follows :

<i>Departures.</i>				
Under Brazilian flag	-	-	-	11
„ Portuguese „	-	-	-	6
„ American „	-	-	-	15
„ French „	-	-	-	5
„ Hamburgh „	-	-	-	3
				— 40
<i>Arrivals.</i>				
Under Brazilian flag	-	-	-	4
„ Portuguese „	-	-	-	4
„ American „	-	-	-	11
„ French „	-	-	-	4
„ Swedish „	-	-	-	1
„ Hamburgh „	-	-	-	3
				— 27
Total	-	-	-	67

These returns however furnish no criterion of the extent of the Slave Trade between this district and Africa, as a great number of vessels that sail for that coast leave this harbour under clearances for different Brazilian ports, and others depart from the various small out-ports in this neighbourhood, while many of the vessels that land slaves along the coast report themselves on arrival here as coasters; and such is the protection and assistance granted by all the Brazilian authorities to slave-trading transactions, that it is impossible, in a place so much frequented by shipping from all parts of the world, to be aware of all the proceedings connected with this nefarious traffic.

Since the British vessels of war have ceased cruising on this coast all the energies of the slave-dealers have been directed to frustrate the plans of Her Majesty's cruisers on the African coast, in which, to judge from the number of vessels that have landed full cargoes of slaves in this neighbourhood, they have been very successful.

This success may be mainly attributed to the great assistance and protection that slave-dealers have derived from the use of the American

flag, which has so aided them in organizing their plans on the coast of Africa as to facilitate, in a great measure, the embarkation of slaves and the departure of the vessels; and it is much to be feared that so long as the flag of the United States continues so entirely subservient to all slave-trading purposes as it is at present, the suppression of this nefarious traffic by British cruising will be greatly retarded.

The fact that the flag of the United States affords in every way the greatest protection to the Slave Trade has lately been but too clearly proved by the numerous cases that have occurred of American vessels being sold to well-known slave-dealers without changing colours; and there are now in this harbour two brigs, the "*Brazil*" and "*Don Juan*," wearing American colours, while they are well known to belong to notorious slave-traders.

Besides these two vessels, the barque "*Camilla*," barque "*Ceres*," and brigs "*Malaga*," "*Whig*," and "*Joseph*," have lately been sold and furnished by Mr. Parks, the American Consul, with sea-letters for African voyages.

From the reports already furnished, your Lordship must be aware of the impossibility of arriving at any correct estimate of the number of slaves landed; and although I am convinced that the importation of Africans within this district during 1847 was much above the average of past years, I have only been able to make up the following account:

At Macahé, Campos, and Cape Frio - - - -	21,000
At Rio harbour, and islands and bays up to Cape Frio -	19,000
At Ihla Grande and different localities to the south-ward of Rio - - - - -	6,000
Total - - - -	46,000

The landing of slaves along this coast is now carried on in the most undisguised manner.

The slavers generally make the land to the northward of this harbour, landing their living cargoes at all the bays, islands, and small harbours between this and Campos; but the favourite points are Macahé and Cape Frio; and I have heard that one reason for preferring Cape Macahé is, that all the authorities have a regular charge of so much per vessel, and that this charge or bribe is more moderate than at most of the other points of disembarkation, and from being fixed, renders delay or bargaining unnecessary.

From all these landing places, or depôts, slaves are conveyed coast-wise, and even brought into this port by the coasting steamers; and this employment is found to be so lucrative, that two or three of these coasters are nearly exclusively engaged in this manner, and although this practice is notorious, the Brazilian authorities take no steps to prevent it.

The present value of newly-imported negroes is much under the average rate. the cash price for a healthy slave being from 450,000 milreis to 500,000 or 50*l.* to 56*l.*; this decline in the price may be attributed to the immense number that have lately been landed, and to the scarcity which has prevailed in the money market.

As the planters are seldom able to pay ready money, slave-dealers supply them with slaves to work their estates at a much higher rate, at one, two, three, and even four years' credit, taking as security for ultimate payment, mortgages on the estates; and in this manner the slave-traders hold the agricultural proprietary body at their mercy and under their control.

As no census has been published since the last reports were made, it is not in my power to give any further information respecting the population of this province.

By the inclosed statement of the quantity and value of the staple productions of slave-labour exported during the past year, your Lordship will perceive that there continues to be a steady and considerable increase in coffee, very little change in the quantity of sugar, and a very great decrease in the amount of rosewood exported.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 94.

STATEMENT of the amount and value of Exports of such staple productions of Brazil, cultivated by Slave-Labour at Rio de Janeiro, during the year 1847.

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Sterling Value.	Total.
		£.	£.
Coffee	1,641,560 bags	2,664,100	
Sugar	8,311 cases	161,000	
Rosewood	10,608 planks	12,200	2,837,300
Duties and shipping expenses			482,341
			3,319,641
In addition to the above, other articles of produce, such as hides, rice, horns, tapioca, tobacco, and rum, were exported during the last year, the value of which may be estimated at			460,000
Total value of produce shipped in 1847			3,779,641

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

No. 95.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return of the vessels reported as having arrived at this port from the coast of Africa, during the quarter ending 31st ultimo; and also a list of the vessels cleared for the African coast during the same period.

Besides the vessels mentioned in these lists, several others have sailed for Africa under clearances for Brazilian ports; and a number of vessels that landed slaves at the outports, have entered this harbour as coasters; among them the two steamers "*Providencia*" and "*Theresa*," mentioned in my despatch to your Lordship of the 20th December, 1847; the former having landed 1050 slaves, and the latter 350.

By the list of departures your Lordship will perceive that these two steamers are reported to have sailed for the Azores and Africa, but it is well known that both have proceeded direct to the Coast.

I have, &c.

(Signe) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage. Days.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848 January 13	Brigantine ..	St. José ..	J. A. Garcia ..	Portuguese ..	79	18	Angola ..	28	Ballast ..	..
February 13	Schooner ..	Alicia ..	S. Smith ..	American ..	137	8	Ambriz ..	30	Ditto ..	..
" 16	Barque ..	Camilla ..	Charles Ranch ..	Ditto ..	233	10	Africa ..	32	Ditto ..	..
March 1	Brig ..	Indiano ..	M. A. Lopes ..	Portuguese ..	200	17	Benguella ..	25	Ditto ..	..

(Signed)

JOHN J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 95.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during Quarter ending March 31, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848 January 9	Brig	Whig ..	Jno. A. Forsyth ..	American ..	318	11	Africa ..	Sundries ..	..
" 9	Ditto	Zambese ..	B. P. da Graça ..	Portuguese ..	278	25	Mozambique ..	Ditto ..	..
" 11	Brigantine ..	Flora ..	G. J. F. Costa ..	Brazilian ..	179	15	Azores and Africa ..	Ballast ..	..
" 15	Ditto	Aurora ..	B. J. de Almeida ..	Ditto ..	125	13	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 24	Ditto	Nova Rosa ..	J. P. de C. Leite ..	Ditto ..	153	13	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 26	Ditto	Venus ..	F. P. N. Oliveira ..	Ditto ..	112	14	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 27	Brig	Brazil ..	D. C. Bevans ..	American ..	281	10	Africa ..	Sundries ..	..
" 30	Schooner ..	Guahyba ..	G. J. Almada ..	Brazilian ..	114	19	Azores and Africa ..	Ditto ..	..
" 30	Brig	Gallego ..	Q. A. Pacheco ..	Ditto ..	457	24	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 30	Barque	Favorita ..	J. C. Chambica ..	Portuguese ..	338	31	Angola ..	Ditto ..	..
" 30	Schooner ..	Alphonsine ..	— Lagoustin ..	French ..	200	10	Africa ..	Ditto ..	..
February 2	Brig	Casualidade ..	J. C. A. Soares ..	Portuguese ..	172	14	Azores and Africa ..	Ditto ..	..
" 7	Brigantine ..	Inveja ..	C. A. Gomez ..	Brazilian ..	89	14	Ditto ..	Ballast ..	..
" 29	Barque	Achille ..	— Grenier ..	French ..	179	9	Africa ..	Sundries ..	..
March 19	Schooner ..	Morris ..	W. G. Currier ..	American ..	126	7	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 20	Brig	Caracas ..	W. Sellaries ..	Ditto ..	236	9	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 25	Steamer ..	Thereza ..	A. P. C. Cordeiro ..	Brazilian ..	93	25	Azores and Africa ..	Ballast ..	..
" 25	Ditto	Providencia ..	F. M. C. Herpin ..	Ditto ..	150	29	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	..
" 26	Schooner ..	Martin L. Smith ..	M. Smith ..	American ..	90	5	Africa ..	Sundries ..	..

(Signed) JNO. J. G. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

No. 96.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul Westwood.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 25, 1848.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government has deemed it expedient that the duties of emigration agent at Rio de Janeiro should be performed by Her Majesty's Consul. It will accordingly devolve upon you to undertake the duties in question until the return of Mr. Hesketh to his post.

Mr. Hamilton has been instructed to make over to you all the documents in his possession which have reference to this service; and I have to desire that you will take charge of them, and guide yourself in the execution of the duties of the office, by the instructions under which Mr. Hamilton has hitherto acted.

The remuneration to be allowed to you for executing the duties of emigration agent will be five shillings a head for each Negro dispatched by you to the West Indies; and you will, as pointed out in the instructions, include the amount of the sum accruing to you in each case in the bill which you will have to draw on the Governor of the colony to which the Negro may be forwarded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 97.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the usual return of the vessels that have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending 30th ultimo, and also a list of the vessels reported as having sailed for the African coast during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No 97.
ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Cargo.	Remarks.				
1848														
April	5	Barque	Tourville	..	M. Alix	..	French	210	8	Ambriz ..	..	32	Ballast	
"	6	Ditto	Sylphide	..	— Bernidouge	..	Ditto ..	209	12	Africa ..	..	33	Ditto	
"	6	Ditto	Ceres	..	— Higgins ..	..	American	191	6	Ambriz ..	..	30	Ditto	
"	28	Brig	Whig	..	— Forsyth ..	..	Ditto ..	225	11	Loango ..	..	34	Ditto	
May	1	Ditto	Vintage	..	— Baddege ..	..	Ditto ..	199	10	Ambriz ..	..	26	Ditto	
"	2	Ditto	Huntington	..	J. M. Roberts	..	Portuguese	192	8	Africa ..	..	28	Ditto	
"	18	Ditto	General Rego	..	Ida S. Reis	..	Portuguese	250	29	Angola etid St. Helena ..	..	42	Wax and Oil	
June	10	Schooner	Morris	..	M. Courrier ..	..	American	105	7	Africa ..	..	22	Ballast	
"	11	Brig	Caracas	..	W. Sellars ..	..	Ditto ..	173	9	Loango ..	..	22	Ditto	
"	12	Barque	Achille	..	J. Grenier ..	..	French	179	9	River Zaire	..	26	Ditto	

This vessel brought 145 passengers, mostly seafaring men who had been taken in slavers, and put on shore on the African coast.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 97.
DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.					
1848														
April	1	Schooner	Andorinha	..	J. M. Pereira	..	Brazilian	160	19	Azores and Africa	..	..	Ballast	
"	13	Brigantine	C. H. Rodgers	..	C. Rack ..	..	American	199	7	Mozambique	..	..	Sundries	
"	21	Barque	California	..	O. Peneo ..	..	Ditto ..	236	10	Africa ..	..	..	Ditto	
May	4	Ditto	Senhora do Rosario	..	C. G. Elzitone	..	Portuguese	258	27	Benguella	..	..	Ditto	
"	25	Brig	Oregon	..	Peter Aymes	..	American	270	9	Africa ..	..	..	Ditto	
"	28	Barque	Louisa	..	J. Sanders ..	..	Ditto ..	309	13	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto	
June	3	Ditto	Tourville	..	M. Alix ..	..	French	268	16	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto	
"	4	Ditto	Sylphide	..	— Bernidouge	..	Ditto ..	209	11	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto	
"	10	Schooner	Juliet	..	M. Nathaniel	..	American	138	6	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto	
"	13	Barque	Ilda	..	A. Rampal ..	..	French	189	13	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto	

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

No. 98.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th July last, acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government has deemed it expedient that the duties of Emigration Agent at Rio de Janeiro should be performed by Her Majesty's Consul; and in obedience to your Lordship's instructions I have received from Mr. Hamilton the documents which have reference to this service, by which I shall be mindful to guide myself in the execution of the duties of the office until Mr. Hesketh's return to his post.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

No. 99.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed a return of the vessels which have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the last quarter, and also a list of the vessels reported as having sailed for Africa during the same period.

By the return of arrivals your Lordship will perceive that only five vessels are reported as having arrived in this port during the quarter, but I regret to state that several cargoes of slaves have been landed at Macahé and at the small harbours in the neighbourhood of Cape Frio, from which places several vessels have also sailed for Africa, the departures from this harbour being chiefly confined to American vessels, who now take over everything necessary for slave-trading purposes. The last cargo of slaves landed was from the steamer "*Providencia*, consisting of 990, being the fourth successful voyage this vessel has made.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 99.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during Quarter ending September 30, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848. July 5	Brig	Brazil	— Bevans	American	245	11	River Congo	Days. 25	Ballast	The Oregon brought over 51 passengers, being crews of different vessels taken by British cruisers.
" 25	Barque	St. Andrew	E. Doane	Ditto	288	9	Africa	20	Ditto	
September 2	Brig	Oregon	Peter Ayres	Ditto	205	10	River Zaire	25	Ditto	
" 25	Ship	Sylphide	P. Bernidouge	French	209	11	Loango	26	Ditto	
" 26	Schooner	Novo Destino	A. J. da Silva	Brazilian	52	8	Angola	26	Oil, &c.	

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 99.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during Quarter ending September 30, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848. July 12	Steamer	Providencia	F. M. C. Harpin	Brazilian.	150	31	Azores and Africa	Ballast	
" 16	Schooner	Morris	— Jones	American	105	7	Africa	Sundries	
" 20	Smack	Zenobia	J. C. Betton	Ditto	125	6	Ditto	Ditto	
August 16	Brig	General Rego	M. J. da S. Reis	Portuguese	300	18	Benguella and Angola	Ditto	
" 17	Ditto	J. W. Huntington	J. M. Roberts	American	247	9	Africa	Ditto	
" 29	Barque	Globe	— Bevans	Ditto	260	11	Ditto	Ditto	
September 17	Ditto	Adelaide	J. M. Camara	Portuguese	196	14	Benguella and Angola	Ditto	
" 19	Schooner	Mary Catherine	W. Griffen	American	130	7	Africa	Ditto	

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

No. 100.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 1, 1849.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 28, 1848.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions contained in the despatch dated September 18th last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a list of British subjects within the district of this Consulate who are owners of slaves.

I regret that this list does not contain a more full and correct statement on the required heads; but the different quarters at which the estates are situated, and the difficulty of obtaining any correct data even in this city respecting the ownership of slaves, is the cause of the inclosed return not being so full and complete as it should be.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 100.

LIST of all British Subjects within the District of the British Consulate at Rio de Janeiro, who are the Owners of Slaves.

Name of Person or Establishment.	Number of Slaves.	Place of Residence.	Nature of Business.	Observations.
San João del Rey Mining Company	About 900	Morro Velho, Province of Minas Gerães	Gold Mine ..	Some of the Slaves at these mines are hired, but the greater proportion are owned by the Companies
Imperial Brazilian Mining Association	„ 400	Gongo Loco, Province of Minas Gerães	Ditto ..	
National Brazilian Mining Association	300 to 400	Cocoes, Province of Minas Gerães	Ditto ..	
Mr. Richard Heath ..	25	Constancia, Organ Mountains	Farming	
Mr. Constantine Fisher	45	Ditto	Ditto	
Mr. Augustus Gibson	23	Island of Governador, Rio Bay	Soap Boiler	
Mr. Robert Coates ..	24	Selenas	Farming	
Mr. William Whitaker	35 to 40	St. Pauls	Sugar Planter	
Mr. Lescene	35	Tejucan, 12 miles from Rio	Coffee Planter	
Mrs. Moke	80	Ditto	Ditto	
Mr. George March ..	34	Organ Mountains ..	Farming	
Mr. Robert Laurie ..	About 80	Macahé	Coffee Planter	
Dr. George Reid ..	„ 60	St. Antonio, Macahé	Ditto	
Heirs of Dr. McCormack	„ 50	Ilha Grande	Ditto	
Heirs of Mr. Patt ..	„ 90	Boa Vista, Ilha Grande	Ditto	

Besides the above, there are about sixty British subjects owners and managing British commercial houses or other establishments in this city, who employ domestic Slaves, averaging from three to six Slaves to each establishment; some of these Slaves are the property of the parties themselves, but most are hired from Brazilian slave-owners.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Rio de Janeiro, December 28, 1848.

No. 101.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a return of the vessels which have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending 31st ultimo, and also a list of the vessels reported as having sailed for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848 October 1	Barque ..	Louisa ..	J. Saunders ..	American ..	267	13	Congo ..	Days. 33	Ballast	
"	Ditto ..	Senhora do Rosario ..	C. G. Elstone ..	Portuguese ..	250	25	Benguela and Angola ..	34	Oil and Ballast	
"	Schooner ..	Morris ..	W. S. Jones ..	American ..	105	7	Loango ..	23	Ballast	
November 2	Pilot-boat ..	Zenobia ..	G. C. Bitten ..	Ditto ..	125	6	Congo ..	24	Ditto	
"	Brig ..	Rosa ..	J. J. Valente ..	Portuguese ..	125	12	Angola ..	28	Ditto	
"	Ditto ..	J. W. Huntington ..	J. M. Roberts ..	American ..	193	10	Loango ..	24	Ditto	
December 20	Schooner ..	Minerva ..	J. M. Barbosa ..	Portuguese ..	30	10	Loanda ..	37	Ballast and Wax	

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1848.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of Cargo.	Remarks.
1848 October 1	Brigantine ..	Venus ..	G. W. Adams ..	American ..	200	7	Africa ..	Sundries	
"	Schooner ..	Marion ..	W. J. Rogers ..	Ditto ..	138	7	Ditto ..	Ditto	
November 5	Ditto ..	Henrietta ..	O. Pinto ..	Ditto ..	110	5	Ditto ..	Ditto	
"	Barque ..	Camilla ..	J. A. Forsyth ..	Ditto ..	386	11	Ditto ..	Ditto	
"	Schooner ..	Heloise ..	L. M. Saunier ..	French ..	241	9	Ditto ..	Ditto	
"	Ditto ..	Novo Destino ..	A. J. da Silva ..	Portuguese ..	63	8	Angola ..	Ditto	
"	Brig ..	Augusto ..	T. J. de Carvalho ..	Ditto ..	178	14	Benguela and Angola ..	Ditto	
"	Schooner ..	Morris ..	W. S. Jones ..	American ..	126	7	Africa ..	Ditto	
"	Barque ..	Eunomus ..	S. K. Appleton ..	Ditto ..	281	9	Ditto ..	Ditto	
"	Ship ..	France ..	R. S. Corning ..	Ditto ..	615	19	Ditto ..	Ditto	
December 10	Barque ..	Sylphide ..	B. Sieme ..	French ..	285	11	Ditto ..	Ditto	
"	Ditto ..	Ann D. Richardson ..	C. W. Storer ..	American ..	220	10	Ditto ..	Ditto	Seized outside this harbour by American brig-of-war "Perry," and sent to United States.

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Acting Consul.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio Grande do Sul.*

No. 102.

Consul Morgan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 16.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, February 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I addressed to Her Majesty's Envoy at Rio de Janeiro, respecting the intended rising on the 4th instant of the slave population in this province.

Since then several of the principal slaves implicated have been severely flogged in the jails at Pelotas, in order to extort a confession of the names of the parties who had enlisted them, but hitherto to no purpose; and ten of them have died under the lash rather than confess the true object of the conspiracy, or the names of the abettors of the same.

Public tranquillity has not been disturbed, although some apprehension existed at the moment, as it is well known that secret agents from the River Plate are residing in several districts of this province.

The authorities have however tried as much as possible in public to undervalue the importance of this conspiracy; but there can be no doubt that there is a spirit abroad amongst the slave population of this province, that sooner or later their emancipation will come through the medium of the neighbouring Republican States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN JUN.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Consul Morgan to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, February 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report that at Pelotas (distant about twelve leagues from this city) the plan of a general rising of the slave population employed on the Charqueadas was discovered on the 4th instant, which on the following day was to have been put into execution, by the immediate massacre of their masters and by an attack on the barracks of the few troops stationed in that town.

Two hundred muskets, a like number of carbines, swords, and pistols, with a great quantity of ammunition, were found concealed in a barn near Pelotas; and up to yesterday upwards of 300 slaves had been seized and lodged in jail.

Others who resisted and tried to gain the Campo were attacked and destroyed.

In order that they might be recognised by one another the initiated in the conspiracy had the hair on the back of their heads shaved downwards in a straight line from ear to ear, and all those who have been found with this distinctive mark upon them have either been seized by the police, or have been whipped and tortured by their masters into a confession of their confederates.

Some of the chiefs who have mostly figured in this intended rising are free blacks of the Mina nation, unquestionably known as the most

intelligent of the negro race ; and upwards of 1500 of them are said to have been initiated and were ready to act on the first rising.

But it has also been ascertained that a master hand has been guiding and encouraging this affair for some time past, by employing the Capatazes, mostly Spaniards, of the different Charqueadas, to enlist the slaves, by promising them that they would be taken to the Banda Oriental where freedom awaited them in the ranks of General Oribe's army.

When this conspiracy was discovered, the principal person implicated, said to be a Lieutenant-Colonel in Oribe's army, absconded towards the frontier town of Bagé, and the police were actively engaged in his apprehension ; but two others, Spaniards from the River Plate, are now in prison, and a colonel now resident at Pelotas and a native of Buenos Ayres are strongly suspected.

The informers of the existence of this conspiracy are three Mina slaves, who feeling great friendship for their masters, who had always treated them kindly, confessed the whole plan to them, and thus most providentially prevented the enactment of the scenes of St. Domingo in this province.

Several blacks found with their heads shaved have also been seized in this city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN JUN.

EGYPT.

No. 103.

Consul Gilbert to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Alexandria, November 7, 1848.

IT has for many years been the custom for foreigners and British subjects in this country to purchase slaves and retain them in their service under the appellation of servants, though without granting them certificates of liberty; and thus in case of misconduct on their part, or caprice on that of their masters, they were frequently resold by the public auctioneer. Many of these slaves have been so severely beaten, and sometimes even maimed by their owners, more especially by Ionians and Maltese, that they have not hesitated to throw themselves out of window with the hope of escaping, and thus risk losing life rather than endure further torture from the hands of their owners. In a few instances they have succeeded in getting to the British Consulate, and thus obtaining their freedom.

My predecessors, Mr. Consul Stoddart and Mr. Acting Consul Chasseaud, liberated in this manner several; but latterly the cruelty practised by some British subjects resident in Alexandria and its neighbourhood became a topic of public scandal, and several slaves absconded from their owners and took refuge in the British Consulate. In consequence of which, with the sanction of Mr. Consul-General Murray, I published a decree, of which I have the honour to inclose copies in duplicate and a translation, to the effect that all British subjects must produce within a period of fifteen days, all persons of colour residing in their houses as servants, with a certificate of liberty drawn up in due form to be registered at the British Consulate. Previous however to the expiration of the above-mentioned term, I issued another decree, of which I have the honour to inclose copies in duplicate together with a translation, quoting that portion of the Act of George IV which states the penalty to which a British subject renders himself liable by purchasing, &c. slaves. The cruelties perpetrated by some British subjects on their slaves compelled me to adopt some decided measures for checking the trade in slaves, and I trust in this instance your Lordship will approve of the means I employed. At the same time I should wish to be informed if I can in every proved case exact the 100% penalty, and how I am to deal with those persons who are unwilling or unable to pay the amount mentioned by the Act of Parliament.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. H. GILBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

Decree issued by Consul Gilbert.

(Translation.)

WE, Francis Hastings Gilbert, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Alexandria in Egypt and its dependencies.

Whereas there are in Alexandria some of Her Majesty's subjects and protégés, who, pretending ignorance of the prohibition against buying

male or female slaves, even with the intention of procuring them their liberty, and keep in their houses persons of colour thus bought, notwithstanding they are not permitted even to receive as servants such as belong to others, and who are not free:

Whereas many such persons of colour kept in houses as servants, are not free, and sometimes are ill-treated, and even sold by their masters:

We hereby enjoin all such subjects and protégés of Her Majesty residing in Alexandria and dependencies, who have persons, whether male or female, of colour, in their service, to cause them to appear in person for once only in the Chancery of this Consulate at any of the usual office hours within the period of fifteen days from the date hereof, in order to ascertain whether they possess their certificate of freedom drawn in due form at the Mehkemé; and in order that the Consulate itself should make it known to those who possess such certificate, that they are free, causing to be procured from the Mehkemé a certificate for those not free, at the expense of their respective masters. This indulgence is granted for the first and only time, warning those who shall contravene the preceding injunction, as also those who shall be discovered to have persons of colour in their houses, that after the expiration of the term of fifteen days as above stated, they shall undergo in all their rigour, the penalties ordered by the Statute anno 5 George IV, cap. 113, to which refers the Statute anno 6 and 7 of Her Majesty the Queen Victoria on the Slave Trade.

We order that the present decree be published in the usual manner, for the information of those whom it may concern.

Alexandria, October 9, 1848.

[L.S.]

(Signed)

F. H. GILBERT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

Decree issued by Consul Gilbert.

WE, Francis Hastings Gilbert, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Alexandria, in Egypt, and its dependencies.

In pursuance of our preceding decree of the 9th instant, and the object being to discourage Slave Trade as much as possible, it is hereby made known that from the 25th of the present month inclusive, and after, if it shall be discovered or proved that any British subject or person enjoying the British protection, keeps in his dwelling persons of colour not freed, whether of his own property or under pretence of their being the property of some other person of another nation, such persons of colour shall be caused to be liberated at the Mehkemé by means of the requisite document, which shall be procured at the expense of the contravening subject or protégé, who shall be further liable, in all their rigour, to the penalties ordered by the Statute anno 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, which runs as follows:—

“The person so offending, and their procurers, counsellors, aiders, and abettors, shall forfeit and pay for every such offence the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain for each and every slave so dealt or traded in, purchased, sold, bartered, or transferred, carried away, removed, imported, brought, shipped, transhipped, embarked, received, detained, or confined on board, or so contracted for as aforesaid; the one moiety thereof to the use of His Majesty, his heirs and successors, and the other moiety to the use of any person who shall inform, sue, and prosecute for the same.”

Warning is given that from the 25th instant, to the same penalties shall be liable those who shall buy, if even with the intention of liberating from slavery, or who shall sell, persons of colour.

We order that the present decree be published in the usual manner for the information of those whom it may concern.

Alexandria, October 21, 1848.

[L.S.]

(Signed)

F. H. GILBERT.

No. 104.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Gilbert.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 22, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th of November last, stating that British subjects and *protégés* residing in Alexandria and its neighbourhood are in the habit of purchasing slaves and retaining them in their service under the appellation of servants, but without granting them certificates of liberty; and inclosing copies and translations of two decrees which you had issued on this subject, the one requiring all British subjects within the district of your Consulate to produce within fifteen days, all persons of colour residing in their houses as servants, with a certificate of liberty for each such person to be registered in the British Consulate; the other warning all British subjects that they are liable to a penalty of 100*l.* on account of each person dealt with as a slave in contravention of the Act of the 5th Geo. IV, cap. 113.

In accordance with the opinion of the law advisers of the Crown, I have now to state to you that Her Majesty's subjects who are offenders against British law in the manner described by you are liable to be charged with felony under the 10th section of the Act above mentioned, and if convicted, to be transported or imprisoned as felons; and further, that Her Majesty's Consuls in Egypt, upon obtaining sufficient evidence of the guilt of such offenders, may send them under the Order in Council of the 19th of June, 1844, to Malta, for trial under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 6 & 7 *Victoriæ*, cap. 94.

I have accordingly to instruct you to issue a further decree warning Her Majesty's subjects of the penalties to which they are liable for buying or selling slaves, and notifying to all foreign subjects who are enrolled at Her Majesty's Consulate for protection, that that protection will be withdrawn from them if they infringe in any way the Statute of the 5th Geo. IV, as extended by the Statute of the 6th and 7th *Victoriæ*, cap. 98. And in all future cases when it may come to your knowledge that any British subject residing within your Consulate has been implicated in the purchase or sale of a slave in contravention of the statute, you will not fail immediately to report to me the particulars of the case, in order that Her Majesty's Government may be able to judge of the expediency of sending the offender to Malta for trial.

While on this subject I have to call your attention to Lord Aberdeen's circular of the 31st December, 1843, addressed to your predecessor, containing instructions for your guidance under the Statute of the 6th & 7th *Victoriæ*, and to which you appear hardly to have paid sufficient attention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

FRANCE.

No. 105.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Paris, May 3, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship two numbers * of the "Moniteur," containing decrees which have been issued by the Provisional Government respecting the total abolition of Slavery in French colonies and possessions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

No. 106.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1848.

IN the course of last year Her Majesty's Government and that of the King of the French agreed to communicate to each other at the conclusion of each year the names and descriptions of the vessels captured by their respective squadrons employed on the West Coast of Africa under the Convention of the 29th of May, 1845, between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I now accordingly transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, a return sent home by Commodore Sir Charles Hotham of the captures made by the British squadron under his command during the year 1847.

According to the form agreed upon between the two Governments, the return ought to have been headed "Return of vessels captured on the ground of slave-trading or of piracy, &c.;" but your Excellency will see that the words "or of piracy," which were introduced at the suggestion of the French Government, have been omitted in the heading of the present return. Care however will be taken that in future the form agreed upon shall be adhered to.

Your Excellency however is aware that the reason for adopting that form was that the French Government call pirates all vessels captured without papers; whereas Her Majesty's Government put them down as captured for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* See "Moniteur Universel," journal officiel de la République Française, of the 2nd and 3rd of May, 1848.

Inclosure in No. 106.

RETURN of Vessels captured on the ground of Slave Trade by the British Squadron employed on the West Coast of Africa, under the Convention of May 29, 1845, between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the Slave Trade, during the year ending December 31, 1847.

No.	Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Date of Seizure.	Number of Crew.	Where captured.		Name and Rank of Captor, and Name of Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves Captured.	Number Adjudicated before Adjudication.	Total Number Emancipated.	Tonnage of the Captured Vessel.	Before what Court adjudicated, and on what Charge.	Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.
						Latitude.	Longitude.								
1	Telina -	Brigantine	-	1847 Jan. 10	16	0 24 S	8 23 E	Com. Birch, Waterwitch	...	...	...	145	St. Helena, slave equipments	Forfeiture	Broken up
2	Constante Amizade	ditto	-	" 14	10	Morro	Point	Acting Com. Ed. Hill, Rapid	...	...	...	73½	ditto	ditto	ditto
3	Anna e Constançia	Brig	Dos Santos, master; Gonçalves, owner	" 19	12	7 53 S	13 4 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	104	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
4	Pedro	ditto	J. Cedade, master; J. Morara, owner	" 29	18	4 15 S	9 39 E	Com. Hope, Bittern	...	...	...	92	ditto	ditto	ditto
5	Nitheroy	ditto	J. Pereira, owner	Feb. 26	19	5 4 S	11 21 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	153	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
6	Saron	Felucca	C. Dupuy, master	Mar. 18	31	3 0 S	9 28 E	Capt. Giffard, Penelope	...	...	...	135	ditto	ditto	ditto
7	Jupiter	Schooner	José Acedonia, master	" 18	9	2 34 S	8 35 E	Com. Dyke, Flying Fish	...	...	...	69½	ditto	ditto	ditto
8	Tres Amigos	Brig	-	" 19	...	Run on Shore at Sooboo		Com. Levinge, Devastation	...	...	...	415	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Wrecked by her own crew
9	Rey de Aquiton	ditto	B. Aggreto, master	" 25	17	5 23 N	3 10 W	ditto	517	25	492	179	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	Broken up
10	Tagioni	Schooner	-	" 30	16	Off	Palma	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappier	...	...	...	86	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
11	Felicidade	Brigantine	-	" 30	11	12 45 S	11 48 E	Capt. Giffard, Penelope	317	2	315	58½	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
12	Joani	Schooner	J. A. Vianna, master; P. P. da Silva, owner	April 4	9	6 39 S	3 30 W	ditto	...	...	...	54	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
13	Bahiano	Felucca	-	" 11	43	6 0 N	3 0 E	Com. Wood, Hound	...	...	...	83	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
14	Unknown	Schooner	F. Ponheda, master	" 17	13	6 12 S	11 34 E	Com. Horton, Kingfisher	305	26	279	36	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
15	Gustavo Pri-meiro	Brigantine	-	" 18	17	3 51	10 4	Com. White, Sealark	...	...	...	115	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
16	Unknown	Barque	-	" 24	9	6 59	12 44	Com. Horton, Kingfisher	...	...	...	375	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Destroyed at sea.
17	ditto	Sloop	-	May 5	12	5 29	10 58	ditto	214	6	208	38	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
18	Tito	Brig	-	" 26	20	7 7 N	11 59 W	Com. Chaloner, Siren	...	...	...	215	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Broken up

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—continued.

No.	Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Date of Seizure.	Number of Crew.	Where captured.		Name and Rank of Captor and Name of Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total number Emancipated.	Tonnage of the Captured Vessel.	Before what Court Adjudicated, and on what Charge.	Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.
						Latitude.	Longitude.								
19	Brazilienne	Brig	L. Pinto, master; L. J. de Brito, owner	1847 June 6	40	Off the River Ramos	Com. Wood, Hound	...	...	...	21½	Vice-Admiralty Courts, St. Helena, slave equipments	Forfeiture	Broken up	
20	Unknown	ditto	- - - - -	" 18	24	9 27 S	4 30 E	Com. Birch, Waterwitch	515	57	458	189½	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
21	Rosetta	Felucca	- - - - -	" 19	27	5 30 N	3 0 E	Com. Levinge, Devastation	...	...	...	170	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Destroyed at sea
22	Forsø	Schooner	- - - - -	" 24	17	2 14 S	8 20 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferret	...	...	...	84	ditto	ditto	Broken up
23	Principe d'Onim	ditto	Thos. Nevil, master; Joaquim d'Almeida, owner	" 25	12	Off Badagry		Com. Wood, Hound	...	...	...	118	ditto	Restitution	Restored
24	Sebahano	Brigantine	J. Teixeira, master	July 2	8	Point Pedras		Com. Sprigg, Ferret	...	...	...	52	St. Helena, slave equipments	Forfeiture	Destroyed at sea
25	Esperto	ditto	- - - - -	" 9	16	Banda Point		Acting Com. Hill, Rapid	...	...	...	145½	ditto	ditto	Broken up
26	Voador	Brig	M. Fonseca, master	" 9	36	4 12 N	5 17 E	Com. Levinge, Devastation	...	...	...	210½	ditto	ditto	ditto
27	Dez d'Outubro	Brigantine	M. Josquin, master	" 16	11	2 57 S	8 15 E	Com. Montresor, Wanderer	57	6	51	28	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
28	Faisca	Brig	E. D. d'Oliviera, master	" 19	15	4 27 S	9 29 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferret	...	...	...	212	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
29	Romeo I.	Brigantine	- - - - -	" 22	15	3 57 S	10 35 E	Acting Com. Hill, Rapid	...	...	...	98½	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
30	Emprendedore	Schooner	João Petro, master	" 22	29	6 0 N	4 20 E	Com. Farquhar, Albatross	608	125	483	114	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
31	Faisca	ditto	J. dos Santos, master; J. Vianna, owner	" 23	12	5 0 N	3 20 E	Com. Wood, Hound	...	...	...	50	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
32	Nostra Senhora de la Guardia	Brig	- - - - -	" 26	..	Lagos		Lieut. Lysaght, Grappler	...	...	...	260	ditto	ditto	Run on shore and destroyed
33	Graça	Schooner	M. J. da Silva, master; A. N. Machado, owner	" 26	18	8 5 S	8 10 E	Captain Mansel, Acteon	447	13	434	92	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	Broken up
34	Esperança	ditto	- - - - -	" 29	8	4 34 S	9 34 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	220	5	215	69	ditto	ditto	ditto
35	Unknown	Brigantine	- - - - -	Aug. 6	..	Mayumba		Com. Birch, Waterwitch	...	...	...	102	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	Destroyed at sea
36	Lebro	ditto	- - - - -	" 7	13	4 5 N	22 37 W	Com. White, Sealark	189	8	181	127	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	Broken up
37	Unknown	Brig	- - - - -	" 11	..	Golabah		Com. Mathieson, Mariner	...	...	...	340	Sierra Leone, slave equipment	ditto	Run on shore and destroyed
38	Tebessan	Brigantine	— da Souza, owner	" 11	12	5 40 N	3 20 E	Com. Hope, Bittern	374	70	304	109	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	Broken up

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—continued.

No.	Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Date of Seizure.	Number of Crew.		Where captured.		Name and Rank of Captor and Name of Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total number Emancipated.	Tonnage of the Captured Vessel.	Before what Court Adjudicated, and on what Charge.	Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.
					Latitude.	Longitude.	Latitude.	Longitude.								
39	Adelaide - Brigantine	Brazilian	J. F. Moreira, master -	1847 Aug. 12	21	3 33 S	10 2 E	Com. Birch, Waterwitch	...	...	...	...	158	Vice-Admiralty Courts. St. Helena, slave equipments	Forfeiture	Broken up
40	Nero - ditto	ditto	J. M. Camara, master; Felix, owner	" 18	10	8 1 S	12 24 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	...	131½	ditto	ditto	ditto
41	Theodozia - Schooner	ditto	J. G. Barriga, master -	" 25	27	7 7 N	11 58 W	Com. Mathieson, Mariner	...	...	...	...	86	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
42	Maria da Gloria - ditto	ditto	- - - - -	" 28	11	3 4 S	10 3 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferrett -	...	...	...	...	71	ditto	ditto	Destroyed at sea
43	Phenix - Sumaca -	ditto	G. Golinda, master -	" 29	15	Black Point		Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	...	145	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
44	Sapho - Brigantine	ditto	- - - - -	Sept. 8	12	Loango		ditto	...	...	...	...	189	ditto	ditto	Broken up
45	Astura - Schooner	ditto	- - - - -	" 9	...	8 30 S	12 22 E	Capt. Mansel, Acteon -	...	...	...	...	160½	ditto	ditto	ditto
46	Maria Thereza - Brigantine	ditto	- - - - -	" 9	...	8 30 S	12 50 E	ditto	...	...	...	...	83	ditto	ditto	ditto
47	Facirinha - Schooner	ditto	- - - - -	" 10	22	3 19 S	10 21 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferrett -	265	35	250	37	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	ditto
48	Atrevida - Barque -	ditto	J. d'Alvarenga, master; J. P. da Silva, owner	" 14	22	8 30 S	12 50 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	...	251½	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
49	Aventureiro - Felucea -	ditto	- - - - -	Oct. 2	41	7 19 S	12 49 E	ditto	...	...	...	...	123½	ditto	ditto	ditto
50	Maria - Schooner	ditto	- - - - -	" 2	15	7 44 S	12 20 E	Lieut. Giepin, Dart -	237	26	211	30	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	ditto
51	Venus - ditto	ditto	- - - - -	" 7	25	7 33 S	12 38 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	...	180	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
52	Unknown - Barque -	ditto	- - - - -	" 8	...	8 4 S	13 9 E	ditto	...	...	...	...	360	ditto	ditto	Destroyed by her own crew
53	ditto - Brig -	ditto	- - - - -	" 9	...	8 14 S	13 12 E	ditto	...	...	...	...	280	ditto	ditto	ditto
54	Atrevida - Schooner	Spanish	Jose Varrell, master and owner	" 14	...	St. Martin's River		Com. W. C. Wood, Philonel	...	...	...	...	75	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Broken up
55	Sylphide - Brig -	Brazilian	- Dominguez, master -	" 17	...	9 20 S	11 21 E	Capt. Giffard, Penelope	...	...	...	...	312	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
56	Quatorze No-vembro - ditto	ditto	A. P. Nunez, master; J. da Silva, owner	" 19	10	8 4 S	12 45 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	...	108	ditto	ditto	Destroyed at sea
57	Heroina - Brigantine	ditto	A. D. Valente, master -	" 24	9	8 22 S	13 8 E	ditto	...	...	...	...	62	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto

• Tried in the British and Spanish Mixed Court.

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—continued.

No.	Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Date of Seizure.	Number of Crew.	Where captured.		Name and Rank of Captor and Name of Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total number Emancipated.	Tonnage of the Captured Vessel.	Before what Court Adjudicated, and on what Charge.	Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.
						Latitude.	Longitude.								
58	Rey Bango - Schooner	None	-	1847 Oct. 27	..	Cape Lopez	0'	Com. Wood, Hound	60	10	50	50	Vice-Admiralty Courts, St. Helena, slaves on board	Forfeiture	Destroyed at sea
59	St. Antonio - Brigantine	Brazilian	-	Nov. 3	10	8 29 S	13 E	Com. Chads, Styx	..	..	..	61	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
60	Eolo - ditto	ditto	B. Rodriguez, master	"	17	5 32 N	1 40 E	Com. Levings, Devastation	..	..	..	80	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	Broken up
61	Izabel - Brig	ditto	-	"	16	8 14 S	12 49 E	Com. Chads, Styx	..	..	..	172	ditto	ditto	ditto
62	Flamingo - ditto	ditto	-	"	13	8 4 S	13 6 E	ditto	..	..	..	220	ditto	ditto	ditto
63	Boa Fé - Brigantine	ditto	-	"	9	8 4 S	13 6 E	ditto	..	..	..	53	ditto	ditto	ditto
64	Luiza - ditto	None	-	"	..	7 0 S	11 45 E	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	650	83	567	170	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
65	Conceicao - The particulars of this capture have not yet been received	-	-	"	..	..	..	Com. McMurdo, Contest	..	..	..	90	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
66	Pampa - Brig	None	-	"	1	Palma	..	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappier	..	..	..	240	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	Forfeiture	Run on shore
67	Unknown - Schooner	ditto	-	"	..	Bimbia	..	Com. Levings, Devastation	..	..	..	51	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	Destroyed at sea
68	ditto - ditto	Brazilian	-	Dec. 1	..	Zangalangangs	..	ditto	..	..	..	50	ditto	ditto	Broken up
69	ditto - Brig	None	-	"	..	ditto	..	ditto	..	..	..	377	ditto	ditto	Destroyed at sea
70	Maria Augusta - Schooner	Brazilian	-	"	18	Manna Point	..	Com. Dixon, Rapid	..	..	..	135	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	Broken up
71	Agua - Brigantine	ditto	Jose Barcellos, master	"	28	5 0 N	5 0 E	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappier	751	21	730	218	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto
72	Unknown - Brig	ditto	P. J. Netto, master	"	30	3 37 S	9 9 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferret	852	127	725	200	ditto	ditto	Broken up
73	Sta. Anna - Schooner	ditto	-	"	11	6 52 S	11 52 E	Com. Chads, Styx	..	..	..	40	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	Destroyed at sea
74	Gaia - Brigantine	ditto	-	"	1	8 19 S	13 11 E	ditto	..	..	..	150	ditto	ditto	ditto
75	Agonogro - ditto	ditto	-	"	18	Great Popoe	..	Com. Levings, Devastation	..	..	..	100	Sierra Leone, slave equipments	ditto	ditto
76	Cidade d'Angra - Barque	ditto	-	"	21	6 27 S	12 15 E	Com. Chads, Styx	..	..	..	340	St. Helena, slave equipments	ditto	Broken up

(Signed)

CHAS. HOTHAM, Commodore and Commander-in-chief.

No. 107.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 26, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th of December, 1846, in which I communicated to you a report made by Captain Mansel, that the Chief of Lagos, on the west coast of Africa, had caused 2000 slaves to be put to death, and desired you to invite the French Government to instruct the officer in command of the French squadron on the west coast of Africa to co-operate with that of Her Majesty in punishing the Chief of Lagos for the outrage; I now transmit to you, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a despatch from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, stating that the French Admiral and himself were fully satisfied that there was no truth in the report in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty, February 20, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 174, p. 239.]

No. 108.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord,

Paris, September 6, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a note which I have received from M. Bastide respecting a complaint brought by the captain of the English vessel "Ann and Emily" against an officer of the French corvette "l'Abeille."

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

Inclosure in No. 108.

M. Bastide to the Marquis of Normanby.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, 1 Septembre, 1848.

CONFORMEMENT au désir que votre Excellence m'en a exprimé le 13 Août, 1847, mon département a entretenu le Ministère de la Marine de la plainte formée par le capitaine du navire Anglais "l'Ann and Emily" contre un officier de la corvette Française "l'Abeille," qui, chargé de visiter ce bâtiment, en aurait emporté et gardé les papiers quelque tems à son bord.

M. le Ministre de la Marine m'a envoyé le rapport que lui a fait M. Legras, capitaine de "l'Abeille," et il résulte de ce document que les faits ont été inexactement rapportés par le patron de "l'Ann and Emily." Cette goëlette, expédiée de Sierra Leone, fut rencontrée par "l'Abeille," le 17 Juin, 1847, à Weyda. Elle était commandée par un noir, ne sachant ni lire ni écrire, avait un équipage composé de noirs et trois passagers blancs, qui, en réalité, étaient l'armateur, le subrécargue et le patron. La quantité d'eau et de bois de sapin qu'elle avait à son bord ayant inspiré des doutes à l'officier chargé de la visiter, il crut devoir prier le noir que l'on désignait comme capitaine, et le Brésilien, capitaine de fait, de venir tous deux à bord de "l'Abeille," en portant avec eux leurs papiers pour les faire voir au Capitaine Legras.

Celui-ci trouva que ces papiers, revêtus de deux signatures qui paraissaient imitées, n'étaient pas satisfaisans, et il fut surpris que les autorités de Sierra Leone expédiassent des navires laissant autant à désirer sous ce rapport. Il n'arrêta cependant pas "l'Ann and Emily" et se contenta de donner avis de son passage aux croiseurs Anglais le "Hound" et "Albatross."

Tel est, M. l'Ambassadeur, la substance du rapport que le Contre-Amiral Montagnès de la Roque, Commandant l'escadre Française des Côtes Occidentales d'Afrique, a envoyé sur cette affaire au Ministre de la Marine, en déclarant que le Commodore Hotham lui-même avait reconnu l'inexactitude des faits énoncés par le capitaine de "l'Ann and Emily."

Je m'empresse de porter ces détails à la connaissance de votre Excellence, espérant qu'ils dissiperont tous les doutes que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a pu concevoir au sujet de cette affaire.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) JULES BASTIDE.

No. 109.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 25, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a letter addressed by the acting Second Master of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Blazer" to Lieutenant Smith, commanding that vessel, reporting what took place on board the French brigantine "Francisco Xavier," on the occasion of the visit of that vessel, on the 3rd of April last, by a boat from Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Blazer," for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 109.

Mr. Aldrich to Lieutenant Smith.

*"Blazer," at sea, lat. 5° 44', long. 3° 46' E.
April 3, 1848.*

Sir,

IN obedience to your orders, I have boarded the brigantine with French colours now parting company, and beg to state that I interrogated the master as to his nationality, which proved to be French by his manifest and papers.

The vessel "Francisco Xavier" is in ballast, with a large quantity of live stock on board. Having courteously asked other questions for your information, I begged to know if my proceedings in boarding him were offensive: he replied that he was perfectly satisfied with my investigation, and did not require me to state anything in his log.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. J. ALDRICH,
Acting Second Master.

No. 110.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 2, 1848.

WITH reference to the Fifth Article of the Convention concluded on the 29th of May, 1845, between Her Majesty and the King of the French for the suppression of Slave Trade, which stipulates among other things, that whenever a treaty may be concluded by one of Her Majesty's Naval Officers for the suppression of Slave Trade with a Native Prince or Chief on the

west coast of Africa, power shall be expressly reserved to His Majesty the King of the French to become a party to such Treaty ; I transmit to your Excellency herewith for communication to the French Government, copies of treaties which have been concluded by Her Majesty's Naval Officers with the Native Chiefs of the places on the west coast of Africa mentioned in the margin, since the date of that Convention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Sherboro. Sugury. Grand Bereby. Drewin. St. Andrew. Grand Lahou. Antonio Lahou. Jack Jacques. Ivory Bay. Malimba. Otondo. Betanga Benito. Rio Nunez. Rio Grande. Little Bootou. Grand Sestos. River Garraway. Kittam Country. Manna. Cagnabac. Batanga.

[See Class A, Inclosures in No. 188.]

No. 111.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for communication to the French Government, copies of two treaties which have been concluded by Her Majesty's Naval Officers with the Native Chiefs of the River Danger or Mooney, and of the Camma Country, on the West Coast of Africa, in which an article has been inserted in pursuance of the stipulation of the 5th Article of the Convention of the 29th of May, 1845, providing that the French Government shall be at liberty to accede thereto, if they should think fit to do so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 111.

[See Inclosure in No. 280, Class A, presented 1848, and Inclosure 1 in No. 199, Class A of this series.]

No. 112.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency for your information, and in order to enable you if necessary to explain the facts of the case to M. Bastide, the accompanying copy of a letter and of its inclosures which has been received at this department from the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the French schooner "*Ecureuil*" was visited in the month of November, 1847, off the west coast of Africa by Commander Mc. Murdo of Her Majesty's ship "Contest."

I have at the same time to inform you that the conduct of Commander Mc. Murdo on the occasion in question appears to me to have been perfectly and in all respects proper.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 112.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, November 13, 1848.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith for the information of Viscount Palmerston, a copy of a letter from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, dated the 14th August last, with its inclosures in original, respecting the boarding of the French merchant-vessel "*Ecureuil*" by Her Majesty's sloop "*Contest*."

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 112.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"*Penelope*," Loanda, August 14, 1848.

I REQUEST you to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosures marked in the margin, detailing an alleged infraction of the Treaty of May 1845, by Commander McMurdo, on the occasion of his visit to the French merchant schooner "*Ecureuil*," on the 30th November last.

Accustomed as I am to the exaggerations and misrepresentations of the masters of French merchant-vessels, I was not prepared for an accusation based on so slight a fabric.

It is clear that Commander McMurdo was justified in not allowing a suspicious vessel to force her passage; and if M. Auguste refused to heave to, and tried to lead the "*Contest*" into shoal water, I cannot see that he had any other course open than to use the means invariably employed on such occasions. Nor can M. Auguste complain of being detained by the officers of the "*Contest*," until the arrival of the Commander, for when he decided on leaving the Gaboon without a manifest of his cargo, or certificate from the chief authorities, that circumstances prevented its delivery, he should have recollected that he laid himself open to far greater inconveniences than he in reality experienced.

I have verbally examined Commander McMurdo on every charge preferred in M. Auguste's letter, and I can conscientiously assure their Lordships that I believe him to have acted with great propriety, and to have given no cause for this extraordinary accusation.

As the correspondence was addressed to me by Rear-Admiral Montagnès de la Roque, I have thought it advisable to antedate my despatch, and thus render it unnecessary for Commodore Baudin to make any communication to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 112.

Rear-Admiral Montagnès de la Roque to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

M. le Commodore,

"*Eldorado*," Rade de Gorée, le 22 Février, 1848.

J'AI l'honneur de vous adresser ci-jointe la copie du rapport que je reçois à l'instant du capitaine de la goëlette Française "*L'Ecureuil*."

J'aime à croire, M. le Commodore, que M. le Commandant du "*Contest*" vous aura également adressé un rapport sur les faits énoncés dans celui-ci joint et parmi lesquels je ne puis que déplorer de nouveau l'emploi d'armes dont les balles n'ont fort heureusement atteint que les voiles de "*L'Ecureuil*."

J'en appelle avec toute confiance, M. le Commodore, à votre haute

impartialité, et je reste convaincu d'avance que si la visite s'est opérée, vous ne pourrez que désapprouver une aussi grande infraction à la Convention du 29 Mai, de l'exécution de laquelle nous sommes respectivement chargés dans le double but de l'abolir ainsi que la Traite des Noirs.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) MONTAGNES DE LA ROQUE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 112.

Report of Captain Oddo.

A Monsieur le Commandant du Fort d'Aumale,

LE Capitaine Oddo, Auguste, commandant la goëlette Française "*l'Ecureuil*," appartenant à MM. Regis, négocians à Marseille, a l'honneur de vous exposer ce qui suit.

J'ai mis sous voile du Gabon, le 26 Novembre, 1847, à bord de la susdite goëlette, en destination de Camma; mon chargement se composait de cuivrieres, fayence, eau-de-vie, armes à feu, tissus et toutes marchandises pour la traite de l'ivoire. Mon équipage se composait de sept blancs et deux noirs libres, en tout neuf personnes.

Le 27, le 28 et jours suivans, je fis bonne route; le 30, me trouvant vers les 5 heures du soir dans le sud du Cap Lopez, j'aperçus deux navires très loin et dans le nord-ouest; j'étais alors babord amures, c'est à dire je courais au large; vers les 9 heures et trente, je pris tribord, et courant à terre, mon intention étant de mouiller à la côte pour appareiller à la brise de terre.

Vers les 7 heures je fus averti par mon second qu'un navire était très près de nous de l'arrière. Je me rendis de suite sur le pont, et peu d'instans après je fus, sans aucun préambule, hélé par trois ou quatre coups de fusil et le brig "*Contest*" continuait à m'élonger par babord, en me criant à tue-tête et à plusieurs reprises, en Anglais, "*What schooner is that?*" Lui ayant répondu le nom: "*Ecureuil*," l'endroit où j'allais, le navire s'éloigna de moi, et arrivé de l'avant, vira de bord et pris le large; je pensais en être quitte et je continuai ma route. Je fis route toujours dans l'intention d'aller prendre mon mouillage. Vers les huit heures, ce dernier m'arrivait de nouveau dessus. Cette fois j'ordonnai au timonier de loffer pour diminuer le sillage de la goëlette, et au même instant je fus assailli par une grêle de balles. "*Virez de bord tout de suite*," cria-t-on, "*ou nous allons tirer sur vous à boulet*." Je mis sur le mât tout de suite; alors le brick m'ayant passé de l'arrière, un des officiers, je crois, me dit: "*Pourquoi n'avez-vous pas viré de bord? levez vos focs, nous allons envoyer un canot à bord*."

Contre la force, pas de résistance! je virai de bord et après avoir halé bas mes focs et masqué mon petit hunier, j'attendis la disposition de ces messieurs. Enfin à 9 heures arriva un canot à bord monté par un jeune officier, un officier de troupe, et deux matelots. L'officier de marine m'ayant interpellé d'une manière plus qu'arrogante, D'où venez-vous? Sur ma réponse du Gabon; Où est-ce cela, le Gabon? et au même instant il voulut mettre un de ses matelots au gouvernail, ce à quoi je m'opposais formellement; alors, se précipitant dans la chambre, "*montrez-moi vos papiers*." Je leur montrai mon rôle, mon congé, et mon acte de francisation. M'ayant demandé mon manifeste je lui observai qu'allant dans des pays où il n'y a ni autorité, ni douane, je n'en faisais pas. "*Vous devez me le montrer*," et en disant cela s'étant levé en colère, "*faites-moi ouvrir votre cale*." L'écoutille ouverte, il s'y précipita, accompagné des deux matelots; ayant vu plusieurs caisses de fusils, pistolets, &c., "*que voulez-vous faire de ces armes?*" "*Acheter de l'ivoire*," lui répondis-je. D'un autre côté, Messieurs les matelots avaient pris un baril de couteaux à l'abordage, et se permettaient d'en mettre dans leurs bonnets; heureusement que mes matelots s'en aperçurent et les leur firent quitter; non seulement j'étais visité, retenu dans ma route, mais encore volé! Enfin, remonté sur le pont, le susdit officier à qui je demandais s'il avait fini sa vérification et si je

CLASS B.

pouvais continuer ma route, me dit, "Non, non, je ne suis pas satisfait, vous me paraissez suspect, donnez-moi vos papiers, je vais les faire visiter au commandant." M'y étant opposé, il me dit : " eh bien, attendez, je vais faire mon rapport au commandant et nous verrons " Lui ayant observé de nouveau que le temps que je perdais était précieux, il me répondit, " eh bien donnez-moi vos papiers, ou attendez." Sur ce il s'embarqua de nouveau, et ce ne fut qu'à neuf heures qu'un nouveau canot arriva à bord, monté d'un officier de troupe, le même qui était venu précédemment, et le commandant en personne. Ce dernier de nouveau voulut voir mes papiers, fit de nouveau ouvrir la cale et y descendit, et après une visite la plus scrupuleuse possible, remonta sur le pont et me permit de continuer ma route.

J'avais par conséquent perdu quatre heures de temps pendant lesquelles je n'avais discontinué d'aller en dérive, ce qui fut cause que je restais encore un jour pour doubler le cap, car le lendemain je m'en trouvais au nord et ensuite quatre heures à la disposition d'un individu que je ne suppose pas marin.

J'ai l'honneur d'observer au commandant qu'avant qu'il fut nuit, j'avais remarqué le pavillon trois couleurs à ce navire, et avais arboré les miennes à l'endroit le plus visible possible. Lorsque ce navire m'eût quitté, je fis route, et j'eus l'agrément, le lendemain au jour, de trouver quatre trous de balles dans ma grand' voile et deux dans la misaine et à quelques pieds de la ralingue de bordure. Je vous laisse juge, si dans un grand roulis ou par la mauvaise volonté d'un individu j'avais eu à regretter la perte de quelqu'un de mon équipage ou de plusieurs, je me voyais dans la nécessité de discontinuer mon voyage ou de manquer l'opération.

Ne connaissant pas les droits qu'ont ces messieurs sur nous autres navires du commerce, et n'étant pas obligé de savoir leur langue, je serais bien aise que vous fissiez part de mon rapport à M. l'Amiral, à son arrivée au Gabon, afin qu'il puisse aviser au moyen à ce que pareils abus ne se renouvelent pas tous les jours et pour ce que nous puissions naviguer avec toute sécurité possible, en étant du reste parfaitement en règle.

Recevez, &c.

Le Capitaine de "*l'Ecureuil*," Commandant pour la
Maison Régis frères, négocians à Marseille,
(Signé) ATE. ODDO.

Fait à bord, le 1 Décembre, 1847.

Je prie le commandant d'observer que le lendemain j'ai été de nouveau visité par le brig Anglais le "*Volwich*." Mais celui-ci en homme plus au fait des convenances (je veux parler du commandant), après m'avoir demandé où j'allais, et quelle était la nature de mon chargement, m'a laissé continuer ma route. C'est, je pense, la seule manière que nous devons souffrir une visite.

Votre dévoué,
(Signé) ATE. ODDO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 112.

Commander McMurdo to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

Sir,

"*Contest*," *St. Paul de Loanda*, June 26, 1848.

IN answer to your letter inclosing a complaint made by the master of the French schooner "*Ecureuil*," of the "*Contest*" having fired into his vessel and detained him for several hours, I have the honour to state that at 5h. 30m. p.m. of the 30th November last I observed a suspicious vessel bearing S.E., close in with and running along the land; went in chase of stranger. At 7h. 20m. p.m. came up with chase, and hailed in French by an officer who spoke the language fluently, to "heave to," or "tack," in answer to which he said he could not, as his tiller was broken. The "*Contest*," was then in four fathoms water, and the evening so dark that the land, which was close to, could not be seen. The schooner continued

her course, edging in shore, when I deemed it unsafe to follow her, and tacked, intending to ascertain if possible what she was by means of the boats, without resorting to harsh measures of any kind; but finding she did not shorten sail, and then going about six knots, I found it again necessary to tack and stand after her. At 7h. 30m. P.M., when we were within about forty yards, he was again hailed in French to heave to, to which he did not make any answer. I then hailed him in English, that if he did not heave to or shorten sail I would fire into him, to which hail no attention was paid; I then fired six muskets over him, upon which he then hove to at 7h. 35m. P.M.

I at once sent two most careful officers on board, both of whom speak the French language fluently, who did not at once clear him, as he was without a manifest of his cargo, but immediately returned to acquaint me with the circumstance, when I immediately went on board, and upon seeing his papers released him; he did not in any way express himself dissatisfied at what we had done, but on the contrary voluntarily opened his hatches, when I told him that we had nothing to do whatever with what there was there, and offered to mention the circumstance of my having detained him in his log, which he said was quite unnecessary, as he considered himself in fault, having taken the "Contest" for Her Majesty's ship "Hound," to which latter vessel he had a short time before sold some wine and other things, and said he would have recognized him, and he would at once have hove to.

I do most positively assert that there was no violence or improper behaviour exercised by the officers or crew of this vessel to those of the "*Ecureuil*."

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. Mc MURDO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 112.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to Rear-Admiral Montagnès de la Roque.

Admiral,

"*Penelope*," *St. Paul de Loanda, June 27, 1848.*

IMMEDIATELY on the receipt of your letter dated February 22, 1848, I called upon the commander of the "Contest," to make a minute and particular report of the circumstances which took place on his visit to the "*Ecureuil*."

I now have the honour to transmit the statement of Commander McMurdo, by which you will perceive that he disclaims having resorted to any act of violence; that he refused to examine the hold of the "*Ecureuil*," although requested to do so by the master; that he confined himself entirely to an identification of her nationality, and that the instant he discovered her to be French he left the vessel.

I trust that you will consider him justified in the course he pursued; he could not allow an unknown vessel to pass without violating his instructions and neglecting his duty, and that he did not resort to fire-arms until he was compelled by necessity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOTHAM.

No. 113.

M. de Montherot to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord,

Londres, le 13 Janvier, 1849.

CONFORMEMENT aux instructions que j'ai reçues de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, j'ai l'honneur de transmettre ci-joint à votre Excellence copie d'une plainte adressée en Mai dernier à l'officier commandant le comptoir du Gabon par le capitaine de la goëlette Française "*l'Ecureuil*" et dirigée contre le brick de guerre Anglais "*Wan-*

derer," qui aurait lancé un boulet par le travers de "*l'Ecureuil*," afin d'obliger cette goëlette à mettre en panne et à recevoir la visite d'un officier qui s'est rendu à son bord pour vérifier ses papiers.

Le rôle de surveillance des croiseurs Britanniques à la côte occidentale d'Afrique se borne aujourd'hui, my Lord, en ce qui concerne les bâtimens Français, à constater l'identité de leurs pavillons dans le cas où cela est nécessaire.

Tel est, sans doute, le droit dont a entendu user le commandant du "Wanderer;" mais d'une part, le capitaine Français affirme que le commandant Anglais ne pouvait avoir aucun doute sérieux sur la nationalité de "*l'Ecureuil*," ce navire, qui fait le cabotage à la côte d'Afrique, étant parfaitement connu de lui: d'un autre côté, en quoi a-t-il pu juger nécessaire de semoncer à coup de boulet un navire qui s'était empressé de hisser son pavillon et de faire route de son côté, aussitôt qu'il l'avait aperçu?

Permettez-moi, my Lord, de faire remarquer à votre Excellence, que le commandant du "Wanderer" est celui-là même qui a déjà été, en 1847, l'objet d'un blâme officiel pour avoir outrepassé ses pouvoirs en visitant le navire les "*Deux Sœurs*."

Il n'a pas semblé à mon Gouvernement que le procédé violent dont a usé cet officier pût être justifiable sous aucun point de vue, et il attend avec confiance le jugement que les autorités Britanniques porteront sur la conduite du commandant du "Wanderer."

J'ai en conséquence l'honneur de vous prier, my Lord, de vouloir bien communiquer à l'Amirauté la pièce ci-jointe et d'avoir la bonté de me transmettre la réponse qui sera faite à votre Excellence.

Je saisis, &c.
(Signé) MONTHEROT.

Inclosure in No. 113.

Report of Captain Oddo.

J'AI mis sous voile du Gabon le 17 Avril, 1848, en destination de Camma, rivière Ste. Catherine, où j'étais envoyé par M. Scribanis, représentant de la Maison Régis frères de Marseille.

Le 19 me trouvant dans le nord du Cap Lopez, j'aperçus un navire dans le sud, courant babord amurer; j'allais par le fait droit à sa rencontre, vent arrière, sous toutes mes voiles. Vers midi ce navire me restait par le bossoir de babord. Ayant reconnu qui c'était un navire de guerre, je fis hisser mon pavillon et j'ordonnai au timonier de venir d'un quart pour passer plus près. Vers une heure, me trouvant à petite distance de lui, je pensais qu'il était inutile de m'arrêter, croyant avoir été parfaitement reconnu et pouvoir continuer ma route. Je fus bientôt désabusé, car à peine le brick commençait à me dépasser d'une encablure par la hanche de babord, que je me vis tomber un boulet à demi longueur du navire et droit par le travers, à tel point que quatre ou cinq personnes de l'équipage se précipitèrent la face contre terre. Je me vis donc obligé, après m'être d'abord dérangé de ma route, à m'arrêter de nouveau et à perdre mon tems inutilement. Je fis haler bas les focs, carguer mes voiles hautes, et mis sur le mat. Le brick prit tribord amurer et m'envoya un officier à bord. Celui-ci après avoir pris connaissance de mon rôle me quitta. J'appris de lui que ce navire était le "Wanderer," Capitaine Montresor, le même qui le précédent voyage lors de mon retour au Gabon, avait envoyé sa chaloupe pour me visiter par le travers du Cap Lopez. Je dirai plus, l'officier qui venait de me visiter connaissait parfaitement ma goëlette, car dans ce précédent voyage je l'avais prévenu qu'à ma prochaine traversée "*l'Ecureuil*" serait peint en noir, et cet officier m'ayant demandé à acheter de la cire, je lui en avais donné quelques pains sans exiger de paiement. Nous nous étions donc quittés bons amis et je n'avais nullement lieu de penser qu'à mon prochain voyage j'eusse à éprouver aucune vexation de la part de ces Messieurs.

Je continuai ma route pour Camma où j'arrivai le 23. J'y fis mes

affaires et j'en repartis le 1 Mai. Le 2 du dit mois, j'aperçus un navire dans le sud-ouest à toute vue, je courrais alors tribord amurer, sous toutes voiles possible; avec une jolie brise d'est-sud-est; vers 10 heures du matin j'aperçus un second navire dans le nord-est qui faisait route à l'est tribord amurer. Ayant reconnu à ce navire un pavillon Français, naturellement je me dirigeai sur lui, d'autant plus qu'il avait mis sur mat et paraissait m'attendre. Je me dirigeai tant soit peu de ma route pour l'approcher plus promptement, pleinement convaincu que j'allais parler à un navire de guerre de ma nation. Mais je fus bien surpris de voir celui-ci amener le pavillon Français, éventer ses voiles en hissant un pavillon Anglais de la Reine et disparaître au moment où j'arrivais à portée de voix. Je reconnus alors le brick le "Wanderer," Capitaine Montresor, le même qui après m'avoir retenu près d'une heure dans ma traversée précédente, au moyen d'un coup de boulet tiré sur moi sans aucun avertissement, et ayant mon pavillon hissé, venait encore d'user de ruse pour me retenir de nouveau.

J'ai l'honneur de prévenir M. le Commandant que mon désir est de voir mon rapport parvenir auprès de M. le Commodore commandant la station Anglaise sur les côtes d'Afrique, afin qu'il soit instruit de toutes les vexations dont je suis victime depuis mon séjour au Gabon, qui, non seulement me contrarient beaucoup, mais bien plus, me retardent et portent chaque voyage un grand préjudice aux opérations de la Maison Régis de Marseille, au service de laquelle je suis attaché.

Je le répète, la goëlette "*l'Ecureuil*" est parfaitement connue de tous les croiseurs Anglais. Le premier voyage, à St. Thomé, j'ai été visité par le brick Anglais "Hound," Capitaine Wood. Un autre voyage allant à Camma, le brick "Contest" cribla mes voiles de balles; deux officiers envoyés à mon bord au milieu de la nuit et le Commandant lui-même, visitèrent non seulement mes papiers, mais encore la cale, dans laquelle ils descendirent et visitèrent scrupuleusement. Je fus retenu pendant quatre heures assez près de la côte pour que je me visse forcé de mouiller et d'attendre le jour pour appareiller et continuer ma route. Le lendemain, le "Woolwich" [probablement "Waterwich"] me visita de nouveau, mais je dois le dire, à l'honneur du Capitaine, il ne me fit pas perdre une minute. Un autre voyage, étant mouillé sur rade de Camma, le brick le "Kingfisher" envoya son canot à bord pour me visiter, et deux jours après celui du "Wanderer" vint encore pour le même objet. Il est donc certain que tous les navires Anglais en croisière sur la côte connaissent la goëlette "*l'Ecureuil*," et si je suis retenu à chaque traversée par le bon plaisir de MM. les Commandans, je ne vois pas possibilité de continuer mes voyages.

Par ces motifs et d'après ce qui précède, je m'adresse à vous, M. le Commandant, pour que vous vouliez bien appuyer de tout votre pouvoir pour que le présent rapport parvienne aux autorités Anglaises, afin que les vexations répétées à mon égard à chaque voyage finissent.

Je suis, &c.

Le Capitaine de la goëlette Française "*l'Ecureuil*,"
(Signé) ATE. ODDO.

Fait au Gabon le 4 Mai. Mil huit cent quarante-huit.

Pour copie conforme,
Le Commandant du Comptoir de Gabon,
(Signé) SOURDEAUX.

Au bas est ajouté: Envoyé à M. le Contre-Amiral commandant la Station des Côtes Occidentales d'Afrique, le 25 Mai dernier.

No. 114.

Viscount Palmerston to M. de Montherot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 13th instant, inclosing a complaint made by the master of the French schooner "*Ecureuil*" against Commander Montresor of Her Majesty's sloop "*Wanderer*," for having fired a shotted gun at his vessel in order to bring

her to, to ascertain her nationality, and for having been guilty of vexatious conduct towards him on his voyages between Gaboon and Camma on the west coast of Africa.

In reply I have the honour to inform you that I have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to cause an inquiry to be instituted into this matter without delay, and so soon as I shall have been acquainted with the result I shall lose no time in communicating it to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No 115.

Admiral Cécille to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 13.)

My Lord,

Londres, le 13 Février, 1849.

MALGRE le zèle scrupuleux apporté par le Gouvernement Français à l'exécution de la Convention conclue entre la France et la Grande Bretagne le 29 Mai, 1845, pour la répression de la Traite des Noirs, l'expérience des années précédentes l'a convaincu que les résultats étaient loin de répondre à ses efforts.

Les instructions jointes à cette Convention prescrivaient aux navires Français d'arrêter dans certaines circonstances comme pirates les navires négriers appartenant à des nations avec lesquelles la France n'avait pas de traités autorisant le droit de visite, notamment les négriers Brésiliens ; mais après avoir dans les débuts de ses opérations à la côte occidentale d'Afrique, capturé un certain nombre de négriers sous prévention de piraterie, la croisière Française a dû s'arrêter dans cette voie, en présence des acquittemens prononcés par le Conseil d'Etat qui dans le plus grand nombre de cas, onze sur quatorze, a ordonné la restitution de ces prises et reconnu en faveur de celles-ci un droit à des indemnités. La jurisprudence Française, naguère indécise, qui avait pu permettre de penser que les croiseurs Français étaient autorisés à traiter en pirates des négriers par cela seul que ceux-ci seraient pourvus de faux papiers ou porteurs de quelques armes, a fait place à une doctrine aujourd'hui bien arrêtée, qui exige pour qu'une pareille saisie soit valable, le concours d'un armement dans la véritable acceptation du mot et de faux papiers de bord.

Cette jurisprudence a contraint le Gouvernement Français à modifier dans un sens analogue, en Janvier 1847, les instructions données à ses marins, et ceux-ci ont dû en conséquence s'abstenir de saisir des navires faisant ouvertement la Traite, puisque leur arrestation n'aurait pas été validée en France, et que des indemnités considérables auraient été encourues par les captureurs. Or, la Traite des Noirs se faisant presque exclusivement aujourd'hui sous pavillon Brésilien, et la France ne pouvant arrêter les navires appartenant à cette nation par cela seul qu'ils se livrent à cet odieux trafic, mon Gouvernement est d'avis, Milord, que le maintien d'une croisière Française de 26 bâtimens, telle qu'elle a été fixée par la Convention de 1845, devient désormais sans objet, et il m'a prescrit de faire valoir sans délai auprès de votre Excellence les considérations qui le portent à provoquer dès aujourd'hui un concert avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, dans le but de réduire à douze le nombre des bâtimens Français chargés de réprimer la Traite à la côte d'Afrique.

En effet, Milord, du moment que la croisière Française se trouve dans l'impossibilité de s'opposer efficacement à la Traite faite par des navires Brésiliens, sa mission devient extrêmement restreinte, elle se borne à surveiller les navires Français, à visiter les navires appartenant à des nations avec lesquelles la France a contracté des traités pour le droit de visite et à vérifier la nationalité de tout bâtiment suspect de piraterie.

Votre Excellence reconnaîtra sans peine que pour une tâche aussi limitée, une station de vingt-six bâtimens est beaucoup trop considérable. Le nombre des navires marchands Français naviguant à la côte d'Afrique est très faible et la surveillance en serait pleinement assurée par le maintien dans ces parages d'un escadre Française réduite à 12 bâtimens. D'un

autre côté, les négriers Portugais et Espagnols ayant à peu près renoncé à la Traite des Esclaves, et les Brésiliens seuls se livrant aujourd'hui à cette infâme spéculation, les chances d'usurpation du pavillon Français vont donc en se restreignant de plus en plus. En conséquence, et avec le droit de vérification simultanément exercé par les deux croisières, avec une douzaine de navires biens répartis et bien mobilisés, la France pourrait pourvoir par elle-même à ce que ses navires de commerce restassent sous sa surveillance exclusive, sauf les cas très rares où la vérification du pavillon est jugée nécessaire par un croiseur étranger (ce que n'empêcherait pas d'ailleurs une croisière plus nombreuse).

A l'égard de l'usurpation possible du pavillon Français par des négriers Brésiliens ou autres, le droit de vérification des croiseurs Anglais compléterait suffisamment la police Française.

Mon Gouvernement a trop à cœur, Milord, de contribuer en tout ce qui dépendra de lui, à l'abolition de l'odieuse Trafic des Noirs, et il en a donné une preuve trop éclatante en affranchissant spontanément tous les esclaves dans les possessions Françaises, pour que la pensée puisse venir à personne d'interpréter la mesure qu'il a en vue aujourd'hui comme un ralentissement de sa part dans cette œuvre d'humanité; mais amené à envisager comme des sacrifices inutiles les frais considérables occasionnés par une escadre de vingt-six bâtimens, ainsi que les pertes cruelles que les fatigues et l'influence d'un climat meurtrier font subir aux marins qui la composent, il m'a chargé de proposer à votre Excellence de modifier l'Article 1er de la Convention de 1845.

En vertu de l'Article X de la dite Convention, les deux Puissances ont le droit, dans le cours de la cinquième année à partir de la signature de cet Acte, de se concerter pour décider s'il convient de le modifier ou l'abroger en tout ou en partie.

Bien que ce terme ne soit pas encore échu, j'ai la confiance que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne appréciera les motifs impérieux qui portent le Cabinet Français à en devancer de très peu de mois l'expiration.

J'ai en conséquence l'honneur de vous prier, Milord, de vouloir bien me faire connaître aussitôt que possible, l'opinion de l'Administration Britannique sur la réduction à douze navires de la croisière de 26 bâtimens entretenue par la France en vertu de la Convention du 29 Mai, 1845. Je suis autorisé à conclure avec votre Excellence un arrangement portant uniquement sur l'Article 1er, à l'effet de modifier dans ce sens la dite Convention, et établissant en outre que le nombre des bâtimens Français affectés à la répression de la Traite pourrait être élevé au-delà de douze dans le cas où les circonstances l'exigeraient.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) *Vice-Amiral* CECILLE.

No. 116.

Viscount Palmerston to Admiral Cécille.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 13th ultimo, proposing, on the part of the French Government, that for the reasons therein stated, a modification of the 1st Article of the Convention of the 29th May, 1845, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, may be agreed to by Her Majesty's Government; to the end that the number of French vessels of war employed upon the west coast of Africa, which is fixed by that Article at twenty-six, shall be reduced to twelve.

I have great pleasure in acquainting your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are willing, for the reasons assigned by you, to consent to the arrangement which you propose, on the condition however which is offered in your Excellency's letter, that if it should happen that Slave Trade should be again carried on under the French Flag, the French Government will send such additional cruizers to the coast of Africa as may be necessary for putting an end to such abuse.

I have to propose to your Excellency that this modification of the 1st Article of the Convention of 1845 shall be recorded in a protocol of conference to be held at this office at such time as may be agreed upon between your Excellency and myself.

I beg leave however to take this opportunity of noticing what appears to me to be a misapprehension on the part of your Excellency with respect to the time, when according to the Xth Article of the Convention of 1845, the High Contracting Parties are to concert together anew, and to decide according to circumstances, whether it is fitting either to put again in force the whole or part of the Conventions of 1831 and 1833, or to modify or to abrogate the whole or part of the Convention of 1845.

The Xth Article above referred to of the Convention of 1845 states that the Convention shall come into operation three months after the declaration mentioned in the VIIth Article shall have been made, and that the duration of the Convention is fixed at ten years, that is to say, ten years from the time when the Convention began to take effect and the fifth year, the time at which the High Contracting Parties are to concert together anew, will I conceive of course count from the same date.

But your Excellency in adverting to the provisions of the Xth Article, appears to consider the fifth year as dating from the signature of the Convention.

As this interpretation of the Article would make a difference of nine months and some days: the declaration having been signed on the 6th of December, 1845, and the Convention having therefore not come into operation until the 6th of March, 1846, I have thought it right to bring this point under your Excellency's notice at once, in order to avoid any future misunderstanding in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 117.

Admiral Cécille to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 21.)

My Lord,

Hertford House, 20 Mars, 1849.

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 17 dernier, par laquelle votre Excellence m'informe que conformément à la demande que j'en ai faite, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté consent à un arrangement qui, en modifiant l'Article Premier de la Convention de 1845, réduirait à douze le nombre des bâtimens de guerre que la France entretient à la côte occidentale d'Afrique pour la repression de la Traite des Noirs, sous la condition proposée par moi-même, d'augmenter le nombre de nos croiseurs, selon les nécessités, dans le cas où il arriverait que le Commerce des Esclaves recommencerait sous le pavillon Français.

En conséquence, votre Excellence me propose de m'entendre avec elle sur le jour où nous pourrions conférer ensemble et rédiger une note modificative de l'Article Premier de la Convention de 1845, pour être annexée à la dite Convention. Je vous prie, Milord, de m'indiquer vous-même le jour et l'heure qui vous conviendront le mieux, je serai entièrement à votre disposition.

Je reconnais avec votre Excellence, que le point de départ de la période de cinq années indiquée dans l'Article X de la Convention, est la date du 6 Mars, 1846, et que la faculté que les Parties Contractantes se sont réservée de se concerter de nouveau dans le cours de la 5me année ne peut être revendiquée avant le 6 Mars, 1851.

Il me reste à vous remercier, Milord, de l'adhésion que le Gouvernement de la Reine a bien voulu donner à la proposition que j'ai eu l'honneur de lui faire au nom de mon Gouvernement.

Je saisis, &c.
(Signé) Vice-Amiral CECILLE.

No. 118.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 26, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a Treaty which has been concluded by Captain Eden of Her Majesty's ship "Amphitrite," with the King and chiefs of the River Bonny, on the west coast of Africa, in which an Article has been inserted, in pursuance of the stipulation of the Vth Article of the Convention of the 29th of May, 1845, providing that the French Government shall be at liberty to accede thereto, if they should think fit to do so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 118.

Treaty with the Chiefs of the Bonny.

[See Class A, Inclosure in No. 227, p. 297.]

MUSCAT.

No. 119.

Captain Hamerton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, February 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that His Highness the Imaum has complained of the capture of several boats belonging to his subjects in the Persian Gulf by the Commodore of the Indian Naval squadron, found carrying on the Slave Trade contrary to Article III of the Treaty of 2nd October, 1845, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

2. His Highness, when he heard first of the seizure of these boats, said they were captured without authority; that the Treaty had nothing to do with Abyssinian slaves; and that if the Treaty was intended to prevent the importation of Abyssinian slaves into his dominions, all hands were ruined; that Abyssinia was not in Africa. I have, however, now succeeded in convincing the Imaum that the boats captured were breaking the Treaty, and that Abyssinia is in Africa; and His Highness now entertains a different opinion of these matters.

3. Your Lordship will learn with pleasure that His Highness, as far as in his power lies, has issued strict orders to his officers to prevent the export of slaves from his dominions; but I plainly see the orders of the Imaum will not be very strictly enforced; for indeed His Highness's officers, as far as I have ever been able to observe, have on all occasions treated the Imaum's orders just as they thought fit, whenever such orders have in any way been at variance with their interests or inclinations. However, not one-tenth of the number of slaves usually brought from the coast of Africa have arrived at Zanzibar the last season.

4. There are several boats here from the Persian side of the Persian Gulf; and from all I can learn they will attempt to carry away slaves even from this port. There is much talk amongst the people here relative to the refusal of the King of Persia to prohibit the importation of slaves into his ports; and there are several Persian dealers here now who are buying slaves, and who will I certainly think attempt to take them away clandestinely, and to do which I greatly fear they will not find any great difficulty; but they are not sufficiently expert seamen to take away any great number by stealth.

5. I have had several conversations on this subject with His Highness the Imaum, and I believe His Highness will do all he can to prevent these people taking away slaves.

No. 120.

Viscount Palmerston to Captain Hamerton.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 30, 1848.

I DULY received and laid before the Queen your despatch dated the 10th of February last, relating to conversations which you had had with the Imaum of Muscat upon the occasion of some seizures of boats belonging to the subjects of the Imaum, which had been made by the

Commodore of the Indian naval squadron, for being found carrying on the Slave Trade contrary to Article III of the Agreement of the 2nd of October, 1845.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to learn from your despatch, that whatever momentary uneasiness the Imaum may have felt on first hearing of these seizures, His Highness was soon convinced by your explanations and reasoning, that they were a just and inevitable consequence of the breach of law which had been committed by his subjects; and Her Majesty's Government also learn with great satisfaction, that the Imaum has issued strict orders to his officers to enforce his decree prohibiting the export of slaves from his dominions, agreeably to the engagement which His Highness has entered into with Her Majesty.

You will state to the Imaum that Her Majesty's Government feel persuaded that the time is not far distant when His Highness will look back with pride and satisfaction at the step which he has taken in this great cause of humanity. Already, at the earnest solicitation of Her Majesty's Government, the honourable example of the Imaum has happily been followed in the East by the Sultan of Turkey and by the Shah of Persia, whereby the prohibition of the African Slave Trade has now become nearly the universal law of civilized States.

No. 121.

The Imaum of Muscat to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 19, 1849.)

Confiding in the Almighty.

Zanzibar, November 11, 1848.

TO the exalted in rank, the Chief of the Great, the first in dignity amongst the nobles, the most glorious, the kindest of the kind, the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Palmerston; may his desires always and in every way be fulfilled, and as certainly as the day and night succeed each other, may his dignity and prosperity be continual, and may the Lord Almighty keep the sun of his greatness, and the new moon of his benevolence free from the eclipse. May he always continue in favour. Amen.

Afterwards the cause of writing these words of friendship is to inquire after your state and circumstances.

Now this letter I write to you because I am in extremity, in grief, and great perplexity; yet it is not proper that I should trouble you with my own affairs (things appertaining to myself), but I see not what excuse I can make, I do not write this as a complaint, but with the intention of informing you of my distress. You have required me to abstain from carrying slaves for the Slave Trade to Yemen and Oman (on the west and east coast of Arabia), I am in obedience to the wishes of Her Majesty, and also of yourself. I have abstained from Slave Trade to the utmost extent of my power, and the great God Almighty knows that I am ready to give up my life, my dominions, and all I possess, to meet the wishes of Her Majesty. I now inform you that all the officers of Government in these countries tell me Soomalee country which is opposite to Yemen, is considered as in Africa, and that I should abstain from Slave Trade in that country. Dear Friend, you and all men know that I have no dominions in Africa except from Moka Deesha to Toonjh, which is the boundary between my dominions and those of the Portuguese; how can I prevent the Slave Trade from all Africa? Now through the favour of God your hand is long, and reaches far, even to all people [you have power over all], and as I attend to your orders, even so will others than I; they cannot disobey, and as they are dealt with, even so will I and those belonging to me; in fact it is not fit that I should tell you in what a state I am, you must be aware of it, and I feel that I shall be considered as deserving or more so than others, because I am your oldest friend, openly and privately. I have all confidence in your friendship, whatever you require of me, much or little, the sign is with you. I am ready. Peace be on you now and hereafter.

From the expectant slave of God's mercy,
(Signed) SAEED BIN SULTAN.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 122.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord,

The Hague, April 11, 1848.

ON Sunday last I had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st ultimo, and I have immediately written to Count Schimmelpenninck, the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

Inclosure in No. 122.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Count Schimmelpenninck.

The Hague, April 10, 1848.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has the honour, in obedience to the instructions he has received, to inclose to his Excellency the Count Schimmelpenninck President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the Netherlands, copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Foreign Office, the Colonial Department of the British Government, the Governor of British Guiana, and the Governor-General of the Netherland Possessions in the West Indies on the subject of certain emancipated negroes, who, according to the note of General de La Sarraz of the 17th May, 1847, were to obtain permission to emigrate from that colony,

Notwithstanding this permission, the Governor-General of Surinam has refused to the Governor of British Guiana leave to send any agent to communicate with these negroes; and as the fate of these unfortunate people is connected with the case of the "Snow," so long a subject of discussion between the two Governments, the British Government feels confident that orders will be sent forthwith to the Governor-General of Surinam to pay due attention to any agent of the Colonial Government of British Guiana, who may proceed to Surinam to communicate with these individuals, for the purpose of ascertaining their real sentiments and desires on the subject of removal.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 123.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1848.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 12th of October last, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the export of slaves from the Dutch settlement of Curaçoa to the Island of Porto Rico, I herewith transmit to you for your information and for communication to Count

Randwyck, an extract of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Porto Rico reporting that the inhabitants of Curaçoa have petitioned the King of the Netherlands to remove the present restrictions upon the exportation of negroes from that island, by which no slave can be removed therefrom, unless by his own consent.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 123.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Consul Lindegren's despatch to Viscount Palmerston, of March 22, 1848.

[See No. 248.]

No. 124.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 18.)

My Lord,

The Hague, May 14, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which I have received from his Excellency Count Schimmelpenninck, acceding to part of the propositions of Her Majesty's Government for Additional Articles explanatory of the Treaty of the 4th May, 1818, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which I submitted for consideration on the 22nd September, according to your Lordship's instructions. The Netherland Government, for reasons therein stated, require certain modifications in the IInd Article, by which the right of search would be only extended to the Mozambique Channel and a part of the east coast of Africa.

I beg to be honoured with your Lordship's further instructions on this point.

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

Inclosure in No. 124.

Count Schimmelpenninck to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

M. le Chevalier,

La Haye, le 13 Mai, 1848.

SOUS la date du 18 Février, 1846, le Département des Affaires Etrangères vous a prié de vouloir bien lui faire connaître si le Gouvernement Britannique consent à ce qu'il puisse être signé ici un document explicatif, y mentionné, quant au § 5 de l'Article Additionnel du 25 Janvier, 1818, entre les Pays Bas et la Grande Bretagne, pour la répression du Trafic des Esclaves, lequel paragraphe se rapporte à la provision d'eau qu'il est loisible aux bâtimens marchands d'avoir à bord.

D'après votre réponse du 22 Septembre dernier, le Cabinet de Londres accède au désir manifesté à cet égard, pourvu que le Gouvernement Néerlandais consente à admettre quelques autre arrangemens sur la matière, tel que les indique un projet d'Articles Additionnels joint à la susdite réponse.

Votre lettre du lendemain sert à appuyer cette proposition, en faisant connaître en même temps une communication du Capitaine Wyvil, d'après laquelle des navires des Pays Bas pourraient être soupçonnés de se mêler du Commerce des Esclaves.

Je puis aujourd'hui avoir l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance, que, selon l'opinion des autorités consultées, les arrangemens proposés pourront être acceptés sauf une modification de l'Article II, dont le contenu a donné lieu à des objections.

Plusieurs des désignations indiquées par l'Article Additionnel du 25 Janvier, 1823, seraient souvent applicables aux navires marchands Néer-

landais faisant le commerce légitime, tels, par exemple, les bâtimens destinés aux Indes Orientales, qui généralement sont pourvus d'écoutilles en treillis ouverts, ou ceux qui, après avoir transporté des émigrans aux Etats Unis d'Amérique, se rendent aux Indes, et à bord desquels on trouverait souvent les séparations ayant servi à ce transport.

Il paraît superflu d'ajouter à ces exemples d'autres encore, les inconvéniens qui résulteraient de l'Article II du projet ayant été suffisamment prouvés aux yeux du Gouvernement Néerlandais qui se voit dès-lors obligé de ne pas l'admettre dans toute son étendue.

Il existe cependant une partie du globe où ces inconvéniens ne sont pas à craindre, notamment, dans le Canal de Mozambique, et comme celui-ci semble pouvoir se prêter au Trafic d'Esclaves que les Gouvernemens Néerlandais et Britannique désirent anéantir avec une égale persévérance, l'Article Additionnel du 25 Janvier, 1823, pourrait être rendu applicable à la côte orientale d'Afrique, dans l'espace qui se trouve en-dedans du 53e degré de longitude orientale de Greenwich, et entre le 30e degré de latitude méridionale et la ligne équinoxiale.

Le Gouvernement Néerlandais est dès-lors disposé à signer les Articles proposés, sauf la modification susdite.

Avant de terminer la présente je ne puis m'empêcher, M. le Chevalier, de vous faire part de l'impression pénible qu'ont dû causer ici les accusations du Capitaine Wyvil.

Bien que persuadé de leur inexactitude, les autorités se sont néanmoins empressées d'établir des recherches scrupuleuses à cet égard. Les pièces officielles et autres documens examinés en conséquence ayant fourni la preuve indubitable que les navires des propriétaires indiqués par M. Wyvil, n'ont été jamais destinés au Commerce d'Esclaves, ni employés pour ce Trafic, ce résultat n'a pu qu'augmenter la fâcheuse impression causée par le caractère offensif des allégations du susdit officier Britannique.

J'aime à croire, M. le Chevalier, que votre droiture voudra bien reconnaître la bonne foi qui préside au commerce et à la navigation des Pays Bas, d'autant plus que je suis persuadé que votre long séjour dans ce royaume aura pu vous convaincre que ses habitans ne se mêlent point de ce trafic odieux.

Veuillez, &c,
(Signé) G. SCHIMMELPENNINCK.

No. 125.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 1.)

My Lord,

The Hague, May 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which I have received from Baron Bentinck, dated May 20, 1848.

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

Inclosure in No. 125.

Baron Bentinck to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

M. le Chevalier,

La Haye, le 20 Mai, 1848.

PAR votre office du 10 Avril dernier, vous avez bien voulu manifester le désir que des ordres fussent immédiatement donnés au Gouverneur-Général de Surinam, de prêter due attention à l'agent du Gouvernement Colonial de la Guyane Britannique, qui serait envoyé à Surinam dans le but d'entrer en relation avec certains nègres émancipés y indiqués afin de s'assurer de leurs intentions réelles par rapport à leur déplacement.

En réponse à cette demande je me permets, M. le Chevalier, de vous rappeler brièvement ce qui est arrivé sur la matière dans les dernières années.

Dans la lettre de la Légation Britannique, du 9 Septembre, 1844, il a été dit :

“ Her Majesty’s Government do not, however, claim for the survivors of the ‘Snow,’ the right of purchasing the freedom of their relations who are in slavery at Surinam, and Her Majesty’s Government do not feel that the circumstances under which the body of the negroes serving under the Colonial Government of Surinam, and designated ‘Government Free Labourers,’ were taken possession of by the authorities of that colony, justify them in claiming as a matter of strict right from the Government of the Netherlands the unconditional freedom of all the relations of the negroes of the ‘Snow,’ who were labourers in that body; but Her Majesty’s Government feel justified in drawing the special attention of the Government of the Netherlands to the case of those unfortunate persons, and I am instructed to express their confident hope that orders will be given to the Government of Surinam to grant immediate freedom to such amongst the Government free labourers as may be proved to be husband and wife, or child of any one of the survivors of the ‘Snow.’ ”

Or, quelle a été la décision prise par le Gouvernement des Pays Bas sur cette demande. Il n’a pas seulement accordé pleine liberté aux personnes susindiquées, mais à tous les nègres connus sous le nom d’ouvriers libres, tandis que les individus se trouvant dans les relations de famille sus-indiquées avec les nègres du “ Snow ” ont obtenu dispense d’une loi existante, afin de pouvoir, s’ils désirent, se rendre à Demerary.

Le Gouverneur de Surinam déclare avoir fait communiquer cette permission aux nègres, mais qu’aucun d’eux ne s’est adressé en faveur du départ pour Demerary.

Le Gouvernement des Pays Bas ayant dès-lors fidèlement rempli ses promesses, ne saurait admettre aujourd’hui une demande qui ne serait basée que sur une méfiance non méritée contre un fonctionnaire digne de confiance, et au caractère duquel votre note du 4 de ce mois a rendu pleine justice.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) BENTINCK.

No. 126.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

The Hague, June 13, 1848.

IN obedience to the instructions with which your Lordship honoured me in your despatch of the 8th ultimo, on the subject of the intended removal of slaves from the Dutch Island of Curaçoa, I addressed a note on May 15 to the Netherland Government, of which, as well as of the reply, I now transmit a copy.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 126.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Count Schimmelpenninck.

M. le Comte,

The Hague, May 15, 1848.

THE British Consul at Porto Rico has addressed a despatch to Her Majesty’s Government reporting that the inhabitants of Curaçoa have petitioned the King of the Netherlands to remove the present restrictions upon the importation of negroes from that island, under which restrictions, as I understand, no slave can be removed therefrom, except by his own consent.

Having on the 27th of September last addressed a note to General de La Sarraz on the subject of exportation of slaves from Curaçoa to Porto Rico, and having received a reply from his Excellency on the 8th of October following, it only remains for me to place in the hands of your

Excellency the inclosed extract of the despatch dated Porto Rico, March 24, 1848, and on referring to that correspondence to appeal to the known humanity of the Netherland Government to take such measures as it may deem most fitting under existing circumstances.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 126.

Baron Bentinck to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

M. le Chevalier,

La Haye, le 12 Juin, 1848.

J'AI eu l'honneur de prendre connaissance de l'office que vous avez bien voulu adresser à mon prédécesseur le 15 Mai dernier, ainsi que de vos communications antérieures par rapport à l'exportation d'esclaves à Curaçoa.

Je vous prie, M. le Chevalier, d'en agréer mes remerciemens, et d'être persuadé que l'on en profitera autant que les circonstances les permettront, à l'effet de prévenir le transport des nègres pour des endroits étrangers.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) BENTINCK.

No. 127.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 17, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th ultimo, inclosing a copy of note which you had received from Baron Bentinck in answer to one which you addressed to that Minister in accordance with the instructions contained in my despatch dated the 31st of March last, the object of which instructions was to obtain the transmission of orders from the Netherland Government to the Governor of Surinam, directing that officer to pay due attention to any agent of the Colonial Government of British Guiana, who might be sent to Surinam for the purpose of taking measures to remove from thence to British Guiana, such of the negroes known by the denomination of "Government Free Labourers" as had formed family ties with the negroes of the "Snow," and who might be desirous to avail themselves of the permission granted to them by the Netherland Government to follow their relations who had already removed to British Guiana. The Netherland Government it appears refused this request, stating, as their reason for so doing that the request is based upon an unmerited distrust of the Governor of Surinam.

The Netherland Government are aware that Her Majesty's Government have fully appreciated the liberal and ready manner in which the Netherland Government responded to the original request of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the eventual removal of the negroes of the "Snow," and Her Majesty's Government cannot but be proportionately disappointed at the tenor of the answer which has been returned to their present request.

You will state to Baron Bentinck in reply to his note, that certainly the proposal that a British agent should be sent to Surinam to communicate directly with the free negroes in question, was made in consequence of a strong doubt, which may reasonably be entertained, whether those negroes had the choice fairly put and fully explained to them, but this doubt is formed upon general reasoning, and not upon any disparaging opinion of the honour of the Governor of Surinam. Her Majesty's Government regret very much and are a good deal disappointed that the Netherland Government should not have been willing to agree to an arrangement by which that doubt might easily have been removed, and you will request the Netherland Government to bear in mind that the

request which they have thus negatived is that a British officer should go to a Dutch colony to which any British subject might go without any special commission, and that he should there communicate with persons who are stated by the Dutch Government to be in a condition of perfect freedom.

The application was made to the Dutch Government from motives of courtesy, though it was not thought that in strictness any permission was necessary, but the same motives which led to its being made will certainly prevent Her Majesty's Government from acting in this matter without the previous sanction of the Dutch Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 128.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 29.)

(Extract.)

The Hague, June 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, and I have presented to Baron Bentinck a note in conformity with the instructions it contained.

No. 129.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir.

Foreign Office, July 18, 1848.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch dated the 14th of May last, inclosing a copy of a note which you had received from his Excellency Count Schimmelpenninck, stating that the Netherlands Government were ready to agree to the draft of articles proposed by Her Majesty's Government as additional to the Treaty of the 4th of May 1818, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, subject only to a modification of the IInd Article, whereby the right to seize vessels when found equipped for the Slave Trade, which Her Majesty's Government had suggested should be made co-extensive with the right of search, should be extended only to that space off the east coast of Africa which is comprised within the 53rd degree of longitude west of Greenwich and between the 30th degree of south latitude and the equator.

As the space thus designated does in fact embrace the whole extent of territory within which the Slave Trade is now carried on from that part of Africa, Her Majesty's Government are willing to accept this modification of their original proposal; and I therefore transmit to you an amended draft of the Additional Articles framed accordingly.

You will consequently inform Baron Bentinck that you are authorized to sign those articles, and for which purpose I also transmit a full power from Her Majesty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 129.

Draft of Articles Additional to the Treaty of the 4th of May, 1818, between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the Suppression of the Slave Trade, to be proposed to the Dutch Government.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and His Majesty the King of the Netherlands having deemed it expedient to enter into a further arrangement additional to the Treaty concluded at the Hague on the 4th of May, 1818, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, to which Additional and Explanatory Articles have been

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already concluded on the 31st of December, 1822, on the 25th of January, 1823, and on the 7th of February, 1837, have named, authorized, and appointed as their Plenipotentiaries for that purpose, namely:—Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir Edward Cromwell Disbrowe, &c.; and His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, : who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

Whereas by the 5th Section of the Additional Article concluded on the 25th of January, 1823, to the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, between their Majesties the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the King of the Netherlands, signed at the Hague on the 4th of May, 1818, any ship or vessel subject to examination under that Treaty, or under the Explanatory or Additional Articles thereto, detained, hovering or sailing upon the coast of Africa within one geographic degree to the westward thereof, and between the 20th degree of north latitude and the 20th degree of south latitude, or at anchor within any of the rivers, bays, or creeks of the said coast within those limits, or at anchor in any part within the said limits, was declared liable to seizure and condemnation if she should be found to have on board an unreasonable quantity of water in casks or in tanks more than sufficient for the consumption of her crew as a merchant-vessel: and whereas cases might arise in which lawful commerce might be interrupted and merchant-ships destined for the transport of emigrants or cattle might be prevented from pursuing such lawful occupation by too strict an application of the stipulation above cited:

It is hereby agreed by the two High Contracting Parties, that if there should be found on board of a merchant-vessel of either nation a greater quantity of water in casks, or in tanks, or in other receptacles, than is necessary for the use of the crew, that circumstance alone shall not be considered as sufficient reason for authorizing the detention of the said vessel, provided that the ship's papers with which she is furnished are in order so as to prove that she is not engaged in Slave Trade.

ARTICLE II.

Whereas by the 2nd Article of the aforesaid Treaty of the 4th of May, 1818, it was agreed that ships of the Royal Navies of the two High Contracting Parties provided with special instructions should have the right of visiting merchant-vessels of the two nations suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade; and should have the right of seizing such vessels when found with slaves actually on board:

And whereas that right of search and seizure was permitted throughout the whole extent of the high seas, except in the Mediterranean Sea and in the seas of Europe lying without the Straits of Gibraltar to the northward of the 37th parallel of north latitude, and to the eastward of the meridian of longitude 20 degrees west of Greenwich:

And whereas by the Additional Article to the aforesaid Treaty signed on the 25th of January, 1823, it was agreed that the right of seizure should be extended to vessels found within certain specified limits on the west coast of Africa, equipped for Slave Trading:

And whereas the Traffic in Slaves is not confined to that part of the west coast of Africa within which seizure for equipment is allowed, but is also carried on both on the east coast of Africa and in other parts of the world:

It is therefore agreed by the two High Contracting Parties that the mutual right granted by the Additional Article aforesaid to the cruisers of the two nations of seizing vessels found equipped for Slave Trade shall be extended to vessels found on the east coast of Africa to the westward of the 53rd degree of longitude east from the meridian of Greenwich, and between the equator and the parallel of 30 degrees south latitude; and

that vessels seized on account of such equipment within the limits aforesaid shall be amenable to the jurisdiction of the mixed courts of justice established under the Treaty of 1818.

ARTICLE III.

Whereas by Section 3 of the 3rd Article to the Treaty of the 4th of May, 1818, it was agreed that the number of ships of each of the Royal Navies authorized to search and detain merchant-vessels under the provisions of that Treaty, should not exceed the number of twelve, belonging to either of the High Contracting Parties, without the special consent of the other High Contracting Party being first had and obtained:

And whereas experience has shown the inadequacy of so small a number of cruizers to suppress the Slave Trade:

It is mutually agreed by the two High Contracting Parties that either party shall be at liberty to employ under the conditions and restrictions stipulated by the Treaty of 1818, and in order to carry into effect that Treaty and its Additional and Explanatory Articles, such number of ships of its Royal Navy as may appear to either party to be expedient.

ARTICLE IV.

The present Additional Articles shall have the same force and validity as if they had been inserted in the Treaty of the 4th of May, 1818, of which they shall be considered as forming an integral part: they shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at the Hague within one month from the date of their signature:

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at the Hague, &c.

No. 130.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

The Hague, August 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 18th July, inclosing your Lordship's final instructions and full powers to sign the four Additional Articles to the Treaty of May 1818.

I consequently wrote the inclosed note to Baron Bentinck, stating the proposed changes, and having subsequently called on his Excellency to ascertain his opinion of the alteration, I find that he has no objection to offer, and that he proposes as soon as possible to submit the Dutch translation for my inspection.

Owing to the pressure of other important matters he subsequently asked for a short extension of time for final consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Baron Bentinck.

M. le Baron,

The Hague, July 22, 1848.

I HAVE submitted to the consideration of the British Government the note which your Excellency's predecessor, Count Schimmelpenninck, did me the honour to address to me on the 13th of May, in which his Excellency agreed (subject to certain modifications) to the draft of four Additional Articles to the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands of the 4th of May, 1818, which Articles I submitted to the consideration of the Netherland Government in my note of the 22nd of September, 1847.

I have now the honour to state that I am authorized to accept, on behalf of my Government, the modifications proposed by Count Schimmelpenninck, and for the purpose of carrying out the views of the two Governments, I propose to substitute for the Articles II and IV in my original proposal, the Articles of which I herewith inclose a draft.

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

No. 131.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

The Hague, August 18, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which I have received from Baron Bentinck in reply to my note of the 22nd of September last to General La Sarraz, relative to the case of Mr. Schenley.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 131.

Baron Bentinck to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

La Haye, le 10 Août, 1848.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères *ad interim*, a l'honneur de répondre à la note que Sir Edward Cromwell Disbrowe, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique, a adressée le 22 Septembre dernier à M. le Lieutenant-Général de la Sarraz, relativement à l'affaire de Mr. Schenley.

Le Soussigné, &c., se permet de faire remarquer à cet égard, que lors même que les observations de Lord Palmerston par rapport à l'arrêt prononcé, fussent admissibles, nos institutions s'opposeraient à y donner la suite désirée. La cour de justice à Paramaribo a prononcé en dernière instance. La demande que cet arrêt soit cassé, et les juges obligés à faire une apologie à Mr. Schenley et dans sa personne au Gouvernement Britannique, ne peut être accordée; le Gouvernement des Pays Bas en eût-il même l'intention, ne possède pas les moyens de faire obéir à un ordre à cet effet, mais étant instruit de l'arrêt prononcé, le Gouvernement Néerlandais a employé le seul moyen en son pouvoir. D'après la communication de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du 22 Avril, 1847, le Département des Colonies s'est empressé d'envoyer à Surinam l'ordre de suspendre l'arrêt susmentionné. Cet ordre a été dûment exécuté.

Après avoir entendu le Conseil d'Etat, le Roi, par son arrêté du 15 Octobre dernier, ci-jointe en copie, a ordonné la suspension permanente de la sentence; or, l'effet de celle-ci étant par là annulé, sans entraver le libre exercice des fonctions judiciaires, le désir de l'Angleterre est dès lors essentiellement rempli, attendu que même dans le cas que Mr. Schenley retournerait à Surinam, les suites de la sentence ne pourraient plus l'atteindre. Le Gouvernement des Pays Bas en agissant ainsi a voulu donner une preuve non équivoque du haut prix qu'il attache à la bonne harmonie avec celui de la Grande Bretagne.

Le Soussigné prend en outre la liberté d'ajouter encore quelques observations à l'égard de la dépêche de Lord Palmerston du 12 Août, 1847, que Sir Edward a bien voulu communiquer à M. le Général de la Sarraz.

Sa Seigneurie veut prouver par les expressions de la sentence, que l'accusation de Mr. Schenley contre Röperhoff était fondée. "The Spanish Buck" (est-il dit en substance) est une punition avec des tiges de tamarins. Environs vingt coups avec de tels bâtons ont été appliqués au nègre, étendu sur un canon, et dès lors il a été puni avec le "Spanish Buck," tel que Mr. Schenley l'a rapporté."

Sa Seigneurie veut bien se faire soumettre la lettre de Mr. Schenley ; Lord Aberdeen, du 8 Juillet, 1843 (printed papers, p. 305), elle remarquera que le "Spanish Buck" est tout autre chose qu'un petit nombre de coups, qui n'ont pas empêché un moment celui qui les a reçus d'accomplir son travail journalier. A l'endroit indiqué, le "Spanish Buck" est décrit ainsi : "Flogged on their naked posteriors and thighs with freshly-cut tamarind-rods, until not a vestige of whole flesh can be discovered, one mass of clotted blood presenting itself to view," &c.

Qu'il soit permis d'ajouter à cette description la particularité très remarquable, que le nom de "Spanish Buck" tire son origine de la manière particulière dont le supplicié est garotté. Les genoux fixés contre la poitrine sont retenus par les bras liés aux poignets, et arrêtés par un bâton passant dans les jointures des coudes et des genoux, ainsi garotté, le malheureux est comme plié et accroupi, de manière à ne pouvoir se mouvoir dans aucune direction. Ces procédés, qui ne sont appliqués que dans les cas d'une punition extrêmement sévère, caractérisent la peine que Mr. Schenley indique à juste titre, page 312, comme "The horrible punishment of the Spanish Buck."

Si dès-lors l'enquête judiciaire a prouvé que le nègre en question a été étendu sur un canon et a reçu un petit nombre de coups, par ordre de M. Röperhoff, il en résulte la preuve convaincante que le "Spanish Buck" ne lui a pas été appliqué, et que Mr. Schenley, dans son rapport à Lord Aberdeen, s'est écarté de la vérité.

Bien qu'il eût été à désirer que le tribunal se fût déclaré incompétent pour les mêmes motifs qui ont engagé le Roi à suspendre entièrement la sentence, il y a par contre à observer que les particularités de sa conduite, par lesquelles Mr. Schenley a donné lieu au procès, ne sont nullement de la nature de celles qui lui incombent à Surinam, en vertu des Traités existans. Son admission y a pour but l'exercice de fonctions purement judiciaires dans les cas indiqués par le Traité, et aucunement la transmission de rapports sur l'administration intérieure de la colonie, ou la conduite des habitans quant à des objets étrangers à ces fonctions. Lord Aberdeen lui-même en accusant la réception de la série de lettres à laquelle appartient celle du 14 Août, 1843, a écrit, le 21 Décembre, 1843, à Mr. Schenley :

"At the same time it is desirable that you should constantly bear in mind that your functions are strictly of a judicial, and not of a diplomatic character;" et plus loin, "you will take special care to conduct your inquiries and investigations with great discretion, and that they be not of that inquisitorial nature which may give the Netherland Government just cause of complaint against you."

Ajoute-t-on à ce qui précède la lettre de Lord Palmerston à M. Dedel, du 3 Novembre, 1840, lettre qui dans le temps a été communiquée aux autorités de Surinam, et dans laquelle il dit : "the post of British Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court established at Surinam, under the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands, for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, is of a judicial, and not of a diplomatic character ; and Her Majesty's Government, in assigning that post to Mr. Samo, had no intention to exempt him from the jurisdiction of the court of law of the country in which he is resident."

Alors il n'est pas surprenant que le tribunal s'est jugé réellement compétent à prononcer son arrêt.

Le Soussigné ne saurait assez répéter la circonstance que les actions en question de Mr. Schenley dépassent entièrement le cercle de ses attributions judiciaires reconnues par le Gouvernement des Pays Bas, et il aime à croire que la présente communication et l'arrêté royal ci-inclus mettront un terme à la correspondance sur cette matière, à l'arrangement de laquelle son Gouvernement a fait tout ce que lui permet son devoir, joint à son désir de cultiver la bonne harmonie avec la Grande Bretagne.

(Signé) BENTINCK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 131.

Royal Decree.

(Translation.)

WE, William II, by the Grace of God, King of the Netherlands, Prince of Orange, Nassau, Grand Duke of Luxembourg, &c.

On the reports of Our Minister of Colonies of 2nd August and 14th October, 1847, La. B., No. 21, and La. B., No. 364 secret, tending to approve the resolution of Our Governor of Surinam of 7th June last, No. 859, by which he has seen fit, by virtue of paragraph 12 of the second title of our decree of 14th May, 1845, No. 43, enacted by publication of 3rd February, 1846 (Government paper No. 1 of the same year) in anticipation of our decision, for reason of political import, to suspend the execution of the sentence pronounced by the Court of Justice in said colony, on the 23rd July, 1846, in the suit of G. L. Röperhoff *versus* E. W. Harrington Schenley, British Judge Commissioner in the Mixed Court for the suppression of the Slave Trade in said colony;

Having heard the Council of State (Report of 7 September, 1847, La. S. secret.);

Taking into consideration that in the present case reasons of political import call for an indefinite continuance of the suspension in question;

Have decreed, and do decree: that approving the aforesaid resolution of our Governor of Surinam, dated 7th June last, No. 849, the execution of the sentence before mentioned shall by continuance remain suspended.

And our Minister of the Colonies is charged with the execution of the present, of which copies shall be transmitted to the Council of State and Minister of Justice, for their information.

The Hague, October 15, 1847.

(Signed) WILLIAM.

The Minister of Colonies,

(Signed) J. C. BAUD.

Agrees with the original,

The officiating Secretary-General at the Colonial Department,

(Signed) CORNETS DE GROOT.

True copy,

The Secretary-General of the Department of Foreign Affairs,

(Signed) W. MAZEL.

No. 132.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 7.)

My Lord,

The Hague, September 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the Additional Articles to the Treaty of the 4th May, 1818, which in virtue of your Lordship's instructions I have signed with Baron Bentinck, Minister *ad interim* of Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 133.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 28.)

My Lord,

The Hague, September 26, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that in a conference at the Foreign Office yesterday morning, Baron Bentinck drew my attention to the fact that in the Additional Articles to the Treaty for the Suppression of the Slave Trade which we signed on the 31st August last, there

exists no Article fixing the period at which these stipulations are to be carried into execution.

Although it is natural to suppose that the Treaty would consequently be obligatory from the moment the officers destined to carry it into execution could receive their instructions, his Excellency proposed to me to follow the precedent of the year 1823, and to fix the period by a declaration of the Plenipotentiaries.

I now inclose the note which he has addressed to me in consequence—the number of months is left in blank, which Baron Bentinck proposes to fill up by the words “five months,” as its operation is to extend to the east coast of Africa.

In the present advanced state of navigation I proposed four months or else to add to the words “five months,” “ou plus tôt si faire se peut.”

I have the honour to inclose the copy of my reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 133.

Baron Bentinck to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

M. le Chevalier,

La Haye, le 26 Septembre, 1848.

L'ARTICLE II de l'Arrangement ultérieur additionnel du Traité pour la répression du Trafic des Esclaves, arrangement que nous avons signé le 31 Août dernier, sert à étendre les stipulations dont il avait été convenu par un Article Additional ultérieur signé le 25 Janvier, 1823.

Or, comme il a été jugé nécessaire alors de ne rendre exécutoire le susdit Article qu'après un espace de cinq mois, j'ai l'honneur de vous proposer, M. le Chevalier, de suivre maintenant cet exemple et d'avoir égard, en fixant le laps de temps qui devra s'écouler à la circonstance, qu'en 1823, il s'agissait de la côte occidentale de l'Afrique, et aujourd'hui de la côte orientale de cette partie du monde, et dès-lors d'une plus grande distance.

Peut-être une déclaration de la teneur suivante pourra-t-elle atteindre ce but :

“ Les deux Plénipotentiaires soussignés sont convenus, du consentement de leurs Souverains respectifs, que l'Article II de l'Arrangement ultérieur Additional au Traité conclu à la Haye le 4 Mai, 1818, pour la répression de la Traité des Esclaves, tel que cet Arrangement a été signé par eux le 31 Août, 1848, ne sera exécutoire qu'après un espace de _____ mois à compter de la date de l'échange des ratifications, mais que ce terme écoulé, les stipulations du dit Article auront pleine force et effet.

“ *La Haye, le* _____, 1848.”

(Signatures.)

En vous priant, M. le Chevalier, de vouloir bien me faire connaître vos intentions à cet égard, je dois toutefois ajouter, que de ma part rien ne s'opposerait à remplacer le projet de déclaration sus-mentionné, par tel autre document que vous jugeriez plus convenable.

(Signé)

BENTINCK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 133.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Baron Bentinck.

M. le Baron,

The Hague, September, 26, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this date, proposing for considering a declaration similar to that which was signed on a former occasion, January 25, 1823, by the British and Netherland Plenipotentiaries, fixing the period at which the Additional Articles to the Treaty of the 4th May, 1818, for the suppression of Slave Trade should take effect.

I can entertain little doubt that my Government will accede to the proposition, and I hasten to transmit your Excellency's note to Lord Palmerston by this day's post.

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

No. 134.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to you the Queen's ratification under the Great Seal of the four Additional Articles to the Treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands for the prevention of the Slave Trade, which were signed by you and Baron Bentinck on the 31st of August; and I am to desire that you will exchange the same against a similar instrument ratified by His Majesty the King of the Netherlands.

I also transmit to you a certificate to be signed by you and the Netherland Plenipotentiary upon the exchange of the ratifications. You will return this certificate to me when you send home the Netherland ratification.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 135.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 9, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th ultimo on the subject of a proposal made to you by the Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs, that you should sign conjointly with him a declaration, to the effect that the Additional Article to the Treaty of 1818 for the suppression of the Slave Trade which was signed by you on the 31st of August last, and which extends to the east coast of Africa the operation of the Additional Article to the said Treaty which was concluded on the 21st of January, 1825, should not come into operation until five months after the date of the exchange of the ratifications.

I have in reply to state to you that Her Majesty's Government acquiesce in the proposition made to you upon this subject by Baron Bentinck; and I have accordingly to instruct you to sign the proposed declaration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 136.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 27.)

My Lord,

The Hague, October 24, 1848.

I HAVE this day exchanged the ratifications of the Additional Articles to the Treaty of May 1818, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which I signed on the 31st of August.

I have the honour to inclose the ratification of the King of the Netherlands and the protocol signed on the occasion of the exchange.

I likewise inclose the agreement which I have signed with Baron Bentinck, that the Second Article of the new Treaty shall be carried into execution in five months from this date.

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

No. 137.

Mr. Jerningham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord,

The Hague, November 14, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the Hague journal, which relates that the inhabitants of Curaçoa have petitioned the King to grant entire liberty to the slaves in that island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. S. JERNINGHAM.

 Inclosure in No. 137.
Extract from the "Hague Journal."

UN journal Hollandais contient la nouvelle que quelques habitans de Curaçao ont adressé une pétition au Roi pour réclamer l'émancipation des esclaves.

No. 138.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of August last, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to you on that day by Baron Bentinck in reply to that which you addressed on the 22nd of September, 1847, to General de La Sarraz on the subject of the allegations made by Mr. Schenley against Messrs. Röperhoff and Feudenberg, inhabitants of Surinam, and which allegations formed the ground of the actions-at-law brought against Mr. Schenley in that colony.

Baron Bentinck commences by stating that the institutions of the Netherlands render it impossible for the Netherland Government, even if disposed to do so, to comply with the demands made by Her Majesty's Government on this subject, which were, that the proceedings of the law courts of Surinam against Mr. Schenley and all their effects should be wholly annulled and swept away, and that on the return of Mr. Schenley to Surinam a suitable apology should be made to him and through him to Her Majesty's Government. But Baron Bentinck incloses a copy of a Royal decree dated the 15th of October, 1847, ordering the permanent suspension of the sentence pronounced against Mr. Schenley; and he states that by this decree the desires of Her Majesty's Government are essentially fulfilled, because even if Mr. Schenley should return to Surinam the sentence pronounced against him could not be put in force.

Baron Bentinck then endeavours to prove that Mr. Schenley's statement with respect to an aged negro having received the punishment of the Spanish Buck by order of Röperhoff, was untrue. He states that Mr. Schenley described the punishment called the Spanish Buck as the "being flogged on the naked posteriors and thighs with freshly-cut tamarind rods until not a vestige of whole flesh could be discovered, one mass of clotted blood presenting itself to view;" and Baron Bentinck adopts this description of the punishment as a true one, adding however, that in inflicting this punishment the body of the sufferer is rendered immovable by fastening together the wrists, by placing the wrists so fastened over the knees, and by then passing a stick between the knees and the arms; and he argues that because the negro referred to was placed over a cannon instead of being fastened in the position above described, and because he received only a comparatively small number of stripes, Mr. Schenley's statement as to his having been punished with the Spanish Buck is untrue.

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But Baron Bentinck appears to have lost sight of the fact that the sufferer in question was said to be a hundred years old, and that it would probably have been impossible to place the body of so aged a man in the Spanish Buck position above described. But granting that the punishment of this aged negro was not accompanied by the full measure of cruelty which would attend a severe infliction of the Spanish Buck, it is impossible not to admit that the conduct of Röperhoff in causing so aged a person to undergo such a punishment as the Court of Surinam admits that he did suffer, was barbarous and inhuman, and that the statement made by Mr. Schenley was therefore substantially correct.

Baron Bentinck then proceeds to say that Mr. Schenley's functions are purely judicial, and that he is not admitted into Surinam for the purpose of making reports on the interior administration of the colony or on the conduct of the inhabitants on matters not belonging to his functions; and Baron Bentinck in corroboration of this assertion quotes a passage from a despatch addressed by the Earl of Aberdeen to Mr. Schenley on the 21st of December, 1843, in which his Lordship enjoined him "constantly to bear in mind that his functions were strictly of a judicial and not of a diplomatic character, and to take special care to conduct his inquiries and investigations with great discretion, and that they be not of that inquisitorial nature which may give the Netherlands' Government just cause of complaint against him."

I presume that Baron Bentinck's object in quoting this passage was to show that at the time that despatch was written, Her Majesty's Government desired that Mr. Schenley should confine himself strictly within his functions as a Member of the Mixed Court of Justice, and that the opinion of Her Majesty's Government of that day differed from that of Her Majesty's present Government as to the duties of Mr. Schenley.

But the very contrary of this is proved by the passage quoted. For though Lord Aberdeen reminded Mr. Schenley that his functions were judicial and not diplomatic, and that it was in a judicial and not in a diplomatic capacity that he was acknowledged by the Netherland authorities, a fact which Her Majesty's present Government equally admit, yet it is manifest that Lord Aberdeen by directing Mr. Schenley to make his inquiries and investigations with discretion, not only authorized but enjoined him to continue to make investigations and inquiries, and it was of course Mr. Schenley's duty to report the result of them to the Secretary of State.

Lastly, Baron Bentinck in justification of the proceedings of the courts of law of Surinam against Mr. Schenley, quotes from a private letter which I addressed to M. Dedel on the 3rd of November, 1840, a passage in which I stated that "the post of British Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court at Surinam was of a judicial and not of a diplomatic character, and that Her Majesty's Government in assigning that post to Mr. Samo" (then Her Majesty's Judge in the Court), "had no intention to exempt him from the jurisdiction of the courts of law in the country in which he was resident;" and Baron Bentinck observes that such being the opinion expressed by me, it is not surprising that the court of Surinam should have considered itself competent to proceed against Mr. Schenley.

But I must observe that the question to which my private letter to M. Dedel related and the question at issue in the case of Mr. Schenley, are entirely distinct and totally different, and that the above-quoted passage has no just bearing whatever upon the question at issue in the case of Mr. Schenley.

The action brought against Mr. Samo arose out of some private pecuniary transactions in which that gentleman had been engaged in Surinam, and the question at issue was whether his official situation exempted him from being amenable to the authority of the law courts in Surinam in regard to a private debt; and in reference to that question I stated in my letter to M. Dedel that as Mr. Samo's appointment was not of a diplomatic character he could not claim in that respect the immunity from civil action which belongs to diplomatic agents.

But the actions against Mr. Schenley were brought on account of a publication made in London by Her Majesty's Government in papers laid

before Parliament by order of the Queen, and the charge against Mr. Schenley was founded upon an official communication made by him to his own Government in the performance of his public duty. Her Majesty's Government cannot coincide with Baron Bentinck in thinking that the court at Surinam would in the slightest degree have been justified in considering the one case as a precedent for the other.

In the first place the debt contracted by Mr. Samo was contracted in Surinam, and within the jurisdiction of the courts of that colony; whereas the publication of Mr. Schenley's despatch took place in London, and therefore out of the jurisdiction of those courts. In the next place the debt of Mr. Samo was the result of a transaction engaged in by him in his personal capacity; whereas the despatch of Mr. Schenley was written in the performance of his official duty towards his own Government, and the publication of that despatch, which was the real cause of complaint on the part of the plaintiff at Surinam, was not the act of Mr. Schenley, but was an act with which he had nothing whatever to do, and was an act of the British Government, for which, if any complaint was to have been made, that complaint should have been made by the Netherland Government to that of Her Majesty, instead of private and personal malice being allowed to vent itself in an unjust prosecution against Mr. Schenley, and in the passing of a sentence against him which was alike inconsistent with the evidence, and a violation of international law.

You will however state to Baron Bentinck that Her Majesty's Government look to the substance more than to the form of things, and that as the steps taken and the orders given in this matter by the Netherland Government attain practically the result desired by Her Majesty's Government, you are instructed to state by an official note, that Her Majesty's Government are willing to accept that atonement for the misconduct of the Surinam courts; and that you have only further to express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that no functionaries, whether civil or judicial, of the Netherland Government, will again lend themselves to an endeavour to prevent an officer of the British Crown from faithfully performing the duties of his office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 139.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 17.)

My Lord.

The Hague, December 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, and I have addressed to M. de Lichtenvelt a note, the exact counterpart of your Lordship's despatch.

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

PERSIA.

No. 140.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 22.)

My Lord,

Tehran, April 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information the copy of a despatch with its inclosure, from Major Hennell, from which your Lordship will perceive, so long as the Persian Government takes no measures to prevent her subjects from pursuing this hateful Trade, there is no hope of this barbarous Traffic being entirely put an end to in the Persian Gulf.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. FARRANT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 140.

Major Hennell to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

Sir,

Bushire, February 21, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information, the inclosed extract of a letter dated the 6th ultimo, from Moolla Hoossein, the British Agent at Shargah, on the subject of the serious opening for the evasion of the conditions of the treaties lately entered into by the Chiefs of the Arabian Coast for the suppression of the Slave Trade in this Gulf, afforded by the inhabitants of Lingah, and other Persian ports being allowed to continue this traffic with impunity.

2. The opinions expressed by Moolla Hoossein on this point coincides entirely with those which I have more than once submitted to Government; they were in no way called for by me; but as being those of a man of much experience, and who is thoroughly acquainted with the characters and habits of his countrymen, I consider them entitled to considerable weight.

3. A vigilant surveillance of the ports of Muscat and Soor as well as of the entrance of the Gulf near the Quoins, may check this hateful traffic in respect to Arab vessels, but as long as boats belonging to Persia are permitted to carry it on without let or molestation, there exists but little hope of its final extinction in the Persian Gulf.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. HENNELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 140.

Moolla Hoossein, Agent at Shargah, to Major Hennell.

(Extract.)

January 6, 1848.

WHEN the prohibition was introduced by Government against the Traffic in Slaves, and their embarkation and translation from one country to another, in the vessels of the people of those parts and others, as would appear, the chiefs submitted and warned their subjects against the prosecution of the Traffic in Slaves of whatever description, whether Abyssinians,

or Africans, or Soomalees; but I heard that thereon, other ways and means were opened to them with reference to the Trade; and if this be true, it will most certainly nullify the orders of Government, and the Traffic as well as the transport of slaves from place to place, will by no means be stopped. I understand Seyed bin Guzeeb and the people of Lingah consider, that being subjects of Mahomed Shah, the commands of the British Government have no force with reference to them, and they will not desist from the prosecution of the Traffic in their vessels. You are well acquainted with the habits of these people inhabiting Soor and Batinah and the ports of Oman, that from olden time they have been engaged in dealing in slaves, and that they proceed to the ports on the coast of Africa, Yemen and Berbereh, for the purpose of procuring slaves, some of whom they obtain by purchase, and some by stealth and robbery. When the entire prohibition of the Traffic was introduced by the British Government, the Arabs of these countries were much distressed at heart, but when they heard of the exemption claimed by the people of Lingah, as being the subjects of Mahomed Shah, over whom the commands of the British Government had no force, then were they indeed rejoiced [to find] that ways and means were open to them for its prosecution. You must know too that the Arab ports on either shore are without pass-houses or coast guard, whereby people may discover what is introduced or taken out, and the inhabitants of these countries, more particularly on the Arab side, are adepts in deception. I conceive they will secretly convey slaves from Soor and the neighbourhood of Muscat, to the Batinah districts, and there embarking them in small boats, land them at night by stealth on these coasts. The people of Lingah maintain a constant intercourse with these ports from Cassaal to Aboothabee, and the slave-owners clandestinely embark their slaves in the Lingah vessels, landing them a Shinas and Beendee Cong, will by that route introduce them into Lingah, and none have knowledge thereof. The Lingah people will then ship the slaves and introduce them through the Banisheer Canal to Mohamra.

If it be true that the commands of Government have no authority over the natives of Lingah, and they do not abandon the Traffic and transport of slaves in their vessels, the Trade will not be checked in the least degree.

No. 141.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 26.)

(Extract.)

Camp, near Tehran, June 17, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have at last persuaded His Majesty the Shah to prohibit the importation of African slaves by sea.

On the 28th ultimo I addressed a letter to the Prime Minister (Inclosure No. 1), calling on his Excellency to fulfil his promise to me of bringing the subject of Slavery which had so often been discussed between us to a satisfactory conclusion.

Some days having elapsed without my receiving any reply, on the 12th instant I addressed a second letter to his Excellency (Inclosure No. 2) requesting him to give me a decisive answer. The following day I received the copy of an autograph of the Shah addressed to the Prime Minister, written on the margin of my letter (Inclosure No. 3).

Although the Shah has not explicitly abolished the importation of African slaves into his dominions, he has virtually done so by the prohibition he has issued forbidding their being brought by sea, as the route by land is not practicable.

Another point has also been gained, the Royal order states "by sea;" this of course includes Mohamra. Had the wording of the firman been "by the ports in the Gulf," Mohamra from its position would have caused endless trouble, and would have been the great depôt of slaves from Persia. I therefore hope, my Lord, that the importation of African slaves into this country has ceased for ever.

I have the honour to inclose the Prime Minister's reply to my letter (Inclosure No. 4); also translations of the firmans which have been issued to the Governors of Fars and Persian Arabia (Inclosures Nos. 5 and 6).

Your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of March which I had the honour to receive subsequent to my second letter to the Prime Minister, I have not brought to the notice of this Government; and conceiving your Lordship would desire the earliest intelligence of the success of this affair, I send off an extra messenger to Trebizond, which I trust may meet with your Lordship's approbation.

I shall dispatch a messenger to Major Hennell with a copy of the Shah's firman, and at the same time shall convey to that officer the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of March.

I feel it my duty to mention to your Lordship that the unremitting exertions of Meerza Agha, First Persian Secretary to this Mission, have greatly contributed to the successful issue of this affair.

Inclosure 1 in No. 141.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Hajee Meerza Aghassee.

May 28, 1848.

IT is nearly eight months since I first made a request of your Excellency regarding the prohibition of the importation of black slaves by the ports in the Persian Gulf. I have written and had several communications with your Excellency on this subject, and your Excellency has given me assurances, both verbally and in writing, that after the arrival of Meerza Jewad with the ratification of the Turco-Persian Treaty from Constantinople, you would bring this subject to a favourable termination. In addition to the assurances your Excellency made to me, you have often repeated the same to the gentlemen of this Mission. The promise and declaration of your Excellency is equal to a bond of security to me, and on that account it is evident the fulfilment of your Excellency's promise is the more necessary.

The time has now arrived that your Excellency should fulfil your promise or else declare the contrary, and write me your real determination on this subject, that I may bring the same to the notice of my own Government to enable them to arrange this matter with your Excellency, and take what steps they may think necessary.

Your Excellency will oblige me by sending an answer to-day.

(Signed) F. FARRANT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 141.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Hajee Meerza Aghassee.

(Translation.)

June 12, 1848.

WITH regard to the abolition of the Traffic in Negroes (Slaves) by sea, it is a long time since it was promised, and your Excellency recently informed me yourself that the discussions on this subject were nearly brought to a conclusion, and that, please God, it would be completed in a few days; but as yet it has not been finished.

If the Persian Government had appreciated my representations on this subject the prohibition would ere this have been sanctioned, but as this has not been the case, I am now obliged to demand a clear and decisive answer on this subject, as to whether the Persian Government will issue an order prohibiting the importation of negroes by sea or not?

If it be the intention of the Persian Government to issue this order I request to be made acquainted with it to-day; and if it is not their intention to do so, an immediate and explicit answer is necessary to enable me to forward it for the information of my Government, and that your

Excellency, after all your promises, should no longer evade giving me a decided answer on this subject.

The British Government are very anxious to know the determination of the Persian Government, and I therefore request your Excellency will be good enough to send me a positive answer, as my Government will not consent to any further delay on my part in this matter.

Inclosure 3 in No. 141.

The Shah to Hajee Meerza Aghassee.

(Translation.)

Your Excellency the Hajee, June 12, 1848. 10 Rejjeb, 1264.

LET them not bring any negroes by sea; let them be brought by land. Purely for the sake of Farrant Sahib [Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant], with whom I am much pleased, I have consented to this. On this subject write to the Governors of Fars and Arabia [Persian Arabia].

Solely on account of the goodness of Farrant I have consented, otherwise some trifling discussions still exist between us and the English Government.

Inclosure 4 in No. 141.

Hajee Meerza Aghassee to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

(Translation.)

No date.

YOUR communication regarding the negroes has been received, and its contents fully understood.

With a view to the request made by you, my sincere and esteemed friend, and solely on account of the sincere friendship and good feelings I entertain towards you, I did not consider it proper to withhold or delay the fulfilment of your request, and exerted my endeavours to preserve the existing friendship between the exalted Governments of Persia and England, by laying your request in detail before His Majesty the Shah (may his dominion and sovereignty be everlasting!) at a most fortunate time. An imperative order has been issued, which evinces the exceedingly great favour entertained towards you, my honoured friend, by His Majesty the Shah, which it is evident will always increase.

The importation of negroes by sea alone is forbidden, and imperative orders will be issued to the Governors of Fars and [Persian] Arabia, that hereafter strict prohibition should be observed that no negroes should be either imported or exported, unless by land.

This affair, in fulfilment of your request, my esteemed friend, has, thank God, been concluded by the countless favours of His Majesty the Shah towards you, and by my exertions. But the Persian Ministers, too, in equal proportion require, through the friendship of the Ministers of British Government, when they make a request, that it should be acceded to.

Inclosure 5 in No. 141.

Firman issued by the Shah to Hoossein Khan, Governor of Fars.

(Translation.)

TO the high in rank, the pillar of nobility, Hoossein Khan, the Comptroller of State affairs and Governor of Fars, who has been exalted and supported by the distinguished favours of His Majesty the Shah, &c. Be it known, that it is a long time since a request for the abolition of the

* Thus in the original.

importation of negroes by sea has been made on the part of the Ministers of the British Government to the Ministers and authorities of this kingdom. But their request during this long period has not met with an answer or our consent.

But in consequence of the favour entertained by our august Sovereign towards the high in rank, the sincere well-wisher of the State, the chosen among Christian nobles, &c., Colonel Farrant, Chargé d'Affaires of the English Government, on account of the respectful conduct and manner of proceeding which he has made manifest, and purely for the regard we entertain for him, we have accepted and complied with his request. We have ordained that hereafter that high in rank shall warn all merchants and persons passing to and fro, to discontinue to bring negroes by sea alone, and that they shall not export or import negroes except by land, which is by no means forbidden.

That high in rank will be held responsible for the fulfilment of the orders contained in this communication,

Written in the month of Rejjeb 1264. June 1848.

Inclosure 6 in No. 141.

Firman issued by the Shah to the Governor of Ispahan and Persian Arabia.

(Translation.)

TO the high in rank, the superior of Generals, the esteemed of the Sovereign, Meerza Nebbee Khan, chief of the Civil Law Court, and Governor of Ispahan, who has been honoured by the favour of the pure mind of the King of Kings.

Be it known, that at this time the high in rank, the noble and exalted, possessed of dignity, the pillar of the Christian nobles, the cream of the great men of Christendom, the undoubted well-wisher of the State, Colonel Farrant, Chargé d'Affaires of the exalted Government of England, who enjoys the unbounded favour of His Majesty the Shah, whose resplendent mind is desirous to gratify him, having made a friendly request on the part of the Ministers of his exalted Government to the Ministers of His Majesty the Shah, that with a view to preserve the existing friendship between the two exalted States, a decree should be issued from the source of magnificence, the Shah, that hereafter the importation of the Negro tribes by sea should be forbidden, and this Traffic be abolished.

In consequence of this it is ordered and ordained that that high in rank, after perusing this firman, which is equal to a decree of fate, will feel it incumbent on him to issue positive and strict injunctions to the whole of the dealers in slaves who trade by sea, that henceforth by sea alone the importation and exportation of negroes into the Persian dominions is entirely forbidden, but not by land. Not a single individual will be permitted to bring negroes by sea without being subjected to severe punishment.

That high in rank must in this matter give peremptory orders throughout his Government, and not be remiss.

Written in the month of Rejjeb 1264. June 1848.

No. 142.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—Received July 31.)

(Extract.)

Camp, near Tehran, June 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have forwarded to Major Hennell copies of the firmans regarding the prohibition of the importation of slaves by sea.

I have procured authenticated copies of the firmans from the Persian Government, which I have placed in the records of this Mission.

No. 143.

Viscount Palmerston to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 6, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 17th of June last, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and Hajee Meerza Aghassee, together with copies of two firmans issued by the Shah of Persia to the Governor of Fars and of Persian Arabia, prohibiting the importation of negroes by sea into the Persian dominions.

I have to instruct you to convey to the Persian Government the sincere and cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for this compliance with their earnest request, and to assure the Persian Government that this act of kindness on their part will be duly appreciated by the Government of Great Britain.

I have at the same time to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your conduct during the negotiation which has led to this satisfactory result.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 144.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 23.)

My Lord,

Camp, near Tehran, July 19, 1848.

I HAVE received letters from the Governors of Fars and Persian Arabia, notifying to me that in obedience to the Royal firmans addressed to them by His Majesty the Shah, they had issued orders to their dependents, and made known to the merchants the prohibition of importing black slaves (negroes) by sea, into the dominions of His Majesty the Shah.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. FARRANT.

No. 145.

Viscount Palmerston to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 25, 1848.

WITH reference to the concluding paragraph of your despatch of the 17th of June last, which states that "the unremitting exertions of Meerza Agha, first Persian Secretary to Her Majesty's Mission in Persia, have greatly contributed to the successful issue of this affair," namely, the determination of the Shah to prohibit the importation of African slaves by sea into Persia; I have to desire that you will state to Meerza Agha the sense which Her Majesty's Government entertain of his exertions in this affair.

No. 146.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 24.)

(Extract.)

Camp, near Tehran, August 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information the copy of a despatch from Major Hennell, with the translation of an order which has been issued by the Governor of Fars regarding the prohibition of the importation of slaves by sea into Persia, and orders to the same purport have been issued to the several chiefs of the principal ports on the Persian Coast.

Inclosure 1 in No. 146.

Major Hennell to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

(Extract.)

Bushire, July 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 19th ultimo, transmitting copies of Royal firmans addressed to the Governors of Fars and Persian Arabia, commanding them to forbid in future the importation of African slaves into Persia by sea.

2. In offering my congratulations on the successful result of your endeavours to obtain this important concession from the Persian Government, I have the honour to report for your information the receipt of a communication from his Excellency Hoossein Khan, the Governor of Fars, inclosing original orders addressed to the several chiefs of the principal places on the Persian Coast, positively prohibiting the importation of slaves into their ports. I have the honour to inclose copies and translations of the orders addressed to Sheik Nasir, the Governor of Bushire, and one to the merchants of Fars. You will observe with satisfaction that his Excellency specifically intimates in the latter part of these rukkums, that the British ships of war are authorized to enforce the prohibition against the importation of slaves by sea contained in the Royal firmans.

Inclosure 2 in No. 146.

Hoossein Khan Myamood Dowlut, Governor of Fars, to Sheik Nasir Khan Dureye Beggee, Governor of Bushire.

(Translation.)

July 1848.

THIS high order has been issued, that the high in rank, Sheik Nasir Khan, Governor of the port of Bushire, may know that since in conformity with His Majesty's imperative firman, it has been determined and commanded that in this prosperous year, Buch Eel, and thereafter, the merchants, subjects of this high and everlasting State, shall relinquish the Trade in the black slaves and slave-girls, by sea and by the ports of Fars. Any merchant desiring to prosecute the Traffic in black slave girls and slaves, is free and at liberty to do so by land, from whatever quarter it may be; it is not forbidden; but by way of the sea, to embark them in vessels, they must entirely relinquish it, and not engage in this Traffic. If after perusing this order any one of the merchants or others bring slaves and slave-girls by sea, he will render himself liable to punishment. That high in rank must advise and warn all the merchants and tradespeople residing at that port, that in consideration of the concord between the two exalted States, the vessels of the British have been permitted by the Ministers of this conquering State to prevent the propagation of this Trade by sea. Assuredly that high in rank will not in any way deviate from the course now laid down.

No. 147.

Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 25, 1849.)

My Lord,

Tehran, November 22, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that in accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th September, I conveyed to the Persian Government the sincere and cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government, for the firmans which have been issued in compliance with their request, prohibiting the importation by sea of African slaves into Persia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. FARRANT.

PERU.

No. 148.

Mr. Adams to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 6, 1849.)

My Lord,

Lima, December 12, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no event connected with the subject of the Slave Trade has occurred in Peru during the present year. The attempts made during the years 1846 and 1847 to introduce slaves from New Granada have not been repeated, nor has any change taken place in the laws affecting the slave population of this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. PITT ADAMS.

PORTUGAL.

No. 149.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 25, 1848.

ON the 16th I addressed a note to Marshal Saldanha, a copy of which I beg to inclose, bringing to his Excellency's knowledge the despatch of Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, transmitted in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo.

His Excellency in his reply to that note, a copy and translation of which is herewith forwarded, informs me that he has recommended the Minister of Marine to dispatch peremptory orders to the Portuguese colonies, that energetic measures may be taken to check the increase of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 149.

Sir H. Seymour to the Duke of Saldanha.

M. le Duc,

Lisbon, March 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour, by instructions received from Viscount Palmerston, to inclose for your Excellency's information the copy of a despatch received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, reporting some circumstances relative to the Brazilian brig "*Progresso*," which had arrived there in charge of an officer of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Navy. Her Majesty's Commissioners also report that the exportation of slaves continues with more than usual vigour from places within the Portuguese dominions on the east coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 149.

The Duke of Saldanha to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, March 22, 1848.

ACKNOWLEDGING the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 16th instant, and of the document which accompanied it, in which the British Commissioners to the Mixed Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, communicate the arrival at that place, under the command of an officer in the Portuguese Navy, of the Brazilian brig "*Progresso*," which was implicated in the Slave Trade, and in which they observe that the Slave Trade is at present being carried on with greater activity than hitherto, in the Portuguese dominions on

the east coast of Africa ; I have the honour to inform you that I this day communicate to the Minister of Marine both your note and the above-mentioned document, in order that on his taking cognizance of their contents, he may give the most positive orders for the prevention in future by every possible means, of the continuation of that scandalous Traffic in the Portuguese dominions, as soon as its actual existence is recognized.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) DUQUE DE SALDANHA.

No. 150.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 6.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, April 28, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Lordship the copy of a decree which appeared in the "Diario" of the 25th instant, providing for the appointment of a commission instructed to propose a plan for the best means of extinguishing Slavery.

In speaking to me upon the subject, M. Gomes de Castro begged me to believe that the Government were perfectly sincere in their wish to put an end both to slave-trading and slave-holding.

With respect to the object of the commission lately appointed, the Minister said that the Government were convinced that any abrupt measure taken against slave-holding would be likely to be followed by the loss of the African colonies ; that any experiments to be made in the gradual manumission of slaves would therefore be commenced in the East Indies, and that the results of the attempts there made would be the basis of extended endeavours of the same kind in Africa.

I have called the attention of M. Gomes de Castro to some deliberations and plans for the extinction of slavery, which, as I learn from a member of the Duke de Palmella's administration, had been prepared by order of his Excellency.

Inclosure in No. 150.

Decree for inquiring into the means of abolishing Slavery in the Portuguese colonies.

(Translation.)

THE Slave Trade being already prohibited by law and treaties in all the Portuguese possessions, and it being also in accordance with the true spirit of justice and equity on which all good policy rests, that an end should be put to negro slavery still tolerated and permitted in those possessions ; the public weal requiring however that so important an alteration in the social state of those countries should be made with such prudence and forethought that fortunes may not be suddenly destroyed, nor the grant of liberty serve as an occasion for the slaves to abuse that benefit, which though entirely conformable to the principles of humanity, cannot but entail a serious sacrifice on the State as well as on the slave-owners ; I am pleased to appoint a Committee composed of the following members, the Councilors and Honorary Ministers of State, João de Sousa Pinto de Magalhães, and Ildefonso Leopoldo Bayard, the Councillor Antonio Ramalho de Sá, Judge of the Tribunal of Goa, the Councillor João da Costa Carvalho, Captain in the Navy, the Merchant of Lisbon, Faustino da Gama, the Lieutenant in the Navy, José Joaquim de Andrade Pinto, the Bachelor Carlos Zeferino Pinto Coelho de Castro, the first of whom shall act as President and the last as Secretary, which Committee, taking as a basis the principles of equity and justice, and keeping in view the laws and practice established in the Portuguese possessions, and also the lessons of experience offered by those regions where slavery has been abolished and

other considerations which ought to be attended to, shall propose to me the most efficacious and proper practical means of carrying into effect the emancipation of the slaves existing in the Portuguese ultramarine territories and shall prepare the necessary projects of law and regulations for carrying out that object.

The Minister of Marine, &c., Palace of Necessidades, April 14, 1848.

RAINHA.

BARAO DA VILLA NOVA DE OUREM.

No. 151.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 12, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that towards the end of last year a barque with a large cargo of slaves on board had escaped from that part of the coast of Africa which lies to the north of Ambriz, and stating also that two steamers one of which had succeeded in getting clear off from Ambriz in January last with a large cargo of slaves are employed in the Slave Trade between Rio de Janeiro and the coast of Africa.

And I have to desire that you will communicate the substance of the inclosed despatch to the Portuguese Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 151.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston,
February 8, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 89, p. 101.]

No. 152.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 12, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a copy and translation of a decree issued by the Portuguese Government appointing a Commission instructed to propose a plan for the best means of putting an end to Slavery in Portuguese possessions, and I have to instruct you to congratulate the Portuguese Government upon a measure so just and wise and which does so much honour to Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 153.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 12, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the copies of a note and its inclosures which I have received from M. Gomes de Castro, informing me that in the month of January last a large slaving steamer under Spanish colours was reported as being off the coast of Loanda.

The operations carried on by the vessel must be very extensive if, according to the inclosed information, she was to complete her cargo of human victims near Benguela after having taken on board nearly 1800 at Mayumba and Ambriz.

I have acknowledged M. Gomes de Castro's communication in a note, of which I beg likewise to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 153.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, May 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you for your information and for the purposes which you may think expedient, the inclosed copy of a letter which the Minister of Marine addressed to me on the 5th instant, from which it appears that the Governor-General of the Province of Angola had acquainted him on the 30th of January last, with a report which existed at Loanda, that on the coast of that province had appeared a large steam-vessel with a Spanish flag which, having received on board at Mayumba, to the north-east of Loanda, a portion of slaves, was subsequently supposed to have completed its cargo at the port of Ambriz and on the coast to the windward of Benguela.

I renew, &c.,
(Signed) JOSE JOAQM. GOMES DE CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 153.

The Minister of Marine to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Marine Department, May 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency for your information and guidance, that according to a letter from the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, of the 30th of last January, it was reported at Loanda that there had appeared on the coast of the Province of Angola, a large three-masted steamer, with a crew mostly Spanish, and a flag of that nation, and a swivel gun of heavy calibre, which, having first made for Mayumba (to the north of Loanda), took on board at that place nearly 800 slaves, and then going to Ambriz, appears to have received on board, in one night, upwards of 1000 negroes from the extensive depôts which the smugglers have there; and not satisfied with this result to have gone on to the coast to the windward of Benguela, where it is said it was proposed to complete its cargo.

I therefore call your Excellency's particular attention to this point, in order that you may be made aware of the insufficiency of our cruisers to prevent the traffic carried on in this manner.

(Signed) BARAO DA VILLA NOVA DE OUREM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 153.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, May 12, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 9th instant, and beg to thank you for the information which you have been kind enough to give me respecting the slaving steam-vessel which has appeared off the coast of Loanda.

The information will be transmitted by the first opportunity to Her

Majesty's Government, whose unwearied solicitude about the repression of a detestable traffic is, as I have had the satisfaction of observing, well known to your Excellency.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 154.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 18, 1848.

IN obedience to the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 31st March, I addressed to M. Gomes de Castro the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, requesting that Her Most Faithful Majesty might refuse compliance with the desire of the Governor-General of Angola to modify the execution of the law requiring that condemned slave-vessels should be broken up.

The reply of M. Gomes de Castro, of which also I beg to transmit a copy and translation, appearing to me to be drawn up under the impression that the application I had made was a mere repetition of that presented by Lord Howard de Walden in the month of August 1846, I have thought it right to call his Excellency's attention to the probability that the representations of the Governor-General of Angola had been occasioned by the receipt of orders transmitted on the 1st of September, last year. At the same time I have suggested that a favourable opportunity now offered itself for instructing the new Governor-General of Angola, who is shortly to leave this capital for the seat of his Government, to use his endeavours to attain the object thus desired as well by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty as by that of Great Britain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 154.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, April 25, 1848.

HER Majesty's Government have been informed that the Governor-General of Angola has represented to the Portuguese Government the difficulty of carrying into execution the Decree of 18th September, 1846, for breaking up and selling in different lots slave-vessels condemned by the Portuguese Prize Court at Loanda; and that his Excellency has proposed that that decree should be so far modified as to allow of such vessels being sold entire; the purchaser covenanting to break them up within three months from the date of the sale, and the Prize Court being invested with full powers to enforce this obligation.

In consequence of this information I have received instructions from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to urge Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government to refuse compliance with this application of the Governor-General of Angola, and to recommend that if these slavers cannot be broken up they should be burnt.

Her Majesty's Government are apprehensive that if the recommendation of the Government is complied with, no such condemned vessels will ever be broken up by the purchasers, and that they will probably all go back to the Slave Trade.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, May 13, 1848.

IN reply to the note which you addressed to me on the 25th April last, in which you refer to the reports of the Governor-General of Angola on the difficulty of carrying into execution the decree of the 10th September, 1846, which ordered vessels condemned by the Tribunal of Prizes established at Loanda to be broken up and sold; I have the honour to state to you that already, on the 6th September of last year, my predecessor communicated to you the orders which on the 1st of that month had been issued by the Marine Department, at the request of this office, to the said tribunal, to give entire execution to that decree, the demand made by your predecessor in his note of the 25th August, 1846, being thus acquiesced in. In the meantime I this day communicate to the Minister of Marine your above-mentioned note, in order that his Excellency may renew the orders already sent to the said tribunal to sell the vessels condemned by it after having been broken up, with the addition of the suggestion made by his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, that when vessels cannot be thus sold, they shall in such case be burned.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE JOAQM. GOMES DE CASTRO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 154.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, May 17, 1848.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 13th instant, acquainting me that you have called upon the Minister of Marine to repeat the orders previously sent to the Governor of Angola for breaking up condemned slavers, with the additional suggestion of burning them, should they prove unsaleable.

In expressing my acknowledgments to your Excellency for this compliance with the desire of Her Majesty's Government, I am anxious to call your attention to the probability that the representations of the Governor-General of Angola, alluded to in my note of the 25th April last, were occasioned by the receipt of the instructions transmitted on the 1st of September last year, and therefore gave occasion to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to urge this point upon the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I would therefore suggest that advantage should be taken of this opportunity, when, as I am informed, a new Governor-General is about to proceed to Loanda to instruct his Excellency to give full effect to the Decree of 10th September, 1846, with the further alternative suggested by Viscount Palmerston, notwithstanding any difficulties which may be raised as to the expense of breaking up the vessels, or the impossibility of finding purchasers for them.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 155.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 27, 1848.

IT is proper that I should acquaint your Lordship that according to a statement which has been made to me, the fast-sailing vessel "*Assombro*," of 200 tons, built at Oporto, and a regular trader with Rio de Janeiro, having been purchased by the slave-dealers, has left that port fully equipped for the purpose of slaving.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 156.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 8, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th May I beg to transmit a copy of a note which I have received from M. Gomes de Castro, acquainting me that fresh orders had on the 10th ultimo been sent to the Prize Court at Loanda to carry into execution the provisions of the decree for breaking up condemned slavers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 156.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

June 6, 1848.

IN addition to the note which I addressed to you on the 13th May last, with respect to the execution of the Decree of 10th September, 1846, which requires that the vessels condemned by the Prize Court at Loanda should be broken up and sold in detached portions, I have the honour to acquaint you that the Minister of Marine has informed me that on the 30th May he had transmitted fresh instructions to the Prize Court in question, to the effect that the above-mentioned decree, as well as the portaria on the same subject issued on the 1st September of last year, should be carried into execution.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) J. G. GOMES DE CASTRO.

No. 157.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 21, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Admiralty, inclosing a despatch from the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's naval forces on the west coast of Africa, which despatch covers the copies of a correspondence between Commander Chads of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Styx*" and the Governor-General of Angola, on the subject of a number of slave barracoons existing at Mazula, a district in the immediate neighbourhood of the city of St. Paul de Loanda, and within the Portuguese possessions.

I have to instruct you to communicate this correspondence to the

Portuguese Government, and to urge them to send out orders to the Governor-General to take the necessary steps to insure the speedy destruction of these factories at Mazula, which place is designated by that officer himself as the focus of the Slave Trade, as well as to secure the full and complete freedom of such negroes as may be found confined in the factories.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 157.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir, *Admiralty, May 29, 1848.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith for the information of Viscount Palmerston a copy of a letter from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, dated the 22nd of March last, transmitting a copy of a correspondence between the Governor of Angola and Commander Chads of the "Styx," relative to barracoons at Mazula.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 157.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Penelope," at Cabenda, March 22, 1848.*

I REQUEST you will lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying copy of a correspondence between the Governor-General of Angola and Commander Chads of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," and inform their Lordships that I shall take an early opportunity of again urging the destruction of the barracoons upon his Excellency the Governor-General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 157.

Commander Chads to the Governor of Angola.

Sir, *"Styx," Loanda, February 5, 1848.*

IN pursuance of instructions which I have recently received, I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that there are a number of barracoons or slave factories existing on the Mazula coast, between lat. 8° south and lat. 8° 25' south, and as so many slave-vessels have been lately captured in that vicinity, it appears probable that there has been a great number of slaves collected for embarkation within those limits.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY CHADS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 157.

The Governor of Angola to Commander Chads.(Translation.)
Illustrissimo Senhor,*Palace of the Government in Loanda,
March 16, 1848.*

I RECEIVED your official letter of the 5th February last, dated at Loanda, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steamer "Styx," under your command, in which, in compliance with instructions recently received by you, you inform me of there being several barracoons or slave factories on the coast of Mazula, between the latitudes 8° and 8° 25' south, and that from there having been many slavers recently captured in that neighbourhood, it appears probable that a large number of the said slaves may have been collected there for embarkation.

And in reply I will say to you, that I am persuaded there are in that locality such collections of slaves as well as in other parts of the coast; but at present they are not in a position which render it probable that they could be captured, and from the burning of the barracoons alone no permanent utility is drawn, as they are of a construction which can very quickly and easily be raised with scarcely any expense.

And for a long time I have been endeavouring to destroy that focus of the Slave Trade, which will be done so soon as it may be practicable, as such are the orders of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and as myself and Captain F. A. G. Cardozo, the present commandant of the naval station, have already put in practice at different times and in various localities since 1843, but with very little practical benefit for the final extinction of the Traffic in Slaves.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) P. A. DA CUNHA.

No. 158.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of May last, inclosing a copy of a letter which you had received from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing you that it was reported at Loanda in January last, that a large steamer under the Spanish flag, which had appeared off the coast of the Province of Angola, had taken on board 800 slaves at Mayumba, and afterwards upwards of 1000 from the slave depôts existing at Ambriz.

I have to desire that you will convey the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to the Portuguese Government, for this communication, and that you will suggest at the same time, that the British squadron on the coast would cheerfully co-operate in any measures which might be taken to destroy these slave depôts, and to prevent their being established.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 159.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, stating that Major Teixeira, the Governor of Quillimane, had absconded from that place in a slave-ship bound for Rio de Janeiro,

with 500 slaves on board, and that he was accompanied in his flight by the President of the municipality, a person who had also been for some time suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 159.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope to Viscount Palmerston,
March 24, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 71, p. 83.]

No. 160.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of May, 1848, inclosing copies of a correspondence which you had had with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs relative to the breaking up of slave-vessels condemned by the Portuguese Prize Court at Loanda.

I have also received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, in which you inclose a copy of a note from M. Gomes de Castro, stating that fresh orders had been issued under date of the 30th of May to the Prize Court in question, to cause the decree ordering the breaking up of condemned slavers to be strictly carried into effect.

I have to instruct you to express to Senhor Gomes de Castro the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the issue of the orders referred to; and at the same time to suggest to him that if it should be represented that the process of breaking up is troublesome and expensive, it may be answered, that a small quantity of gunpowder properly applied would effectually break up any slave-vessel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 161.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 26, 1848.

— WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of April last, inclosing a copy of a decree issued by the Portuguese Government, providing for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the best means for extinguishing Slavery in all the Portuguese possessions, I have to desire that you will remind the Portuguese Government of this decree, and that you will ask whether any progress has yet been made in preparing the arrangement for carrying the benevolent intentions of the Portuguese Government into effect.

You will further say that the complete enactment of such a law would tend much to conciliate public opinion in this country towards the Government of Portugal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 162.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 25, 1848.

I HAD the honour of receiving on the 22nd instant your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant.

In thanking M. Gomes de Castro on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, as I did in the note, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, for the information afforded respecting the slaver steamer which in the month of January last had taken on board 1800 slaves at Mayumba and Ambriz, I have signified to his Excellency the readiness with which Her Majesty's squadron on the coast would take part in any measures which might be adopted for destroying the slave depôts at Ambriz.

The proposal will at all events have the effect of satisfying the Portuguese Cabinet of the undiminished solicitude felt by Her Majesty's Government respecting the suppression of the trade in human beings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 162.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, July 25, 1848.

I HAVE received orders from Her Majesty's Government to offer to your Excellency their thanks for the information which you had the kindness to convey to them respecting the large slaving steamer under Spanish colours which in the month of January last was reported to have taken on board a large number of slaves on the coast of Angola.

Her Majesty's Government feeling an undiminished desire to take, and cause to be taken, every measure by means of which the extinction of slave-trading may be promoted, have instructed me to intimate to your Excellency that the British squadron would cheerfully co-operate in any attempts which may be made, as well to destroy the slave depôts existing at Ambriz, as to prevent their being re-established.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 163.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 25, 1848.

I HAD the honour of receiving on the 22nd instant your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant.

Major Teixeira, the late Governor of Quillimane, to whose misconduct your Lordship's despatch refers, has arrived at Lisbon, but as I learn from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has not yet presented himself either to the civil or military authorities of the capital.

I further collect from M. Gomes de Castro, that the misdeeds of this officer will not pass unnoticed, and that measures are already in progress for bringing him either to a court-martial or before a civil court of inquiry.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR

No. 164.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 25, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant, and in obedience to your Lordship's directions have addressed to M. Gomes de Castro the note of which I beg to transmit a copy.

In offering to his Excellency the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the fresh orders issued respecting the breaking up of slaving-vessels, I have ventured to suggest the process by which their destruction may be efficaciously and unexpensively effected,

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 164.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, July 25, 1848.

HER Majesty's Government have learned with much satisfaction that fresh orders, under date of the 30th of May, had been issued at the Prize Court at Loanda by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, respecting the breaking up of condemned slave-vessels, and have directed me to offer to your Excellency their warm acknowledgments for the fresh service thus rendered to the cause of humanity.

As complaints are not uncommonly made as to the trouble and expense of breaking up vessels, your Excellency will perhaps allow me to observe that experience has shown that the object is to be attained very readily by the use of a small quantity of gunpowder.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 165.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 15.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, August 8, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo.

An indisposition from which M. Gomes de Castro is suffering has prevented me from calling upon him for the purpose of stimulating, if possible, the exertions of the Commission appointed to inquire into the best means for putting an end to Slavery in the Portuguese possessions. I shall not however fail to comply with your Lordship's orders as soon as the Minister of Foreign Affairs is sufficiently recovered to be able to receive the visits of the Corps Diplomatique.

Meanwhile, as I am assured by a member of the Commission, he and his colleagues have been actively employed in obtaining all possible information from the persons the best acquainted with the different Portuguese colonies, and the basis of the report is likely to be laid at an early meeting.

No. 166.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, August 8, 1848.

IN obedience to the orders conveyed to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 21st of June last, I addressed to Senhor Gomes de Castro the note of which I beg to transmit a copy.

His Excellency's reply, of which also a copy and translation are added, informs me that orders have been sent to the Governor-General of Angola to destroy, in concert with the commanding officer of the English squadron, such barracoons as may be proved to be Portuguese property, and to order the removal of such as may be shown to be the property of foreigners.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 166.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, July 6, 1848.

IN obedience to instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency the copy of a despatch from the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's Naval forces on the west coast of Africa, covering the copies of a correspondence between Commander Chads of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Styx," and the Governor-General of Angola, on the subject of a number of slave barracoons, existing at Mazula, a district in the immediate neighbourhood of the city of St. Paul de Loanda, and within the Portuguese possessions.

It becomes at the same time my duty to urge upon your Excellency the expediency of such immediate orders being sent out to the Governor-General as may ensure the necessary steps being taken for the destruction of these factories at Mazula, a place which is designated by that officer himself as the focus of the Slave Trade, and as may secure at the same time the full and complete freedom of all negroes who may be found confined in the factories.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 166.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

August 7, 1848.

HAVING informed the Minister of Marine of the receipt of your communication dated 6th ultimo, stating the discovery of several barracoons for the Traffic of Slaves having been constructed at Mazula, his answer, dated 29th ultimo, informs me that on that day orders were issued to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, that he, after having previously consulted the Commander of the British Naval force on that station, and having procured correct information as to true owners of said barracoons, may order their demolition, when it is clearly proved that they are destined for the Traffic of Slaves, and that they are the

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property of Portuguese subjects, should they refuse to remove them on being notified, according to the articles of the Portaria No. 1033, dated 27th April, 1848; and observing that if the proprietors of said barracoons are foreigners, they should be notified to leave the country, as they will not be allowed to trade in the Portuguese colonies, except at the places stated in a treaty with Portugal.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) J. J. GOMES DE CASTRO.

No. 167.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant respecting the Commission appointed by Her Most Faithful Majesty to inquire into the best means for putting an end to Slavery in the Portuguese possessions.

I have in reply to instruct you to take an early opportunity of expressing to Senhor Gomes de Castro the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that any law which may be proposed on this subject may embrace the abolition of the condition of Slavery in all the colonial possessions of Portugal. You will remind his Excellency that none of the pretences upon which the continuance of Slavery is excused on the Continent of America and in the West Indian Islands apply to the colonial possessions of Portugal. For in the Portuguese colonies there is no deficiency of labourers, and those very races which are brought by force and fraud to America as being peculiarly suited to labour in a hot climate, are indigenous in the colonies of Portugal. There can therefore really be no more palliation for the existence of Slavery in the colonies of Portugal than there could be for its existence in Portugal itself; and while on the one hand the Portuguese Government would perform a most honourable act by wiping off entirely from the national character the stain of a criminal practice which so many civilized and Christian countries have given up, on the other hand, such a moral purification would not be attended with any sacrifice of what is commonly called national interest.

The Portuguese Government may be sure that they would find the advantage of such a measure in the improvement which it would effect in the general character of the officers and other subjects of the Queen of Portugal in her colonial possessions; for universal experience proves that the existence of the condition of Slavery in any country tends to degrade and corrupt the master class, quite as much as it afflicts and debases the slave.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 168.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 28, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed to Senhor Gomes de Castro, requesting that the Governor-General of Angola might be instructed to take the necessary steps for the destruction of the slave factories said to exist at Mazula, in the neighbourhood of Loanda, and a copy and translation of his Excellency's reply, in which he informs you that the Governor of Angola had been ordered to consult with the Commander of Her Majesty's ships on the west coast of Africa, and to cause the destruction of the barracoons, when proved to be destined for the Slave Trade, and to be

the property of Portuguese subjects, if they should refuse to remove them; but if they should be the property of foreigners, that those foreigners would be required to leave the country, and would not be allowed to trade in the Portuguese colonies, except at places permitted by treaty.

I have to instruct you to convey to Senhor Gomes de Castro the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government, for this renewed proof of the desire entertained by the Portuguese Government faithfully to fulfil the engagements of the Portuguese Crown for the suppression of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 169.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 6, 1848.*

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the destruction of a barracoon at Benguela Velha, by the Portuguese naval forces employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, in consequence of its having appeared from the description of the articles found in the said barracoon, that it was clearly intended for slaves destined for exportation.

I have to instruct you to communicate that despatch to Senhor Gomes de Castro, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have received with sincere satisfaction this proof of the activity of the Portuguese squadron, and of the good faith of the authorities by whom its proceedings are directed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 169.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, April 29, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 105, p. 119.]

No. 170.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 14, 1848.*

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the substance of instructions which had been recently received at that place from the Portuguese Government, laying down new regulations for the proceedings of the Court of the Juiz de Direito at Loanda, with respect to the trial of the masters and crews of vessels condemned for Slave Trade, and containing suggestions for further improving the practice of that Court, and for insuring the conviction and punishment of offenders against the laws of Portugal against Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to state to Senhor Gomes de Castro that Her Majesty's Government have received with satisfaction the announcement of the improvements already ordered in the practice of the court referred to; and I have to desire that you will submit to his Excellency, for his consideration, the further suggestions made by Her Majesty's Commis-

sioners, and which appear to me to be well calculated to attain their object.

You will state that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that it would greatly tend to the suppression of the Slave Trade if severe punishment were inflicted on persons found engaged in that Traffic, and that the situation of the Portuguese colonies on the west coast of Africa, within the limits of which Her Majesty's Government regret to perceive that, notwithstanding the activity of the Portuguese squadron and the good faith of the Governor-General of Angola, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent, gives to the Portuguese Government peculiar facility for inflicting a heavy blow on the Slave Trade of Brazil, by providing for the speedy and certain administration of justice against all foreigners found prosecuting the Slave Trade within the territorial jurisdiction of the Portuguese Crown.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 170.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, June 3, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 107, p. 121.]

No. 171.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 14, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioner at Loanda, reporting the manner in which 20 emancipated negroes from the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna*," which was condemned by the Mixed Commission on the 27th of March last, had been provisionally disposed of by the Board of Superintendence of liberated Africans.

You will perceive that it was found impracticable in this case strictly to fulfil the stipulations of Annex C to the Treaty of July 3, 1842. The Article XII of that Annex requires that the persons taking charge of emancipated negroes should pay a stipulated sum to the Board of Superintendence; but it having been found impossible to find any person willing to take charge of the negroes of the "*Fortuna*" on that condition, they were provisionally apprenticed, subject to the approbation of Her Majesty's Government and of the Portuguese Government, without any sum of money having been actually paid or promised to be paid to that Board.

Her Majesty's Government, under the circumstances of this case, have approved of the conduct of Her Majesty's Commissioner, in his capacity of British Member of the Board of Superintendence, in entering into the provisional arrangement on behalf of these negroes which is above referred to; although, strictly speaking, the Board of Superintendence had no power to dispense with any of the stipulations in favour of apprenticed negroes, laid down in Annex C.

By acceding to that provisional arrangement, Her Majesty's Commissioner has relieved the Government of Angola from the obligation which would have attached to it under Article XXI of Annex C, of providing for the negroes in question if they were not apprenticed or enlisted according to the precise terms of that Annex, and it appears that to the latter alternative the Governor-General was not favourable.

I likewise transmit to you a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners, suggesting that Her Majesty's Government should endeavour to come to some understanding with the Government of Portugal, by which the negroes of the "*Fortuna*," and any others who

may in future be emancipated by the Mixed Commission, or by the Portuguese Prize Court, might be removed to a British colony; a measure which they state that they have good reason to believe would meet with the cordial concurrence and co-operation of Governor da Cunha.

I have accordingly to instruct you to present a note to Senhor Gomes de Castro, stating that Her Majesty's Government will be willing to take charge, and to send to a British colony, the negroes of the "*Fortuna*," as well as any others who may be carried into Loanda in slave-vessels captured by Portuguese cruizers, whether condemned by the Mixed Commission or by the Portuguese municipal tribunals. Long experience has taught Her Majesty's Government that the freedom of emancipated slaves can nowhere be effectually secured except in countries or colonies where the condition of Slavery does not exist.

If the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty should be willing to accede to this proposition, Her Majesty's Government consider that with respect to negroes emancipated by the Mixed Court, the best mode of recording this modification of the provisions of Annex C, will be to conclude an Article Additional to the Treaty. I accordingly transmit to you a draft of such Article, and I have to instruct you to propose it to the Portuguese Government, if they should appear disposed to entertain the proposal.

With respect to negroes emancipated by the Portuguese tribunals, Her Majesty's Government presume that it would merely be necessary for the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to instruct the Governor-General of Angola to cause such negroes to be delivered up to such officer as Her Majesty's Government may appoint to undertake the duty of their removal. This duty would be confided to Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, who is already charged with the duty of removing to a British colony negroes found on board slave-vessels captured by British cruizers, and emancipated by the Mixed Commission at Loanda.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures 1 and 2 in No. 171.

Her Majesty's Commissioner at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, April 15, 1848;
Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, April 17, 1848.

[See Class A, Nos. 103 and 104, p. 116.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 171.

Proposed Additional Article to Treaty with Portugal.

WHEREAS it is stipulated by Article II of Annex C to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, that immediately after sentence of condemnation upon a vessel charged with being concerned in illegal Slave Trade shall have been passed by the Mixed Commissions established under the said Treaty, all negroes or others who were on board of such vessel, and who were brought on board for the purpose of being consigned to Slavery, should be delivered over to the Government of the country to whom belongs the cruizer which made the capture:

And whereas in the said Annex it is stipulated that emancipated negroes shall be delivered over to the care of a Board of Superintendence, under whose authority they are to be apprenticed out or enlisted, under the rules and regulations laid down in the said Annex for their well-being:

And whereas at the city of St. Paul de Loanda, in the Province of Angola, where one of the Mixed Commissions to be appointed under the aforesaid Treaty is established, difficulties have been found to exist in strictly fulfilling the stipulations laid down in the said Annex in favour of

emancipated negroes, especially in apprenticing such negroes to persons engaging to pay a stipulated sum to the Board of Superintendence for their services, as required by Article XII of the said Annex :

And whereas in the British colonies there are in force laws, or regulations having the force of law, securely guaranteeing the liberty of emancipated negroes :

And whereas Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland has expressed her readiness to take charge of and to provide for such emancipated negroes in her colonial possessions aforesaid :

And whereas Her Majesty the Queen of Portugal and the Algarves is willing to adopt such an arrangement, their said Majesties have accordingly resolved to conclude an Article Additional to the aforesaid Treaty, and have accordingly named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say, &c.

who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Article:—

ARTICLE.

It is hereby mutually agreed that slaves from on board Portuguese slave-vessels captured by Portuguese cruizers, and emancipated by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commissions already established, or which may at any future time be established in any Portuguese territory, under the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, shall be delivered over to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty in order to be sent to Jamaica, British Guiana or Trinidad; and Her Britannic Majesty guarantees to such negroes their freedom, and engages that they shall be treated in exact conformity with the laws in force in those colonies for the regulation of free or emancipated negroes.

No. 172.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches up to that of the 6th instant.

In obedience to your Lordship's instructions I have communicated to Senhor Gomes de Castro a copy of the letter from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, which formed the inclosure of the despatch of the 6th instant; and I beg to transmit a copy of my note expressing to his Excellency the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government on being informed of the active and well-directed efforts of the Portuguese naval force.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, September 5, 1848.

I HAVE received the instructions of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to communicate to your Excellency the despatch of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, by which he has been informed of the destruction of a barracoon at Benguela Velha by the Portuguese naval forces employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government have received with sincere satisfaction this proof of the activity of the Portuguese squadron and of the good faith of the authorities by whom its proceedings are directed.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 173.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

I BEG to transmit a copy of the note which I have addressed, as directed by your Lordship's despatch of 28th August, to Senhor Gomes de Castro, conveying to his Excellency the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the instructions given to the Governor-General of Angola to co-operate with the officer commanding Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa in the destruction of the slave factories said to exist at Mazula in the neighbourhood of Loanda.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 173.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

I HAD the satisfaction of transmitting to Her Majesty's Government your Excellency's reply to my application that the Governor-General of Angola might be instructed to take the necessary steps for the destruction of the slave factories said to exist at Mazula in the neighbourhood of Loanda, in which reply you were pleased to inform me that the Governor of Angola had been ordered to consult with the Commander of Her Majesty's ships on the west coast of Africa, and to cause the destruction of the barracoons when proved to be destined for the Slave Trade and to be the property of Portuguese subjects, if they should refuse to remove them, but if they should be the property of foreigners, that those foreigners would be required to leave the country and would not be allowed to trade in the Portuguese colonies except at places permitted by treaty.

It is now my duty, by command of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to convey to your Excellency the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for this renewed proof of the desire entertained by the Portuguese Government faithfully to fulfil the engagements of the Portuguese Crown for the suppression of slave-trading.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 174.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

IN obedience to the instructions conveyed to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 27th August, I have expressed to Senhor Gomes de Castro in a note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that any law which may be proposed in consequence of the report of the Commission appointed by Her Most Faithful Majesty to inquire into the best means of putting an end to slavery in the Portuguese possessions, might embrace the abolition of the condition of Slavery in all the colonies of Portugal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 174.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

WHEN Her Most Faithful Majesty was pleased to appoint a Commission to inquire into the best means for putting an end to Slavery in the Portuguese possessions, it was my pleasing duty to report to Her Majesty's Government the adoption of a measure directed to an object which has always excited their interest; and I have not failed to transmit, from time to time, such information as might come to my knowledge, bearing upon this question.

I am now instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government, that any law which may be proposed on this subject, may embrace the abolition of the condition of Slavery in all the colonial possessions of Portugal. I may remind your Excellency that none of the pretences upon which the continuance of Slavery is excused on the continent of America and in the West Indian Islands, apply to the colonial possessions of Portugal. For in the Portuguese colonies there is no deficiency of labourers, and those very races which are brought by force or fraud to America as being peculiarly suited to labour in a hot climate, are indigenious in the colonies of Portugal. There can therefore really be no more palliation for the existence of Slavery in the colonies of Portugal, than there could be for its existence in Portugal itself; and while on the one hand the Portuguese Government would perform a most honourable act, by wiping off entirely from the national character, the stain of a criminal practice, which so many civilized and Christian countries have now given up; on the other hand, such a moral purification would not be attended with any sacrifice of what is commonly called national interest.

The Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty may be sure that they will find the advantage of such a measure in the improvement which it would effect in the general character of the officers and other subjects of Her Most Faithful Majesty in her colonial possessions; for universal experience proves that the existence of the condition of Slavery in any country tends to degrade and to corrupt the master class quite as much as it afflicts and debases the slave.

In offering to your Excellency this suggestion and these observations by the order of Her Majesty's Government, I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 175.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1848.

IT is with much satisfaction that I have received from M. Gomes de Castro the intimation conveyed in the note of which a copy is herewith transmitted, of the suggestion relative to the destruction of captured vessels by gunpowder, having been adopted by the Portuguese Government.

Orders to this effect have, as your Lordship will observe, already been dispatched to the Governor-General of Angola, an exception however being made in favour of such vessels of the above-mentioned description, as may be appropriated to the use of the State.

I have acknowledged M. Gomes de Castro's communication in a note of which I beg likewise to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 175.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office (Lisbon), September 9, 1848.

HAVING made the Minister of Marine acquainted with your note of the 25th of July last, respecting the convenience of adopting powder, as the best means of destroying vessels taken and condemned by the Tribunal of Prizes at Loanda, as slavers, when they are not appropriated to the service of the State, I have the honour to inform you that, in a communication from said Minister, dated 29th ultimo, he tells me that on the same day, the necessary orders were issued to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, indicating this method as preferable to any other.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE JOAQM. GOMES DE CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 175.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, September 16, 1848.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 9th instant.

The resolution of the Ministry, relating to the destruction by powder of all vessels taken at Loanda, like any other demonstration of a fixed purpose of putting an end to an odious traffic, will I am sure be received with great satisfaction by Her Majesty's Government; and I beg to offer to your Excellency my warm thanks for being enabled to make to them so agreeable a communication.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 176.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 27, 1848.

AN incident has come to my knowledge which it may be proper to report to your Lordship as illustrative of the feelings entertained in this country upon the subject of slave-dealing, and of the disbelief in such a Traffic being contrary to the principles of morality and religion.

A ceremony in honour of the Virgin has been celebrated within the last few days at Collares, upon a scale which attracted the more attention, as no particular rejoicings were appointed by the calendar for that day.

It proved that the festival was the result of a vow which had been made to the Virgin by an individual who was extensively engaged in a slave-dealing speculation.

The venture succeeded;—a sum, amounting, as I understand, to thirty contos, fell to the share of the dealer in men, and a portion of the gain had been immediately assigned to religious thanksgiving.

It is not to be doubted that very large sums are still realized by the Portuguese speculators, and more especially by those of Oporto, from their investments in slave-dealing; and, in presence of this fact, any efforts made by the Government for the suppression of such operations are to be the more favourably judged.

These exertions should likewise be judged with reference as well to the slight returns obtained in Portugal from ordinary commercial transactions, as to the absence in Portugal of that public feeling by which the trade in human flesh is stigmatized in England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 177.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 28, 1848.

I HAD the honour of receiving on the 24th instant your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, and inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda.

The suggestions made by those gentlemen have been embodied in the note to M. Gomes de Castro, of which I beg to transmit a copy for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, September 28, 1848.

IT is with much satisfaction that Her Majesty's Government have learned the improvements which have been ordered in the Court of the Juiz de Direito at Loanda, with respect to the trial of the masters and crews of vessels condemned for slaving.

While, however, Her Majesty's Government anticipate great advantage from the changes already prescribed, they conceive that the object in view would be further promoted by the suggestions which it is now my duty to submit to your Excellency's earnest and I trust favourable consideration.

It is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that it would tend greatly to the suppression of the Slave Trade if severe punishment were inflicted on persons found engaged in that Traffic: they are further of opinion that the situation of the Portuguese colonies on the west coast of Africa, within the limits of which it is but too apparent that notwithstanding the activity of the Portuguese squadron and the good faith of the Governor-General of Angola, the Slave Trade is still carried on to a great extent, gives to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty peculiar facility for inflicting a heavy blow on the Slave Trade of Brazil, by providing for the speedy and certain administration of justice against all foreigners engaged in that illicit pursuit within the territorial jurisdiction of the Portuguese Crown.

I come now to the two points which I am directed to bring under your Excellency's especial attention, both of them arising out of the 6th Article of the Decree of the 14th September, 1844.

The first relates to the construction which has hitherto been placed upon the concluding part of the Article in question, providing that in the event of a vessel being condemned and declared a good prize by the tribunal (the Prize Court) which the decree creates, a certified copy of its condemnatory sentence shall be sent to the Juiz de Direito, together with the prisoners, those, that is, who are found on board, and that such certified copy shall serve as a bill of indictment against them.

In giving effect to this provision the Prize Court have been content to take it in its strictest and most literal sense, and have confined themselves to transmitting the bare sentence.

The consequence has been, that the sentence being directed mainly against the vessels, and rarely making mention of those on board, when the trial of the latter comes on before the Juiz de Direito, nothing appears against them.

If, instead of the sentence, the Prize Court were directed to transmit the whole of the proceedings to the Juiz de Direito, either the original "autos" or a certified copy of the same, the several depositions therein contained would in most cases afford abundant matter by which the guilt

of criminal parties might be established, they being of course left the full power of defending themselves in the same way and with the same latitude as if the prosecution originated in the Court before which they are personally arraigned.

A preferable, because an infinitely more efficient modification of the existing legislation would however be to intrust the trial of the persons as well as of the property of the slave-traffickers to one and the same tribunal, that is, to the Prize Court.

It may here be observed that as the condemnations in question would not extend to those passed by the Mixed Commission, no objection could be raised to the proposed alteration upon the grounds of decisions being exposed to the bias of foreign influence.

The second point refers to the mode of dealing with persons found on board of detained vessels, whether pending or subsequent to the adjudication of the vessel or their own trial before the Juiz de Direito.

According to the words of the 6th Article above referred to, such parties should seem to be precluded from admission to bail, whereas it has been the constant practice to set them at large, upon security being given for their appearance.

Were this practice amended, and in strict compliance with the clause in question were the parties to be detained in close custody until their cases were decided upon, it might be expected that the salutary terror of severe personal inconvenience would deter many from engaging in slaving operations, and that a most important step towards the prevention of an odious traffic would be taken.

Again recommending the suggestions which I have been called upon to make to your Excellency's favourable consideration,

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 178.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 28, 1848.

I BEG to transmit to your Lordship a copy and a translation of a note which I have received from M. Gomes de Castro, expressing the satisfaction of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government at the favourable notice taken of the service performed by the Commanders of the Portuguese vessels of war "Relampago," "Nimfa," and "Constituição," in the destruction of a barracoon at Benguela Velha.

His Excellency desires that I would bring these sentiments to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, September 25, 1848.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of your note of the 15th instant, with the copy of a despatch addressed 29th of April last to Lord Viscount Palmerston by the Commander of the British naval station on the coast of Africa, in which it is stated that the crews of Her Majesty's ships "Relampago," "Ninfa," and "Constituição," landed at Benguela Velha, and burnt a barracoon which they found there destined to promote the illicit Traffic in Slaves. You have manifested the sincere satisfaction with which Her Britannic Majesty's Government had received this proof of the

activity of the Portuguese squadron and of the good faith of the authorities who ordered these proceedings. Thanking you for this courteous communication, I have the honour to request that you will acquaint Her Britannic Majesty's Government that the esteem it has expressed of the zeal and activity of the Portuguese authorities in Africa, and of the naval officers under their orders, in putting an end to such barbarous Traffic, has caused the greatest satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) J. J. GOMES DE CASTRO.

No. 179.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 9, 1848.

I HAVE to refer you to the note dated the 11th of February, 1847, and addressed by M. de Portugal e Castro to Mr. Southern, stating it to be the desire of the Portuguese Government that the prisoners from Portuguese slave-vessels condemned by the Mixed Commission at the Cape of Good Hope should be sent to Loanda for trial; and I now transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch and of its inclosure from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, representing the difficulty which would exist in sending such criminals to Loanda, and suggesting that they should be sent to Mozambique for trial.

I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed papers to Senhor Gomes de Castro, and you will express to him the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will not hesitate to accede to a proposal which will facilitate the execution of so important a stipulation of the Treaty of 1842 as that contained in Article XII of that compact, and that they will issue the requisite instructions to their Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope upon this point.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No 179.

*Her Majesty's Commissioner at the Cape of Good Hope to Viscount Palmerston,
June 17, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 72, p. 83.]

No. 180.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 7, 1848.

I HAD the honour of receiving by the last packet your Lordship's despatch of the 14th ultimo, together with its three inclosures.

In obedience to your Lordship's orders, and after a conversation which I held this morning with M. Gomes de Castro, I have addressed his Excellency the note of which I beg to inclose a copy. In this I have offered on the part of Her Majesty's Government that the negroes taken on board the "*Fortuna*," and any others found in vessels captured by Portuguese cruizers and condemned either by the Mixed Commission or by the Portuguese municipal tribunals, should be delivered to British authorities for the purpose of being conveyed to a British colony.

It is not in my power to state to your Lordship whether the offer will be accepted by the Portuguese Government; M. Gomes de Castro having declined giving any decided opinion upon the subject until he should have made himself acquainted with the papers relating to the negroes found on board the "*Fortuna*."

I may however observe that the Ministry appear generally well disposed to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government as to measures connected with the repression of the Slave Trade, and this being so I have communicated the draft of the proposed Article confidentially to M. Gomes de Castro, begging him to consider it at his leisure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 180.

Sir Hamilton Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, October 7, 1848.

HER Majesty's Commissioner at Loanda has reported to Her Majesty's Government the manner in which twenty emancipated negroes, from the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna*," which was condemned by the Mixed Commission on the 27th of March last, had been provisionally disposed of by the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Africans.

Your Excellency will not fail to perceive that it was found impracticable in this case strictly to fulfil the stipulations of Annex C to the Treaty of July 3, 1842. The XIIth Article of that Annex requires that the persons taking charge of emancipated negroes should pay a stipulated sum to the Board of Superintendence; but no persons having been found willing to take charge of the negroes of the "*Fortuna*" on that condition, they were provisionally apprenticed, subject to the approbation of the Portuguese and British Governments, without any sum of money having been actually paid or promised to be paid to that Board.

Her Majesty's Government, under the circumstances of this case, have approved of the conduct of Her Majesty's Commissioner in his capacity of British Member of the Board of Superintendence, in entering into the provisional arrangement on behalf of these negroes which is above referred to; although, strictly speaking, the Board of Superintendence had no power to dispense with any of the stipulations in favour of apprenticed negroes, laid down in Annex C. It is unnecessary for me to point out to your Excellency that by acceding to that provisional arrangement, Her Majesty's Commissioner has relieved the Government of Angola from the obligation which would have attached to it under Article XXI of Annex C, of providing for the negroes in question, if they were not apprenticed or enlisted according to the terms of that Annex.

Having thus called your Excellency's attention to the provisional arrangement which has been entered upon by Her Majesty's Commissioner at Loanda, with respect to these twenty emancipated negroes, I have now, in pursuance of orders, to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of measures being immediately adopted by the British and Portuguese Governments, by which the negroes of the "*Fortuna*," and any others who may in future be emancipated by the Mixed Commission or by the Portuguese Prize Court, may be removed to a British colony. In conformity with the instructions which I have received from Viscount Palmerston, I beg to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government will be willing to take charge of, and to send to a British colony, the negroes of the "*Fortuna*" as well as any others who may be carried into Loanda in slave-vessels captured by Portuguese cruizers, whether condemned by the Mixed Commission or by the Portuguese municipal tribunals; long experience having taught Her Majesty's Government that the freedom of emancipated slaves can nowhere be effectually secured except in countries or colonies where the condition of Slavery does not exist.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 181.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 17, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy and translation of a form of certificate of emancipation of negroes declared free by the Mixed Commission at Loanda, which has been drawn up by the British and Portuguese Commissioners at that place, and has been given to each of the negroes of the launch "*Fortuna*," which was captured with 20 slaves on board by the Portuguese schooner of war "*Nimfa*," and was condemned by the Mixed Commission on the 27th of March last.

I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Commissioners have stated that if the form in question should receive the approval of the British and of the Portuguese Governments, it is the intention of the Mixed Commission that it shall be adopted in any future basis which may occur.

I have accordingly to instruct you to communicate the form in question to Senhor Gomes de Castro, to state to him that it appears to Her Majesty's Government to be drawn up with great care and to be very well adapted for its purpose, and you will request him, if he sees no objection thereto, to signify the acquiescence of his Government in its adoption.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 181.

Form of Certificate.

[See Class A, Inclosure 4 in No. 94, p. 111.]

No. 182.

Sir Hamilton Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 26, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th instant.

A copy of the inclosure to your Lordship's despatch has, in compliance with your orders, been communicated to M. Gomes de Castro, to whom at the same time I addressed the note of which I beg to inclose a copy, suggesting that the prisoners from Portuguese slavers condemned by the Mixed Commission at the Cape of Good Hope should be sent for trial to Mozambique.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 182.

Sir Hamilton Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, October 25, 1848.

YOUR Excellency will find, by reference to a note addressed by Don Manuel de Portugal to Mr. Southern on the 11th February, 1847, that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty have expressed a wish

that prisoners from Portuguese slave-vessels condemned by the Mixed Commission at the Cape of Good Hope should be sent for trial to Loanda.

That note after communication with the Cape of Good Hope having been again under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, I am instructed to communicate to your Excellency the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape, representing the difficulty which would exist in sending such prisoners to Loanda and suggesting that their trial should take place at Mozambique.

I am at the same time directed to express to your Excellency the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will not hesitate to accede to a proposal which will facilitate the execution of so important a stipulation of the Treaty of 1842 as that contained in the XIIth Article of that compact, and that they will in consequence cause the requisite order to be dispatched to their Commissioner at the Cape of Good Hope.

Your Excellency will perceive from the inclosed despatch that the suggestion respecting the conveyance of prisoners to Mozambique, although adopted by the English Commissioners and by Her Majesty's Government, was made by the Portuguese Commissioner, and that it was founded upon considerations of the difficulty and expense attendant upon the conveyance of prisoners to Angola.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 183.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 8, 1848.

IN obedience to the orders contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo, and which reached me on the 3rd instant, I have in a note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, communicated to Senhor Gomes de Castro the form of certificate of the emancipation of negroes drawn up by the Commissioners at Loanda, intimating to his Excellency at the same time the approbation by Her Majesty's Government of the form in question, and requesting to be informed whether it meets with that of the Portuguese Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 183.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, November 4, 1848.

IN obedience to orders which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour of communicating to you a copy and translation of a form of certificate of the emancipation of negroes declared free by the Mixed Commission at Loanda, which has been drawn up by the British and Portuguese Commissioners at that place, and has been given to each of the negroes of the launch "*Fortuna*," captured by the Portuguese schooner of war "*Nimfa*," and condemned by the Mixed Commission on the 27th of March last.

It is my further duty to state to your Excellency that as this form appears to Her Majesty's Government to be drawn up with great care and to be very well adapted to its purpose, Her Majesty's Government on their part approve of the intention of the Mixed Commission, that it

shall be adopted in any future cases which may occur, should the proposal be equally sanctioned by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

Should this acquiescence be obtained, I will request that it may be signified to me.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 184.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1848.

I HAVE to refer you to the Decree issued by Her Most Faithful Majesty on the 14th of April, 1848, a copy and translation of which were inclosed in your despatch of the 28th of that month, appointing a Commission to inquire into and report upon the most efficacious and proper practical means of emancipating the slaves in the Portuguese colonies, and to prepare the necessary projects of law and regulations for carrying out that object; and I have now to instruct you to ask M. Gomez de Castro what progress the Portuguese Government are making in regard to the proposed law, and to say that Her Majesty's Government anxiously hope that this humane and benevolent law may soon be passed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 185.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 16, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a letter which was addressed on the 20th of July last, by the Commodore of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa, to Senhor da Cunha, late Governor of Angola, on the occasion of his relinquishing the command of that province. You will perceive that Commodore Hotham expresses to Senhor da Cunha his thanks for the cordial co-operation which he had received from him in all matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade, and for the assistance which he had invariably afforded to Her Majesty's cruisers.

I have to instruct you to communicate this paper to the Portuguese Government, and to state that Her Majesty's Government highly appreciate the energy and good faith which have distinguished the administration of that high-minded and meritorious officer.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 185.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Governor of Angola.

Sir,

"Penelope," St. Paul de Loanda, July 20, 1848.

UNDERSTANDING that your Excellency will shortly relinquish the government of this colony, I do myself the honour to request your Excellency to accept my thanks for the cordial co-operation which you have been pleased to render in all matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The assistance which your Excellency has invariably afforded to the cruizers of Her Britannic Majesty calls for my sincere acknowledgments. The resources of the port have been placed entirely at their disposal, and their wants supplied as far as circumstances permitted.

It will be my duty to make Her Majesty's Government acquainted with these services; and I am satisfied that they will be highly gratified with the loyalty and sincerity which the Representative of Her Most Faithful Majesty has carried out the desire of the two Governments, and thankful for the ready aid granted to their ships.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

No. 186.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 29.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, December 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy and translation of a note which I have received from Senhor Gomes de Castro.

His Excellency has the kindness to inform me of two very flagrant cases of slaving, which, according to accounts lately received, have taken place at Ambriz.

In the one instance a Brazilian steamer succeeded in embarking and carrying off 1010 slaves; in the other an American barque carried away 1100 of these unfortunate men.

In reply to Senhor Gomes de Castro, as I have done in the note of which I have likewise the honour of subjoining a copy, I have thanked his Excellency for his obliging communication, and have remarked that Her Majesty's Government will be well able to appreciate the circumstances which may occasionally prevent the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty from giving full effect to their good intentions with respect to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 186.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, December 12, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 1st instant I received a communication from the Ministry of Marine, to the effect that, according to an official letter from the Governor-General of Angola, 1010 slaves had, on the 31st day of August last, been embarked at the mouth of the Ambriz on board the Brazilian steam-ship "*Providencia*," and that they continued their voyage in spite of the vigilance of all the cruizers and the utmost diligence of Sir Charles Hotham, the Commodore of the British naval forces stationed there; it is also stated, in another letter of the same Governor-General, dated the 24th day of September, that an American vessel on the 18th also got clear off from the Ambriz, having on board 1100 slaves for Brazil.

In bringing all these circumstances to the knowledge of your Excellency, I take this opportunity of impressing on you the injury done to the cause of emancipation by the want of support to the Government of Her Majesty in its endeavours to strengthen itself in that port belonging to its territories; the interests of trade, which might be reasonably secured in other ways, being preferred to the interests of humanity, for which such great sacrifices of life and property are making.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) JOZE JOAQM. GOMES DE CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 186.

Sir H. Seymour to Senhor Gomes de Castro.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, December 15, 1848.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of the note dated the 12th instant, in which your Excellency has been pleased to inform me of the two very flagrant cases of slaving which according to the late accounts from Angola had occurred under the Brazilian and American flag at Ambriz.

Her Majesty's Government will learn with painful interest the intelligence which your Excellency's obliging communication enables me to lay before them, and will be well able to appreciate the circumstances which preclude the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty from giving full effect in every instance to their laudable desire of putting a stop to an inhuman and detestable traffic.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 187.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 20, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant.

In reply to your Lordship's inquiries, I beg to acquaint you, that the Commission appointed under the Decree of the 14th of April last, has concluded its inquiries into the means the best adapted for the eventual emancipation of slaves in the Portuguese colonies, and is at present engaged in task of preparing their report for the consideration of the Government and the Cortes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 188.

Sir Hamilton Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 6, 1849.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 27, 1848.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have communicated to the Portuguese Government, the letter of Commodore Hotham to Senhor da Cunha, late Governor of Angola, and I have stated to Viscount de Castro, that Her Majesty's Government highly appreciate the energy and good faith which has distinguished the administration of that high-minded and meritorious officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

P.S. *December 29, 1848, 4 P.M.*—Since writing the above I have received from Viscount de Castro the note (of which I have the honour to inclose a copy and translation) in answer to the communication which I addressed to his Excellency in conformity with your Lordship's instructions.
(Signed) G. H. S.

Inclosure in No. 188.

Senhor Gomes de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, December 29, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that I brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 26th instant, as also the copy of the flattering letter inclosed therein, and which the Commodore of the British naval forces on the west coast of Africa addressed to the Counsellor Pedro Alexandrino da Cunha, when he left the government of that province; and in thanking you for that communication, so very flattering to Her Majesty's Government, I have to assure you that Her Majesty, duly appreciating the services rendered by that meritorious officer, his probity, intelligence, and efficacy, had on his arrival conferred on him the decoration of Commander of the Order of the Tower and Sword, of Valour, Loyalty, and Merit, and had bestowed on him the command of the "Vasco da Gama," 80-gun ship, which will shortly sail for Rio de Janeiro, Her Majesty's Government hoping by this means, not only to honour the merit of that distinguished officer, an act of the justice of which they would be, if possible, more assured, from the testimony just received from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, but at the same time to give a stimulus to the fresh authorities, as well in the good government of those provinces, as more especially in the active and vigilant persecution of the abominable Traffic of Slaves, which last object they are anxious to promote.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE CASTRO.

No. 189.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1849.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government to that of Portugal about the destruction of slave factories at Ambriz and Mayumba, as well as at places within the recognized colonial possessions of Portugal on the west coast of Africa, I herewith transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa, inclosing, 1st, a copy of a letter which he had addressed to Captain Cordeiro, the senior Portuguese naval officer, informing him of the existence of several Slave Trade barracoons at Cape St. Bras and Punto Longo, to the south of Loanda, and at Ambriz and Mazula to the north, and offering the co-operation of the forces under his command in any operation to be undertaken against those or other Slave Trade establishments; 2ndly, a translation of the reply returned to him by Captain Cordeiro, stating that his instructions forbade him to accept the co-operation of Her Majesty's forces in the destruction of Slave Trade establishments within Portuguese territory; but adding, that he had the best founded hopes of being able to destroy the said barracoons by the forces under his own command. And lastly, inclosing a translation of the instructions issued by Captain Cordeiro to Lieutenant Guimaraes of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego," on the occasion of ordering him to seek out and destroy any barracoons which he might discover at Ambriz, Mazula, Mazula Grande, and Mazula Pequeno.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to the Portuguese Government, and to state that nothing can be better than the instructions given to Lieutenant Guimaraes, and that if these instructions are executed with proper activity and zeal, there can be no doubt of a successful result.

You will also state that Her Majesty's Government most earnestly request the Portuguese Government to give, in fulfilment of the Treaty engagements of the Portuguese Crown, similar orders to the Portuguese authorities at other places on the west coast of Africa, and at all the Portuguese stations on the east coast. There seems reason to believe that a great deal of slaving is carried on from the Portuguese possessions on the east coast of Africa, and there can be no reasonable doubt that all Slave Trade from those possessions might be put an end to, if the Portuguese officers on the spot, civil, military, and naval, would heartily and zealously combine to adopt active measures for its suppression.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 189.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "Penelope," St. Helena, November 1, 1848.

WITH reference to your despatch dated 17th July, 1848, covering a letter from Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Minister at Lisbon, suggesting that the British squadron on the coast of Africa would cheerfully co-operate in the destruction of barracoons or slave factories at Ambriz; I have the honour to transmit the copy of a letter which I addressed to the officer commanding the Portuguese squadron on the West Coast, tendering the services of Her Majesty's cruizers for the same object, and his reply.

Their Lordships will observe that M. Cordeiro declines the assistance of our vessels, and informs me that he has made an arrangement for the entire destruction of the barracoons at Ambriz and entertains no doubt of complete success.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 189.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to Captain Cordeiro.

Sir, "Penelope," St. Paul de Loanda, October 9, 1848.

IN the conversation which I had the honour of holding on board the "Oito de Julho" yesterday afternoon, you were pleased to inform me that the instructions you had received from the Minister of Marine at Lisbon directed you to cause to be at once destroyed any barracoons which the British cruizers may officially acquaint you as existing for objects of Slave Trading, whenever the persons charged with this service, and who must always be Portuguese, may find in such barracoons, slaves, or even any goods which may be proved for the purpose of the Traffic; and you were also pleased to intimate your readiness to fulfil the letter of the instructions whenever such a notification should be made.

I have now the honour of acquainting you that several barracoons, employed for the purpose of the Slave Trade, exist to the south of this city. I will particularly mention Cape St. Bras, to the south of Coanza, and Punto Longo. There are also to the north large establishments at Ambriz and Mazula.

It would afford me peculiar satisfaction to have it in my power to acquaint my Government that their destruction had been effected, in

accordance with the wish of the two Governments; and yesterday I received with great pleasure your assurance that such was your intention.

Our respective instructions appear to prohibit the co-operation of the British naval forces; but it is my duty to place them entirely at your disposal, and to express our readiness to act in any way you may desire.

I transmit the copy of my orders relative to this service, and avail myself of this opportunity to assure you that it affords me great satisfaction to co-operate with any officer who appears to have the suppression of the Slave Trade so much at heart.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 189.

Captain Cordeiro to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Loanda, October 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch which your Excellency forwarded to me, under date October 9th, as well as copies of four notes which had been exchanged between the Governments of Her Britannic Majesty and of Her Most Faithful Majesty my august Sovereign, relative to the burning of the barracoons in which the wicked contrabandistas concerned in the infamous Slave Traffic place their unfortunate victims as well as the prohibited articles with which they ruthlessly torture the unhappy human race.

In fulfilment of my duty, I am to signify to your Excellency that I was already acquainted with their contents, and that they are entirely in accordance with the order of the Government of my august Sovereign because it is there explicitly settled by agreement of the Governments of the two nations, of the oldest alliance, in virtue of which I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the destruction of the barracoons on Portuguese territory can only be effected by the subjects of the said august Sovereign. And notwithstanding that I have the best-grounded hopes in the success in the destruction of the barracoons, it would have given me the greatest satisfaction that these my most sanguine designs should have been happily conducted under the auspices of your Excellency, but the positive orders which I have already transmitted, are in this one thing diametrically opposed.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) M. J. DA SILVA CORDEIRO.

Inclosure 4 in No 189.

Instructions for the Commander of the brig "Mondego," Captain-Lieutenant Francisco J. Guimaraes.

(Translation.)

Loanda, corvette "Oito de Julho," October 13, 1848.

Ist. YOU will to-day, the 18th of the present month, profit by the first opportunity and sail from the port of Loanda in the brig under your command, and in your quality as cruizer examine all the most noted places on the coast, included between Ambriz in the Dandy, Mazula and Mazula Grande, and Mazula Pequeno, using the most zeal and diligence in your search, and landing, in the quietest way possible, if you should discover barracoons containing proofs of there being used in the infamous Slave Traffic, conformably with the Decree of December 10, 1836, which I subjoin, and having ascertained that there is proof of their participation, you will proceed as the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty has thought proper to direct in the despatches of May 22 and July 1, 1847, a

copy of which is also transmitted. And as soon as this important service may be concluded, you will return to the port of Loanda and inform me of the manner in which you have executed this important commission, being a superior officer in whom, according to the recommendation of Her Majesty, I deposit my entire confidence.

I enjoin upon you to obtain the most satisfactory results possible in the service you are to execute.

I expect from your intelligence and sailor-like abilities, of which you have given on all occasions the fullest proof, that this important service may be so concluded as to enable me to report it favourably to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

In this commission it is also your duty to observe the faithful execution of the Treaty of July 3, 1842, which expressly determined the abolition of the Slave Trade in the colonies belonging to the Portuguese Crown, with which documents you are furnished, as well as the other resolutions of our Government in that particular; it is also important that you should recollect and fulfil the punctual execution of the despatch dated May 29, 1846, the true copy of which is also attached, remembering that you are responsible for the detention of vessels on this coast, whose nationality is not English, and who may be acting in contravention of the Treaty of July 3, 1842, whenever you may not be able to prove before the competent tribunal of prizes, in the proper and legal manner, that the vessel was detained within the line of boundary, which is a distance of three miles from the shore.

You will begin your operations at Ambriz, landing at night, so that you may be able to prevent retreat into the interior. I equally call your attention to any small boats, such as canoes, launches, &c., who might be able to warn the slave-dealers of Ambriz and the Dandy. I besides remind you that the greater part of these small craft are to be found within the three miles.

(Signed)

M. F. DA SILVA CORDEIRO.

No. 190.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1849.

IN the month of December 1847 I received from Viscount Moncorvo a note, of which I inclose a copy, proposing on the part of the Portuguese Government, on the ground of economy, and for other reasons therein stated, that the Mixed Commissions established in Jamaica and in the Cape Verd Islands under the Treaty of 1842, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, should be abolished, and requesting the assent of Her Majesty's Government to that proposal.

In the answer which I returned to Viscount Moncorvo, and of which also I inclose a copy, I expressed the willingness of Her Majesty's Government to abolish the Mixed Commissions in Jamaica and the Cape Verds, if the Portuguese Government would consent to the establishment of a Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, and with this view I prepared a draft of an Additional Convention which I was prepared to send to you for the approval of the Portuguese Government, but which I first sent to Viscount Moncorvo for any observations which he might be pleased to make to me thereupon.

Having, however, received no further communication upon this subject from Viscount Moncorvo, I have lately reconsidered the question, and supposing it likely that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty may be unwilling to agree to the establishment of a Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone on account of the expense which it would entail, whereby economy to be effected by abolishing the Commissions in Jamaica and the Cape Verds would be somewhat counteracted, Her Majesty's Government have now resolved to agree to the abolition of the above-mentioned Commissions, without insisting upon the establishment of a Commission at

Sierra Leone, on the clear understanding, however, that vessels which would have been tried either in Jamaica or in the Cape Verds shall be sent for adjudication, if seaworthy, to Loanda or to Cape Town, and that any slaves found on board of such vessels shall at once be landed either in one of the British West India Islands, or at Sierra Leone, whichever may be deemed by the captors nearest or most convenient for that purpose.

When Her Majesty's Government suggested that there should be a Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone instead of those in Jamaica and the Cape Verds, it was thought that an Additional Convention to the Treaty of 1842 would be necessary to carry that proposal into effect, because by the VIth Article of that Treaty it is stipulated that of the Commissions which should be established under it, one-half should reside in British possessions and one-half in Portuguese, and the proposal then made would have been at variance with that stipulation. But as by the present proposal that stipulation of the Treaty of 1842 will be in no way interfered with, the form of a protocol will be a sufficient record of such an arrangement.

I accordingly inclose a draft of protocol which you will submit to the Portuguese Government for their approval, and which you are authorized to sign at once if it should be agreed to. The provision with respect to the landing of slaves in the British West India Islands or at Sierra Leone, instead of conveying them to Loanda is in fact nothing more than what is already provided for by the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842, but I have nevertheless thought it right to record it specifically in the present protocol.

You will concert with the Portuguese Government as to the precise period at which it may be convenient that the functions of the Commissioners at Boa Vista and at Kingston should respectively cease, and you will inform me of the result.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures 1 and 2 in No. 190.

Viscount Moncorvo to Viscount Palmerston, December 10, 1847.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Moncorvo, March 20, 1848.

[See Class B, presented 1848, Nos. 142 and 149, pages 123 and 128.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 190.

*Protocol of a conference held at _____ on the _____ 1849,
between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and Portugal.*

WHEREAS by the VIth Article of the Treaty concluded on the 3rd day of July, 1842, between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Her Majesty the Queen of Portugal and the Algarves, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, it was stipulated that in order to bring to adjudication with as little delay and inconvenience as possible, the vessels which might be detained according to the tenor of the IIInd Article of the same Treaty, there should be established as soon as might be practicable, two or more Mixed Commissions, formed of an equal number of individuals of the two nations, named for that purpose by their respective Sovereigns, and that of those Commissions, one half should reside in possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, and the other half within the territories of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and that the two Governments at the period of exchanging the ratifications of the said Treaty should declare, each for its own dominions, in what places the Commissions should respectively reside; and that each of the two High Contracting Parties reserved to itself the right of changing at its pleasure, the place of residence of the Commissions held within its own dominions, provided that two at least of

the said Commissions should always be held either on the coast of Africa or in one of the islands off that coast, and that these Commissions should judge the causes submitted to them, according to the provisions of the aforesaid Treaty, and which are considered as forming an integral part thereof: And whereas in accordance with the above-mentioned stipulations Mixed Commissions were established in Her Britannic Majesty's possessions at Cape Town, at the Cape of Good Hope, and at Kingston in the Island of Jamaica, and in Her Most Faithful Majesty's possessions at St. Paul de Loanda on the west coast of Africa, and at Boa Vista, one of the Cape Verd Islands: and whereas the High Contracting Parties now deem it unnecessary and inexpedient to continue the two Mixed Commissions established at Kingston and at Boa Vista, and have agreed to abolish them accordingly; the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Portugal have met to record this decision in the present Protocol, it being understood that vessels which would have been tried at either of the two above-named places, shall now be sent for adjudication, if seaworthy, to Loanda or to Cape Town, and that any slaves found on board of such vessels shall at once be landed either in one of the British West India possessions, or at Sierra Leone, whichever may be deemed by the captors nearest or most convenient for that purpose.

No. 191.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1849.

BY my despatch of the 12th of July last I informed you that Major Teixeira, late Governor of the Portuguese possession of Quillimane, on the east coast of Africa, had absconded from that place, carrying with him 500 slaves to Rio de Janeiro; and in your despatch of the 25th of July you stated that Major Teixeira had arrived at Lisbon, and that measures were in progress for bringing him to trial.

I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, stating that Major Teixeira did actually land a cargo of slaves on the coast of Brazil; and I have to instruct you to inquire and to report to me what steps have been taken to bring this person to punishment.

Her Majesty's Government sincerely hope that so flagrant a case of slave-trading and so glaring an infraction both of the laws of Portugal and of the treaties with this country, will not be allowed to escape without adequate punishment.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 191.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, November 16, 1848.

[See No. 42.]

No. 192.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Hamilton Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 25, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you copies and translations of two decrees issued by the Portuguese Government on the 29th of February and the 2nd of March, 1848, respectively, the one ordering Portuguese cruisers to abstain from visiting, searching and capturing on

any pretext, in time of peace, beyond the territorial waters of Portugal, that is to say beyond three miles from the coasts of the Portuguese possessions, vessels of foreign nations between which and Portugal there do not exist treaties granting a mutual right of search, even although the chase of such vessels should have commenced within the three miles limit. The other ordering that all such captures shall be declared illegal, and that all vessels which may have been adjudicated or which may be under adjudication in consequence of such captures, shall be forthwith restored; and directing that no vessels, whether Portuguese or foreign, found within the territorial waters of Portugal, shall be seized or condemned merely on account of being found under whatever pretext out of their true course, which rule is also to apply to Portuguese vessels on the high seas.

I have now to state to you that to the first of these decrees Her Majesty's Government see no objection, and more especially as it is not made applicable to cases in which a mutual right of search is stipulated for by existing treaties.

With respect to the second decree Her Majesty's Government think that if taken in its strict and literal meaning, that decree also is not open to objection.

The direction therein contained, that Portuguese vessels on the high seas shall not be seized or condemned merely on account of being found out of their course, affords no just ground of complaint to foreign Governments; but it is to be observed that that direction would have been more strictly in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty of July 3, 1842, if it had been confined to cases in which there is no ground for reasonable suspicion that the vessel so out of her course is engaged in the Slave Trade. The deviation of a vessel from her proper course may sometimes afford very strong corroborative proof that she was actually engaged in the Slave Trade. For instance, the Treaty of 1842 permits Portuguese subjects to be accompanied by their household slaves in voyages from the Portuguese possessions on the coast of Africa to the Islands of Cape Verde, Princes', and St. Thomas'. It is obvious that the circumstance of a vessel with such slaves on board being found steering direct for Cuba or Brazil, or any other place where there is a market for slaves, would furnish a strong presumption that she was engaged in an unlawful transaction and was consequently liable to seizure and condemnation under the provisions of the Treaty.

I have to instruct you to make a communication to the above effect to Viscount de Castro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 192.

Portaria of January 29, 1848.

(Translation.)

Palace of the Necessidades, February 29, 1848.

IT having become a question whether cruizers having commenced a chase, in Portuguese ports or waters, of foreign vessels supposed to be there infringing the laws of the country, can in one continuous pursuit carry on such chase, visit, and capture such vessels, beyond the recognized limits (*liecha de respeito*) of the said ports and waters, in the event of the suspicions which gave rise to that act proving well-founded; and the law officer of the Crown having been consulted on this subject, and having thereon given his opinion of the 9th instant, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as appears from the despatch from that department, dated also the 22nd instant; the Queen orders a communication to be made to the Major-General of the Navy, for his information, as for its due effect, through the Ministry of Marine, that neither by any special law, nor by the principles of maritime international right, can Portuguese men-of-war pursue, visit, and capture, in time of peace, beyond the territorial waters, the ships of any foreign nation which may have infringed the laws of their kingdoms,

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even though the chase should have commenced within those waters and been continuously kept up beyond them, so long as no right of search and capture on the high seas shall exist by express treaty.

(Signed) AGOSTINHO ALBANO DA SILVEIRO PINTO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 192.

Portaria of March 2, 1848.

*Palace of the Necessidades,
March 2, 1848.*

(Translation. Confidential.)

IN addition to the portaria addressed through this department on the 29th of February last to the Major-General of the Navy, informing him that, in the absence of any express treaty, it was not allowed to give chase to, visit, and capture, beyond the recognized limit (*liecha de respeito*), any foreign vessels whose proceedings within the ports and waters of Portugal may have subjected them to strong suspicion of their being engaged in infringing the laws of the country, even though such chase should have commenced within the said ports and waters: the Queen orders that it be intimated to the said Major-General, for his information and for the necessary purposes, that not only are captures made under such circumstances to be discontinued, but that they are to be declared illegal by the Prize Court; and that all vessels which may have been adjudicated, or are now under adjudication, in consequence of such captures, are to be forthwith given up, it being equally understood that no vessels met with in the territorial waters of the Portuguese dominions can in any manner be taken or condemned merely on account of being found, under whatever pretext, out of their true course, whether such vessels be national or foreign, nor can national vessels met with on the high seas, because to justify the capture and condemnation of all such, it is indispensable either that negroes actually destined for the Slave Trade be found on board, or those articles which, according to the list annexed to the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, render such vessels subject to the provisions thereof. And the said Major-General will understand that similar orders are sent by a portaria of this day's date to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola and to the President of the Prize Court of Loanda.

(Signed) AGOSTINHO ALBANO DA SILVEIRO PINTO.

No. 193.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1849.

I HAVE to instruct you to state to Viscount de Castro that Her Majesty's Government have received information that the Portuguese settlement of Bissao, on the west coast of Africa, continues to be a place of resort for slave-vessels in quest of human cargoes; and earnestly to request him to cause a searching investigation to be made into the truth of this statement, and to take effectual measures for preventing the Slave Trade which there appeared at one time good reason to hope had become extinct at Bissao, from again reviving at that place.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 194.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 26, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, the terms of which I have very closely recited in a note which I addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the 25th

instant, and in which, while signifying the willingness of Her Majesty's Government under certain conditions to consent to the abolition of the Mixed Commissions established in Jamaica and in the Cape de Verdes, I have in compliance with your Lordship's orders communicated to him a draft of the protocol by which it is proposed that the arrangement should be recorded.

Viscount de Castro has signified to me verbally his intention of devoting to the consideration of these papers the earliest leisure which shall be left him by his Parliamentary avocation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 195.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 8, 1849.

ON the 31st December last I had the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship the manner in which Her Most Faithful Majesty had recompensed the zeal and services of the late Governor of Angola, Senhor da Cunha.

I have now to add that the Queen of Portugal has been pleased to give another proof of her satisfaction at the testimony borne by Her Majesty's Government and by the officer in command of the British squadron on the west coast of Africa, to the honourable and distinguished conduct of Senhor da Cunha in the Government committed to his charge.

The inclosed copy of the "Diario do Governo," together with the translation of the Portaria issued from the Marine Department, will put your Lordship in possession of the terms in which Her Most Faithful Majesty has caused to be made known to the public her sense of Senhor da Cunha's merits.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 195.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

HER Britannic Majesty's Minister at this Court having, as appears from a despatch received from the Foreign Office on the 27th instant, addressed a note to that department, in which he expresses how highly his Government appreciate the energy and good faith which had distinguished the administration and government of the intelligent and meritorious officer who had just left the government of the Province of Angola, the naval Captain Pedro Alexandrino da Cunha, as witnessed by the Commodore in command of Her Britannic Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa in his letter to the said ex-Governor of Angola, thanking him for the cordial co-operation which he afforded to him in the suppression of the Slave Trade. The Queen commands that, through the Marine Department, it be made known to the Major-General of the naval forces, for his information, and that he may inform the said naval Captain Pedro Alexandrino da Cunha, that Her Majesty received this exposition with especial satisfaction, seeing therein a fresh proof of the loyalty and zeal with which he discharged the duties of Governor-General of Angola, committed to him.

Palace of Necessidades, December 30, 1848.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE CASTRO.

No. 196.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 28, 1849.

WITH reference to the note which in conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th ultimo, I addressed to Viscount de Castro upon the 5th instant, calling his Excellency's attention to two decrees issued by the Portuguese Government on the 29th of February and the 2nd of March, 1848, respecting the right of search, I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of Viscount de Castro's answer to that communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

 Inclosure in No. 196.
Viscount de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, February 26, 1849.

HAVING as I informed you on the 9th instant, brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department your note of the 5th of said month, respecting the orders issued by Her Majesty's Government to the Portuguese cruisers to abstain from visiting, searching, and capturing any foreign vessel when once they are out of the waters of the Portuguese territory belonging to a nation with whom a treaty of reciprocal right of search does not exist; I have the honour to inform you that the same department has communicated to me on the 15th instant, that those orders were issued in conformity with the opinion given by the Counsellor Attorney-General, that Portuguese vessels of war are not authorized to chase, visit, and capture, in time of peace, out of the territorial waters, any foreign vessels that may have infringed the laws of these kingdoms, even if the chase began in the said waters and should be continued without intermission beyond them, except an express treaty exists authorizing the right of visiting and capturing on the high seas.

With regard, however, to the cessation of the capture of foreign or native vessels on no other grounds than those of being found out of their true course, orders were also issued, not only in harmony with the opinions of the Attorney-General, but because that measure contributed powerfully to the avoidance of just claims for the capture of vessels made on the grounds of being suspected of carrying on the Traffic of Slaves, when in reality no other reason existed for these suspicions but that of having met said vessels out of their true course, which alone could not justify its capture, neither from the Decree of December 10, 1836, or from the Treaty of 1842.

Having thus answered your said note, allow me to avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT DE CASTRO.

 o. 197.
Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 8, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you an extract from a report dated Simon's Bay, December 1, 1848, from Vice-Admiral Dacres, late Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the Cape of Good Hope station, to the Secretary to the Admiralty, upon the state of the African Slave Trade within the limits of his command.

You will communicate this paper to the Portuguese Government, and you will express the great pleasure which Her Majesty's Government feel

in being thus able to convey to the knowledge of the Portuguese Government the strong testimony which has been borne by a distinguished officer in Her Majesty's naval service to the honourable and disinterested conduct of the Governor of Mozambique and of the Governor of Quillimane, in the performance of their official duties in execution of the engagements into which their Government has entered with the Government of this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and you will remark that the testimony thus borne by Admiral Dacres is the more honourable to the Portuguese officers concerned, because his report was written solely for the information of his own Government, and without any notion that his statement would be communicated to the Government of Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 197.

Vice-Admiral Dacres to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

“President,” *Simon's Bay*, December 1, 1848.

THE causes which may be believed to have led to the decline of Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa are as follows:—

First, the integrity of the high Portuguese authorities lately employed at the principal Governments on the Coast. I have on more than one occasion brought to their Lordships' notice the very laudable example which appears to be set to the different Portuguese functionaries on the coast of Africa by Governor-General do Valle of Mozambique and Governor Campos of Quillimane, both of whom appear to be moved by the most sincere desire to discountenance Slave Trade from the Portuguese territories in every possible manner, and who really deserve the thanks and best wishes of every well-wisher to the cause.

The praise which is justly due to Captain Do Valle and Major Campos is great, and it is to be hoped that they will persevere in their present upright course, which cannot fail to be the main instrument in suppressing Slave Trade from this quarter.

In my letter to their Lordships of the 6th July, 1846, I reported that the Governor-General of Mozambique had by directions from his Government, withdrawn a permission which he had issued to Her Majesty's cruizers to enter such ports, &c., in the territories of Her Most Faithful Majesty where there were not any competent authorities (Portuguese), and to seize vessels found therein engaged in Slave Trade. And in my letters of the 28th December, 1846, and 11th June, 1847, I earnestly represented to their Lordships the evils of such a measure, and the probability of its adding fresh stimulus to the Slave Trade. It has been therefore with the greatest pleasure that I have been furnished by Rear-Admiral Reynolds with a copy of the protocol of conference held on the 12th August, 1847, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and Portugal, by which the prohibition to our cruizers to enter the ports, &c., in question, has been removed, and I am convinced that such will be of the greatest benefit in suppressing the Slave Trade from the east coast of Africa.

No. 198.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 8, 1849.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th January, I addressed a note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, inquiring what steps had been taken to bring Major Teixeira to justice, for the flagrant act of slave-trading, of which he had been guilty.

The note of Viscount de Castro, of which I beg to inclose a copy and translation, will acquaint your Lordship with the endeavours made to bring

this officer to trial. They have hitherto been ineffectual, as he has succeeded in escaping by concealment the execution of the warrant issued for his appearance.

I beg also to transmit a copy of my acknowledgment of Viscount de Castro's note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 198.

Viscount de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

March 7, 1849.

THE inquiry which you made of me in the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 24th January last, with respect to the steps taken by Her Majesty's Government against Major Custodio José Antonio Teixeira, late Governor of Quillimane, was very satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, since it gave them an opportunity of showing the notice they had taken of the culpable behaviour of the Major.

I have then the honour to acquaint you that as soon as Her Majesty's Government were made aware that that officer was conducting himself improperly in the duties of the office which had been entrusted to him by Her Majesty, they determined that he should be dismissed from it, which in fact was carried into execution by the Decree of the 8th March, 1848.

Soon after, when it was known that he was in this capital, the requisite orders were, on the 29th July of the same year, issued to the Major-General of the fleet, in order that he might be at once detained in custody; but this could not be done, because he had concealed himself.

A requisition was sent from the Marine Department to the War Department, to institute the proper correctional proceedings against Major Teixeira, and on the 12th December last he was pronounced a deserter, and is at this moment classified as such.

According to advices from the Governor-General of Mozambique, I am informed that by one of the first ships which may arrive in this port from that colony, Her Majesty's Government should receive the record of the proceedings instituted against Major Teixeira for the crime of deserting the post entrusted to him, and for the abuse of the authority conferred on him by that post.

This is the present state of the affair in question, the warrant against him being still in full force, in order to be executed as soon as the place of his concealment is discovered.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT DE CASTRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 198.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte,

Lisbon, March 8, 1849.

I SHALL have much satisfaction in communicating to Viscount Palmerston your Excellency's note of yesterday's date, informing me of the endeavours made to bring to justice Major Teixeira, for a flagrant breach of the laws of Portugal against slave-trading.

It will be gratifying to Her Majesty's Government to learn that such a delinquent is not likely to be permitted to escape the consequences of his crime.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 199.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 12, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy and translation of the answer returned by Viscount de Castro to the note which I addressed to him on the 25th January, with a copy of the protocol prepared to be signed for the reduction of the Mixed Commissions of Jamaica and Boa Vista.

The object of M. de Castro's reply, which was made clearer to me in consultation than it is in the inclosed note, is to state that the Portuguese Government are not disposed to become parties to the protocol in its present shape, and would only accept it if provision be made for that entire reciprocity respecting the disposal of captured slaves, which he assumes to be the characteristic of all stipulations relating to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

As it appears to me that the character ascribed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Slave Trade stipulation is not entirely supported in the protocol as communicated to him; and as on the other hand I cannot but feel that Her Majesty's Government are at liberty to fix the conditions upon which alone they are prepared to consent to the suppression of the two Mixed Commissions, desired by the Portuguese Government, I do not propose returning any answer beyond that of a simple acknowledgment to the inclosed note until I have been honoured by your Lordship's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

 Inclosure in No. 199.
Viscount de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, March 9, 1849.

I SAW with satisfaction that in the project of protocol proposed by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which I had the honour to receive together with your note of the 25th January last, the desires of Her Majesty's Government are complied with, that there may be the two Mixed Commissions, one in Loanda, the other at the Cape of Good Hope, for vessels detained as suspected of, or as charged with, the crime of slave-trading, to be sentenced there.

It is declared in the said protocol, that when such vessels are sent to those places for that object, "the slaves found on board shall be landed at once either in one of the British West India colonies or at Sierra Leone, whichever the captor may deem nearest or most convenient for that purpose."

You say in your note, that "this provision of sending those slaves to the said British colonies instead of to Loanda is in fact nothing more than what was provided for in the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842." Allow me to observe to you, that neither in the said Treaty nor in the instructions and regulations annexed, do I meet with any such disposition. On the contrary, in Article IV of the instructions to the cruisers, it is very expressly forbidden to remove from the vessel seized, any part of the crew, of the passengers, of the cargo, or of the slaves, till the vessel be delivered up to one of the Mixed Commissions. An exception is only made in cases where this would become necessary for saving their lives, or for any other humane consideration, or for the safety of the persons charged with the conduct of the vessel after its seizure. This exception then authorizes in the above-mentioned cases only, the transfer of slaves from one vessel to another, but in no wise under any other circumstances, and makes no mention of landing them in the British colonies before the adjudication of the prizes. On the contrary, according to Article VI.

section 2, of the Annex B, and Article II of Annex C, it is only after the prizes are condemned, that the slaves should be given up to the Government of the captor.

The Protocol therefore deviates in this point from the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government in the meanwhile have no objection to agree to this new measure of disposing of the slaves before the adjudication; the reciprocity, however, established in the Treaty of 1842, to which this Protocol tends to give a greater development, requires that this disposition may be common to both Governments, by stipulating that Portuguese cruizers, when they send their prizes for adjudication by the Mixed Commissions, may also at the same time land the slaves taken by them in some part of our transmarine provinces, if they consider them to be nearer, or more convenient for that purpose.

This declaration becomes the more necessary, as from the wording of the last part of the Protocol, if it were signed in that form, it might be understood that not only the British cruizers would be obliged to land the slaves in the said British colonies, but that this duty would also fall on the Portuguese cruizers who would be bound to land the slaves taken by them in those colonies, which would not only be against the dispositions of the Treaty, but against the decorous reciprocity which should exist in such stipulations:

For this object then, if agreeable to you, the last paragraph of the protocol might be drawn up in this manner, preserving in the original duplicates the usual alternative.

“And that any slaves found on board of such vessels by the commanders of Her Britannic Majesty's cruizers, shall at once be landed, either in one of the British West India possessions or at Sierra Leone; and that any slaves found on board of such vessels by the commanders of Her Most Faithful Majesty's cruizers, shall at once be landed either in one of the Islands of St. Thomé and Principe, or of Cape Verds, whichever may be deemed by each of the said English or Portuguese commanders nearest or most convenient for landing the slaves he may have found.”

It must be observed that at the end of the 4th page of the project of Protocol, it is said, “And that these Commissions should judge the causes submitted to them according to the provisions of the aforesaid Treaty, and which are considered as forming an integral part thereof.”

It appears plain that there are here some words left out, as the provisions of the Treaty do not form a part, but the whole of it, and it is the annexes which form part of the Treaty, inasmuch as they are separated from it. It appears then that the sense would be complete, by adding after the words “Treaty and,” these words “of its annexes,” making this period as follows, “and that these Commissions should judge the causes submitted to them according to the provisions of the aforesaid Treaty and of its annexes, which are considered as forming an integral part thereof.”

The Protocol might end in the following manner, with the above mentioned alternative in the original duplicates:—

“Done at Lisbon in duplicate original, English and Portuguese, the — of —, 1849.”

If these alterations meet your approbation, as I flatter myself they will, I will have no difficulty in coming to an understanding with you on the time it may be convenient that the functions of the Commissioners at the Island of Boa Vista and in Kingston, should cease, the abolition of which is the more reasonable, as it is a fact that during a period of six years since the Treaty, they have been completely inactive, not having had a single case to judge.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT DE CASTRO.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 200.

Consul Rendall to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

St. Antonio, Cape Verds, February 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 18th of September, 1847, referring to suggestions which I had the honour to make to your Lordship, respecting emigration from Africa to the West Indies, and inclosing certain printed papers upon the same subject that had been presented to the House of Commons, and to which my attention is directed, they showing that the objects I had contemplated were already effectually provided for by Her Majesty's Government.

I beg to state to your Lordship that I have, with much attention, read the papers in question, and I therefore solicit your Lordship's permission to my making the two following remarks in reference to the subject in question :

1st. No part of the western coast of Africa is free from Slave Trade, excepting within the limits of the possessions belonging to Great Britain.

2nd. To secure a constant and an extensive emigration from Africa to the West Indies, it will be necessary that the whole line of coast be visited at regular times during the year by a steamer, and every means adopted to inform the natives that such packets will continue to run, to meet others at Sierra Leone, that run from thence to the West Indies, thereby making such arrangements to enable the emigrant to leave and to return to his home with facility.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

SARDINIA.

No. 201.

The Hon. R. Abercromby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Turin, July 22, 1848.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I addressed a note to the Marquis Pareto copy of which I have the honour herewith to forward to your Lordship, urging the Government of His Sardinian Majesty to declare persons convicted of carrying on a Trade in Slaves, to be guilty of piracy.

I have now the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of the reply which I have received from the Marquis Pareto upon this subject, by which you will see that the Sardinian Government decline to accede to the proposal which I had been instructed to make them on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RA. ABERCROMBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 201.

The Hon. R. Abercromby to the Marquis Pareto.

Turin, May 19, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to communicate herewith to his Excellency the Marquis Pareto, &c., copy of a letter and of its inclosure addressed by Mr Ward, Secretary to the Board of Admiralty, to the Right Hon. E. J. Stanley, one of Her Britannic Majesty's Under-Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs, relative to the increased number of vessels sailing under the protection of the Sardinian flag and engaged in the Slave Trade on the west coast of Africa.

In calling the attention of the Marquis Pareto and of the Government of His Sardinian Majesty to this fact, the Undersigned has been directed by Viscount Palmerston, &c., to observe that in England Slave Trade is treated as piracy, and that the punishment inflicted upon British subjects found to be engaged in that Trade is transportation to a penal settlement for life; and the Undersigned has likewise been instructed to represent to the Sardinian Government that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty are doubtful if the punishment of the galleys imposed upon Sardinian subjects convicted of violating the 14th Article of the Penal Law of January 18, 1827, is sufficiently severe, unless that punishment be inflicted for life.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty are convinced that the Cabinet of Turin is conscientiously desirous not only to act in the true spirit of the Treaty of August 8, 1834, but to contribute zealously towards the suppression of a traffic declared by the laws of Sardinia to be illegal, and which is at the same time so revolting to the feelings of humanity. It is therefore in furtherance of the objects of that Treaty, and in support of those principles of humanity which the Sardinian Government have always advocated, that the Undersigned, in compliance with the instructions he has received from Viscount Palmerston, has now the honour to suggest, for the consideration of the Government of His Sardinian Majesty, the propriety of making the law of Sardinia in respect to the

Traffic in Slaves equally stringent with the law of England, and of declaring Slave Trade to be piracy.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government have evinced their horror for this Trade and their sincere desire to contribute towards its effectual suppression, by declaring it to be an act of piracy and applying to its commission the penalty which the law of England awards to such a crime; and the Undersigned cannot doubt that the Government of His Sardinian Majesty will show a similar abhorrence of this revolting traffic, by declaring Slave Trade to be piracy in Sardinia, and by subjecting the perpetrators of such an offence to the punishment which they will so justly deserve and to which the Sardinian Government will condemn them for such a crime.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RA. ABERCROMBY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 201.

The Marquis Pareto to the Hon. R. Abercromby.

Turin, le 16 Juillet, 1848.

A LA réception de la note que Mr. Abercromby, &c., lui a fait l'honneur de lui adresser sous la date du 19 Mai dernier, pour lui exposer l'opportunité d'augmenter les peines portées par le Code Pénal Maritime des Etats du Roi contre la Traite des Noirs, eu égard au nombre toujours croissant des bâtimens naviguant sous pavillon Sarde qui se livreraient à cet odieux trafic sur les côtes occidentales d'Afrique, le Soussigné, &c., a sans perte de temps porté cette communication à la connaissance du Ministre de la Guerre et de la Marine.

Ce n'est qu'aujourd'hui seulement que le Soussigné reçoit la réponse qu'il attendait à cet égard et dans laquelle il voit avec plaisir que le Commandant Général intérimaire de la Marine, ainsi que l'Avocat-Général Fiscal, après s'être procuré tous les renseignemens nécessaires et avoir mûrement examiné la chose, ont dû reconnaître que non seulement rien ne pouvait faire supposer un accroissement d'activité dans la Traite des Noirs par les bâtimens de commerce Sardes, mais que tout au contraire portait à croire que, depuis la promulgation des lettres patentes du 13 Janvier, 1827, sur cette matière, qui infligent aux coupables la peine de cinq ans de galère, extensible à quinze ans, et une amende de 1000 francs jusqu'à 24,000, un trafic aussi inhumain avait pour ainsi dire entièrement cessé d'être exercé sous le pavillon Sarde. A l'appui de cette assertion, les deux autorités précitées font remarquer que quatre cas seulement de mise en accusation se sont présentés depuis 1827, pour des délits de cette nature, et que chaque fois on a reconnu que les soupçons n'étaient pas fondés, savoir : le "*Sansone*" et la "*Sommariva*," capturés par des croiseurs Anglais, et la "*Marie Anne*" et "*Notre Dame des Grâces*," par des croiseurs Français.

Quant au fait du brick la "*Polacca*," cité dans le rapport du Commodore commandant la "*Penelope*," ce ne serait tout au plus qu'un fait isolé et insuffisant à prouver le développement que la marine marchande des Etats du Roi est accusée d'avoir donné depuis quelque temps au Commerce des Esclaves ; car, comment supposer en effet que si un aussi grand nombre de navires Sardes se livraient, comme on le dit, à ce commerce sur les côtes d'Afrique, tous eussent constamment échappé à la vigilance des croiseurs destinés à surveiller ces parages.

L'empressement que le Gouvernement du Roi a mis à adhérer en 1834 à la convention stipulée avec l'Angleterre et la France pour réprimer la Traite des Noirs, ne peut laisser aucune espèce de doute sur son intention bien positive de ne rien négliger de ce qui dépend de lui pour empêcher et faire disparaître complètement un trafic aussi odieux et si peu en rapport avec les progrès de la civilisation actuelle et les lois de l'humanité ; aussi le Soussigné a-t-il l'entière confiance que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique se plaira à le reconnaître. Mais, quel que soit le désir du Gouvernement Sarde d'arriver à un pareil résultat, il ne saurait cependant, ainsi que le fait observer M. l'Avocat Général de la Marine, adopter dans ce but les mesures proposées dans la note de Mr. Abercromby, c'est-à-dire, d'assimiler la Traite des Noirs à la piraterie, en

appliquant à ce délit les peines portées contre ce dernier crime, qui dans les Etats du Roi est puni de mort. D'abord les faits très rares et même douteux qui se sont présentés du Trafic des Esclaves depuis 1827, par la marine Sarde prouvent que les peines établies à cette époque contre un semblable commerce sont suffisantes ; il serait par conséquent inutile de les rendre plus sévères. Ensuite l'application des peines exagérées à un délit, déclaré tel par une loi positive et non par la loi naturelle, et qui, il n'y a pas longtemps encore, était non seulement toléré mais favorisé par les Gouvernemens, serait repoussée par la conscience publique en Italie, comme en France, où les peines sont moins rigoureuses que dans les pays du Nord. En effet on voit que les lois en France, rendues à diverses époques, toujours plus sévères au sujet de la Traite, n'excèdent cependant pas vingt ans de galères, et se rapprochent ainsi beaucoup de celles adoptées en Piémont.

En faisant cette réponse à la note précitée de Mr. Abercromby, le Soussigné espère qu'elle satisfera pleinement le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique sur les raisons qui ne permettent pas à celui de Sa Majesté de changer sa législation sur le point en question. Dans cette confiance, le Soussigné saisit, &c.

(Signé)

L. N. PARETO.

SPAIN.

No. 202.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Henry Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, containing his observations on the state of Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba during the month of March last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 202.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston,
March 25, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 14, page 10.]

No. 203.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Henry Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch and of its inclosures that I have recently received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice at the Havana, on the subject of a denunciation of vessels fitting for the Slave Trade, which he considered it his duty to make through Her Majesty's Consul-General, to General Roncali, the newly-appointed Captain-General of Cuba.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 203.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston,
March 27, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 15, page 10.]

No. 204.

Sir Henry Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 20.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 9, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 31st March last, I have the honour to transmit a copy and translation of a note which I have received from the Duke of Sotomayor, informing me, in answer to my representation to his Excellency, relative to the expected arrival in Porto Rico and Cuba, of vessels with cargoes of slaves, that the proper instructions have been sent to the Captains-General of those islands to carry into full and faithful execution the treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. L. BULWER.

Inclosure in No. 204.

The Duke of Sotomayor to Sir Henry Bulwer.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, April 30, 1848.

I HAVE received your note of the 23rd instant, in which you are pleased to inclose an extract from a despatch addressed to Viscount Palmerston by the British Consul at Porto Rico, relative to the cargoes of slaves which he supposes were expected to arrive in that island and in the Island of Cuba, stating, at the same time, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government trusted that the proper order would be given to the Captain-General of those islands for the faithful execution of the treaties prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves.

I have a satisfaction in giving you the assurance that Her Majesty's Government has resolved that the Count of Alcoy and the Count of Reus be immediately made acquainted with the information communicated by the British Consul at Porto Rico, in order that it may serve as a guide for their watching over the fulfilment of the said treaties with the same zeal as their predecessors. Thus I especially have recommended, and thus doubtless they will obey, although, in the present instance, the vagueness of the denunciation leads me to suspect it may proceed from incorrect information, like others which have been made on different occasions.

As for the rest, you are aware that Her Majesty's Government has motives for entrusting the fulfilment of its engagements to its colonial authorities, since you know that, without there being any necessity for saying anything, they knew how to capture the negroes who had clandestinely landed.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) THE DUKE OF SOTOMAYOR.

No. 205.

Sir Henry Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 20.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 11, 1848.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch, I have the honour to transmit copies and translations of a further note and its inclosure which I have received from the Duke of Sotomayor, forwarding me a copy of the answer returned by the Tribunal of the Captain-General of Cuba to a communication of Her Majesty's Consul, denouncing certain preparations for carrying on the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. L. BULWER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 205.

The Duke of Sotomayor to Sir Henry Bulwer.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, May 5, 1848.

REFERRING to my note of the 30th of April last, in which I had the honour to acquaint you that I should recommend to the Captains-General of Cuba and Porto Rico the strict observance of treaties prohibiting the Slave Trade, I inclose you herewith a copy of the answer given by the Tribunal of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba to a communication in which the British Consul denounced certain preparations for carrying on that trade. I flatter myself that the inquiries which, notwithstanding the vagueness of the denunciation, the Count de Alcoy directed to be made, will convince you of the reason which Her Majesty's Government has to be confident that its colonial authorities will fulfil and cause to be faithfully fulfilled the stipulations of treaties.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) THE DUKE OF SOTOMAYOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 205.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 24, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your communication, forwarding that which the British Commissioner had addressed to you relative to the fitting out of three vessels in this port, and one in Trinidad, with the object of proceeding to the coast of Africa to be employed in the Slave Trade, as also the departure of various individuals for the United States, with the object of preparing other embarkations; and although the vague manner in which such information appears to have been explained, inclines his Excellency to look upon it as improbable, he has, nevertheless, adopted the necessary measures to become acquainted with it, and to act accordingly, in conformity to the laws and instructions of Her Majesty's Government; desiring me at the same time to communicate this to you as I now do, in order that you may report the details which you may subsequently obtain, and in answer to your polite communication.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana.*

No. 206.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 25, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship copies of a correspondence with Her Majesty's Judge, Mr. Kennedy, and his Excellency the Captain-General, relative to preparations which are reported to be making at this port and elsewhere in this island for carrying on the Slave Trade, and especially as to three vessels alluded to by Mr. Kennedy as fitting out in this harbour.

His Excellency the Captain-General has given an assurance that the laws and his instructions shall be acted upon, should it turn out that the denunciation is well founded, and he asks for details, having in the meantime taken the convenient measures to come at the truth.

Mr. Kennedy considered that although I might state that we had no farther accounts, those given were sufficiently explicit, and I again wrote to the Captain-General, the result of my inquiries warranting me in asserting that extensive preparations had been and still were going on here and elsewhere in the island, for carrying on that detestable Traffic.

To this last communication I have not been favoured with any reply.

For some time previous to the date of the Commissioner's letter, I had had the vessels at Padron's wharf under my notice. They were the barque "*Querida*," and the brigs "*Carmen*," and the Correo No. 4. The "*Querida*" is now loaded with a full cargo of sugar, bound to a Spanish-European port. The "*Carmen*" is being rigged, and the Correo nearly ready for sea, and both under the surveillance of the captain of the port; but whatever intention there may have existed of sending the former to the Coast, I have reason to believe has been abandoned, and that she is bound to Santander, engaged in lawful commerce. The Correo's character, however, is very doubtful; but I shall take every precaution to frustrate the intentions of her owners, if she is in reality intended for the Slave Trade.

I have put Mr. Consul Forbes on the alert, because of reports which I had heard of the movements of notorious slavers in that quarter; and in his letter to me of the 12th instant, he assures me that "the vigilance I enjoin will be strictly observed," and he confirms my surmises, stating that within the last few days, two or three old delinquents had appeared, no doubt to obtain adventurers to join them in their nefarious and unhallowed traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 206.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, March 22, 1848.

I REGRET to have to state that I understand the slave-dealers of this place are already making preparations to resume their former Traffic in Slaves. I understand there are three, if not more, vessels fitting out for this purpose in this harbour: one at the wharf known as Padron's, which took in her supply of water more than a week since; another is the old Correo, which has been laid up since the hurricane as unseaworthy, but is repairing for this service; of the third I have no particulars, but I am assured there is a third, and also one fitting out at Trinidad.

I understand also that some parties left this city this morning for New York, to purchase other vessels for the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY:

Inclosure 2 in No. 206.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, March 22, 1848.

UPON the receipt of your letter of this date, communicating the information you had received of three or more outfits of vessels at this port, and one at Trinidad for the Traffic in Slaves, and also that several parties departed this morning for New York to purchase vessels for slaving purposes; I lost no time in addressing his Excellency the Captain-General, embodying the substance of your letter in my official communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 206.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, March 25, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a note from Colonel Sandoval, Secretary of the Government, which by order of his Excellency the Captain-General, that functionary has addressed to me, in answer to my letter of the 22nd instant, in consequence of your communication of that date.

His Excellency the Captain-General seems to conjecture that, from the manner in which the announcement of these outfits of slavers is made, the information has not the semblance of truth; but he has notwithstanding taken the steps necessary to ascertain the fact, and to act thereon according to the laws and instructions of his Queen's Government; and Mr. Secretary Sandoval, under his Excellency's direction, requests to be furnished with the details which may have since been obtained upon this important subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 206.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, March 25, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of this date, inclosing copy of one from the Secretary to the Government respecting the denunciation I made of vessels fitting out for Slave Trade in this harbour.

CLASS B.

I rely fully on the accuracy of the information I had received, however the Secretary may please to characterise it. In reply I think you should state that we have no further accounts at present, and that those given were sufficiently explicit for the Government to act upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 206.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, March 22, 1848.

I HAVE just received a communication from Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice, to the following effect: "I regret to state that I understand the slave-dealers of this place are already making preparations to resume their former Traffic in Slaves.

"I understand there are three, if not more, vessels fitting out for this purpose in this harbour: one at the wharf known as Padron's, which took in her supply of water more than a week since; another is the old Correo, which has been laid up since the hurricane as unseaworthy, but is repairing for this service; of the third I have no particulars, but I am assured there is a third, and also one fitting out at Trinidad.

"I understand also that some parties left this city this morning for New York, to purchase other vessels for the Slave Trade."

In obedience to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, I hasten to lay the above detailed information before your Excellency for the purpose which you may deem necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 6 in No. 206.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 24, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General had received your Honour's communication, transmitting that which the British Commissary addressed to you relative to the fitting of three vessels in this port and one in Trinidad, with intent to go to the coast of Africa to be employed in the Traffic of Slaves, as well as the departure of various individuals to the United States, with the like intention of preparing other vessels. And although the vague way in which said intelligence appears to be given inclines his Excellency to conjecture that it is unlikely, he has, notwithstanding, taken the necessary steps to get at the truth, and to act thereon in such case in obedience to the laws and the instructions of Her Majesty's Government; desiring me at the same time to state to your Honour, as I now do, to the end that you will be pleased to communicate any details which may have since been acquired, and in answer to your attentive note herein referred to.

God preserve, &c.

The Colonel Secretary,
(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 7 in No. 206.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, March 30, 1848.

IN acknowledging to your Excellency the receipt of the Colonel Secretary Don Crispin Ximenes de Sandoval's letter of the 24th instant, in reply to my communication of the 22nd addressed to your Excellency, in consequence of

the denouncement made by Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, of certain vessels fitting out here and at Trinidad for the Slave Trade.

I have not received from Her Majesty's Judge any subsequent details.

Relying, however, upon the assurance given by your Excellency's direction in the Secretary's note, to which I have now the honour of replying, I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity of acquainting Her Majesty's Government of your Excellency's determination to carry out the laws and instructions of Her Catholic Majesty for the suppression of the detestable traffic, and the observance of existing treaties.

That extensive preparations for slave-trading have been, and are still going on here and elsewhere in the island, there is no doubt whatever, and to prevent their being carried into operation will require great vigilance, and the adoption of stringent measures, which your Excellency's known energy will apply when the outfitting of the slavers said to be preparing at Casa Blanca is farther advanced, unless a stop could be put to their progress immediately.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 207.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 27, 1848.

I HAVE very great satisfaction in reporting to your Lordship that in a conversation which I had with his Excellency the Captain-General yesterday, he assured me of his most decided determination to prevent the infringement of the treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade. This assurance was volunteered by his Excellency in the presence of Captain Loch, of Her Majesty's frigate "Alarm;" and as he expressed himself very much in the same way as I had been accustomed to hear the former Captain-General Valdes upon the same subject, I feel the more disposed to believe that his intentions are to oblige the observance of the treaties by every means at his command.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 208.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 12, 1848.

ONE of the vessels* alluded to in my despatch addressed to your Lordship of the 25th ultimo, as fitting out in this harbour, having sailed under suspicious circumstances, I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship herewith copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General upon the subject, and also the Secretary's answer thereto, by his Excellency's commands; by which your Lordship will observe that immediate orders were given to ascertain the truth, and if she should have been found with the evidences of her being intended for the prohibited Traffic, to have her detained, if still at the outports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 208.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, May 3, 1848.

I RESPECTFULLY beg leave to refer your Excellency to my letters of the 22nd and 30th of March last, in which I had the honour of representing to your

* The Correo No. 4; now the "Elvira," is a brigantine with main-topsail and top-gallant sails, about 200 tons, painted black, with a bust figure-head.

Excellency that it was reported and I had reason to believe that extensive outfits for slave-trading were going on here and at other places in this island, which it would require the utmost vigilance of those under your Excellency's orders to put a stop to. And your Excellency was pleased to give me the assurance that the laws and instructions of Her Majesty should be observed and enforced for the suppression of this infamous traffic.

I have now to complain to your Excellency that a brigantine denounced by Her Majesty's Commissioners and by me to your Excellency, as one of those which was laying at Padron's wharf, the old *Correo*, sailed from this port a few days ago intended to be employed in the Slave Trade. Said vessel's clearance has not been published in any of the newspapers, nor have I been able to find it at the custom-house, it having been effected secretly and kept out of the lists and books open to the public; but, notwithstanding, the same brigantine, formerly employed as one of the *Correos*, carrying the mails to and from Spain, was cleared, in ballast, as the Spanish brig "*Elvira*," for La Mulata, where, no doubt, she has already or is now taking in her slaving equipments for the coast of Africa. And it may not yet be too late to catch her with those evidences of illicit trading on board, either at La Mulata or Cabañas, at which latter place most of the slavers have for some time past been in the habit of completing their outfits for the African coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 208.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 3, 1848.

BY superior order of his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, I am to say to your Honour he has received your communication of yesterday's date, relative to the sailing from this port, which has occurred, dispatched in ballast according to your information, of a Spanish brig which belonged to the contract of sea packets, which you believe is now destined to be employed in the Traffic in Negroes. His Excellency has given the proper orders to come at the truth in this matter, and if really the case, to find her with the proofs of her prohibited intention in either of the ports of La Mulata or Cabañas indicated by you.

God preserve, &c.

The Colonel Secretary,
(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

No. 209.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 25, 1848.

I RESPECTFULLY beg leave to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 12th instant and its inclosure, and I have now the honour of transmitting herewith copy and translation of the Captain-General's letter of the 23rd, in answer to mine of the 2nd, relative to the Spanish brig "*Elvira*."

It appears that great energy was practised upon this occasion in following the "*Elvira*," and that the investigation was very complete, both by the local authorities and the officer commanding the "*Churruca*" schooner-of-war.

But it is not stated by the Captain-General, nor reported to his Excellency, what fell under my own observation and came to my knowledge in consequence.

The brig "*Elvira*," upon her return to this port, sailed from Mulata in company with the "*Churruca*," but although the man-of-war came into port, the "*Elvira*" lay-to all of that day off the harbour, until the evening, when she anchored outside, off the Morro; and there must have been suspicious circumstances attached to her, because at midnight afterwards she was towed into the port by a steamer specially ordered for the purpose by Government, and taken to the arsenal, where she underwent another examination.

It is satisfactory that the authorities have come to the conclusion this brig, the "*Elvira*," was not intended for slave-trading.

I however think it exceedingly likely that the parties who were interested, got intelligence in time to make their arrangements at Mulata and prepare the vessel so that there was nothing found on board her to indicate that her ulterior destination was the coast of Africa; and it seems rather extraordinary that she should "make water," as it is stated, since she was but just out of the carpenter's hands before she left Havana, and had been hove down and her bottom and upperworks thoroughly repaired and caulked.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 209.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 23, 1848.

ACCORDING to what the Secretary to this Government and the Captaincy General stated to you by my order on the 30th instant, in consequence of your letter of the previous day, I issued the proper orders with reference to the brig "*Elvira*," which your Honour denounced as having gone to Mulata to equip for engaging in the Slave Trade; and from the strict search which was made in said vessel by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda, the Collector and the Delegate of Marine, it resulted that she had on board only water and provisions for a very few days, coppers for her daily use, calculated for six men who compose her crew, that she was found taking in firewood to carry to this port. Nevertheless, in order to have a circumstantial report from practical men, Her Majesty's schooner the "*Churruca*" went to Mulata simultaneously, and his Excellency the Commandante-General of Marine of this station has transmitted to me for the like purpose, copy of the official letter which the commandante of the said schooner addressed to him upon his return, and it is as follows:—

"Most Excellent Sir,

"The Commander of the pilot-boat '*Churruca*,' upon his entry into this port on the 26th current, says to me, amongst other things, what follows:—

'Most Excellent Sir,—In obedience to the order of your Excellency of the 6th instant, I made sail from this port in the direction of the anchorage of Mulata, where I found the brig "*Elvira*," from the Havana, with a crew of six men, and nearly loaded with firewood, and having put my people on board, proceeded to discharge her. I examined her to her keelson, and not finding in her absolutely any of the articles which indicate her a vessel which is to undertake a voyage to the coast of Africa, and as well for that reason as for the information obtained from the Alcalde de Mar and the captain of the district of that place, I left the captain at liberty to follow out his route, which was for Havana.'

"And the said brig '*Elvira*,' having entered this port yesterday, I transmit this to your Excellency for your information and as the result of your official letter of the 3rd instant, in which you inclosed another from the English Consul, and I ought to add to your Excellency, that because the said brig '*Elvira*' having come into this port making water, as well as the deteriorated state of her rigging, and her having been found with the greater part of her cargo of firewood on board, it is evident that this vessel never thought of navigating to the coast of Africa. And as these advices occasion losses to the vessels denounced, it is to be wished that they were not given without all convenient certainty."

Which I say and transcribe to you in answer to your said denunciation, and with the end that you may keep before you the observations of his Excellency the Commandante-General of Marine at the end of his letter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

THE CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 210.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th of April last, in which you state that the Captain-General of Cuba had expressed a decided determination to prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on.

Her Majesty's Government are very glad to receive these assurances; but their value will be increased when they shall have been confirmed by acts.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 211.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 24.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a correspondence which I have just had with Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Judge, and the Captain-General, relative to a cargo consisting of 700 slaves, said to have been recently brought to this island and denounced to the Commissioner, but respecting which I have not been able to obtain information. My inquiries have been most diligently made, and have been pushed in quarters where, had any such slaver been on the coast, it must have been known; so that I think I can securely assure your Lordship that Mr. Kennedy's information is incorrect.

I have as yet seen no inconsistency in General Roncali. He has upon other occasions adopted instant measures (as in the case of the "*Elvira*") upon my representations. Personally he has given me the fullest assurances that he will not permit Slave Trade, and upon this occasion he has sent the Secretary to my house to repeat those assurances, and to request that if I can obtain certain details of the present case, or of any other, at any time hereafter, I would not lose a moment in communicating with his Excellency, either verbally or in writing, for which purpose I should have access to him at all hours of the day or night.

Moreover, it is in my positive knowledge that, upon the receipt of my note of the 23rd instant, orders were sent out all over the island, inculcating the greatest vigilance upon all officers under his Excellency's command, besides which, Count Villaneuva, the Superintendent of the Royal Revenues, has been requested to order the carbineers, or custom-house officers, to co-operate in the prevention of the Traffic, which orders have accordingly been issued.

There may be points of so extensive a coast left unguarded, and there may be employés who can be corrupted; but with all, under present circumstances, it would be extremely difficult to land negroes anywhere in this island.

I consider that our Captain-General is determined to prevent their introduction by every means in his power, and that the slave-traders' expectations are destroyed whilst the Conde de Alcoy rules in Cuba.

Inclosure 1 in No. 211.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, June 23, 1848.

I HAVE heard from trustworthy authority that a cargo of 700 slaves has been just brought to this island, but to what part, or any other particulars, I have not been able to ascertain.

Inclosure 2 in No. 211.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, June 24, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, stating that you "had heard from trustworthy authority that a cargo of 700 slaves had been just brought to this island; but that the particulars you had not been able to ascertain, further than that the Captain-General has refused to receive the fees offered him to connive at their introduction, and has informed the parties that, if the landing be denounced, he must proceed to seize the negroes."

I lost no time in writing to the Captain-General, and I now inclose you a copy of my letter to his Excellency of yesterday's date.

I have made, and am still making, diligent inquiries if possible to learn further particulars as to the place where this reported landing has been effected, &c., but up to this time I have been unsuccessful.

Should you come at any certain information, you will, I hope, lose no time in communicating with me, and I shall acquaint you, in case I obtain such intelligence as requires me to write again to the Captain-General respecting this alleged violation.

Inclosure 3 in No. 211.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.**Havana, June 23, 1848.*

I HASTEN to acquaint your Excellency that it has been stated to me, upon trustworthy authority, that a cargo of 700 negroes has just been brought to this island.

Such a circumstance cannot have escaped the vigilance of your Excellency's officers, and I trust that these Bozales will be captured, and the parties concerned in the adventure be punished as they deserve.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 211.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 24, 1848.

OF the occurrence your Honour reports to his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, in your communication of this date, no other information has come to his knowledge.

His Excellency would be infinitely glad that the channel your Honour calls trustworthy, and through which you have been made acquainted of this affair, had been more explicit; but according to the vague manner in which the arrival of this cargo is announced, without stating the exact point of the disembarkation on the extensive coasts of the island, anything else is impossible than to wait for the chance of new information more determinate, which his Excellency feels confident your Honour will not delay in sending him.

By the superior order of his Excellency I say this to you in answer to your note referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 5 in No. 211.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, June 25, 1848.

I HAVE now to inclose herewith the Captain-General's answer to my letter of the 23rd, copy of which I transmitted to you yesterday.

All my inquiries have been fruitless as to the cargo of negroes in question. No one, that I can find, has heard of such a landing; so that I must call upon you for the particulars which his Excellency has desired the Island Secretary to request me to furnish with as little delay as possible.

Inclosure 6 in No. 211.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, June 26, 1848.

IN answer to your letter of yesterday's date, I have to inform you that I have no further particulars at present of the cargo of slaves brought to this island.

I am satisfied of the truth of the fact, but think it probable they have not yet been landed, the parties having failed in obtaining the Captain-General's permission for that purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 212.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 7, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th of June last, inclosing a copy of a correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Captain-General of Cuba, and between yourself and the Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, relative to the alleged arrival of 700 slaves in Cuba in the month of June last.

It is true that in the present case, no definite result could be expected from so indefinite a denouncement as that which was made to you by Mr. Kennedy; but still it was useful that the communication should have been made to the Captain-General, as it must have the effect of showing to him that importations of negroes cannot well be kept from the knowledge of the British officers.

No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 21.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 18, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship copies of further correspondence with Her Majesty's Commissary Judge and his Excellency the Captain-General, relative to the supposed arrival of 700 slaves in this island, denounced by Mr. Kennedy, but which, although stated to be from information founded upon trustworthy authority, proved nothing more than the repetition of a vague rumour which had previously reached me, and which I had traced to be wholly devoid of foundation in truth, and therefore took no notice of it.

I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship a correspondence with the same officers, given rise to by the clearance from this port of the American brig "*Lawrence*," for Cabenda on the coast of Africa, in which the Captain-General takes occasion to allude to the denouncements of slavers which have not been substantiated by us.

His Excellency complains that the recent denouncements of slavers, or the landing of slaves, have not been accompanied by the necessary details; and that as they have turned out to be completely unfounded, the time in the public offices and of the subaltern authorities has been uselessly taken up, thereby creating an unfavourable feeling, which would not have been the case had these complaints been true.

These denouncements are stated by Her Majesty's Commissioners to be made upon trustworthy authority; and that being the case, I did not hesitate, but at once sent them forward to the Captain-General.

In the case of the vessel cleared out from hence for the coast of Africa, the authorities here could not interfere; but I have it in my power to state to your Lordship, the "*Lawrence*" was examined and the shipping-master interrogated respecting the crew, with a view, as far as possible, to conjecture what was to be her ulterior employment, but that nothing was elicited in any way to warrant the Captain-General's interference with the American flag.

Unless we should have undoubted information that vessels (not Spanish or British) sailing hence to the coast of Africa, are to be employed as Spanish or British property in the Slave Trade, it seems that our denouncement of them is of no use, these authorities having no right of interference.

I cannot conclude this despatch without respectfully bringing under your Lordship's notice the decided manner in which General Roncali expresses his determination to carry out the stipulations of the existing treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, in which I believe him to be quite sincere.

Inclosure 1 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, June 23, 1848.

I HASTEN to acquaint your Excellency that it has been stated to me upon trustworthy authority, that a cargo of 700 negroes has just been brought to this island.

Such a circumstance cannot have escaped the vigilance of your Excellency's officers, and I trust that these Bozales will be captured, and the parties concerned in the adventure will be punished as they deserve.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 213.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 24, 1848.

OF the occurrence your Honour reports to his Excellency the Governor-Captain-General in your communication of this date, no other information has come to his knowledge.

His Excellency would be infinitely glad that the channel your Honour calls trustworthy, and through which you have been made acquainted of this affair, had been more explicit; but according to the vague manner in which the arrival of this cargo is announced, without stating the exact point of the disembarkation on the extensive coasts of this island, anything else is impossible than to wait for the chance of new information more determinate, which his Excellency feels confident your Honour will not delay in sending him.

By the superior order of his Excellency I say this to you in answer to your note referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 213.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 30, 1848.

I HAVE waited with impatience the details relative to the arrival of 700 negroes, which your Honour assured me you knew from a trustworthy source in your communication of the 23rd, and which the Colonel Secretary pressed you to furnish me at the time he answered you by my orders.

This delay your Honour will not think strange that I interpret against the trustworthy source from whence this news reached you, the more upon reflecting that the two former denunciations made to me by your Honour having reference to the British Commissary Judge, no doubt from the same origin, turned out completely unfounded, as I stated to you on the 24th of March and 23rd of May last.

I feel persuaded that your Honour's vigilance, or that of the aforesaid Commissary, in the fulfilment of the duties corresponding to him in that respect is aided with more officiousness than conscience ("more zeal than honesty") by the persons or agents from whom they obtain their information; and you will permit me to say to your Honour, borne out by these recent instances, that besides the unfavourable reflections which they give rise to, they cause disagreeable work and loss of time in the public offices and to the subaltern authorities, who yet ought to consider it nothing when occasioned by well-founded causes, it is my duty to prevent under mere pretexts.

The rigorous observance of the subsisting treaties between Her Majesty my august Sovereign and the Queen of Great Britain, within the territory under my command, induces me to ask your Honour for the data you might have upon this last denouncement, likewise upon any similar occasion I shall be obliged always for exact information, and for such a course as shall clearly show, not only the desire but the greatest good faith to give effect to what is stipulated and to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government. I am persuaded your Honour will justly appreciate and that consequently you will be pleased to answer me with the details, which must by this time have been obtained, as to the landing of Bozales which gave rise to the said denouncement.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 213.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.**Havana, July 1, 1848.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, and also the note which was addressed to me under your Excellency's direction by the Colonel Secretary on the 24th ultimo, in answer to my communication of the 23rd.

As it was from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, Mr. Kennedy, that I received the information relative to the arrival of 700 slaves, which it became my duty without loss of time to lay before your Excellency, I immediately applied to him for further particulars, and I expressed a hope that he would be able to get his informant to be more explicit as to this alleged importation of negroes. In reply to my letter to the above effect, Mr. Kennedy states that "he has no further information at present; that he is satisfied of the truth of the fact, but thinks it probable the negroes have not yet been landed, the parties having failed in obtaining the Captain-General's permission for that purpose."

I have made very diligent inquiries myself respecting this alleged arrival of negroes, but I have not been able to gain any information whatever which would lead to the certainty of any such cargo having arrived, or having been landed in this island.

I, however, have reason to believe that expeditions of negroes from Africa have been arranged and may be expected to arrive; but I confide implicitly

in your Excellency's determination to observe the stipulations of the treaties for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I hope that upon any denouncement which may be made in future, it will be in my power to state such particulars as may lead to the vigorous measures which your Excellency will surely adopt for the detection of those who may engage in so detestable a traffic, and their consequent punishment according to law.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 213.

The Secretary to the Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 4, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has informed himself of the contents of your Honour's letter of the 1st instant in answer to his of the previous day, requiring from you the particulars as to the arrival of 700 Bozal negroes denounced by you, having reference, as you express in your said communication, to the same Mr. Kennedy, British Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court, who you say has no further information up to this time; asserting nevertheless that he is satisfied of the truth of the denouncement, although he does not think it probable the landing has been effected as yet, because they have not been able to obtain his Excellency's permission.

Under these circumstances, and although such a declaration by a person characterized like Mr. Commissary Kennedy in proof of the rigorous observance of the treaties, his Excellency repels it, because it involves the idea of a daring attempt which nobody has made nor any one would dare to propose to him; has charged me in consequence to say to your Honour, that you may do so to the said British Commissary, that he insists in demanding more complete explanations; that these point out the place where the vessel or vessels are waiting with the negroes for the permission of their introduction, and who are the persons who have asked for it.

Your Honour being convinced of the importance of more details, I am persuaded will not delay in asking for them in the terms I have just stated them, in compliance with the superior order of his Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 6 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of the Colonel Secretary Don Crispin Ximenes de Sandoval's note of this date, a copy of which I transmitted without loss of time to Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

I have just received his answer. He requests me to say to your Excellency on his part, that "he had heard a report of a cargo having been brought to the neighbourhood of San Antonio, the owners of which were in great perplexity, not being able to obtain your Excellency's permission to land them."

And he observes, "from his Excellency's letter it appears that whatever hopes they had entertained, when they fitted out this expedition, of obtaining such a permission, they have not dared directly to ask it."

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 7 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 1, 1848.

I INCLOSE to you herewith, copy of a letter which I received from his Excellency the Captain-General, of yesterday's date, and also a copy of my answer thereto just sent.

Inclosure 8 in No. 213.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 3, 1848.

I RECEIVED on Saturday afternoon your letter of that day, the 1st instant, together with a copy of one from the Captain-General of the 30th June, and your reply to it of the former date.

As you have already replied to his Excellency, there is less occasion for me to make many remarks,

I am glad to find his Excellency inviting such communications, rather than repelling them, as did his predecessor. He must know whether he received any overtures to grant permission for the landing of any negroes as you have intimated; and if he did, that was a sufficient indication that there was a cargo to be landed, of whom, if he has not heard further, he has been deceived by some of his officers.

If he, with all his power, cannot find them out, how can we, when my means of obtaining information are so limited, and yours cannot obtain any? All I have heard further is, that they were brought to near San Antonio, or Batabanó, and that M. Forcade applied to the Captain of Puentes Grandes, to allow some to be landed there, which he refused.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 4, 1848.

I HAVE to inclose the copy of a note of this date, which I have just received from the political secretary, to the contents of which I beg your attention, and I shall wait the favour of your answer to enable me to reply to the Colonel Secretary.

Inclosure 10 in No. 213.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 4, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of this date, inclosing one from the Captain-General of the same date, in which his Excellency denies having had any proposition made to him to permit the introduction of any negroes, and requires further explanations respecting the cargo said to have been brought.

In reply to your request as to what answer you should return, I wish you to say on my part, that I had heard a report of a cargo having been brought to the neighbourhood of San Antonio, the owners of which were in great perplexity, not being able to obtain his Excellency's permission to land them. From his Excellency's letter it appears that whatever hopes they had entertained, when they fitted out this expedition, of obtaining such a permission, they have not dared directly to ask it.

In your letter of yesterday you say, "a rumour was in circulation here about a fortnight ago. The edition I had of it gave the point of arrival at Bahia Honda, or another place near it to the westward."

Now, San Antonio is a place near Bahia Honda to the westward; and my denunciation is dated the 23rd June, which being ten days previously, comes near your period of about a fortnight ago.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 11 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir, *Havana, July $\frac{4}{2}$, 1848.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date in reply to mine of this morning, transmitting copy of an official note which I had received from the Captain-General.

I have in consequence written to his Excellency as you wished me to do, but I am doubtful that he will be satisfied with repetition of the fact respecting which he has called for the particulars.

In quoting to me that part of my letter which alluded to a rumour which was in circulation upwards of a fortnight ago, I beg to remind you that I traced it to be wholly unworthy of credit, and I therefore took no notice of it.

Perhaps if I were to state to the Captain-General what you say in your letter of yesterday about M. Forcade's application to the Captain of Puentes Grandes, to allow some negroes to be landed, the truth might be come at, as to there having been a slaver on the coast or otherways.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 12 in No. 213.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Havana, July 6, 1848.*

I PRESUME you will have seen by the papers that the American brig "Lawrence" was yesterday cleared at the custom-house by Messrs. Burnham and Co. for the coast of Africa.

In one of the papers it is noted for Laguna, but this I learn is erroneous; and I learn also that the real party interested in her is Mr. Forcade. This might afford evidence to the Captain-General that the Slave Trade is still carried on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 13 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir, *Havana, July 10, 1848, Monday.*

HAVING transmitted to the Captain-General, with the least possible delay, a copy of your letter to me of the 6th instant, relative to the clearance at this port of the American brig "Lawrence" for Cabenda on the coast of Africa, on Saturday evening I received an answer, copy of which I now inclose, with my note to his Excellency which accompanied your letter just referred to.

It appears that the expedition of the "Lawrence" had not escaped the knowledge of the Captain-General, but his Excellency did not find himself authorized to interfere with the despatch of a foreign vessel, wherever she might be destined, not even if it were for the coast of Africa, it being with the return from that coast that his vigilance has to do, as he very properly observes. I think,

however, that it is extremely satisfactory to find him expressing himself in such decided language as to his duties in observance of the treaties for suppression of the Traffic.

It is to be regretted that, for want of more circumstantial information, and the being unable to furnish particulars as to the infractions denounced to his Excellency of late, he should have had occasion to express himself as he has done relative to such denouncements in the course of our recent correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 14 in No. 213.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, July 6, 1848.

I BEG leave to lay before your Excellency copy of a communication which I have just received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge relative to the clearance at this port of an American vessel, the "*Lawrence*," for the port of Cabenda on the coast of Africa.

Mr. Kennedy states that he has learnt the real party interested is Don Pedro Forcade, and he observes that this might afford evidence to your Excellency that the Slave Trade is still being carried on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 15 in No. 213.

The Secretary to Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 8, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General had timely notice that the American brig "*Lawrence*," entered outwards for Laguna, had altered her destination for Cabenda; but not having in any way till this time infringed the existing orders or regulations, it is not within his Excellency's attributes to prevent a foreign vessel from making what course he chooses, even if it were for the coast of Africa, and with the concealed intention of dedicating himself to the Traffic. In such case it is upon his return that the daring speculator who would venture to infringe the solemn treaties upon this matter would be cruelly undeceived.

The proof, which Mr. Kennedy observes, this incident affords that Slave Trade continues to be carried on, allow me to say to your Honour, by request of his Excellency, is wanting of solid foundation.

The true proof your Honour has seen in the result of your late denouncements, and more particularly in the last, which announced as a positive fact, derived from a trustworthy source, turned into a vague rumour. Consequently, his Excellency thinks himself authorized to conceive them (the denouncements) of a like nature in future, unless they clearly and distinctly express the particulars which lead to their immediate proof.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

No. 214.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 21.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 22, 1848.

SOME eleven years ago the American ship "*Jupiter*," employed in the service of the United States to convey the Governor and a number of free blacks to Liberia, their free settlement on the coast of Africa, was wrecked, and the crew saved found their way to one of the slave factories at Gallinas.

The master and the crew, with the exception of the steward, a negro, who is a citizen of the United States, a native of Philadelphia, took their passages from the coast on board a French trader; but the steward was induced to remain at the factory, upon promises made to him of a free passage to Havana, and letters which would facilitate his return home from thence.

It appears, however, that very soon afterwards this man, the negro steward, was put on board the slaver "*Flor de Mar*," and on his arrival in Cuba he was sold along with the rest of the unfortunate victims, and has remained in slavery until very recently that his case was made known to the American Government.

General Campbell, the United States' Consul, having received orders to obtain the liberation of this man, discovered that he was a slave upon the estate of Don Gaspar Hernandez, near to Matanzas, by whom he was purchased upon the arrival of the "*Flor de Mar*," from the celebrated slaver Don Pedro Martinez, and having applied to the Captain-General, the negro was taken off Hernandez's estate, placed in deposit, and fully identified.

The American Consul, instructed by his Government to claim compensation in money, had the support of the Captain-General in the compromise which he effected with Hernandez and Martinez, ultimately obtaining 150 dollars per annum for all the time the steward was held in slavery, with interest yearly thereon, as it accumulated during the eleven years; and besides, the sum of 450 dollars as damages, and for the expenses of sending the liberated man to the United States in charge of an officer of the Consulate.

As the proceedings in the compromise were wholly extra-judicial, there is no legal evidence whatever in the case. The penal law of Spain was not in existence eleven years ago, so that the parties guilty of buying and selling the negro steward are not punishable; but your Lordship will observe that they have been obliged to pay a considerable sum in damages and compensation, to obtain which, General Campbell informs me he had the countenance and support of the Captain-General, although the compromise was not formally effected before his Excellency.

No. 215.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 21.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 27, 1848.

I BEG your Lordship's reference to my despatch of this series dated the 12th instant, transmitting copies and translations with Her Majesty's Commissioner and the Captain-General, relative to denunciations of slave-trading and vessels clearing for the coast of Africa.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a sequel of correspondence which was renewed upon the same subject, and has ended unsatisfactorily. Mr. Kennedy has not been able to establish his point that a slaver had brought 700 negroes to the coast of Cuba at the time of his denunciation; and there is no reason for supposing that the vessel he alluded to in said denunciation is the same which subsequently landed about 140 Bozales at Cabañas, 130 of whom have been captured by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

Inclosure 1 in No. 215.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 12, 1848.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing the answer of the Captain-General to the denunciation of the fitting out of the American brig "*Lawrence*" for the coast of Africa.

With respect to the observations of the Captain-General as to the insufficiency of particulars given in former denunciations, I think it should be observed to him, that it is not reasonable to expect we should be informed of such particulars as can only be in the possession of the parties interested. He should understand that I am about the last person in this community to become

acquainted with these points; and that whenever they do come to my knowledge, they are already matters of such notoriety, that if he has not heard of them, he has been deceived and kept ignorant by his officers.

I conceive it is the duty of this Government to investigate every reported infraction of the laws and treaties, and the readiness to enter into these investigations would have a most beneficial effect in preventing such infractions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 215.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 12, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, in answer to mine of the 10th, which accompanied copy of the Captain-General's to me respecting the denouncement of the American brig "*Lawrence*."

In the very recent case denounced by you, although you could only state the points, "*San Antonio and Batabanó*," very distant ones certainly, still you informed me that M. Forcade had applied to the Captain of Puentes as to his being allowed to land the negroes at that place; and if you have no objection, I shall state that circumstance, upon your authority, to the Captain-General, by which, as I said to you in my $\frac{4}{2}$ th July, the truth might be come at, as to there being a slaver on the coast, or otherways; for I am disposed to think the present Captain-General is very well disposed to do his duty in investigating any reported infraction of the laws and treaties, and this would put him to the test.

Inclosure 3 in No. 215.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 14, 1848.

I RECEIVED yesterday your letter of the 12th instant.

With respect to the application of M. Forcade to the Captain of Puentes Grandes, I gave the report I had received, without any request for it not to be repeated to the Captain-General. I heard it however only from one quarter, though I have no doubt of my informant's trustworthiness.

Inclosure 4 in No. 215.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, July 14, 1848.

WITH reference to the Colonel Secretary's note of the 8th instant, written by command of your Excellency, the receipt of which I have the honour to acknowledge. Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, stated to me in the course of our correspondence, that he had learnt that application had been made by M. Forcade to the Captain of Puentes Grandes, to allow some negroes to be landed, which was refused. And Her Majesty's Commissioner writes to me that he has no doubt of his informant's trustworthiness.

Such an application made to an officer under your Excellency in the immediate charge of a place like Puentes Grandes, within which jurisdiction cargoes of negroes have so frequently been landed, would induce the belief that either a slaver was on the coast, or was expected soon to arrive, and I trust that this information may lead to a discovery of the truth.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 216.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 21.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 27, 1848.

A SMALL vessel, supposed to have been fitted out in Spain, lately landed some negroes from Africa at Cabañas, which port is in the district of Mariel, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Don Santiago Gurrea, who, as soon as intelligence thereof reached him, set about capturing them and the apprehension of those concerned in the expedition.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of a correspondence I have had with Mr. Kennedy upon the subject; but as I did not consider it a matter upon which to ask for information by an official note to the Captain-General, I communicated with the Colonel Secretary personally, and from him have ascertained the facts stated in my letter of yesterday's date to Her Majesty's Judge, which is all that is yet known by this Government; the investigation still going on under Colonel Gurrea's orders at Mariel.

It is usual, as soon as the whole proceedings have been concluded, that the Captain-General make an official communication to the Mixed Court, stating the circumstances as they may have occurred in the capture of Bozal negroes, and acquainting the tribunal of his Excellency's dispositions respecting them. I have no doubt that General Roncali will make such an official communication in a few days; and knowing that such has been the practice upon similar occasions heretofore, was also a reason why I deemed it best to ask for the required information in the way I did, which I hope will meet with your Lordship's approbation; and it affords me much satisfaction in being able to state to your Lordship that I have found the most perfect readiness to facilitate all information at Government-House, and that I have reason to believe Colonel Gurrea was prepared to expect the landing which took place within his jurisdiction, as the Captain-General himself told me previous to the occurrence, that he had information of a slaver expected to arrive, and had issued the most stringent orders possible in all directions, but especially where he had reason to expect a landing would be attempted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 216.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 18, 1848.

I HAVE heard that the slave-vessel which has been hovering on the coast the last few weeks, has been seized at Mariel by Colonel Gurrea, the Lieutenant-Governor of that place.

Inclosure 2 in No. 216.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, July 19, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, respecting a slaver seized at Mariel by Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea.

Up to last night the Captain-General had not received the details which were hourly expected from Mariel, so that although there is no doubt of the capture of a number of Bozal negroes, the particulars have not as yet been officially communicated to this Government by Lieutenant-Colonel Gurrea. It is not however likely that the vessel which brought this cargo is the same alluded to in your denouncement of the 23rd ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 216.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 19, 1848.

THERE is a report in the city of another slave-vessel having come to Cabañas, which was fitted out at Cadiz.

This is, I presume, different from the one seized at Mariel, which I understand was fitted out at Barcelona.

Though not having such particulars to give as you consider necessary in making these denunciations, I am of opinion that every report which we have reason to think correct, ought to be repeated to the Captain-General for investigation; because even if the parties succeed in evading detection, the fact of investigations being made may deter the slave-dealers from prosecuting further their trade, when they see his Excellency determined to carry the Treaty into effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 216.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, July 20, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, stating that there is a report in the city of another slave-vessel having come to Cabañas, which was fitted out at Cadiz, which you presumed was a different one from that seized at Mariel, which you understand was fitted out at Barcelona.

Having made inquiries upon the subject, I have to inform you that the Captain-General has no intelligence of any such slaver having come to Cabañas.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that the particulars of the seizure of Bozal negroes at Mariel have not as yet been received at the secretary's office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 216.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, July 26, 1848.

WITH reference to your communications of the 18th and 19th instant, I have to acquaint you that I have seen the Colonial Secretary Colonel Don Crispin Ximenes de Sandoval, upon the subject of their contents, and have learnt from him that a number of Bozal negroes having been landed at Cabañas, which is within the jurisdiction of Mariel. The Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea succeeded in capturing 130 men, women, and children, who have been brought here and placed on board the "Romney," to abide his Excellency the Captain-General's determination respecting them.

These negroes were taken after great trouble, and some of them in the adjoining district of Bahia Honda, where they had wandered in the woods, into which they were driven when landed, no doubt for concealment; it is supposed there were a few more who have not yet been found.

The master and crew have made their escape, or at least neither they nor their accomplices had been discovered at date of the latest accounts from Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea, who was still going on with the investigation.

The vessel said to have been of small capacity and latine-rigged, is reported to have been scuttled, and sunk at the time the landing was effected.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 217.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 31.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 2, 1848.

I HAVE received from his Excellency the Captain-General a letter dated the 28th ultimo, in answer to what I addressed to him on the 14th, in consequence of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge's denouncement of an attempt said to have been made by M. Forcade to corrupt the Captain of Puentes Grandes, by making proposals to him to permit the landing of negroes in his district.

A copy of my letter to the Captain-General of the 14th ultimo, and of Mr. Kennedy's to me upon this matter, accompanied the correspondence which I have already transmitted.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy and translation of General Roncali's answer, to the effect that this denouncement turns out, upon official investigation, to be wholly unfounded.

Inclosure 1 in No. 217.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 28, 1848.

HAVING before me your Honour's communication of the 14th instant, I ordered an enquiry respecting what might have occurred in that which is therein denounced, although it was not in reality of such a nature as I ought to admit, and notwithstanding the traces of unlikelihood which it showed, like all those unfortunately until now communicated by your Honour and originating with Mr. Kennedy.

The result corresponded to what it was reasonable to expect. Neither did M. Forcade apply to the Captain of Puentes Grandes, nor would the latter have failed to report it to the authorities, if he had done so, those parties being far apart from holding such private relations as such a declaration would lead to suppose; and it is to such an extent beyond common sense to imagine it that the official investigation caused evident astonishment. So that I cannot but express to your Honour my surprise and regret that you so frequently take my attention from really important duties with similar denouncements, which, commencing like the present in the positive announcement of an occurrence, has gone on until it has reduced itself to what I have just termed it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 217.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, July 29, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter of yesterday's date, which I received this morning from his Excellency the Captain-General in reply to mine of the 14th, addressed to him in consequence of your letter to me of that date, by which you will observe that it is denied M. Forcade had made any application to the Captain of Puentes Grandes to be allowed to land negroes, as you had heard was the case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 217.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 29, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of this date, inclosing the Captain-General's letter of yesterday, denying that M. Forcade had made any application to the Captain of Puentes Grandes for permission to land Bozal negroes in his jurisdiction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 218.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 5, 1848.

IN my despatch of the 27th ultimo I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes at Cabañas, and the capture of 130 by Lieutenant-Colonel Gurrea, the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

I am now enabled to acquaint your Lordship of all the particulars; and I have the satisfaction of stating besides to your Lordship, that there is every prospect of the vessel being seized and the master arrested to take his trial before the Royal Audiencia, as prescribed by the Penal Law.

Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, one of the mates, who stated himself to have been a supernumerary on board the slaver in question, presented himself at this office on the 3rd instant, and expressed a desire to make a declaration; but he was also anxious to have an assurance of protection from the consequences of the denouncement which he would in such case be ready to make before the proper authorities.

In consequence thereof I had an interview with his Excellency the Captain-General, when note was taken by the Secretary of the facts which your Lordship will find detailed in the memorandum which I made of what passed, copy of which I have the honour of transmitting herewith.

In my presence the necessary orders were dispatched to Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea respecting the felucca sunk at Cabañas.

Having again seen the said Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, and having obtained from him the important information which your Lordship will find engrossed in the corresponding memorandum, which I have also the honour of transmitting.

Upon this information, his Excellency sent off instructions and orders to Colonel Gurrea at the moment, so that I am in hopes that the other slaver, the schooner "*Toro*," will be captured upon her arrival in Cabañas, if she has escaped Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast, and also that the brigantine, formerly "*Correo de la Peninsula*" (doubtless our old friend the "*Elvira*"), will be detained with proofs on board sufficient for her condemnation.

The Captain-General, having referred to the Penal Law, was of opinion that he was not authorized to take the person of the master of the felucca, nor to receive the declaration of the approver, as by that law the Royal Audiencia is the only competent tribunal to take cognizance of offences of this nature.

I at once consulted the Fiscal, and found the opinion of his Excellency materially correct; but I also discovered that the ends of justice would in all probability be defeated by proceeding before the Audiencia in the first instance, owing to the intricate forms which it is indispensable to observe, and the consequent delay of active measures which the case demanded.

I therefore fell upon a plan which his Excellency consented to adopt, and this morning the piloto, Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, went from this office, accompanied by Mr. Smith, my secretary, and presented himself to the Captain-General, at his residence out of town, the Molinos, where his declaration has been taken, and thereupon his Excellency will order the arrest of the captain.

Whatever may be the result of these measures, your Lordship will readily agree that they will have a most stunning effect upon the slave-dealers, and prove

to them the determination of the authorities to do their duty under the provisions of the Penal Law, as well as to oblige the observance of the existing treaties.

The approver in this affair assures me that he has never before been engaged on board a slaver, that he was deceived by the master of the felucca, and afterwards cheated of his wages. I encouraged him by every means to go forward with the denouncement, which he was prepared to make before me, but was fearful of making before the Spanish authorities, in dread of the consequences to himself.

I inquired whether there were any means of guaranteeing his safety ; but I have been assured, both by his Excellency the Captain-General and the Fiscal, that there is no means whatever of his escaping the punishment corresponding to the part he acted, the least being two years of the public works in chains.

I would therefore, with great respect, submit to your Lordship the expediency, as an encouragement to others under the like circumstances to turn approvers, that this man Don Juan Manuel Besamillas' pardon be solicited from the Queen of Spain, the Captain-General having no power to grant it ; and I respectfully suggest the expediency of authority being given to the Captains-General, in their capacity of Presidents of the Royal Audiencia, to hold out hopes of pardon to approvers who may present themselves to denounce their accomplices, the slave-traders, under the Penal Law, which, if given publicity to, would have the most salutary effect, and the fear of denouncement would deter many from engaging in that horrible traffic.

These will in all probability be the first convictions under the Penal Law, and I trust that your Lordship will not think my recommendation of intercession for the approver as being ill-timed or improper.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 218.

Memorandum of denouncement made to the Captain-General on the 3rd of August, 1848.

THAT the vessel which landed the negroes lately at Cabañas was the lucca with one mast, "*Columbia*," formerly the "*Relampago*," of Barcelona; the master's name Don Pedro Pigat, a native of Cataluña.

That said felucca, after having landed a cargo of negroes on the coast of Brazil, went from Bahia to Yudah, where she took in 155 negroes, and thence came direct to Cabañas, without waiting for information or hovering on the coast of this island*, or having any communication from any part of Cuba. They cast anchor in Cabañas, off the Engenio or plantation of Don Luiz Lavadu. That five of the negroes died on the voyage ; they consequently arrived with 150, of whom twenty of the finest were immediately put on shore, and now are upon said Don Luiz Lavadu's estate. That said twenty were put into safety at once, lest what did happen might happen, viz., the seizure of the whole 130 which remained by the activity of the Governor of Mariel.

That they took everything out of the vessel, her mast, coppers, sails, and materials, and sunk her in Cabañas at her anchorage, reporting that she had gone off to New Orleans.

That the master and crew came to Havana, leaving the vessel sunk, the mast and yard amongst the mangroves, the sails, coppers, and all the rigging and materials, on the Engenio of said Lavadu, and that on the 22nd instant a crew went from Havana to lift, rig, and take away the felucca, and that the master is now in Havana, and puts up at the Catalan baker's, in the Plaza de Armas, and was known on board the felucca as Don Pedro Pigat.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* Sailed 5th June from Yudah, and arrived 15th July at Cabañas. Did not hover at all on the coast of the island.

Inclosure 2 in No. 218.

Memorandum of denouncement made on the 4th August, 1848, at the Molinos.

DON JUAN MANUEL DE BASAMILLAS, the person who presented himself at Her Majesty's Consulate yesterday, declares he was supernumerary captain or piloto of the "*Columbia*."

Confirms all that he said yesterday, and states that another, a schooner slaver, the "*Toro*," is every moment expected to arrive with a cargo of negroes from Africa at Cabañas; and that a brigantine, "*Goleta*," formerly "*Correo de la Peninsula*" (the "*Elvira*," no doubt), is at Cabañas with her water on board (which was put on board in the night from the Engenio of Lavadu), and as soon as her rigging is completed, is ready to sail for the coast of Africa; and he does not know the master's real name, but he is known as "*El Negro*" amongst the captains. Said Juan Manuel agreed to make a judicial declaration.

August 4, 1848.

On the 5th August, Mr. Smith, from this office, accompanied the said Don Juan Manuel Besamillas to the country residence of his Excellency the Captain-General, where the said Don Juan presented himself to make his declaration or confession.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 219.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 18, 1848.

I HAVE to desire that you will transmit to me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a list of all British subjects within the district of your Consulate, who are owners of slaves, distinguishing those who have domestic slaves and those who have slaves employed in agriculture or in mining.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

[A similar despatch was addressed under the same date to Her Majesty's Consuls at Santiago de Cuba and Porto Rico, and to Her Majesty's Consuls at Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Maranhão, Pará, Paraíba, Pernambuco, and Rio Grande in Brazil.]

No. 220.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 25, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th ultimo, stating that Juan Manuel Besamilla, one of the mates of the slave-vessel "*Columbia*," which landed 150 slaves at Cabañas in the month of July last, had given important information to the authorities of Cuba relative to that vessel, as well as to the "*Toro*," another slave-vessel shortly expected at Cabañas, and to a brigantine which was being equipped for Slave Trade at the same place. You recommend that the pardon of Besamilla should be solicited from the Queen of Spain, as the Captain-General has not power to grant it; and you suggest the expediency of authority being given to the Captain-General to hold out hopes of pardon to approvers who may denounce their slave-trading accomplices.

I conceive that there can be little doubt that the approver Besamilla will be pardoned by the Queen of Spain, if recommended for grace by the Captain-General; or that the discretionary authority which you recommend that the Captain-General

should be invested with, would be granted to him if he should represent the expediency of the measure; and I have accordingly to instruct you to make a suggestion accordingly to his Excellency.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 22, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship, further correspondence with Mr. Kennedy and the Captain-General, upon the subject of the recent infraction of the Treaties for suppression of the Slave Trade, which took place at Cabañas.

As Article IX, Tit. 2 of the Penal Law had been cited by the Captain-General in a conference which I had with his Excellency, as a bar to his interference in seizing the twenty Bozal negroes which were landed from the slaver at Cabañas, and are stated by the man Besamillas to be upon the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu, I had mentioned the Captain-General's interpretation of that clause of the Penal Law to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, who in reply referred me to the correspondence between Her Majesty's Minister Mr. Bulwer and M. Martinez de la Rosa, respecting that very clause, upon its discussion in the Cortes at the time of the enactment of the Penal Law in 1845; and Mr. Kennedy's opinion, as expressed in his letter to me of the $\frac{1}{2}$ -th August, completely coinciding with my own respecting the twenty Bozales remaining upon the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu of Cabañas, being the remainder of the 150 which were landed there from the slaver "*Columbia*," I in the communication of the 10th instant stated our conjoint opinions to the Captain-General, referring his Excellency to the correspondence with Mr. Bulwer, and inclosing him copy of M. Martinez de la Rosas' letter, showing that the twenty Bozales in question are as much entitled to their papers of freedom as the 130 landed from the same vessel which were seized by Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea, and informing his Excellency that so their claim to liberty would be represented to Her Majesty's Government.

As he had already informed me that he could not interfere in the matter, I requested that his Excellency would be pleased to make a communication thereupon to the Royal Audiencia.

On the 16th instant I received an answer to my said note upon the two important points which I have just had the honour of bringing under your Lordship's notice, and in that answer, which is written by the Colonel Secretary, the receipt of my communication is acknowledged; but his Excellency has not thought proper to direct the secretary to inform us whether or not my letter had been transmitted to the Royal Audiencia; the responsibility is, however, fully fixed upon the Captain-General, if he has failed to do so.

I have not, according to what I have been able to learn in these last occurrences, any reason to alter the opinion which I have expressed to your Lordship as to the good faith which has been professed by the Captain-General in carrying out the provisions of the existing Treaty; and I think that the proceedings now being carried on in the Royal Audiencia, being the first which have come before that high tribunal under the Penal Law of Spain, will have the effect of deterring many who otherwise might be disposed to adventure in the Slave Trade. I believe that although very slow, the operations of the Audiencia will be very complete and effective; it is a court superior to corruption of its judges, and all and every one connected with the criminal act at Cabañas will be dealt with strictly according to law; examinations for that purpose are going on, as I have just learnt from the master of an English vessel who left that place on the 19th instant.

Inclosure 1 in No. 221.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 4, 1848.

I AM credibly informed that in the proceedings or report made to the Captain-General it is stated that the vessel which brought these negroes brought altogether as many as 300. There are therefore 170 yet to be accounted for, besides the vessel, and the captain and crew, who, as you say in your letter of the 26th July, "escaped, after having scuttled and sunk the vessel."

How could all this pass without some connivance on the part of the inferior officers of the Government?

I wish you now to state to the Captain-General that I hope he will acknowledge the imputation cast upon me, my friends, and informants, of having been actuated in the denunciations made more by officiousness than by a regard to truth, to be undeserved, and that it was impossible for any but the parties interested to know where a vessel was to be found which was hovering on the coast with slaves, waiting for instructions where to land them.

I wish you to repeat that I had heard of the Señores Zulueta and Parejo, who are said to have fitted out two vessels for Slave Trade, having gone to ask the Captain-General's indulgence for the introduction of these negroes; which report, if the Captain-General declare it unfounded, I am ready to acknowledge the error.

Beyond this I wish repeated my belief that two vessels have arrived with 700 slaves as I at first heard; but especially that 300 were brought in the one which landed those taken, as I understand will appear by the proceedings.

If the remainder of the slaves, with the persons who brought them, and those on whose account they were brought, be not discovered openly, I shall submit to Her Majesty's Government whether there is not palpably a connivance at their escape, extending more or less throughout the Government.

Finally, I repeat the request contained in my letter of the 29th July, that you ask the Captain-General for the particulars of the seizure, and an account of whatever is known respecting the vessel and of the parties interested in her.

Inclosure 2 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 7, 1848.

YOUR letter of the 4th instant was delivered the following day in the afternoon.

I now proceed to give you as much information as I have obtained respecting the negroes landed at Cabañas, of whom, as you already know, 130 were captured by Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea.

The vessel was a small felucca, with one mast, only twenty-nine tons burden, called the "*Columbia*," of Barcelona. She carried a cargo of slaves to Bahia de Todos los Santos in Brazil, and sailed from thence to Yudah on the coast of Africa, where she took in, with the least possible stoppage, 155 men, women, and children, with which number of negroes she left the coast on the 5th of June last, and came straightway to Cabañas, where she arrived on the 15th ultimo, without calling at or off any place, or hovering or holding any communication with the shore. 5 of the negroes died on the voyage. She consequently arrived with 150. Of these 20 were landed instantly, and placed upon the Engenio of Don Luiz Lavadu, close to Cabañas. The remaining 130 are on board the "*Romney*," or were there, and have been declared emancipados, as you are informed through the Mixed Court by the Captain-General.

The vessel was dismantled, her coppers, &c., hidden in the mangroves, and she was scuttled and sunk, great pains having been taken to circulate the belief that she had at once gone off to New Orleans. On the 2nd instant a crew was sent to Cabañas from Havana to raise the felucca and to fit her out.

All this having been denounced to me by a person stating himself to have

belonged to the identical slaver, was by me reported personally to the Captain-General, when note was officially made thereof, and the necessary orders sent off to Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea on the 3rd instant, so that there is little doubt of the capture of the vessel.

The approver also gave information which it is to be hoped will lead to the arrest of the captain.

He also informed me that another slaver, the "*Toro*," a schooner, is every moment expected at Cabañas with a cargo of negroes, and that our old acquaintance, the "*Elvira*," or a brigantine answering her description, had taken in her water, and would sail from Cabañas for the coast of Africa as soon as her slaver rigging could be got up.

Orders respecting both these vessels, the one expected and the other preparing to sail, were sent off to Cabañas on the 4th instant by General Roncali.

According to the Penal Law, the Royal Audiencia being the only competent tribunal to take cognizance of offences under it, is a great inconvenience.

The declaration of a denouncement can only be made and a declaration taken in what is termed a full Sala, presided by the Regent; and there are so many forms to be complied with, that it is next to impossible notice would not reach the interested of their danger, and that they would not effect their escape.

To provide for this there was a great difficulty, so that it was only on Saturday the 5th that the declaration of the approver was taken before the Captain-General, as President of the Royal Audiencia, by my having been able to induce him to deliver himself up, which he did on that day at noon.

I have no information such as you have of what is in the proceedings followed out at Mariel, nor does it matter, since what I have just stated comes from the source it does. Memoranda of what took place between his Excellency and myself in this matter, as well as the full particulars herein set forth, I have already reported to Her Majesty's Government.

Under these circumstances, much of your apprehension of connivance will, I presume, be dissipated, and your wonder will be excited as to how 155 of these poor wretches could be crowded into a vessel such as the piloto describes the felucca "*Columbia*" to be; and you will be satisfied that she could not have held 300, the number, you have been informed, is stated in the proceedings or report made to the Captain-General to have been on board her.

That culpability attaches to the officers at Cabañas, I think there can be no doubt, and that it will be so proved by the evidence of the approver in his trial by the Royal Audiencia, to which he would be passed by the Captain-General.

I shall note to the Captain-General your observations as to his expression in his note imputing officiousness to your informants; and, according to your wish, I shall state what you had heard of Messrs. Zulueta and Parejo having fitted out two vessels for Slave Trade, and having gone to ask the Captain-General's indulgence for the introduction of these negroes.

After what I have stated to be the facts of the case at Cabañas, I presume I need not trouble his Excellency about those who are wanting, according to the erroneous information you had previously; neither will it be necessary to ask for the particulars, &c., of that case.

I have to notice that his Excellency the Captain-General has pointed out to me, and expressed his regret that, according to the Penal Law, Titolo 2, Artículo 9, the possession of the 20 negroes which are said to be on the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu, being the rest of the cargo of the felucca, cannot be interfered with.

I have besides been informed that the 130 emancipados have been distributed by the Captain-General, and that no gratification has been asked for them from or paid by the parties to whom they have been delivered.

Herewith inclosed is copy of my letter of this date written, upon the points you requested, to the Captain-General.

Inclosure 3 in No. 221.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 8, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing a copy of one you had sent to the Captain-General of the same date, in consequence of mine of the 4th instant.

With regard to what you say of the 130 emancipados having been distributed "without gratification asked for them or paid by the parties to whom they have been delivered," I understand that they have been delivered to the Señores Zulueta and Parejo, or their nominees, which report should be inquired into, and if it prove true, be denounced.

Inclosure 4 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 9, 1848.

I RECEIVED your letter of yesterday, acknowledging the receipt of mine of the previous day's date.

I believe it is quite true what you have understood of the emancipados taken by Colonel Gurrea, having been (the most of them) consigned to Messrs. Zulueta and Parejo, it is said 50 to each; but I do not see what interference on our part is warrantable in such distribution, however much we may think that perhaps in other hands their civil and religious education might have been better attended to.

Inclosure 5 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 10, 1848.

I TRANSMIT herewith copy of the Captain-General's answer to a letter dated the 7th instant, which at your pressing request I addressed to his Excellency.

Inclosure 6 in No. 221.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, August $\frac{1}{2}$, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing a copy of one from the Captain-General, in answer to that of the 7th you had written him in compliance with the request contained in mine to you of the 4th.

The answer of the Captain-General is only what might be expected from him under the circumstances.

With respect to your letter of the 7th, informing me of a man having come to you, declaring himself to have been one of the crew of the slaver, and whose statements you detail, adding you had induced him to give himself up to the Captain-General, as you do not inform me what were the reasons for his so coming to you and for his so subjecting himself to imprisonment and possible punishment, I can only regret that you did not give me notice to attend the examination, and so to be able to judge what credit was due to him. But taking for granted that his statements are really true, they seem to me to confirm what I have written.

This man states, as you say, that the vessel "came straightway to Cabañas, where she arrived on the 15th ultimo, without calling at or off any place, or hovering or holding any communication with the shore."

Now the negroes seized were seized previously, and Colonel Gurrea was in Havana giving notice of the seizure on that day or the one following. My letter to you informing me of the fact is dated the 18th ultimo. Those negroes then did not come in the vessel you describe, but in one which brought 300. Further, in my letter of the 19th ultimo, I informed you of another vessel having afterwards come to Cabañas, and this appears very likely to be the one. So far then there is a corroboration of my denunciations.

The more I see and hear of the conduct of this Government, the more I feel compelled to believe that they are only making a show of an inclination to suppress the Traffic, when they are in effect screening it.

You say, "the Captain-General has pointed out to me, and expressed his regret, that according to the Penal Law, Titulo 2ndo, Articulo 9, the possession of the 20 negroes said to be on the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu, being the rest of the cargo of the felucca, cannot be interfered with."

Now the words of the law are these "in no case, and at no time shall it be permitted to institute any proceedings against, nor molest in their possession, the proprietors of slaves, under the pretext of their origin or procedency."

But how is this Lavadu the proprietor of these negroes as slaves? You may further see that this does not apply to the case, by referring to the letter of Señor Martinez de la Rosa, in the Slave Trade Papers for 1845, Class B, page 10.

I therefore now urge you to write to the Captain-General, showing that the 20 negroes referred to are as much intitled to their papers of freedom as the others, and that so their claim to liberty will be submitted to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 7 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 16, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General, referring to what I wrote to him on the 8th upon the subject of the connivance of the local authority at Cabañas in the landing of the Bozal negroes at that place, 130 of whom were captured by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

In that communication I stated to his Excellency your opinion, which entirely coincided with my own, that the 20 Bozal negroes denounced as having been landed from the same slaver which brought those seized by Colonel Gurrea, were to all intents and purposes, like those captured, entitled to their papers of emancipation, and as such would be reported by us to Her Majesty's Government; in confirmation of which opinion I transmitted to his Excellency a copy of M. Martinez de la Rosa's letter referred to in your letter to me of the 11th instant. The receipt of my said despatch was acknowledged to me of date the 13th instant, by the Colonel Secretary; but his Excellency has not thought proper to inform me whether or not he has acceded to my request, that both the denunciation of the connivance of the authority at Cabañas, and the case of the twenty Bozales who are upon the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu at or near to that place, should be sent to the Royal Audiencia.

Copy of the Secretary's note is herewith inclosed.

I also transmit copy of another communication which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 12th instant, stating the information you had, to the effect that there had been two slavers, and that upon Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea's report, or the proceedings taken at Mariel or Cabañas, it is stated there were 300 negroes disembarked, and consequently that there are 170 unaccounted for.

I have also sent you copy of the Colonel Secretary's answer, which, although dated the 13th instant, was only received this morning.

It is denied that there was more than one slaver; and it is distinctly said in Colonel Sandoval's note, by order of the Captain-General, that upon the report of the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel, there are only mentioned the exact number of 130 negroes apprehended by that officer on the 18th ultimo.

With regard to my observation respecting the demanding details, &c., from the Captain-General, I beg to refer you to the Treaty or arrangement come

to at Madrid, 4th November, 1845, by which our correspondence with the Captain-General should be regulated, and which says, "That Her Majesty's Consul-General, besides reporting to his Government every act or circumstance which he may think contrary to the stipulations which bind England and Spain, will, when he thinks proper, bring the same at once under the notice of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, so that this authority, being acquainted with the case, shall, in the event of the Consul-General's opinion being correct, adopt the fitting measures respecting it."

With regard to the piloto of the slaver "*Columbia*," who delivered himself up, and who came to me for that purpose, and from this office was accompanied by Mr. Smith, to the Captain-General, a serious quarrel with the master of the slaver was the reason he gave for denouncing and giving himself up to justice, in the hope that the master would be arrested and punished as he deserves.

You will see that the 130 negroes were seized on the 18th ultimo; so that the approver's information as to the date of the slaver's arrival, the 15th, is very likely to be correct; he told me that they left Yudah the 5th June, and had forty days' passage, which brings it to the date I mentioned.

Inclosure 8 in No. 221.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 17, 1848.

I RECEIVED your letter of yesterday, late in the afternoon. There were, as I understand, two reports sent in by Colonel Gurrea, one of the 18th of July and one of a former date. In the one of the 18th no doubt the exact number is so stated, that he had seized 130 recently introduced Africans; but that others had been brought would be clear even upon your statement of 20 more being on the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu. The Captain-General's letter would have it appear that this was all done only on the 18th ultimo, manifestly to show that there was only one cargo brought. But my letter reporting that seizure to you was dated that very day, the 18th, and how should I have known that day, if it only then happened, what was going on at Mariel and in its jurisdiction, forty miles off?

From your acknowledgment of that letter it is clear that you received it the same day, though the Colonial Secretary, it appeared, pretended to you, in your verbal communication with him, that the Government had no official account of the matter on the evening of that day; yet I knew of it the day before, on the 17th, and had heard that Colonel Gurrea had been in town, and had left the day before, having come to report himself the arrival of the cargo and to ask instructions what to do under the circumstances. I heard also that he had a most ungracious reception, and found that in acting strictly to his duties he was not to be so favoured as the authorities at Cabañas, it appears, have been. Of the second cargo I have no doubt the whole are now on the estate of the person indicated, and if the Captain-General really is ignorant of the second arrival I shall submit he is kept in ignorance, willingly or unwillingly. It is clear he is screening the Trade, from the circumstance also of his taking no means to liberate the 20 who you say are on the estate of Lavadu, and from his giving up the remainder to the Señores Zulueta and Parejo, the parties on whose account they were brought, under the pretence of their receiving "a civil and religious education, so that they may not be prejudicial to society."

With regard to the man who came to you, denouncing himself as an accomplice in this slave-trading expedition, I regretted I had not been invited to examine him, as I had some doubts of his trustworthiness. But as you say he had "a serious quarrel with the master of the slaver," I can readily suppose that revenge might induce him to act as he did, especially as I find his evidence corroborating my previous information.

Inclosure 9 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, August 19, 1848.

I HAVE before me your letter of the 17th. I must suspend my judgment upon the recent occurrences, until the results are known, and especially until I have ascertained whether my denouncement of the palpable connivance at Cabañas was passed by the Captain-General to the Audiencia, as I requested, and whether our opinions, backed by M. Martinez de la Rosa's letter, respecting the 20 Bozales upon Don Luiz Lavadu's estate, landed from the slaver at Cabañas, have had the effect of altering his Excellency's interpretation of Article 9 of the Penal Law.

Inclosure 10 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, August 8, 1848.

HER Majesty's Commissioner having communicated to me your Excellency's official notification to the Mixed Court of Justice, relative to the capture of 130 Bozal negroes in the district of Mariel, part of a cargo which was landed at Cabañas, by the activity of Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea, in the execution of your Excellency's orders for the prevention of Slave Trade and the faithful observance of the existing treaties; I would submit to your Excellency, in case it may not already have suggested itself to your superior intelligence, that unless there had been connivance of the local authorities at Cabañas upon the arrival of the slaver from which these negroes were landed, the vessel and her illegal cargo must have been at once detained and the master and crew made prisoners.

It has come to my knowledge, and it is my duty to state to your Excellency, that upon the arrival at Cabañas of the slaver in question, she was boarded by the authority of the place, who was well aware of the nature of the vessel and her cargo, and of the guilty adventure in which those on board were engaged; but that instead of doing his duty by seizing the whole and arresting the master and crew, he lent himself to the concealment of the whole affair, and, consequently, made himself a party to the infringement of the Treaty, and liable to the fullest extent of punishment prescribed by the Law of the 4th of March, 1845, Titulo 2, Articulo 10, besides all the infamy which attaches to him and to all those who along with him may have been in any way concerned in such guilty aiding and abetting of slave-trading and corrupt disobedience of your Excellency's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 11 in No. 221.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 10, 1848.

THE proceedings relative to the apprehension of 130 Bozal negroes landed in the Bay of Cabañas being in the Royal Pretorial Audiencia, for the continuation of criminal proceedings which may be given rise to, that being the competent tribunal according to law, and which will be followed out with that justice and true activity which is its character, it is not in my power to interfere in any way with the matter. Which I say to you in answer to your communication of the 7th [ought to be the 8th] instant.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 12 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, August 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 10th instant, in reply to mine of the 8th, denouncing the connivance of the local authorities at Cabañas upon the occasion of the landing of Bozal negroes.

Your Excellency informs me that the proceedings are already before the competent tribunal, the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, and that it is not in your power to interfere in any way.

A person, who stated his name to be Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, and who represented himself to have been piloto on board the slaver from which the 130 slaves captured were landed at Cabañas, presented himself to me at this office, and having expressed his willingness to denounce the whole affair, he was accompanied to your Excellency's residence by Mr. Smith, my secretary, on the 5th instant. It was from the said Besamillas that I obtained the information of connivance upon which I founded the communication I did myself the honour to address to your Excellency; and considering it most important that the circumstances be fully investigated, I submit to your Excellency the expediency of transmitting my letter to the Royal Audiencia.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, to whom I communicated the information which I received from the Piloto Besamillas previous to his giving himself up to your Excellency, has, with reference to the 20 negroes, rest of the cargo of the slaver, who were illegally landed at Cabañas, and who are stated by Besamillas to be upon the Engenio of Don Luiz Lavadu, called my attention to a letter from M. Martinez de la Rosa to Mr. Bulwer, dated 14th of January, 1845, in which allusion is made to the interpretation which was given to Artículo 9, Titulo 2, of the Penal Law; and it is my duty to express to your Excellency Her Majesty's Commissary Judge's opinion, which coincides with my own, that according to the explanation in M. Martinez de la Rosa's letter to Mr. Bulwer, referred to by Mr. Kennedy, and which is published in the papers relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade annually laid before the British Parliament by order of Her Majesty, the 20 negroes which were landed from the slaver "*Columbia*," and which are, or were, upon the estate of Don Luiz Lavadu, are as much entitled to their papers of freedom as the others captured by Colonel Gurrea, and that so their claim to liberty will be submitted to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I transmit to your Excellency a copy of M. Martinez de la Rosa's letter, taken from the printed papers, 1845, Class B, page 10, and I request that your Excellency will be pleased to order a communication thereupon to the Royal Audiencia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 13 in No. 221.

The Secretary to Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 13, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received and has informed himself of the contents of your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, as well as of the copy which accompanied it of a note from M. Martinez de la Rosa to Mr. Bulwer, dated in Madrid, 14th January, 1845. His Excellency directing me to say so to your Honour, for your information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 14 in No. 221.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.**Havana, August 12, 1848.*

HER Majesty's Commissary Judge, Mr. Kennedy, having stated to me, some time ago, that there was a report in the city of another slave-vessel having come to Cabañas which was fitted out at Cadiz, and that he presumed it was a different one from that seized at Mariel, which he understood was fitted out at Barcelona; I did not write to your Excellency at that time, because I had other information upon which I considered I ought to place full confidence, that your Excellency's Government had not received any intelligence of the arrival of a second vessel, or of the landing of more than the cargo out of which 130 Bozales were captured by Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea, and I accordingly gave Mr. Kennedy that assurance in answer to his letter.

Her Majesty's Judge, however, is not satisfied with that assurance, and has repeated his belief of the information he received, that slaves had been landed from two vessels about the same time, or within a few days one of the other; besides which, he had learnt from good authority that upon Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea's report, or upon the proceedings instituted at Mariel or Cabañas, it is directly stated the vessel brought 300 negroes, so that there are still 170 of that number unaccounted for, 130 only having been captured.

It is therefore of great importance that this doubt should be cleared up for the information of Her Majesty's Government. I therefore have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to inform me whether slaves have been landed from more than one vessel, as Mr. Kennedy has been credibly informed, and also, whether it is shown by Lieutenant-Governor Gurrea's report, that 300, or what greater number than the 130 which were captured, were landed at Cabañas or elsewhere in the district of his Government, the date when the said Bozales were landed, and that of their capture.

I trust that your Excellency will not find it inconvenient to favour me with information upon these points, it being of great importance that a correct report should be transmitted to Her Majesty's Government in this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 15 in No. 221.

The Secretary to Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 13, 1848.

AS his Excellency the Governor Captain-General cannot recognize in your Honour any other right than that of denunciation, and that not being the object of your communication of yesterday, his Excellency would not have answered it, were it not to make known as regards Mr. Kennedy, that the information he had of another landing of Bozales at the time of that which took place at Cabañas, and his desire to know the truth thereof, and if 300 was the number of negroes captured?

His Excellency has directed me to say to your Honour, that the second disembarkation is as imaginary as all the rest of the denouncements reported until now by Mr. Kennedy, who to mistake, even confounds the names of the places which officially have been expressed to him. So that the only answer corresponding upon this is to be found in the communication his Excellency addressed to the Mixed Court of Justice. But as he states that he has known from a trustworthy source, that on the proceedings formed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel, that number appears, and on the contrary, it being that none is thereon excepting exactly the 130 apprehended by the said authority on the 18th of July, it is to be inferred the person who denounced this calumny for which he is culpable, if he has seen the proceedings has added thereto, placing himself in a difficult and embarrassing position by the deceit. So that Mr. Kennedy is in the unavoidable case of explaining in what way he was able to come at this profanation of the secrecy of judicial proceedings.

Lastly, his Excellency wishes also to make known to your Honour, that as he has been, is, and always will be, disposed to receive denunciations of any infractions of the treaties which may occur, even if they should be like those of the British Commissary Judge, out of the way and completely unfounded, his Excellency will exempt all correspondence upon matters separate from that object.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 16 in No. 221.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, August 7, 1848.

I HAVE received an official letter from Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, in which he requests me to state to your Excellency, referring to an expression in your Excellency's note of the 30th of June last, that places him "under the imputation by implication, and his friends and informants directly, of having been actuated more by officiousness than by a regard to truth (*consciencia*) in the denunciations made," and that he hopes "your Excellency will acknowledge this imputation to be undeserved, and that it was impossible for any but the parties interested to know where a vessel was to be found which was hovering on the coast with slaves, waiting for instructions where to land them."

Mr. Kennedy also states that he had heard of the Señores Zulueta and Parejo who are said to have fitted out two vessels for Slave Trade, having gone to ask the Captain-General's indulgence for the introduction of these negroes, which report, if the Captain-General declare it unfounded, he is ready to acknowledge the error.

Beyond this, Mr. Kennedy "wishes to repeat his belief that two vessels have arrived with 700 slaves as he at first heard."

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 17 in No. 221.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 9, 1848.

I HAVE said to your Honour on a former occasion, and I repeat it now, that I am always disposed to attend to the denunciations which you make to me about the disembarkation of Bozal negroes, and to avail myself of the data which is supplied for the furtherance of the service in the fulfilment of the law in force; but I cannot nor ought I occupy myself with them after their inexactness has been fully proved.

No person has approached my authority to treat of or to interest himself for indulgence as to infractions; and as this indication of Mr. Kennedy's is repeated through you, I cast it back at once, as offensive to my character and the dignity which I represent.

Thus I answer your communication dated the 7th instant.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 222.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 13, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you copies of two despatches and of their inclosures which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the

Havana, on the subject of the 130 slaves recently seized at Cabañas by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

You will perceive from the latter of these despatches that it is reported, that under the pretence of giving to those negroes a civil and religious education, they have been assigned to the person on whose account they are said to have been imported, namely, the slave-dealer Zulueta and a person named Parejo, who is said to be the agent of Queen Christina.

I have to desire that you will ascertain and report to me what has been done with these negroes, and where they are placed; and if it should appear that they have been assigned to the persons for whom they had been imported, I have to instruct you to represent to the Captain-General that such a course is not a fulfilment of the Treaty, nor of the law passed in pursuance thereof, but an evasion of both.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 222.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston,
August 2 and 3, 1848.

[See Class A, Nos. 30 & 31, pages 37 & 38.]

No. 223.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October 14, 1848.*

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch and of its inclosure which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, on the subject of a negress who had presented herself to him, stating that she was held as a slave, although belonging to the class of emancipados.

You will perceive from this despatch, that Mr. Kennedy, feeling satisfied that she was an emancipada, and had come over in the slaver "*Ricomar*," condemned at the Havana in March 1836, made a representation of her case to the Captain-General.

The Captain-General having stated in reply to that representation, that there had been a full investigation into the case of the said negress, and that it had been indisputably proved that she was not an emancipada, and did not belong to the slaver "*Ricomar*," as stated by Mr. Kennedy, I have to instruct you to request the Captain-General to give you a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the investigation by which this result was arrived at.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 223.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston,
August 14, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 32, page 39.]

No. 224.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October 15, 1848.*

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, inclosing a copy of a
CLASS B.

communication which he had addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting an emancipado named Julian Carabali, whose term of service had recently expired, and who had been delivered up at the Government-House and subsequently reassigned for a further term of servitude. I transmit also a copy of the reply made by direction of the Captain-General to that communication, in which he contents himself with referring to the letter addressed to Mr. Kennedy on the 13th of August, a copy of which is inclosed in my despatch to you of this day's date, and which denies the truth of a representation of the same nature made to the Captain-General by Mr. Kennedy, relative to an emancipada from the slaver "*Risomar*."

I have to instruct you to state to the Captain-General, that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that this answer is not satisfactory; and that if the negro in question really is an emancipado, as appears to be the case, he ought to be given up according to the arrangement made in regard to persons of that class.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 224.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston.
August 22, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 34, page 42.]

No. 225.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 9, 1848.

I BEG leave to transmit herewith to your Lordship, copy of a letter which I considered it my duty to address to the Captain-General on the 3rd instant, respecting a vessel which had been purchased at New Orleans by parties here, for the purpose of slave-trading; and I beg to assure your Lordship that our vigilance for the faithful observance of the treaties will not be diminished by his Excellency's want of patience and want of courtesy as displayed in his reply, which I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship in the accompanying inclosure.

The brigantine referred to is the "*Thomas Street*," about 150 tons, and a fast sailer; she was newly coppered and otherwise repaired at New Orleans. Pig-iron ballast has been put on board her here; but I understand her fittings for Slave Trade are to be completed at a port in the United States, from whence she will proceed to the coast of Africa, most probably under American colours.

Rumour here fixes the ownership of this and of other extensive adventures, which are said to be in progress of outfit from the United States and elsewhere, upon Don Antonio Juan Parejo, the agent in this island of Queen Christina; and that he is associated in them with persons of notoriety in the Slave Trade, such as Don Julian de Zulueta, and a nephew of the house of Zamá, and at one time known in that infamous and detestable traffic.

The two latter departed suddenly for New York by an American steamer on the 18th ultimo. From the United States they are to proceed to Spain for the purpose, and with the expectation, as I understand, of obtaining protection for their adventures specially, or instructions for General Roncali to alter his policy and shut his eyes to the importation of negroes from Africa.

For this purpose it is said there is a very extensive combination, and that large sums of money will be forthcoming to attain their objects at Madrid.

This expedition of Zulueta and his companion to Spain has been occasioned by their having found the Captain-General inaccessible to all their seductive proposals, so that, if need be, and money can effect it, they may operate his recall and arrange for the appointment of some one already compromised to their purposes as his successor.

I therefore hasten to report these circumstances to your Lordship, that the machinations of these men, who I understand represent all the slave-traders in the island, may be frustrated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 225.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, September 3, 1848.

THE American brigantine "*Thomas Street*," now in this harbour, has been purchased by parties here who intend to employ her in the Slave Trade. The purchase was effected at New Orleans, and the vessel is to be delivered over in an American port, but many of the preparatives for the coast have been completed here, such as the taking in of iron ingots for ballast, &c.

I consider it my duty to report this circumstance to your Excellency, as showing, beyond a doubt, that slave-trading is still carried on, and that it will require all the vigilance of the officers under your Excellency's orders to prevent and detect the intended infractions of the treaties, more especially if the rumours are well founded as to the principal originators of these adventures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 225.

The Captain-General to Mr. Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 8, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General, having informed himself of the communication made by your Honour in your official letter of the 3rd instant, relative to the American brig "*Thomas Street*," stating that it is the intention of the individuals who have purchased her, to employ her in the Traffic of Slaves.

There is in the second paragraph of your letter two expressions which have attracted the attention of his Excellency; one is "the contemplated infractions of the treaties," and the other which immediately follows it, "the principal originator of these adventures."

His said Excellency directs me to say to your Honour, that the exact and true regarding the treaties on Slave Trade is, that there is no Slave Traffic in this island; and, consequently, there are no infractions, since in the only case of their introduction which has been attempted they were captured, and certainly not upon your Honour's informations or denouncements; because for vigilance and for the fulfilling of the sovereign instructions, his Excellency does not need them. But as speaking of contemplated infractions and the origin of such adventures, supposes that your Honour has data, you ought to state them with clearness, with the understanding that by the same superior order, I warn your Honour that in future he will not take up his time, nor even answer you, respecting private persons, coupled with a denouncement having the appearance of accusations, unless their names are given and the corresponding details.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

No. 226.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship copy of a correspondence between Her Majesty's Commissary Judge and myself, upon Mr.

Kennedy's denouncement of the American brig "*Thomas Street*," which had been anticipated by me and reported to the Captain-General. Copies of my correspondence with his Excellency relative to this case have been transmitted by me to Her Majesty's Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 226.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Havana, September 4, 1848.

I UNDERSTAND that the American schooner "*Thomas Street*," lately employed in the trade between this port and New Orleans, and celebrated for her fast-sailing properties, has been bought to be engaged in Slave Trade. She is, I understand, already prepared, and is announced for New York, but is to be given up at Key West. I think this should be repeated to the Captain-General, as an indication of the slave-dealers continuing their speculations.

I am told that Don Antonio Juan Parejo is at the head of this adventure, and that he has a Royal Order to protect him from prosecution in respect of his acts.

Inclosure 2 in No. 226.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Havana, September 5, 1848.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th relative to the "*Thomas Street*" having been sold to parties who intend to employ her in Slave Trade.

On the previous day I wrote to his Excellency on the subject, and adverted to the ownership of the adventure, having understood that M. Parejo was supposed to be the principal party interested; but as M. Zulueta went to New York last time the "*Crescent City*" passed this way, I am disposed to think that the "*Thomas Street*" will be sent there to be transferred and not to Key West, as it was at first reported in town. However, that point is quite immaterial.

No. 227.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 16, 1848.

I HAVE been endeavouring, but I regret to say without success, to obtain information as to the state of the proceedings at the Royal Audiencia, in the affair of the slaver at Cabañas. As yet the sentence has not been promulgated.

I have however learnt from an authentic source, that upon the declaration of the approver, Juan Manuel de Besamillas, whose case I did myself the honour of bringing under your Lordship's notice in my despatch of the 5th ultimo, the mate proper of the slaver (said Besamillas having been supernumerary) was arrested, and is prisoner in the public gaol.

Besamillas and the mate were conducted, about the 25th ultimo, to Cabañas, where their declarations were revised; and the slaver was raised and kept afloat for some ten days, after which she was sunk by the authorities at another part of the bay in deep water; but whether she was rendered useless previous to her being so sunk, Besamillas, from whom I had the information, does not know. Juan Pigat, the master, has escaped. He embarked from Regla on board the "*Crescent City*," American steamer, and departed for New York at the same time with M. Zulueta, 18th ultimo, as I have done myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch of the 9th instant; and so I am led to infer that he is under that protection.

Whether the felucca was rendered useless by the authorities or not, I con-

sider that it has been with a view to avoid the sensation which would have been caused had she been brought here a prize, that whatever has been done to the "*Columbia*" was executed at such an out of the way place as Cabañas, and there surely is great room for complaint against this act of the Audiencia since the exhibition of a miserable little vessel of only 29 tons in this harbour could hardly have failed to produce a great moral effect, when it became known to the public that she had been confiscated for slave-trading, and that, besides her own crew engaged in this infamous traffic, no less than 155 miserable human beings had been crammed into such a cock-boat, and had endured the horrors of the middle passage for upwards of forty days.

The poor man Besamillas is, I understand, amongst the commonest felon convicts in what is called the "*Galera*" at the prison, whilst the other prisoner, the mate of the slaver, is better treated, and is in what is called the "*Sala libre*."

I hope that your Lordship will not think it improper that I should place the approver under your Lordship's consideration, in the belief that his pardon would have a most beneficial effect, and induce others to come forward and denounce acts of Slave Trade, from doing which they are deterred by the fear of punishment; as there is no clause in the Penal Law of Spain holding out encouragement to such as, from any cause whatsoever, might denounce their accomplices.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 228.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 23.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 20, 1848.

THE American brig "*Thomas Street*," subject of my despatch of the 9th ultimo, sailed from this port on the 1st instant, cleared out for New York, she however proceeded no farther than Caso Blanco in the Bay of Cardenas, where she was transferred to the purchasers and delivered to a Spanish captain; she sailed, as the American master was informed, for Brazil without having any legal papers on board, so far as said American master could ascertain.

The register was delivered up by the master (McConnell) to the American Consul, as well as the roll, and all the Americans who were amongst the crew returned here; but the master refused to answer any questions put to him by his Consul as to the new ownership of the brig, although there is no reason whatever to suppose that he has retained any share or interest in her. There is no doubt that this vessel is gone to the coast of Africa to be employed in the Slave Trade, and I have no reason to alter the report which I have already made to your Lordship as to the real owners of this and other adventures in slave-trading, which have been undertaken recently at this place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 229.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 2, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of September last, in answer to my despatch of the 5th of August, relative to the man Juan Manuel Besamillas, who turned approver in the case of the slaver "*Columbia*," which landed 150 slaves at Cabañas.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction I shall take a fitting opportunity of suggesting to his Excellency the Captain-General the expediency of representing the case of Besamillas and his Excellency's recommending for grace to the Queen of Spain, as well as that his Excellency should be invested with the discretionary power to pardon and hold out hopes of pardon to induce others like Besamillas to come forward and denounce slave-trading; and I shall not fail to report the result to your Lordship.

As yet no sentence has been promulgated by the Royal Audiencia in the matter of the "*Columbia*," but Pedro Pigat the master, and the crew, fourteen in number, have been proclaimed and called upon by public edict to present themselves in the common gaol upon their defence within nine days, or be sentenced in absence and contempt, as your Lordship will observe by the two copies of the said edict which I have the honour of transmitting herewith.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 229.

Public edict; from the "Gaceta de la Habana" of October 29, 1848.

Habana y 19 Octubre de 1848.

Don Ignacio de Ramon Carbonel, Oidor de la Real Audiencia Pretorial, Juez Comisionado por la Real Sala primera de Justicia de la misma, &c.

POR esta mi segunda carta de edicto cito, llamo y emplazo á Don Pedro Pigat, capitan del falucho negrero, procedente de la costa de Africa, nombrado "*Columbia*" ó "*Calumnia*," y á los 12 marineros que componian su tripulacion cuyos nombres se ignoran, y tambien al contraamaestre, despensero y mozo de Camara de la propia embarcacion, para que en el término de nueve dias contados desde el de la fecha de la última publicacion, se presenten en la Real carcel de Córte á descargarse de la culpa que les resulta, ciertos y seguros que si así lo hicieren se les oirá y administrará justicia, y de lo contrario se les declarará incurso en las penas legales. Que por auto que he proveido en la citada causa así lo tengo mandado.

IGNACIO DE RAMON CARBONEL.

Por Mandado de su Señoría,
VICENTE RODRIGUEZ PEREZ.

No. 230.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 26, 1848.

I RESPECTFULLY beg your Lordship's reference to the correspondence relative to the man Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, who was on board the slaver "*Columbia*," which landed 150 Bozal negroes at Cabañas in July last, and in obedience to the instruction which I had the honour of receiving from your Lordship, the receipt of which I acknowledged in my despatch dated the 2nd instant, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of a correspondence which I have had with his Excellency the Captain-General, who desired that I would communicate to him your Lordship's instructions in writing; and your Lordship will doubtless observe the objections which have been raised by his Excellency to solicit grace for the prisoner Besamillas, as well as the difficulty he expresses as to soliciting or moving the Spanish Government for a special extension of his prerogative, or an alteration of the Penal Law, giving power to pardon and to hold out the hope of pardon to approvers in cases of the transgression of that law, whose denouncements of their accomplices might lead to their detection and punishment.

I considered it my duty to reply to his Excellency with some details of Don Juan Manuel Besamillas' case, and in order to place in its proper light the effect of the addition suggested to be made to the Penal Law of the 4th March, 1845, conferring power for his Excellency to pardon approvers whose denouncements of their accomplices in crime should lead to their apprehension and conviction, which appeared to have been imperfectly understood by him.

Not having been favoured with an answer to my last communication, I this morning waited upon his Excellency and ascertained from him verbally, that the matter will be transmitted to Madrid, in common with the other affairs of this Government, at the same time giving me to understand that he did not feel

himself warranted specially to adopt the initiative as to the points I had suggested to his Excellency under your Lordship's instruction, for the reasons which he had given in his note of the 13th instant.

Besamillas is still in prison, and no sentence has as yet been pronounced in the trial by the Royal Audiencia.

I consider that, defective as the Penal Law most certainly is, its having been brought into operation by the denouncement of his accomplices made by Besamillas has had a most salutary effect, and will deter many from engaging in the Slave Trade for the future; and how much more would the danger of denouncement weigh with those engaged in that nefarious traffic, were informers sure of pardon, whose evidence led to the conviction and punishment of their accomplices, and if that inducement was held out to approvers by announcement of the Spanish Government conferring special authority to that effect upon the Governors Captains-General of this island and of Puerto Rico.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 230.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, November 10, 1848.

HAVING reported to Her Majesty's Government the arrival of the slave-vessel "*Columbia*," which landed a cargo of negroes from Africa in July last, at Cabañas, and the capture of 130 of those unfortunate creatures by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel; I took occasion to notice to my Government the circumstance of Don Juan Manuel Besamillas having presented himself to your Excellency denouncing the master and crew of the said slaver, stating at the same time that the whole case had been delivered over by your Excellency to the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, as the tribunal designated by the Penal Law passed at Madrid the 4th day of March, 1845, competent to take cognizance of such offences.

At the time the said Besamillas delivered himself up, your Excellency informed me that under the law just referred to, there is no power, discretionary or otherwise, reserved to your Excellency by which pardon could be granted to persons who, like him, were induced to become approvers, and so lead to the apprehension and punishment of their accomplices in slave-trading.

This I considered it my duty also to represent and to state, that the said Don Juan Manuel Besamillas had consequently been sent to prison, that he was taking his trial before the Royal Audiencia where he would most probably be convicted upon his own confession and be sentenced to the extreme penalty of the law, without any power of commuting or remitting the punishment to which he must necessarily be condemned. And I pointed out to Her Majesty's Government how much good would be likely to result from an alteration of the Penal Law in question, by a clause giving power to your Excellency to pardon in such cases as that of Besamillas, or that your Excellency's prerogative should be extended in a special manner, so that pardon should be granted, and the hope of pardon should be held out to those who, concerned themselves in slave-trading, should come forward and denounce to your Excellency their guilty accomplices so as to lead to their apprehension and punishment.

I have now the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I am instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Palmerston, to the effect that his Lordship conceives that there can be little doubt that the approver Don Juan Manuel Besamillas will be pardoned by the Queen of Spain, if recommended for grace by your Excellency; and also, that the discretionary authority which your Excellency should be invested with, would be granted, should your Excellency be pleased to represent the expediency of such a measure.

In obedience to these instructions, I beg leave to solicit your Excellency's recommendation of the said Don Juan Besamillas for grace to Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, and that your Excellency would be pleased also to represent the expediency of your Excellency being invested with discretionary power to pardon,

and to hold out hopes of pardon in future to those who may turn approvers, as an inducement for their denouncing to your Excellency their guilty accomplices in slave-trading.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 230.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 13, 1848.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of the 10th instant, relative to the soliciting my recommendation to Her Majesty for grace on behalf of Don Juan Besamillas who awaits the sentence of the tribunal of the Audiencia Pretorial in the trial as to the landing of Bozal negroes at Cabañas in the month of July last.

It is not in legal course for the authorities to make application for grace for prisoners not yet condemned (sentenced), and under other jurisdictions; but when the prosecutions are of such a character as that of Besamillas, where the law which may condemn him proceeds from a solemn treaty, any step whatever would be highly disapproved and reprehensible, falling under the royal displeasure of Her Majesty whose generous nature very often anticipates the supplications for pardon, and receives with benignity those (supplications) of the delinquents which reach her. It is still farther from being within my attributes to apply for the alteration which should be introduced into the law, in order to invest me with discretionary power to pardon in future those who present themselves as approvers as an encouragement for them to denounce their companions (accomplices) than to solicit the pardon of the prisoner. And besides I must say to your Honour that even if according to the spirit of the Spanish codes such a clause were admissible as would secure the impunity of the approvers, the Penal Law would thereby be annulled; because all the accomplices would apply for pardon from the moment the cargo was introduced, or that they heard of their being compromised, they would present themselves to any of the authorities.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) THE CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 230.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, November 17, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 13th instant, in reply to my communication of the 10th idem.

I regret that your Excellency does not think it proper to solicit Her Majesty the Queen, for grace in favour of the prisoner Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, who is undergoing his trial before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, as having been concerned in the slaver "*Columbia*," which landed a cargo of Bozal negroes at Cabañas in July last. I crave your Excellency's indulgence in stating that said Besamillas was on board the slaver in question under peculiar circumstances, and he declares that had he known that the felucca was going on a voyage to carry negroes to this island, he would not have embarked in her. He states that he was on shore in Brazil when the master Pedro Pigat, of the said vessel, the "*Columbia*," proposed to engage him to go as piloto to the coast of Africa; that it was some days after they sailed that the said master informed him that if they met with an English cruizer, he, Besamillas, was to act as the master of the felucca and Pigat was to figure as a passenger; and then it was that Besamillas discovered that he was not the piloto, as he supposed himself, but was supernumerary on board the "*Columbia*."

That he then remonstrated with the captain, but before anything was concluded they reached the coast without having been fallen in with by any cruizer, and in a few hours were filled with negro slaves and on their way to this island.

The said Besamillas declares that he never was at any time previous on board of a slaver nor engaged in the Slave Trade. That if he could have got on shore from the "*Columbia*," after he knew that she was going to carry negroes to this island he would have left that vessel; and he further declares that he has never entered into any agreement with Don Pedro Pigat, the master of the slaver felucca "*Columbia*," nor with any one else to proceed on a slaving voyage or to be concerned in slave-trading, nor did he receive any pay or gratification from the master of the "*Columbia*," and I have reason to believe that, but for said Besamillas having presented himself to your Excellency, it would not have been discovered that the felucca had been sunk at Cabañas, nor would other circumstances have become known, which his evidence must have led to before the tribunal.

I would submit these circumstances to the superior consideration of your Excellency, in case they may be thought of any merit in the ulterior resolution of your Excellency.

And as respects the matter of the faculty with which Her Majesty's Government are desirous your Excellency should be invested, its exercise would render the operation of the Penal Law so much more effectual, since the apprehension and conviction of the accomplices, would be a condition or stipulation for the pardon of approvers in all cases, but which grace would not, as your Excellency appears to understand it, be extended to all who being concerned in any infraction of the law, might after its completion present themselves for indulgence, or who being denounced, might afterwards deliver themselves to any of the authorities.

With these observations, which I consider it my duty to lay before your Excellency in the furtherance of the instruction which I have received from my Government upon this important subject to represent, I pray your Excellency to accept, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 231.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1849.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 11, 1848.

IN obedience to the instruction conveyed in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of October, the receipt of which and of its inclosures I have now the honour to acknowledge, I addressed the Captain-General requesting his Excellency to furnish me with a copy of the minutes of the proceedings upon the case of the negress alluded to in Mr. Kennedy's letter of the 20th of July, which formed inclosure No. 1 in Her Majesty's Commissary Judge's despatch to your Lordship of the 14th of August last.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of the correspondence, according to which it appears that the result of the investigation which took place was against the pretention of the negress in question to her free papers. On the contrary, it goes to show that she was not on board the "*Ricomar*," and not even belonging to the class of emancipados. She was held to be a slave in all the papers of sale corresponding to the various owners through whose hands she had passed in that condition, but that nevertheless she was referred to the proper officer, the Procurador-General or Syndic, whose duty it is to prefer the claims of slaves and all persons who allege claims to freedom, in case she persisted in asserting that she was an emancipada and as such entitled to her free papers.

I have communicated this result to Her Majesty's Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 231.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, December 5, 1848.

HER Majesty's Government having under consideration the correspondence with your Excellency relative to a negress of the class of emancipados, which was transmitted by Her Majesty's Judge, Mr. Kennedy, to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Palmerston has instructed me to request that your Excellency will be pleased to furnish me with a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the investigation of this case, which is referred to in your Excellency's letter to Mr. Kennedy of the 13th of August last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 231.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 9, 1848.

OWING to the circumstance of there not being any Representative of Her Britannic Majesty at present in Madrid, I could have no objection to send to your Honour a copy of the proceedings which, according to your communication of the 5th instant, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has instructed you to ask for if the investigation had been in writing, which I ordered to be gone into in consequence of the letter of the British Commissary Judge of the 20th of July, relative to a negress which he stated was of the class of emancipados and was held as a slave; but for the same reason I shall state to your Honour that the answer which was given by my order to the said Commissary Judge was founded upon the following data proved in this Government office:—1st. None of the negresses brought by the brig "*Ricomar*" obtained the name of Teresa. 2nd. She which appears with the African name of Abale, which is, as she says, she was called in her own country, is the individual called Rufina, at this day existing in this capital. 3rd. All the free papers ("*cartas de libertad*") having been looked over, as well of those who have died as of those who are alive, and having examined the negress Teresa, her corporeal marks do not agree with those which are stamped in the letters of freedom. 4th. None of the negresses of the brig "*Ricomar*" died in the barracoon before or after their filiation, consequently it is not possible either to suppose that this one died at that time. 5th. It appears from the search which was instituted in the protocols of the public scriveners, that the negress Teresa has had many owners, and has always been sold and bought as that slave. 6th. It is deduced from the inquiries made, that the negress was in an understanding with other negresses belonging to the said vessel, so that they should declare as she did, but separately examined there was discrepancy, and the confabulation was noticed.

With these proceedings the referred-to writing of Mr. Kennedy was answered, and the negress was informed that if she insisted in that she was not really a slave she should apply before the Syndic Procurador-General to state and make valid her rights, since he is (as your Honour must be aware) the natural and legal defender of the rights of slaves according to the protecting laws which rule slavery within the Spanish possessions. His duties constitute an honourable charge always performed with the greatest zeal, and whose representations before all the tribunals are privileged and gratuitously attended to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 232.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1849.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 15, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th of October, instructing me to state to the Captain-General that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the answer which was given to Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, upon his representation of the case of the emancipado Julian Carabali is not satisfactory, and that if the negro in question really is an emancipado, as appears to be the case, he ought to be given up, according to the arrangement made in regard to persons of that class.

In obedience thereto I wrote to the Captain-General on the 6th instant, and on the 11th I received an answer from his Excellency evading the question, and which I did not consider satisfactory by any means.

I therefore again addressed him, and I took occasion to embody in my letter your Lordship's full and conclusive instruction upon the subject of the emancipados and the right of Her Majesty's Government to interfere respecting them, and to obtain their freedom as founded upon treaties and subsequent arrangements.

I have now the honour of laying this correspondence before your Lordship, and I would very respectfully submit to your Lordship's notice the Colonel Secretary's reply to my second letter, wherein he says, by direction of his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, that his Excellency would be excused the annoyance of further writings upon this subject, and distinctly states that my efforts are useless in a matter the alteration of which must emanate from the Court.

I should suppose that this reply, which is not couched in very courteous terms, is, however, quite conclusive as to this Government's acting under the instructions from Spain, denying our right of interference on behalf of that unfortunate class the emancipados whose freedom is to be at the arbitrary will of these authorities.

The Captain-General states that the rule is the 7th Article of Regulations for the Mixed Commissions annexed to the Treaty of 1817, and he makes no allusion to subsequent arrangements, according to which all the emancipados were to be freed on or before the 1st of January, 1846, although the circumstances under which Her Majesty's Government were induced to consent to that arrangement are brought under his Excellency's notice in my letter, so that if we are to take his statement as being correct, it seems that no instructions were given by the Spanish Government to the Captain-General of Cuba for the fulfilment of the conditions of the arrangement entered into at the suggestion of General Don Geronimo Valdes for the freedom of all the emancipados who continue to suffer the miseries of slavery, from which they must be rescued by our interference.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 232.
*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.**Havana, December 6, 1848.*

I AM instructed by Viscount Palmerston, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, with reference to the case of a negro named Julian Carabali, which was brought under your Excellency's notice by Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, Mr. Kennedy, on the 14th of August last, to state, that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that your Excellency's answer is not satisfactory, and that if the negro in question is really an emancipado, as appears to be the case, he ought to be given up, according to the arrangement made in regard to persons of that class.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 232.

The Secretary to Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 11, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has informed himself of your Honour's communication of the 6th instant, in which you make known your having received instructions from the First Secretary of State, to notify him that the answer received on the 21st of August by the British Commissary Judge of the Mixed Court, with reference to the negro Julian Carabali was not satisfactory.

I am directed by his Excellency to say to your Honour that you may make the necessary use thereof according to your instructions; that the answer indicated not being found satisfactory, ought to be attributed to the judgment of the British Commissary, who no doubt does not think the letter which produced it inadequate (improper).

But as neither in the stipulations of the treaties nor in the orders of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, the obligation upon which he appears to found himself is set forth, as is shown explicitly and terminantly, the power given to the Governor Captain-General to deliver to the emancipados their letters of freedom, when he thinks they have sufficient religious instruction and the necessary aptitude to honesty, subject themselves without inconvenience to society; it results that it was only because of a gracious deference towards Mr. Kennedy, which he at that time did think inopportune, else his Excellency would have entered into explanations respecting the individual about whom he inquired; for your Honour knows as well as the Commissary Judge, that monthly and successively, accordingly as there are proofs of fitness of those whose periods have expired, their letters of freedom are given to them without the necessity of references to the treaties, in the observance of which no one surpasses him, nor of the recollection or citation of the acts of his Excellency Don Geronimo Valdes, and his conditional and inexplicit offer upon this subject.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 232.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.**Havana, December 11, 1848.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of the Colonel Secretary's note of this date by your Excellency's direction, in reply to mine of the 6th instant, and I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying it before Her Majesty's Government.

It will be my duty, however, to notice, that your Excellency has not been pleased to allude to the circumstances of the negro Julian Carabali, subject of Mr. Kennedy's note to your Excellency, which gave rise to this correspondence; and I beg leave to bring this poor man's case under your Excellency's notice.

And in obedience to the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, with reference to your Excellency's observations conveyed to me by the Colonel Secretary, and also to your Excellency's intimation to me of the 7th of May last, as to the right of Her Majesty's Consul, or of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, to interfere respecting that class of persons known as the emancipados, I am to state to your Excellency, that although there is no stipulation in the treaties respecting such interference, Her Majesty's functionaries have the right to interfere concerning these emancipados.

These persons, it is to be remembered, are the survivors of those negroes who were emancipated at Havana under the Treaty of 1817, and who were consigned to the care of the Spanish Government in order to be made free.

Instead of this having been done, they have been held in practical bondage.

These negroes, therefore, being entitled by treaty to their absolute freedom, Her Majesty's Government have the right, which they have always asserted, to

require freedom for those negroes, in virtue of the guarantee given to Great Britain by Spain in Article VII of the 3rd Annex to the Treaty of 1817.

But in the year 1842, Her Majesty's Government confiding in the honour and good faith of the Spanish Government, and desirous of consulting the convenience of the Colonial Government of Her Catholic Majesty, did not resist a proposal which was made at the suggestion of the Captain-General of Cuba, that the freedom of the emancipados should take place gradually, so as that in five years from the 1st of January, 1841, all the emancipados in Cuba should obtain their freedom.

So far from the promised freedom having been obtained by the whole number of emancipados within the specific term of five years, which term expired now nearly three years ago, there are still many hundreds of these unfortunate people unjustly retained in bondage!

Such, your Excellency, is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government respecting this great and important act of justice and humanity which it is your Excellency's high province to complete, the giving freedom to the remainder of the emancipados in Cuba.

And it will be my most pleasing duty to convey to Her Majesty's Government the assurance that your Excellency is engaged in its early accomplishment, seeing, as I have so satisfactorily shown, that their undoubted claims to freedom have been so long postponed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 232.

The Secretary to Government to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 14, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's communication of the 11th instant, and in consequence he has directed me to state that all your arguments turning upon the guarantee included in Article VII of the Regulations for the Mixed Commissions annexed to the Treaty of 1817; and it being in force and vigour without having been in any way placed in doubt until now, he cannot discover the object of your citation, nor understand the mistaken idea of its application to the system adopted in 1841, for delivering their letters of freedom to the emancipados which your Honour wishes to deduce.

The situation of the individual Julian Carabali, which served as a pretext for beginning this correspondence, and whom your Honour ventures to call unhappy, is similar to that of those of his class over whom the authorities carefully watch, and which is not deplorable, as your Honour appears to signify. It has been proved, notwithstanding the attraction of the letter of freedom, that it is objected to by all those who are placed at the disposition of the British Commissary Judge to be sent to Jamaica, selected from amongst those who periodically receive them.

At any rate, and that your Honour may know that he would be excused the annoyance of further writings upon this subject, his Excellency has directed me to say to you, that all these matters having been communicated to the Government of Her Majesty our August Sovereign, with all that his Excellency thought convenient, he cannot deviate in anything from the instructions in force and the established practice, unless he receives other orders, for which reasons, your Honour's good efforts in the execution of the office you so worthily occupy are useless upon questions the alteration of which must emanate from the Court.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

No. 233.

Consul-General Crauford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1849.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 22, 1848.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 13th of October and its inclosures.

I have endeavoured by every means possible to ascertain what has been done with the negroes which were landed at Cabañas from the slaver "*Columbia*" and seized by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel; I have also endeavoured to learn facts which might confirm Mr. Kennedy's information, stated to your Lordship in his letter of the 3rd of August last; but I have not been able to discover anything which could be construed to authenticate the rumour upon which Her Majesty's Commissioner founded his report relative to the ownership of that expedition.

Certain it is that the emancipados in question were assigned to M. Parejo and to M. Julian Zulueta; but I cannot state either of those parties to have been concerned in the slave expedition out of which these Bozales were captured; so that I have no case upon which to found the representation which I should otherwise have addressed to the Captain-General, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction.

As regards the prosecution of those who were the owners of the "*Columbia*" and her cargo, I have already reported to your Lordship the slow progress made by the Royal Audiencia, and I have now the honour to report that the matter appears to be allowed to lie over.

I have never been able to learn that the authorities, who most certainly connived at the landing of the cargo of the "*Columbia*" at Cabañas, have been punished. No sentence has as yet been promulgated by the tribunal. The Judge Carbonell, to whom it fell in turn at the Audiencia, has lately become incapacitated, from an attack of apoplexy or paralysis; and I have looked into the Penal Law, but cannot find a clause which is applicable to the prisoners. The 1st Article, and also the 2nd, has reference to the crews, &c., of vessels on board of which there were negroes from Africa at the time of capture; and the 3rd and 4th applying to the punishment of those found on board of vessels destined to be employed in Slave Trade, and whether captured at sea, or already at anchor, or steering for the coast of Africa. In none of those cases do I find Don Juan Manuel Besamillas, who gave himself up, nor the chief mate of the "*Columbia*" (who was arrested upon the former's denouncement), both of whom are still in confinement; so that my impression is that they will by and by be put at liberty, their imprisonment during a protracted trial being their only punishment; so defective is the Penal Law in its construction, and, as a penal enactment, it has to be interpreted strictly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 234.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crauford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1849.

I HAVE to desire that you will endeavour to ascertain, and that you will report to me, how many slaves are supposed to have been landed in Cuba during the year 1848.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 235.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord,

Havana, December 31, 1848.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch dated the 18th of September last, I have now the honour of inclosing herewith a list of the British subjects who are owners of slaves, stating in what way their slaves are employed.

But I think it necessary to acquaint your Lordship that there may be others elsewhere in the island who are slave-owners, not within my knowledge, and also that several British subjects who have married foreigners hold slaves in their wives' names, as well as that some British subjects are owners of slaves jointly with Spaniards and other foreigners, their partners. So also it may be that some British subjects in reality are the owners of slaves standing in the names of Spaniards and others who have lent themselves to figure as the owners.

Your Lordship will readily perceive that it would be very difficult to fix the ownership of slaves upon parties whose minds have been made up to evade the provisions of the recent act of Parliament. If referred to themselves, they could hardly be expected to tell the truth.

Nor has it been possible for me to get lists from the remote places, having no Consular Agents at any of the outports; and there are many British subjects on the island that I have never heard of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 235.

LIST of British subjects resident at Havana and elsewhere, in the Island of Cuba, who are slave-owners, and stating how they are employed, in agriculture or otherwise.

HAVANA.

Attridge and Orr, as cabinet-makers.
 Samuel Lindsay, carpenters.
 Daniel Warren, artisans.
 Robert Morrison, house servants.
 John Macnab, iron and brass-founders.
 Hadwen McGregor and Co., house servants.
 John Bevington, house servants.
 Charles D. Tolmé, house servants.
 Henry Datton, house servants.
 William Stewart, house servants, hired out.
 Edward Finlay, house servants, hired out.
 Heirs of S. Tennant, house servants, hired out.
 James Lawton, hired out, and as servants and labourers.
 William Jowitt, carpenters.
 Alexander Mein, house servant.
 Urtelegui Robertson and Co., house servant.

Note.—There may be others I do not know of; and some of these above mentioned hold the slaves in partnership with Spanish partners, others in their wives' names, who are Spaniards or other foreigners.

MATANZAS.

William Sims, masons and house servant.
 James Scott, masons and house servant.
 Hugh Carrigan, carpenters and house servant.
 Henry Elkins, moulders and house servant.
 James Coulson, moulders and house servant.

William Adams, sugar-refiners, house servant.
 Martin Burns, labourers, house servant.

CARDENAS.

Thomas Lovat, house servants.
 William Kent, masons.
 Robert Kent, masons.
 Thomas Kent, masons.
 Thomas Owens, agriculture.
 Theodore Phinney, agriculture.
 Mary Ann Powers, agriculture.
 William Fowler, masons.
 Thomas Seller, house servants.

From other places in the island I have no returns; but there are doubtless some British subjects slave-owners at all the places of note. Near Sibara are Wood, Paterson and Chapman, who are all slave-owners.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 236.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7, 1849.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 31, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour of bringing the case of the negro boy Carlos, under the notice of your Lordship upon various occasions, and in my despatch of the 3rd of September last year I recapitulated to your Lordship the progress which I had been able to make in tracing the lad's parents; I respectfully beg leave to refer to that communication.

Since the date above mentioned, indeed ever since the year 1843, I have been in correspondence with the Governors of Jamaica, under whose directions every search has been made to discover Carlos' mother; at last it was hoped that a certain Priscilla Brownrigg might be the boy's parent, she having lost a child, stolen from her about the same time that Charles states he was kidnapped.

Priscilla herself was of the opinion that he might turn out to be her long lost son who was taken away from Montego Bay, and the necessary passport having been obtained, she was sent here by Sir Charles Grey in the packet of this month; but I regret to state to your Lordship that upon their being brought before the Judge, Priscilla at once said that Carlos was not her son, and he as immediately declared that Priscilla was not his mother.

I am therefore very apprehensive that our endeavours have been fruitless, and that for want of identifying his person, we cannot obtain the poor fellow's freedom, to which I am quite satisfied he is fully entitled, by his looks, his language, and his demeanour. Priscilla is suffering from the great disappointment she has met with, as she came over fully expecting to find her lost child. She will return to Jamaica by the next packet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 237.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of a letter which was addressed to me on the 4th instant by Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, given rise to by a conversation which he had with a gentleman from Jamaica, who lately visited this island with a view of obtaining full and correct information and details respecting the cultivation of sugar.

Mr. Kennedy I presume was under the impression, produced by Mr. —'s

report of the conversation he had with the engineer of a steam-boat, that the negroes carried by her were either the rest of a much larger number which were reported to him as having been landed at Cabañas or Mariel in July last, or that they were the other cargo of which he at that time had information.

It however turns out, as your Lordship will observe by this correspondence, that the negroes to which the engineer alluded, were those which were brought by the felucca "*Columbia*," or at least that part of her lading which was captured by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel, and sent from Cabañas to this port.

Mr. —, the engineer of the coasting packet-boat "*Cubano*," notwithstanding is under the belief that more than 150 negroes were on board the felucca at the time of her arrival in Cabañas; but as there can be no reason for the approver Besamillas under stating their number, and Mr. — could give no good reason in support of his opinion, I am inclined to believe what was told me by the piloto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 237.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Dear Sir,

Havana, January 5, 1849.

YOU will remember that in July and August last there was a controversy between me and the Captain-General whether one or two vessels had then lately arrived in this coast with slaves. I stated, on what I thought good authority, that one had come with about 300 slaves, of which a considerable portion had been seized by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

I heard afterwards of another having come to Cabañas, of which I wrote to you, and you, in your letter to me of the 20th July, replied that the Government had no notice of any having come to Cabañas. The approver, Besamillas, afterwards proved that one did come to Cabañas, on the 15th July, with 150 slaves; and I declared this on my information to be a second arrival.

Mr. — of Jamaica, who left this place in the "*Trent*," shortly before he left, told me, in the company and hearing of Mr Heywood, M.P., that he had been informed by an Englishman, the engineer of one of the steamers belonging to this port, that his steam-boat had been engaged in bringing away the cargo of a slaver, which arrived about six months since with 300 slaves, of which a number had been seized by the Government. This number and account agree with what I had heard; and as I do not know of any Englishman being on board any steam-boat here, I repeat to you this statement, in case you may be able to investigate the fact. Mr. — declined giving me the name of the boat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 237.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Dear Sir,

Havana, January 13, 1848.

ON the 4th instant I received your letter, the receipt of which I had the pleasure of acknowledging to you in person; and I should sooner have answered you upon the subject of its contents, could I have made the investigation which you were desirous I should of the facts stated to you by Mr. — of Jamaica, in Mr. Heywood's presence, which are adverted to by you.

Previous to the receipt of your letter, Mr. — had departed by the "*Trent*" steamer, and I had but little data to guide me in the required investigation; but as I knew Mr. —'s route in visiting the plantations, I came to the conclusion that the boat which conveyed him to Sagua was most probably the one on board of which he met and had the conversation with the engineer, which he reported to you.

CLASS B.

In this conjecture I was right; and that steamer having come to this port on the 8th instant, I sent for the engineer who recollected having met Mr. —, and having had a conversation with him to the effect and purport you mention.

Upon closely interrogating him, I found that the negroes which he alluded to as having been brought from Cabañas to this port were the 130 which were captured by the Governor of Mariel in July last. They were delivered alongside the coasting passage steam-boat "Cubano" at Cabañas by an officer, and were taken away also by a Government officer after their arrival here.

Said engineer states that he was at Cabañas when the slaver arrived which brought those negroes. That she was a felucca, a small vessel, with one mast, and latine-rigged. That she was crowded with negroes, some of whom were sent on shore immediately after her arrival: does not know how many were so landed, but he thinks more than twenty. That he thinks more than 150 negroes came in the felucca, but has no other reason for thinking so than that he saw her very full; and in his opinion she could have brought more than that number. He states that the officers of all grades are in the habit of taking bribes, which they accept in slaves when there is no money; and he thinks (but is not sure) it probable that a good number of those brought by that slaver went to the Commandant of the Castle, the Capitan de Partido, and other officers, who eventually disagreed, and were dissatisfied with what they were to get for conniving at the disembarkation; and it was that which led to the seizure of the remaining 130 by the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel.

The engineer was interrogated by me as to the arrival at Cabañas, or thereabouts, at or nearly about the same time, in July last, of another cargo of negroes from the coast of Africa; but he was unable to give me information of any precise nature upon that point: generally he said that importations were more frequent thereabouts, viz., at Cabañas, Mariel, Bahia Honda, La Mulata, and the Cays of the Colorados, than we had any idea of. He stated that five or six months previous to the arrival of the felucca, a cargo had been run upon that coast; but I found he could furnish no particulars, and that his statements as to the frequency of the arrivals of slavers were vague, and I could not fix him to any specific instance, with the exception of the felucca at Cabañas.

Upon the whole, I am of opinion that if the said engineer does know of such frequent importations of negroes (of which I am very sceptical as regards the period of the last two years), he has been deterred from divulging the particulars by a fear of punishment occasioned by Mr. — having cautioned him as to his guilty participation in such illegal trading, acting as he is on board the "Cubano" in the capacity of engineer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

The "Cubano" will be again in this port, 17th to the 20th instant; and if you are desirous of seeing the engineer, I can call him to my office at any time you name on those days.

No. 238.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 17, 1849.

INTELLIGENCE having reached me that a number of Bozal negroes* were seen in a train of railroad cars which entered this city on the 6th instant (dia de Reyes), I notified his Excellency the Captain-General thereof; and I have the honour of laying before your Lordship copy and translation of this correspondence, by which it appears that the negroes in question were some of the emancipados† captured last year in the Bay of Cabañas, who were being moved from the jurisdiction of San Antonio to this city; at least so says his Excellency has been the result of the inquiry gone into.

I have communicated with Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Judge, upon this

* Forty or fifty.

† Twenty-eight.

subject. We are quite at a loss to conjecture how any of the emancipados referred to, could be, at this late period, coming in from San Antonio; but as we have no means of proving the contrary, we have thought it most advisable to take his Excellency's answer for what it may in reality be worth, until time develops the truth or otherwise, of our suspicions that a landing has been effected at one of the cays of the Colorado reefs on the coast in the direction of San Antonio, from whence these Bozales came, no doubt provided with everything necessary in case of detention, to prove their legitimate origin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 238.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain General.

Havana, January 9, 1849.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that 40 or 50 Bozal negroes arrived in this city on Sunday last, by the railroad train.

I have not been able to learn from whence they came, but it will be very easy to ascertain at what station they were put into the railroad cars; and I hasten to lay this information before your Excellency for such purposes as may be expedient.

The Bozales in question had all new clothing, caps, &c.; they appeared to be Lucumis by their marks, and apparently had been very recently landed; so that there can be little or no doubt a disembarkation has been effected within a few days previous to the 7th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 238.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, January 9, 1849.

IN the official communication which I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency this morning, denouncing the arrival of the Bozal negroes in this city, I stated that they had come by the railroad on Sunday last, I beg leave to correct a mistake as respects the date of the arrival in town of the Bozales in question; and I have it now in my power to acquaint your Excellency that they came by the San Antonio train about 3 o'clock on Saturday, "dia de los Reyes."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 238.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 29, 1849.

AS soon as I had received your two communications of the 9th, relative to the arrival in this city on the afternoon of the Dia de Reyes, the 6th instant, in one of the trains of the railroad, of 40 to 50 Bozal negroes, and the consequent inference made by your Honour that a landing had been effected a few days before, I saw that those who were your informants had fallen into a silly error.

I notwithstanding wished to inquire what had given room for such a supposition, and the result has been that the 40 or 50 Bozal negroes seen by your Honour's informants, were 28 emancipados of those who were seized last year in the Bay of Cabañas, who were being passed to this city from the jurisdiction of San Antonio.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Santiago de Cuba.*

No. 239.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, May 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith inclosed for the information and guidance of your Lordship, a copy of a despatch addressed by me to his Excellency the Governor of this place, dated the 9th instant, and a copy and translation of his reply, dated the 13th, relating to a negress named Betsy, who is supposed to be a manumitted native of the Island of Jamaica, whom it appears was induced, under false pretences, to leave her native country, many years ago, and was afterwards unlawfully sold into slavery in this place along with her two sons Jozé and Juan.

The important facts of there being no registration of any slaves by Christian Claber nor by Bastienne Claber, as his executrix, in the records kept at the Island Secretary's office, nor of any will by Christian Claber, incontrovertibly prove that the pretended power of attorney under which the said Betsy and her sons were afterwards sold into slavery, must to all intents and purposes have been false, and consequently the sale is null and void.

Most sincerely do I hope that my efforts to rescue this poor woman and her sons from slavery may be crowned with success, and that ere long I may have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship that they have been placed at my disposal by the Governor of this place in order to be restored to their native country and their wonted freedom, which they have been so long and so unjustly deprived of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 239.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, May 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that some time ago a negress named Betsy or Bess, accompanied by two of her sons, Jozé and Juan, presented themselves at this Consulate, representing themselves to be subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, and as such claiming Her Majesty's protection.

It appears from her statement, that she was the property of the late Mr. George Mackenzie, proprietor of the estate called Kellits, in the parish of Clarendon, Island of Jamaica, from whom she obtained her freedom. After which she engaged herself in the service of one Christian Claber, by trade a shoemaker in Kingston, by whom she was induced, along with her two boys (who were mere infants at the time), to accompany a Madame Lefevre from thence to this city, under the pretext that it was his intention to follow, with the view to establish an Estancia in this island, and that she would still continue in his employment.

She remained in the service of the said Madame Lefevre until the time of her decease.

Some time afterwards, Christian Claber also died, and she was sold into slavery in this place along with her sons Jozé and Juan, by Miguel Linares, a man of colour resident in this city, in virtue of a pretended power of attorney executed in his favour by a person named Marie Geneviève Bastienne Claber, styling herself testamentary executrix of Christian Claber, shoemaker in Kingston, by will dated the 11th of August, 1826.

Although Slavery existed in the British West India Colonies at the time of her departure from Kingston, yet I would call your Excellency's attention to the fact that the said Betsy and her sons must have been free at the time, to have been able to leave Jamaica or any other of the British islands, because by the Act then already in force, as slaves they could not be removed, and their being embarked for removal by said Act, operated their forfeiture to the British Crown, and consequently their instant liberation from slavery.

If however a single doubt existed as to the fact of the said Betsy and her sons being at the time free, that doubt is removed by my having in my possession a copy of a record of the manumission by George Mackenzie, of the parish of Clarendon, of the said negro woman slave, named "Bess and her future issue, offspring, and increase." This document is duly certified by the Governor of Jamaica, as well as by the Island Secretary, and the Spanish Consul, a copy of which is herewith transmitted for your Excellency's information and guidance.

Again, I beg leave to call your Excellency's attention to the important fact, that a search was made, by order of his Excellency, the Governor of Jamaica, in the records kept at the Island Secretary's office, and that there is not on record any registration of slaves by Christian Claber nor by Bastienne Claber as his executrix; neither is there any will by Christian Claber on record;—these are important facts, and would invalidate the sale, even were it otherwise legal.

The negress and one of her sons, named Louis, to whom she gave birth in this island, are in the possession of Don Francisco Grinan; and her other son Jozé is held by Don Cipriano Casamadrid; Juan has obtained his freedom.

From the foregoing facts and circumstances, I trust that your Excellency will forthwith order the said negress Betsy or Bess, and her offspring, to be placed at my disposal, in order that they may be restored to their native land, and that you will be pleased to award such fine or punishment to the said Linares, as to your Excellency shall seem meet, for his criminal conduct in having deprived them, subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, of their freedom, by illegally selling them into slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 239.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, May 13, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch dated 9th current, relative to the negress named Betsy or Bess, accompanied by her two sons Joseph and John, having presented themselves at your Consulate, claiming your protection, subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, &c., as mentioned in the said despatch; and by a decree of yesterday's date with the advice of the Señor Second Assessor, I have directed that the present be addressed to you, advising you that the necessary reply will be given to the request contained in the said communication, with what may appear from the inquiries ordered to be made by the tribunal.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

No. 240.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Forbes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th ultimo, inclosing copies of a correspondence which you had held with the Governor of Santiago de Cuba, respecting a negress named Betsey, who is supposed to be a manumitted native of the Island of Jamaica, and who it appears was induced, under false pretences, to leave her native country many years ago, and was afterwards unlawfully sold into slavery in Santiago de Cuba, together with her two sons Jozé and Juan.

I intirely approve of the manner in which you have brought this case to the notice of the Governor, and I am glad to see that his Excellency lost no time in directing a judicial inquiry to be made into the circumstances of the case, and I trust this inquiry will lead as you anticipate to the speedy restoration of this poor woman and her children to their liberty and native home. But if any difficulties or delays should arise to disappoint this hope, it will be your duty to persevere in your representations to the Governor, and to urge him with all becoming earnestness to use every exertion in his power to prevent any unnecessary procrastination in the accomplishment of that humane object.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 241.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, June 17, 1848.

REFERRING to my despatch which I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship under date the 16th of May last, relative to the case of the negress Betsey and her sons, I now have the honour of transmitting, for the further information and guidance of your Lordship, a copy of a representation made by me on the 28th ultimo to his Excellency the Governor of this place, complaining of the criminal contempt of the laws and of the established authority, committed by Casamadrid and his accomplices, in having abducted the negro Jozé from the deposit at this place where he had been placed by the proper authorities, pending the issue of the proceedings instituted relative to his freedom. A copy and translation of his Excellency's reply, dated the 1st instant, is herewith inclosed.

I likewise transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch addressed by me to his Excellency the Governor, on the same subject, dated the 3rd instant, and a copy and translation of his answer thereto, dated the 7th instant.

I also transmit a copy and translation of a despatch received by me from his Excellency, under date the 11th of June, informing me that an unsuccessful search had been made by his orders, to discover the said Jozé, as well as the copy of a despatch addressed by me to the Governor, dated the 13th, acquainting him of the locality where Jozé was said to be secreted; a copy and translation of a despatch received by me from his Excellency on the 14th, informing me that on that day the said Jozé had been placed at the disposal of his tribunal by Casamadrid, and that he had determined to place him again in deposit, free from labour, to await the result of the proceedings now pending respecting his liberty; and a copy of my answer to the Governor, dated the 15th.

I will not fail to keep you Lordship regularly advised of the future progress of this interesting case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 241.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, May 29, 1848.

REFERRING to the despatch which I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 9th instant, relative to the negress Betsy, or Bess, and transmitting to you a certified copy of the record of manumission of the said "Bess, and her future issue, offspring, and increase," it is my duty to acquaint your Excellency that it has come to my knowledge that pending the inquiries instituted by me respecting the condition of the said negress at the time when she left the Island of Jamaica, that her son Jozé was forcibly taken by Don Cipriano Casamadrid and his accomplices, from out the deposit, and after receiving fifty lashes was manacled and sent into the country, where he is now kept in solitary confinement on a plantation belonging to a relative of the said Casamadrid, about ten leagues from hence, with a view no doubt to evade justice and its ends.

Such conduct on the part of Casamadrid is, I submit, not only highly reprehensible, but he has thereby rendered himself amenable by law for having committed such an outrage on the person of the said Jozé, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, which doubtless he is, and thereby entitled to the high protection which he lawfully claims; for in the absence of any record of the manumission of his mother, the said Betsy or Bess and her future issue, the fact of Christian Claber, or his executrix, not having registered any slaves in Jamaica under the Registration Act, is decided proof that he had none, and consequently the pretended power of attorney under which Betsy and her sons were afterwards sold into slavery in this island, is to all intents and purposes false, and the sale null and void.

I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to issue the necessary instruction to the captain or teniente of the partido where Jozé is now held in custody, to search for and apprehend his person, and afterwards to transport him hence, in order that he may give the required testimony or evidence in the proceedings now pending respecting his freedom.

I have &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 241.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, June 1, 1848.

THE Second Mayor Alcalde of this city, as assessor of the proceedings instituted in consequence of your communication of 9th May last, and having before him your new office of 28th of the present month, advises me on this date as follows:—

"Mr. Governor, The summary which is set forth for the discovery of the action to which the Señor Consul of Her Britannic Majesty draws attention in the communication to which the antecedent refers, is continually kept in view, and now various citations are pending which are about being brought to a close, including that of the negro Jozé, for whose conduction, in virtue of having been advised by Don Cipriano Casamadrid that he had runaway, the necessary order has been issued to the captain of the district where the estate of the said Casamadrid is situated. As yet the results have not been received, and when they are before me, other measures will be dictated in order to discover the place where the said Jozé is secreted; the aforesaid Mr. Consul may rest assured that this tribunal will show, as it always does, the greatest zeal for the discovery of the delinquent to which he refers, in order opportunely to apply the merited punishment to its authors. Thus you may please answer the anterior communication of the Señor English Consul, or what may appear to you most fit. Which I transcribe to you in conformity and in reply; hoping you will be pleased in the case, you or the negress Betsy, to obtain information of the locality of the negro Jozé, to advise the tribunal in order to finish the dili-

gencia which it has pending according to the report inserted, on the understanding that he will be in no way molested, although he shall remain in the deposit until the result of the proceeding.

May God guard, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 241.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, June 3, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of date the 1st instant, relative to the state of the proceedings instituted by order of your Excellency, in virtue of the reclamation made by me on behalf of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, for the restoration to their wonted freedom of the British subjects Betsy or Bess and her offspring, a copy of which I shall transmit to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for the information and guidance of Her Majesty's Government.

In reply, I beg leave to inform your Excellency that the information conveyed to you in my despatch of the 28th ultimo, respecting the forcible abduction, cruel treatment, and after imprisonment of the negro Jozé, by Señor Casamadrid and his accomplices, was communicated to me by an emissary from the said Jozé, who had seen him in confinement on a property belonging to the brother-in-law of Casamadrid, in the partido of Maron, consequently, the pretext set forth by Casamadrid as to his being "runaway," is a mere subterfuge on his part to evade the ends of justice: were Jozé not under constraint, he would doubtless avail himself of the earliest opportunity in presenting himself before me, knowing as he does that measures have been resorted to by me in order to regain for him the freedom of himself and family.

From the foregoing facts and circumstances, I doubt not but that your Excellency will forthwith issue such stringent orders as will compel the said Casamadrid and his accomplices to surrender the person of Jozé, and further, that you will be pleased to authorize me to caution the Cuba public, through the medium of the "Diario Redactor," against purchasing the said Jozé, lest Casamadrid should further endeavour to frustrate the ends of justice, by transporting him to some remote part of this province, and there sell or otherwise dispose of him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 241.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, June 7, 1848.

WITH your office of 3rd current before me, in which you are pleased to inform me with reference to a confidant of the negro Jozé, upon whose freedom is continued the corresponding proceeding, viz., the confinement in which Don Cipriano Casamadrid has him, with information of the place where he may be found; I have taken the necessary steps for his discovery and presentation, hoping that you will be pleased to communicate to this Government any other information that you may be able to acquire as to this matter, assured that the most effectual orders will be issued with legal summonses against the said Casamadrid, and the result of those pending which I consider favourable for the publication which you solicit, for which object I will give you the necessary information.

God guard you, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 241.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, June 11, 1848.

THE Captain Presiding Judge of the Partido of Moron, to whom I communicated the most definite orders that he should go to the estate where it was supposed the negro Jozé Cisneros was confined, according to your communication of the 3rd instant, he has answered me with date of the 7th as follows:—"Immediately on receiving the office which you addressed to me by Condillera, relative to the negro Jozé Cisneros, who was found in the possession of a brother-in-law of Don Cipriano Casamadrid in prison, according to the information mentioned, in order that I should remit him to you for your disposal, I went to the estate of Don Cipriano Casamadrid and Don Jozé Antonio Collazo, for the latter being married to a sister-in-law of Casamadrid and being the only relation known in this district of the said Casamadrid, and further is not brother-in-law, nor did he find such a negro in his possession; and I say this to your Excellency in reply." Which I transmit to you for your information, repeating my desire to obtain the necessary data to continue the search, without prejudice to the new orders which I have dictated for the presentation of the said negro.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 6 in No. 241.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, June 13, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive both of your despatches of the 7th and 11th instant relative to the negro Jozé, and to which I have deferred replying till now, in the expectation of being able to obtain some further information respecting the said Jozé.

I now beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, that on Saturday last I casually met his mother Betsy, accompanied by her other two sons Juan and Louis, when she informed me that her son Jozé was working in chains as a carpenter on a plantation called Gicotea, belonging to Don Cipriano Casamadrid, or his brother-in-law Don Luis Tejada, in the district of Cañas.

This information was communicated to her by an arriero of the said plantation, who was requested to say, on the part of her son Jozé, that he was almost in a state of nudity, and to beg that she would send him a suit of clothes. This morning again I met the negress Betsy and her sons, when she told me that last night she was requested by a mulatto, the Caleciro of Casamadrid, on the part of Jozé, that she would send him clothes.

There can be no question of doubt but what the said Casamadrid, as I have already informed your Excellency, is unlawfully keeping Jozé under constraint in order to evade the ends of justice. I earnestly trust, therefore, that you will order such coercive measures to be taken as to your Excellency shall seem meet, to compel Casamadrid and his accomplices to restore the person of the said Jozé to the deposit from whence he was illegally taken, there to await the issue of the proceedings now pending respecting his claim to freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 7 in No. 241.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, June 14, 1848.

AS the result of the various orders dictated against Don Cipriano Casamadrid for the presentation of the negro Jozé Cisneros, for whose freedom proceedings are carried on in the tribunal of the Government, he has to-day placed him

CLASS B.

at the disposal of the tribunal, and while occupied in giving you information of it. I have received your obliging communication of yesterday, forwarded in particular with reference to the notice which you had as to the residence of the said negro on the sugar estate named Jicotea, the property of the said master. I give for reply to the said office the present information, replying that awaiting the proceeding which is pending he shall remain in deposit free from labour until the results are known.

God guard, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 241.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, June 15, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, informing me that in virtue of the various citations served, by order of your Excellency, on Don Cipriano Casamadrid, for the presentation of the negro Jozé, respecting whose liberty proceedings had been instituted in your Excellency's tribunal, the said Jozé had on that date been placed at the disposal of the tribunal, and that you had determined to place him in deposit, free from labour, pending the issue of the said proceedings.

I avail myself of this opportunity of signifying to your Excellency the high degree of satisfaction with which I am impressed for the zeal manifested by you in this affair, with a view to the impartial administration of justice, and

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES FORBES.

No. 242.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, September 4, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated the 6th of July last, acknowledging the receipt of my despatch of the 16th of June, inclosing copies of a correspondence which I had held with the Governor of this province respecting the negress named Betsy, who is supposed to be a manumitted native of the Island of Jamaica, who it appears was induced, under false pretences, to leave her native country many years ago, and was afterwards unlawfully sold into slavery in this place, together with her two sons, Jozé and Juan, and expressing your approval of the manner in which I had brought this case to the notice of the Governor, and your satisfaction to see that his Excellency had lost no time in directing a judicial inquiry to be made into the circumstances of the case, trusting that this inquiry will lead, as anticipated by me, to the speedy restoration of this poor woman and her children to their liberty and native home. But if any difficulties or delays should arise to disappoint this hope, I am informed by your Lordship that it will be my duty to persevere in my representations to the Governor, and to urge him, with all becoming earnestness, to use every exertion in his power to prevent any unnecessary procrastination in the accomplishment of that humane object. I now have the honour of transmitting to you herewith inclosed, for your Lordship's information, a copy and translation of a despatch received by me from his Excellency the Governor of this place, relative to the case of Betsy and her sons, dated the 16th ultimo, and a copy of my reply thereto, dated the 18th.

Since then I have been informed verbally by his Excellency, that a commission has been transmitted from his tribunal to Her Catholic Majesty's Consul at Kingston, Jamaica, with a view to identify Betsy, as being the same negress emancipated by George Mackenzie in the year 1798.

From the lapse of time which has taken place since the date of the Act of Manumission, I apprehend that considerable difficulty will be experienced in proving the identity. If, however, that procrastination has been the object for

which the said commission has been issued, and should any unnecessary delay take place in the execution thereof, it will, I submit, become imperative on me to claim Betsy and her sons on behalf of the British Crown, in virtue of the Act referred to by his Excellency in his last communication to me; for the evidence on record of Mademoiselle Rosa Lefevre proves beyond a doubt that the said Betsy is the identical negress who accompanied her mother and herself from Jamaica to this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 242.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, August 16, 1848.

BY decree of 12th current, with the advice of the Second Señor Assessor, issued in the proceeding instituted in consequence of your communication relative to the negress Betsy, with her two sons, Jozé and Juan, having presented themselves at your Consulate, claiming your protection as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, I have caused the present to be addressed to you, begging that for the greater elucidation of the facts in the inquiry that is making, you will be pleased to send an authenticated copy of the Act to which you refer in your despatch, page 15, in virtue of which no slave could leave Jamaica at the time when Betsy with her sons effected their voyage.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 242.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, August 18, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 16th instant, informing me that by virtue of a decree of date the 12th current, with the advice of the Second Assessor, issued in the proceeding instituted in consequence of my communication relative to the negress Betsy, with her two sons Jozé and Juan, having presented themselves at my Consulate, claiming my protection as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, you had caused the same to be addressed to me, to request that, for the greater elucidation of the facts in the investigation that is now being made, I would be pleased to send you an authenticated copy of the Act to which I refer in my despatch of the 9th of May last, in virtue of which no slave could leave Jamaica at the time when Betsy and her sons must have taken their departure therefrom, without being forfeited to the British Crown, and thereby entitled to instant liberation from slavery.

In reply, I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that I have transmitted a copy of your despatch to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, and have requested him to send me a copy of the said Act, to enable me to comply with your Excellency's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 243.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 8.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, October 1, 1848.

REFERRING to my despatch which I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship under date the 4th ultimo, I now beg leave to acquaint you that since then I have had two interviews with his Excellency the Governor of this place

respecting the judicial inquiry now pending relative to the restoration to freedom of the negress Betsy and her two sons, when I took an opportunity of expressing my disappointment at the delay which had occurred in the decision of this case, and that I was at a loss to understand what his Excellency could require of the Act 46 George III, cap. 52, in order to decide the matter of their freedom, since their manumission was before him, and they had been identified by Mademoiselle Lefevre.

I likewise called his Excellency's attention to the important fact that this is not a common law question, admitting of litigation with the parties pretending to the ownership of these much-injured subjects of Her Majesty, but one of equity, and one which I earnestly submitted his Excellency was called upon to decide without further delay, in order to prevent greater suffering and inconvenience to the poor woman and her sons.

His Excellency informed me that the Act of George III cited by me, in virtue of which no slave could leave the Island of Jamaica at the epoch when Isabel and her sons took their departure from thence, without becoming forfeited to the British Crown, is a document the production of which is absolutely necessary for the solution of this affair, inasmuch as the record of manumission presented by me cannot favour Isabel in the meantime, because she is not identified as being the same person on whom this act of grace was conferred. It only designates one Frances Nelson of Jamaica, through whose instrumentality her freedom was obtained by Mr. George Mackenzie, for which individual he had caused search to be made, but that he could not be discovered, nor could any person be found who could give any information of him.

Of the fact of Isabel and her sons being the identical individuals who accompanied the family of Lefevre from Jamaica to this place he admits that there is no question of doubt, but this does not prove that she is the person to whom the letter of manumission refers; much less when Rosa Lefevre, the only survivor of the said family, has manifested in her declaration that she, as well as her parents, always held Isabel and her sons as slaves of Christian Claver; and besides, while they were living with her parents, previous to the sale of them, effected by Miguel Linares, Isabel had made no reclamation for her liberty, and she had only heard her say that she was free.

I may state, for your Lordship's information, that his Excellency the Governor has assured me that on the production of the aforesaid Act he will forthwith place Betsy or Isabel, and her sons, at my disposal.

I have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship, herewith inclosed, a copy and translation of a despatch addressed to me by his Excellency the Governor relative to this case, under date the 25th, and a copy of my reply, dated the 27th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 243.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, September 25, 1848.

BY decree of the 23rd current, with the advice of the second Alcalde Mayor,* in the proceeding instituted in consequence of your communication relative to the presentation made at your Consulate by the negress Betsy, with her sons Jozé and Juan, claiming your protection as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, I have resolved to remind you of the remission of an authenticated copy of the Act which was petitioned for by this tribunal in despatch of 18th August ultimo.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MAC CROHON.

* By the notary public Don Jozé Urtarte.

Inclosure 2 in No. 243.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, September 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch dated the 25th instant, informing me that by virtue of a decree dated the 23rd instant, with the advice of the Alcalde Mayor Segundo, in the proceedings instituted in consequence of my communication, relative to the presentation at this Consulate of the negress Betsy, with her sons Jozé and Juan, claiming my protection, as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, you had resolved to remind me of the production of an authenticated copy of the Act, as solicited by the tribunal under date the 18th of August last.

I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I will transmit a copy of your despatch to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, and crave reference to the one which I addressed to him on the 17th ultimo, requesting that he would forward to me a copy of the Act therein referred to, to which despatch I have not as yet been favoured with a reply, and I can only attribute the delay which has taken place, to the severe indisposition of his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 244.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Forbes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatches marked Slave Trade, of the 17th of June, the 4th of September, and of the 1st ultimo, on the subject of the negress Betsy, a native of Jamaica, held in slavery at Santiago de Cuba, and her two sons.

With reference to the assurance given to you by Governor Mac Crohon, that these people will be placed at your disposal upon the production of an authenticated copy of the Act 46 George III, cap. 52, and in case you should not have succeeded in obtaining such document from the Governor of Jamaica, I herewith transmit two copies of that Act.

These copies were printed at the time of the passing of the Act by the King's printer, and in a British Court of Justice would be admitted as authenticated copies.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 245.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, November 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a correspondence which has taken place between his Excellency the Governor of this place and me, relative to the judicial inquiry instituted at my instance in his Excellency's tribunal for the liberation of the negress Betsy and her two sons.

I think it is probable that the dictamen of the assessor in this case is drawn, raising difficulties as to the plea of the woman and her offspring having been manumitted by Mr. George Mackenzie, and criminally sold and held in slavery in this place, purposely to close the door to after claims, which if their freedom is obtained in virtue of provisions of the Act of Parliament 5 George IV, cap 113, under the idea that it would serve the purpose of the different parties against whom recourse would be had for indemnity.

There may be great difficulty in identifying the negress Betsy and her sons; but as it is desirable to obtain their freedom without further delay, and as

the production of the Act of Parliament referred to is now the condition, I have obtained an authentic copy thereof from his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, and have transmitted the same to the Governor of this place, in conformity with the decree of his tribunal; craving that Betsy and her sons might forthwith be placed at my disposal in conformity with the provisions thereof.

Their freedom once obtained, the circumstances of their manumission in Jamaica can be more leisurely gone into, and the parties who are responsible, in the event of Betsy being legally identified as the same negress emancipated by Mr. George Mackenzie, will not, I apprehend, be released of their liability by the woman's taking advantage of the Act referred to, as the most expeditious means of accomplishing the liberation of herself and children.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 245.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, October 12, 1848.

BY decree of yesterday, with the advice of the Señor Second Assessor, issued in the proceeding instituted in consequence of your communication, relative to the presentation made at your Consulate of the negress Betsy and her sons, claiming your protection as subjects of the nation which you represent, I have ordered that you be reminded of the transmission of the certified copy which I have requested of you.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 245.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, October 14, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of date the 12th current, relative to the case of the negress Betsy and her two sons, and in reply thereto I beg leave to refer you to a despatch which I addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica on the 4th instant, a copy of which is here inclosed for your information and guidance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 245.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, October 20, 1848.

REFERRING to your Excellency's despatch to me dated the 16th of August last, and in compliance therewith I now have the honour to transmit to you an authentic copy of the Act 5 George IV, cap. 113, printed by the King's printer, which came into operation on the 1st of January, 1825, and repealed the Act of the 46th George III, cap. 52, and all other Acts relating to the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I likewise transmit to you herewith a certified extract from the repealed Act of the 46th George III.

I have to acquaint your Excellency that the whole of the papers relating to the case of Betsy and her sons were submitted by his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica for the consideration of Her Majesty's Attorney-General for that island, and that he had brought before him, and judicially examined, in presence

of Her Catholic Majesty's Consul at that place, Marie G. Bastienne Claber, the person under whose power of attorney Betsy and her two sons were sold in this island.

A certified copy of her examination I now inclose for your Excellency's information and guidance. You will observe that she admits that about the year 1826, Bessy, a creole of Jamaica, was sent by Claber, with her children to Santiago de Cuba, and that she (Marie) sent a power of attorney to Linarez on the 2nd of October, 1829, under which Linarez sold Bessy and her children, remitting the proceeds of the sale to a M. Seronville, a French attorney-at-law, for her (Marie's) behoof. She produced a will said to be made by Claber, devising to her all his property, including Bessy and her children. This will is in the handwriting of Seronville, and witnessed by three witnesses, who as well as Seronville are dead; this will, I may inform your Excellency, is very strongly suspected by Her Majesty's Attorney-General to be a forgery; it was made by Seronville, who appears to have altogether managed the transaction in that country.

Your Excellency will further observe that Marie G. Bastienne Claber admits in her declaration, that she possesses no document proving a legal right or title to the persons of Bessy and her sons, with the exception of the will, and that is suspected to be fictitious.

The illegal embarkation and carrying away or transporting from a British island to a foreign settlement, the persons of Betsy and her sons, and there selling them as slaves, was in violation of the provisions of the 5th George IV, cap. 113, by which they became forfeited to the British Crown, and thereby entitled to their freedom.

The power of attorney being dated 2nd October, 1829, the original of which is in the possession of your Excellency's tribunal, and the British Act of Parliament now produced, in the present state of the claim of Betsy, is amply sufficient to establish the right of herself and children to freedom, had they even been slaves as recited in the power. I trust therefore that your Excellency will forthwith order them to be placed at my disposal.

Your Excellency will be pleased to return to me the Act of Parliament, after perusal, in order that I may transmit the same to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 245.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Santiago de Cuba, October 29, 1848.

WITH yours of the 20th current, I received the documents therein mentioned relative to the freedom of the negress Betsy and her sons; and having transmitted them with their translation to the assessor in this case, I advise you in reply, returning as you solicit the Act of Parliament which also was sent me as proof, having finished its examination.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 245.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, October 30, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 20th instant, with the accompanying papers and documents, relative to the case of the negress Betsy and her

sons, informing me that you had transmitted the same with the corresponding translations, to the assessor in this case, and returning to me the Act of Parliament 5 George IV, cap. 113, in compliance with my request.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 246.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1849.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, December 16, 1848.

IN compliance with the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch dated the 18th of September last, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a list of all British subjects within the district of this Consulate, who are owners of slaves, distinguishing those who have domestic slaves and those who have slaves employed in agriculture or in mining.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAS. FORBES.

Inclosure in No. 246.

RETURN of all British Subjects who are Slave-Holders within the District of Her Majesty's Consulate at Santiago de Cuba, distinguishing those who have Domestic Slaves and those who have Slaves employed in agriculture or in mining.

No.	Owners' Names.	How employed.			Observations.
		Domestic.	Agriculture.	Mining.	
1	Consolidated Cobre Mining Association	None	None	Mining	<p>1. The slaves which belonged to this Company have been transferred, and now stand, as I am informed, in the name of Don Pedro Ferrer, a Cubano and an employé of the said Company; I am not, however, prepared to say that they are <i>bona fide</i> his property.</p> <p>2. The slaves which belonged to the late John Harvey senior, were left by him under the surveillance of his executor in Cuba, Thomas Brooks, in order to be gradually manumitted according to their good conduct.</p> <p>3. The coffee plantation as well as the slaves thereon stand in the name of Mr. Brooks' wife (a Cubana) and her children.</p> <p>4. The coffee plantation and negroes thereon are said to stand in the name of Madame Stephens (a Frenchwoman) and her children.</p> <p>5. The Santiago Mining Company have not to my knowledge owned any slaves, their mining operations having been carried on by hired negroes and emancipados, and the only British subject now connected with that establishment who is a slave-owner is the cashier, Mr. Samuel B. Morris, and he alleges that they belong to his wife, a native of the village of Cobre.</p>
2	The Heirs of the late John Hardy, senior	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
3	Thomas Brooks	Domestic	Agriculture	None	
4	Richard Stephens	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
5	Samuel B. Morris	Ditto	None	Mining	
6	The Heirs of the late Wm. Reynolds	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
7	James Reynolds	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
8	David Owen	None	Ditto	Ditto	
9	James George	Domestic	Agriculture	Ditto	
10	James Mason	Ditto	None	None	
11	William Graham	Ditto	Agriculture	Ditto	
12	Simon O'Callaghan	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
13	Mary Thomas	Ditto	None	Ditto	
14	Patrick Murphy	Ditto	Agriculture	Ditto	
15	James Paterson	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
16	Samuel Chapman	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
17	Benjamin Driggs	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
18	Thomas Worth	Ditto	None	Ditto	
19	George Worth	Ditto	Ditto	ito	
20	Reuben Cohen	Ditto	Agriculture	Ditto	
21	John James Hall	Ditto	None	Ditto	
22	Albert S. Nunes	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
23	John La Motte	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	

British Consulate, Santiago de Cuba,
December 16, 1848.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 247.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 14.)

My Lord,

Santiago de Cuba, February 2, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated the 23rd of November last, acknowledging the receipt of my despatches on the subject of the negress Betsy, a native of Jamaica, held in slavery in this place, and her two sons, and transmitting to me two copies of the Act 46 Geo. III, cap. 52, the production of an authenticated copy of which being the condition stipulated by Governor Mac Crohon for placing these people at my disposal.

One of these copies I have transmitted to Consul-General Crawford, for the use of his office, he having requested of me a manuscript copy thereof, certified in due form by myself and the Governor of this place, and the other copy I have deposited in the archives of this Consulate.

I now have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship, herewith inclosed, a copy and translation of a despatch received by me from his Excellency Governor Mac Crohon, dated the 26th ultimo, relative to Betsy's case, as well as a copy of my reply, dated the 1st instant.

It may not prove superfluous to acquaint your Lordship that I am informed by the Fiscal in this case, that the "espediente" or process has been transmitted back by the superior tribunal to the court below, with instructions to follow up the "sumaria" or proceedings instituted against the parties criminally implicated in the sale of Betsy and her sons; from which it may be inferred that this superior tribunal has taken a different view of the case from that entertained by the inferior court, inasmuch as it would appear that that tribunal seems to hold that Betsy and her sons should be restored to freedom, in virtue of the record of their manumission, and not be given up as forfeited to the British Crown under the provisions of the Act 46 Geo. III, cap. 52. This opinion will, I apprehend, tend so far to explain the purport of his Excellency's present despatch.

In conclusion I may inform your Lordship that the negro Jozé is now working as a carpenter on his own account, and is earning from 25 to 30 dollars monthly; Louis is following up his trade as a mason; and Betsy, the mother, I presume keeps house for them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 247.
*The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.**Cuba, January 26, 1849.*

BY a decree of yesterday's date, consulted with the Señor Alcalde Mayor of second nomination, and issued in the writ of the Syndic Procurator-General in the proceedings instituted in consequence of the communication made to me by you relative to the presentation of the negress Betsy and her children at your Consulate, claiming your protection as subjects of the nation you represent, I have ordained that the present notification be made to you, with the view of your remitting to this court, on behalf of said protégés, and duly legalized, the document of manumission of which you sent me a copy in your despatch of 9th May last, taking such steps to effect the same as you may consider necessary, as well as to procure from whom it may correspond the baptismal certificate of said Betsy or Bess, and that of her son Joseph, conformably to the rites of the English Church, which you will also please furnish me with, that those documents may be attached to the process.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 247.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of Santiago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, February 1, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch dated the 26th ultimo, relative to the judicial inquiry instituted by me in your Excellency's tribunal, respecting the liberty of the negress Betsy or Bess and her two sons, and informing me that the said tribunal, by a decree pronounced on the preceding day, had called for production of the authenticated copy of the record of the manumission of the said negress and her future offspring, a certified copy of which accompanied my despatch to your Excellency under date the 9th of May last, as well as an authenticated extract from the baptismal register of the parish in which the said Betsy or Bess and her sons Jozé were born and baptized.

In conformity with the decree I have the honour of transmitting to your Excellency herewith the required copy of the record of the manumission of the said negress, premising, however, considering as I do that the said document appertains to this Consulate, and forms part of the archives thereof, I trust that it may be eventually returned to me to be deposited therein.

With regard to the certificates of baptism according to the rites of the English Church, of Betsy and her son Jozé, I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that I will request that his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica may be pleased to cause search to be made in the parochial register of births, &c., kept in Jamaica, for the record of the baptism of the said negress Betsy or Bess and her son Jozé, the result of which I will communicate to you in due course.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Porto Rico.*

No. 248.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 24.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 22, 1848.

SINCE I had the honour of addressing your Lordship on the 18th ultimo, I have received a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Austen, in answer to my communication to him relative to the recent movements in the Slave Trade, in which he tells me that he has placed my letter in the hands of the senior naval officer at Barbadoes, with instructions to him to cruize off this island when his other numerous duties will allow of it, and that he hoped soon to be able to appropriate a vessel entirely for that service.

No vessel with slaves has as yet arrived here, and the owner of one which sailed some months ago for the coast of Africa is under much anxiety from her not being returned; so very likely she has been captured.

I am informed that the inhabitants of Curaçoa have petitioned the King of Holland to allow the exportation of slaves without the present restrictions, it not being permitted at present to send them out of the island, unless with the consent of the slaves themselves, as they have more than they want, and the prices being low, they expect by exporting them to sell them to much more advantage. It is probable that the King of Holland may not give his consent to it; but I take the liberty of mentioning it to your Lordship, as I have every reason to believe my information to be correct, and if it was allowed, they would without doubt depend upon selling a great many to the planters of this island.

A person has just been shipping about 80 slaves from hence for the Havana, in a vessel called the "Paquete de Puerto Rico," for which he has obtained a licence from the Government here. A few of them were part of those brought from Curaçoa which had not been sold, and the rest belonged to this island. As, however, they are removed from one Spanish colony to another, I did not consider that it was a case in which I could interfere.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 249.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 5.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that about 40 more slaves were shipped from hence during the last week for the Island of Cuba, provided as the last with passports from the Government here. I understand also that a merchant in this port has orders to purchase as many slaves for Cuba as he can get; but he has not, I believe, acted upon them in any way.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 250.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 17, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Her Majesty's steamer "Vixen," Captain Ryder, called off this port on the 12th instant, from Jamaica, and the Captain came ashore in his boat to tell me that he had been sent by Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Austen to look after the slave-vessels expected here, and after receiving from me all the information I could give him respecting them, and the probable route which they would take in coming here, he went on board directly, and proceeded on to the Island of St. Thomas. Captain Ryder also informed me that three of Her Majesty's ships had been also sent to cruize off the Island of Cuba, in expectation of falling in with some of the slavers expected there. No slaver has as yet appeared here; nor can I learn that any intelligence about them has been received by the parties interested in them here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 251.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 29.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, June 21, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of a letter which I have received from the Captain-General of Porto Rico, and of my answer thereto. I regret that I could not advert to the private information which I had received relative to the admission of slaves, as it might compromise the party from whom I received it, and might prevent me from hearing further; but I believe all that I wrote to your Lordship upon the subject to be correct.

The despatch which his Excellency has received is, I dare say, to desire that he will not permit the admission of slaves into Porto Rico, arising from your Lordship's communication to the Spanish Government through Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 251.

*The Governor of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.**Porto Rico, June 15, 1848.*

THE Secretary of State sent me by royal order, on the 30th of April last, copy of the despatch which you, on the 15th February last, addressed to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Palmerston, informing him that within some months hundreds of slaves were expected here; moreover, that the arrival of the first vessel was looked for daily, with other notifications on this subject, which you stated to have heard here; and also what Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana advised you that he had heard there. This communication was sent by the Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain at the Court of Madrid, to his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State and despatches; and his Excellency forwards it to me for the objects which he is pleased to point out.

It appears strange to me that you, trusting to vague reports, without the least foundation for them, should have denounced acts to your Government which have never existed, except in the imagination of those who have fabricated them, causing the Captain-General of this island to be suspected of conniving with the owners of the ships in question—an offence so uncalled for, has

no excuse, particularly when in the space of four subsequent months, not a single slave has arrived of the hundreds which you stated to be daily expected.

Your zeal would show itself in a very laudable way, if, in compliance with the duties which your situation as Consul of Her Britannic Majesty imposes upon you, you would always support by real facts and trustworthy documents, the denunciations which you may make to your Government relative to the infractions of the treaty which prohibits the Traffic in Bozal Slaves; but if this zeal be exaggerated, if you rely upon unsubstantial sayings and airy illusions instead of facts, as has now taken place, your zeal in that case is offensive to Spanish authorities, who will not tolerate it, and it is in no way advantageous to British interests.

I hope that you will in future, in consequence of what has been said, be pleased to act with the due consideration which such a delicate subject requires, without forgetting the respect and deference due to the authority which I exercise, in which you have failed, supposing me capable of tacitly permitting or tolerating such infractions.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) THE COUNT DE REUS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 251.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, June 19, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, the tenor of which has caused me great surprise, as I am not in the habit of troubling the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston with any communications founded upon vague rumours; and I am not aware of having on any occasion failed in respect to your Excellency's person or high office.

In reference to the letter to his Lordship to which your Excellency alludes, I beg to state that neither this nor any other letter which I have written to his Lordship, contained the shadow of an intimation that your Excellency was cognizant of any projected introduction of negroes. An expedition of this kind might be undertaken on the chance of their admission, as, if this was not effected, they might proceed on to Cuba; and it was publicly stated here at the time, that the "*Magdalena*," a schooner belonging to this port, had gone to the coast of Africa for slaves some time before your Excellency's arrival, and was looked for daily, and that others were expected. Their non-arrival does not prove that they were not intended to come here, as she and others may have fallen into the hands of the many cruizers upon the coast of Africa; and I was only waiting for the arrival of one of them, to draw your Excellency's attention to the subject.

I have only to add, that I shall consider it my duty on receiving any information which may appear to be authentic, to continue my communications to Her Britannic Majesty's Government; and that copies of your Excellency's letter to me, and my answer, will be forwarded to the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston by the first packet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 252.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 7, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of June last, inclosing first a copy and translation of a letter addressed to you on the 15th of that month by the Captain-General of Porto Rico, containing observations on the information which you communicated to me in your despatch of the 15th of February last,

relative to the expected importation of slaves into Porto Rico; and secondly, a copy of your reply to his Excellency, dated the 19th of June.

I approve of that reply; and I have now to instruct you further to state to the Conde de Reus, that it is for the British Government, and not for the Governor of Porto Rico, to judge the conduct of Her Majesty's Consul in that island, or to approve or to disapprove his manner of performing his official duties; and that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the Governor of Porto Rico assumes an authority which does not belong to him, when he takes upon himself to censure the acts of a British Consul.

I have to desire that you will transmit to the Conde de Reus a copy of this despatch, as the properest way of communicating to him the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 253.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, September 16, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th ultimo, copy of which your Lordship desired me to forward to the Governor the Count de Reus; but as his Excellency had been superseded in the Government, and was upon the point of embarking for Europe, as your Lordship will have perceived by my despatch of the 9th instant, I thought it best to inclose a copy of it immediately to the new Governor, in the hope that his Excellency would receive it in time to forward a copy to the Count de Reus; but this does not appear to have been done, as your Lordship will perceive by his Excellency's answer to my letter, copies of both of which I beg to inclose. It is however perhaps better that your Lordship's despatch should have arrived after the new Governor had taken the command, as it will without doubt have drawn his attention to the correspondence between the Conde de Reus and myself, arising from the communication which your Lordship made to the Spanish Government relative to the expected importation of slaves into this island, which might otherwise not have fallen under his notice; and he will be aware of the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government as to the interference of the Governor of Porto Rico with the communications which it may be the duty of the Consul to make to your Lordship; and I am very happy to find that your Lordship approves of the answer which I sent to the Count de Reus.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 253.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, September 12, 1848.

HAVING a short time ago received a censure from his Excellency the Count de Reus, for a communication which I had in my official capacity made to the Viscount Palmerston, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I transmitted to his Lordship copies of the correspondence which had passed between his Excellency and myself; and I have, by this morning's steamer, received a despatch from his Lordship upon the subject, copy of which he desired me to forward to him, supposing him to be still Governor of Porto Rico; but the Count de Reus having been superseded in the command, I take the liberty of forwarding it to your Excellency, in order that you may transmit a copy to the Count de Reus should you deem it expedient.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 253.

The Governor of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, September 13, 1848.

I HAVE received your letter of the 12th instant, as well as copy of the despatch which the First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed you, desiring you to communicate it to my predecessor. It is not in my power to comply with his Lordship's wishes in this, as the Count de Reus has already left the capital; and also for another reason, that although the Captains-General of the Spanish colonies are invested with more than ordinary powers in the government of them, they nevertheless want authority and power to hold communications with the Ministers of Great Britain, which belong alone to the Supreme Government of the Queen my Sovereign.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE LA PEZUELA.

No. 254.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, November 6, 1848.

I AM happy to inform your Lordship that I had to-day a conversation with Don Juan de la Pezuela, the new Governor of Porto Rico, in which his Excellency expressed to me his fixed determination not to allow the admission of slaves into the island from any quarter whatever, whilst he remained Governor here; and he added that a person from one of the ports had applied to him, stating that he had made contracts for the importation of slaves, and requested permission for them to be admitted, representing that he should suffer great loss if this was not granted; but that he had refused it in the most positive manner. This intimation will I am sure give satisfaction to your Lordship and the other members of Her Majesty's Government, and from what I see and hear of the new Governor, I have no doubt that he will be firm in this determination.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 255.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 13, 1848.

I HAVE received with much satisfaction your despatch dated the 6th ultimo, in which you inform me that Don Juan de la Pezuela, the newly appointed Governor of Porto Rico, had declared to you his fixed determination not to allow the admission of slaves into that island from any quarter whatever; and I have to instruct you to state to his Excellency how highly Her Majesty's Government appreciate this honourable determination on his part to carry faithfully into execution the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, and the Spanish Laws which were passed in fulfilment of these engagements.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 256.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1849.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, December 4, 1848.

I HAD the honour on the 30th of October last to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 18th of September, desiring me to send your Lordship a list of all British subjects within the district of this

Consulate, who are holders of slaves, distinguishing those who have domestic slaves and those who are employed in agriculture or mining; and I now beg leave to inclose the required list, made out agreeably to your Lordship's directions; but as there are a few mechanics, such as coopers, among the slaves held by British subjects, I have included the owners of them with those holding domestic slaves, and nearly all those who have slaves employed in agriculture have also domestic slaves. There are several British subjects over the large extent of this island who are managers or overseers of estates or mechanics, but I have no means of ascertaining their number or their names, except where there are British Vice-Consuls, or from chance communication with them, and I do not believe that any of them are owners of slaves except those whose names are inserted in the accompanying list, and of these there are not more than three or four who have any number of slaves.

There are several persons here with English names and speaking English perfectly, who are natives of the Danish Island of St. Croix, so that it is difficult to distinguish them from British subjects, but they are principally managers or overseers of estates.

If I should be able to ascertain the names of any other British subjects holding slaves in this island, I shall not fail to communicate them to your Lordship, and I beg to add that they are not working any mines at present, and therefore no slaves are employed in them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure in No. 256.

A LIST of British Subjects holding Slaves in the Island of Porto Rico.

Domestic Slaves.		Slaves employed in Agriculture.	
Names.	District where residing.	Names.	District where residing.
Roger Gowen	Guayama.	Thomas Kearney	Guayama.
Brian O'Hara	Ditto.	David Clark	Ditto.
Samuel Newton Kortright ..	Manati.	Francis Stewart	Arecibo.
		William Denton	Ditto.
		William Gregg	Manati.
		Thomas Quigley	Loesa.
		Martin Cogley	Ditto.
		James Gilbec	Pouce.
		Richard D. Jacob	Ditto.
		William Noble	Naguaybo.

Mr. Cornelius H. Kortright, holder of domestic and agricultural slaves, is considered here as an Englishman, but upon inquiry I find that he was born in the Danish Island of St. Croix, where his family resided.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 257.

Consul Lindegren to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 28.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, January 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, which did not reach me until the 20th instant, in consequence of the Porto Rico mail having been delayed at St. Thomas', and I was happy to receive it in time to be able, agreeably to your Lordship's instructions, to communicate to his Excellency the Governor, who left San Juan the same morning on an official visit through the island, how highly Her Majesty's

Government appreciate the honourable determination on his part to carry faithfully into execution the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, and the Spanish laws which were passed in fulfilment of those engagements, a communication which I have no doubt will have been gratifying to his Excellency; and as he appears to be an upright and conscientious man, I feel sure that he will act up to the determination which he has expressed to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

TRIPOLI.

No. 258.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, February 28, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, according to a statement received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Mourzouk, the number of slaves arrived there from Soudan and Bornou during the last year was 1281, two-thirds of whom were females. About 160 men had died on the way, the small-pox having broken out among them soon after they had left Bornou.

From Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi I learn that during the same period about 1300 slaves, the greater part of whom were young girls, had been brought there from Waday. Many perished on the road, exhausted by the fatigue and suffering of so long a journey.

The whole number shipped at this port and Bengazi for the Levant within the year has been nearly 2000.

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

No. 259.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, March 1, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatches of 5th of October, 10th of December, and 28th of December, 1847, relative to the purchase of slaves by the Suaffa tribe, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the information I have received from various persons tends to confirm the statement that these slaves are subsequently sold in the Regency of Algiers. No one of whom inquiry has been made entertains any doubt of the fact. I am told that the capital for carrying on this traffic is chiefly furnished by a wealthy merchant of Suff, named Nesser Buttuali, who, after the slaves are sold in Algeria, receives back the amount advanced, with 10 per cent. interest.

The Governor of Ghadames, in reply to a letter I had written to him on the subject, informs me that those slave-dealers do not pass through Ghadames, but take either the road by Tin-jegan, about seven days distant from that city, or by Fuscian, which is four days distant.

It appears, however, that for the present the Trade will be suspended. Letters from Ghadames state that orders have been sent to the dealers in Ghaat to make no purchases, as the Suaffa are in apprehension of an immediate invasion of their territory by the French, which will cut off their communication with Algeria, and so deprive them of their usual market.

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

No. 260.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, March 2, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 29th December last, and in conformity with the opinion therein expressed, have cancelled the appointment of Yussef Aliffi as broker of this Consulate, on account of his apparent implication in slave-trading transactions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

No. 261.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, March 2, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 31st December last, relative to the eleven negresses liberated by the Ionian Government, who returned here some months since.

In obedience to the instructions therein contained, I shall continue to protect them against any attempt to reclaim them as slaves, but shall give them to understand that they must maintain themselves by their own exertions, and must not look to the British Government for support.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

No. 262.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 1.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, March 30, 1848.

AMONGST the deplorable results of the ill-fated expedition up the Niger in 1841, I fear must now be reckoned one that was least of all apprehended. The avowed object of that expedition, as I have understood, was to proceed upwards as far as Rabbah, and to induce those chiefs of Central Africa from whose dominions the Slave Trade is principally supplied with its victims, to consent to the abandonment and absolute prohibition of the inhuman commerce.

Whatever readiness these chiefs may have professed to enter into the engagements proposed to them, it is certain they never observed them. The supply of human victims from their States has suffered neither interruption nor diminution. And now it will be seen by the statements contained in Vice-Consul Gagliuffi's letter of the 22nd February last, a copy and translation of which are inclosed, that the practicability of ascending the Niger in vessels of considerable burthen, having been demonstrated both by the Government Expedition of 1841, and the previous mercantile adventure of 1836, daring speculations have hastened to take advantage of the knowledge thus acquired, and have sent vessels to Rabbah for the purpose of bringing the slaves purchased there down the river. This event has tripled the ordinary price of the slave, having raised it from 20,000 cowries (ten dollars), to 60,000, or thirty dollars, and will proportionately stimulate and give increased activity to the detested traffic.

Rabbah, which it was hoped might be made the centre of African civilization, from whence the light of morality and religion would be diffused throughout this benighted continent, is plunged deeper in guilt, and is becoming the principal mart of slavery; so that the expedition which terminated so fatally

may be said to have served as pilot and beacon to the slave-ships, which being manned with crews inured to the climate, and sailing at the healthy season, will in all probability perform their voyages with safety and success.

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

Inclosure in No. 262.

Vice-Consul Gagliuffi to Consul-General Crowe.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Mourzouk, February 22, 1848.

A DEALER lately arrived from Soudan, informs me that having gone in the beginning of last summer to a town of Jacoba, towards the south, he there heard that at Rabbah there were two vessels shipping slaves, and that in consequence the price had risen up to 60,000 cowries each. Adult males were alone in request; neither boys nor females were received. My informant stated that hitherto the ordinary price of such slaves was under 20,000 cowries each.

Having asked him whether the persons who bought these slaves were whites, he replied, that according to the description given to him, they were of brown complexion; and pointing out a person who was present as being of the colour he meant, I conclude they are mulattoes.

Such is the information which I have been able to collect from him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. B. GAGLIUFFI.

No. 263.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, April 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy and translation of a letter received from Vice-Consul Gagliuffi, containing further confirmation of the statements referred to in my despatch of the 1st March, relative to the sale of slaves in the Regency of Algiers.

I inclose also an extract and translation of Hadgi el Emin's letter to Mr. Gagliuffi. This person is brother of the Governor of Ghat, and possesses considerable influence in the country. Major Denham and his companions were treated by him with great kindness and hospitality. He was some months since in Tripoli, and called on me. I found him well disposed to assist our endeavours to substitute a more legitimate and profitable commerce for the inhuman and precarious Traffic in Slaves, by exchanging the valuable produce of the interior, as gums, indigo, wax, ivory and gold-dust, for manufactures and colonial produce imported from Europe.

I have this morning seen and conversed with Mustafa Ben Somita, the person mentioned in Mr. Gagliuffi's letter. He affirms that, for the last three or four years, the Suaffa have made large purchases of slaves, for which they pay chiefly in French five-franc pieces. The high prices they have given have so much raised the market, that those who buy for the Levant find it a very hazardous speculation. The slaves so bought, are taken, as he states, to Algeria, where they are sold.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 263.

Vice-Consul Gagliuffi to Consul-General Crowe.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Mourzouk, March 11, 1848.

I INCLOSE an original letter of Hadgi el Emin of Ghat, which you will perceive confirms the report made to you that the slaves bought by the Suaffa are taken by them to Algeria.

A few days since there passed through this place, on his way from Ghat to Tripoli, a certain Mustafa Ben Somita, dealer in slaves; this person, last year, sold many poor creatures to the Suaffa, all of whom he assures me were resold by them in Algeria.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. B. GAGLIUFFI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 263.

Hadgi Mohammed Emin of Ghat to Vice-Consul Gagliuffi.

(Extract. Translation.)

YOU ask me for information about the Suaffa people, where they buy and sell. People from Algiers bring money to Suaf, and hire them to go to the interior to sell and buy (slaves) on their account. This is all I have heard.

No. 264.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, June 23, 1848.

IT is gratifying to perceive that a disposition has been lately evinced by the Ottoman Government to discourage the Slave Trade. The slave bazaar at Constantinople has been now sometime closed, and a Vizierial letter has been lately addressed to the Pasha of this Regency, prohibiting officers in the service of the Porte from trafficking in slaves.

I understand, however, that it is pretended here that the prohibition affects those only who hold appointments directly under the Government. By this construction it is rendered inoperative, and the Governor of the city, therefore, who is appointed by the Pasha, continues his extensive speculations in this nefarious trade.

Since the 13th May, two vessels, of which he is the owner, sailed for Smyrna and Constantinople, having 288 slaves on board, 76 males and 212 females. Of these, 14 males and 52 females were the property of the Governor.

During the same period two other vessels left this port for the Levant, with 23 males and 122 female slaves, and many more remain to be shipped off; the caravans from Mourzouk and Ghadames having brought a great number of these unfortunate people for sale.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

No. 265.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, June 24, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Frederic Henry Crowe, Acting Vice-Consul at Bengazi, stating the number of slaves arrived at that port from the interior, and exported during the last six months, which he reports to have been unusually great.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

Inclosure in No. 265.

Acting Vice-Consul Crowe to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir,

Bengazi, June 5, 1848.

AFTER many and strict inquiries, I have at last been able to obtain from some of the respectable merchants of this town, a pretty accurate account of the number of slaves imported this year from the interior, and I am sorry to say that this abominable traffic appears to have made most fearful progress, during the period. From Fezzan no less than 1000 slaves have reached this city by various caravans. I have been informed that more than two-thirds of these unfortunate beings are females, the slave-dealers finding them more sought after, and therefore of greater value; a female slave selling generally at the market for double the price of a male.

Some few have been sold here, and the remainder, together with the 1500 which arrived last year from Wadi, have been shipped off to Constantinople and other ports of the Levant. But, besides these, many of the slave-owners of this regency, encouraged by the high prices given for slaves last year at Constantinople, have sent off great numbers.

A few days since, a very large caravan of 600 camels strong left this place for Wadi, with merchandize to the value of 20,000*l.* sterling, besides 3000*l.* in cash, the produce of ivory, belonging to the Sultan of that district.

The goods taken by the Wadiweens consist principally of beads, paper, corals, cloth, and cotton fabrics; a small portion of which, particularly those of cotton manufacture, are British, and lamentable it is to reflect that in exchange for these articles so many of our fellow-creatures are sold to slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. H. CROWE.

No. 266.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, October 23, 1848.

IT is my painful duty to lay before your Lordship copies of a correspondence and of an inquiry relative to the embarkation of some slaves at Bengazi, in which it appears that a British subject was implicated.

Some time ago Mr. Nani and his brother, Maltese merchants residing at Bengazi, purchased a schooner called "*Tre Fratelli.*" Of this vessel they are still the reputed owners, and have the entire direction and management. It sails under the Ottoman flag, and is considered both here and at Bengazi, as "Nani's schooner," by which name it is commonly called.

The Acting Vice-Consul, Dr. Casolani, in a despatch of which I inclose a copy, states that it having been reported to him that some slaves had been shipped on board this vessel, he addressed a note to Messrs. Nani, demanding that they should be immediately disembarked.

Upon the receipt of this order, it appears that Mr. Alexander Nani called upon the Acting Vice-Consul, and admitted that some slaves had been shipped

on board the "*Tre Fratelli*," mentioning the freight agreed upon; admitting also that he and his brother were the consignees of the vessel, but denying that they were the owners.

Dr. Casolani represented to him that even if he could prove that he was not owner of the vessel, still a grave responsibility attached to him, as being the consignee, and as having procured these slaves as part of the cargo, and deriving profit from the freight.

Mr. Nani asked time to reflect and consult his friends, and returning an hour afterwards, declared he would have the slaves landed immediately.

Soon after this he called again upon Dr. Casolani, and stated that the disembarkation had been effected; but upon being told that this could not be true, as the dragoman of the Consulate had been stationed on the Mole for the express purpose of seeing that the slaves were landed, with orders to report the fact immediately. Mr. Nani then said that they had been transshipped on board an Ottoman bombard at anchor in the harbour.

This statement was also disproved by the testimony of three persons whom Dr. Casolani had ordered to watch the movements of the vessel, as she left the port; and yet, in reply to Dr. Casolani's note, Mr. Nani affirms that he had had the slaves disembarked.

Dr. Casolani intimated to him in answer, that he should not consider the slaves as having been disembarked from the "*Tre Fratelli*," unless the dragoman of the Consulate saw them landed on the Mole.

Of this intimation Mr. Nani took no notice; and being thereupon summoned before the Acting Vice-Consul, he declared that he was no longer consignee of the vessel, and that for further information respecting the slaves, Dr. Casolani might address himself to the Governor, or to the owners of the slaves.

Upon the receipt of this report I immediately sent instructions to Colonel Herman, then on his way to Bengazi, to institute a strict inquiry into the subject, and to take the evidence of all such persons as could furnish information relating to the case.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of his despatch, and of the proceedings of the court of inquiry annexed, which appear to establish clearly the fact of the shipment of the slaves on board the "*Tre Fratelli*," and of their having left the port in that vessel.

Mr. Nani's own admission shows that he was cognizant of the fact of shipment, that at the time he had the direction of the vessel and the power to order the disembarkation. Even if it had been true that he had ordered their transshipment on board another vessel, where they were detained, he would be equally guilty of a violation of the statute.

It can scarcely be presumed that he was ignorant of the law upon the subject, or of the incessant and anxious endeavours of Her Majesty's Government to suppress this odious traffic, since his brother, with whom he had resided for about seven years, was always appointed by Mr. Wood to act for him as Vice-Consul during his frequent absences from Bengasi.

This being a case of which I am not competent to take judicial cognizance, since the minimum of the penalties attached by the statute to the offence is much greater than those which the Act giving Consuls criminal jurisdiction empowers me to impose, I do myself the honour, in conformity with the instructions contained in the circular of the 31st December, 1843, to submit the matter to your Lordship's consideration.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 266.

Acting Vice-Consul Casolani to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir,

Bengasi, September 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that on the 1st of September instant, it was reported to me that 4 of 5 slaves had been shipped on board the Ottoman schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," to be conveyed to Canea. This

vessel is known as "Nani's schooner," and in fact Messrs. Nani always designed themselves as the owners of the vessel, and while here, always took the leading and ostensible part in everything concerning it.

On the day following I hastened to address to Messrs. Nani & Co., No. 1, ordering them the immediate disembarkation of the slaves shipped on board the said schooner. Mr. Alexander Nani, being at present alone in the management of that commercial house, appeared at my rooms, and admitted their being the consignees of the Ottoman schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," and further, that 4 or 5 slaves had been shipped on board the same, and the freight of one maboob per head fixed upon each slave; but denied his being the ship-owner. I warned Mr. Nani that British laws with regard to slavery were very severe; and that, according to my opinion, whether the vessel appeared as purchased in their name or not, would in the end make very little difference, in case it was theirs *de facto*; that even if he had means to deny and prove that with the ownership of the vessel he had nothing to do, a grave responsibility still weighed upon him, being the consignee, by procuring these slaves as part of the cargo, and deriving a profit on the shipping of these unhappy beings, by gaining so much for his commission.

Mr. Nani desired me to give him time to reflect and consult his friends on the subject of my communication. After an hour's interval he appeared again, declaring that he would have the slaves landed immediately. I dispatched my dragoman to the custom-house mole, and gave him orders to see the landing of the slaves. I must here observe that since the preceding day a man was also expressly charged in order to keep watch, and report to me what number of slaves would be embarked.

At about 11 o'clock Mr. Nani declared to me that the promised disembarkation had been effected. On inquiring, I found out that this was not the case, and I expressed so much to Mr. Nani, when he answered that the slaves had been transferred on board an Ottoman bombard anchored in the harbour. Both my dragoman and the man I left on watch gave me clear proofs that even this transfer upon the bombard could not have been effected, as the schooner was sailing a long way out of harbour, and they would consequently have seen the boat carrying the slaves before it could reach the bombard.

At my express request, Mr. Nani sent me at 12 o'clock a reply to my official letter. I then addressed him, stating that unless the dragoman himself witnessed the landing of the slaves, I would consider them as being still on board.

Mr. Nani refusing to obey this order, as also to give a written answer to the same, at 1 o'clock of the same day I called him in my presence, when he declared that he had nothing more to do with the vessel in question; that he was no longer the consignee, and consequently, if I had any wish to ascertain whether the slaves were still on board or not, I might apply to the Bey, and to the owners of the slaves, viz., Fighi Bulneifa and Imheisen, through whom a search in the vessel might be made.

I thought that such steps, as suggested by Mr. Nani, I had not a right to take.

Sir, having thus submitted to your consideration all the circumstances connected with this case, I beg you would let me know whether you approve my proceedings, and waiting your instructions on the subject,

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHS. CASOLANI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 266.

Acting Vice-Consul Casolani to Messrs. Nani.

(Translation.)

Gentlemen,

Bengazi, September 2, 1848.

I AM informed that some slaves were embarked yesterday on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*" (Captain Abdi), for the purpose of being conveyed to Canea. It is notorious that you are part owners of this schooner, and that the management of its concerns is entrusted to you in your character of consignees.

I therefore hereby require you to order the immediate disembarkation of the said slaves from on board the said schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty being strictly prohibited from having the least concern in the Traffic of Slaves.

(Signed) CHS. CASOLANI.

Inclosure 3 in No. 266.

Mr. Nani to Acting Vice-Consul Casolani.

Sir,

Bengazi, September 2, 1848.

IMMEDIATELY upon the receipt of your esteemed note of to-day, I caused to be disembarked, from on board the schooner therein mentioned, those black slaves that were there embarked without my knowledge and contrary to my sentiments; it appearing that the captain had taken upon himself authority so far.

I thank you for calling my attention to the subject, and have the honour, &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALEXANDER NANI.

Inclosure 4 in No. 266.

Acting Vice-Consul Casolani to Messrs. Nani.

Gentlemen,

Bengazi, September 2, 1848.

I REPEAT to you in writing the message already twice sent to you by my janissary, that I shall not consider the slaves as being disembarked from on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," unless the janissary himself personally verifies the actual landing of the said slaves on the mole of the Marina.

(Signed) CHS. CASOLANI.

Inclosure 5 in No. 266.

Vice-Consul Herman to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir,

Bengazi, October 4, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, inclosed, a copy of the proceedings of the court of inquiry held in pursuance of your orders on the 2nd instant, to investigate the circumstances attending the embarkation of certain slaves on board the Ottoman schooner "*Tre Fratelli*."

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 6 in No. 266.

Proceedings of a Court of Inquiry respecting the embarkation of Slaves on board the "Tre Fratelli."

PROCEEDINGS of a Vice-Consular Court of Inquiry held at Bengazi, this second day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, by order of Her Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Tripoli, G. W. Crowe, Esquire, for the purpose of investigating the circumstances attending the embarkation of certain slaves on board the Ottoman schooner "*Tre Fratelli*."

CLASS B.

President:—G. F. HERMAN, *Vice-Consul*.

The Court having assembled pursuant to orders, Jacob Barrouk, a native of Ragusa, was sworn on the Old Testament to interpret to the best of his ability the proceedings of the Court.

1st Evidence.

Mohammed Abdallah el Zahorny, boatman of the lazaretto, was then called in and examined :

Questions by the Court—

Did you convey any negro slaves on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I did not.

Did you see any slaves embarked, and how many?—I did, two and a child.

To whom did the schooner belong on board of which were shipped the slaves in question?—To Messrs. Nani.

Were you not charged by Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul, Dr. Casolani, to watch and take note of the number of slaves embarked?—I was.

How long did you remain in observation on the beach?—A whole day.

While on the watch, did you see any slaves disembarked from the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I did not.

Do you know to whom belonged the boat in which the slaves were conveyed on board?—To the best of my knowledge, to the "*Tre Fratelli*."

When the slaves were embarked, do you remember the persons who were present on the beach?—There were many persons present, but I do not now recollect their names.

2nd Evidence.

Mohammed Boich, cavass attached to the Vice-Consulate, examined :

Questions by the Court—

Were you sent by Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul, Dr. Casolani, to observe if any slaves were disembarked from the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I was.

How long did you remain in observation?—About seven hours.

Did you see any slaves disembark?—I did not.

Were you sent by Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul to Mr. Nani, to order the slaves shipped on board the "*Tre Fratelli*" to be disembarked in your presence?—I was.

How often did you repeat this to Mr. Nani?—Three times.

To which of the Messrs. Nani did you signify the Acting Vice-Consul's orders?—To Mr. Alexander Nani.

What answer did he return?—He replied that he knew nothing of the slaves; that he was merely the consignee of the vessel; that he should report the matter to the Bey, as the slaves belonged to Figi Achmet Boloeifa, and El Mecnheshi; he afterwards recommended me to take a cavass from the Bey, proceed on board and examine the vessel, when I should find that the slaves had been transshipped on a Turkish bombard.

When you conveyed the Acting Vice-Consul's order to Mr. Alexander Nani, where at the time was the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Tacking on and off, outside the port.

Did you see any slaves transshipped from the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I did not.

3rd Evidence.

Ferid Effendem, director of the Quarantine Department, examined :

Questions by the Court—

In your official capacity have you cognizance of the shipment of any slaves on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Three, to my knowledge, were embarked on board that vessel.

Do you know if any slaves were disembarked or transshipped from the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Three were transshipped on board the Terbi bombard "*El Messoud*," Reis Cherouni, bound for Canea.

Were there other slaves than the three you have mentioned embarked on board the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—There were not.

Who was the consignee of the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Mr. Cæsar Nani.

Do you consider, likewise, Mr. Cæsar Nani to be the owner of the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Until the day on which the slaves were embarked, such was my impression; but on the day in question the governor of the district, his Excellency Nashid Bey, gave me to understand that the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*" belonged to him, and that Mr. Cæsar Nani was merely the consignee.

Do you remember the date of the embarkation of the slaves?—The first of September, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

You have informed the Court that the three slaves embarked on board the "*Tre Fratelli*" were subsequently transshipped to the Terbine bombard, "*El Messoud*," what grounds have you for asserting this?—I was told so by the captain and the crew of the bombard, "*El Messoud*;" and moreover I witnessed an altercation between Mr. Alexander Nani and the captain of the "*Tre Fratelli*," when the latter told Mr. Nani that he had no right to transship the slaves, and that he should hold Mr. Nani's brother at Canea responsible for the freight.

Were there any slaves shipped on board the bombard "*El Messoud*?"—There were nine.

Can you inform the Court if the three slaves originally shipped on board the "*Tre Fratelli*" were among them?—I cannot, as I am never furnished with a nominal list of the slaves embarked. I had only the report of the captain and crew of the bombard "*El Messoud*," that three slaves had been transshipped from the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*."

Are slaves frequently smuggled on board vessels to avoid the payment of the export duty?—Very frequently, particularly when shipped in small parties.

Have you in the archives of the department over which you preside any document to prove, that vessels previously consigned to Mr. Cæsar Nani have conveyed away or brought slaves?—I have not.

4th Evidence.

Frederick Casolani, a native of Malta, employed in the lazaretto, examined :

Questions by the Court—

Have you the knowledge of the embarkation of any slaves on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I have.

Of how many?—Of one only—a female.

Did you see her embark?—I did.

Do you remember the day on which this occurred?—It was on the morning of the first of September last.

Do you remember to whom belonged the boat which conveyed the slave on board?—There were two boats at the time at the Marina; the captain of the "*Tre Fratelli*," Reis Abbdî, called the slave and ordered her into a boat; but into which of the two she entered, or to whom it belonged, I know not.

On what part of the beach were you when this occurred?—Near the Custom-House.

Were there any other persons present at the time?—There were several employés of the Custom-House and Mr. Alexander Nani.

Had you any conversation with Mr. Alexander Nani?—I had not.

Who do you consider to have been the consignee of the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—Mr. Cæsar Nani.

Do you consider Mr. Cæsar Nani to be the owner of the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—As Mr. Cæsar Nani constantly assumes the management of the "*Tre Fratelli*," I have always considered him as the owner, or part-owner of that vessel.

5th Evidence.

Paolo Diacono, a native of Malta, and merchant, examined :

Questions by the Court—

How long have you been established at Bengazi?—Fourteen years.

Do you know a schooner called the "*Tre Fratelli*?"—I do not.

Do you know a schooner commanded by a certain Rais Abbdi?—I do.

To whom does the vessel in question belong?—It is reported to belong to Mr. Cæsar Nani.

What grounds have you for supposing Mr. Nani to be the owner of the vessel?—The schooner in question arrived here in the course of last winter from the Levant or Canea, bound for Tripoli; she was sold by private contract, and in the bazaars it was universally reported that Mr. Nani had purchased her. About a month afterwards it was also reported that the governor of the district, his Excellency Nashid Bey, had a share in the vessel.

By what name is this schooner generally known at Bengazi?—By that of "Nani's schooner."

(L.S.)

(Signed)

G. F. HERMAN.

No. 267.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 22, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of October last and its inclosures, reporting that some slaves had been shipped at Bengazi for conveyance to Canea, on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," of which the British subjects Messrs. Cæsar Nani and Co., merchants of Bengazi, are said to be either the owners or consignees.

I referred that despatch and its inclosures to the Law Advisers of the Crown, for their opinion as to what steps could be taken in order to bring Messrs. Nani to justice; and I have now to acquaint you that they have reported it to be their opinion that it is competent to you, under the Order in Council of the 19th of June, 1844, to cause those persons to be arrested and to send them to Malta for trial, under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 6 & 7 Victoria, cap. 94, for the felony of which they have been guilty under the statute 5 George IV, cap. 113, section 10, as extended by the statute 6 & 7 Victoria, cap. 98.

From your despatch, and from the papers which accompany it, there appears to be strong presumptive evidence of the guilt of Messrs. Nani; and I have accordingly to inform you that I have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to desire the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean, to put himself into communication with the Governor of Malta, relative to sending a ship of war to Bengazi for the purpose of carrying the accused parties and the witnesses to Malta for trial; and that I have moved the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department to issue the necessary instructions to the Governor of Malta on this subject.

I have therefore to instruct you, on the receipt of this despatch, to cause the Messrs. Nani to be immediately arrested, and to be retained in safe custody until the arrival of the ship of war.

You will transmit to the Governor of Malta such depositions taken on oath as you may be able to obtain, tending to prove the truth of the charge against Messrs. Nani; and you will also send to Malta any witnesses who may be able to depose before the court as to the facts of the case.

It appears to me to be among other things desirable, that the original correspondence between Dr. Casolani and Messrs. Nani, with the signatures of the latter duly certified, should be sent to Malta; and that the dragoman who watched the proceedings should be sent to Malta to make his deposition in person.

I rely on your zeal and diligence for collecting proper and sufficient proof of the criminalty of Messrs. Nani; and I have to desire that you will take all the necessary steps in this important matter with circumspection and dispatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

TURKEY.

No. 268.

Mr. Alison to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, April 3, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Lord Cowley, I have the satisfaction of inclosing the translation of a Vizierial letter addressed to the Mousheer of Tripoli.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. ALISON.

Inclosure in No. 268.

The Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli.

D'APRES les informations qu'on vient de nous donner, quelques autorités de Tripoli se livrent au Traffic des Esclaves.

On n'a pas besoin de dire à votre Excellence que le métier du Traffic des Esclaves n'est pas une chose louable, et que cela étant, il n'est pas convenable, il n'est pas digne des autorités de la Sublime Porte de l'exercer.

Conformément donc à cette sagacité et à cette prudence qui vous caractérisent, votre Excellence donnera à cet égard des ordres à qui il est nécessaire, et elle mettra ses soins à empêcher cet état de choses.

No. 269.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 5, 1848.

WITH reference to Lord Cowley's despatch of the 3rd of February last, in which his Lordship announced to me that he had received an assurance from Aali Effendi, that measures should be taken by the Porte to prevent Mahomed Sheriff Said, the Governor of Tripoli, from carrying on the Slave Trade; I herewith transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at that town, reporting that although the Ottoman Government have issued orders to prohibit officers in the service of the Porte within the Regency of Tripoli, from engaging in Slave Trade, the Governor of that place still continues extensive speculations in that barbarous traffic, under the pretence that the orders referred to apply only to persons holding office directly under the Turkish Government.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate the substance of the inclosed despatch to the Turkish Government, and to urge them to take effectual steps for preventing any person holding, whether directly or indirectly, any official situation under the Turkish Government, from being concerned in this disgraceful traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 269.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston, June 23, 1848.

[See No. 264.]

No. 270.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received Oct. 3.)

My Lord,

Therapia, September 15, 1848.

INCLOSED herewith is the translation of a Vizierial order directing the Pasha of Tripoli in very positive terms, to prevent all persons in public employments from taking any part in the Commerce of Slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure in No. 270.

The Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli.

(Traduction.)

JE vous ai écrit il y a peu de temps pour vous dire de défendre le Commerce des Esclaves auquel quelques employés publics se croient d'ordinaire à Tripoli. J'avais donc lieu de croire que vous prendriez des mesures pour y remédier.

On dit cependant que quelques uns de ces employés font encore ce commerce. Or je n'ai pas besoin de vous répéter que ce commerce est par sa nature une mauvaise chose, et qu'il ne convient en aucune manière aux employés publics de s'y livrer.

Votre Excellence doit donc donner des ordres rigoureux à cet égard à ceux qu'il faut, et prendre sans aucun délai les mesures nécessaires pour faire cesser cet état de choses de manière à ce qu'il ne soit plus nécessaire que je lui écrive de nouveau sur cette matière, et c'est à cette fin que je lui écris la présente lettre.

No. 271.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th ultimo, inclosing a translation of an order issued by the Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli, directing him to prevent all persons in public employments from taking part in the Traffic in Slaves.

And I have to instruct your Excellency to convey to the Turkish Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for this proceeding on the part of the Grand Vizier.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

UNITED STATES.

No. 272.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bancroft.

Foreign Office, May 18, 1848.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Mr. Bancroft, that he has received a despatch from Mr. Westwood, Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro, containing his annual report upon the Slave Trade in Brazil, in which report Mr. Westwood states, amongst other facts relating to the Trade, that the Brazilian slave-dealers derive great protection and assistance in their criminal undertakings from the employment of the flag of the United States for slave-trading purposes.

The Undersigned begs leave to transmit to Mr. Bancroft an extract of Mr. Westwood's despatch to which he refers, and has the honour to request that Mr. Bancroft will have the goodness to bring the statement contained in it to the notice of the United States' Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 273.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1848.

WITH reference to my despatch to Mr. Pakenham, dated the 22nd of June, 1847, and to your despatch of the 29th of July following, respecting the extensive use which is made of the United States' flag and the frequent employment of United States' vessels for purposes connected with the Slave Trade; I transmit to you herewith an extract of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro to the same purport, showing that the Brazilian slave-dealers derive great protection and assistance in their criminal undertakings from the employment of the United States' flag for slave-trading purposes. I have to desire that you will bring the statement contained in this paper to the notice of the Government of Washington, in corroboration of the facts to which you have before drawn their attention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 273.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston, February 17, 1848.

[See No. 94.]

No. 274.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 13, 1848.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information and for communication to the United States' Government, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, inclosing a copy of the manifest of the United States' schooner "*J. W. Kampton*," R. Stanhope, master, which sailed from Bahia on the 31st of March last under circumstances which gave rise to the suspicion that her cargo was intended to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 274.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(April 26, 1848.)

[See No. 58.]

No. 275.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 22.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 5, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note, which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th ultimo, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, inclosing the copy of an extract from a despatch from Mr. Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston, containing a statement with regard to the abuse of the flag of the United States and the employment of American shipping in purposes connected with the Slave Trade in corroboration of the facts of a similar nature to which I have before drawn the attention of the Government of the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN. F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 275.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Buchanan.

Sir,

Washington, June 5, 1848.

WITH reference to the note, which, in obedience to instructions from Her Majesty's Government, I had the honour of addressing to you on the 23rd of July last, drawing the serious attention of the Government of the United States to the extensive use which is made of the United States' flag, and to the frequent employment of United States' vessels for purposes connected with the Slave Trade, and transmitting to you the copy of a report from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham in which the facts upon which my representation was founded were detailed; I have now been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to bring to the notice of the Government of the United States the extract from a despatch from Mr. Westwood, Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro, to Viscount Palmerston, of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy herewith, containing statements in corroboration of the facts to which I have before had the honour of drawing your attention.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. F. CRAMPTON.

No. 276.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, an extract of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, reporting on the state of Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba; and I have to desire that you will communicate to the United States' Government that part of it which relates to the alleged fitting out of slavers for the coast of Africa in the United States.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

 Inclosure in No. 276.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston,
May 25, 1848.*

[See Class A, No. 20, page 23, paragraphs 1 and 2.]

No. 277.

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

My Lord,

Washington, July 17, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, I have communicated to the United States' Government, in a note dated the 14th instant, a copy of the despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch, together with a copy of the manifest of the United States' schooner "*J. W. Kampton*," suspected of being employed in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

 No. 278.
Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 10.)

My Lord,

Washington, July 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, I have communicated to the United States' Secretary of State, in a note dated the 27th instant, that part of the despatch from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to your Lordship, dated the 5th May, which relates to the alleged fitting out of slavers for the coast of Africa in the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

 No. 279.
Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, and for communication to the United States' Government, as affording an instance of the facilities afforded to slave-dealers by the use of the American flag in carrying on their nefarious traffic, a copy of a letter and of its inclosures received at this Department from the Admiralty, and a copy of a correspondence which has passed thereupon with Her Majesty's Legation at Rio de Janeiro, relative to the Bra-

zilian vessel "*Malaga*," captured by Her Majesty's sloop "*Ferret*" in December last, with 853 slaves on board, and which, it appears, cleared out from Rio de Janeiro, fully equipped for a slave-trading voyage, under cover of the United States' flag.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 279.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to the Right Hon. E. J. Stanley.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 24, 1848.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, dated the 10th January, and of its inclosures, reporting the circumstances attending the capture of the Brazilian vessel "*Malaga*," with 853 slaves on board, by Her Majesty's sloop "*Ferret*."

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. G. WARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 279.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty, January 10, 1848.

[See Class A, presented 1848, No. 288, page 328.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 279.

Commander Sprigg to Commodore Sir C. Hotham, December 27, 1847.

[See Class A, presented 1848, No. 288, page 328.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 279.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden, March 23, 1848.

[See Class B, presented 1848, No. 223, page 237.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 279.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, May 23, 1848.

[See No. 14.]

No. 280.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, and in order to enable you, if necessary, to explain the facts of the case to Mr. Buchanan, the accompanying copy of a letter and of its inclosures which has been received at this Department from the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the United States' barque "*Adeline*" was visited in the month of July last off the west coast of Africa, by Commander Chamberlain, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Britomart*."

I have at the same time to inform you that the conduct of Commander Chamberlain on the occasion in question appears to me to have been perfectly and in all respects proper.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 280.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, November 13, 1848.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, a copy of a letter from Sir Charles Hotham, dated the 14th August last, with its inclosures in original, detailing the circumstances attending the boarding of the United States' barque "*Adeline*," from Her Majesty's sloop "*Britomart*," for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 280.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Loanda, August 14, 1848.

I REQUEST you to lay the inclosed letters, detailing the particulars of the visit by Commander Chamberlain, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Britomart*," to the United States' barque "*Adeline*," before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I trust their Lordships will approve the forbearance and temper exhibited by the commander of the "*Britomart*" on that occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 280.

Commander Chamberlain to Commodore Sir C. Hotham.

Sir,

"Britomart," off Cape Lopez, July 24, 1848.

THE supercargo of the American barque "*Adeline*," of New York, having threatened to lay before the Government of the United States my proceedings in urging the master of the said vessel to heave-to and prove his nationality, I have the honour to lay the facts of the case before you, in support of the conduct I pursued.

At daylight this morning a sail was seen to leeward, after whom I immediately went in chase. I soon made her out to be a black rakish-looking barque, upon the port tack, under all plain sail, and shortly after, that her colours were those of the United States.

Her appearance rendering me doubtful of the genuineness of her flag, I considered it my duty to request her to prove it; and following my instructions to the letter, I placed the "*Britomart*" on her weather beam, within hail, and desired the boatswain to say, "I will thank you to heave-to. I wish to send a boat on board." The reply was, "Americans don't heave-to." Thinking that there had been some mistake, I hailed personally, word for word, my original hail through the boatswain, described on the other side, which was answered by "Go ahead and drop your boat." Both ships then going nearly seven knots, I said, "We are both going too fast either for me to drop or you to pick up my boat with safety without heaving to. Will you do so?" "Go ahead" was the only answer. I then asked, "If I go ahead and drop my boat, will you heave-to?" which was answered unintelligibly as to the exact words, but in a manner that led me to feel that deceit was intended; on which I called out, "Am I to understand whether you will heave-to or not?" when, in the most determined tone, he said, "No, I will not heave-to." Coercion then appearing to me quite justifiable, I for the last time hailed, and said, "Then, Sir, you will oblige me to heave you to myself, by sending your main-topmast over your side."

Having by that time forged too far ahead to enable my guns to bear, I remained there purposely for a few minutes, to give him time to consider my ultimatum, which he made sufficiently good use of by granting my request at 8 A.M.

Lieutenant Algar, accompanied by the purser and master as witnesses, immediately left the ship to make the visit, and after a short period returned.

To my surprise, I was informed that a person on board, apparently (as described) a Brazilian, from his Portuguese accent and dark complexion, and said to be the supercargo, had positively refused to show any document in proof of the vessel's nationality, notwithstanding that the master and mate assured him that the request of the officer was perfectly usual and correct. I then, in company with two officers as witnesses, repaired on board myself, and explained to the person pointed out to me as the master, the illegality of his conduct, and the friendly understanding between the United States and Great Britain regarding the mutual right of visit. His papers he then immediately produced; and not wishing to have any entry made in his log, I was about to retire, when the supercargo demanded the name of myself and ship, saying in a determined though bombastic manner, that he should report the whole proceeding, that we had forced him against all law to heave-to; and I am sorry to add, Sir, that he gave as his principal reason for being sure of my misconduct, that the Captain of the United States' ship of war "Porpoise" had clearly pointed out to him that never at any time had a British man-of-war a right to visit any vessel displaying the flag of the United States, which statement was corroborated by the master as well. The whole time of her detention was one hour and a half.

I have to apologise, Sir, for occupying you with so lengthy a detail; but knowing with what magic effect the most trivial circumstance will at times produce animosity among nations, I have endeavoured to lay the matter so clearly before you, that, in conjunction with the two inclosures I have the honour to forward, I trust that, should this affair be brought before Government, my corroborated explanation may be held as a sufficient proof of the justification of my conduct.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM CHAS. CHAMBERLAIN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 280.

Lieutenant Algar to Commander Chamberlain.

Sir,

"Britomart," off Cape Lopez, July 25, 1848.

BEING officer of the morning watch on Monday, 24th instant, a sail was reported from the masthead about 6 o'clock. I immediately wore in chase, and according to your orders, steered so that we might be enabled to wear and heave-to to windward of her, on the same tack as that on which she was standing.

At about 7 o'clock she showed American colours; we then bore down, hauled up our mainsail, and by degrees hauled to the wind after her.

On getting abeam you ordered the boatswain to hail "I will thank you to heave-to. I wish to send a boat on board." To which the master of the ship replied, "American vessels do not heave-to." You then hailed him yourself in the same words, to which he answered, "Go a-head and drop a boat." You then remarked, "we are both going too fast to drop a boat to communicate without heaving-to" (the ships going about seven knots at the time). When he again said, "go ahead." You then asked, "will you heave to and pick up the boat if I go a-head and drop one." The answer to which I did not hear; but on the question being put a second time the answer was, "I will not." You then said you would knock his main-topmast over the side if he did not heave to, at the same time going to quarters and shooting the guns.

In about five minutes he hauled his mainsail up and hove-to, we having ranged a-head out of hail. We immediately hove-to, lowering a boat at the same time. I was previously ready to shove off in order that no detention might occur. I boarded her in company with the master and purser, and according to your directions, told the master you were exceedingly sorry such a misunderstanding should have been occasioned by him, showing him at the same time the instructions with reference to vessels under the flag of the United States, which he examined, and told a person whom he pointed out to me as being the supercargo, and who, from his accent and appearance, struck me as

being a foreigner, that we "were all right." I also told him you would not fail to report it. I then asked to see his papers, which the supercargo positively refused to show, at the same time telling me he had been told by the captain of the United States' schooner "Porpoise," that they were not to heave-to for any foreign man-of-war. He then went into the cabin abaft, and brought out some paper, requesting me to give him the name of the ship, which I did; he also said he should report having been made heave-to.

I took the boarding-book, and filled it up from the master's statement. I then pointed out to the master the necessity of seeing his papers; that as soon as I was satisfied he was intitled to fly the colours he had at his peak, he could proceed immediately; but until he had shown that authority, he must remain heave-to whilst I went on board for further orders.

He then, in company with a person, apparently the mate, turned round to the supercargo and said, "you had better show the papers," which he again refused to do. I then shoved off, telling him to remain heave-to until a boat came again. On coming on board I reported the whole to you. At 9h. 30m. A.M., the barque filled, and the wind having fallen much lighter, so to enable a boat to go alongside without danger, we filled also, on her getting abeam of us; and going ahead of her, you, in company with the purser and myself, dropped alongside in an armed boat. On going on board you explained to the master, in a most courteous manner, how much you regretted that such a misunderstanding should have taken place; also that you had been induced to come on board yourself to point out to him the necessity of seeing his papers, in order to assure yourself of his right to hoist the American colours.

Immediately on your finishing, the master said, "I think I can," and asked you to walk into the cabin, when he immediately produced his register; and on examining it, you expressed yourself perfectly satisfied, and wished him a pleasant voyage.

The supercargo, who was present, said the master had shown the papers against his will; that he (the supercargo) would not have heave-to, and you might have knocked his masts away; he also again stated that the captain of the United States' schooner "Porpoise" had told him "that English men-of-war had no right to board him," which statement was corroborated by the master. You then asked if they wished anything stated in the log or papers, which was declined; but the name of the ship was asked, which you gave them on a piece of paper, together with your own. We then returned on board the "Britomart."

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. ALGAR.

Inclosure 5 in No. 280.

Mr. Bennett to Commander Chamberlain.

Sir,

"Britomart," off Cape Lopez, July 25, 1848.

HAVING been desired by you to make a statement of the circumstances regarding the visit to the United States' barque "*Adeline*," in order to ascertain her nationality, I now beg to put you in possession of the whole of the facts in detail, which came under my immediate notice.

At a little before 8 A.M., on the 24th instant, I came on deck, at which time the "Britomart" was nearing a vessel with United States' colours flying; and on coming up with her I witnessed your directing the boatswain to hail her in these words, "I will thank you to heave-to; I wish to send a boat on board;" to which an answer was returned, "American vessels don't heave-to." You then hailed him yourself to the same effect, when he replied, "go ahead and drop your boat;" you replied, "we are both going too fast to lower a boat to communicate without heaving-to. Again the reply was, "go ahead." He was then asked, if when we did so, and dropped a boat, whether he would heave-to and pick her up? An indirect reply was given, implying that if we did so, he might or might not; and adding that American vessels "did not heave-to for anybody;" on which you said, "am I to understand that you will or will not heave-to if I drop my boat." A response was given by another person, saying, "we will not heave-to!" (I must here state that during this conversation the two vessels were going through the water at the rate of

upwards of six knots). You then intimated to him that if he did not, you "would be under the necessity of sending his maintop-mast over the side." At this time the "Britomart" having outsailed the stranger, had gone so far ahead as to preclude the possibility of hearing any further conversation.

A short time after I observed the barque back her maintopsail, when a boat was instantly lowered from the "Britomart," and Lieutenant Algar was ordered to proceed and visit the suspected vessel, I being ordered to accompany him to bear witness to any altercation which might occur on board her, taking with me the Book of Instructions for the cruizers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

On going alongside her, we had to scramble up the side, not even being accommodated with any convenience; a boat rope was certainly thrown to us; and on going on board, Lieutenant Algar explained to the master, in a most courteous manner, that he had been sent on board to ascertain whether she was *bond fide* an American vessel, and requested to see her papers, at the same time stating that the commander of the "Britomart" was exceedingly sorry that the master of the barque should have occasioned such a misunderstanding on his part.

Lieutenant Algar was responded to by a person who represented himself to be the supercargo, who, from his speaking broken English, was evidently not an American; and I fancied from his general appearance, that he was either a Frenchman or a Portuguese, stating that we had no right to see his papers; and pointing to the flag at her peak, asked if that was not sufficient.

He was again asked to be so good as to show his papers, which he, the supercargo, positively refused to do. I then handed the master of the vessel the instructions before alluded to, and he having read the part at page 16, relating to vessels hoisting the flag of the United States, told the supercargo that we were right, to which he made answer, that by the American laws we had no right to demand his papers, and that the flag alone was sufficient to verify his nationality; also that the captain of the "Porpoise" had told him that he was not to show them to any one, and that no one had a right to visit American ships.

All persuasion failed. Lieutenant Algar requested the master to remain hove-to whilst he communicated with the "Britomart" to report these unlooked for proceedings, which the master having assented to, the supercargo requested to be informed of the name of the man-of-war; and while he was absent in the cabin, the master said in a quiet manner to a person near, whom I supposed to be the mate, "he'd better show the papers," which was assented to by the mate; and on the supercargo coming out with a sheet of paper, the master requested him to show the ship's papers, which he positively refused to do. We then left the vessel, and arrived on board the "Britomart" at 8h. 30m.

After my having consulted, at your request, all the laws on board for the guidance of officers employed on the high seas, in order that no mistake might be made with regard to enforcing the barque to produce her papers, supposing she had any, I was requested to again proceed on board with yourself and the boarding officer.

During this time the barque had filled, which might been about 9h. 30m.; and passing to leeward of us, the "Britomart" ran across her bows, when we left the ship in an armed boat, and dropped alongside without the stranger heaving to; the wind at this time was considerably lighter, the vessels not going above three knots. On arriving on the deck, after you had expressed your regret in the most decorous and civil manner at the circumstances which had induced you yourself to come on board, which had never been required in any previous case during the "Britomart's" period of service on the coast, and fully explained to the master that you were authorized to visit vessels hoisting the American flag, in order to ascertain their nationality, and which could only be done by seeing the papers which authorized her to hoist that flag, stating that had he been full of slaves, provided he had these papers, you "would wish him a prosperous voyage and good morning."

The master who was silent until the conclusion of your remarks, said, "well, I think I can," and immediately asked us to walk into the cabin, where he immediately produced her register; and on being satisfied as to its accuracy, it was returned with "thank you, this is all I want to see."

The supercargo then came forward and said that the master had forced

him to give up the papers, so that they might be inspected by the cruizer; or otherwise he himself would not have shown them, and that "he would never have hove-to until the three masts had been shot down, and then he would have been obliged to."

You then explained to him the error under which he was labouring, the master appearing to concur with your explanation; and after offering to make any note in his log respecting the visit, or any complaint he might have to make, which was declined; the supercargo merely asking again for the name of the cruizer, which you wrote, together with your own, on a slip of paper produced by him, we left the ship; the master ordering the side-ladder to be got over previous to our departure, but this tardy courtesy was rejected in these words, "thank you, we came up without one, and I dare say we can go down the same way."

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWD. J. BENNETT.

No. 281.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1848.

HER Majesty's Government have received information from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana that the American brig "*Thomas Street*," M'Connell master, which had been employed in legal trade between the Havana and New Orleans, was purchased about the month of August last by slave-traders at the Havana, for the purpose of being employed in Slave Trade; that she cleared out from the Havana on the 1st of October for New York, in charge of her American master and crew, but that she proceeded no further than Cayo Blanco, in the Bay of Cardenas, where she was transferred to her new owners, and was delivered into the charge of a Spanish master, the American master and crew leaving her; and that she had sailed from Cayo Blanco ostensibly for Brazil, but in reality for the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to communicate these facts to Mr. Buchanan.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 282.

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

My Lord,

Washington, November 20, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch to the 18th October inclusive.

I have the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th ultimo, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, communicating to the United States' Government the circumstances under which the slaver "*Malaga*," which it appears had cleared out from Rio de Janeiro fully equipped for a slave-trading voyage, under cover of the United States' flag, had been captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Ferret*" in December last, with 853 slaves on board.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 282.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Buchanan.

Sir,

Washington, November 15, 1848.

I AM instructed by Her Majesty's Government to communicate to the Government of the United States, as affording an instance of the facilities afforded to slave-dealers by the use of the American flag in carrying on their nefarious traffic, the accompanying copy of a letter and of its inclosures received at the Department of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for

Foreign Affairs from the Admiralty, together with a copy of a correspondence which has passed thereupon with Her Majesty's Legation at Rio de Janeiro, relative to the Brazilian vessel "*Malaga*," captured by Her Majesty's sloop "*Ferret*" in December last with 853 slaves on board, and which it appears cleared out from Rio de Janeiro fully equipped for a slave-trading voyage, under cover of the United States' flag.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 283.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1848.

I HEREWITH transmit to you an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, reporting that the American brig "*Lawrence*" had sailed from that port under circumstances of a character to give good reason to believe that she was intended for a slaving voyage.

I also transmit to you a copy of a letter addressed by Commander Dunlop, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Alert*," to the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa, reporting that he had seized the "*Lawrence*" in the harbour of Sierra Leone, and had sent her for adjudication before the Vice-Admiralty Court in that colony on a charge of being equipped for Slave Trade.

I also transmit to you a copy of a despatch dated the 4th ultimo, from Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone, stating that the case of the "*Lawrence*" was then before the Court of Vice-Admiralty, and expressing his opinion that she would be condemned.

I shall acquaint you with the decision of the Vice-Admiralty Court on this case so soon as I shall have been informed thereof; and in the meantime I transmit to you the above-mentioned papers for your information, and to enable you, if necessary, to communicate to the United States' Secretary of State the facts of this case, so far as they have yet been reported to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 283.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston, July 25, 1848, paragraph 1.

[See Class A, No. 27, page 33.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 283.

Commander Dunlop to Commodore Sir C. Hotham.

Sir,

"Alert," Sierra Leone, September 27, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that having received information on the morning of the 25th instant, that the American brig "*Lawrence*," of New Orleans, Edward York, master, was suspected of being equipped for the Slave Trade, I immediately proceeded on board her, when I found Commander Prevost, of Her Majesty's ship "*Pantaloön*," with an officer and party of men in the act of searching her. As senior officer I immediately took upon myself the responsibility of all other proceedings, and having ascertained that, with the exception of the master and mate, the entire crew of the "*Lawrence*" were Spanish subjects, shipped at Havana, and Commander Prevost having called my attention to a very large galley sufficient to cook for several hundred people, with a large boiler and machine for distilling salt water attached to it, I deemed the grounds of suspicion to be sufficiently strong to call for further

search, I therefore ordered Commander Prevost himself to superintend while the hold was sufficiently cleared to ascertain what water was stowed below (the hatches had already been opened and a search commenced below before my arrival on board), I then proceeded to the custom-house to examine the papers deposited there by the master of the "*Lawrence*," which I found to be an American register and articles of agreement between the master and his crew, with a note attached to it professedly signed by the American Consul at Havana, stating that the master having discharged his American crew at that port and being unable to obtain another crew of American citizens had therefore shipped foreigners.

There was no manifest or other document whatever lodged at the custom-house, the master having simply made a declaration of what his cargo was composed. On my return on board the "*Lawrence*," Commander Prevost reported that 17 water-casks had been found capable of containing 1800 gallons of water, a quantity sufficient for the crew (which including the master is nine hands) for 200 days at the rate of a gallon per diem per man, and therefore a much greater quantity than is usually carried by merchant-vessels; and also that he had found 27½ bags of callavances. I then stopped the further search, considering I had *prima facie* evidence for the Slave Trade in British waters, and I proceeded to the Queen's Advocate, with whom I consulted on the subject, and who gave me as his legal opinion that the vessel should be seized. I returned on board and gave the master notice that I seized the brig "*Lawrence*" upon the above-stated charge, and having ordered the officer and men belonging to the "*Pantaloön*," who had been on board during the day, to continue in charge until relieved by a party from the "*Alert*" in the morning, I gave strict orders that nothing should be allowed to be removed from the vessel, excepting a change of linen for those belonging to her who wished to land. At 8 o'clock yesterday morning the 26th instant I sent Mr. Loveridge, master of this sloop, and a party of marines, on board to relieve the "*Pantaloön's*" men and to take charge of the brig. At 11 o'clock I went on board in company with the Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty Court to take an inventory of everything on board. At 3 o'clock my affidavit was sworn to before the Judge and the vessel was brought into court.

It appears the "*Lawrence*" sailed from Havana with her crew of Spaniards for Gallinas, that she had a Spanish supercargo on board, and that at Gallinas she shipped another Spaniard, whom the master also calls a supercargo, both these men being now here, and likewise two other Spaniards from Gallinas, called passengers. I have no doubt, whatever, that one of the supercargoes or passengers was intended to take charge of the brig as soon as the American master found it convenient to give her up; and the evidence of her being intended for the Slave Trade is strengthened by the fact that, as I am informed by one of the said passengers, who mentioned it in conversation without thinking of the inference his admission might lead to, the master cannot speak Spanish, merely understanding a few words, and the mate himself told me he did not understand a word, and not one of the Spanish crew can speak a word of English. So it appears pretty clear that the Spanish supercargo must have in fact been the commander of the "*Lawrence*" during the passage from Havana to Gallinas.

The cause of the brig being brought here is that she has sprung a leak of so serious a nature she could not venture to remain longer at sea. She is now making fifty inches of water an hour, and this being the most convenient place for laying her on the ground for the purpose of repair. The master hoped the American colours and register would cover her real character, and having repaired her damages she would be enabled to sail in a condition to carry on her nefarious traffic.

The master told me he would have gone to the Island of St. Thomas' to repair, instead of coming here, had he not been informed that there was no place there where a vessel could be safely laid on the ground, in fact she could not without the greatest risk have ventured to make any more distant port than Sierra Leone. On her arrival here she was consigned (I presume by the master) to Messrs. Hartung and Co., the Hamburgh merchants, who were connected with the steamer "*Maid of Islay*."

I shall leave an officer and prize crew on board the "*Lawrence*," who shall be assisted by men appointed by the Marshal in keeping her free from water.

I shall sail this afternoon or with the morning's tide for the River Pongos, having had information I think I can rely upon, of a slaver having lately arrived at Bissao, supposed likely to proceed to that river for her cargo. I shall take with me the same pilot that went with Commander Wood in the "Philomel" last year to the Pongos, which I hope you will approve of. In proceeding to the Pongos I am following out the senior officer's instructions, which from the circumstances which I had the honour to state to you in my letter of the 18th instant, I thought myself called upon to depart from previous to the intelligence above mentioned having reached me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DUNLOP.

Inclosure 3 in No. 383.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone to Viscount Palmerston,
November 4, 1848.

[See Class A, No. 9, page 7.]

No. 284.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you for your information, in the event of any representation being made to you on the subject by the United States' Government, the accompanying copies of a letter and of its inclosures from the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the United States' schooner "Morris," of New York, was boarded by a boat from Her Majesty's sloop "Bittern" on the 21st of September last; and I also inclose copy of the reply which under my direction has been made to that letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 284.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, December 29, 1848.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, dated the 9th of October last, and of its inclosure, relative to the boarding of the schooner "Morris," of New York, by the boat of Her Majesty's sloop "Bittern."

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 284.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," St. Paul de Loanda, October 9, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the copy of a letter from Commander Hope of Her Majesty's ship "Bittern," relating the measures he employed to board the American schooner "Morris," of New York. I trust their Lordships will approve of the conduct of Commander Hope, especially as it is generally believed that the schooner is engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 284.

Commander Hope to Commodore Sir Chas. Hotham.

Sir,

At sea, Point Matoote, September 22, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information, that on the 21st instant, being in latitude 3° 54' south, and longitude 10° 54' east, after weighing, I communicated with Her Majesty's ship "Rapid." Commander Dixon informed me that he had been in chase of a suspicious schooner the whole of the preceding day, and lost her during the night; at 10·44 A.M., while communicating with Her Majesty's ship "Rapid," a schooner was reported under the land bearing east-north-east. I immediately made all plain sail, in company with the "Rapid," in chase. At 2·40 P.M. I observed that she had a pendant and ensign flying.

At 4 P.M. I made it out to be an American ensign and pendant. At 5·15, fired a blank gun at stranger, when she hauled down the pendant and took no further notice. At 5·25, fired a shotted gun; at 5·35, fired another, when chase backed his head-yards and filled again almost immediately. At 6, having got a-head of her, lowered a boat and dropped her alongside, under the charge of Mr. Blackford, master. At 6·15, the boat returned, she proving to be the American schooner "Morris," of New York.

The master, Jones, used the most foul and gross language possible to the officers boarding, and positively refused to allow the boarding officer to sign the log, although he twice offered to do so.

The vessel was not detained; she never hove-to during the time the boat was on board.

My reasons for boarding her, although I recognized her before doing so, was having left her at anchor in Loango Bay on the 19th instant, when the master told me he was going direct to Rio de Janeiro.

I considered her in a very suspicious position. I have also reason to believe that she took away an illegal cargo from Loango some months ago.

So certain was I that she was a suspicious vessel, that I hoisted the pinnace out at 3·15 A.M., and sent her in chase under Lieutenant Stupart; but the breeze freshening, she was of no assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. HOPE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 284.

Lord Eddisbury to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 10, 1849.

I HAVE laid before Viscount Palmerston your letter of the 29th ultimo and its inclosures, reporting the circumstances under which the United States' schooner "Morris" of New York, was boarded by a boat from Her Majesty's sloop "Bittern," on the 21st of September last.

I am directed by his Lordship in reply to observe to you, that the right of boarding and of examining papers of a merchant-vessel sailing under the colours of any State, is a generally acknowledged right exercised by the ships of war of nations, for the purposes of maritime police, and in order to ascertain that a vessel met with at sea is really by her papers that which by her flag she pretends to be; but in a case like this, in which a British officer is satisfied beforehand that a vessel does really belong to any particular State, the boarding can have no object, unless it be to ascertain whether such vessel is engaged in Slave Trade. But the right of visiting and searching foreign merchant-vessels, in order to ascertain whether they are engaged in Slave Trade, can be acquired only by treaty; and we have no treaty with the United States, giving to British cruisers such rights as regards vessels belonging to the United States. It is therefore not desirable that British cruisers should board vessels which may be known to be really belonging to the United States.

I am to request that in laying this opinion of Lord Palmerston before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, you will move their Lordships to cause in to be communicated to Commander Hope of Her Majesty's sloop "Bittern," for his future guidance in similar cases.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDDISBURY.

No. 285.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 23.)

My Lord,

Washington, January 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 30th November, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, informing him of the circumstances under which the American brig "*Thomas Street*" has been transferred to new owners, in order to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN. F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 285.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Buchanan.

Sir,

Washington, December 28, 1848.

I HAVE been instructed to communicate to the United States' Government the following information which has been received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, relative to an American brig called the "*Thomas Street*," M'Connell, master, believed to be employed in the Slave Trade.

This vessel, which had been employed in legal trade between the Havana and New Orleans, was purchased about the month of August last by slave-traders at the Havana, for the purpose of being employed in Slave Trade. She cleared out from the Havana on the 1st of October for New York, in charge of her American master and crew, but she proceeded no further than Cayo Blanco in the Bay of Cardenas, where she was transferred to new owners, and was delivered into the charge of a Spanish master, the American master and crew leaving her; and she has sailed for Cayo Blanco ostensibly for Brazil, but in reality for the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade,

I avail, &c.
(Signed) J. F. CRAMPTON.

No. 286.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that American vessels are extensively employed in the importation of slaves into Brazil.

I have to instruct you to show these papers to Mr. Buchanan, and to request the serious attention of the United States' Government to this subject. You will say that the United States have declared Slave Trade to be piracy, and have decreed capital punishment to any citizen of the United States who may engage in it, and that they will surely not permit their laws to be openly violated, merely because the slaves bought and sold are to be landed in Brazil instead of the United States. You will also say that by the Treaty of Washington the United States' Government engaged to join with that of Great Britain in all becoming representations and remonstrances with any and all

Powers within whose dominions slave-markets are allowed to exist, and to urge upon all such Powers the propriety and duty of closing such markets effectually, at once, and for ever; but the United States' Government must surely feel that any remonstrances which, in execution of that engagement, it might make to the Government of Brazil, could have but little weight while citizens and vessels of the United States are known to be engaged at Rio de Janeiro and at Bahia in carrying on that very traffic which the United States' Government would be urging the Government of Brazil to compel its Brazilian subjects to abandon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 286.

- 1.—*Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, November 16, 1848.*
- 2.—*Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, December 16, 1848.*

[See Nos. 39 and 46.]

No. 287.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 8, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you an extract from a report, dated Simon's Bay, December 1, 1848, from Vice-Admiral Dacres, late Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the Cape of Good Hope station, to the Secretary to the Admiralty, upon the state of the African Slave Trade within the limits of his command.

You will communicate this paper to the United States' Government, as showing the fraudulent manner in which the flag and vessels of the United States are made use of to aid and protect the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 287.

Rear-Admiral Dacres to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"President," Simon's Bay, December 1, 1848.

THE practice of employing American vessels on voyages to the coast of Africa, when, on the necessary arrangements being completed they are turned into slave-vessels, has been frequently brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government by Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, &c. This practice, it is believed, has been general with all the vessels which have lately resorted to the east coast of Africa on slaving voyages. The vessels arrive thereon with American colours, under which they remain until the slave cargo is prepared, and other arrangements for receiving the same completed; a simulated register accounts for the future crew as passengers, and when all is ready, the American colours are hauled down, the former captain and crew probably repair on board some other vessel (an accomplice in the transaction), and the slave-ship starts with her cargo either under Brazilian colours, or with none at all. Sometimes it is found convenient to change the colours before the completion of the final arrangements, and hence the capture of the "*Constante*," "*Improviso*," and "*Phaon*," all of which were of American build, but under Brazilian colours. It is also customary for a vessel to be dispatched to the Coast, the captain of which is a kind of agent, furnished with a certain amount to purchase and arrange slave cargoes for vessels afterwards to arrive on the Coast, this vessel will remain many months and even years thus employed, until the funds are

exhausted, when she winds up by receiving a cargo of slaves herself. From information obtained, there was but little doubt but that the "*Amelia*," "*Constante*," and "*Lucy Penniman*," were vessels of this description; both the "*Amelia*" and "*Lucy Penniman*" were known to have been on the Coast a long time; all three were capacious vessels and capable of holding a large number of slaves.

The capture, therefore, of the two former, and the interruption to the latter vessel were very satisfactory, and no doubt prevented the expatriation of nearly 2000 slaves, besides disheartening the slave-dealers to a great extent. The "*Phaon*" was a new American clipper, and reputed to be a very fast sailer; a slave cargo was in waiting for her, it is believed, at Luabo, and hence her capture was very fortunate. I have, I trust, exhibited in a satisfactory manner to their Lordships, that though the captures of slave-vessels have not been so numerous during the period of my command, those which have been made, and, I might add, but for the protection given to them by the American flag, might further have been made, have been very effective; and I have no doubt greatly assisted in the decline of the Slave Trade from the east coast of Africa.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Norfolk*.

No. 288.

Consul Waring to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May 17.*)

My Lord,

Norfolk, April 28, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's circular despatch dated November 11, 1846, referring to the circular despatch issued from the Foreign Office under date of May 8, 1841, and therein transmitting a copy of a memorial from the General Anti-Slavery Convention; I now beg to state to your Lordship I have strictly adhered to the instructions therein given, but lately I have been unable to engage free servants to attend my establishment, having advertised in the newspapers without receiving a single applicant, either male or female, and the laws of this State forbid free coloured people from any other part of the United States to reside here, under any circumstances whatsoever, and white domestics cannot be induced to come from the Northern States to hire themselves in a slave-holding State; these circumstances compel me to call on your Lordship for instructions in this case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS WARING.

No. 289.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Waring.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 26, 1848.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, in which, with reference to my circular despatch of the 8th of May, 1841, by which Her Majesty's functionaries in countries where Slavery exists were prohibited from holding or hiring slaves, you state that you find it impossible to engage free servants, and request instructions on the subject.

I have, in reply, to express to you my regret that I am unable to assist you in this matter, for Her Majesty's Government cannot consent under any circumstances to relax the injunction contained in my circular above mentioned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

VENEZUELA.

No. 290.

Mr. Wilson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 5.)

My Lord,

Caracas, February 23, 1848.

IT is stated in the report that has been presented to Congress by the Minister for the Home Department, that at an expense of \$4,948,37 = 791l. 14s. 10d., and in virtue of the provisions of the Venezuelan Law of Manumission, 46 slaves were liberated in the course of the year 1847; and furthermore, that freedom was voluntarily granted by their masters to 5 others.

During the same year, 1847, 608 manumisos (or children of both sexes, of female slaves, born after June 1841) were bound as apprentices, practically as slaves, until they attain the age of twenty-five.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

No. 291.

Mr. Wilson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 21.)

(Extract.)

Caracas, May 4, 1848.

IT is gratifying to have it in my power to state to your Lordship that while the Venezuelan nation is engaged in a struggle for civil liberty, the interests of the more suffering portion of humanity have not been forgotten, and that by the promulgation on the 28th ultimo of a law to that effect, the last vestige of the foreign Slave Trade of Venezuela has been effaced.

Henceforward the importation of slaves into the territory of the Republic in any manner in which it may be effected, even under the plea of their being domestic servants, as heretofore has been allowed by law upon conditions which I have frequently explained, is entirely prohibited; and slaves introduced in contravention of this prohibition become *ipso facto* free.

Considering the political influence exercised by the slave-owners, and their tenacity upon all matters connected with the National Institution of Domestic Slavery, the present improvement of the law may be hailed with satisfaction; while much credit is due to General José Tadeo Monagos and M. Rafael Acevedo, for the honest and manly part they have taken in the accomplishment of this philanthropic purpose.

Herewith I beg to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of M. Acevedo's note to me, announcing this measure, together with a copy of my reply, and, finally, a copy and translation of the legislative provision by which it has been effectuated.

Inclosure 1 in No. 291.

Señor Acevedo to Mr. Wilson.

(Translation.)

Caracas, May 15, 1848.

THE Undersigned, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, has the honour to inclose herewith to Mr. Belford Hinton Wilson, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, a copy of the 913th number of the Gazette of Venezuela, in which is registered the Law of Manumission, as amended by the Legislature of the present year.

Upon comparing the 9th Article of this law with the 9th Article of the former law, Mr. Wilson will see that the importation of slaves into Venezuela is entirely prohibited, so that any slave upon touching the Venezuelan soil becomes *ipso facto* free.

By this measure Venezuela has placed its legislation in this respect upon the same footing as the legislation of the enlightened and philanthropic British nation, thereby furnishing a fresh proof that the progressive march of the Republic is in accordance with those principles of humanity which are the characteristic feature of the 19th century; at the same time that the Government has fulfilled the assurance upon this subject which it gave to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, and by this formal demonstration has shown the interest and good faith with which it cultivates the friendly relations that so happily subsist between the two nations.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RAFAEL ACEVEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 291.

Mr. Wilson to Señor Acevedo.

Caracas, May 16, 1848.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, has been honoured by the receipt of the note which M. Rafael Acevedo, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, has addressed to him under date of the 15th instant, inclosing a copy of the amended Law of Manumission promulgated on the 28th ultimo, entirely prohibiting the importation of foreign slaves into Venezuela, even with the character of domestic servants, and declaring *ipso facto* free all such slaves who may be introduced in contravention of this prohibition.

The Undersigned will with much pleasure communicate to his Government that the last vestige of the foreign Slave Trade of Venezuela has been thus swept away; and he will venture to assure the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the British Government and nation will not fail to appreciate the fact, so creditable to the Venezuelan nation, that whilst engaged in a struggle for its own liberty, it has taken effective means for preventing the soil of Venezuela from being hereafter contaminated by the presence of foreign slaves.

The Undersigned begs to congratulate his Excellency the President, General José Tadeo Monagas, and M. Rafael Acevedo, Minister for Foreign Affairs, for this honourable fulfilment of the assurances upon this subject which in the course of the last and present years were given to the Undersigned, and respectfully to tender to them his thanks for their zealous and efficient endeavours to place in this respect the legislation of the Republic in harmony with the great principle of philanthropy proclaimed by it in the year 1811, which likewise is a fundamental principle of the British Monarchy.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 291.

Article 9 of the Venezuelan Law of Manumission of April 28, 1848.

(Translation.)

THE importation of slaves into the territory of the Republic in any manner in which it may be effected, even if reputed as a domestic servant, is hereby prohibited.

Slaves introduced in contravention of this prohibition shall *ipso facto* at once become free.

No. 292.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Wilson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 10, 1848.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch dated the 4th of May last, conveying on the part of M. Acevedo the gratifying intelligence that the Government of Venezuela has passed a law by which the importation of slaves into that country is now entirely prohibited; and any slave upon touching the Venezuelan soil becomes *ipso facto* free.

You will state to M. Acevedo that Her Majesty's Government have received the announcement of this philanthropic measure with very sincere pleasure. They hail it not only as a proof of the good faith of the Venezuelan Government in the fulfilment of their promises to Her Majesty's Government, but also as a gratifying test of the enlightened policy which animates the Republic of Venezuela, and which, by engaging the warm sympathies of the British nation, cannot but contribute to draw still closer the bonds of friendship and goodwill which already happily exist between the two countries.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 293.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 5.)

My Lord,

Caracas, June 28, 1848.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a printed copy in duplicate, together with a translation, of an amended Law of Manumission, which obtained the sanction of the Venezuelan Executive on the 28th of April last.

By this law, most of provisions of the one previously existing, which have been explained on several occasions by Mr. Belford Hinton Wilson, continue force, with the exception of the material alteration contained in Article 9, in pursuance of which slaves can now no longer be introduced within the territory of the republic under any pretext whatever, though even in the character of domestic servants, as was formerly permitted under certain regulations; and by the same Article it is declared that slaves who may be imported in violation of this prohibition become by the fact itself free.

A copy and translation of the above-mentioned Article has already been forwarded under cover of Mr. Bedford Wilson's despatch of May 4; but it has occurred to me that your Lordship might possibly be desirous to possess a translation of the entire law, more particularly since it appears from the records of this office, that no translation of the law for which the existing one has been substituted, was ever transmitted to the Foreign Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure in No. 293.

Venezuelan Law of Manumission.

(Translation.)

THE Senate and Chamber of Representatives of the Republic of Venezuela, assembled in Congress,

DECREE:

Article 1. The effects of the provision of the 1st Article of the Law of the 21st of July, 1821, by which the offspring of female slaves are declared to be free from the day of their birth, and which also enacts that their names, as such, shall be inscribed in the civic registers and parish books, continues in force.

Art. 2. The owners of female slaves are under the express obligation of educating, clothing, and maintaining the children such slaves may have had since the promulgation of the Law of the 21st of July, 1821, or that they may hereafter give birth to; but those who have been born subsequent to that date, and prior to the day of the publication of the Law of the 2nd of October, 1830, shall in return reimburse the owners of their mothers for the expenses incurred in training them, by means of the labour and services they shall render to such owners until they have attained the age of eighteen years, or until the age of twenty-one as respects those who have been born subsequent to the publication of the said Law of the 2nd of October, 1830.

Art. 3. The grandfathers and grandmothers, or the brothers and sisters, if free, can withdraw the child or youth from the possession of the mother's owner; and this act places him or her in the enjoyment of every civil right.

Art. 4. No other person can remove the child or youth from the hands of the owner of the mother before the age specified, unless it be proved, by means of the State Attorney and before the civil authority, that the mother's owner does not fulfil the duties of patron or guardian imposed upon him by this law, or that he has acted with cruelty.

Art. 5. When, in any of the cases referred to in the two preceding articles, the child or youth should depart from the care of the patron or guardian, the party who takes him or her away, or the person to whose house he or she shall go, shall pay to the owner, in consideration of the aliment and education, half of his or her value according to the tariff, supposing such child to be a slave.

Art. 6. When the child, having attained the age of eighteen or twenty-one years, shall no longer be under the control of the owner of its mother, it will be the duty of the owner to make a report to the board established by the 16th Article, respecting the conduct and behaviour of such children, with a view of their being apprenticed to some useful trade or profession.

Art. 7. No slave shall be sold out of the province in which he or she may reside, thus separating the child from its parents; but this prohibition shall only continue in force until the children shall have arrived at the age of puberty.

Art. 8. The sale of slaves beyond the territory of Venezuela, or their extraction from thence for the purpose of sale, is prohibited. Whosoever violates this provision shall pay a fine of 300 dollars for every slave, the amount of which shall be applied to the manumission fund.

Art. 9. The introduction of slaves within the territory of Venezuela, under whatever pretext it may be attempted, even in the character of domestic servants, is prohibited. Slaves imported in defiance of this prohibition immediately become by the act itself free.

Art. 10. A fund for the annual manumission of slaves is hereby created, composed, 1st, of 2 per cent. upon the total value of the property of those who die leaving collateral heirs; 2ndly, of 10 per cent. on the total value of the property of those who die leaving heirs alien or not of kin; 3rdly, of the liquidated property of those who die intestate, leaving no heirs who can by law inherit, and in which case the Fisc would by right take possession; 4thly, of charitable donations and pious bequests received from the benefactors of this estimable institution, whose names shall be published in its annual reports.

Clause 1. The investigation into the value of the property pertaining to the manumission fund, arising out of collateral inheritances or testamentary bequests to heirs alien or not of kin, shall be made by means of judicial arbitration between the heir or heirs and three commissioners of confidence named

by the manager of the manumission fund before the civil authority of the parish. Should they not be able to agree with respect to the value, the Judge shall strike an average between the prices fixed by the two parties; and should they still be unable to come to an understanding, the formation of a judicial inventory or valuation shall be proceeded with.

Clause 2. The natural ascendants or descendants shall not be considered as alien heirs, whether they succeed to the property by will or as heirs-at-law.

Clause 3. When it happens that the deceased has granted freedom to one or more slaves, if their value is equal to the manumission tax in amount, nothing on that account shall be recovered from the heir or executor; but if their value should not be equal, the balance shall be demanded.

Clause 4. The amount of the impost that may be due to the manumission fund, owing to the death of any citizen, shall be paid in that canton where the bulk of the property of the deceased may exist, although there may happen to be other effects in a distinct canton.

Art. 11. The number of slaves to be annually emancipated in Venezuela shall be equivalent to the maximum that during a like period may have been manumitted in virtue of anterior provisions respecting emancipation.

Art. 12. This number of slaves which has amounted to twenty, shall be divided every four years amongst all the provinces, in proportion to the quota held by each of the entire number of slaves existing in the whole State.

Art. 13. If the total amount of the funds referred to in Article 10 does not during the year yield a sum sufficient for the emancipation of the appointed number, the deficiency shall be supplied from the public treasury, in virtue of an order from the Government, who shall divide the amount amongst the provincial treasuries, in proportion to the number of slaves that each province may have to liberate in the year, and to the deficiency of the fund destined to that object.

Art. 14. In the capital of each province, a Superior Board of Manumission shall be established, composed of the Governor of the province, of the Vicar, or in his absence, of the senior Curate of the capital or parish, and of a Member of the Provincial Assembly.

Art. 15. It is the duty of the Provincial Board, 1st. To meet once in every month; 2nd. To arrange with the Inferior Boards of cantons, and to require them to perform their duties; 3rd. To receive from them, and when necessary, to solicit the accounts of the funds collected in each canton; to examine, correct, approve, and pass them to the Government in the last month of the year; 4th. To distribute to the respective cantons the suppletory quota that may be received from the treasury according to Article 13; 5th. To draw up every four years a statement of the number of slaves in each province, collecting and revising the separate lists formed by the cantonal boards; and 6th. To make reports to the Provincial Assemblies of all that may have been done or have occurred respecting the subject of manumission, to be accompanied with their corresponding statements and data, in order that those corporations may, during their annual sessions, efficiently exercise the attributes conferred upon them by the constitution, of watching over the observance of this law.

Art. 16. In the chief town of each canton there shall be an Inferior Board of Manumission, which shall assemble once in every month, composed of the principal civil magistrate of the place, the visiting ecclesiastical vicar, if there should be one, or in his absence, of the curate, a resident, and a treasurer of responsibility, who shall be nominated by the Governor of the province.

Art. 17. It is the duty of the Cantonal Boards of Manumission: 1st. To elect a Commissioner in each parish, who may institute inquiries and supply information respecting those that die, leaving property in any of the three cases alluded to in Article 10; 2nd. To recover, with promptness and accuracy, the impost for the manumission of slaves in any of those three cases; 3rd. To cause to be paid to the treasurer the amount collected, together with a proper account and statement; 4th. To send in to the provincial Board of Manumission on the last month of the year, an account of these funds; 5th. To emancipate the number of slaves corresponding to the canton, in pursuance of the order that may be forwarded to it by the Provincial Board of Manumission, and with the sum which in default of the necessary amount, may be remitted to it by the same board; 6th. To prepare every four years, with the assistance of the

parochial commissioners, a list of the number of slaves in the canton, availing itself for that purpose of the civil and ecclesiastical census of the parish; 7th. To co-operate with the Government, and by means of the Provincial Board of Manumission, in furtherance of the useful employment and occupation of the emancipated in conformity with Article 6.

Only Clause.—The treasurer of the manumission fund of the canton shall receive for collection and custody 5 per cent. on all sums recovered by him from the estates of parties deceased, according to Article 10.

Art. 18. The registrar, magistrate, or justice of the peace who may intervene in the matter of wills and of the property of persons dying intestate comprised in Article 10, shall give notice to the parochial commissioner and to the principal civil authority of the canton, stating also the name of the testator or deceased and the day on which the testament has been made or on which the person has died intestate. The curate will report to the local justice the names of the individuals who may die within his parish.

Only Clause.—The omission to give this notification will subject the registrar, magistrate, or justice of the peace, to a fine, equal to the amount of the impost due upon the property, or to a fine of 100 dollars in the case of intestate property.

Art. 19. The manumission throughout the provinces shall take place at Christmas, by which time the accounts of the funds of this institution ought to have been made up, or the sums to be supplied to the Boards of Manumission from the respective treasuries have been solicited from and their payment ordered by the Government to the said Boards of Manumission, so that they may be enabled to fulfil their duties in conformity with Article 15.

Art. 20. The selection of slaves to be liberated shall be made in each canton by its respective board, the preference to be given, 1st, to the most advanced in years; 2nd, to the most honest and industrious; 3rd, to those belonging to the testator or to the property of the person having died intestate, so far as the value of one or more slaves may equal the amount of duty due from the estate to the manumission fund.

Only Clause.—Should there be no slaves in a canton in which funds have been collected they shall be applied to their object by the Provincial Board for the emancipation of slaves of another canton in the same province. The funds collected in a province in which there are no slaves to emancipate shall be appropriated by the Government for a like purpose in another province.

Art. 21. The Government shall publish every year, 1st, the names of the slaves liberated in each province; 2nd, the total amount of the manumission fund collected in the previous year; and 3rd, the supplement granted out of the state treasuries.

Art. 22. The contribution and adjudication referred to in Article 10 shall be abolished by the fact itself of the extinction of Slavery throughout the territory of the State; and no authority shall apply to any other purpose the smallest portion of the fund.

Art. 23. The Law of the 21st of July, 1821, the Decree of the 28th of June, 1827, and the Law of the 2nd of October, 1830, are entirely abolished.

Given in Caracas on the 21st of April, 1848, the 19th year of the law and the 38th of independence.

The President of the Senate,

EDUARDO A. HURTADO.

The President of the Chamber of Representatives,

FERNANDO OLAVARRIA.

The Secretary of the Senate,

JOZE A. FREIRE.

The Acting Deputy-Secretary of the Chamber of Representatives,

W. URRÚTIA.

Caracas, April 28, 1848, 19th year of the law and the 38th of independence.

Let it be executed.

D. B. URBANEJA.

By order of his Excellency the Secretary of State for Home Affairs and Justice.

THOMAS JOZE SANAVRIA.

No. 294.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

My Lord,

Caracas, September 14, 1848.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Belford H. Wilson of the 10th of July last, respecting a Venezuelan law prohibiting the importation of slaves, I have the honour of herewith transmitting a copy of a note addressed by me to the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, communicating to him the pleasure with which Her Majesty's Government had received intelligence of the enactment of that law.

A printed copy of the Minister's reply, in duplicate, taken from the official gazette of Venezuela, is also inclosed, together with a translation; a Spanish version of my note to the Minister was likewise published in the same gazette.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 294.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Señor Acevedo.

Caracas, August 15, 1848.

MR. BEDFORD HINTON WILSON, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to this Republic, having reported to his Government the gratifying intelligence that the Government of Venezuela had passed a law by which the importation of slaves into this country was entirely prohibited, and any slave upon touching the Venezuelan soil becomes *ipso facto* free, has been instructed by Viscount Palmerston, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to state to M. Rafael Acevedo, that Her Majesty's Government have received the announcement of this philanthropic measure with very sincere pleasure; and, moreover, that they hail it not only as a proof of the good faith of the Venezuelan Government in the fulfilment of their promises to Her Majesty's Government, but also as a gratifying test of the enlightened policy which animates the Republic of Venezuela; and which, by engaging the warm sympathies of the British nation, cannot but contribute to draw still closer the bonds of friendship and good-will which already happily exist between the two countries.

In communicating the above sentiments to the Venezuelan Government, in the absence of Mr. Wilson, the Undersigned, British Acting Consul-General, begs to assure M. Acevedo that the task affords him unfeigned satisfaction.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 294.

Señor Acevedo to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

(Translation.)

Caracas, August 28, 1848.

THE Undersigned, Secretary of State in the department for Foreign Affairs, has had the honour of receiving and conveying to the knowledge of his Excellency the President of the Republic, the note which, under date of the 15th instant, Mr. J. Riddel, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General, addressed to him, stating that he had received orders from Viscount Palmerston, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign

Affairs, to make known to the Undersigned the pleasure with which Her Majesty's Government had received the intelligence of a law having been promulgated in Venezuela, prohibiting the importation of slaves, declaring free, by the act itself, those who tread the territory of the Republic.

When the Government of the Undersigned recommended to the National Congress the adoption of this measure, it had not only in view the realization of the principle of liberty and equality, which from the time of its transformation, Venezuela proclaimed as the basis of the internal policy, but also to respond to the philanthropic desires of the Government of Great Britain, and to co-operate with it in the entire abolition of a traffic which violates the laws of nature and dishonours humanity; and nothing is more gratifying to the Government of the Undersigned, than to have merited in this respect the praises of the nation which has made greater and more constant efforts to insure the enjoyment of a perfect liberty to all the members of the human race.

The Undersigned duly esteems the expressions with which Mr. Riddel concludes his before-mentioned communication, and in returning his most sincere thanks, &c.

(Signed) RAFAEL ACEVEDO.

No. 295.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to Mr. Belford Wilson's despatch of the 16th of June, 1847, on the subject of a reward offered by Mr. Mc Whirter, a British subject residing in Venezuela, for the apprehension of four runaway labourers, said to have been of free condition, and to have been introduced by Mr. Mc Whirter, in the year 1846, from Curaçoa into Venezuela, to labour on his estate.

In that despatch, Mr. Belford Wilson called my attention to the fact that British subjects are the owners or hirers of a large number of slaves in Venezuela, and likewise that British subjects have a direct or indirect interest as owners, joint owners, or mortgagees in several of the principal plantations in that country which are wholly or in part worked by slaves.

I referred that despatch and its inclosures to the proper Law Adviser of the Crown, for his opinion, whether Mr. Mc Whirter and those other British subjects alluded to by Mr. Wilson are or are not acting in conformity with British law; and in accordance with the opinion of Her Majesty's Advocate-General, in which opinion I entirely concur, I have to state to you for your information, that assuming the statement of Mr. Mc Whirter to be correct, it does not appear that his conduct has been such as to render him liable to be prosecuted and convicted of a breach of British law.

With respect to the other British subjects alluded to by Mr. Wilson, I have to observe that without more precise information it is not practicable to form an opinion on the subject.

The statute of the 5 George IV, cap. 113, to amend and consolidate the laws relative to the Slave Trade, is, by the later Act, 6 and 7 Victoria, cap. 98, made applicable to all British subjects, wherever residing; *prima facie*, therefore, these British subjects, although resident in Venezuela, have been guilty of transgression of British law. It is however by the 6th section of the last-mentioned statute, provided and enacted, "that nothing in the said Act contained shall be taken to subject to any forfeiture, punishment or penalty, any person for transferring or receiving any share in any joint-stock company established before the passing of this Act, in respect of any slave or slaves in the possession of such company before such time, or for selling any slave or slaves which were lawfully in his possession at the time of the passing this Act, or which such person shall or may have become possessed of or entitled unto *bond fide* prior to such sale, by inheritance, devise, bequest, marriage, or otherwise by operation of law."

Whether the British subjects in question can bring themselves within these exceptions, does not appear from the information with which I have been furnished by Mr. Belford Wilson on this subject; and I have to desire you to send me such information on these points as you may be able to procure.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.
