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[1851 [1424-II] VOL LVI Part II]

Slave Trade 39

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CORRESPONDENCE WITH BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS ABROAD AND WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND RELATIVE TO THE SLAVE TRADE

[CLASS B]

Slave Trade

39

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

THIRTY VOLUMES.

—(26.—Part II.)—

SLAVE TRADE.

Part II.

Session

4 *February* — 8 *August* 1851.

VOL. LVI.—Part II.

1851.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1851.

THIRTY VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH VOLUME.—Part II.

N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Paper; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

SLAVE TRADE.—Part II.

[*See* Part I. of this Volume for Class (A.)]

Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS

IN

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

AND WITH

FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1849, to March 31, 1850.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1850.

LONDON.
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

Class B.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

AFRICA. (*Consular.*)

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Duncan.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, May* 29, 1849.

HER Majesty's Government having understood that you are about to proceed to Dahomey, on the African coast, for the laudable purpose of endeavouring to introduce into that country some of the arts of civilized life, whereby legal commerce will be eventually promoted, and the Traffic in Slaves discouraged, I have to state to you that, with the view to assist and countenance your exertions in this undertaking, Her Majesty's Government propose to invest you with the temporary rank and character of British Vice-Consul within the dominions of the King of Dahomey, on the western coast of Africa; and I herewith inclose a formal letter authorizing you to act as such.

Your previous knowledge of the King of Dahomey and of African affairs, and of the habits of the Blacks, renders it unnecessary for me to give you any very specific instructions for the guidance of your conduct whilst you shall act as British Vice-Consul.

It is hoped that the influence which you may obtain may enable you to prevent misunderstandings between the chiefs and the crews of British vessels resorting to the ports of the Dahomey country, for the purposes of legal trade.

With a view to such results, you will endeavour to encourage the chiefs and people to till the soil, and to produce available exports, so that they may obtain by barter the European commodities of which they may stand in need.

You will take every suitable opportunity to impress upon the minds of the chiefs and of their principal councillors, the great advantages which they will derive from the extension of legal commerce with the nations of Europe and America; and you will assure them that Her Majesty's Government earnestly desire to contribute to their welfare and improvement.

You will transmit to me, from time to time, the best information which you can procure, as to the means by which commercial intercourse with the chiefs on the coast and in the interior can be extended, and as to the points of the coast which may appear to afford the greatest facilities for commerce; and you will also state what kinds of European commodities are most sought after by the natives.

I have further to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government are about to sanction the appointment of Mr. John Beecroft to be Her Majesty's Consul for the ports of Benin and Biafra, including Dahomey, on the western coast of Africa. So soon, therefore, as you shall hear from Mr. Beecroft that he has received his commission, you will put yourself under his orders, and attend to such communications as he may find it necessary to give to you.

It will be your duty, whilst you shall act as British Vice-Consul, to keep up a cordial intercourse and good understanding with Mr. Beecroft, as well as with Her Majesty's naval officers on the west African station, and to communicate to them any information which may come to your knowledge from time to time respecting the Slave Trade; and Her Majesty's naval commanders will be instructed to afford you every facility and assistance in their power for the purpose of better enabling you to accomplish the objects of your journey.

You will receive in another despatch a copy of the general Consular instructions, and you will also be instructed in matters relating to the Slave Trade.

No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to Vice-Consul Duncan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 29, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to you a letter which I have addressed to the King of Dahomey.

You will take a convenient opportunity to present this letter to that chief, when you will explain to him the nature and object of your temporary appointment.

I inclose a copy of this letter for your information and guidance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Foreign Office, May 29, 1849.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct Mr. John Duncan, the bearer of this letter, to reside for the present in the territories of Dahomey as the British Vice-Consul.

It will be a principal duty of Mr. Duncan to endeavour to prevent the misunderstandings which may have arisen between the chiefs on the coast of Dahomey and the British merchants and the crews of British vessels resorting thither for the purpose of trade; and he is also instructed to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby the chiefs and people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country, the European commodities which they may want for their use and enjoyment.

In this manner the great natural resources of your country will be developed; your wealth and your comforts will be increased, and the detestable practice of stealing, buying, and selling men, women, and children, which is now the bane and disgrace of Africa, will be put an end to.

The British Vice-Consul is instructed to take every suitable opportunity to explain to you the great advantages which you will derive from the increase of a legitimate commerce; and he is also to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every way for your welfare and prosperity.

Her Majesty's Government trust you will receive the British Vice-Consul with the respect due to his character and rank, and that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 3.

Lord Eddisbury to Vice-Consul Duncan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 1, 1849.

WITH reference to Lord Palmerston's despatch of the 29th ultimo, inclosing a letter to the King of Dahomey, a copy of which was also inclosed for your information, I am directed by his Lordship to transmit to you herewith a further letter which his Lordship has written to the King, and which I am to instruct you to deliver at the same time.

I am directed to inclose a copy of this letter for your information and guidance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDDISBURY.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Foreign Office, May 29, 1849.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, commands me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 3rd of November, which I have laid before Her Majesty, and to thank you for your friendly assurances. The British Government is glad to find that you wish the Slave Trade to be put an end to in all places beyond the limits of your territories, because that wish on your part shows that you are sensible of the bad nature of that Trade.

With regard to your own dominions, you may be quite certain that if you would stop the Slave Trade, and if you were to encourage legal commerce instead of Slave Trade, your revenue and the profits of your people would not be diminished, but would very shortly be much increased; for it is well known that agriculture and commerce are more useful and advantageous than the stealing and selling of men, women, and children.

With respect to the other matters touched upon in your letter, I will write to you on another occasion.

I avail myself of the return of Mr. Duncan, whose appointment as Vice-Consul in your dominions I have notified to you in another letter of this day's date, to send to you a few articles of British manufacture, which Mr. Duncan informed me you had expressed a desire to have, and which Mr. Duncan will deliver to you as a present from Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 4.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.) *Whydah, August* 17, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you of my safe arrival at this settlement.

It is with much satisfaction that I am enabled to inform your Lordship of the rapid decrease of the Slave Trade on this part of the coast, in spite of all that may be stated by interested parties to the contrary. The very great increase of legitimate commerce in this place will afford ample proofs of the foregoing statement. The whole of the merchants who during my last residence in this place in 1845 and 1846, were extensively engaged in the Slave Trade at that period, are now very extensively engaged in the palm-oil trade; no less than twelve ships are at present in this roadstead taking in palm-oil, and three years ago it was a rare occurrence to see more than three ships here and probably two of them slavers; and further, the whole of the land in the immediate neighbourhood of the settlement, which three years ago was occupied solely for the production of farinha for slave subsistence, is now

occupied for other purposes. I have not yet been able to ascertain precisely the quantity of palm-oil and other native produce exported from this place during the last twelve months, but I know it has been more than quadrupled within the last three years, but I shall in my next communication be enabled to give you a full and detailed account of the quantity upon which the duty has been paid within a given period. At present, the Yavogah, or Viceroy, is at the capital making preparations for my reception, consequently I could not ascertain the exact quantity shipped until his return.

It is with much satisfaction that I farther inform your Lordship of the cordial reception I met with by all the Europeans as well as natives of this place, with most of whom I was previously acquainted on my last travels in this country. As soon as my appointment as Vice-Consul was known, the native soldiers belonging to the French fort as well as all the caboceers of this place, as also the soldiers of the lately deceased Don Francisce da Souza, turned out and received me formally, expressing their great satisfaction at my appointment. Every one, both Europeans and natives, here show every anxiety to oblige and serve me, more especially as they all know of the good feeling the King of Dahomey entertained towards the English Government and Sovereign. In less than half an hour after my arrival here a messenger was dispatched to the King to acquaint him of my arrival; immediately on his reaching the capital, and his message delivered, another messenger was dispatched to inform me of the King's great satisfaction at my return to his country, and more especially as I had been placed here officially. He also ordered the ex-Caboceer of Whydah to call the whole of the English Town people together in my own presence in the fort and requested me to register their names in my book; at the same time an order was sent from the King that the whole of the above-mentioned people shall at all times be at my command to serve me at any hour in any capacity and at whatever remuneration I may think fit; they all seemed much satisfied with this arrangement. They have proposed to build me a new house in the old fort for whatever wages I choose to give them; I have employed a number of them in cultivating a piece of land which I have already planted with seeds brought from England, and I have now the satisfaction of seeing the most of them germinating above the ground. I have also planted a quantity of cotton seeds sent me from Manchester, and I have also distributed quantities amongst the different caboceers, which they gratefully accepted. I have no doubt but this plan in unison with the sincerity and good feeling of the King of Dahomey will soon prove the salvation and prosperity of this part of the African coast.

Cotton will afford immediate remuneration to the native for his labour, which will stimulate him to industry. I have already been overwhelmed with native cotton of spontaneous growth, but unfortunately my limited means will not admit of its purchase, however I have sent a sample of cotton to the Chamber of Commerce, Manchester; they promised to afford encouragement to the plan, which I trust they will, as it is highly necessary that the representative of the British nation should be able to maintain that high opinion entertained towards her Government. If I am furnished with even slender means, with the assistance of the gentlemen who accompany me, I am confident (with God's blessing) that I shall soon be enabled to prove to your Lordship that I have not been unworthy of your kind consideration in conferring upon me the appointment of Vice-Consul, and if even temporary, I trust you will afford me sufficient time to prove the advantage of appointing to our colonial or foreign possessions Government officers entirely independent of all local interests.

It is high time that your Lordship did place some official authority in power here, as I have seen documents in the hands of the agent of a British merchant here, purporting to be a legal authority to punish natives, at their own (the agent's) discretion, although the Viceroy, or Yavogah, is always ready to punish any native offending against British law. When I entered this fort I found a native confined in chains in a small room, lying on a clay floor, besides a large quantity of slave-chains. Upon asking the reason of such treatment, the British agent informed me that the native had fallen asleep in a bamboo shed, when from some alleged neglect, the shed caught fire; however, immediately after my inquiry the native was released from his heavy irons.

I beg further to inform your Lordship that the King of Dahomey has fully car-

ried out his declaration to punish the chief of the Dassa country (occupying part of the range of the Kong mountains) for their attempt to intercept me in my travels* in that country in the year 1845. For merely picking up a small stone as a geological specimen, we were threatened and followed by several hundreds of Dassas, armed with bows and arrows; but the formidable appearance of my Dahoman guards, prevented any actual collision; however, as soon as the King of Dahomey was made acquainted with the occurrence, he declared that twelve moons should not pass before he would severely chastise them. I regret to find that he has fully carried out his threat; he marched an army of Amazons into the Dassa mountains, destroyed their towns, and made prisoners of the greater part of the population; four of them he has sent here to the English fort, to serve Her Britannic Majesty in any capacity I may think fit.

I have this moment another messenger from Dahomey to acquaint me of the anxiety of the King to see me, and to know your Lordship's message. I start for Dahomey on the 22nd instant.

No. 5.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 2, 1850.)

(Extract.) *Whydah, August* 21, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that since I have written my last communication to your Lordship, a shipment of slaves has taken place here. From a searching inquiry it appears that some of the above-mentioned slaves have been detained here for the last nine months, awaiting an opportunity for shipment, until the 20th instant, when 300 unfortunate wretches were forced on board a small fore-and-aft schooner. When she came into the roadstead, she hoisted a Portuguese flag, with a Hamburgh flag directly underneath it.

A slave-schooner, belonging to a dealer of this place, was captured a few days ago by Her Majesty's steamer "Rattler." As the slaver was proceeding to this place, the "Rattler" was steering out from the roadstead, where she had anchored for a supply of stock, which I sent off to her, when she captured the schooner. This is the third vessel taken successively belonging to the same slave-dealer, without one escaping, and all in two years.

No. 6.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 31.)

(Extract.) *Whydah, September* 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you of my safe arrival at Abomey, the capital of the Kingdom of Dahomey. I started from Whydah on the evening of the 24th of August, and arrived in Abomey on the 30th; we rested one day at Canamina to prepare for our entry and reception in the capital. We were very tired from excessive fatigue in passing through the swamp between Ahguay and Ahgrimmy. It is nine miles across, and during this season of the year it is almost impassable.

At the entrance to the capital we were met by all the principal caboceers and officers of the household, who, after the usual ceremony of drinking healths, with all of them accompanied by a continual fire of musketry, we were conducted to the Palace; and after passing by three times in parade order, the King requested me to dismount and come to him. I found him the same frank, unassuming, but intelligent man I had found him in 1845. He expressed his great satisfaction at seeing me once more, according to my promise, and said he hoped that the Queen of England had sent me to live at his hand for a long time, and to teach his people some of the arts of civilized life. He next inquired of the Queen's health, and the whole of the Royal Family of England; next the Queen's Caboceers, and then drank the Queen's health, and afterwards her Ministers', accompanied by roars of musketry. The King was dressed in a plain cotton robe, without any ornament. He was sur-

* See "Duncan's Travels in Western Africa in 1845 and 1846," Vol. 2, page 197.

rounded by his female soldiers, some of them very good-looking; and some of the younger ones nearest his person were very richly dressed and ornamented. Nearly all of the female commanders recognized me; they stood up alternately, making each a long speech complimentary of my return, expressing their readiness to sacrifice their lives to serve me, as the friend of their King. At this moment the old Chief of Dassa was brought before me a prisoner; the fine, venerable old man appeared so terror-stricken as to be almost unconscious of what was passing. The King told him his prophecy had now been fulfilled. He, the chief, had with his people turned out to attack one solitary white man, in a country where he had no father, no mother, except the King of Dahomey, who would always be a father to Englishmen; and also endeavoured to force a guard which accompanied him, although capable of annihilating the whole of the Dassa people. The King told him to look around him, and see the female soldiers who so easily conquered his country; he also told him he was now at my discretionary disposal. I dared not ask for his liberty, but was promised he should only be detained as a State prisoner; he was very clean, and seemed to want for nothing. It was now getting late in the afternoon, and the King gave us leave to depart. Two days after, the Queen's presents were got ready, and sent to him through Mayho. The King was much pleased with the presents, especially with the scarlet uniforms and scarlet cloth. He was also much pleased with a spinning-wheel sent by my mother from Scotland, and also with a small model weaving-loom I had made for him. He requested me to show him how to spin, which placed me in rather an awkward position, especially as it was cotton instead of flax. However, I acquitted myself to his satisfaction. After overhauling the edge-tools, and inquiring their particular uses, he requested that I should take some of them back to Whydah, for the purpose of instructing two young men whom he promised to send down here under my charge.

On the day previous to my departure from the coast for Abomey, the King sent a messenger to acquaint me that it will be necessary, holding office in his dominion; that I shall attend his annual Custom; in consequence of which I kept some few of the presents for that occasion, having plenty of other articles of hardware, which I added and presented in the name of Her Majesty. This will enable me to go full-handed on my next visit, when he promises to give me full answers to your Lordship's letter respecting the Slave Trade. He listened very attentively to the letter, and said that when I attend his Custom, and see the quantity of money he pays to his people annually, I shall be better able to give an opinion whether legitimate trade can be extended to afford a revenue equivalent. I told him it was probable some years must elapse ere that could be done. He must himself call forth the resources of the soil of his country; and told him, that as cotton was the spontaneous production of the soil, it could easily be increased to any extent, and we would purchase as much as he chose to raise. This proposal seemed to please him very much. He admits there is no market for slaves now, which makes him very poor indeed. He promised to do all in his power to extend the cultivation of cotton, provided I remain in his country and secure a market for it. The King admits the injustice of slave-trading, but remarked that we were a long time finding it out to be wrong; and so soon as he finds that by any other means he can raise sufficient revenue, he will readily abandon it: but again remarked he would answer all at the next Custom.

On the 6th of September the King sends Mayho with a variety of presents for myself and companions,—1 fine young cow, 3 goats, 6 fowls, 3 bags native flour, 3 kegs of fine palm-oil for cooking, 3 measures of pepper, and 3 kegs of rum, besides 3 fine native cloths. During our sojourn in the capital we were entertained at the King's expense. After sunset Mayho came to acquaint us that it was the King's desire that we should drink, before we leave the capital, the Queen of England's health. This, of course, was readily agreed to; and accordingly we followed Mayho to an open space in front of English House, where we found a table already laid out in real English style and covered with a cloth I had presented a day or two before. Mayho filled the glasses with water, first, which is customary, being considered a sincere mark or pledge of friendship, being pure and unadulterated. They were next filled with wine; and Mayho proposed the health of Queen Victoria of England, which was followed by a hip-hip-hurrah! which passed along a line of half a mile of men stationed for that purpose. Immediately the hurrah ceased, a

salute of twenty-one guns was fired in honour of Her Britannic Majesty, with a degree of regularity that would do credit to more civilized nations. This was followed by nine guns in honour of myself as British Vice-Consul.

The kind reception of the King of Dahomey has excited a great degree of jealousy on the part of the Spanish and Portuguese slave-dealers, consequently they look upon me with great suspicion since my return from the capital.

On Saturday last the Custom commenced, according to the country usage, for the late Don Francisco da Souza, who died on the 8th of May last; he was the Charchar. or mayor of the Spaniards and Portuguese in Whydah. Great anxiety prevails at this moment amongst his sons as to the decision of the King in appointing a successor. It is expected the second son will have it; he is considered the best man as far as regards disposition and qualification; but it is expected that the Government of Whydah will not be carried on with the same energy as before.

On Sunday last a singular procession arrived at the English Fort, headed by a Caboceer from Dahomey, who came to pay his respects to me; the procession consisted of a number of soldiers who guarded two prisoners, strongly secured with ropes, the wrists were tied together, the elbows were fastened, and a rope passed round the neck and waist; in this condition they were paraded round the town. I inquired the meaning of this singular procession, when the poor creatures were brought before me and compelled to dance, although bound in the manner above described. I was allowed to put my own questions to them direct, through my own interpreter, and learnt as follows:—

Question. How long since they left their native country?

Answer. About ten moons since they were taken.

Q. For what reason did they leave Dahomey and return to their own country to report the proceedings of the King of Dahomey?

A. They do not know.

Q. How many days since they have been bound in the manner they are at present?

A. Fourteen days.

Q. What do you yourselves suppose the King intends to do with you for this breach of faith.

A. We are at present in the state you behold us, tied both hands and body, compelled to dance through the streets and public places wherever we are driven. Whether our lives will be spared after all this or not we cannot tell.

N.B.—The first of these men is, in their own country, called the King of the Fishing-net. The next the King of the Turkey Buzzard: both are natives of the Eyau country. It appears from further inquiry, that in the reign of the preceding King of Dahomey, these two prisoners came and settled in Abomey with the King of Dahomey as his friends and subjects; but when they became acquainted with the Dahoman country they ran away to their own country and informed the King of Eyau that he might easily surprise the Dahomans and kill the whole of them, and they also undertook to manage and command the whole affair. Accordingly the King of Eyau entrusted them with his army, and they advanced towards Dahomey, where they chanced to meet a small party of soldiers journeying to a town some distance off; they attacked and destroyed the whole of this small party and dug a hole in the ground, where they buried all their arms, which were not found until years after when digging for clay for house-building. In the last war between Eyau and Dahomey, the former was completely conquered by the female soldiers, and the two men before mentioned, although so long since they had figured so conspicuously, were recognized and made prisoners. The object of sending them to Whydah, was for the purpose of sacrifice at the custom-making for old Da Souza, but his sons declined the honour, and the prisoners were beheaded on the beach. I forgot to mention that when the prisoners were taken to be exhibited at the French Fort, M. Blancheley, a merchant occupying that fort, humanely offered 1000 dollars to spare their lives, but although they were about eighty years of age, the offer was refused upon grounds of the grievous nature of their offence. The Custom is likely to last a month; a great nuisance in the town, as continual firing of ordnance and small arms is irregularly kept up, with drums of the most barbarous kind, day and night, Sunday not excepted, I forgot to mention.

It is with much satisfaction I am enabled to inform your Lordship that all the gibbets exhibited in the market-places in Abomey on my former visit, are now done away with, and the skulls placed on the walls by the former King are suffered to decay without being replaced. This is one step towards civilization.

I have this day been visited by some respectable people from Ahguay, who some years ago emigrated from Sierra Leone; they appointed their headman to come here to present a petition, which I have inclosed to your Lordship. Cole, the bearer to me, is a very respectable man, and expresses his own and the whole of the Sierra Leone people's readiness to assist me in carrying out any agricultural experiment, and in collecting and planting cotton; this would assist these people themselves, as well as employing them profitably to those requiring their services. They are despised by the slave-dealers, as their presence and their education tends to expose the slave-dealing system. I have inclosed a document* respecting the Slave Trade; I submt it to your Lordship's kind consideration. Nothing will afford me more gratification than to be the means of doing good for my country, and entirely abolishing slavery on this part of the coast, and establishing a system of remunerative industry and an extension of legitimate commerce.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

The King of Dahomey to Viscount Palmerston.

Abomey, September 7, 1849.

I, GIZO, King of Dahomey, beg to return my sincere thanks to the Queen of England and Lord Palmerston, for presents sent to me by them, through Mr. Duncan. I beg also to thank Lord Palmerston for his good advice respecting the trade of this country, and I do assure Lord Palmerston that the earliest opportunity will be taken of consulting my caboceers on the subject, and at the next annual Custom held here, Mr. Duncan shall be made acquainted with our decision. I have always a strong desire to cultivate a friendship with the people of England, and to establish and increase a trade with that country. Englishmen were my father's best friends, and he always told me to respect Englishmen, and look upon them in my heart as sincere in their promises and friendship. An Englishman's heart is big, like a large calabash (gourd) that overflows with palm-wine for those who are thirsty. I know that the Portuguese and Spaniards care nothing for me, their friendship and presents are all to serve their own purpose of obtaining slaves, upon which they themselves derive the principal profit. I beg to thank Lord Palmerston for appointing my friend Mr. Duncan, Vice-Consul for my country, and I promise to protect and assist him in performing the duties for which you have placed him here, and shall afford him the same protection when passing through my country, as I did on his last journey in my dominion. I have broken the Dassa country, whose people went to war against Mr. Duncan when passing their country. I hold their chief a captive ever since ten moons after Mr. Duncan's visit to their country, and have kept him in my house, that Mr. Duncan might see his enemies in captivity before he die; he has now seen him, and my heart rejoiceth; and so shall fall every one who shall molest an Englishman while under my protection.

I am much pleased with the proposal of cultivating cotton in my country, and have already planted the seeds given to me by Mr. Duncan. Mayo has also planted some. I beg to assure the Queen of England, and also Lord Palmerston, of my sincere friendship and gratitude.

Signed (Mayo holding the top of the pen) on behalf of Gizau, King of Dahomey,

MAYO LADYETTO, *Prime Minister.*

[Read over three times, at the request of the King.]

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* See No. 7.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Petition of George Cole.

Ahgway, September 14, 1849.

The humble petition of George Cole respectfully showeth:

YOUR petitioners beg leave to address themselves unto your Honour with these few lines, and hope may not be offended.

Your petitioners beg to say that them are liberated from Sierra Leone under Queen's protection, whom comes here into this country with leave, and we are now amongst the Portuguese.

Your petitioners most heartily thank God for your safe arrival, and beg of you to protect them all, as them are under your protection, and whatever orders your Honour will give unto them, them are ready to give every satisfaction, and hope may Lord bless and protect you in all your undertakings; may God bless you, and well fare.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 7.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 31.)

(Extract.) *Whydah, September* 22, 1849.

I BEG respectfully to submit to your consideration a few suggestions relative to the Slave Trade, and for its more effectual or entire abolition on this coast.

First, it is a well-known fact that the Slave Trade is very much reduced or nearly abolished, and the greater part of the slave-dealers are either reduced to poverty and left Whydah, or have adopted legitimate commerce, by which they are redeeming themselves. One man here, formerly himself a slave to old Da Souza, and who was, a few years ago, considered to be the richest merchant in Whydah, is now, from a succession of captures by our cruizers, reduced to nothing; and about the end of last month a very fine vessel was captured off this roadstead by the "Kingfisher," Commander Harvey. After a glorious chase of several hours, and a discharge of 120 guns, she was so much damaged as to render it necessary to destroy her entirely; she belonged to one man here who had mortgaged all his property to purchase her. Da Souza, although once so rich, died $80,000 in debt to the King; his son, Ignatio, is so poor as to be unable to keep up custom for his father without borrowing the money; and only a few days previous to the death of their father, his silver coffin was sent as a pledge to the King. All this proves the absurdity of the statements made by some interested parties to induce Her Majesty's Government to withdraw the squadron. Domingo, of Porto Novo, once a notorious slave-dealer, is at present doing so much trade in palm-oil, that the European merchants begged me to endeavour to persuade the King to prevent the people from selling their oil to him; of course this application was rejected.

To effectually carry out my instructions respecting the Slave Trade, it is absolutely necessary that whatever officer may be placed here, should be supplied with a good canoe from the Kroo country, and men from the same place. It cannot be expected that slave-dealers would let me a canoe to visit a man-of-war when they are aware that it is for the purpose of giving information respecting their trade. It would also be commendable that a small garrison of soldiers should be placed in this fort from either Cape Coast or Sierra Leone, say fifty men; the soldiers and canoemen might be employed in repairing the fort, which from the facilities of obtaining material, might in three months be put in repair sufficient for every purpose necessary. There is plenty of ordnance and a good magazine here; many of the guns would still be serviceable. The above arrangements, with the presence of the squadron, would in twelve months completely annihilate the Slave Trade on this part of the coast, and by maintaining a communication with Mr. Beecroft (my old friend), the Trade along the coast could be entirely abolished and legitimate commerce established, especially as the King is so desirous for such.

I have not yet had time to ascertain correctly the quantity of oil shipped from this place, but shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity of sending a return of the production and trade of this country. I have inclosed in another despatch the petition* of a person named Cole; he came by the lagoon from Ahguay; he is the headman of the Sierra Leone people or liberated Africans. He says cotton is abundant in the neighbourhood of Ahguay. I have a number of menplanting cotton-seed this day. I got the seed from the King at Abomey; it is a very superior cotton, and the plant is different to any other on this part of the coast. I have inclosed a leaf for your Lordship's inspection, as well as one of the common cotton plant of the coast.

No. 8.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 24.)

My Lord, *Whydah, October* 28, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to state that on the arrival of Lieutenant Forbes, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta," dispatched here at my request, from a triple application of the King of Dahomey that a naval officer should visit him; I had already visited Abomey: but as that officer was the bearer of a letter from the Commander-in-chief to the King, and empowered by him, the Commander-in-chief, to treat with His Majesty, I deemed it expedient to accompany him to the capital in order that all Her Majesty's requests should then have been attended to.

The King reiterated his assurances of good will towards the British people, but in enumerating the names of those gentlemen who have officially visited Abomey, namely, Freeman, Wynniett, Cruickshank, and myself, he stated that although they held the same palaver as Lieutenant Forbes, none but myself had returned. The King has requested that Lieutenant Forbes will visit Abomey with me at the Customs, to hear His Majesty's final answer; I have therefore written to the Naval Commander-in-chief to state how beneficial it will be to the public interest that that officer should accompany me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN DUNCAN.

No. 9.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.) "*Centaur,*" *off the Gallinas, November* 17, 1849.

1. I HAVE to request you will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that having received, whilst at Loanda, an application through the senior officer of the division in the Bights, from Mr. Duncan, the recently appointed Vice-Consul to Dahomey, dated 10th August, in which he states that since his arrival at Whydah, he had received three messengers from the King of Dahomey, requesting that a British naval officer should accompany him in his mission to his capital, Abomey, and begged that I would accede to His Majesty's wish; I, after due consideration of their Lordships' desire that I should in compliance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, afford Mr. Duncan every assistance in my power, and aid him in the performance of the duties confided to him, decided to accede to the application, and sent instructions to the senior officer to permit Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta," to accompany Mr. Duncan, provided he felt equal to undertaking the journey; and I furnished Lieutenant Forbes with a letter to the King of Dahomey, and instructions, of which I inclose copies.

2. I selected Lieutenant Forbes for this duty as an intelligent young officer, who has now had considerable experience of the trade on the coat of Africa, and who from his enquiring and active habits I considered would be a valuable companion and assistant to the Vice-Consul, and that he might be able

* See Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

possibly to effect a step in advance towards the suppression of the Slave Trade in Dahomey, and to obtain much accurate information on the subject.

3. In pursuance of these directions Lieutenant Forbes accompanied Mr. Duncan to Abomey, and I have now the honour to transmit, for their Lordships' information, the report of his mission received from him on his rejoining my pendant yesterday; and I hope their Lordships will consider that the result has justified the measure I took, and the trifling expense which has been incurred, and that it will be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

4. The friendly disposition towards us manifested by the King will be increased and fostered, I hope, by further intercourse, and be the means of neutralizing the powerful influence exercised over him by the Portuguese and Brazilian slave-dealers.

5. There is no doubt that this has been obtained chiefly by large presents which must have materially added to their expenses, and that the King's avarice and thirst for luxuries having been thus fed, he will not be disposed to abandon the Trade without some equivalent; but his strongly expressed wish for Lieutenant Forbes' return to Abomey in March for his definitive answer, I think encourages the hope that a favourable impression has been made upon him and his feelings and doubts on the subject kept alive; and though I had instructed Lieutenant Forbes to act with regard to a treaty, I did not really anticipate that His Majesty would be prepared to commit himself to the abandonment of a traffic which is his chief source of wealth, and has been the ruling principle of action with himself and his chiefs and people through life.

6. He, the King, is a complete despot, and not easily approached by his Ministers; and Lieutenant Forbes had not the opportunity of ascertaining what the inclinations and feelings of the caboceers or chiefs were on the subject of the Trade; but I imagine they have all been largely bribed and rewarded by the slave-dealers, and that it will be difficult to lead them to a change of the occupation which has engrossed all their previous thoughts, and by which their habits and modes of life have been formed.

7. No agent, or "Charchar," has yet been appointed in Senhor da Souza's place; his sons do not appear by Lieutenant Forbes' account to be near so wealthy as was expected, and this may be favourable.

8. It is my intention, therefore, if circumstances permit, to comply with the King's wish, and direct Lieutenant Forbes to proceed again to Abomey; guarding him particularly with respect to any treaty or agreement with the King being subject to ratification, and to assure His Majesty that so far from permitting any embarkation of slaves at Whydah, the most uncompromising opposition to the Slave Trade will be maintained by Her Majesty's forces, and that, with the concurrence and co-operation of the Powers allied with us in more restrictive measures, I entertain little doubt of its annihilation.

9. I trust that their Lordships and Her Majesty's Government will not consider that by taking upon myself to do so, I have exceeded the limit of my instructions to do everything in my power towards the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves on the west coast of Africa, or departed unnecessarily from the usual course of service.

12. Should a Consul be permanently established at Whydah, I am of opinion it will be necessary that he should be afforded the means of communicating with the men-of-war and ships at the anchorage, and be rendered independent of the English or foreign merchants, or native chiefs; but the canoes required for that coast are large, and would require ten or more kroomen.

13. I regret to say the Vice-Consul has been obliged to embark on board the "Kingfisher," very ill with dysentery.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Commodore Fanshawe to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.) "*Centaur*," *Loanda, September* 3, 1849.

MR. DUNCAN, the newly-appointed Vice-Consul to the Kingdom of Dahomey, has applied for an officer of the navy to accompany him on his mission to the King of that country.

I hope he may have been able to defer his visit until this despatch reaches you, in which case you will forthwith acquaint Mr. Duncan, that I have nominated Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta," to accompany him, provided Lieutenant Forbes feels he is equal in undertaking the journey; and you will arrange for the "Bonetta's" joining you, and direct Lieutenant Forbes to put himself in communication with Mr. Duncan without delay, giving Lieutenant Forbes the instructions for his guidance which I inclose.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Commodore Fanshawe to Lieutenant Forbes.

(Memorandum.) "*Centaur*," *Loanda, September* 9, 1849.

MR. DUNCAN, recently appointed by Her Majesty's Government to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul within the dominions of the King of Dahomey, being about to proceed on a special mission from Whydah to the King's capital, has represented to me that His Majesty has sent three times to him, expressing to him a wish that he might be accompanied by a naval officer; and considering that a compliance with the King's wish may give additional importance to Mr. Duncan's mission, and further the views of Her Majesty's Government with reference to the suppression of the Slave Trade; I have decided to permit a naval officer to accompany him, and I have selected you for the purpose, provided you feel equal to undertaking the journey, as an officer who has had now considerable experience on the African station, and acquired some knowledge of the native languages and habits. You will therefore put yourself forthwith in communication with that gentleman at Whydah, and in case of your accompanying him, you will be guided in your conduct and interview with the King of Dahomey, by the following instructions, in as far as on conference with the Vice-Consul, you find they are in no respect at variance with those he may have received from Her Majesty's Government.

You will deliver the accompanying letter from me to the King, at your first interview.

You will be prepared to appear at his Court, in the full-dress uniform of your rank, and in every respect to maintain the character of a British officer.

You will be strictly guarded in all your intercourse with the native chiefs and others, to give no cause of offence, bearing in mind their superstitious character and habits.

You will make it your first object to support the position of Mr. Duncan as the Diplomatic Agent of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Slave Trade without doubt has been long and actively pursued within the Kingdom of Dahomey, and the power and wealth of the King, and the extent of his dominions, has enabled him to supply the dealers on the coast to any amount. Your next great object will be, to obtain the most accurate information in everything connected with that question.

The recent death of the wealthy Brazilian slave-dealer, Da Souza, at Whydah, who has been supposed to be an agent of the King of Dahomey and to have had some influence with him, appears to afford a favourable opportunity of approaching the King again on the subject of the abolition of the Slave Trade within his dominions. You will, therefore, avail yourself of any opportunity in conference with him or his chief people, to impress them with the greater benefit they must derive from retaining their people in their own country for the cultivation of the soil, and the extension of commerce by the exchange of its products for articles of European manufacture, and general legal trade; than by the cruelty of selling them to a slave-merchant, to be carried away to enrich another country; and you will endeavour to explain to the King and chief people, that the great desire of your Sovereign and her people, is to see Christianity introduced into every part of Africa, and thereby to increase the civilization, welfare, and happiness of her people; and that knowing that the great benefits of peace and commerce have been the happy results in all those parts where the Slave Trade has been abolished, and general trade for the produce of the country introduced, Her Majesty would receive with much pleasure any intimation from the King of Dahomey, of his desire to do the same, and make a treaty with her for the purpose.

You will also assure the King and his chiefs, that it would be a great satisfaction to me if I could be the instrument of promoting the wishes of my Sovereign, and of effecting such a treaty on the part of Her Majesty with them, and thereby establish a cordial and lasting good understanding between the Sovereigns and people of both countries; and if you succeed in attracting attention to the subject, you will endeavour to ascertain the King's view, and on what terms he would be disposed to execute any such treaty. I hardly expect he is so prepared at present; but I furnish you with blank forms of treaties, such as have been concluded with the African chiefs, for your guidance, and authorize you to act, in case any opening is afforded you, to their extent.

You will thank His Majesty for the countenance and support already afforded to the English and American missionaries who have come to reside within his country, for the sole object of promoting the happiness of his people, by the introduction of the Christian religion, and beg his continued protection of them; and, if opportunity is afforded, you will express to the King how contrary the practice of human sacrifice is to the principle of that religion, and how gratifying it would be to your Sovereign the Queen to know that the King had ordered it to be discontinued within his dominions.

I hope Mr. Duncan may be able to accomplish the object of his mission quickly, and that you may be able to return in three weeks to Whydah; at any rate, you must not let your absence be prolonged unnecessarily beyond that time. You will prepare and forward to me a full and detailed report of all your proceedings, and of any expenses incurred; and, on your return to Whydah, you will receive orders from the senior officer of your division for your further guidance.

Before leaving Abomey, you will inquire for any reply from the King to my letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

Commodore Fanshawe to the King of Dahomey.

"*Centaur*," *Loanda, September* 10, 1849.

To the most renowned King of Dahomey, the Commander-in-chief of the squadron of Her Majesty the Queen of England, on the coast of Africa, wishes health, peace, and the blessing of God.

Sire,

I HAD heard with great satisfaction and pleasure, from Mr. Duncan, of your Majesty's wish to see an officer of my mistress, the Queen of England, at your capital.

I hail your wish as an additional mark of amity towards my Sovereign and the British nation, and I am happy to avail myself of any opportunity that may make your Majesty better acquainted with the officers of the Queen of England, hoping and believing that it will lead to increased friendship and lasting attachment between my Sovereign and yourself, and your respective subjects,—and, in compliance with your Majesty's wish, I do myself the honour to inform your Majesty, that I have deputed one of the good and trusty officers of the squadron of the Queen of England which I command, Lieutenant Frederick Edwin Forbes, commander of the brigantine "Bonetta," to repair, with Mr. Duncan, to your Majesty's Court, and present himself before you with this letter. He, Lieutenant Forbes, is an officer of merit and intelligence, and he is acquainted with my sincere desire to cultivate a good understanding with your Majesty, and with my views and sentiments as to the surest means of increasing the friendly alliance already existing between yourself and the Queen of England, by the extension of legitimate commerce between the two countries, and for this end, the increased cultivation of the soil throughout your Majesty's vast dominions, and the prevention of the Traffic in Slaves on the shores of your kingdom.

I know the great power and influence of your Majesty, spread over a vast extent of territory; I feel certain it is your Majesty's desire to increase the happiness and welfare of your subjects; and I pray and hope you will be brought, through the blessing of that Almighty and great God who directs the hearts

and hands of all Kings and Queens, to perceive that your real power and wealth, the happiness and welfare of your subjects, and the general cause of humanity will be best promoted and extended by prohibiting the sale of your Majesty's slaves and subjects to European merchants, to be carried away from their country to enrich and cultivate a foreign land, instead of being retained to labour and develop the immense resources of your own.

Sire, I hope and pray, when your Majesty gives yourself time to consider the subject in your wise mind, you will come to this conclusion and be disposed to make a treaty of amity and commerce with Her Majesty the Queen of England, my illustrious Sovereign, who with her people has so much at heart the desire to see the people of Africa partaking of those benefits which are to be derived from the Christian religion, increased cultivation of the soil, and the promotion of commerce.

In conclusion I thank your Majesty, on the part of my Sovereign, for the protection you have at different times afforded to such of Her Majesty's subjects as have visited Dahomey, and especially to the Christian missionaries at Badagry and Abbeokuta, and beg your further countenance of those good men.

May God grant your Majesty a long life and guide you aright in all things, giving you increased power and wealth to be used for the benefit of your subjects and the dispersion of your enemies.

I am, &c.

(L.S.) (Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

Sir, *Whydah, October* 4, 1849.

IMMEDIATELY on landing I requested Mr. Duncan to peruse my instructions from Commodore Fanshawe, and received from him the request that I should accompany him to Abomey, in order that all the requests of the King might be attended to, the only one not hitherto arranged being his thrice repeated request that an officer might be sent from the fleet to visit him. Mr. Duncan is of opinion that such a visit being in accordance with His Majesty's especial wish will at least much assist him when he returns at the Customs, and the King has it in his power to give a final answer, being then attended by his Caboceers (or Superintendents of Trade).

As I am desired in my instructions to state any expenses that may be incurred, I have to report to you that the present to the King has already been made, and that Mr. Duncan has only sufficient to ensure a good reception at the Customs. Understanding that a present is necessary (both from Mr. Duncan and the caboceers), I have purchased two pieces of silk for 3*l.* 15*s.*, twenty-five gallons of rum, 4*l.*, which with the subsistence for bearers will form the only expenses.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.) *Whydah, October* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to state that yesterday Mr. Duncan and myself had an interview with the Caboceer (Governor), the French merchant (M. Blancheley) attending, and at the request of the Caboceer, Mr. Hastie also.

The Caboceer sent for Mr. Duncan and myself this morning and we were received most politely.

A messenger was instantly sent to the King to acquaint him of my arrival, and it appears to be necessary that we should wait until his return, before leaving this, that being the custom of the country, and any attempt to oppose such custom would at least give great offence.

It would appear that the customs to the memory of Da Souza are drawing to a close, and that the King has sent to inform the Portuguese merchant

Domingo Martinez, now living at Porto Novo, that if he will come to Abomey he shall be received as "Charchar," but he is only to come on condition that he settles at Whydah, which it is not expected he will do, as he is carrying on a lucrative trade there.

We cannot now start before Wednesday or Thursday, but as everything will be ready by the return of the messenger, no delay will take place after his arrival. I do not apprehend a lengthened delay at Abomey in consequence of the absence of the caboceers, but Mr. Duncan is of opinion that the King will be much pleased with his wishes being so minutely attended to, and be better prepared to conform with the wishes of the Government at the Customs.

Inclosure 6 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.) *Whydah, October* 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that this day the Caboceer paid me an official visit, and brought with him forty soldiers to salute, who kept up a constant fire during the conference; his visit was of the most friendly order.

He hoped I should explain that the fort was much out of repair; spoke of the good feeling existing between the King of Dahomey and the Queen of Great Britain; and was in every way complimentary both to Mr. Duncan and myself.

The fort saluted the King of Dahomey with twenty-one guns, while we drank his health, and afterwards saluted the Caboceer.

The Portuguese merchants are entirely aloof, and there is some secret agency working against Mr. Duncan. What the intention is, time may show.

The messenger will probably return from the King on Wednesday, and we may start on Thursday. The delay I find to be actually according to the country customs, and although very disagreeable, must be complied with.

Inclosure 7 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

Sir, *Whydah, October* 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to state that last evening at 7 o'clock the King's messenger returned, bearing His Majesty's stick and a request that Mr. Duncan and myself would immediately proceed to Abomey. It was delivered by the Caboceer's headman, on his knees, and face on the dust.

Every opposition that can be has been made by the Portuguese merchants, luckily without any serious consequence; but the difference of reception to what ought to have been offered to me on landing was yesterday illustrated on the arrival of a Portuguese supercargo (I believe of a slave-vessel), who landed a few days back at Popoe, and reaching the King's custom-house at Whydah by a lagoon, was met by all the caboceers and some 500 soldiers who saluted him.

Great excitement prevails among the Portuguese merchants as to the cause of my mission, and several expedients have been tried, without effect, to discover its purport.

The greater part of our goods go to-day, and we proceed to-morrow; when we return is of course uncertain, but I do not expect to be more than twenty days from this date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 9.

The King of Dahomey to Commodore Fanshawe.

Abomey, October 18, 1849.

THE King, in answer to the Commander-in-chief's letter, has to state that at this moment he is alone in his capital, and unprepared for a final answer to his letter.

At the Customs which take place in the early part of March, he will be surrounded by his caboceers, and be ready to give a direct answer to the Commander-in-chief's request concerning a Treaty for the abolition of the foreign slavery.

The King is much pleased with the assurances of the goodwill of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain toward himself and subjects; in return for which His Majesty will at all times afford protection to all British subjects, missionaries, or traders, or others visiting the kingdom.

The King requests that Lieutenant Forbes may be present at the Customs and receive his final answer.

The King begs to state that originally the French were the first whites in Whydah, but after his grandfather made war with that country, the English were the first who settled there, and became his friends, and since then they have been the first.

That in the meantime he hopes the Commander-in-chief will not allow slave-vessels to be taken in the roads of Whydah, as being under his protection.

Given, &c.

(Signed) GIZO, *King of Dahomey.*

Drawn up by me at the King's dictation,

(Signed) F. E. FORBES,
Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta."

Witness to having heard the above dictation, and to the King's holding the pen while his name was written.

(Signed) JOHN DUNCAN, *Vice-Consul.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.) *"Bonetta," at sea, November* 1, 1849.

PURSUANT to your orders dated September 3, 1849, I have the honour to lay before you a full and detailed report of my proceedings on a journey to Abomey, the capital of the Kingdom of Dahomey, on such matters as are of interest to Her Majesty's Government, written in the form of a journal.

October 3, 1849.—Arrived at Whydah; found at anchor Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher."

Commander Harvey having explained to me the difficulties (reported to the Commander-in-chief) he had encountered in communicating with Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, I proceeded to the back of the surf, and sent a Kroo canoe with three Kroomen, to ascertain its extent and exact state. The Kroomen effected a landing; but in attempting to return, the canoe was broken in pieces.

October 4.—Having borrowed the Kroo canoe belonging to Commander Harvey, I entered her at the back of the surf, still very high, but had no sooner attempted to land, than the canoe was capsized and broken; after much danger, assisted by the three Kroomen who landed yesterday, I swam on shore.

(For detail of my communication with the Vice-Consul, see letters 1, 2, 3, and 4, addressed to Commander Harvey.)

October 5.—Visited the Viceroy. Having been introduced by Mr. Duncan, and having explained my views, the Vice-Consul took advantage of the opportunity to explain to the Viceroy that the French house of Blancheley had

offered him the keys of the French Fort for transmission to the King (they intending to return to France), unless their trade, which had been stopped, was reopened. Mr. Hastie, agent for Hutton and Co., who was present at the Viceroy's request, in a most unwarrantable manner, stated that unless the French trade was reopened, the men-of-war would enforce it.

I instantly desired Mr. Hastie to be silent; yet the threat was no sooner made, than the Viceroy rose in a furious passion, saying, "If you wish to break this country, you can do so: go! go!" He then retired; but entering a few minutes after, pointing to me, he asked why I remained. I told him I was waiting until his passion was over, to shake hands with him, and to explain to him that he must be labouring under a false impression, if he imagined either Mr. Duncan or myself had hinted any threat. This cooled him, and shaking hands, I left the house.

October 6.—The Viceroy sent at an early hour to desire an interview with the Vice-Consul and myself. On arriving at his house, we were ushered into a private apartment, and soon explained how much he had been mistaken in Mr. Duncan's intentions.

I am of opinion that yesterday the Viceroy was inebriated, and possessed with a false impression of our intentions.

I am fully aware that Mr. Hastie had told him that Mr. Duncan was a private individual, formerly a soldier, and now passing himself off as a Consul, without authority. I gleaned from Mr. Hastie's own words that he had hinted to the Viceroy that I had no further claim to a visit to Abomey than that of an officer on leave; and to prove it, he, the Viceroy, should demand to see my papers before he allowed me to proceed. In consequence of the above, I had provided myself with my instructions, which I produced unasked. Mr. Hastie had to pay a fine for his interference; such fines, in the idiom of the Dahoman language, are termed "wiping the mouth."

After much conversation, the Viceroy assuring me that he now understood the Vice-Consular position, begged, in the idiom of the language, that "the palaver might be set," to which I consented, or, in other words, not to mention again the insult of yesterday.

He now received my seal to send to the King, to ask permission for me to proceed to Abomey.

October 7.—I inspected the British Fort, which is in a most disgraceful state of want of repair. and unworthy the name it bears; the guns all dismounted, and the walls in a dilapidated state. By a letter shown me to-day by Mr. Hastie, the firm of Hutton and Company, London, claims the property of the fort, and in consequence their agent has placed Mr. Duncan and his two countrymen in two apartments totally inadequate to their wants. Their agent retains the key of the fort, and shows no respect to the Vice-Consular authority; on the contrary, strives in every way in his power to draw down the ridicule, not only of the native authorities, but also of the Portuguese and other merchants, and, as far as he is able, to render Mr. Duncan's residence as uncomfortable as he can to himself, and his official position nugatory. The British Fort has, I am informed, never been repaired at the expense of Messrs. Hutton, but by the King obliging the English Town people to work at a nominal subsistence, paid by Messrs. Hutton as a moderate tax.

I am not prepared to state whether Messrs. Hutton support their agent as the aggressor to the interests of the British Government, but from the recent date of the letter above quoted, and ocular demonstration, I am led to believe they do; consequently, I addressed a letter to Mr. T. Hutton, the African partner at Cape Coast, of which the following is a true copy:—

"I have the honour to state that having arrived at Whydah *en route* to Abomey, on a special mission, I suffered so much in the performance of my duty from the unprincipled conduct of your agent, that I feel it my duty to make official report thereof to the Naval Commander-in-chief.

"I therefore thus acquaint you, in order that should his acts against the interests of the British Government not meet your approbation, or be contrary to his orders from you, you may be prepared to explain the same when called upon. I have further to add that a letter was shown me, stating the British Fort to be the property of Messrs. Hutton, with which assumption I acquainted His Majesty of Dahomey; and that I feel called upon to report the dilapidated condition in which I found the fort, and the extreme misery of the apartments (2)

afforded to Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, Duncan; and in consequence that I, a British officer, felt it incumbent on me to seek lodgings elsewhere."

A great assistance in annoyance is rendered by the parties being aware that the Vice-Consul is an unpaid officer; and Mr. Duncan being a poor man, can by no means disburse, as is the custom in Dahomey, where poverty is a crime unpardonable; hence I am not exceeding the plain truth when I assert that far from an unpaid Consul ever adding to the interests of his Government, he must daily be doing harm, and bringing that Government into contempt. I do not think a merchant-Consul of any kind can answer,—that office should be paid above the desire to trade.

In Dahomey all preliminaries are settled by presents, and I witnessed a disbursement on the part of Don Domingo José Martins, of goods to the amount of 5000 dollars, most of them given, I understood, to counteract any injury my visit might have caused to the interests of the slave-merchants.

The public square (Whydah) ran with rum from three pipes started for the mob to wallow in. Thirty-five pipes of rum besides silk and cowries (the currency of Dahomey) were sent to the King. The Viceroy and all the caboceers were large receivers. These presents are common to all slave-merchants, and the late Senhor da Souza is said to have paid 1000*l.* annually (in goods) besides presents. At this moment, except Domingo Martins, there are none who can afford large gifts.

In Whydah there are a great number of returned slaves (liberated Africans) from Sierra Leone and Bahia. This day (Sunday) all were gaily dressed, the Bahias walking to and from church; but the Sierra Leone people told me with regret that they had no church.

In the whole Kingdom of Dahomey there is but one Christian place of worship, the catholic chapel of the Portuguese Fort. The religion of the Dahoman is of the worst order of paganism, worshipping a snake of the boa constrictor species.

The French Fort is in a most respectable state of repair. The Portuguese one moderately so.

The town of Whydah is divided into five portions, or krooms, each under the superintendence of a caboceer or Yavogah. They are as follows:

1st. French Town. Dagbah, the Viceroy.
2nd. English Town. Shechleeler Caboceer.
3rd. Portuguese Town. Borgnon Caboceer.
4th. Charchar Town. Guodeferei Caboceer.
5th. Viceroy's Town. Ahtinderhood Caboceer.

It is thus divided by order of the King, and the people of each town work for the merchants of that people its name represents.

October 8.—The Viceroy visited me officially, attended by a company of soldiers, who kept up a constant independent fire during the interview, as a salute to me. During the conference he begged I would report to the British Government the dilapidated condition of the fort, and the imperfect state of its batteries. He was very condescending, and particularly civil.

October 9.—Mr. Hastie has raised a report that the Portuguese merchants charged him with having given information to Commander Harvey, whereby Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" captured a slave-brig. He having reported the same to Commander Harvey, that officer empowered me to contradict it; but on inquiry all the respectable merchants declared they never hinted such a charge. It was most probably invented to lead me to suppose he (Mr. Hastie) was entirely independent of the slave-merchants.

October 10.—This day, the supercargo of a slaver having landed at Popoe, arrived, and was received by the Viceroy in state, under the fire of some hundreds of musketry. After meeting him at the end of the town, the Viceroy paraded the whole of Whydah, attended by the caboceers under huge painted umbrellas, and accompanied by band of music and standards.

In the evening the messenger returned from the King, commanding that I should immediately proceed to Abomey, attended by Mr. Duncan. As protection he sent his stick, a gold-headed Malacca cane, which was presented to me by the Viceroy's headman, with his head on the ground, and throwing dirt on his head.

October 11.—Hired bearers, sixteen for hammocks, and twenty men and women to carry cowries, rum, and baggage, and sent the latter on the road.

October 12.—Visited the Viceroy on leaving, who received the King's stick, and having prostrated himself, and placed dirt on his head, returned it to me,

adding that with that I wanted no protection, but to supply my wants and assist me as a linguist, he gave me his hand and foot, his headman, Narwhey.

October 13.—Arrived at the royal city of Alahdah, having passed through a fine park country, intersected by corn and ground bean farms; not a pebble or stone of any kind is to be seen between this and Whydah, twenty-eight miles. At Alahdah one human skull is exposed, that of a man found in the royal harem.

On the 5th day of our journey we arrived at the royal city of Canamina, or Camioh, and thence sent a messenger to inform the King of our arrival. The country passed has been very regular and level, except in the neighbourhood of an extensive swamp, about fifty miles from Whydah, where there is a slight irregularity. In the vicinity of this swamp there is much ironstone, sandstone, and conglomerate. It is surrounded, and has been the bed of a lagoon or river, and bears every appearance of a coal deposit. In the afternoon the messenger returned.

October 17.—Started in full uniform for the capital, distant ten miles. Having entered the gate of the city, which is ornamented with human skulls, and in the vicinity of the principal fetish-house, we halted, and taking position in chairs across the road, waited for the ceremony of being met by the caboceers. In a short time an immense crowd advanced towards us, with banners flying among them.

At some distance they halted, and the Governor of the city, at the head of a few soldiers, advanced. When arrived in front of our position, he countermarched, and made a circle from left to right three times round our seats, bowing each time he came in front. On the last time he fired off a musket, and danced before us; then having shaken hands, took a seat.

One of the King's brothers next performed the above ceremony; then a band of the royal household, chanting a welcome, followed by other caboceers; lastly two regiments of musketeers and one of blunderbuss-men; these last having passed, commenced an independent fire, while we were regaled with spirits and water sent by His Majesty. The whole then reformed in procession, and entering our hammocks, they preceded us to the Palace yard.

The square in front of the Palace, though extremely large, was densely crowded with armed men and women squatted on their hams, their long Danish muskets standing up like a miniature forest. Scores of banners of all colours and devices added to the scene, those of the King surmounted by a skull.

The Palace wall, of red clay, standing about twenty-five feet high, extending over more than a square mile, was one continued line of human skulls, yet it might be remarked that where decay had destroyed, these ghastly ornaments were not replaced; on the thresholds and sides of the portals of the Palace were also human skulls; but the practice of human sacrifice is fast vanishing from the Kingdom of Dahomey.

The palaces of Dahomey are extensive harems, entered only by the King and eunuchs, except at the Customs, when they are thrown open to the inspection of all visitors.

In the centre of the wall open upon the square is a huge gateway over which a roof is built, under this on a mat lay the King. The gates thrown open discovered at least 3000 of the royal wives richly dressed, while immediately around the Monarch stood his ministers, caboceers, and favourite wives, magnificently attired.

Notwithstanding the vast concourse in the square, the ground was well kept, marked out by bamboos, a road was formed round the square through which we were carried three times, still preceded by the caboceers, who each time they passed the King prostrated and threw dirt on their heads; etiquette simply required us to bow. After the third round we left our hammocks, and still preceded by the chiefs, slowly approached the King, who now rose to receive us. When within a few paces the caboceers made a lane and again prostrated and kissed the dust; through this lane we advanced and shook hands with the King.

King Gizo is about forty-eight years of age, good looking, with nothing of the negro cast of countenance, his complexion wanting several shades of being black; his appearance is commanding, his countenance intellectual, though stern. That he is extremely proud there can be no doubt, for he treads the earth as if it were honoured by its burden. Contrasted with the gaudy attire of his ministers, wives, and caboceers (of every hue), laden with ornaments of coral, gold, silver, and brass, the King was plainly dressed in a loose robe of yellow

silk slashed with satin stars and half-moons; he wore mandingo sandals, Spanish hat trimmed with gold lace, the only ornament being a small gold chain of European manufacture.

Having taken seats round the royal mat we soon entered into a complimentary conversation, the Prime Minister whispering into the royal ear, the interpreter not being allowed to address the King directly in matters of compliment.

The King now introduced me to his Ministers, Mayo, Prime Minister; Meigau, of Police; Camboodee, Treasurer; Mihiepah, Justice; Toonoonoo, Eunuch-in-chief; then to an elderly lady called the English Mother, named "Ta whey," one of the matrons of the harem who provides food for English visitors. Next all the caboceers were introduced.

The King then expressed a wish I should witness a review of female troops, and two regiments were at once paraded, but not before the ground was shifted and marked out for the manœuvring. The officers (female) distinguished by armlets of silver reaching from the wrist to the elbow and carrying each a small whip. The whole were uniformly dressed in tunics of blue and white, armed with a musket, club, and short sword, carried cartouch-boxes, and went through several evolutions, skirmishing, firing volleys, &c., with much precision. After the review the officers were introduced and complimented.

The King next proposed Her Majesty the Queen of England's health, which he said he knew we preferred to drink in champagne, which we did accordingly; but as the King drank it, several screens were held before him, as mortal may not gaze on His Majesty either in the act of eating or drinking.

After drinking His Majesty's health also in champagne, we were permitted to take leave. The King accompanying us across the square, where now all was animation; the thousands of armed men and women rushing round their Monarch, brandishing aloft their clubs and muskets, and yelling and shouting in a most fearful manner.

Our quarters were in the Prime Minister's inclosure, a recently built house for English visitors.

October 18.—At an early hour we were commanded to appear before the King, and I was directed to bring my despatches.

After much delay and ceremony, we were ushered into a small apartment, immediately within the Palace gate; on a bed covered with a mat and satin pillows, reclined the King, who rose to receive us; there were present the Prime Minister, a few of the ladies of the Harem, and some five attendants, besides Mr. Duncan and the two interpreters. I immediately proceeded to business.

Having presented the Commander-in-chief's letter, the King desired me to read it to him, which I did in short sentences, explaining their meaning, and causing them to be translated by both interpreters at the same moment, who often appeared to be correcting each other, and thus probably giving the King a true version.

Having finished the letter, I read those portions of my instructions which referred to the Slave Trade, Mr. Duncan's position, human sacrifices, and the introduction of missionaries. Concerning the Slave Trade the King intends answering at the Customs; Mr. Duncan's position the King understands; human sacrifices I felt I could thank him for having so far reduced in numbers; the introduction of missionaries he courts.

Having gone into much detail on the advantage of legal trade, of the probability, in consequence of increased coercion on the part of the Brazilian Government, of his not deriving high profits in future from the sale of slaves, when I had written the King's letter to the Commander-in-chief, the public business was closed.

We conversed for some time on various topics, and among others, the King's wish that the Slave Trade should be stopped in the neighbouring States.

Mr. Duncan having asked the King if he could inform him of the fate of Dr. Dickson, the fellow traveller of Captain Clapperton, he related as follows:

"Mr. Dickson appeared at Abomey, accompanied by the late Charchar Senhor da Souza. At Da Souza's request, the King furnished Dr. Dickson with a body guard of sixty men. Arrived at the frontier town of Char, forty of the guard returned, but a man named Amuza with six soldiers, Asokbah with five, and Bongboo, three headmen, had never been heard of since. That after leaving Char, they passed into the country of Neekie (Neefoo) on the road to Haussa but from leaving Neefoo, all trace was lost.

"Dr. Dickson had the fever very badly at Abomey and his head was shaved."

The King then told me I should see his wealth at the Customs; that he was about to depart for a festival, but could not leave visitors in his city, asked me how long I wished to remain to rest.

I told him three days, but finding out afterwards he really wished to be on the road, I agreed to leave in two.

Understanding we were going to see the market, he sent a slave to accompany us, with 20,000 cowries.

After drinking a great deal of champagne we took leave, accompanied to the end of the square by the King. At the moment he had stepped out of the palace, not a soul was to be seen, but before we parted, thousands had surrounded, armed as yesterday, and thousands more were rushing from all sides, shouting, and brandishing aloft their weapons.

The markets are very extensive, in which foreign as well as native goods of all kinds are exposed for sale; there being no shops, these markets, or fairs, are the only places where articles are bought and sold; they take place once in five days, and in the neighbourhood of Abomey there are several, so that each day there is a market.

October 19. At an early hour assembled outside the Prime Minister's house, to hear a salute of twenty-one guns fired in honour of Her Majesty the Queen of England, nine as a salute to myself, and nine in honour of Mr. Duncan. After drinking Her Majesty's health, the troops hurrahed, and the salute commenced; but before it was half-over, we were all obliged to scamper after the Prime Minister, and hide our faces against the wall, as a portion of the 18,000 royal wives were passing, ringing a small bell; as these sable ladies are all over the town at all times, and no male may gaze on them unpunished.

The salute over, the King's permission was given us to depart when convenient, and as a return for my present, the Prime Minister presented in the King's name a large country cloth for the hammock (so expressed), 20,000 cowries for the road, some flour, palm-oil, peppers, and a bullock, which had not arrived when Her Majesty's ship sailed. My present to the King consisted of

	£.	s.	d.
One piece of silk - - - -	1	10	0
One do. satin stripe - - -	1	13	0
Twenty-five gallons of Rum - -	3	2	6
One case of Wine - - - -	1	4	0
Sword and belt - - - - -	0	0	0
Cap and band - - - -	0	0	0
Bracelets and scissors - - -	0	10	0
	£7	19	6

The King was at an expense of no less than 200 dollars in consequence of our visit; food in enormous quantities was sent daily for our consumption.

October 20.—Quitted the capital; the Vice-Consul unwell with dysentery.

October 25.—Arrived at Whydah. Mr. Duncan much worse; took lodgings in the town.

October 26.—Senhor Domingo José Martins sent to offer his boats for my embarkation. This offer saved me much inconvenience, as Senhor Martins, although a slave-merchant, is in part a legal merchant also. It is absolutely necessary that the Vice-Consul should have the means of communicating with Her Majesty's ships, he should be provided with at least two large canoes and a set of canoe-men (twenty).

October 29.—Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" arrived.

October 30.—The surgeon of Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" having decided it necessary, embarked the Vice-Consul, Mr. Duncan, very ill with dysentery.

Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher," at noon, fired a royal salute in honour of the King of Dahomey, and in answer to the salute to Her Majesty the Queen of England fired at Abomey.

Arrived Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta." Rejoined, and sailed for Liberia.

Inclosure 10 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir, "*Bonetta,*" *at sea, November* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the following report on the existing state of the Slave and other trades in the Kingdom of Dahomey.

Gizo, the present King, some years ago, at the wish of his subjects, deposed his brother Adandooyah, the latter having fallen into the degrading habit of inebriation.

Gizo no sooner became King than he made it his chief policy either to employ his people in war or amuse them with festivals. In order to insure success in the former (and as it will be seen in both) he established large armies of male and female soldiers, and in the course of time conquered the Kingdoms of Anagoo, Mahee, Bassa, and Kangaroo, thus rendering Dahomey a large monarchy. Instead of being tributary (as formerly) to the Kingdom of Ashantee, he has placed that country nominally at his feet, sent his defiance, and built a palace under the name of Coomassee (that of the capital of Ashantee) to commemorate the declaration.

Besides minor there is one annual festival known as the Customs, which takes place on the appearance of the third moon, March 13, 1850, and lasts six weeks. To this festival the whole of his subjects are invited, also all foreigners, traders, and others, sojourners in his kingdom, and all are assembled at the expense of the King. In order to defray this enormous expense the King makes war on one or the other neighbouring countries, and performs what is termed a slave-hunt. These hunts the King always superintends, and in order to excite emulation, gives the female soldiers a different portion to overrun from the male; in the performance of which duty the females almost always excel.

The King having acquired a taste for European articles of merchandize has a great desire to strengthen his alliance with foreigners. Having no doubt of their national protection, he holds the British and French people in great respect, while, on the contrary, although he admits that the Portuguese, *i. e.* slave-merchants, readily purchase all his slaves, he treats them with much contempt, forcing them to pay many additional duties, &c.

The Kingdom of Dahomey, although of such vast inland extent, has but one seaport, Whydah, or more properly *Grevgivei*, the Dahoman name, while the slave-merchants term it *Ajuda*. From the number of slave-merchants residing at Whydah, that port is strictly watched by the cruizers. Of these merchants the late Da Souza, a Brazilian, was the chief or Charchar, friend and agent to the King. Although Da Souza was at one time said to possess 120,000,000 dollars, at his death he was almost a pauper, the consequence of having been over liberal in his presents, and having met with some severe losses at sea. Besides the enormous expenses of his household, his wives alone amounting to 300, he lived in great magnificence, every article of table or domestic use was of solid silver.

Of the sons of Da Souza there are three wealthy and slave-merchants; the eldest, Isidore, is a resident of Popoe, and will become Charchar magistrate of slave-merchants, if Domingo Martins declines that office. The other two are Antonio Cockoo and Ignatio.

Domingo José Martins, the richest merchant in the Bights (Brazilian), is a resident at Porto Novo, where he commands a monopoly of both slave and palm-oil trades, each of which he works to an enormous amount, and he is the only merchant in the Bights that ships a whole slave cargo, the others club their slaves, and ship in proportion to their means all in one or more vessels. Martins has a large consignment of British cotton on palm-oil account at Porto Novo. He has an establishment also at Whydah.

Joachim Almeida, the richest resident in Whydah, was originally from the Mahee country; sold into slavery, he has returned from Bahia, and is now a slave-merchant on an extensive scale.

Jacinta, a native of Madeira, and Jozé Joachim, fill up the number of Brazilian and Portuguese merchants; the latter was formerly a private soldier of the Brazils. There are also many petty dealers. The house of Joachim Antonio (D) is the only Spanish firm.

By means of lagoon the slaves can be shipped at either Porto Novo, &c.,

to the eastward, or Popoe, &c., to the westward, with much greater safety; but as these ports are the property each of a neighbouring chief, the King of Dahomey is jealous of his slaves being shipped without his kingdom, as thereby he loses the head-tax of 20 dollars, a heavy sum, and hence his repeated desire that the Slave Trade might be put a stop to in the neighbouring States, and shipments allowed in Whydah.

The price of a slave, from the trade being almost a royal monopoly (or at least a Martins one), is very high, being (in goods) from 80 to 100 dollars. Hence with many captures there is great loss; the consequence is, that each slave-merchant counteracts the chances of the losses in some degree, by embarking also in the palm-oil trade, and at this moment not one slave-merchant in Whydah but works both trades.

The French house of Blancheley is working a large palm-oil trade. There are a few supercargoes of Hamburgh vessels generally residing, who invariably purchase through Portuguese or Brazilian agency.

The Americans have no trade at Whydah.

Hutton and Co., the only British firm, as far as I can judge, are not purchasing. The resources of the country might be much extended, the soil is capable of producing all tropical plants, sugar, corn, fruits, &c., though the curse of the locusts is felt at times.

The timber is magnificent at a little distance from Whydah. The animal kingdom is well furnished. The geologist and the botanist would find ample employment and be well repaid for developing the hidden treasures of the Kingdom of Dahomey. The exports at once might be palm-oil, cocoa, and ground-nut oil, timber, Indian and Guinea corn, cotton and yams (to the rivers); the jealousy of the present trade removed, there is no part of Africa where stock and even luxuries can be produced so abundantly and cheap. The manufactures are cloths of various kinds and pottery.

At this moment the King is preparing for a slave-hunt, but *ad interim* he is performing the festival in memory of his mother, at which large numbers of his subjects and all his soldiers are assembled.

The seat of war will be in the country of Anagoo, situated to the westward of Abomey, this country has already been subjugated by the Dahomans.

The King thus states his reasons. That in the reign of his grandfather, the Anagoos invested Abomey, and so closely that the women could not leave the city for water (which is procured from a distance of six miles), without fear of being kidnapped. The consequence was, great suffering on the part of the Dahomans; neither his grandfather nor his father were fighting men, but quietly submitted to the ravages of the inroad. He had, however, conquered the Anagoos, but did not consider them as yet sufficiently punished; that he must have money (slaves for the ensuing customs), and he thought of all his hereditary enemies, the Anagoos most deserved the chastisement.

The fact is, he has conquered almost all his neighbours, and is at a loss for some new field in which to perform his slave-hunt. Malefactors are mostly punished with death, but may be reprieved and sold into slavery. Domestic slaves are on no account allowed to be sold into foreign slavery. Should a merchant allow a slave to become a parent in Dahomey, he cannot sell either parent or child into foreign slavery. Slaves are never exposed in the market, but all sales are arranged privately in the houses of the dealers.

The shipments of the last six months, independent of those captured, are as follows: from Porto Novo, 3 with 570 slaves; 1 with 200 slaves; 1 with 300; 1 with 70: all schooners, the two former built for the Trade, the latter a French vessel, purchased. Report speaks of two other schooners, but I failed in getting particulars. From Whydah 1 with 200 slaves (a schooner fore and aft), built for the Trade. From Popoe 1 with less than 100 slaves, a French schooner purchased. Report states that three others have lately shipped, but again no particulars. From River Volta, 1 with 200 slaves, a schooner built for the Trade. From Lagos and Taboo I have no information, but in Her Majesty's ship under my command, chased unsuccessfully one schooner laden (reported).

The slaves in hand at this moment are as follows: at Abomey the King has two cargoes, but I have failed in discovering of what amount; at Whydah 50 slaves; Popoe, 800; Porto Novo, none; Lagos, unknown.

At Whydah the jealousy of the trade revealed that the Spaniards have established themselves at Formosa, working the Nun and Brass Rivers, and that

a felucca had escaped full. Such is the case, and the felucca escaped the "Water-witch" and "Phœnix," about six weeks since.

The merchants in the Volta and to the westward of Cape St. Paul's are Spaniards.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 11 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.) "*Bonetta,*" *at sea, November* 7, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report that while at Abomey, a Krooman named Toh made the following statement to me:

"Some ten years since I was wrecked in a British merchant-vessel on the coast (I believe near Whydah), the white men remained on the beach whilst I and another Krooman named Nyapong went into the bush to procure food, where we were both kidnapped, marched to Abomey and sold. I have twice essayed to reach the beach, but each time have been brought back and punished. I am unaware of the name and rank of my master, but he is a very rich man.

"I have often tried, but never succeeded in nearing the King's person. Nyapong and myself work on a distant plantation."

He spoke English well. I desired my Kroomen to feed and look after him, but he was soon missing.

I immediately sent to the Prime Minister, Mayo, and related to him the above statement; he promised to lay the matter at once before the King.

On the morning of my departure I was somewhat surprised that the Prime Minister did not arrive to see us from the town, as is the custom. On sending my stick to him, his headman arrived and told me that Mayo had been commanded into the royal presence, and desired we would not wait for him. That as soon as he had an opportunity he would lay the Krooman's case before the King, and send the royal decision to Mr. Duncan at Whydah.

It appears from the evidence of my head Kroomen, Tom Walker and Jack Smart, that both the above-named Kroomen are slaves to Mayo, several of that chief's servants having told them so; hence his disinclination to mention the case to the King. It is my opinion he will forward them to Mr. Duncan, and not dare mention it to His Majesty.

Inclosure 12 in No. 9.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.) "*Bonetta,*" *at sea, November* 9, 1849.

AT this moment the slave-merchants are panic stricken at the success of the Bights' squadron, and the King complains that he cannot ship from his own country, thereby losing twenty dollars a-head.

If it is fully proved by demonstration that you are determined he shall not ship slaves, he will come to terms.

In order to approach the King with becoming dignity, I should recommend that a suitable present be prepared for the visit at the Customs.

His Majesty having requested the following articles, they should, if possible, form items: this present should not be in value less than £100 sterling:

Musketoons.
Muskets.
Sponges and rammers, from 3 to 6 pounders.
Clocks.
Hour-glasses.
Slouched beaver hats, trimmed with gold lace.
Silk "pieces."
Rope "signal haulyards."
Musical boxes.
Chairs.
Wines, sweet.

Inclosure 13 in No. 9.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.) *Whydah, August* 24, 1849.

YOU will be surprised to hear that a slaver took in cargo here on the 18th; about 200 were shipped. The object of those interested is to make it appear that the Slave Trade is not decreasing, although the fact of its decrease may easily be proved from certainty, that the whole of the merchants extensively engaged in the Slave Trade are now extensive traders in oil, a part which did not exist three years ago. It has been stated that 8 slave-ships have left Porto Novo, with full cargoes, when I find from information that may be relied on, that only 4 slavers have left that part of the coast, and at least one of them captured.

I shall return from Dahomey in about a fortnight, when I shall avail myself of the first opportunity of communicating to you the result of my mission to the King.

Inclosure 14 in No. 9.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.) *Whydah, September* 18, 1849.

I AM sure you will feel much surprised at not receiving any communication from me before this time; and even now I am writing it is very uncertain whether this may reach you, there is so much jealousy on the part of the Portuguese and Spaniards. I have been three times on the beach endeavouring to get off to your ship, but could not on any terms get a canoe. I waited five hours on the beach this day, endeavouring to get a canoe to take me on board; but although the Frenchman (who is the only person of any stability of character here) was shipping oil, he was afraid to allow one of his canoes to take off even a note to you, so great is the jealousy of the Spaniards and Portuguese, in consequence of my favourable reception by the King of Dahomey, whose kindness and honourable conduct is highly creditable to him and very favourable to commerce. My time will not admit of a detailed account of my journey to the capital and reception, but I hope to be able by some means to come on board and give you a *viva voce* statement; suffice to state, it was very satisfactory, but I shall have to attend again at Dahomey at the great annual custom, which will take place in about seven moons. He expressed his great satisfaction at my return to his country, and at my appointment as Vice-Consul.

On the evening previous to my return for the coast, myself and companions received a number of presents; articles of various kinds, as well as live stock.

With the present squadron on this part of the coast, and a small garrison of men here, the Slave Trade might be completely broken up here, as the King is so anxious to encourage legitimate commerce; but now that old Da Souza is dead, it will be difficult, without some protection, to contend with such a nest of hornets as the slave-dealers. They are now making custom for old Da Souza. A number of soldiers from Dahomey are here, and some prisoners of war have been sent here to be sacrificed on this occasion; in all probability these prisoners will be put to death,—although, to the credit of Da Souza, they declined to sacrifice them. Two of the prisoners were paraded round the town on Sunday last, bound round the neck, wrists, and waist, and driven along by a man holding a rope behind. They were the principal leaders in the last war between the Eyo and Dahoman countries; they were old and determined enemies many years to the former King of Dahomey; they were compelled to dance to the death-drums as they marched, strongly guarded by Dahoman soldiers. They visited the English and French Forts. M. Blancheley humanely offered 1000 dollars for their life, but being political offenders it was refused.

As I am writing, I have learned, to a certainty, that the parties above alluded to have been sacrificed at the beach on the 17th, at half-past 3 o'clock, and two more on the grave of old Da Souza, in spite of the remonstrance of his sons, as I am told.

No. 10.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received December 24.)

Sir, "*Centaur,*" *Sierra Leone, November* 24, 1849.

I HAVE this moment received from a schooner, prize to Her Majesty's sloop "Kingfisher," the inclosed letter from Commander Harvey, announcing, I regret to say, the death of Mr. Duncan, the Vice-Consul at Whydah, and inclosing his will, which I beg you will communicate to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Commander Harvey to Commodore Fanshawe.

"*Kingfisher,*" *lat.* 5° 46′ N., *long.* 2° 22′ E.,
Sir, *November* 5, 1849.

WITH much regret I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, of the death of John Duncan, Esq., Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Whydah. The event took place on board Her Majesty's sloop under my command, at 11·15 P.M. on the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY HARVEY.

No. 11.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, June* 30, 1849.

REPRESENTATIONS having been made to Her Majesty's Government from time to time by persons engaged in legal trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, stating that it would be desirable that a person should be appointed to reside in that part of Africa as agent on the part of Her Majesty's Government, for the purpose of regulating the legal trade between British merchants and the ports of Benin, Brass, New and Old Calabar, Bonny, Bimbia, the Cameroons, and the ports in the territories of the King of Dahomey, Her Majesty's Government have determined to make such an appointment; and being informed by the Commodore commanding on the west coast of Africa, that it will be agreeable to you to hold it, I have to inform you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer that appointment upon you, and that a commission under the sign manual will be prepared accordingly, and will be transmitted to you at the same time with this despatch.

You have been selected for this appointment in consideration of your general knowledge of African affairs and of the habits of the Blacks, and because of the influence which you appear to have acquired over the native chiefs of the places to which your consular jurisdiction will extend. That influence it is hoped may enable you to prevent quarrels and misunderstandings between those chiefs and the crews of British ships resorting to those parts for the purposes of trade, and thereby, on the one hand, legal commerce will be promoted, while, on the other hand, the Slave Trade, which can scarcely co-exist with legal commerce, will be much discouraged.

With a view to these results, you will endeavour to encourage the chiefs and people to till the soil and to produce available exports, so that they may obtain by barter the European commodities of which they may stand in need.

You will take every suitable opportunity to impress upon the minds of the chiefs and their principal councillors, the great advantages which they will derive from the extension of legal commerce with the nations of Europe and America; and you will assure them that Her Majesty's Government earnestly desire to contribute to their welfare and improvement.

You will transmit to me, from time to time, the best information which you can procure as to the means by which commercial intercourse with the chiefs on the coast and in the interior can be extended, and as to the points of the coast which may appear to afford the greatest facilities for commerce; and you will also state what kinds of European commodities are most sought after by the natives.

It will be your duty at all times to keep up a cordial intercourse and good understanding with Her Majesty's naval officers on the West African station, and to communicate to them any information which may come to your knowledge from time to time respecting the Slave Trade; and Her Majesty's naval commanders will be instructed to afford you every facility and assistance in their power to aid you in the performance of your duties.

You will receive in other despatches general instructions for your guidance in your Consular functions, and also in matters relating to the Slave Trade.

No. 12.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 30, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to you letters which I have addressed to the several chiefs on the western coast of Africa, within the district of your Consulship.

You will take a convenient opportunity to present these letters to the chiefs on the coast, when you will explain to them the nature and object of your appointment. I inclose a copy of the said letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Letter to be delivered to African Chiefs.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a commission appointing Mr. John Beecroft, the Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, to be Her Majesty's Consul to the several chiefs on the western coast of Africa.

It will be a principal duty of Mr. Beecroft to endeavour to prevent the frequent misunderstandings which have arisen between the chiefs on that coast and the British merchants, and the crews of British vessels resorting to those parts for the purpose of trade; and he will also be instructed to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby the chiefs and people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country those European commodities which they may want for their use and enjoyment.

In this manner the great natural resources of your country will be developed; your wealth and your comforts will be increased; and the detestable practice of stealing, buying, and selling men, women, and children, which is now the bane and disgrace of Africa, will be put an end to.

The Queen's Consul is instructed to take every suitable opportunity to explain to you the great advantages which you will derive from the increase of a legitimate commerce; and he is instructed to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every way to your welfare and prosperity.

The Queen trusts you will receive Her Majesty's Consul with the respect due to his character and rank, and that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in Her Majesty's name.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 13.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 12, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to you copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Admiralty, requesting that the Lords Commissioners will direct the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships of war on the western coast of Africa to afford you every facility and assistance in his power to aid you in the performance of your duties.

I also inclose the copy of a letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of your appointment.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Lord Eddisbury to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, November* 12, 1849.

WITH reference to your letter of the 21st July last, inclosing copies of communications which had been received from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham recommending that Mr. Beecroft should be appointed to be Her Majesty's Consul to the several chiefs in the Bight of Biafra, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to state to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer upon Mr. Beecroft the appointment of British Consul for the territories on the Western Coast of Africa, lying between Cape St. Paul, the north-western extremity of the Bight of Benin, and Cape St. John, the southern extremity of the Bight of Biafra.

I am further directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you a copy of the instructions which have been addressed to Mr. Beecroft,* and I am to request that in laying these papers before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, you will move their Lordships to give instructions to the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's ships of war on the west coast of Africa to put himself and the officers commanding the several ships under his orders, into communication with Mr. Beecroft, and to afford him every necessary facility and assistance to aid him in the performance of his duty.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Lord Eddisbury to Mr. Herman Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 12, 1849.

HER Majesty's Government having had under their consideration the representations made to them from time to time by persons engaged in legal trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, stating it would be desirable that a person residing in that part of Africa should be appointed as Agent on the part of Her Majesty's Government, for the purpose of regulating the legal trade of British merchants with that coast, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to state to you, for the information of Earl Grey, that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer that appointment upon Mr. John Beecroft.

* See No. 11.

I am further directed by Lord Palmerston to transmit to you a copy of the instructions* which his Lordship has given to Mr. Beecroft, and a copy of a letter which by his Lordship's directions I have addressed to the Admiralty† on the subject of this appointment; and I am to request that in laying these papers before Earl Grey, you will move his Lordship to give instructions to the Governor of Sierra Leone, and to the Governors of the other British settlements on the western coast of Africa, to communicate with Mr. Beecroft, and to afford him every facility and assistance in their power to aid him in the performance of his duties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDDISBURY.

No. 14.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, February* 25, 1850.

LIEUTENANT FORBES, of Her Majesty's navy, and the late Mr. Duncan, who had been appointed Vice-Consul in Dahomey, went up in October last from Whydah upon a mission from Her Majesty's Government to the King of Dahomey. The object of their mission was to induce that African chief to put an end to the Slave Trade in and through his dominions, and Mr. Duncan delivered to him two letters, of which the inclosed are copies, urging him to do so, and setting forth arguments to show that by so doing he would promote, instead of injuring, his own interests and those of his subjects.

You will be furnished with copies of the despatches from Lieutenant Forbes and from Mr. Duncan, giving an account of their proceedings while employed on this service, and of what passed between them and the King of Dahomey; and I have to request that you will make yourself acquainted with their contents.

You will see by those despatches that Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan were most kindly and hospitably received by the Dahomey Chief, and that they were assured by him of his sincere and anxious desire to secure for himself the friendship and good-will of the Queen of England, by following as far as it was possible for him to do so, any advice which Her Majesty's Government might give him; but he said that the profits which he derived from the Slave Trade constituted a considerable part of his revenue, and to put an end to that Traffic would be to sacrifice a material portion of his income. He said that, therefore, he must have time for full consideration and mature deliberation before he could answer the letter which Mr. Duncan had delivered to him; but that if Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan would come back to him, as he requested they would, at his next annual custom in March of this year, he would then be prepared to give his answer to Her Majesty's Government.

As Mr. Duncan has been unfortunately lost to Her Majesty's service, I have to instruct you to accompany Lieutenant Forbes on his return to Dahomey, being satisfied that your judgment and discretion, together with your practical knowledge of the character and habits of the African races, peculiarly fit you for the performance of this duty. You will therefore proceed on the 24th of this month, in Her Majesty's ship "Sphinx," which will convey you direct to Whydah, where it is probable that you will find Lieutenant Forbes; but if he should not be there he will be sent for, and you will await his arrival, which will not be long delayed, and you will in any case immediately on your landing at Whydah send up to the King of Dahomey to inform him of your arrival on the coast and of your intended visit to Dahomey.

You will proceed to Dahomey as soon as Lieutenant Forbes and yourself can set out for that place together.

If on your arrival at Dahomey, the King should declare himself ready to enter into the engagement which was proposed to him for the abolition of the Slave Trade in and through his dominions, you will, of course, at once proceed to conclude with him a Treaty to that effect, somewhat in the terms of the short and simple form of which I inclose a draft. But the likelihood is that he will hold to you about the Slave Trade the same sort of language which he held on that subject last October to Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan: that he will

* See No. 11. † See Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

profess his anxious desire to comply with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, but will plead financial considerations as reasons why it is impossible for him to do so.

In that case you will endeavour to explain to the Chief that the profits which he derives from the Slave Trade are precarious in their nature and limited in their extent. That they mainly depend upon the presents which the slave-dealers on the coast may be able to make to him, or upon duties paid to him on the passage of slaves through his territory, or on the price which he may obtain for captives taken in those warlike expeditions, the cost of which must in some measure absorb the profit which he may make by selling his prisoners. That the continued measures of various kinds which the British Government are taking with a view to suppress the Slave Trade tend every year more and more to hamper the transactions of the slave-traders established on the coasts of his territory, and thus to diminish progressively the means of those slave-traders to make him presents or to pay duty on the passage of slaves through his dominions, or even to purchase the prisoners of war whom he may wish to sell. That, on the other hand, his territories abound with resources for legitimate trade, and that if he was to employ his great power and authority for the encouragement of legitimate commerce, as a substitute for the Slave Trade, he would very soon find that he would derive from moderate and reasonable customs duties a much greater and far more certain revenue than he at present receives from the Traffic in Slaves. Such legitimate commerce the British Government would use every proper endeavour to encourage and protect, and the interest of the King of Dahomey in regard to such trade would be identical with that of the British Government; and the States of Dahomey, and Great Britain, instead of being as now, kept in some degree on different courses, in regard to their supposed interests, in consequence of their different views and opinions with respect to the Slave Trade, would be drawn together in close bonds of union by their common feelings and mutual interests in regard to the protection, encouragement, and extension of legitimate commerce.

The foreign merchants established at Whydah are already beginning to see the great advantages which are to be derived from legitimate commerce; and whereas some years ago they were almost all of them engaged, chiefly if not entirely, in the Slave Trade, it appears that now they almost all of them have dealings in the palm-oil trade nearly as extensive as the dealings which they have in the Slave Trade.

But palm-oil though a commodity much valued and wanted in Europe, and the exportation of which from Africa to Europe has been yearly increasing, is not the only produce of that part of Africa which could be the subject matter of extensive and profitable commerce between Dahomey and Great Britain. Cotton of excellent quality might be produced in almost any quantity within the territories of Dahomey, and any quantity of cotton there produced would find a ready and profitable market in the manufacturing districts of the United Kingdom. The cotton so sent to Europe would of course be paid for by such European commodities as might suit the wants and tastes of the people of Dahomey, and moderate customs duties levied upon the importation of such commodities would soon afford a considerable and an increasing revenue to the King.

But the King of Dahomey might probably object that the loss which he would sustain by the suppression of the Slave Trade would be certain and immediate, while the profit which might accrue to him from import duties on legitimate trade would be uncertain, and at all events not arising until after some lapse of time.

To obviate this objection, if made, you are authorized to say that if the King of Dahomey would immediately and entirely put an end to Slave Trade in and through his dominions, the British Government would engage to make him for a limited time, say three years, an annual present as a compensation for the loss which he would during that period sustain, it being reasonably to be expected that by the end of such a time legitimate commerce would have afforded him an income which would fully make up to him for the loss incurred by the cessation of Slave Trade. Her Majesty's Government must leave it to your discretion to make with the Chief the best arrangement which you can on this head, and you are authorized, in case of necessity to promise an annual present, either in money or goods, at the option of the King, to be continued for three years.

If you can conclude a satisfactory arrangement, on this principle, you will draw up and sign with the King a treaty to that effect.

You will express to the King of Dahomey the deep concern felt by Her Majesty's Government at the death of the late Mr. Duncan, a concern which they are convinced is fully shared by the King whose kind and friendly conduct towards Mr. Duncan afforded Her Majesty's Government the highest gratification; and you will say that Her Majesty's Government hope to be able to appoint some fit and proper person to be Vice-Consul in Dahomey in the place of Mr. Duncan.

You will of course transmit to me a full report of all your proceedings in the execution of these instructions, and when this service has been completed, and when proper opportunities offer, you will visit the different chiefs in the neighbouring country to whom you are accredited as Her Majesty's Consul, and you will present to them respectively the letters which I have addressed to them by the Queen's commands, and which are inclosed in my despatch of the 30th of June, 1849, explaining to them at length the nature and object of your appoinment, as described in your general instructions.

After these services shall have been performed, and when other and more immediate duties will permit, you will at a suitable season proceed on a mission to Abbeokuta, for which I will furnish you with instructions in another despatch.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey, May 29, 1849.

[See Inclosure in No. 2.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey, May 29, 1849.

[See Inclosure in No. 3.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 14.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty, November 17, 1849.

[See No. 9.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 14.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston, September 22, 1849.

[See No. 6.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 14.

The King of Dahomey to Viscount Palmerston, September 7, 1849.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 14.

Treaty to be proposed to the King of Dahomey.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the King of Dahomey, being desirous of concluding a Treaty for the abolition of the barbarous practice of transporting natives of Africa across the sea for the purpose of consigning them to slavery in foreign countries, Her Majesty has for this purpose named as her Plenipotentiaries, John Beecroft, Esquire, her Consul to the native Chiefs of Africa whose territories lie between Cape St. Paul and Cape St. John, and Frederick Edwin Forbes, a Lieutenant

in Her Majesty's Naval Service, and the Commander of her ship of war the "Bonetta."

And they, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, for and on behalf of Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, and His Majesty Gizo, King of Dahomey, for himself, his heirs and successors, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles and Conditions:—

ARTICLE I.

The exportation of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the King of Dahomey, and the King of Dahomey engages to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of his subjects or any person within his jurisdiction from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the King of Dahomey promises to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break this law.

ARTICLE II.

No European or other person whatever shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the King of Dahomey for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, stores, barracoons, or other buildings of any kind whatever shall be erected for the purposes of Slave Trade within the territory of the King of Dahomey; and if any such houses, stores, barracoons, or other buildings shall at any future time be erected within the territory of Dahomey, and the King of Dahomey shall fail or be unable to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the King of Dahomey, such Slave Trade may be put down in that territory by Great Britain by force, and British officers may seize any boats of Dahomey found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE IV.

The slaves now held for exportation in Dahomey shall be delivered up at Whydah to the senior officer of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in the Bight of Benin, for the purpose of being carried to a British colony, to be there set free; and all the implements of the Slave Trade and the barracoons or buildings exclusively used in the Slave Trade shall be forthwith destroyed.

ARTICLE V.

Europeans or other persons who may be found to be engaged in the Slave Trade in the territory of Dahomey, are to be expelled from the country; the houses, stores, or buildings hitherto employed as slave-factories, if not converted to lawful purposes within three months from the conclusion of this Treaty, are to be destroyed.

ARTICLE VI.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty may always trade freely with the people of Dahomey in every article which they may wish to buy or sell in all the places and ports and rivers within the territories of the King of Dahomey, and throughout the whole of his dominions; and the King of Dahomey pledges himself to show no favour and to give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which he does not or will not show to those of England.

ARTICLE VII.

In consideration of the above-mentioned concessions on the part of the King of Dahomey, and in full compensation for the temporary loss of revenue to which His Majesty may be subject therefrom, Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages to make to the King of Dahomey yearly for three years a present either of £ sterling, or of goods to that value, at the option of the King. But this annual present is to cease if Slave Trade should again be carried on within the territory of Dahomey.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Treaty shall have full force and effect from the day of 1850.

In faith whereof the above-named Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of Dahomey have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Abomey, the day of , 1850.

No. 15.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 25, 1850.

I NOW proceed to give you instructions for your mission to Abbeokuta, to which I alluded in the concluding part of my preceding despatch.

A short time since a deputation from the Church Missionary Society waited upon me, and represented amongst other things that the establishment of commercial relations with the interior of Africa through the Yoruba tribe, would materially contribute to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that if free and secure navigation on the Ogu could be obtained, most of the advantages which were proposed by the expedition of the Niger in 1842 would be attained; that traders from the banks of the Niger visit the principal markets of Abbeokuta, and that there is little doubt that the road to Egba and Rabbah, the former of which was the highest point reached by the Niger expedition, might be opened for trade through the Ogu River.

Abbeokuta, as I am informed, is the chief town of the Egba province of the Yoruba Kingdom, and contains above 50,000 inhabitants. It is situated upon the east bank of the Ogu, and that river is navigable for canoes to within a mile of Abbeokuta, and discharges itself into the sea at the Island of Lagos. Lagos is therefore said to be the natural port of Abbeokuta; but the Slave Trade being carried on at Lagos with great activity, the Yoruba people have been obliged to use the port of Badagry, between which and Abbeokuta communications are carried on by a difficult road by land.

But besides the impediments which the slave-dealers at Lagos throw in the way of legitimate commerce, the Yoruba people experience another hindrance to their prosperity, and a constant cause of alarm from the hostility of the King of Dahomey, who harasses them by an annual slave-hunt, and who is said to have threatened the destruction of the town of Abbeokuta. His enmity is said to be especially excited by the fact that the Yorubas are becoming prosperous and are gaining wealth by their commerce with the English, and by refraining from Slave Trade.

The Yorubas are represented to be a commercial people in their habits, and much trade has been carried on between Abbeokuta and Sierra Leone, by way of Badagry. It is also believed that many of the liberated Africans have emigrated from Sierra Leone to Abbeokuta, and many vessels owned entirely by liberated Africans are said to be be employed in the Trade between Sierra Leone and Badagry. There is also a regular trade carried on between London and Badagry. English missionaries have been received both at Badagry and Abbeokuta with great kindness, and their valuable services in imparting religious instruction and in promoting social improvements appear to be duly

appreciated by the natives. The people of Abbeokuta are said to feel a strong desire that the Slave Trade should be wholly abolished, and that legitimate traffic should be substituted for it, and the Egba chiefs manifest a favourable disposition towards the English nation.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government have deemed it advisable that you should at a suitable season visit Abbeokuta, in order to ascertain by inquiry on the spot, the actual wants, and wishes, and disposition of the Yoruba people.

I have accordingly to instruct you to proceed on this mission as soon as you conveniently can. Before you proceed, however, to Abbeokuta, it will be advisable that you should first visit the chiefs on the coast within your Consular jurisdiction, and that you should endeavour to ascertain the sentiments and intentions of such of them as have not already entered into amicable relations with Great Britain.

You will explain to those chiefs what is stated in my letters addressed to the chiefs themselves, that the principal object of your appointment is to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby those chiefs and their people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country, those European commodities which they may want for their own use and enjoyment; so that the great natural resources of their country may be developed, their wealth and their comforts increased, and the practice of stealing, buying and selling men, women, and children, may be put an end to; and you will impress upon their minds that it is the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every possible way to their welfare and prosperity, if they will but listen favourably to your overtures, and will honestly follow the friendly counsel which is offered to them by the British Government.

When by personal communication with these chiefs, you shall have made yourself acquainted with their disposition, and shall have ascertained how far they may be inclined to break off their connexion with slave-dealers, and to apply themselves to legitimate trade, you will be the better prepared to undertake with advantage your mission to Abbeokuta.

With respect to any aggressive intentions of the King of Dahomey towards the Yoruba people, you will have an opportunity, during your visit to Abomey, to bring that subject under the notice of the King; you will represent to him that the people who dwell in the Yoruba and Popoe countries are the friends of England, and that the British Government takes a great interest in their welfare, and would see with much concern and displeasure any acts of violence or oppression committed against them; that, moreover, there are dwelling among those tribes many liberated Africans and British-born subjects whom Her Majesty's Government are bound to protect from injury.

It is to be hoped that such representations as these, enforced by whatever influence you and Lieutenant Forbes may have acquired over the King in the course of your negotiations upon other matters, may induce the King to make a formal promise to abstain from future aggressions against the people of Yoruba and Popoe, and from molesting in any way the liberated Africans or Europeans who reside in Abbeokuta and Badagry, or who frequent the countries adjoining the territories of Dahomey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

The Rev. H. Townsend to the Secretary to the Church Missionary Society.

My dear Sir, *Exeter, October* 17, 1849.

1. IN committing to paper at your request such considerations as appear to me to make a deputation to Lord Palmerston desirable, respecting the dangers to which our missionary stations and British subjects are exposed by the annual slave-hunts of the King of Dahomey, I must confine myself to leading facts, in order to save the valuable time of those for whose consideration these remarks are written.

2. The object to be obtained is the safety of British subjects, who, being led by motives of religion, commerce, or love of their fatherland, dwell within

the circle of Slave Trade influence in the Bight of Benin, or, to speak more definitively, who dwell in the Yoruba and Popoe countries.

3. The British subjects that dwell in those countries consist of missionaries engaged in diffusing the knowledge and blessings of Christianity among the native inhabitants, mercantile agents employed in lawful commerce, and liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, some of whom are traders, others engaged in agriculture, and others in the employment of missionaries or merchants.

4. The dangers to which these variously employed British subjects are exposed, are in short, that of being driven from the country, with the loss of their property, kidnapped, or murdered, when engaged in their lawful employments. These dangers do not arise from native barbarism, nor from our residence there being unacceptable to the people, but from the influence of the white slave-traders in producing quarrels and wars among the people, and from the enmity that they feel towards those whose influence is opposed to their nefarious Traffic.

5. That the slave-dealers use their influence to drive us from the country is easy of proof: First, slave-traders prevented the Sierra Leone people from landing or trading at Lagos. Secondly, a party of the Bagadry people, led by two of their chiefs, known to be in correspondence with the white slave-traders, warned us to leave their country, giving as reasons the refusals of slave-traders to form a slave-factory there while Englishmen dwelt there. The designs of these chiefs were made known to us by other chiefs who desired our presence, but who confessed their inability to protect us from the Slave Trade party; and at their suggestion we sought and obtained the protection of Her Majesty's sloop-of-war "Albatross," then cruizing in the Bight. Thirdly, an embassy sent by the slave-trader Domingo to Abbeokuta, endeavoured to set the chiefs and people there in opposition to us, representing us as poor and despicable. Fourthly, at a village a few miles to the eastward of Badagry, a Wesleyan missionary then residing in Badagry, endeavoured to form a school with the approval of the native chief of the town, but before a schoolmaster could be sent, an agent of the slave-trader Domingo took up his residence there, and when the schoolmaster went, according to the previous arrangement, he was immediately sent back by the chief, who stated that the slave-trader was unwilling for him to reside or do anything there. These facts will show that the residence of Europeans, and missionaries in particular, in that country, is acceptable to the people, but unacceptable to a section when influenced by the white slave-trader. Why violence was not used by the Slave Trade party is obvious: both the white slave-traders and the natives under their influence dreaded the power of the British cruizers, from whom they felt it would be impossible to hide any violent and direct attempt to dislodge us from the country.

6. These instances prove the opposition of the Slave Trade party to us and our proceedings, and in passing I might be permitted to remark, that this enmity proves more than any direct testimony could do, that our labours have already or are likely to exercise a most beneficial influence upon the people as opposed to the Slave Trade—the bane of West Africa. But recent events have discovered to us the presence of a more powerful foe in the person of the King of Dahomey, whose power probably will never be exercised against the persons of white British subjects, but will, if he be permitted to go on, most completely overturn all our attempts to evangelize and civilize that part of Africa.

7. This chief fears the power of England and deprecates what Englishmen have done towards the introduction of lawful commerce at Badagry. This will appear in the following extract from the report of Mr. Cruickshanks, printed by order of the House of Commons, who quotes the King's words, thus: "No riches for my people; Porto Novo, Agado, Badagry, and other towns on the coast once belonged to me and paid their tribute as regularly as Whydah. Ships now go there and trade with them; factories are established for the purchase of palm-oil, and the result is, that this people are becoming rich and set my authority at defiance. It is true they still pay a nominal duty to prevent war, but I am cheated by them.* I wish the English Government to prevent ships from trading at these places, and to remove the factories, in order that I

* The King of Dahomey has no right to demand a tribute from these places, but fearing his power, they endeavour to save themselves by peaceful means.

may regain my lost authority. It is the English factory at Badagry which has withheld me from attacking that town, for I would not think of injuring the subjects of the Queen of England." (See page 19 of the report.)

8. In this passage the King complains of loss of tribute through the introduction of the palm-oil trade. What that tribute is we are not at a loss to know, it is the poll-tax paid on the exported slave; the export of slaves being diminished, the amount of taxes has also declined with it. His professions of love to British subjects are the result of British power which has been successfully employed to prevent the King's attempts to stop the exportation of palm-oil at Badagry. On one occasion his agents seized a Mr. Faulkner, captain and owner of a vessel called the "Little Grace," a British subject, when engaged in landing or shipping goods from his vessel at Badagry beach. He was liberated after having been carried into the country and detained several days, but not until his liberation was demanded by the commanding officer of the British squadron on that station.

9. Another extract from the same report will show the source of this King's power and riches. Mr. Cruickshanks says, "An export duty of five dollars is paid upon each slave shipped from the King's dominions, even although the port of embarkation may not belong to him. It is a frequent practice to convey them by the lagoon, either to the westward, as Little Popoe, or to eastward, as Porto Novo, neither of which towns are in subjection to the King." But that my extract may not be too long, I will content myself giving the result only, viz., that he derives a revenue from taxes imposed on the Trade and by the kidnapping and selling of slaves himself, of 300,000 dollars, or 62,000*l.* per annum.

10. It must be borne in mind that nearly all of this immense revenue is derived from direct acts of the most atrocious robbery and murder, and that every one residing within reach of this King's power would be liable to become one of the victims of his cruelty; and, moreover, that British subjects living consistently with the laws of their country, and thereby, if by no more direct efforts to do so, proving to the inhabitants the iniquity of the system that has so long afflicted them, and showing them the means of ridding themselves of it, would render themselves obnoxious to him and become his early victims if there be no protecting power extended over them. This protection has been received by those residing on the sea-coast, and this King dares not molest them, but we entertain what we conceive to be well-grounded apprehensions that those of us whose residences are more in the interior, are dwelling under considerable danger from this rapacious chief. An account of one of the kidnapping expeditions of the King of Dahomey that took place subsequent to Mr. Cruickshanks' mission will best show the reasonableness of our fears. It is given in the fourth number of the "Church Missionary Intelligencer;" but as an extract would be too long, I must be permitted to give the substance of it in my own words. The King of Dahomey sent his messenger to collect tribute from the chief of a town called Okeodan, situated about twenty miles north of Badagry, and within a short distance of the usual road from Badagry to Abbeokuta, and while his messenger was there, suddenly the town was surrounded by the Dahoman army, attacked, the chief and many of the people slain, and 19,600 captives carried off to Abomey in triumph. The same narrative goes on to say that probably 500 of these captives would be sacrificed to the manes of his ancestors; and that 800 of them had been already sent off to a slave-factor at Porto Novo, called Domingo, to pay a debt. The motive that dictated this monstrous act could be no other than the gain that would accrue from the sale of so many captives.

11. Some acquaintance with the designs of this chief adds additional strength to our fears. We received information from one who had a personal interview with the King of Dahomey, that he sought information from every one likely to be able to give it, as to the situation and strength of Abbeokuta; and this information is more than confirmed by recent intelligence.

12. We have, therefore, in the attack and capture of Okeodan, a proof of his power, and in subsequent information, proofs of his intention to make Abbeokuta, whenever opportunity allows, a victim of his rapacious cruelty. With what feelings can we contemplate scenes like these? But the white man who quietly deals out the munitions of war, and receives in payment the helpless victims, is the secret spring that moves the whole; he

does not contrive the treacherous scheme—he does not lead forth the army to the assault—upon his hands are not seen the blood of the slain, but the wealth that fills his stores supplies the motive that moves the mass, from the King that leads, to the lowest slave that follows in his train. As he first dealt out the means and supplied the motive for this act, so, now that it is perpetrated, he coolly receives the victims, and strikes a balance between himself and the King of Dahomey. And, too, that his own conduct, although it cannot be hidden, might not appear in its native deformity, he tells such as admire the generosity, the hospitality, and the gentlemanly conduct of the white slave-trader, that he buys these helpless victims to save them from a terrible death.

13. With a clear knowledge of these things, with what feelings can we dwell in a place where we know not but that the like horrors might burst upon ourselves at a time when least expected. Our own safety cannot even, as it ought not, to be a matter of indifference to ourselves, and we feel it is a duty to God who gave us our life, not to leave a means untried that is likely to render our living there one of ordinary security. But an additional motive presents itself—we dwell, it is true, amongst heathens, but these heathens have shown us such kindness and respect, have taken so much trouble to render our living amongst them a comfort to ourselves, as well as a blessing to them, that we feel interested in their welfare. And not only so, but very many of them have forsaken idolatry, have embraced Christianity, have been baptised in the name of the Triune God, and thus have become fellow-subjects with us of one heavenly King; can we leave these for whom we have laboured, and for whom we have left home and all the comforts and blessings of civilized life, to become a prey to these monsters of cruelty, without any effort to rescue them as well as ourselves from this dreaded evil? And, let me ask, did not England send an armed fleet against Algiers, because they, the Algerines, enslaved Christians? Can England now stand by, and look on and see Christians who have become so through England's love of the Gospel, filling the barracoons of the slave-merchant first, and then suffering and dying under the cruel usage of the task-master? Surely it is not our duty tamely to sit by and see such wrongs cast upon those who have received the word of salvation from us.

14. There is an additional motive presented to us, by the consideration that we possess an important post in Abbeokuta for carrying out the benevolent plans of England for the welfare of that part of Africa. I speak not of Badagry, because, being near the sea, it can have the protection of the ships of war there. Should the King of Dahomey's intentions be carried into effect successfully, we lose our present advantages; the people whom we have, through God's assistance, gathered around us to assist us in our work, will be scattered or slain, and ourselves, if our persons should be respected, will be driven from the country; and, above all, our hopes of benefiting Africa will be blighted, without a hope of a more successful issue at another place.

15. With regard to this curse, the Slave Trade in Africa, it might be said, wherever it has any existence, that the African himself is the guilty agent; but more guilty is his employer, the white slave-trader. The King of Dahomey and all other kidnapping or slave-hunting chiefs, whether great or small, are the weak tools of a horrible system of cruelty, the prime movers of which are the white slave-traders. Are Englishmen, exercising their callings with honesty and peace, to be exposed to such a system? Shall their hopes of success in their commercial or religious labours be suddenly put out, and their lives and property endangered by the power of wealth which the Brazilian slave-teader uses for the destruction of all? Were it the barbarism of the African that endangered our safety, or sought our destruction, we would stand alone, and by God's blessing, do as has been done before, teach the lion or the bear to become a lamb; but when slave-trading gold is superadded, and which, if it takes effect only upon a small portion of the community, might prove our destruction, by what means shall we resist it successfully?

16. In seeking our country's protection, we are encouraged by the consideration that she desires the destruction of that system that endangers us and our labours. The destruction of the Slave Trade would be our safety, and it is only in its destruction that we, or any other persons who may desire to benefit Africa, can obtain a safe residence there. The means, therefore, that we would desire to be used is, first, as regards the King of Dahomey, that his professions

of regard towards British subjects may be made a means of inducing him to leave all towns in his neighbourhood, inhabited by English subjects, unmolested; and, secondly, such means used to prevent the export of slaves, as will deprive the slave-traders of all chance of success. This would be a great boon to Africa, and end in its becoming civilized, and a fruitful source of honest wealth to our country.

With these convictions on my mind, I have, at your suggestion, committed them to writing, for I conceive it is our duty to trust in God, in the lawful use of such means as we may be able to obtain. If, however, no means are available, I hope we shall have no less confidence in the care of our heavenly Father, who has assured us of his protection. But in writing these remarks, I feel much less concerned about our own personal welfare and safety, than I do for those among whom my lot has been cast; and if no assistance can be obtained, I shall not feel the less safe. We will, with God's help, remain at our post as long as there are people to teach.

I remain, &c.
H. TOWNSEND.

To the Honorary Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.

The Deputation will be able to represent to the Secretary of State that—

1. The establishment of commercial relations with the interior of Africa, through the Yoruba tribe, opens a prospect of the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade at its source, and the great increase of commerce in the Bight of Biafra* since the Slave Trade was suppressed there, shows what may be expected to take place when the Slave Trade is suppressed in the Bight of Benin.

2. Most of the advantages which were proposed by the expedition up the Niger in 1842, are now within reach of the British Government, by securing the free navigation of the Ogu. Traders from the banks of the Niger visit the principal markets of Abbeokuta, and there is little doubt that the road to Egga and Rabbah, the former of which towns was the highest point reached by the Niger expedition, might be opened for trade through that channel.

3 The favourable disposition of the Egba chiefs towards the English connexion; the reduction of their language to writing, and the introduction of the English language through the Sierra Leone emigrants and the Mission schools; the confidence which they have manifested by their letter and present to the Queen of England, and Her Majesty's gracious acceptance of the same; and the fact that the Yoruba tribes live under a free form of constitutional government, very different from the tyranny of the Kingdoms of Dahomey and Ashantee; their willingness to abolish the Slave Trade as soon as they can accomplish such a measure—are all circumstances which encourage the present appeal for some alliance by treaty with that tribe.

4. Numerous cases have occurred, of which full particulars can be furnished by the missionaries, in which liberated Africans, after their return to Abbeokuta, have been a second time kidnapped and sold at the slave-market at Lagos. Instances have occurred of such persons being a second time captured by the British cruizers. It may be urged, that such instances of the contempt and defeat of the benevolent intentions of the British Government afford a ground of inquiry and remonstrance, at least, with the chiefs of Lagos.

5. The importance, therefore, of giving efficient protection and encouragement to the liberated Africans who have emigrated from Sierra Leone, and the claim which they have upon the favourable consideration and protection of the British Government, as well as the missionaries, who reside amongst them from motives of pure benevolence, and the traders in the factory, may be urged.

6. It may be suggested, also, that if a mission similar to that of Mr Cruickshanks were sent to the King of Dahomey, to intimate that the British Government expected that the liberated Africans and Europeans in Abbeokuta and Badagry should be unmolested, as well as the tribe which had received them with hospitality, it would probably deter the King of Dahomey from any hostile attempts against the Yoruba tribe.

* See Mr. Dawson's evidence before the House of Lords' Committee on the Slave Trade, and the tables he produced, pp. 269—281.

7. The importance of keeping up a strict blockade of the Bight of Benin, may be urged. Experienced naval officers have stated that such a blockade might be effected by an in-shore squadron of six or seven vessels, to the total suppression of the Slave Trade there. The blockade not to have reference to the lawful trade, but only to the Slave Traffic.

8. Other measures may be pointed out for effecting the objects in view,—such as British forts at Badagry and at various other points of the Bight, and a gun-boat stationed in the lagoon, to communicate with the forts, and to protect lawful commerce.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

The President of the Church Missionary Society to Sagbua and other Chiefs of Abbeokuta.

I HAVE had the honour of presenting to the Queen the letter of Sagbua and other chiefs of Abbeokuta, and also their present of a piece of cloth.

The Queen has commanded me to convey her thanks to Sagbua and the chiefs, and her best wishes for their true and lasting happiness, and for the peace and prosperity of the Yoruba nation.

The Queen hopes that arrangements may be made for affording to the Yoruba nation the free use of the River Ossa, so as to give them opportunities for commerce with this and other countries.

The commerce between nations in exchanging the fruits of the earth and of each other's industry is blessed by God.

Not so the commerce in slaves, which makes poor and miserable the nation which sells them, and brings neither wealth nor the blessing of God to the nation who buys them, but the contrary.

The Queen and people of England are very glad to know that Sagbua and the chiefs think as they do upon this subject of commerce. But commerce alone will not make a nation great and happy like England—England has become great and happy by the knowledge of the true God and Jesus Christ.

The Queen is therefore very glad to hear that Sagbua and the chiefs have so kindly received the missionaries, who carry with them the Word of God, and that so many of the people are willing to hear it.

In order to show how much the Queen values God's word, she sends with this, as a present to Sagbua, a copy of this word in two languages, one the Arabic, the other the English.

The Church Missionary Society wish all the happiness and the blessing of eternal life to Sagbua and all the people of Abbeokuta.

They are very thankful to the chiefs for the kindness and protection afforded to their missionaries, and they will not cease to pray for the spread of God's truth, and of all other blessings in Abbeokuta and throughout Africa, in the name and for the sake of our only Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

(Signed) CHICHESTER.

No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 25, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a letter which I have addressed to the King of Dahomey, explaining generally the nature of your appointment as Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights, and the objects of your journey to his capital; and I have to instruct you to deliver it to the King.

I inclose a copy of the letter in question for your information.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Foreign Office, February 25, 1850.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to inform you that she has been graciously pleased to grant a commission appointing John Beecroft, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul to the several chiefs of Africa whose territories lie between Cape St. Paul, at the western extremity of the Bight of Benin, and Cape St. John, at the southern extremity of the Bight of Biafra.

It will be an important part of Mr. Beecroft's duties to endeavour to prevent misunderstandings from arising between the chiefs of that part of Africa, or their dependents, and Her Majesty's subjects, either residing in or resorting to those parts for the purpose of lawful commerce.

Mr. Beecroft will be accompanied in his visit to you by Lieutenant Forbes, with whom you are already acquainted, and they are instructed to propose to you a formal Treaty for the abolition of Slave Trade within your dominions; and to explain to you the advantages which you and your territories would derive from the increase of lawful trade, and further to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen and of her Government to contribute in every way to your welfare and prosperity.

Mr. Beecroft will reside at the Island of Fernando Po: and he will make periodical visits, as occasion may require, to the territories of the several chiefs to whom he is accredited. He is further instructed to take charge of and to forward to Her Majesty, or to Her Majesty's Government, any communications which you may have to make to them. He will confer with you as to the best means of developing the resources of your country and of increasing the lawful commerce of your dominions, and of thus adding to the wealth and comforts of yourself and your people.

The Queen trusts that you will receive Mr. Beecroft with the respect due to his character and rank, that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in her name, and that you will extend to him your protection, while within the limits of your dominions.

(L.S.) (Signed) PALMERSTON.

BRAZIL.

No. 17.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, February* 24, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 10th July, 1847, upon the subject of the Africans who were stolen from on board a sumaca under British colours, in the port of Maranham, in January 1846, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copies of a correspondence which has passed between myself, Her Majesty's Consul for Maranham, and the Brazilian Government, upon the subject of 2 negroes who are supposed to have been of the number of those then stolen.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Consul Corbett to Mr. Hudson.

(Extract.) *Maranham, November* 14, 1848.

SINCE the African boy Felippe, one of the "Alert's" prize sumaca negroes that were stolen, was sent per steamer in May 1847, to Rio de Janeiro, by order of the Imperial Government, to be at the disposition of the Chief of Police and Her Majesty's Legation, I have the honour to inform you that on the 9th of last October, 2 Africans were taken up by the police in this city, and lodged in the police barracks; and on the following day information was sent to me, through a private channel, that they formed a part of the prize negroes, consequently I immediately went to see them, and in conversing with them (one spoke good Portuguese) I found that they were really two of the "Alert's" Africans, called Fernando and Alexandre, natives of Cape Lopez, and freemen, as they were kidnapped by the master of the sumaca off the mouth of the River Gaboon.

Inclosed I transmit copies of my two despatches to the President and Chief of Police, with their replies; also copy of those addressed by the President to the Chief of Police, together with a copy of my petition for a certified document of the interrogatories before the competent authorities, which certificate is not yet completed; when received I shall address the President, inclosing those documents (requesting that they may be returned to this Consulate), which ought to induce his Excellency to bring before the tribunals of this country those persons who are denounced in the examination of these 2 Africans. The names of individuals of some standing in this province are mentioned as the guilty perpetrators of this flagrant robbery, but I am apprehensive that they will not be punished for their atrocious deeds; indeed, one of those implicated, the chief actor, puts all law at defiance.

On my application for the boy Felippe to be delivered up to me, the formal reply of the President was, viz.:—"This Presidency not having received any communication on this matter from the Supreme Government, is not authorized to give him up." I have therefore to solicit you for further instructions as

respects these 2 Africans, who are now confined in the city gaol, and to whom as yet the gaol allowance of 160 reis each has not been paid, but I take care that they do not want for the necessaries of life.

The value of the prize sumaca, sold for Rs400$000, was paid over to me in January last, after a great many applications; the disbursements incurred on the arrival of the sumaca have absorbed about Rs350$000, and this account will be rendered to Her Majesty's Government in my annual account current at the end of this year.

By the next steamer I shall have the honour of transmitting to you the examinations, and also communicating my further proceedings in this affair.

I have just had put in my hands the said-to-be custom-house papers and bill of sale of a sloop-boat built at Sierra Leone, and launched under the name of "*Wave*," but now called the "*Sea*," whereof Antonio José Machado is owner and master, with a crew of 7 men (brought to the colony of Sierra Leone in Brazilian vessels, seized and condemned for being engaged in the Slave Trade), bound for Bahia, but was stranded at Tutoia on this coast, on the 24th of October last; this craft is of the burthen of $8\frac{6}{10}$ tons, British admeasurement under the 6th section of the Act of the 5th and 6th William the Fourth, cap. 56, and the date of the Sierra Leone papers are on the 19th and 22nd of July, 1848, and was sold to Machado for $325 by a Richard J. Fisher.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Consul Corbett to the President of Maranham.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Maranham, October* 10, 1848.

IN order to be able to communicate to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro all the particulars relative to the recapture of the 2 Africans Alexandre and Fernando, natives of Cape Lopez on the coast of Africa, now detained in the police barracks, I have the honour to request that your Excellency will grant me leave to examine those Africans in the presence of the competent authority, as I am intimately convinced that they formed part of the 56 Africans who in the month of January 1846, were taken by force from the sumaca prize which entered this harbour.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 17.

The President of Maranham to Consul Corbett.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Maranham, October* 12, 1848.

IN reply to the despatch which you addressed to me under date of the 10th instant, requesting permission to examine the 2 Africans in prison in the police barracks, as you believe they formed a portion of the 56 who in January 1846, were stolen from on board the sumaca prize, it is my duty to state to you in virtue of the report, of the chief of police on this subject, that the 2 Africans now in the police barracks, when apprehended in this city, declared they were from Caxas, and belonged to one Hermenegildo, and that the necessary investigations concerning them will be instituted; and that there is no objection to your examining them, for which purpose you have only to settle the day with the said magistrate.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) ANTO. JOAQM. ALVARES DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 4 in No. 17.

Consul Corbett to the Chief of Police.

Illustrious Sir, *Maranham, October* 13, 1848.

IN virtue of the contents of the despatch here inclosed from his Excellency the President of the province, I request you will be so good as to state to me on what occasion I can be present at the examination which is to be made of the 2 Africans, prisoners in the police barracks, supposed to have formed a portion of the 56 Africans who in January 1846, were stolen from on board the sumaca prize to Her Britannic Majesty's squadron which sumaca was at the period on shore in the harbour of this city.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure 5 in No. 17.

The Chief of Police to Consul Corbett.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Maranham, October* 13, 1848.

I ACKNOWLEDGE receipt of your despatch of to-day, inclosing copy of the despatch which his Excellency the President addressed to you, and in answer have to state that you can come to-morrow the 14th instant at 10 o'clock in the morning, to assist at the examination which is to be made of the 2 Africans who are in the police barracks.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSE MARIANNO COR. D'AZEVEDO COUTINHO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 17.

The President of Maranham to the Chief of Police.

(Translation.)

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, the despatch in original which was forwarded to me, wherein Her Britannic Majesty's Consul asks permission to examine 2 Africans in prison in the police barracks, whom he presumes formed a portion of those blacks who in 1846 were abducted from on board a sumaca prize, in order that you may inform me without delay of what takes place respecting this affair.

Inclosure 7 in No. 17.

The President of Maranham to the Chief of Police.

October 13, 1848.

THE requisition which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul made in his official letter, which you have spoken to me about, limited itself to an examination which he wished to make of the said 2 Africans, and you having informed me that there was no objection to this step, I replied to him in this sense, adding that he had only to come to an understanding with you upon the subject, thus answering the despatch on this subject which he addressed to me yesterday.

Inclosure 8 in No. 17.

Consul Corbett to the Chief of Police.

(Translation.)

R. FALCONER CORBETT, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, requests that you will furnish him with a certified copy of the tenour of the interrogatory

put to the 2 free Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, of Rio Vaz, abducted from the sumaca prize to Her Majesty's brig "Alert," at Cape Lopez on the coast of Africa, on the 3rd January, 1846.

This is requested of the Chief of Police, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 9 in No. 17.

Mr. Hudson to Consul Corbett.

(Extract.) *Rio de Janeiro, January* 23, 1849.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your despatch of the 14th of November last, reporting that on the 9th of October, the police of Maranham arrested 2 Africans whom you believed to be a part of the cargo of the sumaca prize to the "Alert," and relating to the steps which you have taken with reference to those negroes.

Although the repeated and urgent remonstrances of this Legation to the Brazilian Government have hitherto remained without effect, I trust that the general Government will at last vindicate and enforce their offended and outraged law.

I have therefore addressed a further remonstrance to the Imperial Government upon this subject, and I transmit to you a copy of the note which I have received in reply.

Inclosure 10 in No. 17.

Viscount Olinda to Mr. Hudson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, January* 19, 1849.

I ACKNOWLEDGE receipt of the note dated the 30th of last month, which Mr. Hudson, &c., addressed to me, regarding the robbery of 56 Africans in the Province of Maranham, from on board a sumaca which had been captured by the English brig-of-war "Alert."

Mr. Hudson states in the above-mentioned note that the British Consul in Maranham lately informed him that there were in the police prison of that capital 2 Africans belonging to the said sumaca, and that no investigations had been made respecting them; and that he (the Consul) having addressed the President regarding another African of the said sumaca, received from that functionary the following reply: that he had received no orders from the Imperial Government on the subject.

The Imperial Government having at different periods made the most positive recommendation to the President of the Province of Maranham to prosecute the apprehension of the said Africans, will again renew them in a most formal shape, assuring Mr. Hudson that the 2 Africans treated of shall be delivered up immediately it is proved that they formed a portion of those stolen from the British prize.

In replying thus to the above-mentioned note of Mr. Hudson, the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT OF OLINDA.

No. 18.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 4, 1849.

I TRANSMITTED to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington a copy of your despatch* of the 16th December last, on the subject of the

* See Class B, presented 1849. No. 46.

employment of United States' vessels in the Brazilian Slave Trade; and I now transmit to you a copy of the reply which I have received from Mr. Crampton, in which he states that he had brought the matter under the notice of the United States' Government, and that he found on their part a strong inclination to use every means in their power for the prevention of the use of the United States' flag in this nefarious Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston, April 2, 1849.

[See No. 310.]

No. 19.

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

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, March* 24, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 13th January last, upon the subject of the assistance given to Slave Trade by the French barque "Princesse Francisca," I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter upon this matter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General at Monte Video, from which your Lordship will perceive that the "Princesse Francisca" having paid duties of customs at Monte Video, cleared out and sailed for Batavia on the 22nd ultimo.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Captain Gore to Mr. Hudson.

(Extract.) *Monte Video, February* 28, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of 4th January, received on the 3rd instant, and to transmit to you the correspondence I have had on the subject of that despatch with the French Chargé d'Affaires. I called on him on the 4th February, the day after the arrival of "La Princesse Francisca," when he told me that he had not received any communication on the subject from the French Chargé d'Affaires at Rio, but that he would send for the master of "La Princesse Francisca" to inquire into the case.

I have since learnt that "La Princesse Francisca" paid 5,220 current dollars, about 850*l.*, for custom-house duties at this port; she sailed on the 22nd February, having cleared out for Batavia.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Captain Gore to M. Devoize.

My dear Sir, and colleague, *Monte Video, February* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received information from Rio de Janeiro that the French barque "Princesse Francisca," which sailed from that port on the 20th January, and arrived here on the 3rd instant, is supposed to have received on board the cargo of the United States' brig "Flora," which vessel was brought by Manoel Pinto da Fonseca, a man-stealer and seller established in that capital, and loaded by him with a cargo of goods, which from

the manifest (copy of which I have the honour to transmit) is in no way adapted for the River Plate market, but a well assorted cargo for the African coast; but as she was vigilantly watched by the United States' authorities at Rio, her owners have discharged her cargo into the French barque "Princesse Francisca," of which I have now the honour to apprize you, in order that you may take such steps as may seem to you most advisable.

It may occur to you if the cargo of the barque "Princesse Francisca," as I am led to believe, is intended to be exchanged against slaves, that the clearance for Monte Video must be for the purpose of evading the Brazilian customs law which enacts that goods cleared from Brazilian ports for the coast of Africa shall pay increased export duties. The men-stealers, in order to evade 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 owner's bond is immediately cancelled at the custom-house.

The vessel in the meantime has sailed for the coast, having escaped the obligations of the Brazilian code with perfect ease.

In the present case, if my information proves correct, the "Princesse Francisca" will doubtless put this fraud into execution.

It is for this purpose I have ventured to take the liberty to call your attention to the subject of the "Princesse Francisca," feeling assured that you, as likewise all the French authorities, will use every endeavour in your power to prevent a vessel bearing the flag of France from aiding in carrying on the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT GORE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

M. Devoize to Captain Gore.

Monsieur et cher collègue, *Monte Video, 7 Février,* 1849.

JE m'empresse de répondre à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 5 du courant, pour me transmettre des informations qui vous sont parvenues de Rio de Janeiro, au sujet du navire Français la "Princesse Francisca," et appeler mon attention sur les opérations coupables pour lesquelles on le suppose affrêté.

Ce navire est effectivement arrivé dans notre port, et son capitaine m'a déclaré son intention d'opérer ici le déchargement de sa cargaison. Vous supposez qu'elle est destinée à être réexportée sur la côte d'Afrique pour y être échangée contre des esclaves. Si ce dernier fait m'était démontré, je prendrais certainement toutes les mesures qu'autoriserait la circonstance pour empêcher une spéculation si criminelle. Mais il n'en est pas ainsi. Je ne trouve dans la composition du chargement de ce navire aucun objet qui soit de nature à établir une présomption légale d'une pareille intention. Le capitaine s'en défend, du reste, avec force, et je ne vois rien dans ses papiers de bord qui me permette de la lui attribuer.

Ainsi lors même qu'après avoir déchargé sa cargaison à Monte Video, ce capitaine la reprendrait à son bord pour la porter sur la côte d'Afrique, ce fait isolé, en admettant qu'il fût en contravention avec les lois et réglemens des lieux d'expédition et de destination, ne pourrait constituer qu'un simple délit de douane qui ne m'autoriserait pas à le placer ici sous l'empire des dispositions répressives du Trafic des Esclaves.

Veuillez agréer, &c.
(Signé) A. DEVOIZE.

(Translation.)

Dear Sir and colleague, *Monte Video, February* 7, 1849.

I HASTEN to answer the letter which you did me the honour to address to me on the 5th instant, communicating to me information which had reached

you from Rio de Janeiro concerning the French vessel "Princesse Francisca," and calling my attention to the criminal undertaking for which she is supposed to be freighted.

This vessel has actually arrived in this port, and her master has communicated to me his intention to effect the discharge of her cargo here. You suppose that it is intended to be re-exported to the coast of Africa to be there exchanged for slaves. If this fact were proved to me I should certainly use every means that the circumstances of the case would warrant to prevent so criminal a speculation. But this is not the fact. I do not find in the lading of this vessel any one article of a nature to afford legal presumption of such an intention. Further, the master strongly denies it, and I see nothing in his ship's papers which permits me to attribute it to him.

Thus, even if after having discharged his cargo at Monte Video, this captain should reship it for the purpose of taking it to the coast of Africa, this fact alone, admitting it to be in contravention of the laws and regulations of the ports of clearance and destination, would but constitute a simple infraction of the customs laws, which would not authorize me in taking any steps with regard to him here, under our laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) A. DEVOIZE.

No. 20.

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

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, March 24, 1849.*

I HAVE great satisfaction in reporting to your Lordship an act of successful gallantry on the part of the officers and men of Her Majesty's ship "Hydra," who under the orders of Commander Skipwith boarded and captured the armed Brazilian piratical slaver "*União,*" off this port on the 2nd instant.

Your Lordship will perceive from the inclosed report of this affair, that when the officer in command of the "Hydra's" boat hailed the "*União,*" he was answered by a volley of musketry, which must have proved fatal to many of the seamen in the boat had not a heavy swell prevented the pirates from taking an accurate aim.

The "*União*" is reported in the Rio custom-house returns of the 2nd ultimo as having left this port in ballast, and with a crew of 15 men, bound for an out-port.

She proved to have on board a great part of the cargo of the steam-slaver "*Providencia,*" a crew of 38 men, and to be bound for the coast of Africa for a cargo of slaves; such was the admission of the man in command of her.

I have already had occasion in a former despatch*, dated the 16th of December last, to point out to your Lordship that vessels are permitted not only to complete their slave equipments in the port of this capital, but also to arm; in short, to perfect the character of pirate and slaver; and this affair of the "*União*" I think entirely bears out the assertion which I had the honour to make.

Upon receiving from Commander Skipwith his account of the circumstances which attended the capture of the "*União,*" I lost no time in making a strong representation to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, but I have not yet learnt what his Excellency's opinion is upon the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

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* See Class B. presented 1849. No. 46, p. 71.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Commander Skipwith to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, "*Hydra*," *Rio de Janeiro, March* 5, 1849.

I BEG to report for your information that, on the morning of the 2nd instant, I observed a suspicious-looking brig pass the "Hydra," under Brazilian colours, in tow of the steam-tug, but on proceeding down the harbour she saw Her Majesty's ship "Amazon" getting under weigh, when the tug towed her round the "Amazon," and under the fort, where she anchored. The tug communicated with the inner harbour, and then returned and anchored close to the brig. The above circumstances fully convinced me that she was a slaver.

At about 6·15 P.M. of the same day, the "Amazon" having been out of sight for several hours, the brig weighed, and was taken in tow by the tug. At 7·15 P.M. I manned and armed the first cutter, sending 8 men, besides the boat's crew, under the charge of Mr. William Graham, acting mate, and Mr. William Phillips, midshipman—making in all 17 men and 2 officers,—to examine the brig. At 10 P.M. the cutter came up with her, outside Raza Island, still in tow of the tug; the brig hailed the boat, and, not being answered, fired a volley of musketry at her, which did not touch a man or the boat; she instantly returned the fire with muskets, and boarded her on the starboard quarter. No further resistance being made by the crew, Mr. Graham took possession of her. She proved to be the "*União*," of Rio, 254 tons, and 38 men, fully equipped and armed for the Slave Trade, having on board slave-deck, coppers, farinha, water, casks, and everything necessary for the reception of slaves. She was bound to Macahé, and thence to the coast of Africa, with a cargo of coast goods, said to be very valuable. The steam-tug endeavoured to get the brig's head round to tow her towards the harbour, but being fired at by the prize-crew, and the hawsers being cut, she made for this harbour. The crew of the brig took to the boats, and made their escape, with the exception of one man, supposed to be the captain, who was detained on board. The brig had also on board a long slide and carriage for a swivel-gun.

At 3 P.M. of the 3rd, the cutter returned to the ship, having left Mr. Graham and 8 men on board the prize. As she required more hands, and a report was spread on shore that the Brazilians intended to try to retake her, I considered it advisable to get the steam up and go out to her, which I did, and as it was calm, and a heavy swell setting the brig towards the shore, I towed her for four hours to the south-eastward, clear of the land. After giving the necessary documents and orders for the prize to be taken to Demerara, I cast her off and returned into harbour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY SKIPWITH.

No. 21.

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

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, March* 24, 1849.

I HAD the honour in my despatch* of 16th November last, to point out to your Lordship the gradual increase in the number of steam-vessels employed in the Slave Trade by the slave-dealers of this capital, and I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that a very fine steamer intended for Slave Trade has been built and launched here, and has fitted and tried her engines.

The dimensions of the "*Serpente*," as this steamer has been named, are,—

Length of keel - - - -	160 feet.
„ over all - - - -	172 „
Beam - - - - - -	21 10 inches.
Draught water - - - -	9 „
Tonnage - - - - -	450 tons.
Engines - - - - -	150 horse-power.

Fawsett's patent ⋈ cross head engines.

* See Class B. presented 1849. No. 41, p. 63.

This steamer is well put together, is the best built here as yet, and is owned by one Maneto, a notorious slave-dealer. She is calculated to carry 1500 to 2000 negroes, and no expense has been spared upon her engines.

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

No. 22.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, April* 24, 1849.

WITH reference to a despatch* which I had the honour to address to your Lordship of the 13th January last, reporting that the employment of United States' vessels in Slave Trade had been checked in this port by the vigorous measures adopted by the United States' authorities here, I have now the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship the copy of a report which has been addressed to me by Mr. Acting Consul Westwood, from which your Lordship will perceive that during the last three months no United States' vessel has been loaded in the harbour of Rio de Janeiro for Africa.

It would be matter for sincere congratulation if the abuse of the flag of the United States could be as effectually prevented in other ports of Brazil as it has been in Rio de Janeiro; but I fear that there is too good reason to believe that those who prostitute the flag of the United States to the vilest purposes, will but shift the seat of their iniquities to Bahia, Pernambuco, Santos, and Angra, and other Brazilian ports of entry along the coast.

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

Inclosure in No. 22.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, April* 20, 1849.

IN former despatches I have had the honour to inform you of the alarm and embarrassment caused to slave-dealers by the course lately adopted by the United States' authorities respecting American vessels destined for African voyages, and I have now to state that, during the past quarter, no American vessel has been loaded in this harbour for Africa.

The protection and assistance derived from the use of the American flag is, however, too valuable to all slave-trading interests to be relinquished; and I am informed that the system about to be followed by the slave-traders is to dispatch vessels intended for African voyages to Bahia and other ports of entry along the coast, where they are to be loaded with the usual assorted cargoes and then sent to Africa.

The American schooner "*Morris*," a vessel well known to be in the employ of the slave-dealers, has already sailed from this in ballast under a clearance for Bahia; and I am told that the "*Pedro Grande*," a fine brig lately purchased by Costa Ramos, is also going to Bahia, to be prepared for an African voyage.

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

No. 23.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, June* 9, 1849.

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

See Class B. presented 1849. No. 55, p. 77.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting lists* of the slave-vessels captured by Her Majesty's cruizers, and condemned by Her Majesty's Courts of Vice-Admiralty abroad, from the 1st January, 1848, up to the latest period, so far as the same have been reported to Her Majesty's Government.

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

Inclosure in No. 23.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Olinda.

Rio de Janeiro, May 21, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., is instructed by his Government to transmit to the Viscount Olinda, &c., the accompanying lists of slave-vessels captured by Her Majesty's cruizers, and condemned by Her Majesty's Courts of Vice-Admiralty abroad, from which his Excellency will perceive the enormous extent of the Slave Trade as carried on under the Imperial flag.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 24.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *Rio Janeiro, June* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copies of a correspondence which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul for this province, from which your Lordship will perceive the extent to which French vessels are now entering into the Slave Trade.

I had the honour to report to your Lordship in my despatch† of the 24th April, that the United States' authorities at this capital had succeeded in putting a stop to the fraudulent use of the United States' flag and the fictitious sale of United States' vessels for Slave Trade; and it is since the vigorous measures of the United States' Minister and Commodore at this capital have been put in force that we now hear of the frequent sale of French ships, and the prostitution of the tricolor of France to cover and protect the horrors and iniquities which are practised by Brazilian men-stealers.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio Janeiro, May* 19, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your information a copy of a letter I addressed to the Vice-Consul at Santos, respecting the proceedings of the French barque "*Sylphide*," reported to have landed slaves at Dois Rios, and Mr. Whitaker's reply thereto.

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

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* See inclosures in No. 34, Class B, presented 1849, page 51.

† See No. 22.

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

Acting Consul Westwood to Vice-Consul Whitaker.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, April* 18, 1849.

IT is reported that the French barque "*Sylphide*," that sailed from this port on the 10th of December last for Africa, has landed a full cargo of slaves at Dois Rios, and that she is now at Santos preparing for another African voyage; and as it becomes my duty to ascertain the truth of these reports, I have to request that you will obtain all the information you can respecting this vessel—as to the number of slaves landed, under what flag she entered Santos, her present master's name, what entry she made on arrival, and what she is now doing; and report the same to me with as little delay as possible.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 24.

Vice-Consul Whitaker to Acting Consul Westwood.

Sir, *Santos, May* 12, 1849.

YOUR despatch dated 18th ultimo only reached me yesterday; and in obedience to your request I have the honour to inform you that the "*Sylphide*" is still in this harbour ready for sea, but waiting for a document which is required from Rio Janeiro before a regular passport can be obtained.

The above vessel sailed from Rio for the coast of Africa early in December last; and in January a bill of sale purporting to transfer her to a Brazilian subject was signed at Rio Congo, which, coupled with a certificate from two men calling themselves merchants, residents in Rio Congo, encouraged her to take in 900 slaves, which she succeeded in landing at Dois Rios in March last, from whence she came to this port and reported in the following manner: "Barca Brazileira Roza. Capitão Aressabola, do Rio Congo, 35 dios em lastro, entrada em 19 de Março," (Brazilian barque "Roza," Captain Aressabola, from River Congo, 35 days out in ballast, entered on the 19th of March.)

It is now reported that her passport will be ready in a few days, and that she will then proceed for another cargo of negroes, cloaking her intentions by taking in firewood.

I have moreover been informed that another French vessel changed her character and became Brazilian property in the Rio Congo about the same time, which, after landing a full cargo of slaves in the neighbourhood of Rio Janeiro, came into this port, where a regular passport has been granted her under the name of "*Deliberação*," and she is actually preparing for another voyage as the property of José Maria do Amaral.

Besides the two before-mentioned vessels, another French vessel, that arrived in this port with a cargo of salt in the month of March last, and after discharging her cargo proceeded a few weeks ago to Rio de Janeiro in ballast, is actually preparing in that harbour for the same voyage. Her name is the "*Alexandre*" of Havre.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. WHITAKER.

No. 25.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *Rio Janeiro, June* 9, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch* of the 16th December last, respecting a British subject named John Freeman, I have now the honour to report to your

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 48, p. 72.

Lordship that I am informed by the senior naval officer of Her Majesty's ships in this port, that John Freeman sailed hence in Her Majesty's transport "Adventure" on the 27th ultimo on his way to Sierra Leone.

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

No. 26.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *Rio Janeiro, June 9, 1849.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch* of the 16th January last, instructing me to seek information from 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 have the honour to report to your Lordship that I am of opinion that during the year 1848 the number of slaves landed in Brazil amounted to (60,000) sixty thousand.

This opinion is based upon the reports which have been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consuls; upon the information which I have received from Brazilians, who make no mystery of the number of slaves imported; and from replies to letters which I have addressed to persons residing in Brazilian ports in the Provinces of Bahia, Rio Janeiro, and St. Paul.

Two circumstances have contributed materially to check the importation of slaves into Brazil during the past year. The one the European revolutions and blockade of Hamburgh and Trieste, places which import largely from Brazil; the other the partial failure of the coffee crop, in consequence of wet weather at the crop season.

Vast quantities of slaves are, however, being imported at this moment into Brazil.

The Rio Janeiro slave-market is glutted—indeed it is impossible to approach this capital in any direction without meeting troops of Bozal negroes. They are landed openly at Rio Janeiro, and no measures whatever are taken by any Brazilian authority to repress the Traffic.

At Bahia the public sale of slaves, which was prohibited, is again in full operation, and the depôts are overflowing with newly-imported negroes.

At Santos in St. Paul the importation of slaves is increasing, and several new depôts have been established between Santos and Rio Janeiro, with the intention of forwarding them to Minas Geraes from the seaport of Angra dos Rey.

One of the best criterions of the state of the Slave Trade is the number of ships in this and other Brazilian ports fitting for Slave Trade, and the number of ships so fitting at this moment appears to me to be, if anything, upon the increase.

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

No. 27.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 5.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, July 10, 1849.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that on the afternoon of the 28th ultimo, while Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Rifleman," Lieutenant Commander Crofton, was cruizing to the northward of Cape Frio, a brigantine was observed working up along the land, when having discovered that the "Rifleman" was a vessel of war, she immediately bore up and set all studding sails.

The "Rifleman" gave chase to the brigantine, and gained on her fast; as the moon rose it was observed that the brigantine had altered her course, and

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 45, p. 71.

was hauling right in for the land, with the evident intention of running on shore.

The "Rifleman" having by this time got her steam up, shortened and furled sails, closing cautiously in with the land, and perceived that the chase had run on the beach. Approaching as near as was prudent, Commander Crofton ordered the boats to be manned, and boarded the brigantine.

On gaining her deck she was found laying over on her bilge, the sea breaking heavily over her, and washing the slaves, of which she appeared to have a large cargo, off her decks fore and aft. Her crew had abandoned her. All her sails were set, not even the studding-sail tacks let go.

Commander Crofton having seen the brigantine's sails furled, then took every means in his power to save the lives of the slaves, and left on board the prize Messrs. Pocock and Beckett, midshipmen, and sent Mr. Hitchings, the second master, with the cutter and a fresh crew, to take charge of her.

During the night the breeze freshened and the swell increased.

At day-break Commander Crofton veered the "Rifleman" astern with both bowers a-head as far into the surf as possible, the steam kept up at full power, and passed a hawser on board the prize.

Mr. Hitchings, the second master, having lashed himself to the after part of the brigantine, as each successive wave broke over him, and during the lull of the sea, received from the officers and seamen forward, the slaves, who, one by one, were secured to a cradle on the hawser, and were drawn along it till clear of the boiling surf, when they were lowered into the boats of the "Rifleman."

This tedious and dangerous service occupied an entire day, but at its termination, exhausted as the officers and men were with their exertions, their humanity even exceeded their gallantry. Before they either eat, or drank, or changed their drenched clothes, they busied themselves in chafing and rubbing the bodies of many of the slaves who were apparently lifeless.

Each seaman, I am informed, not only took charge of and nursed and tended three of these unhappy victims of oppression, but clad their chilled and naked bodies from his own scanty stock of clothing.

Mr. Hitchings and Messrs. Pocock and Beckett appear to have frequently risked their lives upon this occasion. Commander Crofton's gig was stove, and he himself was saved from death by one of his crew.

During the whole of this service the sea was going fairly over the wreck; but in spite of the danger and the difficulty of the service, Commander Crofton rescued 127 Africans from death and slavery.

His subsequent endeavours to heave off the prize proved fruitless, as she was embedded in the sand. As she had no name and no regular papers, and was thus doubly a pirate, she was destroyed by fire.

Of the 127 Africans who were saved from this wreck, 123 have survived, and have been deposited on board Her Majesty's receiving-ship "Crescent," in this port, whence, when they are sufficiently recovered, they will be shipped to Her Majesty's West Indian colonies.

Nearly 200 are supposed to have reached the shore, and to have fallen into the hands of the men-stealers.

I have the honour to inclose herewith the translation of an article which has appeared in a very respectable journal of this capital, which, referring to the above affair, concludes with this expression: "Is it not time to put an end to a Traffic which has sacrificed so many victims, and which it is our conviction contributes to the moral and material backwardness of this country?"

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 27.

Extract from the "Correio Mercantil" of Rio de Janeiro, July 3, 1849.

(Translation.)

WE little thought yesterday, when writing regarding the contraband trade and the disembarkation of Africans, effected in a most scandalous manner on the shore of Rio de Janeiro, that to-day we should have to relate a new fact,

accompanied with those horrible results which this deplorable traffic so often occasions.

The English steamer "Rifleman" was cruizing in the neighbourhood of Cape Frio when she saw a vessel standing in for the land. On giving chase it was immediately discovered that the vessel was a slaver by the effort she made to escape, but as night came on, it was not possible to overtake her that evening. On the following day she was discovered run on shore and abandoned by her crew, who had fled on shore in the ship's launch.

Sad was the fate of the poor Africans who were on board this vessel. The "Rifleman" with the greatest trouble and danger was enabled to save 124, to effect which the master of the steamer was obliged to expose himself to the fury of the waves by swimming to the stranded brig. The 124 blacks were one by one secured round the body with a rope and then dragged through the surf on board the steamer.

It is supposed that 200 were drowned, and that about an equal number were cast ashore by the waves still alive, and secured by the people on shore. It is necessary to observe that the 124 saved by the "Rifleman" were the only ones found on board the said vessel, whose name and owner are not known, as no document was found on board which could give any clue to either.

Is it not time to take some steps seriously to put a stop to a traffic which has sacrificed so many victims, and which in our conviction contributes to the moral and material backwardness of the country?

No. 28.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 5.)

(Extract.) *Rio de Janeiro, July* 10, 1849.

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship in a despatch* of the 13th January last, that a slave-ship named the "*Flora*" had attempted to put a double fraud in execution, namely, to evade the increased Brazilian export duties and to make use of the flag of the United States, although owned by a naturalized Brazilian, Manoel Pinto da Fonseca.

The voyage of the "*Flora*" in December last was said to have been intended for Monte Video; it appears, however, that she proceeded to the coast of Africa and there embarked a cargo of slaves and a small quantity of merchandize, such as wax, &c. She then changed her name to the "*Tolerante*," and on the 26th ultimo she arrived at the anchorage of Palmas in Ilha Grande, a few miles to the southward of Rio Janeiro.

The Brazilian revenue cutter "Narceja" there boarded her and found that she was engaged in the double fraud of smuggling goods and landing slaves.

Resistance was at first offered by the crew of the "*Tolerante*" to the customs' officer of the "Narceja;" but Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Hydra," Commander Skipwith, being in those waters, promptly rendered assistance, when the crew of the "*Tolerante*" abandoned her and she was secured without further trouble.

The Portuguese corvette "Iris" subsequently sent a party of men on board her and she was brought into this port on the 29th ultimo.

The "*Tolerante*" landed a cargo of slaves before the "Narceja" overhauled her; but her slave-deck, stauncheons, and leaguers were yet remaining on board together with irons and other slave equipments.

I am informed that the owner of the "*Tolerante*" threatens the customs' officers with his vengeance!

I shall have the honour at a future period to report to your Lordship the further proceedings which are had with regard to this notorious slave-ship, and whether the Imperial Government of Brazil will tamely submit to be browbeaten and suffer their customs laws to be violated, and their officers to be defied by a foreigner naturalized in Brazil.

I have the honour to inclose herewith the translation of an article which appeared in one of the leading and most respectable newpapers of this capital, which affords a gratifying proof that a part of the Brazilian newspaper press

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 54, p. 75.

is alive to and sensible of the danger and dishonour of such transactions as those in which the "*Tolerante*" was engaged.

I believe that a spirit exists amongst a large number of Brazilian gentlemen hostile to Slave Trade, and who are aware of the danger which threatens not only the political institutions, but the very existence of their country. They are beginning at last to perceive that the importers of slaves, who are mostly foreigners of the lowest origin and most obscure birth, are fattening upon the very life blood of Brazil—are advancing slaves to them at usurious rates of interest—foreclosing mortgages on debts so contracted, and are exhibiting at one and the same moment all the hideous features of the kidnapper, the extortioner, and the usurer.

I cannot, I deeply regret to say, hear of a single instance where a case of slave-trading has been properly punished by the Brazilian Government.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Extract from the "Correio Mercantil" of Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1849.

(Translation.)

THE morning papers of yesterday announced the arrival of the national brig "*Tolerante*," captured by the custom-house cutter "Narceja," in the Bay of Palmas, one of the points of disembarkation in Ilha Grande.

On seeking information regarding this fact, we received the following, together with some other data, which we beg now to refer to in order to expose the scandalous and criminal abuses therein revealed.

Ilha Grande is one of the points of the sea coast of Rio de Janeiro most frequently resorted to by vessels employed in all sorts of contraband trade, and in the Traffic in Slaves.

It was there that this brig was lying which to-day is called national, under the name of "*Tolerante*," and which but a short time ago was American, under the appellation of "*Flora*." She had already landed a portion of the Africans, and some merchandize, when she was discovered by the cutter "Narceja," which latter vessel, fearing resistance which they had not the means of overcoming, remained on the look-out, and sent and demanded assistance from the Portuguese corvette "Iris," which happened to be in sight. This assistance was promptly sent, and on approaching their destination, a rocket was fired into the air, which was answered by a corresponding signal from the brig, who accelerated her unloading, which consisted of armament, ammunition, and other goods, such as oil, wax, &c. On account of this, and there being found in her, when boarded, irons, a slave-deck, and other fittings for the transport of Africans, she was captured by the custom-house officers, and entered this port the day before yesterday, and is now to be tried.

The English steamer of war "Hydra," being in that neighbourhood, stood in to the bay, but perceiving that the brig was already captured, she withdrew.

In the same bay there was another vessel, said to be national, and if our memory does not fail us, called the "*Rosa*," who, seeing the cutter, immediately had recourse to the local authorities for the purpose of justifying her entrance there, under the plea of being driven in by stress of weather. It is said that this vessel was receiving in that port brandy and other products of the country.

It is painful to observe the shameful abuse which is made of the Brazilian flag, in order with safety to disembark Africans, even at a little distance from the Central Government and in the knowledge of the authorities, who either connive at or are indifferent to this proceeding.

This abuse is of long standing, but during the last two or three years the contraband trade carried on at different points of the coast of Rio de Janeiro, under pretext of having been driven into these places by stress of weather, has greatly attracted the attention of Government.

Many despatches have been addressed by the Minister of Finance to the President of this province, various circulars have been sent by him to the civil and police authorities of Ilha Grande, Manjaratiba, Cape Frio, Macahé, and other favourite and noted places, where these scandalous proceedings are carried on, recommending the execution of the instructions which regulate the definition of stress of weather, with regard to vessels; but all this has been in vain, for the crime is still apparent, and perhaps on a larger scale and with greater immorality.

We are not aware that the Central Government or even the President of the province have ever given such positive data, such public proof of the culpability, indifference, or negligence of their delegates, as has been presented by the capture of the "*Tolerante*," and the fact of the other vessel, which was found loaded in a place where no custom-house exists, in short, in the Bay of Palmas, in Ilha Grande.

We hope that the Minister of Finance, to whose political principles we are opposed, but in whose honour we confide, will have the necessary courage to render effective the execution of the laws for the suppression of abuses which disgrace the authorities of the country, and cause to the National Treasury a considerable defalcation in its revenues. The moment is terrible for a party Minister to take energetic measures against his police delegates; but we feel sure that his Excellency will, from his position and influence, command the necessary force to defy the protection which his dishonest subordinates may probably contrive to secure, as also any individual influence which they may possess.

Although it is a thing known and acknowledged by everybody, still, in proof of what we have above advanced,—that the Brazilian flag serves as a cloak to the contraband trade and the Traffic in Slaves,—we will cite two facts very recent which have come to our knowledge.

The journals of the 18th of last month announced the arrival of a national barque, come from Santos. This vessel, under the American flag and a different name, left this port in November of last year for the coast of Africa, with water-casks, provisions, and other necessary fittings for the Slave Trade. On the coast of Africa she received a cargo of 800 or 1000 slaves, landed them on one of the points of our coast, and from thence proceeded on to Santos, from whence she arrived but a short time ago, already nationalized, and with another name.

Another vessel, under a French flag, left this port in December of last year, with the same destination, the coast of Africa. She returned with a cargo of Africans, left them in Santos, and returned here under a fresh name, and under national colours.

Can these abuses be committed without the consent or participation of some of the authorities and fiscal officers?

No. 29.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 5).

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, August* 13, 1849.

I HAVE great satisfaction in transmitting to your Lordship the inclosed correspondence, relating to the capture of the slave-vessel "*Fidalga*" by Commander Skipwith, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," and the prevention by the same officer of an attempt on the part of the notorious slave-steamer "*Providencia*" (now called "*Paquete de Santos*"), to leave the port of Santos, bound to the coast of Africa fully equipped for Slave Trade.

This is the third occasion since last March that Commander Skipwith has by his unremitting vigilance, zeal, and activity, prevented the voyages of the slaver "*Providencia*" to the coast of Africa.

When we consider the immense impulse given to Slave Trade by steam-vessels being employed in it, the difficulty of watching their movements as compared with sailing-vessels, the capital they represent in machinery, the expedition of their voyages, and their superior facilities in running into port on their return to Brazil with slaves, whilst the sailing slavers are forced to wait the morning breeze from seaward if they arrive off this coast at night; that the

"*Providencia*" steamer during the course of last year landed 3000 slaves in Brazil from Africa; that the constant watchfulness of Commander Skipwith has kept that vessel unemployed during five months at very heavy charges to her owners; that she has been forced to transship her cargo to different points on this coast upon three several occasions, and upon each occasion also at a heavy loss to them; I am convinced your Lordship will appreciate the service which Commander Skipwith and the officers and men of Her Majesty's ship "Hydra" have been so fortunate as to render to the cause of humanity.

I have further the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a memorandum which I have addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the proceedings of the Brazilian authorities at Santos with regard to the "*Providencia*" and other slavers fitting out at that port.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 29.

Commander Skipwith to Commodore Sir T. Herbert.

Sir, "*Hydra*," *Santos, July* 17, 1849.

HAVING received information at Rio de Janeiro, that the notorious slave-steamer "*Providencia*," and a brigantine called the "*Fidalga*," were to leave Santos fully equipped for the Slave Trade the former, on Sunday the 15th instant, and the latter on Saturday the 14th instant; I proceeded in Her Majesty's steam-sloop under my command on the evening of the 12th, in order to intercept both vessels, if possible.

At daybreak on the 14th, being abreast of the Islands of Alcatrasses, a vessel was observed to the southward; I bore up for her and discovered her to be a brigantine. At 8.30 A.M. I ran alongside and boarded her; she proved to be the Brazilian brigantine "*Fidalga*," of 352 tons, and a crew of 25 men besides the captain and pilot, 14 of whom were styled passengers and had passports signed by the Chilian Consul at Santos. I found her fully equipped for the Slave Trade, having a slave-deck laid, a large quantity of leaguers filled with water, also farinha, tubs, baskets of wooden spoons, and flints for muskets and pistols.

She cleared from Santos for Tampico in Mexico, but I could not find her manifest.

I took possession of the vessel, and sent an officer and ten men to take her to St. Helena for adjudication after having removed the pilot and 24 men to the "Hydra." I have since found out that she left this with arms and slave-irons which they must have thrown overboard before we boarded her.

I then proceeded to the Island of Queimada Grande, about thirty-two miles south-west of Santos, off which island I arrived at 8 P.M. of the same evening, and steamed up to within eight miles of the entrance of the Santos River; but not seeing anything of the "*Providencia*," I returned to the Island of Queimada Grande, and remained there; hove-to until the morning of the 17th, when the weather having become very thick, with rain and the wind blowing fresh from the south-west, I steered towards the entrance of the Santos River in order to land the crew of the "*Fidalga*," and to ascertain whether the "*Providencia*" had left Santos.

The weather cleared at 12·30 P.M., and I observed a steamer standing out of the river; immediately she caught sight of the "Hydra," she bore up, and ran back again under the land. On entering the river I observed her at anchor under the fort with a man at the royal-mast head looking out to seaward. I ran alongside and anchored close to her; she proved to be the "*Providencia*," very deeply laden with a quantity of leaguers lashed on deck, and a very numerous crew. When I anchored, she immediately slipped her cable and proceeded up the river. I weighed, followed her, and anchored the "Hydra" close alongside of her off the town of Santos, where it is my intention to remain until the arrival of the "Rifleman" (which vessel I have ordered to join me here), should the "*Providencia*" not discharge her cargo and return to Rio in the meantime, in which case I shall follow her.

Her Majesty's Consul at this place has informed me that she is fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and left Santos for the purpose of proceeding direct to the coast of Africa. Her original intention was to have gone to the south-west after leaving Santos, so as to pass between the Island of Queimada Grande and Queimada Redonda, but the wind being strong from the south-west, she was steaming to the north-east when I first saw her, so that I feel perfectly certain, from the state of the weather and the direction of the wind, she would have escaped me and been enabled to proceed to the coast of Africa, had I remained off Queimada Grande.

I beg leave to state that this is the third time since March last that I have been enabled to prevent the "*Providencia*" proceeding on her illegal voyage.

Considering the advantages which the Brazilian authorities afford her, and also the assistance given her by the several coasting-steamers in transferring her cargo and fittings to the different ports on this coast, which they have done three times, I feel satisfaction in having gained my object so far as to prevent her leaving this coast, and also to have been the cause of putting the owners to very great expense and trouble in shifting her fittings from one port to another, as well as keeping the vessel unemployed for such a long period with 30 men on board. I am told she is in a very leaky state, and since being here I have observed her pumps continually at work, so that I trust she will never be enabled to proceed to the coast of Africa.

I inclose a copy of the report of Lieutenant Craufurd, who boarded the "*Fidalga*," and have transmitted copies to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro and also to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY SKIPWITH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 29.

Lieutenant Craufurd to Commander Skipwith.

Sir, "*Fidalga*," *off Island of Alcatrasses, July* 14, 1849.

IN pursuance of your order I have boarded this vessel and find her to be the "*Fidalga*," brigantine, of 352 tons burthen, with a crew of 27 men including the master and mate (or pilot).

On examining her papers, the master could produce no manifest of her cargo. I therefore have examined her hold and find a slave-deck laid right fore and aft the vessel, and a great number of leaguers full of water, which satisfies me she is bound for the coast of Africa fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

I have therefore taken possession of her, and await your further instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. A. B. CRAUFURD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 29.

Commander Skipwith to Vice-Consul Whitaker.

Sir, "*Hydra*," *Santos, July* 19, 1849.

I BEG leave to state to you that the "*Paquete de Santos*" (late the notorious slave-steamer "*Providencia*") left Rio de Janeiro on the 6th instant, having cleared out at that port for Santos as a packet. After she had sailed I received information of her being about to fit out at Santos for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade; that her fittings and cargo would be conveyed there by the coasting steamers "Ypiranga," "Carioca," "Carlotta," and "Paranapitanga," and that she might be expected to leave Santos about the 15th instant. I was informed at the same time that a brigantine named the "*Fidalga*" would sail from Santos for the coast of Africa on the 14th. I accordingly put to sea on the 12th, in order to intercept both vessels, if possible. On the morning of the

14th I took the brigantine "*Fidalga*," and sent her to St. Helena for adjudication.

I remained outside until the morning of the 17th, when the weather becoming thick, with a strong S.W. wind, I stood for the entrance of the Santos River.

At 45m. P.M. I observed a steamer standing out; she altered her course and ran back on seeing the "Hydra." I followed her, and on rounding the point, saw her at anchor under the fort, at the entrance, with a man at the fore-top-gallant mast-head, looking out to seaward. I anchored alongside her; she was very deeply laden, and had water leaguers lashed on deck; the deck was very much crowded with various things, bullocks, sheep, &c., and evidently fitted for a voyage with a large crew.

On my anchoring she slipped her cable and steamed up the river, evidently thinking that I intended to seize her. I afterwards followed her and anchored off this town.

This is the third time since March last that I have prevented this notorious slaver from proceeding on her illegal voyage to the coast of Africa; the first time in the beginning of March, the next in May, and on the present occasion.

On the 22nd June last, she left Rio de Janeiro for Santos, having changed her name to "*Paquete de Santos.*" I at the same time received information that her fittings and cargo for slave-trading were at Mangaratiba, and I proceeded to Palmas Bay in order to watch her. She having found out that the "Hydra" was near that place, returned to Rio de Janeiro.

On my return to Rio de Janeiro, I was informed that the fittings, &c., had again been removed to a house belonging to Senhor Netto, close to Mangaratiba, and opposite to the Island of Garaïba, but after coaling and preparing the "Hydra" for sea, they were again removed to Santos by the coasting steamers, and her coals in the "Minho," a Brazilian brig.

I have therefore to request you will represent to the authorities at this place, the whole of the foregoing particulars, and ask their interference in this case, as I have every reason to believe that this vessel, now lying in Santos harbour, is fully equipped for slave-trading.

Two vessels, the "*Fidalga*" and "*Providencia*," or "*Paquete de Santos*," have been permitted to leave Santos equipped for Slave Trade within three days of each other, having fitted out under the eyes of the custom-house authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY SKIPWITH.

Inclosure 4 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Whitaker to Commander Skipwith.

Sir, *Santos, July* 21, 1849.

I BEG to inform you that your communication dated the 19th instant was delivered to me yesterday, and in accordance with your request, I placed the same, enveloped in an official letter of my own, before the Subdelegado of Police, who proceeded on board the "*Paquete de Santos*" with his clerk and a military escort, for the purpose of investigating the facts set forth in the same.

My opinion remains unaltered as to the measures adopted by the Brazilian authorities, who will not only prove everything found on board to be perfectly innocent, but the accusations to be calumnious.

I await the issue which shall be placed before you in due course.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. WHITAKER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Whitaker to the Inspector of the Custom-House at Santos.

(Translation.) *Santos, July* 21, 1849.

WILLIAM WHITAKER, British Vice-Consul, says that the good of the public service requires that the competent clerk should forward to him a certified copy of the manifest of the Brazilian vessel "*Paquete de Santos,*" with which she cleared out on her leaving this port on the 17th instant, declaring the number of her passengers, crew, and destination.

(Signed) WM. WHITAKER.

Order of Inspector of Customs:

"Let it be sent."

Inclosure 6 in No. 29.

Manifest of Brazilian steamer "Paquete de Santos."

(Translation.)

I, JOZE ANTONIO DA SILVA VIVEIRAS, &c., Scrivener of the Export Office of this city of Santos, certify that the manifest required is to the following effect:—

Manifest of the cargo shipped in this port for Rio de Janeiro on board the national steamer "*Paquete de Santos,*" Antonio da Silva Araujo, master, and owned by Francisco Gonçalves Lages; viz.—

Exportation of national produce.

Marks.

S. M. C. Manoel Joaquim Ferreira Netto & Co., 73 sacks, containing 146 alguiers of beans.

" 166 sacks, containing 442 alguiers of farinha.

" 69 sacks, containing 138 alguiers of rice.

" 33 bundles and 5 baskets, containing 100 arrobas of jerked beef; all consigned to order.

Foreign merchandize re-exported.

50 packages of foreign merchandize and other articles, as appears by despatch at foot, to be delivered to Amaral and Bastos.

(Signed) ANTONIO DA SILVA ARAUJO.

Conferred by a despatch for re-exportation of Brazilian produce, and one for foreign merchandize.

Custom-house, Santos, July 16, 1849.

(Signed) COSTA.

Despatch.

Santos, July 14, 1849.

Dispatched by Francisco da Andrade Villares for Rio de Janeiro, in the

steamer "*Paquete de Santos,*" the following foreign merchandize (already dispatched for consumption) consigned to Messrs. Amaral and Bastos; viz.—

3 barrels of wine.
5 „ „ vinegar.
3 „ „ salt beef.
1 tub of codfish.
3 barrels of farinha.
1 bag of pepper.
2 cases of macaroni.
1 keg of sausages.
2 jars of hollands.
2 kegs of olives.
1 firkin of butter.
1 case of raisins.
1 barrel of almonds.
1 „ „ peas.
1 „ „ sweet oil.
20 lbs. of Spanish soap.
2 bottles of herbs.
2 bags of walnuts.
1 bag of almonds.
1 basket of hams.
1 barrel of salt beef.
1 „ „ sweet oil.
1 tub of codfish.
3 cases of macaroni.
2 barrels of biscuit.
2 bags of rice.
140 tin plates.
24 tin mugs.
6 large ditto.
2 ladles, and 1 large fork.
2 boilers.
36 pieces of iron.
10 ditto.
3 canisters of snuff.
1 package of baize.
10 small tin plates.
1 barrel of gunpowder.
1 canister of ditto.
1 bundle of fireworks.
1 barrel of hemp fuses.
1 parcel of signal lights.
20 empty casks.
1 filtering machine.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE ANDRADE VILLARES.

Conferred. (Signed) BUENO.

Confer, and allow the above to be shipped.—Santos, July 14, 1849.
(Signed) JOAO BAPTISTA LIMA, *Custom-house Officer.*

Received, (Signed) VILLARES, master.

Dispatched, and signed by me, the Scrivener of the Export Office.
(Signed) JOZE ANTONIO DA SILVA VIVEIRAS COSTA.
JOZE BAPTISTA DA SILVA BUENO.

And that by the respective maritime dispatch, it appears that the number of the vessel's crew is seventeen persons, besides the said master; and that her destination is the port of Rio de Janeiro.

Custom-house, Santos, July 21, 1849.
(Signed) JOZE ANTONIO DA SILVA VIVEIRAS COSTA.

Inclosure 7 in No. 29.

The Sub-delegate of Police to Vice-Consul Whitaker.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Santos, July* 23, 1849.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt on the 21st instant of the official letter which you addressed to me dated the 20th instant, accompanied by an inclosure from the commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer of war "Hydra," in which that officer denounces the steamer "*Paquete de Santos*" as suspected of being employed in the illicit Traffic of Africans, and for having on board things which prove her crime, and by other circumstances related by him.

In reply I have to inform you that I immediately ordered the said vessel to be detained, and I ordered the competent process to be commenced, in which I shall proceed in conformity with the laws of the country.

At the proper time I will communicate to you the result of all my labours, and I take this occasion of thanking the Commander Grey Skipwith for the offer which he has made to this office, of which I shall avail myself if necessary.

God preserve you.
(Signed) JOSE JUSTINIANO BITANCOURT.

Inclosure 8 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Whitaker to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Santos, July* 23, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on my return from Rio de Janeiro on the 17th instant, I passed the notorious slaver "*Providencia,*" otherwise "*Paquete de Santos,*" at the moment she was weighing anchor to proceed to sea, having on board the necessary objects for a return cargo of slaves from the coast of Africa, which had been conveyed from Mangaratiba in the steamer "*Paranapitanga,*" which came into this harbour without any manifest, but with a full cargo, which was transshipped on her arrival to the above slaver under the cognizance of the custom-house, reported to consist of two guns (now concealed under her coal), a machine for filtering water, several packages of fire-arms, powder, shot, slave-deck, provisions, water-casks, and other illegal things proper for a slaving voyage, besides 90 tons of coal brought from Rio in the Brazilian vessel "Minho" (in addition to the quantity she had on board), with which she proceeded to sea, but on arrival in the outer roads discovered at a distance Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," when she instantly turned and succeeded in reaching the fort before the "Hydra" could reach her, and they arrived together opposite to this town, where they are now at anchor. On the 18th instant, in the morning, the agent, M. I. F. Netto & Co., studiously spread a report that it was his intention to discharge everything from the slaver, and in order to gain greater credence, actually took out a permit for that purpose, in which he was allowed to discharge into a private store all or any part of the slaver's cargo, which would have enabled him to conceal any illegal object he has on board without leaving the least trace of his guilt recorded on the books of the custom-house, which alone is sufficient to show the necessity of the Executive Government instituting an investigation into the conduct of the officers of the custom-house, who happen to be always asleep when anything of this nature is going on. No attempt to discharge any part of her cargo having been made on the 18th up to 12 o'clock, I began to suspect something was working underhand, and having persons on the look-out, I discovered that the steamer "*Paquete de Santos*" intended to escape the vigilance of the "Hydra," by forcing her passage through the Bertioga River, which I instantly communicated to Captain Skipwith, who then communicated to me all the circumstances connected with the said vessel from the month of March up to the present day, and requesting I would place the same before the authorities, which I did on the 21st, in the morning, addressing my communication to the Subdelegado of Police, who immediately sent a military escort on board, and followed with his clerk a few hours afterwards with a firm declaration, as I have since been informed, of making a *pro formâ* investigation, which will declare every object he finds on board to be perfectly innocent, and Captain Skipwith's information calumnious.

In due course I shall have the honour of transmitting to you the result of this affair.

I inclose for your perusal a copy of the manifest of the "*Paquete de Santos,*" certified, which, having been obtained by me previous to the investigation made by the Subdelegado, was intended to be of some avail in the event of any person being present from this office or from the "Hydra," which I had insinuated in my note, as you will perceive by his (the Subdelegado's) answer to me, dated this morning, of which I also inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. WHITAKER.

Inclosure 9 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Whitaker to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Santos, August* 7, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a letter received from the Subdelegado of this town relative to the notorious slaver "*Paquete de Santos,*" referred to

in my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, by which you will observe my predictions have been verified and the *pro formâ* criminal process terminated in a conviction of a total absence of the least indications of that vessel being destined for the illegal Traffic in Slaves.

It is unnecessary to dwell on the novelty of shipping on freight to Rio de Janeiro, jerked beef, leaguers, slave-deck, irons, and coals, or the singularity of a machine being required to convert sea-water into fresh, for a voyage from Santos to Rio Janeiro; such objects, however, are perfectly legal in the eyes of our local authorities at Santos, who neither respect our Treaty nor their own municipal law.

Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman" is yet in this harbour watching the movements of the "*Paquete de Santos*" and other vessels that are openly fitting out for Slave Trade. The former has already discharged her cargo and it is reported will proceed to Rio Janeiro in ballast, but I have good reasons to believe that her illegal objects are re-shipping on board a sailing-vessel which is to proceed with them to the coast of Africa, where the "*Paquete de Santos*" is to meet her to return with slaves for this coast.

Should you deem it fit to ascertain the degree of protection afforded by the Executive Government to the slave-dealers, a better case could not be selected than the one in question.

The weight of evidence contained in Captain Skipwith's despatch which served as a basis to the process, the notoriety of the criminality of vessel and cargo, her being taken *in flagrante* with the illicit objects on board, produce a moral conviction of guilt which neither the Subdelegado or Juiz Municipal would have dared to overlook or acquit the delinquents if they were not convinced that by so doing they would be maintained in office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. WHITAKER.

Inclosure 10 in No. 29.

The Sub-delegate of Police to Vice-Consul Whitaker.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Santos, July* 31, 1849.

IN the despatch which I had the honour to address to you on the 23rd instant, I announced to you that I had instituted a criminal process against the captain and crew of the steam-vessel "*Paquete de Santos,*" in consequence of her being denounced by the commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer of war "Hydra." In furtherance, therefore, of this duty which by the said despatch I had imposed upon myself, I have now to communicate to you that having employed all the measures required by the legislation of the country, in order to discover whether the said steamer was really destined for the illicit Traffic in Africans, it was not possible to discover even the slightest indication of her being bound on this criminal destination, and this not only from the examination made on board of her here by the Judge of this Subdelegacy, but also from the investigation made at, and other documents belonging to the said process; in consequence, therefore, of there being no grounds for continuing this denouncement, I deemed the process which I had instituted groundless, and absolved the captain and crew; and this despatch has been approved of by the Municipal Judge.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSE JUSTINIANO BITANCOURT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 29.

Memorandum respecting the "Providencia."

Rio Janeiro, August 10, 1849.

IN the month of March of this year the Brazilian steamer "*Providencia*" fitted for Slave Trade in the port of Rio de Janeiro.

The commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Hydra," then lying in that port, kept a watch upon the "*Providencia*," in order to prevent her putting her illegal voyage into execution.

Between the months of last March and May the owners of the "*Providencia*" made several attempts to send her to the coast of Africa for a cargo of slaves, which attempts were frustrated by the vigilance of Her Majesty's officers.

At the commencement of the month of last June the owners of the "*Providencia*" determined to send her slave equipment and cargo for Slave Trade to the port of Mangaratiba, whence she was to equip, and whence she was to start for the coast of Africa.

The Commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," on the 22nd of June, overhauled the "*Providencia*," as she was proceeding to Mangaratiba for the above purpose, and she was forced to abandon her intention.

Her owners then sent her cargo and slave equipment from Mangaratiba to Santos in the "Paranapitanga" steamer, which entered Santos with a full cargo, but without a manifest. The "*Providencia*" then loaded and proceeded to sea, fully equipped for Slave Trade, on the morning of the 15th of July, but meeting Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra" at the mouth of the Santos River, she returned to Santos, and upon Commander Skipwith's representation, she was seized by the Brazilian authorities at that port.

A delay of forty-eight hours in taking that possession was granted to the "*Providencia*" by those authorities, and consequently the water-casks, slave-decks, slave-irons, jerked beef, farinha, beans, and other articles which proved her illegal intention, were landed under cover of night; and when she was subsequently visited by the authorities of Santos, they were enabled to declare, as they did declare, that she had nothing on board which could justify any suspicion that she was engaged in a voyage for the Slave Trade.

The persons chosen to inspect the "*Providencia*" were the Patrãomor, a man notoriously hostile to British interests, and a Portuguese, a known friend to the slave-dealers.

It is notorious that the "*Providencia*" (now called "*Paquete de Santos*") landed at Brazil during the last year upwards of 3000 slaves from Africa; it is equally notorious that since the month of last March she has been three times fitted for Slave Trade, and that her owners are about to dispatch her cargo and fittings for Slave Trade to the coast of Africa by a sailing-ship, and afterwards to send her there empty, there to receive her cargo of slaves.

There are at present 4 slave-vessels engaged at Santos in fitting out for Slave Trade; no interruption whatever is offered to their open and audacious violation of Brazilian law; on the contrary, they receive every assistance and protection from the public authorities of Brazil at that port.

No. 30.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, August* 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul for Bahia respecting the loss of the slave-vessel "*Segredo*."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 30.

Consul Porter to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Bahia, July* 14, 1849.

I HAVE to inform you that on the 25th ultimo the slave-schooner "*Segredo*" was wrecked on the coast about twenty miles to the south of this port, having on board 376 slaves, the greater portion of whom are stated to have perished, together with the master of the vessel and several of the crew and passengers.

Her Majesty's ships "Tweed" and "Griffon" were in chase of her until half-past 7 o'clock P.M., when, being in great danger from the proximity to the land, they were obliged to stand out to sea, and the said schooner ran on shore.

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

No. 31.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 20, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of August last, reporting that the Brazilian slave-vessel "*Fidalga*" had been captured by Her Majesty's ship "Hydra," Commander Skipwith, for being equipped for Slave Trade, and that the steamer "*Providencia,*" alias "*Paquete de Santos,*" which had set sail from Santos for the coast equipped for Slave Trade, had been compelled to return to that port, owing to the vigilance of the above-mentioned officer.

I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that Her Majesty's Government are much gratified at the successful result of the zeal and activity displayed by Commander Skipwith; and that I approve of your conduct in having communicated to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs a memorandum (of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch) detailing the proceeding of the slave-steamer "*Providencia,*" alias "*Paquete de Santos,*" from the month of March last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 32.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 6, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th of July past, reporting that Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Rifleman," Commander Crofton, had saved 127 Africans from the wreck of a slave-ship, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 4th instant I caused the survivors of those Africans (with the exception of 2 who were too ill to be moved) to be sent to Demerara in the hired transport "Challenger."

Besides these Africans saved by Commander Crofton, I also sent to Demerara, in the "Challenger" (and in obedience to the instructions which I have had the honour to receive from your Lordship of the 23rd September*, 1847), the 7 blind Africans, who have been for so long a period on board Her Majesty's receiving-ship "Crescent."

One of these blind Africans, a woman, is married to one of the African attendants, and as he had served his time and expressed a strong desire to accompany his wife, he was discharged from the "Crescent," and has proceeded to Demerara in the "Challenger."

* See Class B., presented 1848, No. 208, page 212.

Your Lordship will perceive from the inclosed return, that there are now but 2 Africans on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent."

I have the honour to inclose the copy of a letter which I addressed to the emigration agent upon the subject of sending the blind Africans to Demerara; and the copy of a letter and of its inclosure which I have received from the emigration agent, detailing the measures which he adopted in forwarding all these Africans to Demerara.

Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," Commander Skipwith, towed the "Challenger" clear of the land.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

RETURN showing the number of LIBERATED AFRICANS received from Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman," died on board, sent to Demerara, and remaining on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent," Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1849.

	Received from H.M.S. "Rifleman."	Died on board the "Crescent."	Sent to Demerara.	Remain.	Totals.
Males	60	9	50	1	60
Females	63	8	64	1	63
Totals	123	17	104	2	123

(Signed) G. L. BRADLEY, *Master Commanding.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Mr. Hudson to Mr. Hesketh (Emigration Agent).

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 1, 1849.

THE Government of the Queen having determined to send to Demerara the negroes now on board Her Majesty's receiving-ship "Crescent," who were captured by Her Majesty's cruizers, and who are incapacitated by blindness from earning their livelihood, I have to suggest to you that they should accompany the other liberated Africans who are about to proceed to Demerara in the transport "Challenger."

I have further to state to you that it appears from the instructions which I have had the honour to receive from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that Her Majesty's Government have determined to place the blind Africans in question under the care of the Collector of Customs at Demerara.

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

Inclosure 3 in No. 32.

Mr. Hesketh to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed for your information, a copy of my despatch to his Excellency the Governor of Demerara, in reference to the liberated Africans sent by the transport "Challenger" to that colony. The inclosures being voluminous I have reserved copies till I receive your wishes regarding them.

The "Challenger" was towed out of this harbour yesterday morning by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," Captain Skipwith.

There are still left on board the receiving-ship "Crescent" 2 of the Africans sent by Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman," the medical officer having reported them in too precarious a state to be moved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH.

No. 33.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 25.)

(Extract.) *Rio de Janeiro, September* 6, 1849.

I RECEIVED information that the "*Serpente*" slave-steamer had been chartered by the slave-dealers in this place to follow the "Challenger" and take the Africans out of her. Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," which accompanies the "Challenger" till clear of the land, will see that nothing of the kind occurs.

No. 34.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 6, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch * of the 24th March last, communicating the suspicions which were entertained that the French barque "*Princesse Francisca*" was engaged in assisting Slave Trade, and reporting that she had cleared out at Monte Video on the 22nd of last February for Batavia, with a cargo evidently intended for Slave Trade; I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that the "*Princesse Francisca*" entered this port on the 7th July, reporting from Loango, in ballast, and with forty-eight passengers, most of whom are known to be concerned in Slave Trade.

I transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul for this province, and a copy also of a letter which I have addressed upon this subject to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video.

I have placed in the hands of the Chargé d'Affaires of France at this Court the letter from Mr. Acting Consul Westwood, and I have transmitted a memorandum upon the subject to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which memorandum I herewith inclose.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, August* 14, 1849.

IN my despatch of the 8th January last I informed you that the French barque "*Princesse Francisca*" had been chartered by a notorious slave-dealer to convey the cargo then on board the American brig "*Flora*," to the coast of Africa, touching at Monte Video, to avoid the export duty on goods shipped in this port for Africa. And I have now the honour to state that the "*Princesse Francisca*" returned to this port on the 7th ultimo, reporting from Loango, in ballast.

This vessel brought over from Africa no less than forty-eight passengers, mostly sea-faring persons concerned with slave-trading purposes.

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

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* See No. 19.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Mr. Hudson to Captain Gore.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, August* 24, 1849.

WITH reference to your letter of the 28th of February last, upon the subject of the French barque "*Princesse Francisca,*" then suspected of being employed in Slave Trade, I have now the honour to transmit herewith to you the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul for this place, from which you will perceive that the suspicions which existed against the "*Princesse Francisca*" have been entirely confirmed, and that her clearance from Monte Video for Batavia was a gross fraud practised upon the credulity of your French colleague.

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

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

Memorandum.

Rio de Janeiro, August 20, 1849.

IN the month of January last, the notorious slave-trader Manoel Pinto da Fonseca chartered the French barque "*La Princesse Francisca,*" to convey to the coast of Africa the cargoes of the slave-vessels "*Flora*" and "*Zenobia.*"

The "*Princesse Francisca*" in order to evade the Brazilian customs duties on goods exported to the coast of Africa, cleared out for Monte Video, where she arrived on the 3rd of February. She then cleared out for Batavia in Java, on the 23rd of that month.

The cargo of the "*Princesse Francisca,*" as detailed in her manifest was evidently intended for Slave Trade, and was totally unsuited for the Batavian market.

Nevertheless, this vessel entered the port of Rio Janeiro on the 7th instant, in ballast, from Loango in Africa, and with 48 passengers, mostly seafaring persons connected with the Slave Trade.

The Imperial Government will perceive that this is another and glaring instance of the flagrant abuse of Brazilian law by slave-dealers and foreigners.

No. 35.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 29, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch dated the 5th ultimo which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, reporting that several gangs of Africans had recently been imported from the Province of Bahia into Pernambuco, where they had been sold as slaves; and that the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" having arrived at Pernambuco on the 29th of August, with between 40 and 50 slaves, the fact was denounced to the inspector of the custom-house, who immediately proceeded on board and rescued 23 of their number; and Her Majesty's Consul adds that the President of the province had ordered the immediate prosecution of the offenders.

I have to desire that you will urge the Brazilian Government to press on this prosecution to a proper issue, and to give due support to the Governor of Pernambuco in his laudable endeavour to vindicate both the laws of his country, and the Treaty between the Crowns of Great Britain and Brazil against Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 35.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston, September 5, 1849.

[See No. 82.]

No. 36.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, reporting the seizure by the authorities of that city, of some Africans who had been imported into that province from Bahia for sale, and stating that the President of Pernambuco had given orders that the importers should be prosecuted according to law.

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

Inclosure in No. 36.

Consul Cowper to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Pernambuco, September* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that within the last few weeks, bodies of Africans have been illegally imported into this province from that of Bahia, and sold as slaves.

On the 29th ultimo, the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" arrived here, having between 40 and 50 unfortunates on board, the fact was discovered to the inspector of the custom-house, who immediately sent on board and succeeded in seizing 23, the remainder having been already sold.

The President has ordered the immediate prosecution of the offenders, whoever they may be, and should it be *bonâ fide* carried out, it must produce the best results, and throw additional lustre upon the unexceptionable Government of Senhor Honorio.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 37.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 10, 1849.

I HAD the honour in a despatch of the general series, dated 15th August, to transmit to your Lordship a complaint on the part of the Government of Brazil, that ships of war of the Queen had disregarded the regulations of this port by leaving it at night, without giving due notice to the proper public authorities; and I have now the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a despatch which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul for Bahia, from which you will perceive the system which has been adopted by the slave-dealers at that port, of leaving it at night, contrary to the Imperial regulations, but evidently with the cognizance of the Imperial authorities.

I have the honour also to inclose copies of letters which in consequence of receiving this communication from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, I deemed

it right to address to the Brazilian Government, to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on this station, and to Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Consul Porter to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Bahia, September* 15, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that a new system has been adopted here by slave-dealers in order to guard against the capture of their vessels by Her Majesty's cruizers at anchor in this port.

A small steamer is used for the purpose of towing their vessels out to sea during a calm and dark night, which prevents the possibility of their capture by a sailing-vessel; although the port regulations prohibit the departure of ships after sunset, the authorities shut their eyes at this glaring violation of the law.

It gives me pleasure to state that upwards of 20 newly-imported negroes clandestinely sent from this to Pernambuco, in consequence of not meeting with a ready sale here, were seized on their arrival at that city by order of the Government.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Mr. Hudson to Commodore Sir T. Herbert.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 23, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to you herewith, the copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, relative to the mode in which the slave-dealers evade the action of the vessels ordered by you to cruize against Slave Trade at that port.

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

Inclosure 3 in No. 37.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Olinda.

Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 23, 1849.

HAVING had the honour to receive from your Excellency on the 21st of July last, a note representing that the regulations of the ports of this empire imperatively forbid vessels to leave those ports during the night, without due notice being given to, and permission accorded by, the Imperial authorities, I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the Consul of the Queen at Bahia reports to me that the slave-dealers at Bahia are in the habit of sending their vessels, fitted for Slave Trade, to sea during the night, without any interruption being offered by the Imperial authorities to this breach of the regulations of that port.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 37.

Mr. Hudson to Consul Porter.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September* 24, 1849.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 15th instant, upon the subject of the violation by the owners of slave-vessels of the regulations of the port of Bahia.

I have transmitted a copy of that despatch to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on this station, and have also stated the fact to the Brazilian Government,

You will therefore be pleased to report to me whether any steps are taken by the authorities of Bahia to put a stop to this flagrant violation of their port regulations and of their public law by the slave-dealers.

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

No. 38.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copies of a correspondence which has taken place between the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs and myself, upon the subject of the overhauling of some Brazilian vessels, suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade, by Her Majesty's cruizers off the port of Bahia.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Viscount Olinda to Mr. Hudson.

(Translation.) *Rio de Janeiro, September* 3, 1849.

THE Undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs, &c., received lately communications from the President of the Province of Bahia, referring to acts of a most serious nature, committed by English vessels of war in the territorial waters of the empire. Several national vessels have been detained and visited, and their papers examined by the officers of those vessels of war, who boarded them in armed boats, not only near the coast but at the entrance of and even within the harbour of the capital of that province. This occurred on the 14th of July, at 8 o'clock in the evening, to the schooner "*Fausto*," which had sailed from the port of Rio de Janeiro; and on the 19th of the same month to two sumacas which had sailed from the River San Francisco, the "*Diligencia*" and the "*Santa Cruz*," the latter having been enabled to elude the chase made upon her already at the entrance of the harbour, by running up to the anchorage. It is clear, and the Undersigned will not take the trouble of demonstrating it, that these facts comprehend a most outrageous violation of those principles by which civilized nations now regulate their international relations; these facts not only establish the right of visit, which cannot be admitted except when expressly recognized in treaties, but they wound the national sovereignty, by being exercised within the territorial waters, close in shore, and even in the mouths of the Brazilian harbours; all which is aggravated by this conduct being carried on at night.

The Undersigned has therefore the honour to address himself to Mr. Hudson, &c., in order that he may so interfere as to prevent the recurrence of

these acts by British vessels of war; assuring him that the Imperial Government cannot be indifferent to offences which so openly arrogate to themselves the rights of the Imperial Crown.

The Undersigned renews, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT OLINDA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Olinda.

Rio de Janeiro, September 10, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive on the 5th instant, the note which Viscount Olinda, &c., has addressed to him of the 3rd instant, representing that the President of Bahia had reported to the Imperial Government, that several Brazilian vessels had been detained and visited and their papers examined by the officers of a ship of war of the Queen; and complaining that this conduct on the part of Her Majesty's officers is a violation of those rules which now-a-days govern States in their international relations; and observing that these acts not only establish the right of visit, which cannot be admitted, except when expressly recognized by treaty, but wound the national sovereignty, by being exercised within the territorial waters—close in shore—and even in the mouths of the Brazilian harbours; and that the whole is aggravated by this conduct being carried on at night.

Viscount Olinda concludes by desiring the Undersigned to interfere in order that these acts may not be repeated by Her Majesty's officers; and his Excellency assures the Undersigned that the Imperial Government cannot be indifferent to offences which so openly arrogate to themselves the rights of the Imperial Crown.

The Undersigned, in reply, has the honour to assure Viscount Olinda that the acts of which his Excellency complains are not committed in a sense calculated either to damage the lawful interests of Brazilian subjects or to affect the rights and dignity of the Brazilian Crown, and on the part of Her Majesty's servants in this country, he disavows any such intention.

But it must be perfectly well known to the President of Bahia, that the acts of which Viscount Olinda has complained to the Undersigned, are directed against a Traffic which Brazil has bound herself in conjunction with Great Britain by treaty to suppress, and which by that solemn, sacred, and perpetual engagement, she declared should be deemed and treated as piracy.

The Undersigned, therefore, is entirely at a loss to understand the object of the note which Viscount Olinda has done him the honour to address to him, unless it be that his Excellency should receive from the Undersigned a declaration that the acts practised by the officers of the Queen at Bahia, in visiting vessels suspected of Slave Trade, are directed not against the lawful interests of Brazilian subjects, or the rights of the Brazilian Crown, but are in strict accordance with the spirit of that Treaty which subsists between the Crowns of Great Britain and Brazil, and which binds the two countries to use their best efforts to extinguish the Slave Trade.

The acts in question are directed against the Slave Trade, and as the Undersigned has had the satisfaction, upon many occasions, to receive from the Viscount Olinda assurances which have of late been reiterated, that the Imperial Government desire nothing so much as to put down that Trade, the Undersigned is of opinion that a better occasion cannot present itself to the Imperial Government to put those intentions into execution, than by ordering the Imperial officers at Bahia to join their efforts to those of the officers of the Queen, in aiding to repress a Traffic which Viscount Olinda has invariably condemned, and which his Excellency knows sacrifices the true interests of his countrymen to enrich a gang of outcast foreigners, men-stealers, and smugglers.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38.

Viscount Olinda to Mr. Hudson.

(Translation.) *Rio de Janeiro, October* 3, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note, dated September 10, which, in answer to his of the 3rd of last month, Mr. Hudson, &c., addressed to him, respecting certain national vessels having been detained and visited and their papers examined by officers of British vessels of war, not only on the coast, but entering and even already within the bar of the capital of the Province of Bahia.

Mr. Hudson assures the Undersigned that the acts of which he complained were not committed with the intention of injuring Brazilian subjects, or to offend the rights and dignity of the Imperial Crown, but that they were directed against the Traffic in Slaves, in virtue of the agreements between the two countries for the suppression of the Traffic; and he says that, being unable to discover the meaning of the note of the Undersigned, he can only understand it as calling for a declaration from Mr. Hudson, that the acts practised by those officers of British ships of war are not directed against those objects, but rather are in strict conformity with the spirit of the Treaty between the two Crowns, to extinguish the Slave Trade; and Mr. Hudson concludes by saying that no better opportunity could offer itself to the Imperial Government to manifest its intentions, than to order the authorities of Bahia to unite their efforts to those of the officers of the Queen, mutually to aid in repressing the said Traffic.

The Undersigned has to observe to Mr. Hudson, that all the stipulations of the Treaty of the 23rd November, 1826, having ceased, except the obligation on the part of Brazil to render effective the disposition of the Ist Article, the vessels of war of Her Britannic Majesty cannot, under that pretext, and as if in execution of the said Treaty, exercise the right of visit over Brazilian vessels on account of the Traffic, against which the Imperial Government has already protested in the most solemn manner, and much less in the territorial waters and in the bays and ports of the empire, where, even during the time that the said Treaty existed, no such right was recognized.

Mr. Hudson declares that no deliberate intention exists to attack the rights of the sovereignty and independence of the empire, but he cannot refrain from admitting that an offence really exists in the facts referred to, and therefore the Undersigned confidently expects that such acts will not be repeated, which cannot fail to cause serious conflicts, which it is most desirable to avoid.

The Undersigned having been so explicit in denying the right of visit which the English forces arrogate to themselves, cannot well understand that part of the note of Mr. Hudson in which he cannot discover any meaning in the note of the Undersigned, other than to provoke a declaration that the acts practised by the officers of the Queen at Bahia, in visiting the vessels suspected of trading for slaves, are not directed against the interests of Brazilian subjects, nor the rights of the Imperial Crown, but are rather in strict conformity with the spirit of the Treaty. This supposition, which otherwise is clearly disproved by the very note of the Undersigned, shows the pretension to sustain the right of visit, as being grounded on the Treaty; and further to cause it to be believed that such is the meaning of the Imperial Government, who would only have to provide against the abusive exercise of a right which it otherwise recognized.

The declarations made by the Brazilian Government to the Government of the Queen of England having been sufficiently explicit on this question, the Undersigned contents himself with repelling the idea which serves as the basis to that part of Mr. Hudson's note.

The Imperial Government ardently desire to see the Traffic in Africans at an end, and, in this sense, orders relative to this object have been addressed to the authorities of the empire; and to obtain this great end, which is equally desired by the Government of the Queen, the Undersigned has no difficulty in accepting the assistance of that Government. But the Undersigned declares very categorically to Mr. Hudson, that the Imperial Government will never

consent that that assistance be carried into effect in a manner which offends the national sovereignty, and to the prejudice of Brazilian subjects, nor that it be accompanied by acts which were not permitted even during the (existence of the) stipulations of the Treaty.

The British Government, by confining itself to the rules of the rights of nations, can co-operate powerfully for the fulfilment of the mutual obligation which binds both Governments.

All of which, by order of His Majesty the Emperor, the Undersigned communicates to Mr. Hudson, to whom he renews, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE OLINDA.

No. 39.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 10, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th July, relating to the seizure by the Brazilian customs authorities of the slaver "*Tolerante,*" formerly called the "*Flora,*" I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a report which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul for this province, from which your Lordship will perceive that the chief authority of the Brazilian customs condemned the "*Tolerante*" as lawful prize, but that the Brazilian Government have quashed that sentence on the ground of the incompetency of the court.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Consul Hesketh to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report the following unsatisfactory result of my inquiries respecting the proceedings against the slave-brig "*Tolerante,*" seized by the revenue cruizer of this port.

It appears that the chief custom-house authority condemned the vessel as lawful prize, but the Treasury department refused to confirm that sentence under the plea of incompetence on the part of the customs, transmitting the case to the Municipal Judge (Senhor Sebastião Nunes Machado—"Juiz da Segunda Vara"), where it still remains without sentence.

It is reported that the parties interested in the "*Tolerante*" had the process removed to the Municipal Court, as the readiest course of obtaining her release, a result which it appears they confidently expect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH.

No. 40.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 18.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the translation of an article which has recently appeared in the "Correio Mercantil" newspaper published in this capital, giving an account of the discontinuance of the labour of slaves in the custom-house in this city, and the substitution of that of free labourers.

Lines of narrow railways have been laid down in the different stores of the custom-house, and goods are now examined and passed to their importers with far more expedition and with much less risk of damage than formerly when moved by the labour of slaves.

This scheme originated with and is entirely due to the humane and distinguished gentlemen who fill the posts of Inspector and Guarda Mor of the Rio de Janeiro custom-house, Senhores Ferraz and Leopoldo da Camara Lima, approved, of course, by their official chief, the Minister of Finance.

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

Inclosure in No. 40.

Extract from the "Correio Mercantil" of Rio de Janeiro, September 19, 1849.

(Translation.)

THE internal service of the custom-house, which but a short time ago was carried on by the slaves, is now entirely done by free people. To the Inspector and Guarda Mor of that establishment we owe this real benefit rendered to the civilization of the country, and to a class of persons of our population who most required it; 176 free people find work and an honest livelihood in the service of the custom-house; not less than 276 free people are at the door waiting the arrival of their turn to enter into the national service. Not only the material labour, but also the mechanical works which are being constructed in that department, are performed, some in part, and others totally, by free men. It appears, then, proved by practice, that private interests, prejudice, and a dislike to any innovation, were the obstacles which constantly impeded the execution of this beneficent and praiseworthy disposition of the Legislative Body which entrusted the manual service of the custom-house to free people, excluding the labour of slaves.

Some time previous to this the custom-house boats were manned by free people, and no difficulty was ever found in filling up vacancies, and in replacing absentees; this service is exceedingly laborious, and its example ought at least to counsel the attempt at an improvement which elevates the condition of the free workman in the country, and affords means of subsistence to a considerable fraction of our fellow-citizens.

What is now practised in the custom-house, would it be impossible in the export department and in the arsenals of war and marine?

If it is the sincere wish of Government as it is a duty and a real necessity for the country, to promote the introduction of free people, and efficaciously to repress the illicit Commerce in Slaves, would it not be a means conducive to this end, although small at the commencement, to honour the mechanical and labouring classes, to dispense as much as possible in the public works with the concurrence of slaves, which is equally noxious to natives as to foreigners, whether considered upon an economical point of view, or upon a moral point of view?

We are not one of those who so passionately cry out against some individuals who have continued to carry on a commerce prohibited by law, because justice compels us to acknowledge that if there are importers of slaves, it is because there are purchasers. But we will not cease to unite our voices to those who call the attention of Government to this great compromise of Brazil, to this cancer which is consuming us, to this danger which threatens our husbandmen with ruin.

Free labour in the public offices is an act of morality, it is a salutary example proceeding from the administration of the country, and an assistance lent to the national and foreign population, which has either no industry by which it can live, or else cannot find wherein to employ it.

No. 41.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 29, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of October, in which, with reference to the complaint made by the Brazilian Government in the month of August, that Her Majesty's ships were in the habit of leaving the port of

Rio de Janeiro at night, contrary to the regulations of the port, you state that the slave-traders of Bahia have adopted the plan of causing their vessels to be towed out of that port at night, and evidently with the connivance of the authorities of that place.

I have in reply to instruct you to state in writing to the Brazilian Government, that if they do not enforce generally and against all vessels the port regulation which prohibits any vessel from leaving a port by night, they must not expect that Her Majesty's ships of war will attend to that regulation if the due performance of the services which may be required of them should at any time render it expedient for them to leave a Brazilian port after nightfall.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 42.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of October last, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of a complaint made by the latter against Her Majesty's ships of war, for detaining and visiting Brazilian vessels within the territorial waters of the Brazilian Empire, and especially off and at the mouth of the port of Bahia.

I have in reply to instruct you to state to the Brazilian Government, that Her Majesty's Government regret very much that the necessary and unavoidable proceedings of Her Majesty's cruizers on the coast of Brazil for the suppression of the Slave Trade should not have met with the approval of the Government of Brazil; and the more so, because it will be impossible for Her Majesty's Government to discontinue those proceedings until the Government of Brazil shall take proper measures for fulfilling the Treaty engagements of the Brazilian Crown for the total and entire suppression of the Slave Trade of Brazil.

Her Majesty's Government, however, can with great sincerity assure the Government of Brazil that in ordering the British naval officers on the coast of Brazil to continue to take measures which are necessary for the suppression of the Slave Trade, it is far from the intention of His Majesty's Government to infringe upon the honour and dignity of the Brazilian Crown. Their intention, on the contrary, is to support that dignity and honour by putting an end, if possible, to a state of things which, being a direct and flagrant violation of the solemn engagements of the Crown of Brazil, is highly derogatory to the honour and dignity of the Imperial Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 43.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord, *Rio Janeiro, November* 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a report addressed by Commander Skipwith, Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, reporting that he had succeeded in preventing the "*Julia*," a notorious slaver, from leaving this coast for Africa.

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

Inclosure in No. 43.

Commander Skipwith to Rear-Admiral Reynolds.

Sir, "*Hydra,*" *Rio Janeiro, October* 17, 1849.

HAVING received information before leaving this place on the 11th instant, that a Brazilian polacca brig named the "*Julia*" was ready to sail from Das Ostras for the coast of Africa, on a slave-trading voyage, and would leave there about the 12th instant, I ran along the coast to try to intercept her.

On arriving off Das Ostras I observed a polacca brig at anchor at the mouth of the river.

I have since ascertained that this vessel was the "*Julia,*" and when she saw the "Hydra," she threw her fittings, provisions, &c., overboard. She has since stopped, and remains at Das Ostras.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY SKIPWITH.

No. 44.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, November* 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a report addressed by Commander Skipwith, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, stating that on the 15th ultimo he had rescued 353 African slaves from a piratical vessel wrecked on the northern shore of this province.

The Africans in question are now on board Her Majesty's receiving-ship "Crescent," and will in a few days be forwarded to Her Majesty's West Indian Colonies.

Your Lordship will perceive from this report of Commander Skipwith, that whilst Her Majesty's officers were engaged in their humane task of rescuing their fellow-men from slavery, they were fired upon at a distance of forty paces by the kidnappers in ambush, and that an officer and two men were wounded.

It is well known that the captain of that piratical slaver and his crew are arrived at Rio, and it is my duty to report to your Lordship that the Brazilian Government have taken no steps to arrest and punish this gang of miscreants.

I have also the honour to inclose the translation of an article which has appeared in a very respectable newspaper published in this capital respecting this affair.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Commander Skipwith to Rear-Admiral Reynolds, October 17, 1849.

[See Class A. No. 199.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Lieutenant Craufurd to Commander Skipwith, October 16, 1849.

[See Class A. Inclosure in No. 199.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 44.

Extract from the "Correio Mercantil," November 4, 1849.

(Translation.)

THE serious position in which the country is placed receives but a slight consideration from those persons who, at the head of the Government, are intoxicated by the song of the victory achieved by force and corruption, and conceive they have realized everything by the election of their Chamber of Representatives. Fascinated by this victory, which gives them the support of an unanimous Chamber; confident in a Senate elected for life, assisted by the Council of State, Committee of the Senate; obeyed, as they happily are, by the army, whose reserve is composed of the Magistracy of every degree, and of the police; no considerations withhold them; they even think themselves permanently favoured by the Monarch, if they achieve the extermination of their adversaries.

The history of the faults and crimes since September 1848 until to-day, is written in all the journals, nothing is wanting but to classify them; the basis for the trial of responsibility which ere long (please God) will take place, is already prepared and laconically worded. In the year 1849, during the reign of D. Pedro II, a general election of the Chamber of Deputies being ordered, 104 citizens, all of the Ministerial party, obtained a majority of votes: these 104 citizens constitute an unanimous Chamber.

Sing hymns of victory, beat drums, let the voice of trumpets and bugles carry the news afar! but not beyond our own shores. As in family quarrels, let us keep to ourselves this scandalous electioneering tale, and save us from such a shame.

The desire to retain possession of power may attenuate, perhaps, so many crimes perpetrated in every part of the empire; the force which our governors command will serve them for a defence: it becomes us, however to protest and appeal to God and to time.

Will those, however, thus circumscribe their action, who, strong by the forces at their command, and by the right which they maintain, based on written conventions and on the laws which in virtue thereof have been promulgated? Is there no example of the exercise of such a right having exceeded the limits by which they should have been restrained? Are not the vessels said to be Brazilian, because bearing our flag, visited, taken, and tried, by incompetent tribunals? Have we by chance prevented the continuation of of these abuses, otherwise than by protest? Have we been sincere in the promises which more than once we have made?

Every one will comprehend that we refer to the dangers and difficulties which the continuation of the Slave Trade may lead us to, and which we now carry on to a greater extent than ever; a trade which, besides the evils it causes to the morality and industry of the country, may bring us serious dangers in the interior, and has already brought us into discredit with the exterior. Let not the cause of domestic morality, of public decorum, and of the enforcement of the law and of conventions, lose, on account of the patrons who support it, nor attribute what we conscientiously feel to the mere desire of censure. We appeal to the impartial men of all parties; let them decide the question, Is it expedient to continue in the career of offences, faults, and compromises? To these men and no others do we address ourselves. The slave-traders are partial from the gains they derive, from the consideration they enjoy, and, assured that the Government protects them, they will continue in the commercial career to which they are accustomed. Partial also are our agriculturists, who, in the best faith, persuaded that without slaves they cannot prosper, allow themselves to be led away by the seduction of the seller, who offers them long credits while stipulating for heavy interest. Partial likewise is the Government, which shows itself indifferent, and connives at the constant violation of the laws for the repression of the Traffic. Thus we appeal to the impartial men of all parties, for the evil touches all.

It was not sufficient that the tolerance preached since September 1848, be converted into persecution, that conciliation be substituted by the extermination of adversaries, even to the extent of composing an unanimous chamber; it was further desired to deride all persons of good faith by proclaiming the intention

to use persuasion first, and secondly legal measures, to put down the Slave Trade. All will remember the farce which, by order of the Minister of Justice was performed at the police-office. Advice was given, threats intimated, recompenses promised, and even the periods allowed were not forgotten or omitted. What result has appeared after thirteen months of the rule of the actual administration?

In our ports, in our bays, in the cities, towns, and roads, the illicit Trade in Slaves is carried on. There is not a fiscal department that, from connivance, or fear of being compromised, fulfils the regulations; there is not a harbour authority who is zealous in the discharge of his duty; rare are the magistrates, and happily they still exist, who behave as such in deciding questions about New Africans, even in the Imperial Palace. . . . . We will not at present speak of the Mordomo.* Will it or can it be proper to continue such abuses, which discredit us, or rather, does it not become us to change our course, that they may cease? To restrain them every occasion is opportune; but if, on the contrary, we do not choose to avoid contention, serious embarrassments may arise from one moment to another.

In the chase given to a vessel with Africans on board, and in the subsequent apprehension of her within sight of land off Manguinhos Point, an English officer and two sailors were wounded by persons from the shore, and two of these persons were shot dead. What will be the consequences if events of this nature recur? Let those who govern answer.

No. 45.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 15, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, November* 13, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th June, reporting to your Lordship that French vessels were at that date being employed in Slave Trade, in consequence of the vigorous measures of the United States' authorities in this capital, which had prevented the employment of United States' vessels in that Trade; I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that American vessels are again in full employment by the slave-dealers in this country, and are preferred by them to French ships: the latter, therefore, now find other and more honest employment.

One of the most notorious slave-dealers in this capital, when speaking of the employment of American vessels in Slave Trade, said a few days ago, "I am worried by Americans who insist upon my hiring their vessels for Slave Trade."

It is due to the Chargé d'Affaires of France at this Court, M. de St. Georges, to state that he viewed with great concern and disgust the employment of French vessels in Slave Trade, and that he used every means at his disposal in order to check it. He prevented on his own responsibility the employment of some French vessels in slave-trading voyages. He demanded the extradition of French citizens engaged in Slave Trade. He has employed coercion and entreaty in order to prevent his countrymen and his country's flag from engaging in Slave Trade; but never having been supported and sustained by the presence of French vessels of war permanently stationed in this port, he has not had it in his power to act with the vigour he desired, and thus, unassisted and unsupported, he has been unable to contend with the tacit encouragement which every adventurer who embarks in Slave Trade receives from the Brazilian authorities.

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

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* Master of the Household.

No. 46.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.— (Received January 26, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 13th ultimo, reporting that Her Majesty's ship "Hydra," Commander Skipwith, had saved 353 Africans from the wreck of a slaver on this coast, I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the survivors of the Africans thus saved left this place for Trinidad on the 16th ultimo.

I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a letter which the Emigration Agent at this port has addressed to the Governor of Trinidad, which contains the particulars of the embarkation of these Africans; the copy of a letter addressed to myself by the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Crescent," reporting upon the state and condition of the same Africans; and a return of the number of liberated Africans now on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent."

The 3 African attendants who had served their time on board Her Majesty's ship "Crescent" having been discharged by order of the Commander-in-chief, have also accompanied these liberated Africans to Trinidad, as well as an African boy (who was saved by Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman," Commander Crofton), and who was too ill to proceed to Demerara on the 4th of September last.

The man and boy mentioned in the letter addressed by the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Crescent" to myself (Inclosure No. 2), are dead, the former on the 24th, and the latter on the 25th ultimo. They were reduced to the last stage of emaciation by the horrid treatment they had suffered on board the slave-ship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 46.

Consul Hesketh to the Governor of Trinidad.

(Extract.) *Rio Janeiro, November* 15, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that on the 20th ultimo Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires directed me to provide transport to the West Indies for 340 liberated Africans, being the number considered in a fit state to embark out of 352 who were brought into this harbour by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Hydra," Commander Skipwith; these Africans having been taken from the wreck of a slaver which her crew had purposely stranded.

My instructions for the transmission of liberated Africans direct me to forward them alternately to Demerara and Trinidad, and the above-mentioned are placed at your Excellency's disposal, as the last were sent to Demerara. And as these instructions also require that each adult should have twelve superficial feet of room on the deck occupied by them, I was obliged to take up two vessels, as, notwithstanding the great proportion of children, there was no British vessel in port sufficiently large to afford that space for 250 adults, to which they amounted, by computing two children as an adult. As both vessels sail well, there is every prospect that they will keep company and make a short voyage.

Both vessels have been ready some days, but have been waiting for convoy off this coast, and proceed on their voyage at daylight to-morrow morning, under the protection of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Cormorant," Commander Schomberg.

I inclose certified lists of the immigrants to be shipped on board the above-mentioned vessels at daylight to-morrow, namely, on board the "Viscount Hardinge," women 118, infants 11, girls 83, men 4, African attendants 2; total 218 persons.

On board the "Marion," men 32, boys 82, African attendant 1; total 115 persons.

These African attendants are also liberated Africans who have long been acting as nurses and cooks to the negroes who have from time to time been placed on board the receiving-ship "Crescent." They have never been other-

wise employed nor domiciled, and are therefore placed like the other Africans, under your Excellency's protection.

A medical practitioner, Mr. Goodbarne, has taken charge of all the Africans on board the "Viscount Hardinge," and those on board the "Marion" are under the charge of Mr. Patrick, assistant surgeon to Her Majesty's steam-ship "Hydra," the commander of which sloop of war has also sent Lieutenant Hewson as the executive officer in charge of both vessels. The two officers from Her Majesty's sloop "Hydra" go on board the "Marion," and Mr. Goodbarne in the "Viscount Hardinge," and 20*l.* sterling has been paid for victualling each of these three passengers.

At the time I engaged these transports, only one medical officer was obtainable; and as it was essential that such assistance should be furnished to both vessels, it was fortunate that I was able to secure the services of Mr. Goodbarne. This gentleman has twice taken charge alone of a large number of similar emigrants, and on both occasions fulfilled his duties to the perfect satisfaction of the authorities at Demerara and Trinidad, and also at home.

No. 47.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of last March, reporting upon a steam-vessel built expressly for Slave Trade, and called the "*Serpente*," I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that that vessel is now employed running as a packet between Rio Janeiro and Santos, in order to lull the suspicions which attach to her, but when a favourable opportunity presents itself she will proceed to the coast of Africa for a cargo of slaves. Her owners, I am informed, intend to make the attempt to send her to the Coast in the month of May next, and they would have already employed her in the Slave Trade had they not been alarmed at the mode in which Commander Skipwith, of Her Majesty's ship "Hydra," has watched the "*Providencia*" slave-steamer, whose projected voyages to the Coast since March last have been frustrated by the constant vigilance of that officer.

The "*Providencia*" slaver has of late been watched by Her Majesty's steamer "Rifleman," Commander Crofton, but as the Commander-in-chief has ordered the "Rifleman" to proceed to sea on a cruize, and as Her Majesty's ship "Hydra" is ordered home, the "*Providencia*" will seize the earliest opportunity of proceeding to Africa for slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 48.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

SINCE I had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of last January, instructing me to make further representation to the Brazilian Government respecting the Africans fraudulently abstracted from the polacca under the command of Lieutenant Wasey, in the harbour of Maranham in 1846, I have not ceased to urge this Government to use their best exertions to recover those Africans and to punish the authors of that outrage.

It is with great regret that I report to your Lordship that my endeavours to procure from the Brazilian Government the restoration of the Africans in question to Her Majesty's authorities have entirely failed.

I have received abundance of promises from the Brazilian Government, but your Lordship will perceive from the inclosed report of Mr. Consul Corbett, not only that no steps have been taken by the Brazilian authorities to recover the Africans who are known to be detained in captivity near Maranham, but that the Chief of Police of Maranham and the President of that province are evidently disinclined to give judgment in the case of 2 Africans who have been confined in the prison of Maranham, who have been examined by the public

authorities, who are considered by the President as having without doubt belonged to the polacca in question, and who are still detained in prison.

I have the honour to inclose the copy of a note which I have addressed upon this subject to the Brazilian Government, but considering the time which has already elapsed, the procrastination and evident disinclination of the Brazilian authorities of every class and grade to pursue this subject, I have but little hope of ever seeing justice done to these unfortunate Africans.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Consul Corbett to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Maranham, October* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the reception of your three despatches of the 21st May, 23rd July, and 24th September last, desiring me to report what further steps have been taken with the 2 Africans now confined in the city jail.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the final examinations of these 2 Africans were concluded, in the beginning of August last, and I have the honour to inclose a certified copy of the proceedings.

The Chief of Police has not sent in his report to the President, and his Excellency stated to me the other day at the Palace, that there is no doubt but that these 2 Africans were stolen from the slave prize. The Chief of Police, I am apprehensive, is unwilling to give his decision to these *autos*, as the perpetrator of this gross robbery is clearly pointed out by name.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. F. CORBETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Declaration of Consul Corbett.

(Translation.)

ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT declares, that on requiring from the delegate of police of the capital, the process, or police investigations, which he was charged to take cognizance of, relative to the 2 Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, abducted with others from on board the schooner prize to the British brig of war "Alert," which put into this port, the said delegate informed him that, having finished his duties regarding the said process, it was you who now directed it, which was also affirmed by the public notary, Mathias, and as it is necessary that your petitioner should have a certified copy, *verbum ad verbum*, of all that process, he requests you will cause a certified copy of the same to be drawn up, and has the honour, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

Certificate.

MATHIAS JOZE PEREIRA, civil and criminal notary, in this city and district of San Luis of Maranham:

I certify that the law papers of which certified copies, *verbum ad verbum*, are required, are as follows.

Formal Declaration of Process.

1849. Process of suit of a writ from the delegate of this district, relative to the Africans, Fernando and Alexandre, together with the examinations of these individuals, and other papers relating to them, as is before declared. Delegacy of the district of Maranham. The public notary, Pereira. In the year of our Lord, 1849, March 1st of the same year, I drew up and filed in my office, in the usual form, a writ, with the documents referring to it as follows:

In order to cause it to be known, I made this declaration of process, I, Mathias Jozé Pereira, clerk of the Court, who wrote it.

Writ.

The clerk of the Court, Mathias Jozé Pereira, is desired to draw up and file No. 38 from the chief of police, Dr. Vieira da Costa, the three copies which he mentions, the two examinations of the Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, the petition of Hermenegeldo da Costa Nunes, with a document the title of four slaves bought of Jozé Correia de Faria, in which number appear the names of Fernando and Alexandre, Africans; a protest against the English Consul, on the part of the said Hermenegeldo, and his general power of attorney,—submitting them all for my inspection.

Maranham, March 1, 1849.

Despatch.

No. 38.—In reply to your despatch of the 27th instant, in which you remitted to me the examinations of the two Africans, who are detained in prison, —the notification by the police in copy, which treats of their imprisonment,—and the despatch of the Doctor Manoel Cerqueira Pinto, when he was chief of police of this province; I transmit you copies of all these documents, in order that you may lay them in the hands of the next substitute when he comes into office, so as to proceed in the way marked out in your despatch, as, according to your statement, you are unable to perform it on account of illness.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) SENHOR ANTONIO GOMES CLARO,
Delegate of Police of the Capital.
FRANCISCO VIEIRA DA COSTA,
Chief of Police.

Department of Police, Maranham, October 31, 1848.

No. 32.—In order that you may the more easily recognise the Africans abducted from on board the schooner captured by a British cruizer, you must know that the children are marked on the left breast with the letter S, and that some of the children, as well as the men, speak Spanish and a little English.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) MANOEL CERQUEIRA PINTO.
SENHOR ANTONIO GOMES CLARO,
Delegate of Police of the Capital.

A true copy.

(Signed) FRANCO. JOSE MENDES DOS REIS, *Second Amanuensis.*

Maranham, January 7, 1846.

The Thirteenth Patrol, composed of soldiers of the 1st company, No. 109, Theofilo José da Silva, and of the Fourth company of the reserve corps, No. 30, and one Raymundo Celestino de Souza, apprehended, at half-past ten o'clock at night, in the street *do Passeio*, the Africans Fernando and Alexandre, for being seated at the door of the tavern of João Maria; and the said blacks, being examined by the officer of the Guard, to know why they were there, said that they had arrived from the city of Caxias the day before at five o'clock in the evening, having run away from the house of Lieutenant-Colonel Hermenegeldo So and So, where they were living.

(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE DA CUNHA,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commanding Officer.

Quite correct,

(Signed) FRANCISCO JOSE MENDES DOS REIS, *Second Amanuensis.*

Police quarters in the camp of Iriquo; Maranham, October 7, 1848.

This will be presented to you together with the examinations of the two Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, who were arrested by a police patrol on the night of the 6th instant, as appears from the accompanying police report, as well as by the accompanying letter from Doctor Cerqueira Pinto, then chief of police, which he sent me on the 7th January, 1846; and I consider it necessary that the two Africans should be confronted, as the account they give of themselves varies on some points, which I cannot attend to on account of illness, and being obliged to take care of my health.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) DOCTOR FRANCISCO VIEIRA DA COSTA,
Chief of Police.

Maranham, October 27, 1848.

Certificate.

I cited Doctor Fernando Pereira de Castro, junior, to take oath, in consequence of an order from the chief of police, which is true.

(Signed) MATHEUS JOSE PEREIRA, *Court Clerk.*

Maranham, October 14, 1848.

Form of Oath.

On the same day, month, and year, in this city of Maranham, in the police office, the Delegate of the same city being there, Senhor Antonio Gomes Claro, as also Doctor Fernando Pereira de Castro, junior, to whom the said Delegado made swear by the holy Evangelists, on a book which he touched with his right hand, and promised conscientiously to act as protector of the present blacks; and when he had so said and sworn, he put his signature with that of the Delegate.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk's court, wrote the above.

Form of Interrogatory.

Immediately on the same day, 14 October, 1848, in this city of Maranham, in the Hall of Police, and there by the delegate Antonio Gomes Claro, were examined two Africans, in presence of the English Consul and of the Curator Doctor Castro, junior, in the following manner:

The delegate asked the former of these two Africans apart from the other what was his name, what his nation, and what his trade and occupation. He replied that his name was Alexandre, a native of Cape Lopez, about five and twenty years old, a bachelor; that he employed himself some days at Caxias, on others in the country, and sometimes afloat.

He was then asked where he had been. He replied that he was taken from this city to the village by Colonel Izidoro, and that from thence he went to the fazenda of Colonel Rocha, compeer of Izidoro.

He was asked who took him to Caxias. He replied that he went with the said Colonel Izidoro to the Fazenda Santa Antonio, on the river Itassuru, and that from thence they went into the interior, and to the clearings; that he could not tell how long he was in these clearings, but that he cut rice, cleared the land, and cut down wood, burnt it, and then planted; and that after this Colonel Hermenegeldo da Costa Nunes arrived, who took away with him the deponent and ten of his fellow companions, five remaining at Codo, and the remainder proceeded on to Caxias.

He was asked who brought him and his companion to this city. He replied that they came in a canoe which they stole at Caxias, spending three days on the voyage to the town of Rozario; that in the same canoe they traversed the Bay of Tibiry secured to a raft which at that moment was crossing the said

bay, and that it was broad daylight when they reached Tibiry, abandoning the canoe, from thence they went to another port where they stole a canoe from a sailor, and arrived at this city at night, and that shortly after they landed, it struck nine o'clock, when they were immediately apprehended by the police.

He was asked who gave him the clothes he had on which were clean and new. He replied that it was Hermenegeldo.

The delegate here sent for the second amanuensis of the police department, and asked him to show him the register book which the Ex-Chief of Police, Cerqueira Pinto, sent to him on the 7th January, 1846, and the said book being brought, he read a copy of the despatch, page 122, having registered in the same book the first report under No. 144, addressed to the Chief of Police *ad interim.* Dr. Labato, on the 17th July, 1845. to Colonel Antonio da Cunha Sancho, and the last report registered in the said book, page 284, which even refers to No. 37, dated the 30th September, 1846, addressed by the Chief of Police, Doctor Cerqueira Pinto, to the Disembargador Chief of Police of Bahia, and on presenting the said copy of despatch to the witnesses present at this examination, relative to the signal of an S on the bodies of the young Africans who were robbed, it could not be seen.

The said delegate then called Goodman Discomb, the English Consul's servant, who also speaks Portuguese, and requested him to ask the black then examined in English how many brothers he had left in his country, and the servant having put this question, the black could not answer him. On being asked if he spoke Spanish, the black replied that he understood it, but that he could not speak it.

He was asked who brought him to this city, and in what vessel. He replied that an English ship took a Portuguese one, and that he was brought here by the English who took the Portuguese vessel.

On being asked where the vessel remained, he replied, at the Ponte d'Areia. On being asked who told him that that place was called Ponte d'Areia, he replied, that it was the Portuguese captain who told him that place was called Ponte d'Areia, and who accompanied him in the same vessel. He was asked what was the name of the captain who accompanied him on board the said vessel. He replied, that he was called Jacinto, that he had a good deal of beard, and was marked with the small-pox on the face. On being asked who it was who brought in the vessel in which he was, he replied, that it was a pilot who went out to them in a boat; that the said person had one eye closed, and that he heard say that he was called Raymundo. He was asked how he left the vessel, and who took him on shore. He replied, that Colonel Izidoro, accompanied by armed soldiers, went on board the vessel at nine o'clock in the evening, and in the name of his Government, asked the English sailors to deliver up to him all the blacks who were on board that vessel, in order to take charge of them; and that on the following day he conducted them to the city, but that immediately they jumped on shore, the said Colonel Izidoro took them, I mean passed them, in a small canoe, which only held three at a time, to a house which he, Izodoro, said belonged to His Majesty called Donna Anna, where they all drank water; they then went afloat again, and were landed on the following day in a field, and that from thence they went by land to the village of Rosario, and that early in the morning a white man, said to be the brother of Colonel Augusto Rocha, put them into the forest, where they built a hut in which to hide themselves; that afterwards they were put into a large canoe, and were taken to the farm of Santo Antonio, from whence they were distributed in different directions, twenty going to Miarim to the house of Lobo, ten to Donna Anna, mother of Colonel Izidoro, ten to the farm San Benedict, and the rest went he did not know where. Nothing further was asked him; and after the deposition had been read over and declared to be correct, it was signed by the Curator of the Africans in their behalf, by the British Consul, by the witnesses present, Henrique Julio de Melho and Hermenegeldo Ferreira Alves.

I, Mathias José Pereira, Court's Clerk, who wrote it.

(Signed) FERNANDO PEREIRA DE CASTRO, JUN.
HENRIQUE JULIO DE MELHO.
HERMENEGILDO FERREIRA ALVES.
ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT, *Consul of Her Britannic Majesty.*

Form of Interrogatory.

On the 25th October, 1848, in this city of Maranham, in the Hall of Police, the Delegate of Police being present, Antonio Gomez Claro, as well as myself the Clerk of the Court, and also the Curator named for the Africans, Doctor Fernando Pereira de Castro, junior, in the presence of these persons, and of the undermentioned witnesses, the African Fernando was interrogated in the following manner:—He was asked what his name, what his age, what his trade and occupation. He replied that his name was Fernando or Riovas, that he was 28 years old, that he was married, and that he had lately been employed in field-work. On being asked where he was, and how he came to this city, he replied, that he was in Caxias in the house of Hermenegildo da Costa as his slave, but that as he (Fernando) was free and master of his own actions, he considered that he ought to run away and come to this city. He was asked whether any one accompanied him, the deponent, in his flight from Caxias. He replied, that he came with his brother Alexander in a canoe which they stole at Caxias, and abandoned at Tibiry. When asked who counselled him to fly to this city, he replied, that it was his heart which dictated this step to him because they were free. He was asked how he became free, and what proofs he had to show to that effect. He replied that they were made prisoners by the Portuguese on one day, and that on the following at breakfast-time, the Portuguese, together with the Africans they had captured, were all taken prisoners, and that afterwards the English sent them to Sierra Leone, that forty-five African slaves and ten free blacks, amongst which latter number he, the deponent and his brother Alexandre must be considered, remained on board; that the vessel could not reach Sierra Leone on account of want of provisions and water; that meeting an American ship which supplied them with beef and biscuits, that the Americans told them that Sierra Leone was a long way off, and that it would be better for them to bear up for Maranham, and that from that latitude they would do it in about 15 days; this they did, because the captain said there was an English Consul at Maranham: and further, that on arriving off that city, a pilot, called Raymundo, blind of one eye, came on board, and took charge of the ship, and as the vessel had sprung a leak, the said pilot run her ashore in a bay near the Ponte d'Areia; that the captain went on shore and returned, bringing provisions, water, and spirits, and he pointed out to the people on board that there were a great many English vessels in port, and that they should leave the one they were in on account of her being unseaworthy, and should go in one of these English vessels to Sierra Leone. He said, further, that in the afternoon an Englishman came on board in a boat, to invite the commander to go and sleep on shore; that the captain so went on shore, recommending the crew to take great care of the blacks on board. He said, further, that after all the people had gone to bed, they heard a great many people talking; that he, the deponent, then saw a great many armed soldiers speaking with the pilot Raymundo, and saying that by order of the Government all of them were to go on shore, to make a tent with the sails in order better to accommodate themselves. The person who spoke was a Dr. Paco, brother of Izidoro, and one Captain Manoel Barreto, brother of the wife of Izidoro, and the person who told him who the two people speaking were, was Jacinto, a Portuguese captain on board the ship, with his face covered with marks of small pox; all this was told him when they were going on shore, and that the person who told this to Jacinto was Izidoro, who, like an ounce, lay hid. He said, further, that after being on shore they went to a place which Colonel Izidoro told them belonged to his mother, and was called Tumacaca. On being asked whether he, deponent, knew Colonel Izidoro, he replied "Yes," and that the said Colonel also knew him very well. He said, further, that from Tumacaca they embarked again on board a large boat, covered with brushwood; I repeat, covered with it, and were taken beyond the village of Rosario into some fields; that they there met a man called Luis Queimado, who took them to his house, where they drunk spirits. At this place ten slaves remained, and the rest went with the said Queimado to the fazenda of Colonel Augusto, married to a sister of Izidoro, and that Captain Jacinto, with the three Portuguese sailors who were on board the vessel in which he, deponent, and the other Africans came, always accompanied them up to the house of the said Colonel Augusto, and also a French-

man, with a swelling on the head, who joined them at Tumacaca, and accompanied them to the fazenda of the said Augusto. He said, further, that on arriving at the fazenda of Colonel Augusto, called Paratiba, the Africans were taken charge of by Ricardo, the bailiff of the said Colonel Augusto; that they remained there during the space of two moons, never, however, sleeping twice in the same place, always changing, in consequence of the reports from the city. He said, further, that after the lapse of these two moons, Colonel Izidoro appeared amongst them; that he, deponent, observed to him that the blacks belonged to him (the Colonel) since it was he who had ordered them to be seized on board the English vessel; that he had even struck the English captain, showing the silver-gilt head-piece of his sword, and that afterwards he had called Fernando, Mauricio, and Principe, telling them to take charge of the remainder of the Africans, to teach them the Portuguese language, and that when they were called that they were to answer; that the said Principe is now called Antonio Feitor, and is to be found at Miarim, in the fazenda of Lobo, father of the wife of Colonel Izidoro, as asserted by the said Izidoro. He said, further, that fourteen, including himself, were delivered into his charge, to Principe twenty-eight, and to Mauricio twelve; that by this time, the ten blacks who had remained in the house of Luiz Queimado joined them, by order of Ricardo the administrator of Colonel Augusto, declaring that two of these Africans had run away after having been put under the charge of the three blacks abovementioned. He further said that afterwards Colonel Izidoro ascended the Miarim with Principe and twenty-eight slaves, and on the return of the said Izidoro he took the remainder of the Africans with him to the fazenda of Santo Antonio, the Administrator of which place being a white man of the name of Marcos, Colonel Izidoro then returned to the city, and the blacks remained a considerable time divided amongst the fazendas of San Benedicto and Parapemas, the first and last of which belong to Donna Jansen, and the second one to the son of the said Joaquim. He further said that after having cut rice, weeded the ground, and planted, and when they were in the *capim* (grass) Ermenegildo came from Caxias and took away with him ten of the blacks; he the deponent and his brother Alexandre were put in irons because they would not work on account of there being free, and that it was from Caxias they fled to this city as he had already said. On being asked whether he, deponent, had any mark on the left breast, he replied "No." Since the ten blacks, of whom he has already spoken, had no mark, and upon it being verified by the witnesses if on the left breast there existed any mark for example like an S, the said witnesses after having made the necessary examination, declared there was no mark of any kind. On being asked whether he knew how to speak English, French, or Spanish, he replied that he only knew the Brazilian language. He was asked where was the first place he went to on his arrival in this city. He replied that he came in search of the English Consul, but that he was directed to the house of an Englishman called Lua, and that whilst seeking for the said Consul's house, they were arrested by a police patrol. At the request of the English Consul, the delegate put the following questions to the deponent. He was asked whether he remembered a black called Felippe. He replied Yes, and that he was one of those who ran away. He was asked whether he knew the black Romam called Black Will, and where he was. He replied that he knew two who came in the same vessel with him, one called Davis and the other Black Will, that he was cook, and that he understood that he (Black Will) had run away from Santo Antonio. He was asked whether he and his companions had been baptized. He replied that in Santo Antonio Colonel Izidoro sent for a padre to baptize them, but he refused to do so, alleging that they were slaves, and that he would only baptize them when free. Nothing further was asked of him, and after all had been read over and declared to be correct, it was signed by the delegate, the black's curator, Dr. Castro, junr., by the witnesses Manoel Joaquim Alves Baskos, Ignacio Jose Conceição e Silva, jun., and by the British Consul.

I, Mathias Jose Pereira, clerk of the court who wrote it. I declare in time that when deponent was seeking for the house of the Consul, he was directed to one with an iron gate, and that the person who lives in that house is a Brazilian and speaks English. The delegate ordered that the copies of the two despatches, the one from Dr. Cerqueira Pinto relative to the recognition of the stolen Africans, and the other from the police department relative to their apprehension, should be joined to these interrogatories. The delegate, at the

request of the said Consul, questioned the deponent as follows:—Whether he knew Dr. Paços and Captain Manoel Barretto. He replied that he did not, since the person who knew them was the Portuguese captain Jacinto, as he had already said, who told him that one was called Paço and the other Barretto, that it was the Portuguese Captain Jacinto who came with him and the other Africans in the same vessel who told him this at Colonel Auguste's fazenda and at the place where they embarked called Tumacaca and belonging to Donna Anna Jansen mother of Colonel Izidoro. Nothing further; which after it had been read was signed by everyone, which I certify to.

I, Mathias Jose Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Quite correct,

(Signed) FERNANDO FERREIRA DE CASTRO, JUN.
MANOEL JOAQUIM ALVES BASTOS.
IGNACIO JOSE CONCEICAO E SILVA, JUN.
ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT, *Consul.*

Petition.

Declares, Lieutenant-Colonel Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes, through his solicitor in this city, that having bought of José Correia de Faria, in September, 1843, 4 slaves, Antonio Bulla, Fernando, Alexandre, and Antonio, all full grown, as appears from the accompanying documents, and having entered into peaceable and quiet possession of his estate near the town of Caxias without hinderance from any one whosoever, that some day in the month of September of the present year 2 of the said slaves, Fernando and Alexandre, ran away, having been seduced away by enemies of the petitioner; they descended the river Itapicuru, and presented themselves in this city, where they were apprehended for the simple and unfounded suspicion of having been of the number of those who put into the port of Maranham in a sumaca captured by the British navy, which was not possible as the arrival of that vessel was posterior to the purchase made by the petitioner, and much posterior to the acquisition of these slaves by the seller, who inherited them from his parents. The ownership and possession of the said Africans being thus conclusively proved, and that a period having elapsed which removes all suspicion and more particularly as regards what has taken place in this city, your petitioner requests your worship will deign to order the said blacks to be delivered over to his solicitor. And therefore your petitioner begs you will be pleased to grant his request, and he hopes to receive mercy.

As Procurator, JOSE J. LOPES CARVALHO.

Despatch.

Let this be added to the process so as in due time to be granted if according to justice.

Maranham, December 14, 1848.

(Signed) BARRADAS.

Seal.

No. 16.—The seal was reis one hundred and sixty. Paid one hundred and sixty reis.

Maranham, March 1, 1849.

(Signed) COSTA SILVA.

Title of Sale.

I, the undersigned, have sold to Captain Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes four African slaves, Ballá, Fernando, Alexandre, and Antonio, adults, the latter somewhat of a carpenter; which blacks I inherited from my parents, and have sold them to the said Captain for the sum of one conto seven hundred and twenty milreis, in current money, which I am to receive from his commercial house in

Caxias, upon which the order is drawn; and the said Captain will possess the above-mentioned Africans, who belong to him from to-day henceforward, he paying the tax for the said Africans.

Town of San José, September 29, 1843.

1,720$000.

(Signed) JOSE CORREIA DE FARIAS.

Seal.

No. 8.—Reis one thousand and six hundred. Paid, one thousand and six hundred reis.

Caxias, December 1, 1848.

(Signed) SOARES.

Tax.

To be debited to the Collector of the Customs, Custodio Mendes Nogueira, the sum of eighty-six milreis in current money, which Captain Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes paid, the tax upon the slaves referred to in the present title of sale.

Town of San José, October 4, 1843.

The Collector,
(Signed) NOGUEIRA.
The Clerk of the Court ad interim,
(Signed) LACERDA.

Acknowledgment.—I declare that the above signatures of Custodio Mendés Nogueira and of the clerk of the court are their true signatures, which I swear to.

Caxias, December 1, 1848.

The public mark was upon it, in testimony of the truth of it.

The Notary,
(Signed) ANTONIO NEVES DE NORONHA.

Seal.

No. 9.—Reis one hundred and sixty. Paid, one hundred and sixty reis.

Caxias, December 1, 1849. I mean 1848.

(Signed) SOARES.
PINHEIRO.

Petition.

Says Lieutenant-Colonel Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes, through his solicitor, that having run away from his estate in the district of Caxias in the month of September of last year three slaves, two of them appeared a few days afterwards in this city, and were apprehended by the police, who examined the said Africans upon suspicion that they belonged to the Sumaca which put into this port, and had been captured by a British cruizer. Your petitioner proved by incontestable documents, and by a combination of dates, that, previous to the arrival of the said Sumaca he was already master and owner, by title of sale, of the said Africans, as is proved by the respective legal documents; and notwithstanding this they have not yet been delivered up to him, your said petitioner having demanded their delivery. In such circumstances he again requests your Worship to settle the affair to-day by causing the said blacks to be delivered to your petitioner. And in the event of your Worship not doing so, your petitioner, with all due respect, will protest against whoever may be held responsible for the loss of the working days, and all the prejudices, losses, and damages which have resulted, or which may result, from these blacks being detained in prison; and therefore he begs your Worship, the Chief of Police, to grant in

the manner requested by ordering, that when the text of the protest be drawn up, it shall be intimated by letter to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in this province, and to whosoever else it may appear necessary to your petitioner to point out to the clerk of the court. Hopes to merit grace as solicitor.

(Signed) JOSE PEDRO DOS SANTOS.

Despatch.

Let the protest be drawn up, and the required summons made.
Maranham, February 15, 1849.

Seal.

No. 23.—The seal was one hundred and sixty. Paid one hundred and sixty reis.
Maranham, February 20, 1849.

(Signed) FURTADO.
SILVA.

Text of Protest.

On the 22nd February, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office appeared José Pedro dos Santos, solicitor of Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes, of the city of Caxias, and by him I was told that, in conformity with the accompanying petition and power of attorney which he presented, he protested, as he had already protested, against whoever may be the responsible person, and against Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in this province, for the detention of his two blacks in prison, and for their days of labour, in conformity with his petition, which forms a part of this protest. And having so spoken, he signed it with the witnesses present, João da Silva Vieira Braga, and José Sergio Lombo, who here signed.

I, Mathias José Pereira, who wrote it.

(Signed) JOSE PEDRO DOS SANTOS.
JOAO DA SILVA VIEIRA BRAGA.
JOSE SERGIO LOMBO.

Seal.

No. 131.—The seal was one hundred and sixty. Paid one hundred and sixty reis.
Maranham, February 26, 1849.

(Signed) FURTADO.
SILVA.

Certificate.

I notified this protest to Robert Falconer Corbett, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, of which I am certain.
Maranham, February 26, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Power of Attorney.

Be it known to all that this public instrument of procuration, or full power, which, in the year of our Lord, 1849, on the first day of the month of December of the same year, in this city of Caxias, province of Maranham, in my office appeared Lieutenant-Colonel Hermenegeldo da Costa Nunes, whom I know and put faith in, who told me that he constituted by this his lawful power of attorney to be his procurators in the city of Maranham, Colonel José F.

Lopez de Carvalho, and José Francisco Lisboa, to whom he concedes powers as far as may be required by law, that in his name plaintiff, as if he personally were present in any court or tribunal, to defend or accuse everybody and all his justice, in all his cases, civil as well as criminal, in which he might either be plaintiff or defendant; also to treat and make terms of reconciliation with any person whatever, for which purpose he grants the most ample and unlimited powers, and most especially to recover two slaves belonging to him, plaintiff, one named Alexandre, the other Fermando, apprehended by the police of that city under the pretext of their being the slaves robbed from on board a Sumaca; causing to be cited, sued, distrained, offer action, libel articles, embargoes, exceptions to contradict, give proofs for contradiction, suspicions, give evidence, interrogate and cross-question witnesses, take all lawful oaths of calumny, and also that are conclusive and supplementory, leaving it to the oaths of the party, if it so pleases him, to sign all terms and suits necessary; protests, counter-protests, petitions of appeal, aggravate, embargo, to apply for another trial, and to appeal to the highest court, and also to transfer to one or more attornies the whole unlimited powers to recal powers of transfer, and resubstitute as many times as may be necessary, use the same power in conjunction with the substitute; the latter being also able to transfer and sign terms of concessions and denials, arbitrations and cessation, extract sentences and put some in execution, petition for inventories, take the necessary oaths, assist at the valuation of inheritance, petition for arrest, imprisonment, sequestration, public auctions, to bid and rebid, to bid on the chattels of debtors when there are no bidders, and take possession of same, petition for a commission, and sign as having received the same, to appear with embargoes of a third party in possession, and swear to vary the action and undertake others anew, and sign lawful terms in criminal cases, join documents, and receiving same reserving a new citation; and all being finished, to be received by him, the attorney, or by his substitute, *in solidum*,

and so he said, being witnesses present, Honorio José Viana and José Correâ Martins, who with the plaintiff signed, after having read this instrument which I swear to, and all of whom are known to me, Antonio Alves de Noronha, notary, which I undersign and have publicly signed. The public signature is an evidence of the truth.

The Notary,

(Signed) ANTONIO ALVES DE NORONHA.
HERMENEGILDO DA COSTA NUNES.
HONORIO JOZE VIANNA.
JOZE CORREIA MARTINS.

Seal.

No. 18.—In blank, one hundred and sixty. Paid, one hundred and sixty reis.

Caxias, December 1, 1848.

(Signed) SOARES.
PINHEIRO.

Substitution of Text.

On the 21st February, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office personally appeared José Pedro dos Santos, whom I know and put faith in, who said that he transferred the powers of this procuration into the hands of the lawyers, Doctors Vilhena and Souto Maior, and us solicitors Braga and Romeiro, he thus said, heard read, and signed this text, which I, Joaquim Baptista da Cunha, notary, wrote out.

(Signed) JOZE PEDRO DOS SANTOS.

Seal.

No. 32 was the seal. Reis one hundred and sixty. Paid one hundred and sixty reis.

Maranham, February 21, 1849.

(Signed) ALGARVES.
SILVA.

Certificate.

I certify that by a verbal order from the delegate I was ordered to join to these legal documents the letter to, and the answer from, the English Consul when the protest was intimated to him. The above is true.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOZE PEREIRA.

Maranham, March 5, 1849.

On the 6th of March, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I joined to these legal papers the letter with its reply referred to above, and which here follows, in order to notify which I draw up this text.

I, Mathias Jose Pereira, clerk of the court who wrote it.

Letter.

Illustrious Sir, Robert Falconer Corbett,

In virtue of the petition of Hermengildo da Costa Nunes, Which I present to your Worship, relative to the protest which he made regarding his slaves who ran away from Caxias, and were apprehended here by the police, upon suspicion of having come from the Sumaca, a British prize, the said Hermenegildo protests not only against the loss of the service days, but also against all injuries, losses, and damages, against you, Sir, as Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, and against all whom it doth concern. I request, Sir, you will have the goodness to acknowledge at the foot of this, your cognizance of this fact.

Maranham, February 26, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Reply.

Illustrious Mathias Jozé Pereira,

In reply to the notification made by you to me of a protest of one Hermenegildo da Costa Nunes, relative to two Africans who are in the hands of the police, it is my duty to signify to you that I have nothing to do with that protest, as this affair affects the Governments of England and Brazil.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT, *Consul.*

Maranham, February 26, 1849.

Conclusion of Text.

On the 6th March, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I deliver in these acts concluded to the delegate of police Antonio Gomes Claro, in order to constitute which I drew up this text.

I, Mathias Jose Pereira, clerk of the court who wrote it.

Dispatch.

The clerk of the court, Mathias José Pereira, is to add to this process the four documents which I delivered to him, to wit, the three first which were sent to me from the Provincial Treasury, and the fourth from the Department of Finance. The first of these being a despatch addressed to the Excellent Sir, the President of the Province, dated 26th of April, of the current year, under No. 32. The second a permit remitted from the town of San José by the collector Custodio Mendes Nogueira, dated 7th January, 1844. The third an order from the inspector of that treasury, Carvalho Lial, to the Chief of the First Section of that department, Joaquim José de Morais Rejo, dated 26th April of the current year, and in the same the reply of the said Chief, under No. ——, I

mean of the same date. The fourth, the certificate passed on the margin of the letter which I addressed to the Inspector of the Finance Treasury, dated the 1st instant, signed by Ignacio Tolenteno José Franco., as accountant under date of the 5th instant, and to return the documents when concluded.

Maranham, May 8, 1849.

Publication of Text.

On the 8th May, 1849, in this city of Maranham, at the residence of Delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, and to which place I, the clerk of the court, went, and there received from the said delegate these legal documents with the above-mentioned despatch. And when he delivered them he design them, I say above, as they were signed in my hands.

I, Matthias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Declaration of Annexation.

And immediately upon the same day, month, and year, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I finish these legal documents, I mean in my office, I added to these legal documents the four papers which the above-mentioned despatch alludes to and which now follow.

I, Matthias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Dispatch.

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

In my despatch No. 32 of the 24th of this month, which I addressed to your Excellency in reply to others respecting the ex-collector of the town of San Jozé, Costodio Mendes Noguiera, I declared to your Excellency that the only entry made in the treasury by the said ex-collector belonged to the second six months of the years 1842-1843, and that it ought so to be, because at the head of the respective permit it treated of the third and fourth quarter of the year referred to, but upon examining the body and date of the said despatch, 7th January, 1844, there appears to exist an exaction from July to December, not in 1842-1843 as was said, but in 1843-1844, which I conjecture not only from the long space of time of more than a year to the confiscation of the permit, but, however, because the ex-collector seems not to count the financial year, but the civil year with reference to the last day of one to the first of the other, and therefore I must believe that this was the manner in which the officers of the establishment classified these revenues. I have also to notify that the period of the dismissal of the said ex-collector was the 5th October, and not the 11th December, of 1848, as he by mistake said in his information to the secretary of this department, by confounding the date of dismissal with that when the communication of this resolution was made known to him. All which I transmit for the better information of your Excellency.

Public Provincial Treasury of Maranham, April 26, 1849.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) HERCULANO FERREIRA PENNA,
President of the Province.

The Inspector, ALEXANDRE THEOPHILO DE CARVALHO LIAL.

True copy,

(Signed) J. V. JORGE, serving as Secretary.

Permit.

Rent of the Collectorship of the town of San Jozé, during the third and fourth quarters of the current financial year of 1842 to 1843, under the charge of the Collector, Custodio Mendes Nogueira, with a per centage of 12 per cent.; ten per cent. upon brandy; five per cent. upon tobacco; an impost of two per

cent. upon each head of cattle; a tax of one per cent per head of pigs. Total—Observations—Months. July, two hundred and sixty. 14$097 reis. 15$357 reis. August, two hundred and eighty, with 12$000 reis; 12$380 reis. September, two hundred and sixty; 50 reis; 16$194 reis; 16$504 reis. October, two hundred and eighty; 16$194 reis; 17$474 reis. November, two hundred and eighty, 12$000 reis; 12$280 reis. December, two hundred and eighty, 150 reis; 14$525 reis; 14$525 reis. Total, 1$640 reis; 300 reis; 84$580 reis; 2$000 reis; 88$520 reis. The amount of the present permit is 88$520 reis, in notes written during the above half-year, and as to us competes the commission of 12 per cent. which was paid by his Excellency the President of the Province, in a despatch, No. 527, of 10th October, 1843. We sign the inclosed receipt for the quantity of 10$622 reis; there remaining, however, liquidated that of 77$898 reis, which I now remit to the Provincial Public Treasury.

Town of San Jozé, January 7, 1849.

(Signed) *The Collector Custodio,* MENDES NOGUEIRA.

A true copy,

(Signed) SERRA.

The Assistant Clerk, BERNARDINO DE LENNA CANTUARIA.

To be conferred, 88$500 reis; note, 88$000 reis; 88$000 reis. Serving as Official Mayor. Accountant's office of the Public Provincial Treasury of Maranham, 28 February, 1844. Covered 550 reis; 88$520 reis. Approved. Barros. Gomes. Received 14th August, 1844. Burgos.

A true copy,

(Signed) J. V. JORGE, *serving as Secretary.*

Writ.

No. 54. The Chief of the first section is to declare at the end of this despatch, to what financial year were carried, in writing, the revenues of the Collectorship of San Jozé, from July to December, which, as is stated at the head of each permit, belong to the third and fourth quarter of the year 1842-1843, which is seen from the context and date of the said permit, 7th January, 1844, which ought to belong to the first six months of the year 1844, I mean 1843-1844, which is correct.

Public Provincial Treasury of Maranham, April 26, 1849.

The Inspector, CARVALHO LIAL.

Declaration.

In virtue of the above order I declare that the provincial revenues collected by the collector of San José, Custodio Mendes Nogueira, from July to December, amounting to eighty-eight thousand five hundred and twenty reis, which, as the said collector says in the respective permit, belonged to the third and fourth quarter of 1842 to 1843, which is seen from the body and date of the said permit of the 7th January, 1844, which ought to belong to the first six months of the year 1843 to 1844, were written in this Treasury on the 14th August, 1844-1845 as revenues belonging to the preceding year.

First Section of the Public Provincial Treasury of Maranham, April 26, 1849.

(Signed) *The Chief,* JOAQUIM JOSE DE MORAES REJO.

Dispatch.

Illustrious Sir,

I request, Sir, for the benefit of the public service, that you will have the goodness to order that from the Accoutant's office of that Treasury I may be informed who was the clerk who was employed in the collectorship of the town of San José, district of Caxias, during the financial year of 1843 to 1844, reporting upon every month, and what he practised in any one of these Acts.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) DR. CASEMIRO JOSE DE MORAES SARMENTO,

Inspector of the Financial Treasury of this Province.

Correct,

(Signed) ANTONIO GOMES.

Maranham, May 1, 1849.

Dispatch.

Declares. Treasury of Maranham, May 1, 1849. Doctor Moraes Sarmento.

Declaration.

I declare, in deference to the above despatch, that in the book used in the collectorship of the town of San José during the financial year 1843 to 1844, the following appears:—I first say that the said book was written during the whole year by José Joaquim Rodrigues, in the quality of clerk *ad interim.* Secondly that the imposts of excise, of seal, and on shops were received the respective tax having been previously exacted. Thirdly, that the receipts of the excise and seals began on the 13th of August and were closed on the 30th of June, and that on shops began on the 1st July and ended on the 31st of January.

(Signed) IGNACIO TOLENTINO JOSE FRANCO.
Serving as Accountant.

Accountant's Office, Treasury of Finance of Maranham, May 5, 1849.

Declaration of Conclusion.

On the 8th May, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I transmit these papers to the delegate of police, Antonio Gomez Claro; in order to make which manifest I made this declaration I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Dispatch.

The clerk of the court, Mathias José Pereira, must add to this process the despatch in copy from the Civil Judge *ad interim* of the district of Caxias, Elenterio Augusto Atheyde, addressed to his Excellency the President of the Province in April of the present year, and two other despatches, one dated the 21st, and the other the 24th instant, from the Doctor chief of police, and to return the documents conclusive.

Maranham, May 26, 1849. Correct.

Form of Publication.

On the 27th May, 1849, in this city of Maranham, at the residence of the judge delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, to which place I, the clerk, was going, and there, by the said delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, were delivered to me these legal documents on the part of the said judge, with the last-mentioned despatch, which I caused to be made public.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court.

Declaration of Annexation.

And immediately on the same day, month, and year, in the city of Maranham, in my office, I joined to these legal documents the three despatches which the above despatch refers to, and in order to constitute it I make this declaration, I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote them and added them.

Dispatch.

No. 813.—I acknowledge receipt of the despatch from you dated yesterday, wherein you expose the doubt you entertain whether you could add to the said legal documents the despatch which the Civil Judge *ad interim* of the district of Caxias addressed to his Excellency the President of the province relative

to the investigations which, at his request, the said President ordered to be made in that city by the said despatch seen under the head of "Confidential;" to which I have to answer, that it appears to me you ought not to hesitate to make the said addition, because the confidential one ought first to have been taken care of whilst these investigations were going on, and before the result was made known; but now that the truth is known, and in throwing light upon which no embarrassment can be offered by the interested parties without it being known, I think it no longer necessary to be kept secret, a maxim which, for the better knowledge of a fact, is sometimes followed.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) SENHOR ANTONIO GOMES CLARO,
Delegate of Police of Capital.

The Chief of Police,
ANTONIO DE BARROS DE VASCONCELLOS,

Secretary of Police's Office, Maranham, May 24, 1849.

Dispatch.

No. 765.—I transmit in copy for your information the despatch which the Civil Judge *ad interim* of the district of Caxias addressed to his Excellency the President of the Province, relative to the investigations by you exacted respecting José Correia de Farias.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) SENHOR ANTONIO GOMES CLARO,
Delegate of this Capital.

The Chief of Police,
ANTONIO DE BARROS DE VASCONCELLOS.

Secretary of Police's Office, Maranham, May 21, 1849.

Copy.

(No. 34. Confidential.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

In reply to the confidential despatch from your Excellency of the 9th March last, I have to inform your Excellency that, in spite of all the investigations which I have taken here, I have not been able to discover in this district, nor in that of San José, the person called José Correia de Faria, it only just appearing from the above investigation that there did exist an individual of the name of José de Faria Pereira, who lived somewhere in the district of Caxias, son of Antonio Pereira de Faria and Donna Emerencianna de Viega, both dead. From the respective inventory which I examined, it appears that there fell to him, as his share amongst other property and money, only the slaves Thomas, Paulo, Mathias, Vicente, Umbelina, and Florinda. And from the inventory made at the decease of José Manoel da Vieya, e Joanna Baptista do Conceição, grandfather and grandmother of the said José de Faria Pereira, who died after the parents of the same person of whom I have spoken, an inventory which was also examined by me, and which shows that his share was only the slaves Marcos, Pedro, and Urbellino, and a part of the value of the slaves Domingos, Jacinto, Liberato, Cenlia, Martinha, and Maximiana.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) HERCULANO FERREIRA PENNA,
President of this Province.
ELEUTERIO AUGUSTO DE ATHAYDE,
Civil Judge, ad interim, *of the District.*

A true copy.

(Signed) CANDIDO MENDES DE ALMEIDA, *Secretary of the Government.*

Correct.

(Signed) FRANCISCO JOSE MENDES DOS REIS, *Second Amanuensis.*

Caxias, April, 1849.

Declaration of Conclusion.

On the 28th May, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I make these documents conclusive to the Delegate of Police, Antonio Gomes Claro, in order to constitute which I make this declaration.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk, who wrote it.

Dispatch.

Let the Clerk of the Court, Mathias, notify by a letter to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and to Doctor Fernando Pereira, curator of the two Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, to attend at the confrontation of the said Africans, which will take place on the 16th instant, at nine o'clock in the morning, in the Police-hall; and these labours being finished, the clerk must conclude these documents.

Maranham, June 14, 1849. Clear.

Declaration of Publication.

On the 14th June, 1849, in this city of Maranham, at the residence of the Judge Delegate of Police, Antonio Gomes Claro, whither I was going, and where, by the said Delegate, were delivered to me these documents, with the above-mentioned despatch, in order to their being published. In order to constitute all which, I made this declaration.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Certificate.

I made known this despatch to the English Consul and to the Curator, Doctor Castro, junior, of which they became acquainted.

Maranham, June 14, 1849.

The Clerk,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Declaration of Confrontation.

On the 16th day of June, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in the Police Department, being there the Delegate of the same, Antonio Gomez Claro, with me me the undersigned Clerk of the Court, and were also present the English Consul, Robert Falconer Corbett, and the Doctor Fernando Pereira de Castro, Junior, Curator of the said two Africans, Alexandre and Fernando, and these said Africans to be confronted relative to their examination, as was determined by a despatch from this Delegacy, and then before the said Consul, and the Curator of the Africans, the said Delegate made to the above-mentioned Africans the following questions. He asked Alexandre whether it was true he had said in his examination, that he was arrested immediately on landing from Caxias. He replied, that not knowing how to express himself, he had so said, but that now he remembered that he was arrested at the door, I mean after having been to the house of the Brazilian, who speaks English, and where there is a large iron gate; and that afterwards, knowing that the house of the English Consul was not there, that they endeavoured to return, and having passed in front of the guard-house at some distance in that said street, it was then that they were arrested by a police patrol; and having asked the other African, Fernando, regarding this said divergence, he agreed in what Alexandre had said. Fernando being asked whether it was true when he said that on their arriving in the fields of Piri that they remained behind the parish church of Rosario in the house of a man named Queimado, if they were immediately conducted to the Fazenda of Rocha. He replied, that they slept at the cattle estate, and that afterwards in the morning they went to make huts in the woods, that they

changed about every day; Alexandre being asked whether it was true when he said that they were in the woods of the town of Rosario, and that afterwards they went to the fazenda of Santo Antonio, and why they thus diverged; he replied, that not knowing how to express himself, as he had already said, was the cause of this divergence, but that now he remembered, that what Fernando had explained was correct. Alexandre was asked whether it was true the distribution of the Africans was made in Santo Antonio, when Fernando said it was effected in Paratiba. He replied, that the division was made in Paratiba, but that the realization of this division took place in the fazenda of Santo Antonio, because all the Africans went to Santo Antonio. On being asked whether it was true when he said that on leaving this town with the other Africans that Colonel Izidoro accompanied them, since Fernando said that this Colonel Izidoro only appeared afterwards in the fazenda of Paratiba, he replied, that it was a mistake on his part, because in reality Colonel Izidoro only made his appearance at the fazenda of Paratiba, as Fernando had said. Alexandre, on being asked whether it was true when he said that when the soldiers conducted them from on board the Sumaca on shore, that the person who spoke on board was Colonel Izidoro, since Fernando said that the person who spoke was Doctor Paco, brother-in-law of Izidoro, and the Captain Manoel Barreto, he replied that the person who told him that it was Colonel Izidoro was captain of the Sumaca. On putting the same question to Fernando, he replied that the captain did not tell him that it was Colonel Izidoro who spoke on shore, but that it was the two others already spoken of, however both agreed in not having seen Izidoro, and that they only knew him in the village, and likewise they did not know the two Doctor Paco and Captain Manoel Barreto, nor did they see them, and even now they do not know who they are, and only know Colonel Izidoro from having seen him at the village and in other places which they already mentioned. Nothing further was asked and after all had been read and found to be correct it was signed by the Curator of the Africans, by the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, and the witnesses Pedro de Souza Guimaraes and Francisco José Mendes dos Reis and by the delegate.

I Mathias Pereira Clerk of the Court who wrote it.

It is correct.

(Signed) FERNANDO DE PEREIRA DE CASTRO, JUN.
ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

PEDRO DE SOUZA GUIMARES.
FRANCISCO JOZE MENDES DOS REIS.

Form of Conclusion.

On the 16th day of June, 1849, in the city of Maranham, in my office, I send these documents as concluded to the delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, which to make clear I draw up this declaration.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court who wrote it.

Dispatch.

The clerk of the court is to certify, if by his records, a summary has been effected for the crime of abduction of Africans committed in the port of this city on board of a Sumaca captured by the English, who was the judge of the crime, and if any of the principal authors of this crime were sentenced, and again. I conclude these papers.

Maranham, June 18, 1849.

Form of Publication.

On the 18th day of the month of June, 1849, in this city of Maranham, at the residence of the delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, and to which place I was going, and there, by the said delegate, were delivered to me these documents with the despatch above-mentioned, and which became public from having been in my hands.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court who wrote it.

Certificate.

I certify, in compliance with the above despatch, that the Criminal Judge treated of in the said despatch was the Chief of Police, then Dr. Manoel Cerqueira Pinto, and on looking over my list of criminals, it appears that the person charged with the said crime was the sailor Joaquim, and as accomplices, Domingos da Silva Porto and the Black Joaquim. What is here referred to is correct.

Maranham, June 19, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Form of Conclusion.

On the 19th day of June, 1849, in this city of Maranham, in my office, I remitted concluded, the papers to the Delegate of Police, Antonio Gomes Claro: in order to certify this, I make this declaration.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Dispatch.

The clerk of the court, Mathias José Pereira, is to notify to two medical men to present themselves to-morrow, 19th instant, in the Hall of Police at ten o'clock in the morning, he is also to notify the same to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and to the Curator for the two Africans, Fernando and Alexandre.

Maranham, July 18, 1849. (Correct.)

Form of Publication.

On the 18th day of July, 1849, in this city of Maranham at the residence of the delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, to which place I the clerk was going, and there, by the said delegate were delivered to me these legal documents with the despatch above-mentioned, in order that they be published by me. In order, therefore, to make this manifest, I have made this declaration.

I, Mathias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Certificate.

I made known this despatch to the English Consul, Robert Falconer Corbett, to the Curator, Dr. Castro, jun., and to Dr. Jose Sergio Ferreira, and the head surgeon, Silvestre Marques da Silva Ferrão, in order that all might be cognizant of it.

Maranham, July 18, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Certificate.

I certify that the dispositions of the above despatch cannot take place to-day, and the delegate has decided upon their taking place to-moroow. What is referred to above is true.

Maranham, July 19, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Certificate.

I made known this decision to the English Consul, to the Curator, Dr. Castro, jun., and to the faculties Dr. José Sergio Ferreira, and to the head surgeon Silvestre Marques da Silva Ferrão, who became thus cognizant of it.

Maranham, July 19, 1849.

The Clerk of the Court,
(Signed) MATHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

Form of Declaration.

Form of declaration made by the Faculties undersigned, relative to the age of the Africans. In the year of our Lord 1849, on the 20th day of the month of July of the same year, in this city of Maranham, in the hall of police, being there the delegate of the same Antonio Gomes Claro, and myself, clerk of the court, under his orders, and being also there present the faculties Dr. José Sergio Ferreira, and the head surgeon Silvestre Marques da Silva Ferrão, all of whom the delegate made take oath by the Holy Evangelists by touching a book with their right hands, charging them in good and sound conscience, to declare what age, more or less, were the Africans Fernando and Alexandre who were present. The said medical men having taken the said oath and promised to observe it, they proceeded to examine the said Africans in presence of the British Consul, Robert Falconer Corbett, and declared the age of the African Fernando to be between twenty and twenty-five years, and that of Alexandre to be between twenty and two and twenty years. And they declared nothing further, which after all had been read and found to be correct, was signed by the delegate, the British Consul, the medical men, the curator of the blacks being absent although he had been cited.

I, Matthias José Pereira, Clerk of the Court, who wrote it.

Correct.

(Signed) SILVESTRE MARQUES DA SILVA FERRAO.
JOSE SERGIO FERREIRA.
ROBERT FALCONER CORBETT, *Consul.*

Form of Conclusion.

On the 20th July, 1849, in the city of Maranham, in my office, I here conclude these papers for the delegate of police, Antonio Gomes Claro, from which I draw up this declaration.

I, Matthias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Dispatch.

Remit this to the said doctor-in-law, chief of the police, and cite the curator of the Africans Alexandre and Fernando, the British Consul and the procurator of Hermenegeldo da Costa Nunes, who petitioned at page 122, and let it be copied into the archives of his offices.

Correct.

Maranham, July 26, 1849.

Declaration of Publication.

On the 30th July, 1849, in this city of Maranham, at the residence of the delegate of police Antonio Gomes Claro, to which place I, the clerk, was going, and there, by the said delegate, were delivered to me these papers with the abovementioned despatch, in order that I should publish them, and to mkee it manifest I make this declaration.

I, Matthias José Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Certificate.

I made known this despatch to the Curator of the Africans, Dr. Fernando Pereira de Castro, Junior, and to the British Consul, both of whom were made cognizant of it.

Maranham, 1st August, 1849.

The Clerk,
(Signed) MATTHIAS JOSE PEREIRA.

The above is a faithful copy and version of the process which I have transscribed.

I, Matthias J. Pereira, clerk of the court, who wrote it.

Maranham, August 22, 1849.

(Signed) MATHIAS J. PEREIRA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

Mr. Hudson to Senhor de Souza.

Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency the copy of a despatch which has been addressed to me by the Consul of the Queen for Maranham, reporting that the 2 Africans who had been confined in prison at Maranham, and respecting whom I have repeatedly addressed the Imperial Government, have passed their final examination, and that the President of Maranham had declared that he had no doubt the Africans in question belonged to the polacca which put into Maranham in distress in the month of January 1846, and from on board of which 59 Africans were fraudulently abstracted.

As it further appears from the same report that the chief of police at Maranham delays to give his decision with respect to the negroes who have been thus examined, I have to request that your Excellency will urge the President of Maranham to lose no time in coming to a final decision with regard to them.

And I have to state to your Excellency that as a satisfactory clue to the discovery both of the kidnapped negroes and of the authors of the outrage in question is now afforded, the Government of the Queen cannot doubt that it will now be in the power of the Brazilian Government both to rescue the unfortunate survivors of these negroes and to discover and punish their oppressors.

I am instructed also to add that a failure on the part of the Imperial Government to accomplish these objects, will be looked upon by the Government of the Queen as a deliberate intention on the part of the Brazilian Government to deprive these negroes of that freedom to which they are legally entitled, and to screen the persons who were guilty of so flagrant an outrage.

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

No. 49.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th of October last, reporting to your Lordship that I had addressed the Brazilian Government upon the subject of the violation of the regulations of the port of Bahia by slave-vessels, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, from which your Lordship will perceive that the representation which I made to the Brazilian Government upon that subject has not been without effect.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Consul Porter to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Bahia, November* 19, 1849.

IN compliance with the request contained in your despatch of the 24th of September last, that I would report to you whether any steps were taken by the authorities of Bahia to put a stop to the flagrant violation of their port regulations by slave-dealers, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a despatch from his Excellency the President of this province, addressed to the authorities on the subject in question, and which have appeared in the public journals of this city.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

The President of Bahia to the Marshal commanding.

November 7, 1849.

I STATE to your Excellency, in reply to your official letter of the 5th instant, that to the captain of the port and to the agent of the Bomfin Company the orders requested by the colonel commanding the Fortress do Mar, were transmitted, in accordance with the representation—a copy of which accompanied the same official letter—relative to the prevention not only of vessels shifting their berths during the night, but also to the steamers of the said company towing vessels to outside the bar at such hours.

No. 50.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26, 1850.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 13th ultimo, reporting to your Lordship that United States' vessels are again being extensively employed in Slave Trade, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul for this place, inclosing a return of the United States' vessels which have cleared out from Rio de Janeiro during the months of August, September, and October last, with fictitious destinations, but in reality for the coast of Africa for slaves.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

Consul Hesketh to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, November* 26, 1849.

I HAVE at length succeeded in obtaining a list of vessels under the American flag which were cleared out for different ports on this coast, but which in fact proceeded to Africa for slaves. I believe this list to be correct, and therefore transmit it annexed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

LIST of AMERICAN VESSELS cleared at the Custom-House of Rio Janeiro for ports on this side the Atlantic during the three months of August, September, and October, 1849, but which proceeded to the coast of Africa for Slaves.

Date of clearance.	Class.	Name.	Nominal destination.
1849.			
August 6	Brig	Rio de Zaldo	Rio Grande
August 6	Barque	Hannibal	River Plate
August 30	Brig	Imogene	River Plate
September 1	Ditto	Snow	Pernambuco
October 1	Brig sch.	Casco	United States
October 16	Schooner	Rival	Rio Grande
Not published ..	Brig	Overman	Not ascertained.

No. 51.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 26.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 18, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that on the 12th instant Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Cormorant," Commander Schomberg, fell in with, and with the assistance of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Rifleman," Commander Crofton, captured a slave-vessel named "*Astrea*," outside this port.

The "*Astrea*" was fitted for Slave Trade, had no papers and no colours, and as she was unseaworthy, Commander Schomberg destroyed her.

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

No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 2, 1850.

HER Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction your despatch of the 18th December last, by which they are informed that your representations to the Brazilian Government upon the subject of the late violation of the regulations of the port of Bahia by slave-vessels, have not been without effect, and that the President of that province has issued instructions to his subordinate officers to enforce the regulation which prohibits vessels from going out of port during night.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 53.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 27, 1850.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a draft of note which I have to instruct you to present to the Government of Brazil, for the purpose of drawing their serious attention to the continued and vast importation of African negroes into the Brazilian territory, in violation of the treaty engagements and in defiance of the laws of Brazil, and also to bring under their notice the condition of those negroes who were declared to be emancipated by the Mixed Commission which was established at Rio de Janeiro in pursuance of the IInd, IIIrd, and IVth Articles of the Treaty of 1826, and who ought by this time to be in the full enjoyment of their liberty, but the greater part of whom, as Her Majesty's Government have reason to believe, are not in such condition but are still practically held in bondage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Draft of note to the Brazilian Government.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to draw the serious attention of the Government of Brazil to the continued and vast importation of African negroes into the Brazilian territory, in violation of the treaty engagements and in defiance of the laws of Brazil.

By the Treaty concluded at Rio de Janeiro on the 23rd November, 1826, the Crown of Brazil engaged that at the expiration of three years from the exchange of the ratifications of that Treaty, it should not be lawful for the subjects of the Emperor of Brazil to be concerned in the carrying on of the African Slave Trade, under any pretext or in any manner whatsoever; 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.

The ratifications of that Treaty having been exchanged at London on the 13th of March, 1827, the above-mentioned engagement came into force on the 14th of March, 1830, and the Brazilian Government was bound from and after that day to inflict upon all Brazilian subjects who might in any manner or under any pretext whatever, be concerned in the African Slave Trade, the punishment which is due to pirates.

In order to carry this engagement into full effect a new law was necessary by which the penalties belonging to piracy should be attached to the crime of slave-trading. But up to this time no such law has been promulgated in Brazil, and the omission to promulgate such law is a breach of the engagements of the Treaty of 1826, of which Her Majesty's Government have to complain.

But although the Brazilian Government did not at the time fulfil, and has never since fulfilled, this plain and explicit engagement, nevertheless, on the 24th November, 1831, a law was promulgated by the Emperor of Brazil, attaching to the crime of slave-trading, certain punishments of fine and imprisonment which though less severe than the punishment attached to piracy, and therefore not fully answering to the engagement of the Treaty of 1826, were yet applicable to all persons who might in any manner be concerned in the crime of Slave Trade, and those punishments would, no doubt, if the law had been put into force, have greatly checked if they had not entirely prevented the commission of such offences.

But from 1831 down to the present time, that law has remained almost a dead letter, and has never been effectually put in force by the Brazilian Government; and this is another head of complaint by Her Majesty's Government in regard to the omission by the Government of Brazil to fulfil the engagements of the Treaty of 1826.

It cannot be alleged by the Government of Brazil, that the reason why the

Law of 1831 has not been put into force, is, that the crime against which that law provides, has ceased to be committed, or that it is of rare occurrence, or that if committed it is committed in secret, so that its detection being difficult, its punishment is next to impossible. Far different is the fact. The crime of slave-trading continues to be committed in Brazil most extensively, notoriously, and openly; and if the Brazilian Government were to take the proper measures for the purpose, there is no reason to suppose that it could have any serious difficulty in detecting the offenders and in bringing them to justice.

But not only does the Brazilian Government remain a passive spectator of crimes which are committed without disguise or concealment in open day, and even in the streets of the capital of the empire, but Her Majesty's Government have good reason to believe that the offenders are enabled thus to set at defiance the laws of Brazil and the Treaty engagements of the Imperial Crown, by the constant connivance if not by the protection and encouragement of those very officers of the Brazilian Government who ought to prevent such scandalous offences from being practised; and this is another head of complaint on the part of Her Majesty's Government against the Government of Brazil, in regard to its failure to execute the Treaty of 1826.

The Undersigned has been instructed to say that a state of things so inconsistent with the good faith and honour of the Brazilian Crown, and so incompatible with the treaty rights of Great Britain, ought not to be allowed to continue.

This state of things, moreover, is disgraceful to the Christian world, and opposes an insurmountable barrier to the progress of legitimate commerce and of civilization on the continent of Africa.

The vast regions of that continent, which nature has endowed with extraordinary fertility and which abound with valuable productions affording almost unlimited resources for the commerce of the other quarters of the globe, are by the criminal speculations of the Brazilian slave-traders made the scene of violence, of rapine, and of bloodshed; and the Brazilian Government is thus by the violation of its treaty engagements the promoter not only of crime in Brazil, but of desolation and barbarism in Africa.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, is intitled to demand as a right, that the Government of Brazil shall carry fully and faithfully into execution the engagements of the Treaty of 1826, by deeming and treating as pirates all subjects of His Imperial Majesty who may under any pretext or in any manner whatever be concerned in carrying on the African Slave Trade; and Her Majesty's Government request to be made acquainted with the measures which the Brazilian Government may intend to adopt for the accomplishment of this purpose.

There is another point connected with this subject to which Her Majesty's Government beg to draw the attention of the Government of Brazil.

In pursuance of the IInd, IIIrd, and IVth Articles of the Treaty of 1826, Mixed Commissions were appointed to adjudicate slave-ships and their cargoes captured by British and Brazilian cruizers; and the Mixed Commission established at Rio de Janeiro, in the performance of its duties, decreed the emancipation of a considerable number of negro slaves captured in slave-ships which were condemned by that Commission.

Those emancipated negroes ought by this time to be in the full enjoyment of their liberty. Her Majesty's Government have reason to believe that they are not in such condition, but that the greater part of them are still practically held in bondage. Her Majesty's Government propose, therefore, that British and Brazilian Commissioners should be appointed to examine personally these emancipated negroes, in order to give to them all the full and real enjoyment of that freedom which has been decreed to be their right.

The Undersigned, &c.

No. 54.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, January* 17, 1850.

IT will be in the recollection of your Lordship that in the year 1848, a project of law was presented to the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, the 13th paragraph of which law provided for the repeal of the Brazilian law against Slave Trade of the 7th of November, 1831.

In my despatches* of the 12th of September and 15th of October, 1848, I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the protests which I had presented† to the Brazilian Government against the repeal of that law; and in my despatch of the 16th of November, 1848, I reported to your Lordship that the project of law in question had been withdrawn by the Imperial Cabinet.

A report has now reached me from various quarters, that it is the intention of some of the members of the Brazilian Legislature to present a Bill to the Chambers, during their present session, for the repeal of the above-mentioned Law of 7th November, 1831, and in this case I have the honour to request your Lordship's instructions for my guidance.

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

No. 55.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, January* 17, 1850.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th ultimo, reporting the intended voyage of the "*Serpente*" and "*Providencia*" slave-steamers to the coast of Africa, for cargoes of slaves, I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that the slave equipment of those slavers has been forwarded from this port to Paranaguá (to the southward of Rio Janeiro), from whence I am informed they will start for the coast of Africa towards the close of this or the beginning of the following month, the absence of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Cormorant," ordered to the River Plate, having relieved the owners of these slave-steamers from their principal source of apprehension.

I regret the absence of the "Cormorant" the more because the "*Providencia*" and "*Serpente*" are calculated to carry between them upwards of 3000 slaves.

I am informed that it is the intention of the slave-dealers of this capital to purchase the British steamer "Pasha," which has the reputation of being a very fast vessel, in order to employ her in Slave Trade.

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

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* See Class A, presented 1849, Nos. 31 and 35.
† Ditto ditto No. 38.

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Bahia.*

No. 56.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord, *Bahia, February* 16, 1849.

IN conformity with the directions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 18th September, 1848, I have the honour to inclose a list of British subjects within the district of this Consulate who are owners of slaves domestic or agricultural.

I likewise transmit a copy of the returns, signed by the British residents, the original of which is kept in the archives of this Consulate.

It is my duty to state to your Lordship that four individuals whose names are inserted at the end of the list, refused to sign or give the required information, and that there are a few British subjects residing in the interior of this province, respecting whom I have been unable to obtain particulars up to the present moment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

LIST of BRITISH SUBJECTS within the district of the Consulate of Bahia who are owners of slaves.

Name.	Occupation.	Domestic.		Agricultural.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Edward Lane	Merchant	1	..	..	..
Richard Latham	Ditto	4	8	..	..
G. H. Pasche	Ditto	1	..	..	..
John Andrews	Ditto	3	2	..	..
Johnson Bielby	Ditto	1	2	..	..
Alexander Fraser	Clerk	..	1	..	..
Ellen Adamson	..	1	1	..	..
G. E. Fairbanks, M.D.	Physician	4	2	..	..
John O. Dwyer	Tailor	3	4	..	..
Isaac Anizalak	Merchant	4	2	..	..
Albert H. Curry	Shopkeeper	3	3	..	..
Edward P. Wilson	Merchant	8	2	..	..
Edward Jones	Ditto	2	4	..	..
William Byrn	Tinsmith	2	..	..	..
John Mac Nair	Merchant	1	2	..	..
James Dwyer	Ditto	1	3	..	..
Matthew Falconer	Planter	..	6	12	8
Henry S. Marback	Ship-chandler	3	3	6	6
Louis Barbet	Boarding-house keeper	2	..	..	..
George Blandy	Planter	1	2	8	..
Mary Ann Sullivan	Shopkeeper	..	2	..	..
Bernard Byrne	Tin-plate worker	1	..	..	..
		46	49	26	14

British Consulate, Bahia, February, 1849. EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

COPY of a STATEMENT signed by the British subjects residing in the district of the Consulate of Bahia, declaring the number of slaves in their possession.

Name.	Occupation.	Domestic.		Agricultural.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Reverend E. G. Parker	British chaplain	None	None	None	None
Alexander Paterson, M.D.	Physician	..	..	..	..
John L. Paterson, M.D.	Ditto	..	..	..	..
G. E. Stevenson	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Henry Broad	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Peter Simpson	Merchant	..	..	..	..
John Pearson	Clerk	..	..	..	..
William Phillips	Ditto	..	..	..	..
F. Louis Schwind	Merchant	..	..	..	..
William Moir	Ditto	..	..	..	..
William Latham	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Joseph Latham	Ditto	..	..	..	..
John Garnett	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Frederick Pennell	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Edmund Hunt	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Spencer P. Pennell	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Edward Lane	Merchant	1	..	..	..
A. F. Warren	Clerk	..	..	..	..
W. H. Millward	Ditto	..	..	..	..
George Mumford	Merchant	..	..	..	..
Massey Browne	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Joseph Willcox	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Charles Vaughan	Ditto	..	..	..	..
James Andrews	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Frank Mackay	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Richard Latham, jun.	Merchant	..	..	..	..
William Smith	Ditto	..	..	..	..
George Rose Junes	Clerk	..	..	..	..
James Drawbridge	Ditto	..	..	..	..
William C. Mumford	Merchant	..	..	..	..
George Latham	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Edward Benn	Merchant	..	..	..	..
Thomas Gould	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Francis Saunders	Merchant	..	..	..	..
Fred. Louis Schwind, jun.	Ditto	..	..	..	..
J. W. Thorpe	Clerk	..	..	..	..
George Norcliffe Greenup	Merchant	..	..	..	..
W. Evans	Broker	..	..	..	..
Robert Jones	,,	..	..	..	..
William Hooper	Merchant	..	..	..	..
C. S. Hawkes	Ditto	..	..	..	..
James H. Arkwright	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Richard Latham	Merchant	..	8	..	..
R. C. Napier	Clerk	None	None	..	..
John Rostrow	Ditto	..	..	..	..
William Fawcett	Ditto	..	..	..	..
H. R. Baines	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Thomas Dutton, jun.	Broker	..	..	..	..
John N. Crosse	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Roger Melladew	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Charles E. Barrow	Ditto	..	..	..	..
G. H. Pasche	Merchant	1	..	..	..
D. Anderson	Clerk	None	..	..	..
C. Lane	Merchant	..	..	..	..
David Easton	Storekeeper	..	..	..	..
John Easton	Clerk	..	..	..	..
James Hogg	Ditto	..	..	..	..
George A. H. Holt	Merchant	..	..	..	..
Matthew Wylie	Clerk	..	..	..	..
C. J. Benson	Ditto	..	..	..	..
C. H. Williams	Merchant	..	..	..	..
John Andrews	Ditto	3	2	..	..
Johnson Bielby	Ditto	1	2	..	..
Edward Colton	Clerk	None	None	..	..

Name.	Occupation.	Domestic.		Agricultural.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
John H. Krabbé	Clerk	..	..	..	..
Alexander Fraser	Ditto	..	1	..	..
John S. Baggaley	Ditto	..	..	..	..
George Gilbert	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Ellen Adamson	....	1	1	..	..
G. E. Fairbanks, M.D.	Physician	4	2	..	..
S. Crabtree	Clerk	None	None	..	..
John Elliott	Merchant	..	..	..	..
John O'Dwyer	Tailor	3	4	..	..
Isaac Anizalak	Merchant	4	2	..	..
Albert H. Curry	Shopkeeper	3	3	..	..
Edward P. Wilson	Merchant	8	2	..	..
John Hardyman	Ditto	None	None	..	..
George Sanville	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Horatio Sanville	Ditto	..	..	..	..
Edward Jones	Ditto	2	4	..	..
James O'Dwyer	Shoemaker	None	None	..	..
Francis Hurly	Currier	..	..	..	..
Francis Hurly, jun.	Ditto	..	..	..	..
John Byrne	Tinsmith	..	..	..	..
Charles Schwind	Merchant	..	..	..	..
William Byrne	Tinsmith	2	..	..	..
John Mac Nair	Merchant	1	2	..	..
James P. Gee	Clerk	None	None	..	..
James Dwyer	Merchant	1	3	..	..
Fortunato Zagury	Ditto	None	None	..	..
Matthew Falconer	Planter	..	6	12	8
Henry S. Marback	Ship-chandler	3	3	6	6
Louis Barbet	Boarding-house keeper	2 ..	None	None	None
Augustus F. Adamson	Teacher	None	..	..	..
M. A. Gee	Shopkeeper	..	..	..	..
George Blandy	Planter	1	2	8	..
Mary Ann Sullivan	Shopkeeper	None	2	..	..
William Geach	Engineer	..	None	..	..
Bernard Byrne	Tin-plate worker	1	..	..	..
Peter Walsh	Sexton	None	..	..	..
Thomas Forster	Merchant	Refused to sign, or to give the required information.			
William Hughes	Ditto				
Lewis S. Thomas	Clerk				
Lewis J. Gibson	Ditto				

The foregoing is a true copy of the original returns deposited in the archives of this Consulate.

British Consulate, Bahia, February 16, 1849. EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

No. 57.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 4, 1849.

I HAVE to desire that you will prepare and transmit to me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a return showing what have been the prices of slaves in the Province of Bahia in the years 1846, 1847, and 1848 respectively, and also in the years 1824, 1825, and 1826.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 58.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 4.)

My Lord, *Bahia, April* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying lists Nos. 1 and 2 of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending 31st ultimo.

Another shocking instance has occurred of loss of life occasioned by putting on board slave-vessels a larger number of negroes than they are capable of carrying. Out of 500 slaves received on board the Brazilian schooner "*Felicidade,*" of 139 tons burthen, 90 are reported to have perished during the voyage.

For a long time past several depôts for the sale of slaves have been established in the centre of this city. I have been informed that a private order has been issued by the chief of police to the slave-dealers to remove their depôts to a distance on pain of having their slaves seized, if not taken away with eight days. This measure, if strictly enforced, will increase the difficulty of disposing of slaves newly imported.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the quarter ending March 31, 1849.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence	Days out.	Remarks.
1	Jan. 14	American	Brig	Cadet	294	11	J. Wanson	Not known	Ballast	Onim	28	
2	" "	British	Barque	Belle Creole	264	13	J. Henton	Tighe & Smith	ditto	Cape Coast	28	
3	" 17	French	Patache	Eclipse	150	8	A. C. Poil	Not known	ditto	Popo Pequeno	23	
4	" 19	Brazilian	Cutter	Mosca	..	8	João R. Vianna	J. P. Marinho	ditto	Porto Novo	32	Landed 72 slaves.
5	" 20	ditto	Brig	Tentativa Feliz	195	26	L. D. da Silva	Domingos G. Bello	ditto	Gallinas	..	Landed 720 slaves.
6	Feb. 2	ditto	ditto	Luzitano	248	28	G. R. Gonçalo	Pera. da Ca. Bastos	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 420 slaves.
7	" "	Sardinian	Patache	Berrizo	108	8	Feliz Bregunti	Not known	General	Ajuda	32	
8	" 25	American	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	150	8	P. R. Stanhope	ditto	Ballast	Onim	28	
9	" 28	Sardinian	Patache	Iride	160	11	J. L. Giustiviani	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	30	
10	" "	Brazilian	Schooner	Felicidade	139	20	S. M. Chamusca	L. Pera. Franco	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 410 slaves; 90 died on passage.
11	March 9	Sardinian	Brig	Maria Thereza	221	20	G. Columbino	Not known	ditto	Onim	24	
12	" "	American	Barque	Adorio	268	12	J. R. Brown	ditto	ditto	Gallinas	17	
13	" 10	Brazilian	Polacca	Esperança	405	24	Francisco da Souza	M. da Silva Fereira	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 800 slaves.
14	" 11	Sardinian	Smack	Ewnäo Sei	123	9	G. Dodero	Not known	ditto	Ajuda	26	
15	" 13	French	Polacca	Jeune Paul	149	9	P. Aillaud	ditto	ditto	ditto	26	

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the Coast of Africa during the quarter ending March 31, 1849.

No.	Date of Sailing	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	Jan. 9	Portuguese	Brig	Galliana	370	17	I. dos Santos Lessa	Not known	General	Coast of Africa	....
2	„ 10	Brazilian	Polacca	Esperança	405	24	F. Antonio da Souza	M. da Silva Fereira	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Chili.
3	„ 28	ditto	Yacht	Andorinha	80	18	J. P. de Fonseca	J. P. Marinho & Co.	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Mexico.
4	Feb. 1	ditto	Polacca	Catharina de Bomfim	316	25	F. de P. Araujo	Not known	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
5	„ 11	ditto	Yacht	Segredo	135	19	J. Pera. de Sa. Maltez	J. A. da Cruz Rios	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Chili.
6	„ 14	Sardinian	Polacca	Emilia Luiza	240	12	Matheo Vinini	Not known	ditto	ditto	
7	„ 25	Brazilian	Yacht	Espanto	45	14	J. G. Marinho	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
8	March 4	French	Schooner	Mésange	152	10	J. M. Lallemand	ditto	ditto	ditto	
9	„ 6	ditto	Barque	Tourville	362	14	Vic. Lombert	ditto	ditto	ditto	
10	„ „	Brazilian	Yacht	Pardal	126	16	A. C. Duarte	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
11	„ 7	American	Brig.	Cadet	294	11	J. Hawson	ditto	ditto	ditto	
12	„ 11	Brazilian	ditto	Tentativa Feliz	195	26	L. D. da Silva	Domingos G. Bello	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Macahé.
13	„ 21	Sardinian	Smack	Christina	51	8	G. Merello	Not known	ditto	ditto	
14	„ 22	ditto	Brig.	Bocomini	195	11	A. Denegri	ditto	ditto	ditto	
15	„ „	Brazilian	Schooner	Felicidade	159	14	J. M. Chamusca	L. Pereira Franco	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
16	„ 27	Sardinian	Smack	Concordia	103	9	F. Dodero	Not known	General	ditto	
17	„ „	Brazilian	Felucca	Rosita	111	21	João J. de M. Bastos	ditto	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Monte Video.

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

No. 59.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received July* 31.)

My Lord, *Bahia, June* 16, 1849.

IT has lately been discovered that vessels arriving here from the coast of Africa frequently have on board three or four negro boys under the denomination of passengers, with passports and papers obtained from authorities on that coast, declaring them to be free: these papers are destroyed on the arrival of the vessel at this port, the boys are landed and sold as slaves.

The master of a French vessel has been found engaged in these practices; the French Consul having obtained possession of a negro boy brought hither under the circumstances above stated.

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

No. 60.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 5.)

My Lord, *Bahia, June* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying returns Nos. 1 and 2 of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa, during the quarter ending this day.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1849.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	April 1	French	Patache	François Xavier	103	9	R. Moisant	Not known	Ballast	Onim	36	
2	„ 8	Brazilian	Yacht	Segredo	135	19	J. P. de S. Maltez	J. Alvez da Cruz Rios	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 308 slaves.
3	„ 10	Sardinian	Brig	Universo	246	13	G. Bonsignore	Not known	General	Angola	21	
4	„ 15	ditto	Smack	Due Amici	103	9	G. Langui	ditto	Ballast	Popo Pequeno	25	
5	„ „	French	Brig	Les Amis	144	10	N. L. Delamere	ditto	ditto	Porto Novo	35	
6	„ 16	Brazilian	Yacht	Andorinha	80	5	José P. de Fonseca	J. P. Marinho & Co.	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 250 slaves.
7	„ 21	ditto	Schooner	Moquim	..	4	Joaquim F. Carvalho	ditto	ditto	Porto Novo	38	Landed slaves to the southward.
8	May 5	British	Brig	William Stoveld	187	11	George Smart	Edward Lawson	ditto	Loanda	36	
9	„ 6	ditto	Ship	North Star	384	24	Henry Hale	Henry Hale	ditto	ditto	20	
10	„ 7	ditto	Brig	Garland	271	11	F. A. Richardson	James Laing	ditto	Fernando Po	33	
11	„ 10	Brazilian	Yacht	Espanto	45	14	Joaquim G. Marinho	J. P. Marinho & Co.	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 150 slaves.
12	„ 21	Sardinian	Polacca	Italia	169	10	C. Luigi	Not known	ditto	Onim	31	
13	June 1	Brazilian	Felucca	Rozita	111	21	J. J. de G. Bastos	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 418 slaves.
14	„ 2	ditto	Brig	Luzitano	248	19	G. R. Germano	Quirino Antonio	ditto	ditto	..	Landed 580 slaves.
15	„ 7	Sardinian	Smack	Christina	251	8	M. Guiseppe	Not known	ditto	Ajuda	22	
16	„ 22	French	Schooner	Mésange	102	10	— Lallemand	ditto	ditto	ditto	21	
17	„ 23	Brazilian	Yacht	Igualdade	127	22	Jo. Pera. da Silva	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 400 slaves.
18	„ 25	ditto	ditto	Segredo	135	21	M. C. da Rocha Bastos	J. Alvez da Cruz Rios	ditto	ditto	..	Ran on shore at Barrafalsa, having a cargo of 320 slaves.
19	„ 30	French	Barque	Tourville	362	14	. . .	Not known	ditto	Ajuda	21	

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the Coast of Africa during the quarter ending June 30, 1849.

No.	Date of sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	April 1	Brazilian ..	Brig ..	Lusitano	248	19	G. R. Germano ..	Quirino Antonio ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for Azores
2	„ 4	French ..	Schooner ..	Etoile de la Mer ..	158	9	J. J. Tual	Not known ..	General	ditto	
3	„ 7	Brazilian ..	Polacca ..	Esperança ..	405	26	Joaquim Lopez Pereira	M. da Silva Fera .	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Macahé
4	„ 12	Portuguese .	Brig ..	Encanto	235	18	João Francisco Nunes	Not known ..	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Rio de Janeiro
5	„ „	French ..	Barque ..	Industrie ..	309	15	J. Dessonnais ..	ditto	General	ditto	
6	„ 16	Sardinian ..	Polacca ..	Theseo	185	10	D. Camogli	ditto	ditto	ditto	
7	„ 29	ditto ..	ditto ..	Bella Giudetta ..	153	12	M. Gihilsola ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	
8	May 1	ditto ..	ditto ..	N. S. do Boschetto	151	9	S. Giacomo	ditto	ditto	ditto	
9	„ 3	ditto ..	Patache ..	Berrizo	108	9	F. Pietro	ditto	ditto	ditto	
10	„ „	French ..	ditto ..	Eclipse	150	8	A. Poillen	ditto	ditto	ditto	
11	„ „	Brazilian ..	Yacht ..	Igualdade.. ..	127	22	João Pera. da Silva ..	ditto	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará
12	„ 16	ditto ..	ditto ..	Segredo	135	21	M. C. da Rocha Bastos	J. A. da Cruz Rios	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Macahé
13	„ 19	French ..	Brig ..	Les Amis ..	144	9	L. H. Cestard ..	Not known ..	General	ditto	
14	„ 21	Sardinian ..	ditto ..	Rinoceronte ..	247	11	L. Pizo	ditto	Rum	ditto	Cleared for California
15	„ 22	ditto ..	Polacca ..	Calixto ..	172	10	....	ditto	General	ditto	
16	„ 25	Brazilian ..	Yacht ..	Andorinha ..	80	15	José Ribas	L. P. Marinho & Co.	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará
17	„ 26	Sardinian ..	Smack ..	Ewnão Sei ..	123	9	G. Dodero	Not known ..	General	ditto	
18	June 3	Brazilian ..	Yacht ..	Espanto	45	13	F. C. da C. Guimarães	ditto	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará
19	„ 17	American ..	Schooner ..	J. W. Kampton ..	139	8	F. R. Stanhope ..	ditto	General	ditto	Suspicious
20	„ „	Brazilian ..	Felucca ..	Rosita	111	..	....	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Santa Catarinha

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

No. 61.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 5.)

My Lord, *Bahia, July* 17, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on the night of the 23rd ultimo the Brazilian slave-schooner "*Segredo,*" which left this port for the coast of Africa on the 16th of May, was wrecked 20 miles to the south of this port, having on board 320 slaves, out of which 200 are said to have been drowned, together with 6 passengers and 6 of her crew, including the master of the vessel.

Her Majesty sloop "Tweed," and brigantine "Griffon," were in pursuit of the "*Segredo*" until half-past 7 o'clock P.M. on the day of the wreck, at which hour they gave up the chase on account of the proximity of the shore which obliged them to stand out to sea.

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

No. 62.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 5.)

My Lord, *Bahia, July* 17, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of May 4, 1849, and in obedience to the command contained therein, I transmit herewith a return showing the prices of slaves in the Province of Bahia in the years 1846, 1847 and 1848 respectively, and also in the years 1824, 1825 and 1826.

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

Inclosure in No. 62.

RETURN of Prices of Slaves in the Province of Bahia.

For the Years	Prices in Currency.	Average Exchange.	Price in pounds sterling.		
	Reis.	*a.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1846	500$	27	56	5	0
1847	480$	27	54	0	0
1848	500$	25	52	1	8
1824	200$	50	41	13	4
1825	230$	56	53	13	4
1826	300$	50	62	10	0

Bahia, July 17, 1849. (Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

No. 63.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 6.)

My Lord, *Bahia, August* 23, 1849.

IT is with much satisfaction that I have the honour to inform your Lordship of the capture on the coast of Africa, by one of Her Majesty's steamers, of the notorious slave-schooner "*Andorinha,*" of 80 tons burthen, referred in my despatch of 30th September, 1848.

This vessel has made ten successful voyages to the Coast and landed at this port about 3,800 negroes; earning a freight of 47,000*l.* sterling in the short space of thirty-two months.

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

No. 64.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 25.)

My Lord, *Bahia, September* 17, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that a new system has been adopted here by slave-dealers in order to guard against the capture of their vessels by Her Majesty's cruizers at anchor in this port.

A small steamer is used for the purpose of towing their vessels out to sea during a calm and dark night, which prevents the possibility of their capture by a sailing-vessel. Although the port regulations prohibit the departure of ships after sunset, the authorities shut their eyes to this glaring violation of the law.

It gives me pleasure to state to your Lordship that upwards of 20 newly-imported negroes, clandestinely sent from this to Pernambuco, in consequence of not meeting with a ready sale here, were seized on their arrival at that city, by order of the Government.

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

No. 65.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 15.)

My Lord, *Bahia, October* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying returns Nos. 1 and 2 of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending the 30th of September.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 65.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1849.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	July 1	Sardinian	Polacca	Emilia	240	12	V. Maltho	Not known	Ballast	Porto Novo ..	19	
2	„ 23	Brazilian	Brig	Bom Destino	13		Jozé de S. Garcia ..	ditto	ditto	Onim	27	Landed 450 slaves.
3	August 5	Sardinian	Polacca	Tezeo	185	10	.. .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	25	
4	„ 6	Brazilian	Felucca	Rozita	111	8	J. J. de G. Bastos ..	J. P. Marinho ..	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 400 slaves.
5	„ 17	American	Brig	Cadet	294	10	J. Howson	Not known	ditto	Ajuda.. ..	28	
6	„ 20	Brazilian	Yacht	Esperança ..	45	12	F. C. P. Guimarães ..	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 150 slaves.
7	„ 24	French	Patache	L'Etoile de la Mer	158	8	J. Jacob	ditto	ditto	Onim	24	
8	„ 25	Sardinian	Polacca	Calixto	192	10	G. Gemelli	ditto	ditto	ditto	28	
9	Sept. 15	ditto	Barque	Bella Limegna ..	241	14	J. B. Grandona ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	30	
10	„ „	French	Patache	Eclipse	150	8	C. Poillen	ditto	ditto	Ajuda.. ..	29	
11	„ „	Brazilian	Yacht	Quilio	98	9	J. M. Cardozo.. ..	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 300 slaves.
12	„ 20	French	Barque	Industrie	300	15	J. M. Desonnais ..	ditto	ditto	Onim	35	
13	„ 21	Brazilian	Yacht	Igualdade.. ..	127	21	J. C. da Souza.. ..	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 510 slaves.

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 65.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa during the quarter ending September 30, 1849.

No.	Date of sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	July 19	Brazilian	Yacht	Sophia	..	..	.. ..	J. A. da Cruz Rios ..	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver
2	" "	ditto	ditto	S. Barbara Vencedora		..	.. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver
3	" "	Sardinian	Polacca	Italia	163	9	— Ghegliari	Not known	General	ditto	
4	" 25	French	Schooner	Mesange	152	10	J. Lallemand	ditto	ditto	ditto	
5	" "	ditto	Polacca	Furet	114	8	— Dracon	ditto	ditto	ditto	
6	" 27	ditto	Barque	Tourville	262	16	V. Foubert	ditto	Ballast	ditto	
7	" 30	Brazilian	Yacht	Igualdade ..	127	21	J. Pereira da Souza ..	ditto	General	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará
8	Aug. 9	Sardinian	Polacca	Conforto	198	12	C. Lemerier	ditto	ditto	ditto	
9	" 14	American	Yacht	Tam o' Shanter ..	78	8	F. Bennett	ditto	ditto	ditto	
10	" 15	Brazilian	Polacca	Despique ..	159	23	L. D. da Silva ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores
11	" 17	Sardinian	Smack	Christina	51	7	G. Merello	ditto	ditto	ditto	
12	" 22	ditto	Polacca	Volatrice ..	237	14	E. Piaggio	ditto	ditto	ditto	
13	" 23	Brazilian	Felucca	Rozita	111	16	J. J. de G. Bastos ..	J. P. Marinho & Co.	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for St. Catharina
14	" 26	Sardinian	Smack	Due Amici ..	103	8	G. Lagno	Not known	General	ditto	
15	" 31	Brazilian	Brig	Luzitano	248	27	G. R. Germano ..	Querino Antonio ..	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará
16	Sept. 1	Sardinian	Polacca	Conforto	198	12	G. Lemerier	Not known	General	ditto	
17	" 3	Brazilian	Brig	Destino	190	18	J. A. G. dos Santos ..	ditto	ditto	Benguela	Slaver
18	" 10	ditto	Yacht	Espanto	45	11	F. C. P. Guimaraes ..	J. P. Marinho & Co.	Ballast	Coast of Africa	Slaver, cleared for Pará
19	" 17	Sardinian	Patache	Primo	178	10	F. Casanova	Not known	General	ditto	
20	" 20	ditto	Polacca	Iris	106	9	M. Vincini	ditto	ditto	ditto	
21	" 21	Brazilian	Brig	Bom Destino ..	197	22	M. de O. Barras ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores
22	" 22	ditto	Yacht	Palmeira	121	19	A. C. Navaro ..	ditto	Ballast	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Havana.

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

No. 66.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 15, 1850.)

My Lord, *Bahia, November* 22, 1849.

IN my despatch of September 17th I had the honour to inform your Lordship that steamers had been used for the purpose of towing slave-vessels out to sea during the night.

I transmitted the substance of that despatch to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, who immediately made known the fact to the Brazilian Government.

I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship copies of two letters on this subject, addressed by the President to the authorities of this province, and which appeared in the public journals of this city.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

The President to the Marshal Commander of the City.

(Translation.) *October* 27, 1849.

IN compliance with orders transmitted to me by his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs in his despatch of the 26th September last, it is requisite that your Excellency recommend to the commander of the Fort do Mar not to permit the sailing of merchant-vessels during the night, whether they be in *franquia* or in the anchorage-grounds for receiving or discharging.

The same communication was made to the commodore commander of the port and the post-captain commanding the frigate "Paraguassù."

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

The President to the Marshal Commander of the City.

(Translation.) *November* 7, 1849.

IN answer to your despatch of the 5th instant, I have to make known to your Excellency that the orders requested by the colonel commanding the Fort do Mar in the representations, copy whereof accompanied the despatch referred to, not only to prohibit vessels shifting their anchorage during the night, but also steamers of the Bomfim steam company from towing them out of the harbour, have been forwarded to the captain of the port and to the agent of said company.

No. 67.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Porter.

(Circular.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, Feoruary* 9, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th of February, 1849, inclosing a list of British subjects residing within the district of your Consulate who are owners of slaves; and I have to refer you to the circular addressed to you on the 31st December, 1843, and which, with the Act of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 98, on which it is founded, are annexed as inclosures 22 B and 22 C, to the 26th section of your general instructions. In that circular it was pointed out that from and after the time when that Act came into operation, namely, the 1st of November, 1843, it had become unlawful for any British subject, wherever he or she might be, to deal, trade in, purchase, sell, barter, or transfer a slave or slaves, excepting in cases where by the Act itself special exceptions were made to the general prohibition.

Her Majesty's Government think it right that the special attention of Her Majesty's subjects residing in Brazil should be again called to the penalties established by that Act; and I have accordingly to instruct you to take measures for causing the material substance of that Act, together with the circular above mentioned, to be published in some influential journal in Bahia; and further, to take all suitable opportunities of drawing the attention of the British slave-holders to the tenor and purport of those documents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

[This circular was also sent to Her Majesty's Consuls at Maranham, Pará, Paraiba, Pernambuco, Rio de Janeiro, and Rio Grande do Sul.]

No. 68.

Consul Porter to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 31.)

My Lord, *Bahia, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying returns 1 and 2 of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa for the quarter ending this day.

I likewise transmit comparative statements of the number of vessels which have left this for and returned from that coast during the years 1846 to 1849, together with the number of slaves imported into this province in the same period.

It appears that 8,000 to 10,000 is the average number of slaves annually imported and "consumed" in this province; but little fluctuation has taken place in their price during the last four years, which may be accounted for by the markets having been kept regularly supplied.

The carrying trade to the coast, all of which is connected with Slave Trade, is chiefly conducted through Sardinian and French vessels, these being considered by slave-dealers as less liable to seizure. Brazilian vessels are employed almost exclusively in bringing the slaves to this market; they go hence to the Coast in ballast, return in about sixty days, and report as having put back in distress, which glaring falsehood is readily connived at by the authorities.

Were further proof wanting to show that Slave Trade is carried on here with the full knowledge and sanction of the authorities, the following would suffice. On my representing to the President of this province that the landing and introducing into the midst of the dense population of this city 8,000 to 10,000 slaves annually, many in a state of disease, might possibly account for the malignant fever at the present moment decimating the white inhabitants, secret orders were given for the immediate removal of the depôts of new Blacks to the other side of the bay, although the existing law in Brazil enacts that all new slaves be seized and forthwith emancipated.

A promise has lately been made to me by the President, that greater vigilance shall be exercised upon all vessels arriving from the coast of Africa especially on those reported as having put back in distress; nevertheless, I am persuaded that, in the absence of positive orders from the Central Government at Rio de Janeiro, no vigorous attempt will be made here to stop or even to impede this detestable Traffic.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 68.

1.—List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending December 31, 1849.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.	Remarks.
1	Oct. 21	Brazilian	Schooner	Mosquito	69	10	J. V. de Nirio	D. G. Bello ..	Empty pipes	Coast of Africa	..	Said to have landed slaves to southward.
2	„ 24	ditto	Smack	Divinidade ..	103	15	J. P. da Silva	Not known ..	Ballast	Porto Novo	24	Landed 190 slaves
3	„ 30	American	Yacht	J. W. Kampton ..	195	8	P. R. Stanhope ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	29	
4	„ „	Brazilian	Felucca	Rozita	111	14	J. J. de G. Bastos ..	J. P. Marinho	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 413 slaves
5	Nov. 1	Sardinian	Schooner	Ewnao Sei ..	125	9	M. G. Dodero	Not known ..	ditto	Ajuda	32	
6	„ 6	French	ditto	Reine Blanche ..	120	8	G. Lainé	ditto	ditto	Loanda	28	
7	„ 8	Brazilian	Yacht	S. Antonio Vencedor	43	11	J. A. Pereira	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	
8	„ 18	ditto	Brig	Bom Destino ..	197	21	M. de O. Bastos ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	..	Landed 450 slaves
9	„ 23	ditto	Yacht	Espanto	45	11	F. C. P. Guimaraes ..	Marinho & Co.	ditto	ditto	..	Landed 190 slaves
10	„ „	Sardinian	Polacca	Italia	169	10	L. Ghlighazza ..	Not known ..	ditto	Onim	25	
11	Dec. 1	French	ditto	Furet	114	8	J. F. Dragon	ditto	ditto	ditto	27	
12	„ 5	Sardinian	Patache	Berrizo	103	9	P. Frugoni	ditto	ditto	ditto	25	
13	„ „	ditto	Smack	Christina	51	7	G. Merello	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	27	
14	„ „	ditto	ditto	Due Amici ..	103	8	G. Laquo	ditto	ditto	Onim	36	
15	„ „	Brazilian	..	Name unknown ..	..	..	.. ..	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa	..	Landed 500 slaves; 80 said to have died on passage
16	„ 25	Sardinian	Polacca	Conforto	146	14	G. Lemerier	ditto	ditto	Loanda	22	
17	„ 30	ditto	Patache	Iride	106	9	.. ..	ditto	ditto	Coast of Africa		

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No 68.

2.—LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa during the quarter ending December 31, 1849.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither Bound.	Remarks.
1	Oct. 16	Sardinian	Polacca	Vencitore	209	10	E. Chiozzi	Not known	Rum, &c.	Coast of Africa	Cleared for California.
2	„ 17	Brazilian	Yacht	Igualdade	137	19	J. P. de Souza	ditto	Ballast ..	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
3	„ 21	ditto	ditto	Quilio	98	15	D. da Costa Lage ..	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Azores.
4	„ „	American	Patacho	Cruizer	129	10	R. Etchberg	ditto	General ..	ditto	
5	Nov. 13	Brazilian	Schooner	Mosquito	59	16	J. V. de Lirio	D. G. Bello	Ballast ..	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
6	„ 18	Sardinian	Brig	Penguin	228	12	G. B. Dodero	Not known	Rum, &c.	ditto	Cleared for California.
7	„ „	ditto	ditto	Empirio	227	11	J. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto	ditto	
8	„ 22	Brazilian	Schooner	3a. Andorinha ..	188	23	José Ribas	ditto	ditto	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
9	„ 27	Sardinian	Polacca	Giudetta	184	11	D. Dasson	ditto	General ..	ditto	
10	Dec. 2	French	Schooner	Etoile de la Mer ..	158	6	J. Jacob	ditto	ditto	ditto	
11	„ 3	Sardinian	ditto	Luiza Generoza ..	114	18	F. Devoto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Cleared for California.
12	„ 7	ditto	Polacca	Calixto	192	10	C. Gemelli	ditto	ditto	ditto	
13	„ „	American	Patache	Bridgeton	144	9	B. Joseph	ditto	ditto	ditto	
14	„ 10	Brazilian	Yacht	Espanto	45	11	J. P. da Silva	Marinho & Co. ..	Ballast ..	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Pará.
15	„ 7	American	ditto	J. W. Kampton ..	199	11	E. Symonds	ditto	Tobacco ..	ditto	Cleared for California.
16	„ 13	Brazilian	Felucca	Rozita	111	22	P. S. de S. Maltez ..	ditto	Ballast ..	ditto	Slaver, cleared for Barcelona.
17	„ 16	French	Schooner	Panthére	102	7	P. St. Martin	Not known	General ..	ditto	
18	„ 17	Sardinian	Brig	S. André	139	10	José Canepa	ditto	ditto	ditto	
19	„ 31	French	Barque	Industrie	309	15	D. J. Maru	ditto	ditto	ditto	

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1849.

(Signed) EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 68.

3.—STATEMENT of VESSELS which have sailed from Bahia for Africa during the years 1846 to 1849.

Nationality.	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	Totals.
Sardinian	12	22	27	26	87
French	12	7	11	12	42
Brazilian	21	32	45	32	130
American	6	6	8	6	26
Swedish	2	2	..	..	4
Spanish	2	2	1	..	4
Portuguese	1	1	1	2	6
Danish..	..	..	..	..	1
Bremen	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	56	74	93	78	301

4.—STATEMENT of VESSELS which have entered Bahia from Africa during the years 1846 to 1849.

Nationality.	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	Totals.
Sardinian	10	22	22	19	73
French..	10	7	11	11	39
Brazilian	17	26	27	25	95
American	9	4	6	5	24
Portuguese	3	1	1	..	5
Spanish	3	1	2	..	6
Swedish	1	3	..	..	4
Hamburgese	..	1	1	..	2
English	..	..	2	4	6
Totals	53	65	72	69	254

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1849. EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

5.—STATEMENT of the number of SLAVES imported into the Province of Bahia during the years 1846 to 1849.

Nationality of vessels by which imported.	1846.		1847.		1848.		1849.		Totals.	
	Vessels	Slaves.	Vessels	Slaves.	Vessels	Slaves.	Vessels	Slaves.	Vessels	Slaves.
Brazilian ..	13	6124	19	9614	20	6919	21	8081	73	30738
Spanish ..	3	1230	1	300	2	380	..	..	6	1910
American ..	..	..	1	150	..	..	..	..	1	150
Totals ..	16	7354	21	10064	22	7299	21	8081	80	32798

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1849. EDWARD PORTER, *Consul.*

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Maranham.*

No. 69.

Consul Corbett to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 22.)

My Lord, *Maranham, March* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the quarterly return of the number of vessels which have arrived here from the coast of Africa during the three months ending this day; and I have the satisfaction of being enabled to state that no vessel has sailed from this port for that coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT.

Inclosure in No. 69.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Maranham from the Island of Ascension during the quarter ending March 31, 1849.

Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owners.	Cargo.	Remarks.
1849. February 3	British ..	Brig ..	Midas	255	13	Charles Low	Soot, Gilson, and Co., of Dundee	Flour ..	Sailed from Talcahuana, Bay of Chile, with flour, for Buenos Ayres, and a market.
March 15	British ..	Barque ..	Indus	368	17	Frank Putt	D. and R. Gilkison and Co., of Glasgow ..	Ballast ..	Sailed from England with stores for the garrison.

British Consulate, Maranham, March 31, 1849.

(Signed) R. FALCONER CORBETT, *Consul.*

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Para.*

No. 70.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord, *Pará, March* 17, 1849.

I HAD the honour to address your Lordship on the 14th December ultimo, to say in reply to your Lordship's despatch under date of 18th September, that I had addressed letters to all Her Majesty's subjects who reside in this province, requesting them to furnish me by your Lordship's commands, lists of the names, ages, and occupations of the slaves they owned; but I am sorry to inform your Lordship that of thirteen individuals so addressed by me, eleven have not sent any returns nor answered my letters, and I am convinced they will not obey the call. One of them, the principal holder, Mr. Archibald Campbell, has from 50 to 60 slaves; Mr. Henry Dickenson, who is a planter here, has made a return of 35; the others collectively may hold about 20.

I wait your Lordship's further instructions on this subject,

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 71.

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

My Lord, *Pará, April* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that there has not been any importation of slaves from the coast of Africa, or other quarter during the last three months ending yesterday.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 72.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 17.)

My Lord, *Pará, July* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that there has not been during the quarter ended yesterday, any importation of slaves in this province, nor have any ships been fitted out within its limits for slaving purposes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 73.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 4.)

My Lord, *Pará, October* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no attempt has been made in this province during the quarter ended yesterday, to import slaves from either the coast of Africa or the southern provinces of the empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 74.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 16, 1850.)

My Lord, *Pará, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the non-importation of slaves into this province during the quarter ending this date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

No. 75.

Consul Ryan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 16, 1850.)

My Lord, *Pará, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the satisfaction to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information, the statistical return of the free and slave population of this province, as lately published by the President, and transmitted by him officially to this Provincial Legislative Assembly.

Your Lordship will see by this return, that in point of the total number of the inhabitants of the province, my yearly returns, founded on private information, were very near the reality, but the real number of slaves in the province amount to 34,252, while my returns only numbered them at 24,400.

I have, &c.
Signed) RICHARD RYAN.

Inclosure in No. 75.

RETURN of the POPULATION of the Province of Pará, in the Brazils, in conformity with the statistical return lately concluded by orders of the President of the Province, and officially communicated by him to the Provincial Assembly on the 1st October, 1849.

Districts.	Population.						Total Population.	Number of Houses.
	Free.			Slave.				
	Males.	Females.	Total free.	Males.	Females.	Total Slaves.		
Capital	26,305	30,209	56,514	9,673	9,552	19,225	75,739	9,921
Macapá	5,855	5,991	11,846	1,516	1,418	2,934	14,780	1,537
Cametá	12,508	15,294	27,802	2,536	2,198	4,734	32,536	5,211
Bragança	4,445	4,627	9,072	1,416	1,350	2,766	11,838	1,892
Santarem	11,637	12,957	24,594	2,018	1,865	3,883	28,477	3,459
High Amazon..	11,029	10,953	21,982	348	362	710	22,692	2,185
	71,779	80,031	151,810	17,507	16,745	34,252	186,062	24,205

In the above Return are included all classes—Free, Slaves, and Indians, in communication with the Brazilians from infancy upwards.

No idea can be formed as to the number of wild Indians existing in the forests of this vast province, as they avoid all communication either with the authorities or people of the country; and the waste territory they inhabit is of such vast extent, that they are not likely to be disturbed in their solitude for many ages to come. Total population of the province, 186,062, of which 34,252 are slaves.

British Consulate, Pará, December 31, 1849. (Signed) RICHARD RYAN, *Consul.*

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Paraiba.*

No. 76.

Consul Newcomen to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 28.)

My Lord, *Paraiba, February* 15, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the year 1848 no vessel sailed for the coast of Africa from any port within the district of this Consulate, nor have any arrived from thence within that period.

I do not believe that any slaves were imported into this province, either by land or otherwise, during the past year; and I have much satisfaction in being able to give it as my opinion that there is amongst all classes a growing feeling against any further importations of African Blacks. Of this feeling some of the most respectable journals in Rio de Janeiro have made themselves the organs, maintaining that competition in the labour market with slaves is more injurious to the free labouring population of Brazil, than such competition could be with free colonists.

I am further of opinion that the political movement at present on foot in this empire must tend materially to check the contraband Traffic in Slaves; because that movement is directed chiefly against the influence exercised by the Portuguese, who have certainly been in Brazil, both directly and indirectly, the principal supporters of that abominable Traffic.

The annexed note of the amount and value of the exports from this province of such staple productions of the country as are produced wholly or in part by slave-labour, shows an increase over those of last year; and here it may be remarked that the relative proportion of free labour in producing these articles of export is becoming greater every year.

Articles.	Number of Bags.	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Cotton	19,327	1,640	9	3	8	60,824	0	0
Sugar	..	3,384	13	3	10	49,106	2	4

There have been no changes in the laws or regulations with regard to slaves within the year, but the Imperial Government has marked its desire to discountenance a continuance in the contraband Traffic in Slaves, by raising the duties on goods re-exported to the coast of Africa to half the amount paid on those entered for internal consumption, and by addressing through the Minister of Justice a circular to the Presidents of provinces, directing them in energetic terms to recommend to the police authorities the exercise of vigilance and activity in order to prevent such scandalous abuses taking place in their respective provinces as the disembarkation not only of Africans, but also of merchandise by smuggling.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN.

No. 77.

Consul Newcomen to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 11, 1849.)

My Lord, *Paraiba, November* 30, 1848.

PURSUANT to the direction contained in your Lordship's despatch of September 18, 1848, I have the honour to send herewith inclosed a list of all British subjects within the district of my Consulate who are owners of slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN.

Inclosure in No. 77.

LIST of British subjects within the Consulate of Paraiba who are owners of Slaves.

Names.	Observations.
Carlile Holmes	These are the only British subjects in my Consulate who possess slaves, and they employ them both for domestic and agricultural purposes.
Edward Power	
Richard Rogers	

Paraiba, November 30, 1848. (Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN, *Consul.*

No. 78.

Consul Newcomen to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 31.)

My Lord, *Paraiba, January* 31, 1850.

I HAVE to report that during the year ended December 31, 1849, no vessels sailed for the coast of Africa from any port within the district of my Consulate; neither have any arrived from thence within that period.

I do not know of any contraband slaves having been brought into this province during the year; although the importations to the southward have been on a very extensive scale, as will have been duly reported to your Lordship by the respective Consuls.

The annexed note of the amount and value of the exports from this province, of such staple productions of the country as are produced wholly or in part by slave-labour, shows an increase over that of the preceding years; and I have to add, as I mentioned in my report for 1848, that the relative proportion of free labour employed in the production of these articles of export is steadily on the increase.

Articles.	Number of Bags.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Sugar	..	4,545	5	1	12	66,770	16	2
Cotton	32,257	2,888	19	3	20	109,532	7	4

There have been no changes in the laws or regulations with regard to slaves within the year.

I have &c.

(Signed) BEVERLEY NEWCOMEN.

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Pernambuco.*

No. 79.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 4.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, April* 20, 1849.

AS the foreign Slave Trade has ceased in this province, it is impossible to make the customary annual report upon it; and as no new laws have been enacted to regulate the internal Slave Trade, or any new feature presented itself as regards the state of slavery in this country, the same observation is applicable to them.

The proximate produce of slave-labour during the year may be, 36,000 bags of cotton, 70,000 tons of sugar, 10,000 pipes of rum, besides small quantities of timber, skins, molasses, sweetmeats, &c., valuing in round numbers 1,000,000*l.* sterling.

I inclose to your Lordship lists of the arrivals and departures of vessels betwixt this port and the coast of Africa during the year 1848. It is very questionable if any were engaged in the Slave Trade, but quite certain that none landed slaves upon this coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the Coasts of Africa during the year ended December 31, 1848.

Date of arrival.	Name of vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the coast arrived.	Remarks.
1848.								
January 21	Rosa	José Francisco da Costa ..	F. S. Rabello & Son ..	Brig	125	Portuguese	Angola.. ..	Ballast
April 18	Bom Successo ..	João M. Pitta	Gabriel Antonio ..	Brig	167	ditto	ditto.. ..	ditto
September 11	Argo	C. F. Brose	F. S. Rabello & Son ..	Schooner	106	Hamburgh	Loanda.. ..	ditto
October 5	Princeza Franceza	— Lunde	Arrial Frères	Ship	278	French	Goree	ditto
December 12	Inveja	Antonio Dom. de Carvalho	Oliveira Irmaos, and Co.	Brig	167	Portuguese	Angola.. ..	ditto
„ 17	Louisa Benton ..	— Chester	F. S. Rabello and Son..	Brig	168	United States	Loanda.. ..	19 casks whale oil, 7 bales of cotton goods.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the year ended December 31, 1848.

Date of clearance.	Name of vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the coast cleared for.	Description of Cargo.
1848.								
March 19	Rosa	J. Francisco da Costa ..	F. S. Rabello and Son..	Brig	125	Portuguese ..	Angola.. .	248 barrels, 194 latas=1684 arrobas of sugar; 133 pipes, 20 barrels of rum
May 16	Frederick ..	Charles Faulkner ..	Amorim Brothers ..	Brig	228	United States	ditto	159 pipes, 30 barrels of rum; 716 alqueires of farinha
June 8	Paqte. de Trinidade	J. Gilpe	Master	Schooner	90	Spanish ..	Havana.. ..	Jerked beef, and 21 young slaves
October 16	Argo	C. F. Brose	F. S. Rabello and Son..	Schooner	106	Hamburgh ..	Loanda.. ..	147 pipes, 22 hogsheads 45 barrels= 30,060 canadas of rum
November 7	Universo ..	Jacome Bonsenhor ..	B. Lassere	Brig	245	Sardinian ..	Ambriz.. ..	100 barrels 200 latas=850 arrobas of sugar; 166 pipes, 8 hogsheads 51 barrels, = 33,252 gallons of rum; 13 barrels of molasses
December 21	Adelaide ..	S. G. Gamage	M. J. R. Silva.. ..	Barque	249	United States	Anamabré ..	317 pipes, 24 hogsheads, 42 barrels= 60,385 gallons rum

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 80.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 4.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, April* 28, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship, lists of the arrivals and departures of vessels between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended the 31st March last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 80.

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the Coasts of Africa during the Quarter ended March 31, 1849.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the Coast arrived.	Remarks.
1849 January 7	Virginia	P. Betram	Arrial Frères	Brig ..	166	French ..	Senegal	Ballast.
„ „	Flor de Tejo ..	Francisco C. Rosa.. ..	J. M. R. d'Andrade ..	ditto	125	Portuguese ..	Loanda	Cargo, consisting of 2,612 mats, 14 casks of wax, 367 gold pieces, 70 dollars, and other articles of trifling value.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 80.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the quarter endedof March 31, 1849.

Date of Clearance.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the Coast cleared for.	Description of cargo.
1849 January 11	Italia	— Chigliozza	José Saporito	Polacca	121	Sardinian ..	Africa	12 barrels, 6 tinas = 33 arrobas of sugar; 125 pipes of rum.
„ 17	Inveja	Antonio Domingos de Carvalho	Oliveira Brothers & Co. ..	Brig ..	167	Portuguese ..	ditto	70 barrels, 230 tinas = 760 arrobas of sugar; 244 pipes of rum.
„ 24	D. Anna.. ..	J. G. de Mendouça ..	F. S. Rabello & Son ..	Pataxo	93	ditto	ditto	39 barrels, 20 tinas = 412 arrobas of sugar; 38 pipes, 110 hogsheads of rum; 260 barrels of molasses.
February 13	Louisa Beaton ..	— Chester..	ditto	Brig ..	168	United States..	ditto	183 pipes, 69 barrels of rum.
„ 23	Bella Lamegna ..	J. B. Grondouche	B. Lassere & Co.	ditto	241	Sardinian ..	ditto	40 barrels, 55 tinas = 335 arrobas of sugar; 330 pipes of rum.
March 19	Flor de Tejo ..	Francisco C. Rosa.. ..	J. M. R. d'Andrade ..	ditto	125	Portuguese ..	ditto	12 barrels, 130 tinas = 284 arrobas of sugar; 171 pipes, 1 barrel of rum; 25 barrels of molasses.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 81.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 5.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, June* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a return of the arrivals and departures of vessels betwixt this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 81.

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the coasts of Africa, during the Quarter ended the 30th of June, 1849.

None.

1849.
May 13. The Brazilian brig "*Amorim*" landed at Muceio (within the district of this Consulate) 73 newly-imported slaves, with a passage of eight days from Bahia. They were sent on shore in a lighter in open day, and landed at the wharf. This scandalous affair was conducted so publicly that the chief of the police, through the particular request of the President of the Province of Alagoas, rode down to the landing-place and made a seizure of them, when they were deposited in the barracks of that city. Subsequently 71 of these slaves were sent by orders of the President in a Brazilian steamer to Rio de Janeiro, where the Government took charge of them.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 81.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the quarter ended June 30, 1849.

Date of clearance.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the coast cleared for.	Cargoes and Remarks.
1849.								
April 10	Whig	Jos. B. Whipping ..	McCalmont and Co. ..	Brig ..	221	United States	Africa	254 pipes, 262 hogsheads rum, value 2,203*l.*
„ 20	Rocomino ..	Andre Denegre	J. Ferreira de Mattos ..	Brig ..	158	Sardinia	ditto ..	141 pipes, 161 hogsheads rum; 10 bags 30 tinas=53 arrobas of sugar, value 1,237*l.*
May 7	Leão	Antonio Ignacio Rego ..	T. D. A. Fonseca ..	Brig ..	169	Portuguese	ditto ..	40 arrobas of sugar, 19,800 gallons of rum, value 775*l.*
„ 23	Tentativa Feliz	Antonio Silveira Mariel ..	J. Silva e Guillo ..	Barque..	..	Brazil	ditto ..	50 barrels of sugar, 12,758 gallons of rum, 1,380 gallons of molasses, &c., and 170 passengers.

N.B. The "Tentativa Feliz" was chartered under an authority granted by the Portuguese Government for the conveyance of its subjects, emigrants, to Mossamedes, under convoy of Her Most Faithful Majesty's brig "Douro."

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 82.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 18.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, September* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that within the last few weeks bodies of Africans have been illegally imported into this province from that of Bahia and sold as slaves.

On the 29th ultimo the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" arrived here, having between 40 and 50 of these unfortunates on board; the fact was denounced to the inspector of the custom-house, who immediately sent on board and succeeded in landing 23, the remainder having been already sold, and his Excellency the President ordered the immediate prosecution of the offenders, whoever they may be.

Should the prosecution be *bonâ fide* carried out, it will produce the best results, and cast additional lustre upon the unexceptionable Government of Senhor Honorio.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 83.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Cowper.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 29, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th ultimo, in which you report that several gangs of Africans had recently been imported from the Province of Bahia into Pernambuco, where they had been sold as slaves.

You state also that the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" having arrived at Pernambuco on the 29th of August with between 40 and 50 slaves, the fact was denounced to the inspector of the custom-house, who immediately proceeded on board, and rescued 23 of their number; and you add that the President of the province had ordered the immediate prosecution of the offenders.

I have to desire you to express to President Honorio the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received the intelligence of this laudable endeavour on his part to vindicate both the laws of his country and the Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil against Slave Trade; and you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that no pains may be spared in pressing this prosecution to a successful issue.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 84.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 26.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, October* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship returns of the vessels which have passed betwixt this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended yesterday.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 84.

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the coasts of Africa during the Quarter ended the 30th September, 1849.

None.

N.B.—On the 29th August last the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" arrived here, having between 40 and 50 newly-imported Africans on board, shipped at Bahia. The fact was denounced to the inspector of the custom-house, who immediately sent on board and succeeded in landing 23, the remainder having been already disposed of by the consignees. His Excellency the President of the province has announced his intention of prosecuting the parties concerned, whoever they may be. Manoel Antonio Coelho, master, and Joaquim Teixeira Peixoté, owner.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 84.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the year ended September 30, 1849.

Date of departure.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Name of Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the coast cleared for.	Remarks.
1849.								
August 10	Destino ..	José da Silva Neves ..	L. José da Costa Araujo	Brig	190	Brazil ..	Angola, viâ Bahia	200 pipes 41 demijohns=34,246 canadas rum; 50 barrels 1 tina=3 tons 3 cwt. sugar; 21 barrels=751 canadas molasses, value 1,177*l.* 9s. 6d.
September 20	Tourville ..	— Faubert	B. Laserre and Co. ..	Barque	362	France ..	Africa ..	288 pipes rum

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 85.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 24, 1850.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, December* 15, 1849.

IN accordance with your Lordship's instructions contained in your despatch of the 29th of October last, I waited upon his Excellency the President of this province, and expressed to him the satisfaction felt by Her Majesty's Government at his proceedings with regard to the slaves imported from Bahia by the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente.*"

Senhor Honorio replied that he was much flattered, that he had done no more than his duty, that he had a sincere desire and determination to oppose the Slave Trade, but that means of doing so must be discovered which would not interfere with the legitimate commerce of the country; he said that he considered the population introduced from Africa to be bad, and an evil to the country, and he would do all in his power to prevent its introduction, and that he would never forget the engagements which existed between his country and England.

He observed with truth that the Slave Trade had ceased for some years in this province, with the exception of the small Bahia Traffic, which he trusted he had now put an end to; and I may add that since the affair of the "*Diligente*" I have heard of no further importation from any other part.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 86.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 24, 1850.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, December* 15, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have been mainly instrumental in rescuing a man from slavery, in which he had been unjustly detained by his mistress.

Sabino was purchased some years since by an English merchant, who shortly after his marriage with a Brazilian lady paid a visit to Europe, taking Sabino as his attendant; when they were about to return, Sabino objected, upon the ground that he was free in England, and that by returning to his own country he again became a slave; his master assured him that his liberty should be held sacred, and even executed a document recognising him as free; notwithstanding this the young man could only be induced to return by the persuasion of a British merchant still resident here.

Soon after their return to Brazil, Sabino's master died, and he went into the service of the merchant alluded to, who paid his wages to the widow, and in this respect Sabino was still treated as a slave; a short time ago the widow wrote to this gentleman, stating that as she was about to be married, she intended selling Sabino.

The gentleman was shocked that a man who had left a state of freedom at his persuasion, who had been declared free by his master (although the document was unfortunately lost), and who had even after this earned for his mistress 500$000 (almost his value), should be again enslaved; he did all that argument could do, he even offered to give her 300$000 not to molest the young man, but in vain; he therefore sent Sabino to me.

I had some doubt whether Sabino being a Brazilian, his case came within the range of my functions; but the fact of his having belonged to an Englishman, and of his having been free in England, backed by the dictates of humanity, made me decide upon doing what could be done for him.

I was satisfied that the plea of his freedom having been recognised in England would not avail him here, but by searching over some old books with my advocate, we discovered an old Portuguese law of 1800, which had been left unrepealed, which enacted that any slave brought from Brazil to Portugal hould be free, and could never afterwards be made a slave in Brazil;

fortunately, Sabino's master had gone to England by way of Lisbon. I therefore waited upon the President and represented the case to him, and I am happy to inform your Lordship that after having examined the necessary vouchers, Senhor Honorio ordered Sabino's freedom to be registered, and he is now at liberty.

I labour under some anxiety for his fate—his ex-mistress belongs to a family rich and influential, and it is highly probable that he will be kidnapped and carried into the interior, where he will of course be once more reduced to slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 87.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Cowper.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 4, 1850.

WITH reference to your despatch dated the 15th of December last, I have the satisfaction to express to you my approval of the steps which you have taken, as reported in your despatch, to rescue a Brazilian named Sabino, from a state of slavery in which he was unjustly detained by his mistress.

The fact of Sabino having once belonged to an Englishman, and having been made free in England, was a sufficient ground for the humane task which you undertook, and in the accomplishment of which you have had the satisfaction of being successful.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 88.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 15.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, January* 7, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship lists of the arrivals from and departures to the coast of Africa during the quarter ended the 31st December, 1849.

The Sardinian schooner "*Prunio*" and the French brig "*Faber*" are unquestionably engaged in the Slave Trade, but the voyage of the "*Tentativa Feliz*" was perfectly legitimate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 88.

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the Coasts of Africa during the quarter ending December 31, 1849.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the Coast arrived.	Remarks.
1849 October 25	Tentativa Feliz .	Antonio Silvra. Maciel, Jun.	Silva and Grillo . .	Barque .	476	Brazil . .	Mossamedes .	Wax, salt-fish, and ballast.
December 28	Prunio . .	Francisco Cazanova . .	Order	Brigantine .	101	Sardinia .	Castello da Mina, Africa	Ballast, and proceeded to Bahia.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 88.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the quarter ended December 31, 1849.

Date of Clearance.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Owner or Consignee.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	What part of the Coast cleared for.	Remarks.
1849 November 3	Faber . .	Jean Selme . . .	B. Lassere and Co. . .	Brig . .	125	France . .	Africa . .	190 pipes, or 34,200 canadas of rum, value £1,187.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

No. 89.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 15.)

My Lord, *Pernambuco, January* 12, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 6th instant the Brazilian smack "*St. João*" arrived at this port from Bahia, having on board of her several new Africans for sale, the whole of whom were landed in safety.

This fact having come to the knowledge of his Excellency the President, Senhor Honorio immediately dispatched parties of soldiers to search the houses of the persons suspected of having received these Blacks, and I believe that many of them have been recovered.

It will be satisfactory to your Lordship to find that the assurances made to me by Senhor Honorio of his hostility to Slave Trade, which I reported to you in my despatch of the 15th December last, were something more than empty assertions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 90.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Cowper.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 19, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo, reporting the steps which had been taken by order of President Honorio for the discovery and seizure of the slaves imported from Bahia to Pernambuco on board the Brazilian smack "*Santo João,*" and I have in reply to instruct you to express to Senhor Honorio the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the prompt and efficient measures which he adopted upon the occasion in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 91.

Consul Cowper to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 18.)

(Extract.) *Pernambuco, January* 30, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship my report upon Slave Trade and Slavery for the year 1849.

Your Lordship will perceive by the tables inclosed that the Slave Trade from Africa has not been renewed during that period.

The coasting Slave Trade from Bahia has, however, assumed a more systematic form, almost every coaster from that province bringing up portions of new Blacks varying from 10 to 50, supplied, to the disgrace of the authorities, with regular passports. I regret that I am unable to inform your Lordship of the number of negroes thus feloniously introduced here.

To render this contraband trade successful, the connivance of the Pernambuco authorities is of course essential, as the negroes are regularly landed within the harbour. I have understood that one of the employés of the custom-house receives Rs.100$ (about 12*l.*) a-head for each man disembarked, and I do not entertain the slightest doubt of the fact; the inspector of the custom-house is, however, perfectly free from suspicion, and the President of the province has shown to this Traffic the most decided opposition; in addition to some seizures on board which he has ordered, he has had houses suspected of containing the negroes after being landed searched, but I do not yet hear that the slaves have been liberated or the traders prosecuted.

He has also purchased two gun-boats to cruize at the mouths of the Ipojuca, Camagirebe, Formoso, and Serinyhaen, as some of these Blacks have been landed in the former river, infecting the inhabitants with yellow fever.

The impression existing on the President's mind, and very generally in this province is, that yellow fever has been brought here from the coast of Africa *viâ* Bahia. This result has caused the President of Bahia to issue a portaria denying the fact, but the assertions of the President of a slave province like Bahia are not much to be relied upon.

I have read some of the evidence taken before Parliament upon the expediency of continuing or removing our African squadron; the arguments in favour of its removal were,

That the system had been, is, and must continue to be resultless.

That it had increased the horrors of the Slave Trade.

That it was attended with an expense and loss of life consequently unnecessary.

If the British people have become indifferent to the existence of Slave Trade and Slavery, this may be admitted, the squadron may be removed, the expense and loss of life may be saved, and the question may be left to the philanthropy of the Brazilian Government and Brazilian people; but if they still feel an interest in the abolition of this shame to humanity, they may rest assured,

First. That if the squadron be removed, the Slave Trade will immediately increase to an enormous extent; only cheapen the price of Blacks, and 2000 square miles of country in Northern Brazil, into which no slave has been imported for years, will be thrown open to receive them, from the Oronoko to the Francisco, from Cape St. Augustin to the Mederios.

Secondly. That were the horrors of Slave Trade decreased by the removal of the squadron, which is questionable, those of slavery would be greatly increased; it would change a temporary horror for a permanent one. The treatment which a slave receives is, like everything else, in proportion to his price—cheapen him, reduce his value, and you return to the period when a sick Black was allowed to die, not being worth his cure.

The probable amount of slave produce last year, as calculated by the annual crop of sugar from the 1st November to the 31st October, 1849, is as follows, viz.:

4,033,759 arrobas, or	1,152,216¾ cwt. sugar	£710,000
210,219 ditto or	60,610¾ cwt. cotton	112,150
62,613 hides	.. ..	15,000
3,986 pipes 782 barrels 582,483 gallons	Rum	30,000
		£867,150

Inclosure 1i n No. 91

LIST of ARRIVALS of Vessels at Pernambuco from the coasts of Africa during the year ended December 31, 1849.

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Master.	Consignee or Owner.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	From what part of the coast.	Cargo.
January 7	Virginia ..	P. Betram	Arrial Frères	Brig	166	French ..	Senegal ..	Ballast.
" "	Flor de Tejo ..	Francisco C. Rosa ..	J. M. R. d'Andrade ..	Brig	125	Portuguese ..	Loanda ..	2,612 mats, 14 casks of wax, 367 gold pieces, 70 dollars, and sundry small articles, birds, &c.
October 25	Tentativa Feliz	Antonio Silveira Maciel, jun.	Silva and Grillo ..	Barque	518	Brazilian ..	Mossamedes ..	Wax, salt fish, and ballast.
December 28	Prunio	Francisco Cazanova ..	Order	Brigantine	101	Sardinian ..	Castello da Mina	Ballast, and proceeded to Bahia

May 13. N.B.—The Brazilian brig "*Amorim*" landed at Muceio 73 newly-imported slaves, with a passage of eight days from Bahia. They were sent on shore in a lighter in open day, and landed at the wharf. This scandalous affair was conducted so publicly that the chief of the police, through the particular request of the President of Alagoas, rode to the landing-place, made a seizure of the negroes, and deposited them in the barracks. 71 of these unfortunate creatures were subsequently sent in a Brazilian steamer to Rio de Janeiro, where the Imperial Government took charge of them.

The 29th of August the Brazilian schooner "*Diligente*" arrived here from Bahia, having on board between 40 and 50 newly-imported blacks. The fact was denounced to the Inspector of the Custom-house, who requested the Chief of the Police to proceed on board, and succeeded in seizing 23, the remainder having been landed and sold or secreted.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 91.

LIST of DEPARTURES of Vessels from Pernambuco for the Coasts of Africa during the year ended December 31, 1849.

Date of departure.	Name of vessel.	Name of Master.	Consignee or Owner.	Rig.	Tonnage.	Nation.	To what part of the coast sailed.	Remarks.
1849. January 11	Italia	Chigliozza	José Saporite	Polacca	121	Sardinian ..	Africa	12 barrels, 6 tinas = 33 arrobas sugar; 125 pipes rum; value 1,200*l.*
„ 17	Inveja	Ant. D. de Carvalho ..	Oliveira Irmãos ..	Brig	167	Portuguese ..	Ditto	70 barrels, 230 tinas=760 arrobas sugar; 244 pipes rum; value 2,126*l.*
„ 24	D. Anna ..	J. G. de Mendouça ..	Rabello & Son.. ..	Patuxo	93	do. ..	St. Thomé & Principe	39 barrels, 20 tinas=412 arrobas sugar; 38 pipes, 110 hogsheads rum; 260 barrels molasses; value 923*l.*
February. 13	Louisa Beaton ..	Chester	Ditto	Brig	168	United States	Africa	183 pipes 69 barrels rum; 30 barrels molasses; value 1,360*l.*
„ 23	Bella Lamegna	J. B. Grondeure ..	B. Lasserre & Co. ..	Ditto	241	Sardinian ..	Ditto	300 pipes rum; 40 barrels, 55 tinas=335 arrobas sugar; value 2,309*l.*
March 19	Flor de Tejo ..	Fran. C. Rosa ..	J. M. R. d'Andrade ..	Ditto	125	Portuguese ..	Ditto	171 pipes, 1 barrel rum; 12 barrels, 130 tinas =284 arrobas sugar; 25 barrels molasses; value 1,306*l.*
April 10	Whig	John B. Whipping ..	McCalmont & Co. ..	Ditto	221	United States	Ditto	254 pipes; 262 barrels rum, value 2,203*l.*
„ 20	Rocomino ..	André Denegre ..	S. Ferr. da Mattos ..	Ditto	158	Sardinian ..	Ditto	10 barrels, 30 tinas=53 arrobas sugar; 141 pipes, 161 barrels rum, value 1,237*l.*
May 7	Leão	Ant. Ign. Rego ..	T. d'Aqu. Fonseca & Son	Ditto	169	Portuguese ..	Ditto	40 tinas sugar, 600 barrels rum, value 819*l.*
„ 23	Tentativa Feliz	Ant. Silv. Maciel Jun.	Silva and Grillo ..	Barque	518	Brazilian ..	Mossamedes ..	50 barrels, 313 arrobas sugar; 49 pipes, 4 hogsheads, 98 barrels rum; 88½ alqueirs rice; 75 alqueirs farinha; 42 barrels molasses; value 1,230*l.* 170 passengers. This vessel was chartered under authority of the Portuguese Government, for the conveyance of its subjects, emigrants to the settlement at Mossamedes, sailed under convoy of Her Most Faithful Majesty's brig "Douro."
August 11	Destino ..	José da Silva Neves ..	L. J. da Costa d'Araujo	Brig	190	Brazilian ..	Angola *viâ* Bahia	200 pipes, 41 demijohns rum; 50 barrels, 1 tina=3 tons, 3 cwt. sugar; 21 barrels molasses; 75 alqueirs rice; value 1,344*l.*
September 20	Tourville ..	Faubert	B. Lassere & Co. ..	Barque	362	French ..	Africa	288 pipes=51,300 canadas rum, value 1,957*l.*
November 3	Faber	Jean Selme	Ditto.	Brig	135	ditto. ..	Ditto	190 pipes=34,200 canadas rum, value 1,187*l.*

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

BRAZIL. *(Consular)—Rio de Janeiro.*

No. 92.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, February* 28, 1849.

1. IN obedience to the instructions dated March 8, 1843, I have the honour to make the following report on the state of the Slave Trade within the district of this Consulate during the year 1848.

2. From the custom-house returns it appears that the departures from this harbour to Africa, and arrivals here from the African coast, during the past year were as follows:—

	Departures.	
Under American Flag	- - - -	23
,, Brazilian ,,	- - - -	11
,, Portuguese ,,	- - - -	8
,, French ,,	- - - -	7
		—49
	Arrivals.	
,, American ,,	- - - -	16
,, Brazilian ,,	- - - -	2
,, Portuguese ,,	- - - -	6
,, French ,,	- - - -	4
		—28
Total	- - - - -	77

On comparing the above lists with similar returns for 1847, there appears an increase in the departures, of nine vessels, and of one in the arrivals; but as I had the honour to state to your Lordship in my last year's report such returns do not furnish any criterion of the extent of the Slave Trade between this province and Africa, as, in addition to the foregoing, many vessels leave this under false clearances, and others sail from the different neighbouring outports, and in the same manner vessels that have landed slaves along the coast report themselves on arrival here as coasters, and often bring partial cargoes of Brazilian produce from the places where they have disembarked their cargoes of human beings.

3. As in former years the slave-dealers have derived during 1848 the greatest assistance and protection for their criminal purposes from the use of the American flag, but I am happy to add that these lawless and unprincipled traders are at present deprived of this valuable protection by a late determination of the American Naval Commander-in-chief on this station, who has caused three vessels illegally using the flag of the United States, and which were destined for African voyages, to be seized on their leaving this harbour. This proceeding has caused considerable alarm and embarrassment to the slave-dealers, and should it be continued, will be a severe blow to all slave-trading interests. Since the American authorities adopted this course I have not heard of the fictitious sale or charter of any American vessel; and the voyage of a brig called the "*Flora*," that had been purchased by a well-known slave

dealer and destined for an African voyage, was abandoned, and her cargo transshipped to a French vessel, the particulars of which are set forth in two despatches which I addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, copies of which are inclosed.

4. To prove how entirely subservient the flag of the United States has been to all slave-trading purposes, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, a list of American vessels with a memorandum of their cargoes, that sailed from this port for Africa during the last year, and which were directly or indirectly connected with the Slave Trade. A mere reference to the cargoes conveyed to the African coast in these vessels, and to the ultimate employment of most of the vessels themselves, will sufficiently expose the prostitution of the American flag to the criminal Traffic of slave-dealers; and it is consequently the more sincerely to be hoped that the Government of the United States will approve the steps lately taken by its authorities in this place, and cause the same system to be continued, not only at this port, but also along the whole coast of Brazil, and thereby put a stop to the hitherto unrestricted criminal proceedings of a few unprincipled citizens, by whose acts its flag has been polluted.

5. The number of slaves introduced into this province during last year, although very considerable and quite adequate to the demand, was perhaps not so great as in 1847, and I beg leave to transmit inclosed a return made up from the best information I have been able to collect of the vessels that have landed their living cargoes off this harbour, and at the adjacent bays and outports.

6. This return is necessarily very incomplete, as your Lordship must be well aware from former reports, that it is impossible to obtain any exact and detailed information on this head; and many cargoes of slaves have been landed of which I have obtained no certain data, but from the estimates I have made, I consider that the total number of slaves landed within this district from January to December was upwards of 35,000.

7. The most remarkable event that took place during the passed year connected with the history of the Slave Trade was the appearance of an anti-Slavery party among the Brazilians.

Soon after the opening of the Chamber of Deputies, several Members brought the question before the House, and spoke strongly against the Traffic, pointing out not only the evils inflicted on the country by the continued importation of African negroes, but also the horrors connected with this barbarous and inhuman trade, and its baneful effects upon the morality of the Brazilian population; and so much weight did these discussions appear to carry with them, that it was generally supposed that some measure for embarrassing or preventing the Trade would have been adopted by both Legislative Assemblies, but unfortunately the Chambers closed without any law for so desirable an object having been passed.

8. About the same period, two anti-slavery papers were started, called the "Contemporaneo" and "Monarchista;" the first was principally written and supported by influential Brazilians; but its publication was ultimately stopped by the Government, no doubt influenced by the wealth and power of the Slave party.

9. The "Monarchista" still continues to be published, notwithstanding several efforts have been made to buy it up; and, from the well-known anti-slavery principles of its chief supporters, I feel convinced that it will not relinquish the cause it has taken up.

10. The Inclosure No. 5 is a statement of the quantity and value of the staple productions of slave-labour exported during last year, by which your Lordship will perceive that the increase in the growth of coffee still continues, and that the production of sugar gradually decreases.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 92.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, December* 20, 1848.

I HAVE had the honour to make different verbal communications 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, but a well-assorted cargo for the African coast.

By the "Lei de Orcamento," which came into operation a short time since, the export duty to Africa was raisedto 15 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 the American colours.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

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

(Translation.)

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	pieces scarlet cloth.
"	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	1,000	pieces calico prints.
"	6 bales with	600	pieces ordinary cottons.
"	5 cases with	1,000	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.		
A B	38 cases glass beads, false coral, &c.		

Re-exported by Vicente Manoel Espindola:—

Marks.				
P	1,200 barrels powder.			
„	114 cases and bales various cotton goods, ordinary handkerchiefs, &c.			
„	32 cases and bales	ditto	ditto	

Re-exported by Nicolao 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	3,000	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	1,500	ditto.	
„	50 bales with	6,000	pieces chillas and coromandas.	
„	50 ditto	6,000	ditto	ditto
„	6 ditto		ordinary striped cottons.	
H C R & Co.	1016 barrels of powder.			

Inclosure 2 in No. 92.

Acting Consul Westwood to Mr. Hudson.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, January* 8, 1849.

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," American pilot-boat, that was preparing for an African voyage, but which has been abandoned in the same manner as the "Flora's."

The seizure by the American Commodore, of the "*Ann D. Richardson*" 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 merchandise shipped to Africa, it is much 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. Tauney, 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. Tauney 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) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 92.

LIST of AMERICAN VESSELS reported to have been employed in African voyages during the year 1848.

Rig.	Name.	Manifested Cargo.	Remarks.
Barque ..	Mary Chilton ..	.....	This vessel cleared for Batavia, but proceeded to Africa. where she was sold, and brought over a cargo of slaves
Brig ..	Whig ..	Sundries	Sailed for Africa under a sea letter from American Consul in this port
Ditto ..	Brazil ..	Sundries	
Barque ..	Laurens ..	Ballast	Cleared for Batavia, but was bound to Africa, and was captured off this port by order of the American Commander-in-chief
Ditto ..	California ..	Sundries	Sailed hence under a sea letter from American Consul, and brought back a cargo of slaves
Schooner .	Morris	100 casks and 12 jars rum, 150 bags beans, 300 bags farinha, 100 arrobas jerked beef, 13 barrels rice 12 barrels sugar, 20 barrels biscuit, 6 barrels bacon, and sundries	
Brig ..	Caracas ..	Sundries	
Schooner..	W. L. Smith ..	680 sacks farinha, 330 bags beans, 200 arrobas jerked beef, 50 deal planks, 6 boat anchors, 600 muskets, and 70 packages of merchandise	Was delivered on the coast of Africa, and afterwards captured by British cruizers
Brig ..	Frederica ..	.....	Cleared hence for Pernambuco, from which port she proceeded to Africa, and brought back to this place a cargo of slaves
Ditto ..	C. H. Rogers ..	70 bags beans, 28 bags of rice, 168 barrels and 127 sacks farinha, 104 packages jerked beef, 20 pipes rum, 30 barrels wine, 280 barrels gunpowder, and sundries	Sailed hence under a sea letter from American Consul, and brought back slaves
Ship ..	Herald	.....	Cleared for whaling, but proceeded to coast of Africa, and returned with a cargo of slaves, and supposed to be now at Paranaguá
Brig ..	Oregon	38 pipes and 165 barrels rum, 14 barrels biscuit, 13 sacks farinha, 1,200 barrels gunpowder, 50 cases muskets, 366 packages merchandize and sundries	
Barque ..	Louisa	32 pipes and 25 barrels rum, 30 sacks and 2 barrels rice, 161 barrels farinha, 27 dozen deals, 30 bags beans, 400 arrobas jerked beef, 320 barrels of gunpowder, 274 packages merchandize and sundries	Sailed hence under a sea letter
Schooner	Juliet	20 barrels biscuit, 27 cwt. of farinha, 3 barrels coffee, 2 barrels bacon, 12 dozen deal planks, 1,205 iron bars, 20 barrels wine, 20 cases muskets and sundries, and 487 packages merchandize	Sold on the coast, and brought over a cargo of slaves
Ditto ..	Morris	20 pipes and 60 barrels rum, 22 packages of different articles, 31 cases muskets, 8 bales merchandize, 10 barrels wine and vinegar, and 74 packages sundries	Second voyage this year

Rig.	Name.	Manifested Cargo.	Remarks.
Schooner..	Zenobia ..	15 cases drugs, 12 deal planks, 600 barrels gunpowder, and 316 packages merchandize	Sailed under a sea letter
Brig ..	J. W. Huntington	30 pipes and 145 barrels rum, 100 bags farinha, 20 bags beans, 10 bags rice, 200 arrobas jerked beef, 780 barrels gunpowder, 1,016 bars of iron, and 461 packages merchandize	
Barque ..	Globe	51 pipes and 100 barrels rum, 60 barrels jerked beef, 50 barrels farinha, 8 crates earthenware, 3,300 barrels gunpowder, and 512 packages merchandize	Sailed from this under a sea letter, and brought back a cargo of slaves
Schooner..	Mary Catherine..	200 bags farinha, 100 bags beans, 6 bags rice, 60 bundles jerked beef, 1,198 barrels gunpowder, and 157 packages merchandize	
Ditto ..	Marion	50 barrels rum, 100 bags and 30 barrels farinha, 60 sacks and 30 barrels beans, 4 barrels rice, 40 bundles jerked beef, 10 barrels biscuits, and sundry merchandize	Was delivered on the coast of Africa, and brought over a cargo of slaves
Brig ..	Venus		
Schooner..	Henrietta ..	6 cases soap, 3 barrels bacon, 60 bags rice, 12 barrels sugar, 50 barrels jerked beef, 6 bags coffee 30 barrels biscuit, 2,500 barrels gunpowder, 40 bundles iron hoops, and 57 packages of sundries	Under a sea letter
Barque ..	Camilla ..	100 sacks, and 5 barrels farinha, 500 barrels jerked beef, 81 pipes and 80 barrels rum, 100 barrels common glass beads, 20 barrels wine and sundries	This vessel has made several voyages to Africa, conveying everything requisite for the Slave Trade
Brig ..	Caracas	.....	Second voyage this year
Ditto ..	Albertina ..	63 pipes rum, 102 bags rice, 270 bags farinha, 140 sacks beans, 10 rolls tobacco, 23 dozen deals, and sundry merchandize	
Schooner..	Morris ..	.....	Third voyage during 1848
Barque ..	Eunomus ..	80 half pipes rum, 149 bags beans, 150 bags farinha, 25 rolls tobacco, 8 bags rice, 1 carriage and 4 horses	
Ship ..	France ..	60 pipes and 100 barrels rum, 220 sacks and 17 barrels farinha, 64 bags beans, 30 bundles jerked beef, 16 bags rice, 1,700 barrels of gunpowder, 22 cases muskets, 415 packages merchandize and sundries	Sailed hence under a sea letter
Barque ..	Louisa	Ballast	Sailed under a sea letter, clearing for Monte Video, but known to be bound to Africa
Brig ..	Democrat ..	180 bags rice, 2 barrels rum, 19 deal planks, 13,000 billets fire-wood, and 10 bags farinha	Cleared for the Cape of Good Hope, but supposed to be bound to Africa
Barque ..	A. D. Richardson	43 barrels rum, 580 sacks and 120 barrels farinha, 345 bags rice, 220 sacks and 110 barrels beans, 14 dozen deal planks, 2 beams, 600 arrobas jerked beef, and 18 cases	Sailed under a sea letter, and captured outside this harbour, and sent to United States
Brig ..	Independence ..	191 barrels farinha, 75 barrels beans, 130 sacks rice, 4 cases drugs, 296 empty pipes, 16 dozen deal planks, 2 barrels rum, 179 packages merchandize, and sundries	Cleared for Monte Video, but intended for an African voyage, and captured off this harbour, and sent to United States

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 92.

RETURN of VESSELS stated to have landed Slaves within the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the year 1848.

Rig.	Name.	Nation.	Number of Slaves landed.
Steamer	Providencia	Brazilian	1,250
Barque	Antipathia	ditto	1,050
Schooner	Arethiza	Not known	590
ditto	Meteor	ditto	450
Barque	Mary Chilton	Sailed hence as American	600
ditto	Varela	Not known	650
Schooner	Rival	Brazilian	400
ditto	Igual	Not known	517
Barque	California	Sailed hence as American	400
Schooner	Rosa	Not known	360
Barque	Prudente	ditto	600
Whale barque	Caveira	Sailed hence as American	1,250
Schooner	Clementina	Brazilian	450
ditto	Santa Rita	ditto	280
Barque	Secrea	ditto	430
ditto	Maria	ditto	650
Brigantine	Castro III	ditto	350
Schooner	Nova Especulação	Not known	210
ditto	Arethiza	ditto	450
ditto	Sapphira	ditto	320
ditto	Polka	Brazilian	380
Brigantine	Tentador	Not known	350
Barque	Maria Christina	ditto	930
Schooner	Clementina	Brazilian	500
Smack	Maria Candida	ditto	70
Barque	Phenix	Not known	600
Smack	São Francisca	ditto	340
Barque	Antoinette	Sailed hence under French colours	900
Steamer	Thereza	Brazilian	600
ditto	Providencia	ditto	1,050
Ship	Herald	Sailed hence under American colours	1,150
Brigantine	Inveja	Brazilian	390
Schooner	Nova Especulação	Not known	250
Brig	Assombro	Brazilian	650
Barque	Maria Christina	Not known	700
Schooner	Amelia	ditto	350
Felucca	Unknown	Brazilian	240
Brig	Galgo	ditto	700
Brigantine	Nova Rosa	Brazilian	360
Schooner	Bella Maria	ditto	540
ditto	Juliet	These five vessels sailed hence under American colours, and all landed slaves, but exact number not known.	
Barque	Globe		
ditto	Mary Ann		
Brig	Frederica		
ditto	C. H. Rogers		
			22,307

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 92.

STATEMENT of the amount and value of Exports of such staple productions of Brazil as are cultivated by Slave-labour at Rio de Janeiro, during the year 1848.

Discription of Produce.	Quantity.	Sterling Value.			Total.		
		£	.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coffee	1,710,000 bags ..	2,500,000	0	0			
Sugar	5,848 cases ..	140,000	0	0			
Rosewood	15,852 planks ..	22,000	0	0	2,662,000	0	0
	Duties, shipping, expenses &c.				465,850	0	0
					£3,127,850	0	0
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					500,000	0	0
	Total value of produce shipped in 1848				£3,627,850	0	0

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

No. 93.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 4.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, April* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a return of the vessels which have arrived at this port from Africa during the last quarter, and also a list of the vessels reported to have sailed for the African coast during the same period.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 93.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa during Quarter ending March 31, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
								days.		
January 20	Brigantine	Venus	G. W. Adams	American	149	6	Loango	36	Ballast	
,, 21	Schooner	Morris	W. Johns	ditto	105	7	ditto	23	ditto.	
March 23	ditto	Novo Destino	A. J. da Silva	Portuguese	52	10	Angola	35	Wax and oil	

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 93.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa during Quarter ending March 31, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
January 12	Barque	Flor do Douro	J. Thompson	Portuguese	272	16	Angola and Benguela	Sundries	
February 3	Polacca	Etna	A. Ytter	French	175	10	Africa	ditto	
,, 4	Brig	Susan	— Woolford	American	230	12	ditto	ditto	Seized outside this harbour by American Naval Commander-in-chief.
,, 10	Polacca	Gema	J. Cordiglio	Sardinian	280	9	ditto	Rnm & ditto	
March 4	ditto	Thereza	F. M. Monteiro	ditto	217	9	ditto	Sundries	
,, 14	Barque	Adhemar	A. Devaux	French	359	13	ditto	ditto	
,, 26	Brig	General Rego	J. da S. Ries	Portuguese	200	20	Benguela	ditto	

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

No. 94.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received September* 3.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, July* 3, 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 last quarter, 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. 94.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1849.

Date.		Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
									Days.		
April	4	Schooner ..	Musquito ..	J. J. Peixoto ..	Brazilian ..	32	6	Africa	45	Ballast	
May	1	Barque ..	Flor do Douro..	J. Thompson ..	Portuguese ..	196	36	Angola ..	43	ditto	
June	12	Polacca ..	Thereza ..	M. Montano ..	Sardinian ..	173	10	Africa	33	ditto	
„	26	Brigantine..	Independenza ..	D. Parodi	ditto	171	9	Loanda ..	21	ditto	

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1849.

Date.		Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
April	17	Polacca ..	Giove	C. M. Bandini ..	Sardinian ..	182	9	Africa	Sundries	
„	19	Brig ..	Roza	J. C. Finali	Portuguese ..	191	14	Benguela and Loando	ditto	
May	10	Schooner ..	Novo Destino ..	A. J. da Silva ..	ditto ..	63	8	Angola	ditto	
June	23	Barque ..	Alexandre ..	J. E. Fragin ..	French ..	417	12	Africa	ditto	
„	24	ditto ..	Josephina ..	A. S. P. Andrade ..	Portuguese ..	201	19	Angola	ditto	

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Acting Consul.*

No. 95.

Consul Hesketh to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 19.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, October* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a return copied from the Brazilian Port Register, of the vessels that have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending 30th ultimo, and a similar return of the vessels that have sailed from this for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Number of crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
								days.		
July 4	Brigantine ..	D. Anna	J. G. de Mendouça ..	Portuguese ..	93	12	Isle St. Thomas..	23	Palm oil	
„ 6	Polacca ..	Jove	C. Paudini	Sardinian ..	150	10	Africa	27	Ballast	
„ 11	Barque ..	Adhemar	— Devaux	French	240	12	Loango	25	ditto	
August 7	ditto ..	Princesse Francisca	— Landi	ditto	278	12	ditto	22	ditto	
September 5	Brig ..	Rosa	M. B. Duarte.. ..	Portuguese ..	125	15	Loanda	24	Wax and oil	
„ 16	Barque ..	Tourville	— Alix	French	210	11	ditto	30	Ballast	
„ 29	Brig ..	Africano	A. F. dos Reis ..	Portuguese ..	159	18	Angola	40	Wax and oil	

ROBERT HESKETH, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 95.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Number of crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
July 26	Polacca ..	Thereza	E. Montano	Sardinian ..	217	9	Africa	Sundries	
August 1	Barque ..	Flor do Douro ..	J. Thompson.. ..	Portuguese ..	272	20	Benguela	ditto	
„ 3	ditto ..	Paquebot do Rio ..	J. Guillaumi	French	245	10	Africa	ditto	
„ 17	Brig ..	Emilie	L. Marthian	ditto	285	9	ditto	ditto	
Sept. 16	Schooner ..	Anonymo	E. Cowe	Sardinian ..	160	9	ditto	ditto	
„ 24	Brig ..	Duque de Bragança	D. J. de Almeida ..	Portuguese ..	319	21	Benguela	ditto	

ROBERT HESKETH, *Consul.*

No. 96.

Consul Hesketh to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 25.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, January* 1, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith returns copied from the Brazilian Port Register of the vessels that have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending 31st ultimo, and a similar return of the vessels that have sailed from this for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the coast of Africa during the Quarter ending December 31, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Number of crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
								Days.		
October 16	Schooner ..	Tres Amigos ..	J. M. Barboza ..	Portuguese ..	105	15	Benguela ..	23	Ballast	
November 2	Barque ..	Flor do Douro ..	J. Thompson ..	ditto ..	196	14	Loanda ..	23	Wax and oil	
„ 6	Barque ..	Ann D. Richardson	C. W. Storer ..	American ..	187	10	Benguela ..	25	Sundries	
„ 8	Barque ..	Alexandre ..	M. Tragen	French.. ..	251	9	Loango ..	28	Ballast	
„ 28	Barque ..	Josephina ..	A. S. P. de Almeida..	Portuguese ..	201	16	Angola ..	34	Sundries	
December 6	Brig ..	Galianna	C. G. Elstome ..	ditto ..	170	16	ditto ..	47	Ballast	
„ 21	Schooner ..	Anonymo	E. Cowe	Sardinian ..	101	9	Cabenda ..	20	ditto	
„ 28	Ship ..	Robim I.	F. J. Ribeiro ..	Portuguese ..	478	27	Angola ..	23	Sundries	
„ 0	Brig ..	Imperador do Brazil	M. de F. Victor ..	Brazilian ..	429	15	ditto ..	25	Ballast	

(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the coast of Africa during the Quarter ending December 31, 1849.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.	Remarks.
October 1	Brigantine ..	Independenza ..	D. Parodi	Sardinian ..	219	8	Loanda	Sundries	
„ 7	Brig ..	Imperador do Brazil. .	M. de F. Victor ..	Brazilian ..	429	16	Angola	ditto	
November 4	Brigantine ..	Eleonora Refformata. .	M. Chechezola ..	Sardinian ..	174	9	Africa	ditto	
„ 11	Brig ..	Africano	A. F. dos Reis ..	Portuguese ..	227	15	Loanda	ditto	
„ 22	Polacca ..	Bolivar	C. Francisco ..	Sardinian ..	210	11	Africa	Rum and ditto	
December 14	Brigantine ..	Providencia	B. Nicolão	ditto ..	115	8	ditto	Sundries	
„ 20	Brig ..	Esperança	J. F. Martins ..	Portuguese ..	325	20	Benguela	ditto	
„ 26	Brig ..	Rosa..	M. B. Duarte ..	ditto	160	14	Benguela and Angola	ditto	

(Signed) ROBERT HESKETH, *Consul.*

No. 97.

Consul Hesketh to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 5.)

(Extract.) *Rio de Janeiro, February* 14, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to state that during the quarter ending the 31st of December, 1849, I have sent 438 liberated Africans from this port to Demerara and Trinidad, in conformity to the instructions furnished to my predecessor as emigration agent.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio Grande do Sul.*

No. 98.

Consul Morgan to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 10.)

My Lord, *Rio Grande do Sul, January* 1, 1849.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions under date of the 18th September last, I have now the honour to transmit herewith a list of all British subjects within the district of this Consulate who are owners of slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, JUN.

Inclosure in No. 98.

LIST of British subjects who are owners of slaves within the district of the Consulate of Rio Grande do Sul.

Owners' names.	Number.	Employed for Domestic purposes.	Employed in Agriculture.	Remarks.
At Rio Grande.				
Mr. Thomas Messiter ..	20	13	7	Has been resident here thirty years.
„ Holland Davies & Co.	2	2	..	Same as free, not to be sold again into servitude.
„ James Law	1	1		
„ John Wilson.. ..	1	1		
„ James Donovan ..	6	6		
At Pellotas.				
Mr. James Vaughan ..	2	2		
At Porto Alegre.				
Dr. Robert Landell ..	21	7	14	Besides 5 run away.
Mr. George Taylor ..	1	1		
„ Holland Davies & Co.	2	2	..	Same as free, not to be again sold into servitude.
„ James Baxter ..	1	1		
„ William Stone ..	2	2		
	59	38	21	

N.B.—The British subjects Mr. Benjamin Aveline and Mr. William Barker being married to Brazilian ladies, possess slaves only as part of the property belonging to their wives; not being absolute owners, their names are not included.

British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, January 1, 1849.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, JUN., *Consul.*

EGYPT.

No. 99.

Consul Gilbert to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 31.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, May* 7, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch* of the 22nd January last, and to transmit herewith two printed copies (together with translations in English) of a further decree which I have issued in accordance with the instructions received in the above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. H. GILBERT.

Inclosure in No. 99.

Decree.

(Translation.) *Alexandria, April* 18, 1849.

We, Francis Hastings Gilbert, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Alexandria in Egypt and dependencies.

IN accordance with instructions received from Her Majesty's Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, all British subjects and protégés residing at or resorting to Alexandria and its dependencies are hereby warned against buying, selling, or dealing in slaves, as by so doing they render themselves liable to be charged with felony under the 10th Section of the Act of the 5th George IV, cap. 113, and if convicted, to be transported or imprisoned as felons.

And further, all foreign subjects enrolled at Her Majesty's Consulate for protection are hereby warned that that protection will be withdrawn from them if they infringe in any way the statute of the 5th George IV, as extended by the statute of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 98.

(L.S.) (Signed) F. H. GILBERT.

No. 100.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Gilbert.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 27, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th ultimo, inclosing copies and translations of a decree which you had issued, in accordance with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 22nd of January last, warning all British subjects and all foreign subjects under British protection within the district of your Consulate, of the penalties to which they are liable for any infringement of the Acts of the 5th George IV, cap. 113, and of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 98; and I have to inform you that I approve of the manner in which you have executed my instructions upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* Class B, presented 1849, No. 104, p. 159.

FRANCE.

No. 101.

Vice-Admiral Cécille to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord, *Londres, le 6 Mars,* 1849.

CONFORMEMENT aux instructions que j'ai reçu de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, j'ai l'honneur de transmettre ci-joint à votre Excellence, copie d'une plainte adressée en Décembre dernier au Consul de France à Sierra Leone, par le Capitaine Bellet, du bâtiment de commerce Français "l'Aristide," et dirigée contre le brig de guerre Anglais "Pantaloon."

Le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique aurait visité et arrêté "l'Aristide," avec des formes dont votre Excellence appréciera la convenance, et sans vouloir inspecter les papiers de bord que le capitaine du navire Français mettait à sa disposition pour prouver la régularité de ses expéditions.

Si les faits rapportés par le Capitaine Bellet sont exacts, la violence des procédés dont a usé le croiseur Britannique est inexcusable, lors même que le navire Français se serait trouvé, ce que nie son commandant, dans les eaux Anglaises au moment de la visite; car en admettant cette supposition, le capitaine du "Pantaloon" outrepassait ses droits en envoyant à bord de "l'Aristide" des hommes armés, en capturant le navire et en faisant le capitaine et l'équipage prisonniers.

J'appellerai, en conséquence, my Lord, toute l'attention de votre Excellence sur cette affaire, et je vous prierai au nom de mon Gouvernement de provoquer une enquête sur la conduite du commandant du "Pantaloon," pour obtenir, s'il y a lieu, une juste réparation.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) V.-AMAL. CECILLE.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, March* 6, 1849.

IN compliance with instructions which I received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency a copy of a complaint addressed in December last to the French Consul at Sierra Leone by Captain Bellet, of the French merchant-ship "l'Aristide," and brought against the English brig of war "Pantaloon."

Her Britannic Majesty's cruizer is accused of having visited and detained "l'Aristide," in a manner the propriety of which will be appreciated by your Excellency, and without deigning to inspect the ship's papers, which the master of the French ship produced to prove the regularity of his proceedings.

If the acts reported by Captain Bellet are correctly stated, the violence of the proceedings adopted by the British cruizer is inexcusable; even if the French ship had been, which is denied by her commander, within British waters at the time of the visit: for, admitting this supposition, the captain of the "Pantaloon" exceeded his rights in sending armed men on board "l'Aristide," in capturing the ship, and in making prisoners of her master and crew.

I beg, therefore, to call your Excellency's serious attention to this affair,

and to request you in the name of my Government to institute an inquiry into the conduct of the commander of the "Pantaloon," in order to obtain a just arbitration, if such should turn out to be due.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) VICE-ADMIRAL CECILLE.

Inclosure in No. 101.

Declaration of Captain Bellet.

J'AI l'honneur de prévenir M. le Consul de France des faits graves qui viennent de se passer à bord de mon navire "l'Aristide," le 15 et le 16 de ce mois.

Etant mouillé, d'après le dire du pilot nègre de la colonie, en dehors des eaux Anglaises, il s'est présenté le 15 à midi, à mon bord deux embarcations remplies d'Anglais armés sans uniforme. Celui qui paraissait le commandant a demandé à mon second l'ouverture des panneaux, ce qui a été effectué, mais ayant demandé de la lumière mon second a observé qu'il ne pouvait se permettre d'en donner sans l'ordre du capitaine, qui était à terre. Sur ce, les matelots Anglais ont reçu l'ordre de dégainer leurs sabres et de charger les armes, quand je suis revenu de terre avec tous les papiers du navire que j'avais emportés pour les présenter en cas de besoin soit à mon Consul, soit aux autorités du pays.

Ayant observé aux officiers qui étaient restés à mon bord, que je leur proposais l'inspection de mes papiers, qui les convaincraient que j'étais en règle sur tous les points, ils m'ont répondu que leur mission était de me conduire à Sierra Leone; ce qu'ils ont fait en s'emparant de la barre et de tout le commandement. Ayant insisté pour savoir si j'étais prisonnier, celui qui paraissait le commandant m'a dit que oui. J'ai alors dit à mon équipage que contre la force il n'y avait pas de résistance et qu'il fallait de bonne grâce nous constituer prisonniers en amenant notre pavillon Français, ce qui a été de suite exécuté.

Toute la nuit du 15, et le matin du 16 ont été employés par Messieurs les Anglais à amener mon navire devant la ville.

Aussitôt mouillé, j'ai fait parvenir à M. le Consul de France la communication de tous ces faits, et ayant obtenu de venir lui parler, je lui remets ces nouveaux détails sous les yeux pour qu'il veuille bien les employer à réclamer la justice et la réparation qui nous sont dues.

En foi de quoi je signe la présente déclaration.

Sierra Leone, le 16 *Décembre,* 1848.

(Signé) E. BELLET.
Capitaine de "l'Aristide" de Bordeaux.

(Translation.)

I HAVE the honour to inform the French Consul of the serious acts which have just taken place on board my vessel, the "Aristide," on the 15th and 16th of this month.

Being at anchor, according to the statement of the negro pilot of the colony, outside of the English waters, two boats filled with armed Englishmen, without uniform, boarded me on the 15th at noon. The person who appeared to be the commander demanded from my second in command the opening of the hatches, which was effected; but having asked for a light, my second said that he could not furnish one without the order of his captain, who was on shore. Hereupon the English sailors were ordered to draw their swords, and to load their fire-arms, when I returned from the shore with all the ship's papers which I had taken with me in order to present them in case of need either to my Consul or to the authorities of the country

Having remarked to the officers who remained on board my ship, that I proposed that they should inspect my papers, which would convince them that I was in due order in every point, they replied that their orders were to take

me to Sierra Leone; which they did by taking possession of the helm and command of the ship. Having insisted on being informed whether I was a prisoner, the person who appeared to be the commander told me I was. I then said to my crew that it was useless attempting to resist force, and that we must give ourselves up as prisoners with a good grace by hauling down our French colours, which was immediately done.

The whole night of the 15th and the morning of the 16th were passed in conducting my vessel before the town.

As soon as we cast anchor I communicated all these facts to the French Consul, and having obtained access to him, I placed before him these fresh details, in order that he might make use of them in claiming the justice and reparation which are due to us.

In faith of which I sign the present declaration.

Sierra Leone, December 16, 1848.

(Signed) E. BELLET.

No. 102.

Viscount Palmerston to Vice-Admiral Cécille.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, March* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received and referred to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government your letter of the 6th instant, together with its inclosure, relative to the complaint of Captain Bellet, of the French merchant-vessel "Aristide," who states that his vessel was improperly taken possession of at Sierra Leone by a boat's crew of Her Majesty's brig of war "Pantaloon."

I have, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 103.

Vice-Admiral Cécille to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 8.)

My Lord, *Londres, le* 8 *Mai,* 1849.

LE 6 Mars dernier j'ai transmis à votre Excellence, en la priant de faire procéder à une enquête sur les faits qui y étaient rapportés, une plainte du Capitaine Bellet du bâtiment de commerce Français "l'Aristide," au sujet de la visite et de l'arrestation de ce navire par le brig de guerre Anglais "Pantaloon."

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères m'envoie copie d'une lettre écrite à propos de ce fâcheux incident par M. le Commodore Hotham à M. Bouet Willaumez, commandant de la division navale Française à la côte occidentale d'Afrique, et dans laquelle cet officier général blâme la conduite tenue par les capitaines Anglais qui ont visité "l'Aristide" avec une brutalité de formes tout-à-fait inexcusable. Je m'empresse de l'adresser ci-joint à votre Excellence. J'aurai également l'honneur de lui faire parvenir dès que je les recevrai, les autres pièces qui seront de nature à établir les griefs du capitaine du navire "l'Aristide" contre les capitaines des brigs le "Pantaloon" et le "Sealark;" mais en attendant la réception de ces documens, je suis invité par mon Gouvernement à appeler de nouveau sur cette affaire l'attention du Gouvernement Britannique dont les sentimens d'équité me sont trop connus, my Lord, pour que je n'attende pas sa décision avec une entière confiance.

Je saisis &c.

(Signé) V.-AMAL. CECILLE.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London May* 8, 1849.

ON the 6th of March last I transmitted to your Excellency, with a request that you would cause an inquiry to be instituted into the facts therein reported, a complaint made by Captain Bellet, of the French merchant-ship "Aristide," on the subject of the visit and detention of that ship by the English brig of war "Pantaloon."

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent to me a copy of a letter on the subject of this vexatious occurrence, written by Commodore Hotham to M. Bouet-Willaumez, Commandant of the French squadron on the west coast of Africa, in which that superior officer censures the conduct of the English captain who visited the "Aristide" with a violence entirely inexcusable. I hasten to forward this letter to your Excellency. I shall also have the honour of transmitting to your Excellency as soon as I shall receive them, the other documents which will serve to establish the grievances of the master of the "Aristide" against the captains of the brigs "Pantaloon" and "Sealark." But in the meantime I am instructed by my Government again to call the attention of the British Government to this affair, whose sentiments of justice are so well known to me, my Lord, as to enable me to await its decision with entire confidence.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) VICE-ADMIRAL CECILLE.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Commodore Hotham to Commodore Bouet-Willaumez.

Commodore, *"Penelope," Cape Mount, January* 30, 1849.

I AVAIL myself of the earliest opportunity to tender my expressions of regret that the master of the French barque "Aristide" should have just cause to complain of the conduct of the commanders of the "Pantaloon" and "Sealark," and that in British waters and in a British port, an overt act of violence should have been offered.

The character of the matter is too grave to admit of my dealing with it; I have been compelled to refer the correspondence to my Government, who, I am convinced, will mark their regret and disapprobation of the proceeding.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

No. 104.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 14, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch which I have recently received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, reporting the way in which the French flag has of late been there used for purposes of Slave Trade, in consequence of the severe check which has been given to the employment of the flag of the United States in the same Traffic by the energetic measures of the United States' authorities at Rio.

I have to instruct your Excellency to represent this circumstance to the

French Government, and to say that Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Government of France will take effectual steps to put a stop to such proceedings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 104.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, January 13, 1849.

[See Class B, presented 1849, No. 55, page 77.]

No. 105.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 18, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, a copy of a Protocol of Conference held at this office on the 8th instant, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of France, recording a modification of the 1st Article of the Convention of May 29, 1845, between Great Britain and France, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, by which the number of cruizers to be maintained by France on the west coast of Africa is reduced to twelve.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 105.

Protocol of a Conference held at the Foreign Office, on the 8th May, 1849, *between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of France.*

THE Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and France having met to take into consideration certain matters connected with the execution of the Convention between their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the King of the French, signed at London on the 29th of May, 1845, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves;

The Plenipotentiary of France represented that whereas by the Ist Article of the said Convention, it is stipulated that, "in order that the flags of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of His Majesty the King of the French, may not, contrary to the law of nations and the laws in force in the two countries, be usurped to cover the Slave Trade, and in order to provide for the more effectual suppression of that Traffic, His Majesty the King of the French engages, as soon as may be practicable, to station on the west coast of Africa, from Cape Verde to 16° 30′ south latitude, a naval force of at least twenty-six

LES Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne et de France s'étant réunis pour prendre en considération certains objets relatifs à l'exécution de la Convention entre leurs Majestés la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande et le Roi des Français, signé à Londres le 29 Mai, 1845, pour la suppression de la Traite des Noirs;

Le Plénipotentiaire de France a fait observer que attendu que, par l'Article Ier de la dite Convention il est stipulé que, "afin que le pavillon de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et celui de Sa Majesté le Roi des Français, ne puissent être usurpés, contrairement au droit des gens et aux lois en vigueur dans les deux pays, pour couvrir la Traite des Noirs, et afin de pourvoir plus efficacement à la suppression de ce Trafic, Sa Majesté le Roi des Français s'engage à établir, dans le plus court délai possible, sur la côte occidentale de l'Afrique, depuis le Cap Verd jusqu' au 16° 30′ de latitude meridionale, une force navale

cruizers consisting of sailing and steam-vessels; and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages, as soon as it may be practicable, to station on the same part of the west coast of Africa a naval force of not less than twenty-six cruizers, consisting of sailing-vessels and steam-vessels." And the French Plenipotentiary further represented, that whereas the functions of the French cruizers are chiefly limited to preventing the Slave Trade under the French flag, the French Government having no treaties of mutual right of search with those countries under whose flags the Slave Trade is now carried on, and that consequently under these circumstances the number of twenty-six cruizers which the French Government are bound by the said Convention to maintain, is found to be greater than is necessary for any purposes which the French squadron can accomplish, the French Government propose that by mutual agreement they should be allowed to reduce the number of their cruizers to twelve, promising that if by any change of circumstances a larger number should be required, they would be ready to increase that amount.

The British Plenipotentiary hereupon declared that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty agrees to this proposal on the part of the Government of France, upon the condition agreed to as above, that if, by any change of circumstances, a larger number of French cruizers shall be required, the French Government will increase that number accordingly; and this mutual agreement is hereby recorded in the present Protocol.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.
CECILLE.

composée au moins de vingt-six croiseurs, tant à voile qu'à vapeur; et Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande s'engage à établir dans le plus court délai possible, sur la même partie de la côte occidentale d'Afrique, une force navale composée au moins de vingt-six croiseurs, tant à voile qu'à vapeur." Et le Plénipotentiaire Français a fait observer en outre que les fonctions des croiseurs Français ayant presque uniquement pour objet de prévenir la Traite des Esclaves sous pavillon Français, le Gouvernement Français n'ayant pas de Traité de droit de visite réciproque avec les pays sous le pavillon desquels la Traite se fait maintenant, et que, conséquemment, dans de telles circonstances, le nombre de vingt-six croiseurs que le Gouvernement Français, en vertu de la dite Convention, est dans l'obligation de maintenir, se trouve plus considérable qu'il n'est nécessaire pour l'accomplissement du but que l'escadre Française est dans la possibilité d'atteindre, le Gouvernement Français propose que, par un accord mutuel, il ait la faculté de réduire à douze le nombre de ses croiseurs, promettant dans le cas où les circonstances exigeraient qu'un nombre plus considérable de bâtimens fût requis, il serait prêt à l'augmenter.

Le Plénipotentiaire Britannique a répondu en déclarant que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique souscrit à cette proposition faite au nom du Gouvernement Français, sous la condition ci-dessus convenue, que si, par un changement quelconque de circonstances, un nombre plus considérable de croiseurs Français devait être requis, le Gouvernement Français augmenterait ce nombre en conséquence. Et le présent Protocole fait foi de cet accord mutuel.

(Signé) PALMERSTON.
CECILLE.

No. 106.

Viscount Palmerston to M. de Montherot.

Monsieur, *Foreign Office, May* 31, 1849.

ON the 24th of January last I had the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th of the same month, 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, as the master alleged, been guilty of vexatious conduct towards him on his voyages between Gaboon and Camma, on the west coast of Africa.

Her Majesty's Government have now received from Commander Montresor

the explanation which was demanded of him by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of his conduct on the occasion referred to, and I herewith transmit to you, for communication to your Government, a copy of that explanation.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the proceedings of Commander Montresor, in the case in question, have not exceeded the bounds of propriety or the general custom of the service, and I have therefore to express my confident hope that the explanation of that officer will likewise be deemed satisfactory by the French Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 106.

Commander Montresor to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Wanderer*," *Chatham, March* 14, 1849.

IN obedience to the commands transmitted from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in reference to the letter from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, of the 23rd January, together with its inclosures in original, relative to a complaint made by the master of the French schooner "Ecureuil" against me, for having fired a gun-shot at his vessel, in order to bring her to, and of having been guilty of vexatious conduct towards him on his passages between the Gaboon and Camma, on the west coast of Africa;

I have the honour to observe that on the 20th (not 19th as stated), at 4 P.M., we observed a sail bearing N.W. by W., and kept away to near her; at 6 o'clock, she being then about two miles from us, and the evening drawing in, I fired a shot a-head of her to attract her immediate attention. Had she been a slaver, which at this time we supposed her to be, a blank cartridge would have met with no attention, and she would have taken advantage of the close coming darkness on a station where, when the sun sets, all is night.

In reference to the statement that the shot fell within half the length of the brig, I can only say that I desired the gunner to fire well a-head, and that the men who threw themselves "la face contre terre," as well as the master, must have allowed their nervous sensibility for the moment to overcome their judgment. It is true that the master of the "Ecureuil" remarked that he should be painted black when we next saw him, but it is also a fact that the former boarding officer was at this time cruizing in the pinnace, and the intended change, if it had been mentioned, was certainly not remembered by myself or any of the officers. We did not positively know the "Ecureuil," and did not suppose it to be her, or we should not have boarded her a second time. At our third meeting, I admit that I displayed the French flag, with the view of seeing whether upon my hauling it down and shifting it, the vessel then running down to me, would shift her ensign from French to any other national colour, in which case I should have known she was not French; or by boldly continuing her course with her colours still flying prove by her fearlessness her nationality; and as the "Ecureuil" pursued the latter course, I, as soon as I was assured of the fact (and indeed by this time we had made out the vessel), shifted my ensign and made sail to save her any trouble.

The master of the French schooner says, "Je me dérangeai tant soit peu pour l'approcher." He might have done so, perhaps, half a point. "Tant soit peu" is, in itself, an admission; but, when he states of me that, "ayant mon pavillon hissé, il venait encore d'user de ruse pour me retenir de nouveau," he attributes motives to me most unfairly; it was on the supposition that he was not French that I hoisted the French flag, and it was on finding him to be French that I hoisted my own national colours to prevent giving him any molestation. The "ruse" of hoisting foreign colours has always been considered as admissible, and as it only affected the schooner "tant soit peu," in the alteration of his course for a short time, I think, in all deference, that the complaint is far more vexatious than (if there were one) the offence.

The master of the "Ecureuil" lays great stress upon the alleged fact of his vessel being known by all the officers of the station; his evidence tends to prove the contrary, and on a station where some hundreds of schooners are

almost all painted black, I ask if it is not probable she would, until neared, be taken for a slaver; and I appeal from the master of the "Ecureuil" to the more enlightened officers of the French squadron, if they have ever considered me guilty of so paltry and unofficer-like "feeling" as that of endeavouring to act vexatiously towards an unoffending vessel; the letter from the late captain of the "Comète," my esteemed friend M. Frogeray, quoted in my second letter to the Commander-in-chief, relative to the "Deux Sœurs," has at least a very different tendency. I may further pledge my honour that my sole motive has been the furtherance of the service, without ever intending useless molestation to the fair traders of other nations.

I beg leave to observe, in conclusion, in self-defence, that one-third of a very long letter professing to be written against the "Wanderer," has nothing in common with that vessel; and I cannot but deduce the idea from a calm revisal of my alleged offences, that a previous dislike to the "Wanderer" or her commander, originated from the affair of the "Deux Sœurs," and that the letter of the master of the "Ecureuil" was written under the influence of prejudice; nor can I bring myself to believe that I am the object of malevolent feelings simply and solely to the master of the "Ecureuil," as, if he had intended at the time of his being fired at and boarded, to write against me, it would have been the more natural course—and certainly the more manly one—to mention his intention to the boarding officer, to whom nothing of the sort was hinted; and so entirely had the nervous feeling produced by a shot fired a-head of the vessel given place to better judgment, that the remark made upon it was in a jocose manner by the masterof the "Ecureuil" himself to the boarding officer, requesting him to thank me for my present.

The charges made against me were grave ones; it is generally more difficult to confute a charge than to assert one, and a sailor's occupation, more especially during the busy time of paying his vessel off, when his attention is continually called to other matters, does not lay in the way of writing a good defence against cleverly, though maliciously urged charges. I hope, however, their Lordships, making due allowances for the circumstances under which I labour, will not consider that I could be guilty of wanton vexation. If I have done wrong, I have erred in judgment; I have not wilfully transgressed. I now leave the case to the consideration of their Lordships, humbly trusting that I shall meet the protection which their greater experience may extend to an officer whose conduct for zeal has always been irreproachable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. B. MONTRESOR.

No. 107.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th ultimo, respecting the suspicions which attached to the voyage of the French barque "*Princesse Francisca,*" which was cleared out from Rio de Janeiro for Monte Video in the month of January last, I now transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a further despatch and of its inclosures, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, from which it appears that the "*Princesse Francisca,*" after paying the duties of the customs at Monte Video, had cleared out ostensibly for Batavia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, March 24, 1849.

[See No. 19.]

No. 108.

Viscount Palmerston to M. de Montherot.

Monsieur, *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1849.

I BEG to refer you to the letter which I had the honour to address to Admiral Cécille on the 9th of March last, in which I informed his Excellency that I had received and referred to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government, his letter of the 6th of that month, relative to the complaint of Captain Bellet, of the French merchant-vessel "Aristide," against the Commander of Her Majesty's brig of war "Pantaloon," for having boarded the "Aristide" near the entrance of the harbour of Sierra Leone, and for having treated her captain and crew as prisoners.

I have now the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have caused inquiry to be made into the proceedings of the Commander of the "Pantaloon" towards the "Aristide" and her crew, and that the result of that inquiry having shown that the conduct of that officer was deserving of censure; he has accordingly been reprimanded by the proper authorities.

Her Majesty's Government request that you will express to your Government their regret at the occurrence which has been complained of, but they hope that the severe reprimand which the British Naval Officer, who was in fault, has received, will be deemed by the French Government a sufficient punishment for his error.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 109.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, June* 29, 1849.

IN my despatch to your Excellency of the 15th July, 1848, I informed you that the British and French Governments had agreed to communicate to each other at the conclusion of each year, a return of the vessels captured by their respective squadrons employed on the west coast of Africa under the Convention of 1845; and in pursuance of that agreement I transmitted to you, for communication to the French Government a return of the captures made by Her Majesty's squadron in the year 1847.

I now transmit to you, for communication to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, a return of the slave-vessels captured during the year 1848, by Her Majesty's squadron employed on the west coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Inclosure in No. 109.

RETURN of VESSELS captured on the ground of Slave Trade or Piracy 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, 1848.

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Number of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured. Latitude.	Where captured. Longitude.	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.	Remarks.
				1848	° ′	° ′						Vice-Admiralty Courts.			
Umbelina, Brig -	Brazilian	J. José dos Santos, master; F. da Silva Flores, owner	19	Jan. 1	7 7 S	12 43 E	Com. Chads, Styx -	...	...	...	202	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	
Pedreira, Brigantine	ditto	J. F. des Mesquitas, master; José A. de G. Bastos, owner	16	„ 4	7 10 S	12 40 E	ditto - - -	...	...	...	131	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Maria Constancia, Brigantine	ditto	F. A. da Souza, master; J. A. da Rocha, owner	12	„ 12	7 10 S	12 33 E	ditto - - -	...	...	...	115	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Leopoldina, Brigantine	ditto	J. P. Madureira, master; A. de Ribeiro, owner	11	„ 14	7 0 S	12 45 E	ditto - - -	...	...	...	217	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Unknown, Felucca	None -	Unknown - - - -	45	„ 14	6 30 N	11 35 W	Com. Wood, Philomel	...	...	...	50	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Brigantine	ditto	ditto - - - - -	Escaped	„ 16	6 50 S	12 38 E	Com. Chads, Styx -	...	...	...	247	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
San José, Brigantine	Brazilian	F. de S. Sampaio, master; José de S. Magano, owner	16	„ 21	4 31 S	10 42 E	Com. Chaloner, Siren	...	...	...	168	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Silphide, Schooner	None -	Unknown - - - -	21	„ 24	7 2 S	12 13 E	Com. Chads, Styx -	...	...	...	144	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	
Adelaide, Schooner	ditto	M. S. da Costa, master - -	26	„ 25	6 24 N	4 16 E	Com. Michell, Devastation	...	...	...	159	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Schooner	ditto	Unknown - - - -	Escaped	„ 26	Zangatanga		Com. Wood, Hound -	...	...	...	10	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Importador, Brigantine	Brazilian	F. J. Monchiero, master; A. J. da Silva, owner	18	Feb. 1	6 50 S	12 7 E	Com. Farquhar, Albatross	...	...	...	118	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Schooner	None -	— Antonio, master - -	4	„ 8	Capé Lopez		Com. Wood, Hound -	48	8	40	11	St. Helena, Slaves on board	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Unknown, Brigantine	ditto	Antonio Dias, master - -	13	„ 9	6 13 S	10 49 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	275	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Pagaseira, Sloop -	ditto	Joao ——, master - -	8	„ 10	9 20 S	12 49 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferrett -	6	...	6	8	St. Helena, Slaves on board	ditto	Slaves only adjudicated	
Monarcha, Brig -	ditto	José Marcul, master - -	18	„ 13	5 58 S	11 30 E	Com. Farquhar, Albatross	...	...	...	293	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	Broken up	
Gentil Africano, Brig	Brazilian	Romao A. de Cruz, master; Ignacio A. Goneva, owner	36	„ 18	6 50 S	11 7 E	Com. Chads, Styx -	...	...	...	333	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—*continued.*

CLASS B.

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Number of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured. Latitude.	Where captured. Longitude.	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.	Remarks.
				1848	° ′	° ′						Vice-Admiralty Courts.			
Unknown, Brigantine	None	Unknown	9	Feb. 24	8 0 S	13 0 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	167	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	Destroyed
Constancia, Brigantine	ditto	Libernio Nunes, master	18	„ 28	8 10 S	12 40 E	Com. Farquhar, Albatross	...	...	...	185	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Flora, Brig	Brazilian	G. J. de F. Costa, master; J. de S. Ribeiro, owner	17	Mar. 13	7 34 S	12 20 E	Com. Chads, Styx	...	...	...	212	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Dois Amigos, Brig	ditto	A. S. C. Bitancul, master; J. J. Ropoze, owner	38	„ 15	0 9 N	1 24 W	Lieut. Forbes, Bonetta	403	21	382	77	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Nereide, Schooner	ditto	Joao Moreira, master; Carlos A. de Moraes, owner	17	„ 19	4 19 S	0 28 W	Com. Kenyon, Cygnet	354	55	299	117	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Casualidade, Brigantine	ditto	J. C. de A. Santos, master; J. J. Correira, owner	18	„ 22	10 55 S	13 33 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferret	...	...	...	174	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Fleur de Marie, Brigantine	ditto	J. J. de Miranda, master; J. A. da S. Manoel, owner	19	„ 22	10 55 S	13 33 E	ditto	...	...	...	149	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Venus, Brigantine	ditto	F. de P. N. d'Oliviera, master; M. H. de Carvalho, owner	15	„ 24	8 29 S	12 47 E	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	...	...	...	166	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Guahyba, Brig	ditto	G. J. Almoda, master; Sebastiao, owner	23	„ 24	4 16 S	7 51 E	Lieut. Ponsonby, Firefly	270	30	240	120	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Vigilant, Sloop	ditto	J. B. Gonsalves, master; J. Rodrigues, owner	22	„ 25	4 2 N	2 0 W	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappler	...	...	...	77	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Zephira, Brig	ditto	J. P. de Souza, master; B. F. de Freitas, owner	15	„ 31	7 50 S	13 0 E	Com. Edmunds. Heroine	...	...	...	178	ditto	ditto	ditto	
San Francisco Boa Fé, Brigantine	ditto	A. F. Nunes, master; J. B. Forges, owner	20	Apr. 2	3 37 S	10 42 E	Com. Chaloner, Syren	...	...	...	182	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Princeza Isabel, Brigantine	ditto	C. J. Fernandes, master; J. L. de Arilia, owner	25	„ 3	3 59 S	10 9 E	ditto	275	81	194	173	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Mercurio, Brig	ditto	José de Cunha master; B. Francisco, owner	18	„ 7	8 7 S	12 55 E	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	...	...	...	213	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Maria, Brigantine	ditto	Unknown	21	„ 7	She	bar	Com. Dunlop, Alert	...	...	...	80	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Secunda Andorinha, Schooner	ditto	A. C. Giraldis, master; P. P. da Silva, owner	23	„ 24	5 39 N	4 16 E	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappler	501	13	488	65	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Mete Mao, Schooner	ditto	M. J. de Palacia, master; F. P. de Souza, owner	19	May 1	6 11 N	2 55 E	Com. Kenyon, Cygnet	...	...	...	96	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Temerario, Brigantine	ditto	J. C. de Santos, master; J. M. de Valle, owner	15	„ 3	11 7 S	12 56 E	Com. Mc Murdo, Contest	496	20	476	123	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Josephina, Brig	ditto	J. V. Ariago, master; A. F. Coelho, owner	15	„ 4	4 14 S	9 20 E	Com. Hope, Bittern	250	62	188	59	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—*continued.*

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Number of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured. Latitude.	Where captured. Longitude.	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.	Remarks.
				1848	° ′	° ′						Vice-Admiralty Courts.			
Maria Candida, Brig	Brazilian	J. M. Camara, master; J. F. da Silva, owner	10	May 5	6 4 S	9 35 E	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	...	...	...	76	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	Destroyed
Paqueto de Cabo, Brigantine	ditto	J. A. Freixera, master; J. D. Germanay, owner	15	„ 11	11 40 S	13 10 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferrett	...	...	..	96	ditto	ditto	ditto	
Anna Carolina, Brigantine	ditto	D. J. Coelho, master; M. M. Ribeira & Co., owners	19	„ 11	11 40 S	13 10 E	ditto	...	...	...	130	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Santa Cruz, Brigantine	ditto	Manoel da Silva, master; J. F. da Cruz, owner	16	„ 14	6 30 S	10 37 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	252	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Triumpho de Brazil, Schooner	ditto	L. da Rocha, master; J. P. dos Reis, owner	11	„ 19	0 45 N	1 50 E	Capt. Eden, Amphitrite	...	...	...	34	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Schooner	None	Unknown	9	„ 23	In the	Congo	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	...	...	...	85	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Maid of Islay, Steam-vessel	English	W. C. Townley, master and owner		„ 25	Off	Shebar	Com. Dunlop, Alert	...	...	...	...	Sierra Leone, aiding and abetting the Slave Trade	Restitution	Restored	Appeal entered by prosecutors
Pharfao, Schooner	Brazilian	Unknown	21	„ 31	7 55 N	12 20 W	Lieut. Forbes, Bonetta	...	...	...	257	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	Destroyed
Castro 3, Brig	ditto	M. J. de Coelho, master; A. D. de Souza, owner	16	June 10	11 45 S	12 20 E	Com. Sprigg, Ferret	...	...	...	94	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Pensamento, Brig	ditto	J. P. A. Vianna, master; F. J. Godinho owner	41	„ 14	6 10 N	5 13 E	Lieut. Boyle, Dolphin	529	21	508	135	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Brigantine	None	Unknown	Escaped	„ 18	7 52 S	13 3 E	Com. Murray, Favorite	...	...	...	223	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Aurora, Schooner	ditto	Ditto	13	May 2	6 49 N	11 50 W	Com. Wood, Philomel	...	...	...	35	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Traga Amelias, Schooner	Brazilian	Unknown	17	June 19	Cape	Mount	Lieut. Forbes, Bonetta	...	...	...	45	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Marianne, Brigantine	ditto	A. P. Nunez, master; Antonio Alves, owner	18	„ 20	11 50 S	13 20 E	Com. Edmunds, Heroine	...	...	...	129	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Thereza, Steam-vessel	ditto	A. C. Cordeiro, master; J. R. Gomez, owner	26	„ 22	5 26 S	11 8 E	Capt. Jones, Penelope	...	...	...	238	ditto	ditto	ditto	
Curioso, Schooner	ditto	M. A. Barras, master	25	„ 24	6 16 N	3 19 E	Capt. Eden, Amphitrite	...	...	...	72	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Andorinha, Schooner	ditto	J. H. Parara, master	17	„ 28	7 0 N	12 5 W	Lieut. Forbes, Bonetta	...	...	...	220	ditto	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
2do Julho, Schooner	ditto	J. R. Vianna, master	12	July 2	6 0 N	2 20 E	Capt. Eden, Amphitrite	303	4	299	70	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Unknown, Brigantine	None	J. L. Ferciara, master	14	„ 5	11 25 S	13 37 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	184	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—*continued.*

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Number of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured. Latitude.	Where captured. Longitude.	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.	Remarks.
				1848	° ′	° ′						Vice-Admiralty Courts.			
Unknown, Brigantine	None -	José Maria, master - -	25	July 7	11 25 S	13 11 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	527	62	465	236	St. Helena, slaves on board	Forfeiture	Broken up	
Oceano, Brig -	ditto	Daniel José, master - -	19	„ 9	10 41 S	12 23 E	ditto - - -	...	...	...	153	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Zephira, Schooner -	Brazilian	A. G. Soares, master; N. V. Fortuna, owner	24	„ 11	4 0 S	11 0 E	Lieut. Lysaght, Grappler	...	...	...	180	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	
Felicidade, Brigantine	ditto	M. R. Flores, master; J. J. Vereira, owner	16	„ 15	7 15 S	12 3 E	ditto - - -	379	25	354	152	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Feliz Sociedade, Brigantine	None -	J. M. Mauritiz, master - -	16	„ 18	10 58 S	13 30 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	98	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Nova Roza, Brigantine	Brazilian	C. J. Mourier, master; L. P. Pinto, owner	22	„ 28	6 12 S	12 4 E	Lieut. West, Dart -	...	...	...	206	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Louisa, Schooner	None -	J. M. S. Marina, master -	12	Sept. 4	7 10 N	12 0 W	Com. Monypenny, Sealark	...	...	...	70	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Polka, Brigantine -	Brazilian	F. J. de Costa, master; J. T. Davilla, owner	25	Aug. 5	3 16 S	10 36 E	Capt. Jones, Penelope -	29	3	26	165	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Alert, Schooner -	None -	J. Allenda, master - -	14	„ 10	7 15 N	12 10 W	Lieut. Forbes, Bonetta -	...	...	...	90	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Tentador, Brigantine	ditto	J. J. Ribeiro, master - -	19	„ 19	6 27 S	12 9 E	Com. Dixon, Rapid -	...	...	...	189	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Gaio, Schooner -	ditto	V. Inadulina, master - -	15	„ 23	4 10 S	10 50 E	Com. Chamberlain, Britomart	...	...	..	183	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	
San Francisco, Brigantine	Brazilian	J. L. de Silva, master - -	14	„ 27	7 2 N	12 25 W	Com. Monypenny, Sealark	...	...	...	80	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Barque -	None -	Unknown - - - -	Escaped	„ 31	13 30 S	12 31 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	337	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Unknown, Brig -	ditto	Unknown - - - -	19	Sept. 6	3 22 S	10 18 E	Com. Chamberlain, Britomart	427	55	372	196	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	d to	
Achilles, Brig -	Brazilian	M. F. de Magalhens, master; J. F. de Frango, owner	25	„ 7	7 12 N	12 35 W	Com. Monypenny, Sealark		...	...	259	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
San Antonio, Brigantine	ditto	J. P. da Silva, master; A. V. da Silva, owner	20	„ 11	1 24 N	1 54 W	Capt. Eden, Amphitrite	288	1	287	50	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	
Unknown, Schooner	None -	Unknown - - - -	17	„ 15	In the	Congo	Lieut. Richardson, Pluto	7	...	7	207	St. Helena, slaves on board	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Raspate, Schooner -	Brazilian	S. M. Chamosca, master; S. E. Frango, owner	20	„ 17	6 16 N	2 11 E	Com. Riley, Star -	...	...	...	110	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Josepha, Brig -	ditto	M. F. Azevido, master; M. P. G. Caldus, owner	30	„ 18	4 20 N	3 13 E	Capt. Eden, Amphitrite	...	...	...	150	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	

RETURN of Vessels, &c.—*continued.*

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Masters and Owners of Captured Vessel.	Number of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured. Latitude.	Where captured. Longitude.	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.	Remarks.
				1848	° ′	° ′						Vice-Admiralty Courts.			
Bom Destino, Brig	Brazilian	J. Sampaio, master; B. R. Almeida, owner	18	Sept. 19	8 15 S	12 50 E	Lieut. Hill, Dart -	...	...	...	174	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	
A Launch -	None -	Unknown - - - - -	...	„ 20	Cape	Mount	Com. Quin, Waterwitch	3	...	3	...	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	ditto	Slaves only adjudicated	
Lawrence, Brig -	American	Edward York, master and owner	9	„ 24	Sierra Har	Leone bour	Com. Dunlop, Alert -	...	...	...	143	Sierra Leone, engaged in Slave Trade	ditto	To be sold	
Phœnix, Brig -	Brazilian	M. G. de Oliveira, master; A. F. de Costa, owner	19	Oct. 3	12 33 S	11 55 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	170	St. Helena, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	Broken up	
New Packet, Brigantine	None -	E. da Silva, master - -	24	„ 4	Am	briz	Lieut. Hill, Dart -	...	...	...	252	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Gerardo, Brigantine	ditto	G. Herrara, master; P. M. Munoz, owner	23	„ 5	The Ri	ver St. Bartholomew	Lieut. Ponsonby, Firefly	...	...	...	...	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	Not yet adjudicated		
Andorinha 4, Schooner	ditto	Unknown - - - -	24	Nov. 5	2 28 N	5 24 E	Lieut. Crowder, Pluto -	388	27	361	60	Sierra Leone, slaves on board	Forfeiture	Broken up	
Braziliense, Brig -	Brazilian	J. M. da Costa, master; P. P. da Silva, owner	27	Oct. 12	5 40 N	3 40 E	Lieut. Boyle, Dolphin -	703	37	666	88	ditto - - -	ditto	ditto	
Andorinha, Schooner	None -	Antonio da Cunha, master -	27	„ 12	10 0 N	14 23 W	Com. Dunlop, Alert -	...	..	...	27	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	ditto	ditto	
Diligencia, Schooner	ditto	Unknown - - - -	20	Nov. 6	5 8 N	0 46 E	Com. Dixon, Rapid -	...	...	...	130	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	Destroyed
Meteoro, Schooner -	Brazilian	Ditto - - - - - -	17	„ 21	12 15 S	11 40 E	Com. McMurdo, Contest	...	...	...	140	Not yet adjudicated -	- -	- -	To be tried at St Helena
Vengador, Brig -	ditto	Ditto - - - - - -	28	Dec. 12	5 9 N	2 22 E	Com. Kenyon, Cygnet	...	...	...	247	Not yet adjudicated -	- -	- -	ditto
Nerea, Brigantine	ditto	F. G. da Silva, master - -	25	„ 22	6 56 N	12 1 W	Lieut. Jolliffe, Pluto -	...	...	...	111	Sierra Leone, equipped for Slave Trade	Forfeiture	Broken up	
Bom Successo, Schooner	ditto	J. A. Vianna, master; J. A. Fruixon, owner	18	„ 25	6 17 N	2 6 E	Capt. Hastings, Cyclops	...	...	...	65	ditto - - - -	ditto	ditto	

Her Majesty's Ship Penelope, Sierra Leone, February 21, 1849.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM, *Commodore and Commander-in-chief.*

No. 110.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord, *Paris, July 5, 1849.*

I HAVE the honour to state that I have this day communicated to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, the return of the slave-vessels captured during the year 1848 by Her Majesty's squadron employed on the west coast of Africa, which was transmitted to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

No. 111.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 12, 1849.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th of May last on the subject of the use of the French flag in the Slave Trade at Rio de Janeiro, I herewith transmit to your Excellency an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro, inclosing a return of vessels stated to have landed slaves within the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the year 1848; from which you will perceive that the barque "*Antoinette,*" which sailed from Rio de Janeiro under French colours, is said to have returned with a cargo of 900 slaves. I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed papers to the French Government for their information, and for any steps which they may think proper to take thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 111.

1.—*Paragraphs 5 and 6 of Acting Consul Westwood's Despatch of February 28, 1849, to Viscount Palmerston.*

2.—*Inclosure 4 in the above Despatch.*

[See No. 92.]

No. 112.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord, *Paris, August 2, 1849.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches to that of the 12th ultimo inclusive; with reference to which despatch, I have the honour to transmit the copy of the answer I have received to a communication I made to the French Government, informing them that the French brig "*Antoinette*" had landed a cargo of slaves at Rio de Janeiro.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

Inclosure in No. 112.

M. de Tocqueville to the Marquis of Normanby.

Paris, le 28 *Juillet*, 1849.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI reçu la lettre en date du 21 de ce mois, par laquelle votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de me communiquer un état des navires qui, au rapport du Consul Britannique à Rio de Janeiro, se sont livrés au Trafic des Esclaves dans la province de ce nom pendant l'année 1848.

J'en donne connaissance à M. le Ministre de la Marine, à qui d'ailleurs "*l'Antoinette*," le seul bâtiment Français figurant sur cette liste, avait été déjà signalé en 1848 par la Légation de France au Brésil.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) ALEX. TOCQUEVILLE.

(Translation.)

Paris, July 28, 1849.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

I HAVE received the letter dated the 21st instant, in which your Excellency has done me the honour to communicate to me a list of vessels which, according to the report of the British Consul at Rio de Janeiro, have been engaged in Slave Trade in that province during the year 1848.

I have communicated this paper to the Minister of Marine, to whom, by the bye, the "*Antoinette*," the only French vessel named in the list, had already been pointed out in 1848 by the French Legation in Brazil.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. TOCQUEVILLE.

No. 113.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

Foreign Office, August 8, 1849.

My Lord,

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli, inclosing a copy of a deposition made before Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi by the captain of an Ottoman vessel implicating a French subject at that place, named Hadji Mohamet Boballa, in slave-trading transactions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 113.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston, July 3, 1849.

[See No. 286.]

No. 114.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, August* 31, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, copies of a despatch and of its inclosures which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, respecting the extent to which the French flag is now employed in the Brazils in carrying on the African Slave Trade.

Your Excellency will observe that the plan which is now pursued in the case of French vessels is similar to that which, for a considerable time, has been adopted in regard to vessels of the United States. The vessel sails from Brazil to Africa under the French flag, and when it has arrived on the African coast and is ready to embark its slaves, it is transferred, under a bill of sale, to Brazilian subjects, and is taken charge of by a Brazilian master and crew, who have till then accompanied the vessel in the character of passengers.

The United States' civil and naval officers at Rio de Janeiro have, as we are informed, succeeded in putting a stop to the fraudulent use of the United States' flag; but the Brazilian slave-traders are now beginning to obtain from the French flag and from French vessels compensating assistance.

I have, therefore, to instruct your Excellency to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of France will prevent this abuse of the French flag by adopting for that purpose the same means which have been successfully put in force by the Government of the United States to prevent United States' vessels from being employed for purposes of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 114.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, June 9, 1849.

[See No. 24.]

No. 115.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord, *Londres, le* 7 *Septembre,* 1849.

LE Sieur Antoine Etchebarne, Français, établi depuis dix ans à la Havane, avait chargé des marchandises lui appartenant à bord du brig des Etats Unis "*Lawrence,*" Capitaine E. Yorke, et y avait lui-même pris passage. Ce navire entré en relâche forcée à Freetown, port de la Compagnie Anglaise de Sierra Leone, y avait été capturé par les autorités Britanniques sous prévention de Traite, et son chargement, y compris les marchandises appartenant au Sieur Etchebarne, aurait été saisi. Ce Français s'est adressé au Gouvernement de la République, pour le prier d'intervenir auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, afin que ses marchandises lui fussent restituées; et j'ai reçu l'ordre d'entretenir votre Excellence de cette réclamation.

Le Sieur Etchebarne a fait dresser à Freetown, le 12 Octobre, 1848, une protestation contre la saisie dont il se plaint. Il assure qu'en se rendant de la Havane à la côte d'Afrique, il avait uniquement en vue de se livrer à un commerce licite, et que les marchandises saisies n'étaient nullement destinées à servir de solde pour le Trafic des Noirs.

Je serais fort obligé à votre Excellence si elle avait la bonté de faire prendre des informations auprès des autorités de Sierra Leone sur les circonstances dans lesquelles le navire "*Lawrence*" a été capturé, et je la prierai de vouloir bien me mettre en mesure de les porter à la connaissance de mon Gouvernement.

Je saisis, &c.
(Signé) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, September* 7, 1849.

M. ANTOINE ETCHEBARNE, a Frenchman, who has been established ten years at the Havana, shipped some goods belonging to him on board the United States' brig "*Lawrence,*" captain E. Yorke, and himself took a passage on board that vessel. This vessel having been driven by stress of weather into Freetown, the port of the English Company of Sierra Leone, was captured there by the British authorities on a charge of slave-trading, and her cargo, including the merchandize belonging to M. Etchebarne, was seized. This Frenchman has applied to the Government of the Republic to represent his case to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, so that his merchandize may be restored to him, and I have been instructed to bring this claim before your Excellency's notice.

M. Etchebarne drew up at Freetown on the 12th of October, 1848, a protest against the seizure of which he complains. He avers that in going from Havana to the African coast, his sole object was to engage in legal trade, and that the goods seized were not intended to be exchanged for slaves.

I should be much obliged to your Excellency if you would have the goodness to obtain from the authorities of Sierra Leone, information of the circumstances under which the "*Lawrence*" was captured; and I beg you to be so good as to enable me to bring them to the knowledge of my Government.

I avail myself, &c.
(Signed) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 116.

Viscount Palmerston to M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, September* 22, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 7th instant, bringing under the notice of Her Majesty's Government the case of M. Etchebarne, a Frenchman residing at the Havana, and owner of a portion of the cargo found on board the United States' brig "*Lawrence,*" which was seized by Commander Dunlop, of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," in the month of September, 1848, in the harbour of Sierra Leone, and condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court of that colony for being engaged in and equipped for the Slave Trade within British waters.

In accordance with your Excellency's desire to be furnished with information respecting the circumstances under which the capture and condemnation of this vessel took place, I have the honour to lay before your Excellency, for the information of your Government, copies of the undermentioned papers relating to the case.

1st. An extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice established at the Havana for the adjudication of captured slave-vessels, reporting that the American brig "*Lawrence*" had sailed from that port under circumstances calculated to give good reason to believe that she was intended for a slaving voyage.

2nd. 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 the circumstances which had induced him to seize the "*Lawrence*" in the harbour of Sierra Leone, and to send her for adjudication before the Vice-Admiralty Court of the colony;

3rd. A copy of a despatch from the Acting Governor of Sierra Leone to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, containing copies of the decrees of that court condemning the "*Lawrence*" and her cargo upon the charges brought forward by her captors.

I have only to add that if your Excellency's Government should wish to obtain any further information on this case than is contained in the accompanying papers, I shall have great pleasure in obtaining from Sierra Leone for their information, copies of all the proceedings had before the Vice-Admiralty Court of that colony in the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 116.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston, July 25, 1848. *Paragraph* 1.

[See Class A, presented 1849, No. 27, p. 33.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 116.

Commander Dunlop to Commodore Sir C. Hotham, September 27, 1848.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 283, Class B, presented 1849, p. 352.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 116.

Acting Governor Pine to Earl Grey.

My Lord, *Sierra Leone, May* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the interlocutory decrees made by the Vice-Admiralty Court in the case of the American brig "*Lawrence,*" a vessel which was seized in this harbour in October last, and prosecuted and condemned for being equipped for the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJN. C. PINE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 116.

Judgment in case of the "Lawrence."

In the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone.

SATURDAY the 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight;

Our Sovereign lady the Queen against the brig or vessel the "*Lawrence*" (whereof Edward York was master), her tackle, apparel and furniture, and the goods, wares, merchandize, and effects laden therein, seized as liable to forfeiture within the British waters, to wit, in the port of Sierra Leone, by Hugh Dunlop Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Alert," and Lewis de Tessier Prevost, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Pantaloon," and against Edward Yorke, the said master, intervening and claiming a chronometer on board of the said vessel, and Ernest Cæsar Hartung and Karl Maximilian Hartung, intervening and claiming one keg containing 1450 dollars, also on board of the said vessel.

Robert Dougan prayed the Judge to reject the claim of Edward Yorke given on his own behalf, for the said chronometer, and the claim of Ernest Cæsar Hartung and Karl Maximilian Hartung for the said 1450 dollars on their own behalf, and as their respective property, and to pronounce that he, the said

Robert Dougan, had fully proved the contents of the libel, and the exhibits thereto annexed, bearing date the 19th day of October last past, by him given in and admitted in this cause on behalf of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, and the said brig or vessel to have been at the time of the seizure thereof, unlawfully engaged in and equipped for the Slave Trade within British waters, to wit, in the port of Sierra Leone, and that the said brig or vessel, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods, wares, merchandize, and effects laden therein. which had not been claimed, together with the said chronometer, and the said 1450 dollars so claimed as aforesaid, are subject and liable to forfeiture to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, and to condemn the same accordingly. John Meheux on behalf of the said Edward York, Ernest Cæsar Hartung, and Karl Maximilian Hartung, prayed the claims by them respectively given to be admitted, and the said chronometer, and the said 1450 dollars, to be restored as claimed, and on their behalf prayed the Judge to pronounce that Robert Dougan had failed in proof of the said libel and exhibits, and to condemn the said Hugh Dunlop, the Commander of Her Majesty's said sloop "Alert," and the said Lewis de Tessier Prevost, the Commander of Her Majesty's said sloop "Pantaloon," the seizors, in all losses, damages and expenses, as have arisen or shall or may arise by reason of the seizure of the said chronometer and the said 1450 dollars.

The Judge having heard the proofs read, and the advocate for the Crown and the proctor for the said claimants, rejected the said claim of Edward York, and by interlocutory decree, pronounced that Robert Dougan had sufficiently proved the contents of the said libel and exhibits given in and admitted in this cause on behalf of our Sovereign Lady the Queen (save and except as to the said 1450 dollars hereinafter referred to) and the said brig or vessel to have been at the time of the seizure thereof, unlawfully engaged in and equipped for the Slave Trade within the British waters, to wit, in the port of Sierra Leone, contrary to the provisions of the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, and the said brig or vessel, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods, wares, merchandize, and effects laden therein, together with the said chronometer, to be subject and liable to forfeiture to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, and condemned the same, save and except the said 1450 dollars, accordingly; And, moreover, pronounced and directed further proof to be made respecting the ownership of the said 1450 dollars.

Tuesday the second day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

The Judge having heard the further proof read in the support of the claim for the said 1450 dollars, and the advocate for the Crown, and the proctor for the said claimants, rejected the said claim of Ernest Cæsar Hartung and Karl Maximilian Hartung for the said 1450 dollars, and by interlocutory decree pronounced the said 1450 dollars at the time of the seizure thereof to be subject and liable to forfeiture to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, sufficient proof not having been adduced to show that the said 1450 dollars were the property of the said claimants, and thereupon condemned the same accordingly as part of the cargo and adventure of the said brig or vessel.

No. 117.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord, *Londres, le 24 Septembre,* 1849.

LES Commandans des bâtimens de guerre Français et Anglais employés à la répression de la Traite des Esclaves, à la côte occidentale d'Afrique, ayant le devoir de vérifier la nationalité des navires qui leur paraissent suspects d'exercer ce Trafic criminel, mon Gouvernement désirerait avoir la liste des navires qui, depuis la mise en vigueur de la Convention du 29 Mai, 1845, auraient été et seraient à l'avenir reconnus par les croiseurs Britanniques comme ayant arboré induement le pavillon Français.

J'ai en conséquence l'honneur de prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien me mettre en mesure de transmettre cette liste à mon Gouvernement.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, September* 24, 1849.

IT being part of the duty of the Commanders of the French and English ships of war employed on the west coast of Africa, in the suppression of the Slave Trade, to verify the nationality of vessels which they may suspect of being engaged in the criminal Traffic; my Government is desirous of being furnished with a list of the vessels which, since the Convention of May 29, 1845, came into operation, have been or may in future be found, by the British cruizers, to have fraudulently hoisted the French flag.

I have, accordingly, the honour to request your Excellency to be so good as to enable me to transmit this list to my Government.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 118.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord, *Londres, le* 25 *Septembre*, 1849.

J'AI reçu la lettre que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser en réponse à celle que j'avais eu l'honneur de lui écrire le 7 de ce mois au sujet de la saisie, par les autorités de Sierra Leone, de marchandises appartenant à un Français, le Sieur Etchebarne, et embarquées à bord du brick des Etats Unis "*Lawrence*," capturé au mois de Septembre 1848, par le navire de Sa Majesté "Alert," comme soupçonné d'être destiné à la Traite des Esclaves.

Je me suis empressé de communiquer à mon Gouvernement les documens qui accompagnaient la lettre de votre Excellence, en l'informant de l'obligeante proposition que vous m'aviez faite, my Lord, de le mettre en possession, s'il le désirait, de pièces plus détaillées relatives à cette affaire.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, September* 25, 1849.

I HAVE received the letter which your Excellency addressed to me in reply to that which I had the honour to write to you on the 7th instant, on the subject of the seizure, by the authorities of Sierra Leone, of merchandize belonging to a Frenchman, M. Etchebarne, which was shipped on board the United States' brig "*Lawrence*," captured in September 1848, by Her Majesty's ship "Alert," on suspicion of being intended for Slave Trade.

I lost no time in communicating to my Government the documents which accompanied your Excellency's letter, and I at the same time made them acquainted with the obliging proposition which you made to me, my Lord, to put them in possession, if they desire it, of the more detailed documents relative to this affair.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 119.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, September* 28, 1849.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that at a visit made in the month of June last, by Her Majesty's ship "Britomart," Commander Chamberlain, to the village of Sanga Tanga, on the west coast of Africa, in latitude 0° 29′ 15″ south, and longitude 9° 13′ east, that officer was frankly informed by the native

chiefs that Slave Trade had been carried on to a great extent from that place; that they intended to continue the Trade so long as it was to their pecuniary interest to do so; and that they described slaves as being procurable in great numbers from Corisco, the River Gaboon, and the whole adjacent country, some arriving on foot, others in coasting canoes. On leaving Sanga Tanga, Commander Chamberlain repaired to the Gaboon, where he was informed by the missionaries, that Spaniards and Portuguese were not unfrequently seen loitering about the native villages in that river; and that large canoes filled with negroes were often seen to descend the river, but never to return so full of people as they were when they went down; and these circumstances, Commander Chamberlain justly observes, are of a suspicious nature, and strongly corroborate the the assertion of the Sanga Tanga people, that they obtain slaves from the River Gaboon.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate this statement to the French Government, and to say that Her Majesty's Government have further been informed that the extent to which this Traffic in Slaves is carried on in the River Gaboon, notwithstanding the presence of French military and naval authorities, has led to the erroneous and unfounded impression among the people on that part of the coast, that those officers have instructions not to meddle with or obstruct that Traffic. Your Excellency will add that Her Majesty's Government are sure that the French Government, upon being made aware of the extent to which this criminal practice is carried on in a quarter where they have the means of preventing it, will take such measures as may be necessary for the more complete fulfilment of their generous and humane intentions on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 120.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord, *Londres, le* 29 *Octobre,* 1849.

AINSI que j'ai eu l'honneur d'en informer votre Excellence, le 25 Septembre dernier, je m'étais empressé de communiquer à M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères la lettre qu'elle avait bien voulu m'écrire le 22 du même mois avec les pièces qui s'y trouvaient jointes, et qui étaient relatives à la condamnation prononcée par la Cour de Vice-Amirauté de Sierra Leone pour délit de Traite du navire Américain "*Lawrence,*" à bord duquel un Français, le Sieur Etchebarne, avait des marchandises embarquées. Mon Gouvernement désirant, à cet égard, être mis en possession de documens plus explicites, m'a chargé de vous prier, my Lord, de vouloir bien demander à Sierra Leone, et transmettre à l'Ambassade de France, ainsi que votre Excellence a eu l'obligeance de me l'offrir, des copies de toutes les pièces de la procédure qui a eu lieu devant la Cour de Vice-Amirauté de cette colonie, relativement à la saisie et à la condamnation du brig "*Lawrence.*"

Je saisis, &c.
(Signé) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, October* 29, 1849.

AS I had the honour of stating to your Excellency in my letter of the 25th ultimo, I communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the letter which you addressed to me on the 22nd of the same month, with the documents which were annexed to it, and which related to the sentence of condemnation pronounced by the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone against the American vessel "*Lawrence,*" for the crime of slave-trading, on board of which vessel a Frenchman, M. Etchebarne, had embarked some merchandize. My Government desiring to be put in possession of more explicit documents on this case, has instructed me to request you, my Lord, to obtain from Sierra Leone and to

transmit to the French Embassy, in accordance with the obliging offer which your Excellency made to me, copies of all the documents of the proceedings which took place before the Vice-Admiralty Court of that colony, relating to the seizure and condemnation of the brig "*Lawrence.*"

I avail, &c.

(Signed) E. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 121.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 3, 1849.

BY my despatches of the 14th of May and the 11th of June last, I instructed your Excellency to represent to the French Government the manner in which the French flag had of late been used for purposes of Slave Trade; and to inform the French Government that the French barque "*Princesse Francisca,*" which cleared out from Rio de Janeiro for Monte Video in the month of January last, had, after paying the customs duties at Monte Video, sailed from that place bound ostensibly for Batavia, though suspected of being really engaged in a voyage to the coast of Africa, in the interest of the slave-dealers.

I have now to acquaint your Excellency that by a despatch dated the 6th of September last, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro has reported to me that the "*Princesse Francisca*" entered that port on the 7th of July last, reporting herself as in ballast from Loango, on the west coast of Africa, and having on board 48 passengers, mostly seafaring persons, known to have been engaged in Slave Trade transactions.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate these facts to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs. I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 122.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 15, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of September last, respecting the extent to which Slave Trade is carried on in the Gaboon River, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter which I have received from General d'Hautpoul, stating that he has referred the matter in question to the Minister of Marine. I have, &c.

(Signed) NORMANBY.

Inclosure in No. 122.

General d'Hautpoul to the Marquis of Normanby.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Paris, le* 9 *Novembre,* 1849.

VOTRE Excellence a écrit à mon prédécesseur, le 29 du mois dernier, pour signaler au Gouvernement de la République des faits de Traite des Noirs qui auraient eu lieu dans la rivière du Gabon, sans que les autorités Françaises fussent intervenues pour y mettre obstacle.

J'ai prié M. le Ministre de la Marine de provoquer une enquête au sujet de ces allégations qui ne reposent que sur les paroles des habitans du pays, et je ne puis croire que des officiers de la Marine de l'Etat aient toléré sous leurs yeux des actes réprouvés par les lois Françaises, et contraires aux sentimens d'humanité dont ils ont toujours fait preuve.

J'aurai soin d'informer votre Excellence du résultat des informations qui auront été prises.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) GENERAL D'HAUTPOUL.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Paris, November* 9, 1849.

YOUR Excellency wrote to my predecessor on the 29th of last month, in order to point out to the Government of the Republic certain acts of slave-trading which are said to have occurred in the River Gaboon, without any attempt on the part of the French authorities to prevent them.

I have requested the Minister of Marine to institute an inquiry into these allegations, which, however, have no other foundation than the statement of the natives of the country; and I cannot think that officers of the State marine could have tolerated under their eyes acts forbidden by the French laws, and contrary to the sentiments of humanity of which they have always given proof.

I shall take care to inform your Excellency of the result of the inquiry.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) GENERAL D'HAUTPOUL.

No. 123.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 7.)

My Lord, *Paris, December* 6, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of August last, inclosing a copy of a deposition made before Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi by the captain of an Ottoman vessel, implicating a French subject at that place, named Hadji Mahommed Boballa, in slave-trading transactions, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter which I have received from General de Lahitte on that subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NORMANBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 123.

General de Lahitte to the Marquis of Normanby.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Paris, le* 27 *Novembre,* 1849.

D'APRES la lettre de votre Excellence en date du 20 Août dernier, mon prédécesseur s'était empressé de signaler à M. Blanchet, Consul-Général de France à Tripoli de Barbarie, une opération de Traite à laquelle aurait participé le nommé Hadji Mahommed Aboubala, protégé Français domicilié à Bengazi, accusation qui résulte de dépositions faites devant le Vice-Consul d'Angleterre dans ce port par le Réis Zautouti, commandant du bâtiment sur lequel cette opération aurait eu lieu. M. Blanchet m'écrit que cette affaire avait déjà éveillé son attention avant la réception de la dépêche de M. de Tocqueville, ainsi que votre Excellence pourra s'en convaincre en prenant connaissance des extraits ci-joints de la correspondance du Consulat-Général de la République à Tripoli avec M. de Bourville, Gérant du Consulat de Bengazi. Elle y verra que plusieurs circonstances se rèunissent, sinon pour prouver l'innocence d'Aboubala, au moins pour infirmer notablement le témoignage de son accusateur.

Il parait en effet que le Réis Zautouti a éte excité à cette démarche par deux personnes qui y avaient intérêt, et que de plus il y était poussé par une vengeance à exercer, Aboubala l'ayant dans le cours de son dernier voyage à Smyrne traduit en justice et fait condamner au remboursement d'une portion considérable de son chargement de beurre, que Zautouti avait détournée et vendue dans les relâches qu'ils avaient faites. Le témoignage de celui-ci est en outre dépourvu des formes qui seules peuvent rendre valide un serment Musulman; et interrogé officieusement plus tard par M. Blanchet, Zautouti n'a pas fait mention des négresses achetées dans les relâches de son navire. Enfin Aboubala a obtenu une déclaration d'un douanier, qui détruit l'accusation portée contre lui en ce qui concerne les esclaves embarquées à Bengazi.

Telles sont les premières informations que m'a adressées M. Blanchet. Vous trouverez ci-jointe copie des instructions qu'il avait envoyées au Consulat de Bengazi avant la réception de la dépêche de mon département, et qu'il termine en prescrivant, si les faits imputés à Aboubala étaient prouvés, de lui retirer notre protection, sans préjudice des poursuites qui devraient s'en suivre naturellement. Il m'annonce aussi que de nouvelles et sérieuses recherches viennent d'être ordonnées par lui à Bengazi; dès que le résultat m'en sera connu, j'aurai l'honneur de vous en faire part.

Je dois, en terminant, M. l'Ambassadeur, vous exprimer mon regret de la manière dont M. le Vice-Consul d'Angleterre à Bengazi a cru devoir procéder dans le cours de cette affaire, en faisant comparaître devant lui, à l'insu du Gouvernement local, et sans même en prévenir notre Agent Consulaire, des sujets Ottomans, pour témoigner contre un protégé Français. Il me semble qu'une autre voie eût été à la fois et plus simple pour arriver à la découverte de la vérité, et plus conforme aux sentimens de bonne harmonie qui règnent entre les deux nations.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) GENERAL LAHITTE.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Paris, November* 27, 1849.

IN consequence of your Excellency's letter of the 20th of August last, my predecessor lost no time in calling the attention of M. Blanchet, the French Consul-General at Tripoli, to an operation in slave-trading, in which Hadji Mahommed Aboubala, a French protégé residing at Bengazi, is said to have been implicated—an accusation which is founded on depositions made before the Vice-Consul of England at that port, by the Reis Zautouti, the commander of the ship in which the operation in question is said to have taken place. M. Blanchet writes me word that this affair had already roused his attention before the receipt of M. de Tocqueville's despatch, as your Excellency will be able to satisfy yourself was the case by perusing the accompanying extracts from the correspondence of the Consulate-General of the Republic at Tripoli with M. de Bourville, who is in charge of the Consulate of Bengazi.

You will see from these papers, that several circumstances combine, if not sufficient to prove the innocence of Aboubala, at least materially to shake the testimony of his accuser.

It appears, in fact, that the Reis Zautouti was urged to take this step by two persons who had an interest in it, and that, moreover, he was instigated by a desire of revenge, Aboubala having in the course of his last voyage to Smyrna delivered him up to justice, and caused him to be condemned to refund a considerable portion of his cargo of butter, which Zautouti had turned aside from its destination, and had sold at ports where he put in. This person's testimony is, moreover, not invested with the forms which can alone render a Mussulman's oath valid; and when he was subsequently officially interrogated by M. Blanchet, Zautouti did not mention the negresses who were bought at the places where this vessel touched; and lastly, Aboubala has obtained a declaration from a custom-house officer, which destroys the accusation brought against him in so far as respects the slaves embarked at Bengazi.

Such is the first information furnished to me by M. Blanchet. You will find hereunto annexed a copy of the instructions which he had sent to the Consulate of Bengazi before he received the despatch from my department, and which he concludes by ordering that, if the facts charged against Aboubala should be proved, our protection should be withdrawn from him, without prejudice to any ulterior proceedings against him which would naturally ensue. He further announces to me, that new and serious inquiries have just been ordered by him at Bengazi. As soon as the result of them shall be known, I shall have the honour to communicate them to you.

In closing this letter I think it my duty, M. l'Ambassadeur, to express to you my regret at the course which the English Vice-Consul at Bengazi thought proper to pursue in this affair, in causing Ottoman subjects to appear before him without the knowledge of the local Government, and without even giving notice to our Consular Agent, to bear witness against a person under French

protection. It appears to me that a different line of conduct would have been at once more simple for arriving at the truth, and more conformable to the sentiments of good harmony which exist between the two nations.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) GENERAL LAHITTE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 123.

A.—*The French Consular Agent at Bengazi to the French Consul-General at Tripoli.*

M. le Consul-Général, *Bengasy, le* 4 *Juin*, 1849.

IL y a plusieurs mois, le nommé Mohammed Aboubala, Algérien, s'était embarqué avec une forte partie de beurre en destination pour le Levant, sur un brick commandé par le Réis Zautouti, sous pavillon Ottoman.

Depuis quelques jours seulement ce capitaine était de retour d'un de ses voyages, lorsque Mercredi dernier il fut conduit par Férid Effendi au Vice-Consulat Anglais. Là Mr. Hermann se mit à l'interroger sur le chargement qu'il avait à cette époque, sur ses passagers, sur les esclaves qu'il avait embarqués, s'ils appartiennent à Aboubala, &c. Sur les réponses du Réis, qu'il pensait que 5 esclaves étaient à Aboubala, Mr. Hermann voulut lui faire mettre par écrit ce témoignage et de lui faire signer.

Deux jours après, Férid Effendi aurait, à ce qu'il paraît, conduit au Vice-Consulat Anglais le second et quelques matelots du même navire pour le même sujet, et ils auraient répondu qu'ils ne savaient rien.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Bengazi, June* 4, 1849.

SOME months ago a native of Algiers, named Mahommed Aboubala, embarked with a considerable cargo of butter, bound for the Levant, in a brig under the Ottoman flag, commanded by the Reis Zautouti.

This captain had only been a few days returned from one of his voyages, when on Wednesday last he was taken by Ferid Effendi to the English Vice-Consulate. There Mr. Hermann commenced interrogating him respecting the lading he had at that time, about his passengers, about the slaves that he had embarked; asking him whether they belonged to Aboubala, &c. On the Reis answering that he thought 5 slaves belonged to Aboubala, Mr. Hermann wished him to put this statement in writing, and to sign it.

Two days afterwards, it appears that Ferid Effendi brought to the English Vice-Consulate the mate and several sailors belonging to the aforesaid ship, for the same purpose, and that they answered that they had no knowledge on the subject.

Inclosure 3 in No. 123.

B.—*The French Consul-General at Tripoli to the French Consular Agent at Bengazi.*

Monsieur, *Tripoli, le* 29 *Juin*, 1849.

J'AI appelé devant moi il y a quelques jours le Réis Zautouti, patron du navire Ottoman qui, dit-on, a transporté des esclaves à la Canée, pour l'Algérien Aboubala, et je lui ai fait subir un interrogatoire simplement verbal et confidentiel sur les menées employées pour le faire déposer devant Mr. Hermann, ainsi que sur la teneur de sa déposition.

Voici en substance ce qu'il m'a déclaré: "Invité à dîner et traité abondamment chez Férid Effendi, directeur de la quarantaine de Bengazi, il a été onduit immédiatement aprés par ce dernier chez Mr. Hermann, où il a été accueilli avec force prévenances. Là on lui a demandé quelles marchandises Aboubala avait embarqueés à son bord, et il a répondu qu'Aboubala était parti sur son navire de Bengazi pour Smyrne avec une partie de beurre, des nattes, et 7 ou 9 esclaves à lui appartenant. Ayant demandé à mon tour à Zau-

touti, s'il était bien sûr de son fait pour les esclaves, il m'a répondu affirmativement, en assurant qu'ils étaient accompagnés de tesquérés de la douane, désignant Aboubala comme propriétaire ou expéditeur de ces Noirs." La déposition ainsi reçue chez Mr. Hermann a été prise par écrit; Férid Effendi l'a signée comme témoin, et Zautouti n'ayant pas sur lui son cachet, l'a également signée de sa marque ou d'un signe particulier. Zautouti prétend d'ailleurs avoir été le seul interrogé par Mr. Hermann, ou au moins qu'aucun autre homme de son équipage n'a fait ou signé de déposition devant le Vice-Consul Britannique. . . . . Vous avez pu depuis longtems vérifier, Monsieur, si les registres de la douane constatent ou ne constatent pas qu'Aboubala était expéditeur ou propriétaire de quelques-uns des esclaves chargés sur le navire de Zautouti, lequel dans cette traversée en portait de 25 à 30, dont plusieurs pour compte même de ce patron.

Si le fait est faux, s'il n'existe rien de pareil à la douane, il faut en prendre certificat et rester strictement à l'égard d'Aboubala dans la ligne de mes instructions antérieures et générales. Si au contraire le fait accusé par Zautouti est exact, si les tesquérés existent, il faut déclarer à Aboubala que nous cessons dès ce moment de le protéger comme Algérien, sans préjudice des recherches et des poursuites qui devront s'en suivre naturellement.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Tripoli, June* 29, 1842.

I SUMMONED before me two days ago the Reis Zautouti, master of the Ottoman vessel which was said to have carried slaves to Canea for the native of Algiers, Aboubala; and I caused him to undergo a simply verbal and confidential interrogatory as to the means employed to make him depose before Mr. Hermann, and also as to the tenor of his deposition.

The following is the substance of what he stated to me:—Having been invited to dinner and hospitably treated by Ferid Effendi, Director of the Quarantine at Bengazi, he was immediately afterwards conducted by him to the house of Mr. Hermann, where he was received with much attention. He was then asked what goods Aboubala had embarked on board his ship, and answered that Aboubala had sailed in his ship from Bengazi for Smyrna, with a cargo of butter, mats, and 7 or 9 slaves, who belonged to him.

Having in my turn asked Zautouti if he was sure of the fact with regard to the slaves, he answered in the affirmative, stating that they were accompanied by teskérés of the custom-house, describing Aboubala as proprietor or shipper of these negroes. The deposition thus made before Mr. Hermann was taken in writing; Ferid Effendi signed it as witness; and Zautouti, not having his seal about him, signed it with his mark or with a particular sign. Zautouti further asserts that he was the only one questioned by Mr. Hermann, or at least, that no other man of his crew made or signed a deposition before the British Vice-Consul. You have for some time, Sir, been able to ascertain whether the custom-house registers prove or not that Aboubala was the shipper or owner of any of the slaves shipped on board Zautouti's vessel, who in his last passage had from 25 to 30 on board, of which several were on his own account.

If the accusation is false, if nothing of the kind exists at the custom-house, a certificate must be taken to that effect, and you must follow strictly with regard to Aboubala the line of my previous and general instructions. If, on the contrary, Zautouti's accusation is confirmed, if the teskérés exist, you must announce to Aboubala that we cease from this moment to protect him as a native of Algiers, without prejudice to the inquiry and prosecution which will naturally ensue.

Inclosure 4 in No. 123.

C.—*The French Consular Agent at Bengazi to the French Consul-General at Tripoli.*

Bengazi, le 30 *Juillet,* 1849.

POUR ce qui est de l'affaire Aboubala, j'ai la conviction que ce protégé n'a nullement transporté des esclaves sur le navire du Réis Zautouti. Celui-ci parait avoir agi par esprit de vengeance contre notre protégé, qui ayant em-

barqué sur son bâtiment un assez grand nombre de quintaux de beurre, a reconnu à Smyrne qu'il lui en manquait une grande quantité et força le Réis par devant les tribunaux à lui en rembourser le tout. Plus tard je pourrai vous produire les preuves de son innocence. D'ailleurs je dois dire que depuis que je suis ici il ne m'a jamais donné aucun sujet de plainte en quoi que ce soit.

(Translation.)

Bengazi, July 30, 1849.

WITH regard to the affair of Aboubala, I am convinced that this protégé never shipped any slave on board Reis Zautouti's vessel. The latter appears to have been actuated by a spirit of revenge against our protégé, who, having shipped on his vessel a considerable number of quintals of butter, discovered at Smyrna that a large quantity was wanting, and had the Reis up before the tribunals to compel him to restore the whole quantity. I shall in a short time be able to produce the proofs of his innocence. I ought further to state, that since I have been here he has never given me cause of complaint in any way.

Inclosure 5 in No. 123.

D.—*The French Consular Agent at Bengazi to the French Consul-General at Tripoli.*

Bengazi, le 19 *Août*, 1849.

Aboubala a obtenu un tesquéré ou déclaration du douanier, qui détruit l'accusation portée contre lui et qui prouve qu'il n'a embarqué aucun esclave.

(Translation.)

Bengazi, August 19, 1849.

Aboubala has obtained a teskéré or declaration from the custom-house, which destroys the accusation brought against him, and proves that he never shipped any slave.

No. 124.

Viscount Palmerston to M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Foreign Office, December* 13, 1849.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 24th of September last, requesting to be furnished, for the information of your Government, with a list of all vessels which since the Convention of May 29, 1845, came into operation, have been found, on being visited by Her Majesty's cruizers on the west coast of Africa, to have hoisted the French flag without having a right to do so.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have stated to me that they have not any documents in their possession which will enable them to furnish the lists desired by your Excellency.

But the Commodore in command of Her Majesty naval forces on the west coast of Africa will be directed to prepare such a list, and to transmit a similar list annually, for the information of the French Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 125.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 6, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for communication to the French Government, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at St. Paul de

Loanda, on the subject of a French merchant-vessel named the "*Œtna*," belonging to a house at Marseilles, which is said to have been sold to some residents at Loanda for the purpose of being employed in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 125.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston. October 10, 1849.

[See Class A, No. 116, page 167.]

No. 126.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 8, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at St. Paul de Loanda, reporting that the French cruizers "Petit Thouars" and "Pourvoyeur" had respectively captured a French vessel on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 126.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston. October 16, 1849.

[See Class A, No. 118, page 168.]

No. 127.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis of Normanby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 25, 1850.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 14th of May, the 11th of June, the 31st of August, and the 3rd of November of last year, on the subject of the employment of French vessels and of the French flag by the slave-traders of Brazil, I now transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, from which it appears that the French flag has, owing to the reasons explained in that despatch, ceased for the present to be used in Brazilian Slave Trade.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate the substance of Mr. Hudson's despatch to General de Lahitte, and to say that Her Majesty's Government feel great pleasure in submitting to the French Government the testimony borne by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to the meritorious and honourable conduct of M. de St. Georges, the Chargé d'Affaires of France at Rio, in his exertions to prevent the citizens or flag of France from being employed in Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 127.

Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston. November 13, 1849.

[See No. 45.]

MUSCAT.

No. 128.

Viscount Palmerston to Captain Hamerton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 13, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a letter and of its inclosures which I have received from the India Board from which it appears that, in contravention of the treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade subsisting between Her Majesty and the Imaum of Muscat, a considerable number of slaves have been exported during the last year from the African dominions of His Highness, and have been imported into his dominions in Asia and into Persia.

I have to instruct you to transmit to me all the information which you may be able to obtain respecting the exportation of slaves during the year 1849 from the African dominions of the Imaum, and to communicate to me any facts which may have come to your knowledge respecting the shipment of slaves from Burburra or from the coast or country called in the inclosed papers the Sowahil.

I take this opportunity of reminding you that it is an essential part of your duty to use every endeavour to prevent the exportation of slaves from the dominions of the Imaum in contravention of the Treaty concluded by you with His Highness on the 2nd of October, 1845; and to keep Her Majesty's Government fully informed of the proceedings of the slave-dealers within the Imaum's dominions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 128.

Sir John Hobhouse to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord, *India Board, January* 7, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, an extract of a despatch from the Government of Bombay, dated the 3rd ultimo, together with a copy of one of its inclosures, on the subject of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN HOBHOUSE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 128.

The Government of Bombay to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Bombay, December* 3, 1849.

IN our despatch dated the 31st of October last, we reported to your Committee our proceedings up to that date connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade under the existing engagements between Turkey, Persia, His Highness the Imaum of Muscat, and the maritime Arab chiefs of the Persian Gulf. We at the same time stated that under the circumstances reported in that despatch, we had resolved, pending instructions for the home authorities, not to issue any further orders having in view the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that we had directed that our Indian naval authorities be guided in their proceedings by the rules previously in force, as reported in our former despatches to you and to the Court of Directors.

We now beg to state that, having furnished the Governor-General with a

copy of the above proceedings, we have been informed in a letter form Sir Henry Elliot, K.C.B., dated the 19th ultimo, "that as the matter has been referred to the home authorities for orders, the Governor in Council (of Bombay) will be pleased to await their instructions."

We next beg to forward a copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Hennell, dated the 9th of October last, forwarding translation of a letter to his address from the native agent at Shargah, dated the 19th of the preceding month, reporting amongst other information, that "the practice of selling male and female slaves has been renewed in those quarters, and that they are now embarked from Zanzibar, the Sowahil and Burburra, for Soor, Muscat, the Batinat and Persian coast;" that the slaves so introduced "are openly sold without any attempt at concealment, or any one interfering with them." Lieutenant-Colonel Hennell states that accounts from "all quarters corroborate the agent's statements, that a large importation of slaves from the African coast by the vessels of Soor, Muscat, and the coast of Batinat, has taken place."

Inclosure 3 in No. 128.

The Resident in the Persian Gulf to Mr. Malet.

Sir, *Bushire, October* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Governor in Council, the inclosed translated substance of a report, dated the 19th of September, from our Agent at Shargah, Moolah Hussein, on the renewal of the Slave Trade in this gulf.

Accounts from all quarters corroborate the Agent's statements, that a large importation of slaves from the African coast, by the vessels of Soor, Muscat, and the coast of Batinat, has taken place. From the Arabian coast this year three buglas are believed by Moolah Hussein to have brought up cargoes of this description; but from the plan now adopted of landing them at Soor and the coast of Batinat, it is obviously exceedingly difficult to obtain satisfactory proof of their having been engaged in the Slave Trade. The steps said to have been taken by the Joasmee Sheik in seizing the individuals concerned in this Traffic, and making them pay half the value of the slaves, although greatly short of what is necessary to check it altogether, is, nevertheless, more satisfactory than the conduct of the Muscat and Soor authorities, who appear almost to afford it an open countenance.

I shall bring to the notie of Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Persia, the circumstance of the chief of Mohumrah having had brought up 30 Abyssinian female slaves in his bugla from the Red Sea; but I have not the least hope that any effectual steps will be taken by the Persian Government to punish this breach of the late Shah's firmans.

My own impression is, that nothing short of the capture and confiscation of some half-a-dozen of the delinquent vessels between Rassel Had and the quoins at the entrance of the Gulf will stop this nefarious traffic. As far as I can ascertain, few slaves have this year been brought up to Bushire and the northern ports by the Arab buglas direct from Soor, Muscat, &c. They appear to be mostly disposed of at the southern ports of the Gulf. This perhaps arises from the apprehensions entertained by the native vessels of being searched by one of the cruizers in this quarter. I have, &c.

(Signed) S. HENNELL.

Inclosure 4 in No. 128.

Translated Substance of a Letter from Moolah Hussein to the Resident in the Persian Gulf.

September 19, 1849.

I REGRET to report that, as far as I can learn, the practice of selling male and female slaves has been renewed in these quarters, and that they are now embarked from Zanzibar the Sowahili, and Burburra for Soor, Muscat, the Batinat and Persian coasts. I have been informed that the Soor vessels, and

others which frequent Zanzibar, the Sowahil, Burburra, and the coast of Yemen, have brought up numbers of male and female slaves, which have been landed in Soor, Muscat, and the Batinat coast, where they are openly sold without any attempt at concealment, or any one interfering with them. From the ports above referred to slaves are re-transported to Bunder Abbas, Kishm, and the Persian coast. Three buglas belonging to the subjects of Sheik Sultan bin Suggur have visited Zanzibar the last season, viz., one belonging to Bao Gházee, commanded by Sultan bin Azeez; another the bugla of Bin Atteek, which last year brought up slaves from Burburra; and the third the property of a Shargah man, named Boo Aleyaroa. The first vessel landed her slaves on the Batinat coast, and at Cusbeah, where the nakohda has a house, so that, on her arrival at Ras-el-khyma, she had none on board. The second bugla, belonging to Bin Atteek, brought up a large cargo of slaves, most of which were landed in Soor, and the rest on the Batinat coast; she, therefore, brought none to Ras-el-khyma. The Shargah vessel landed her slaves on the Batinat coast, and at Rumps, where she remained. On the receipt of the letter which you addressed to Sheik Sultan on the subject of the Slave Trade from Aboothabee, that chief sent orders to his son Ibrahim to seize whoever might bring any slaves, and inflict fitting punishment. This he did, that a report might be spread abroad. On the receipt of these instructions, Ibrahim arrested some persons concerned in this affair, and confined them till they made him a present secretly, when he set them at liberty. In like manner Sheik Sultan, when he returned to Ras-el-khyma, apprehended those concerned in bringing slaves, and pretended to deal with them severely. Upon this they agreed to pay him half the value of the slaves, and he let them go. I understand the Sheik has written to you to say that his people have not brought up any of this description of cargo.

On the 15th of August the bugla of Jaber bin Murdon, the Sheik of Mohumrah, arrived at Ras-el-khyma, from the Red Sea. She was commanded by Abeed bin Jassim, and manned by subjects of Sheik Sultan bin Suggur. I am informed she had 30 female Abyssinian slaves on board. After a stay of five days she sailed for Mohumra. It is impossible for me to say how many slaves have been imported into the Gulf this season, as they have been landed at Soor, the Batinat coast, &c. It is certain, however, that a great many of the inhabitants of the Arabian coast are deeply regretting that they were induced to abstain from proceeding to Zanzibar and the Sowahil last year for the purchase of slaves.

True translated substance. (Signed) S. HENNELL.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 129.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you copies of a correspondence between Her Majesty's Representative at Lisbon and myself, on the subject of a Traffic in Slaves said to be carried on between the Portuguese settlements of Timor and Solor, in the Molucca Archipelago, and the Dutch settlement of Macassar.

You will perceive that in replying to the representation which by my direction Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon made on this subject to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, the Portuguese Minister has informed Mr. Howard that, in consequence of the measures taken by the Marine Department at Lisbon, two Dutch vessels from Macassar have been captured, one of which was provided with a passport issued by the authorities of Batavia, and the other with two passports and two flags, one passport issued by the Dutch authorities, and the other by the Sultan of Bughi.

I have to instruct you to bring this subject under the notice of the Netherland Government, and to express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that instructions will be sent to the authorities in the Netherland possessions in the Eastern Archipelago, to discountenance and to prevent by all means within their power, the use of the Netherland flag and the employment of subjects of the Netherland Crown in practices so repugnant to the humanity and civilization of the age.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 129.

1.—*Viscount Palmerston to Sir Hamilton Seymour, June* 6, 1849.

2.—*Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston, July* 13, 1849.

3.—*Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston, August* 17, 1849.

[See Nos. 149, 169, 184.]

No. 130.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord, *The Hague, September* 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of September 10, and I herewith inclose the copy of a note which I have consequently addressed to his Excellency M. de Lightenvelt.

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

Inclosure in No. 130.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to M. de Lightenvelt.

The Hague, September 15, 1849.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has the honour to communicate for the information of the Netherland Government, copies of a correspondence which has passed between the British and Portuguese Governments, on the subject of a Traffic in Slaves said to be carried on between the settlements of Timor and Solor, in the Molucca Archipelago, and the Dutch settlement of Macassar.

In replying to the statements of the British Minister and Chargé d'Affaires of the same Government, the Portuguese Minister informed Mr. Howard that in consequence of the measures taken by the Marine Department of Portugal, two Dutch vessels from Macassar had been captured, one of which was provided with a passport issued by the authorities of Batavia, and the other with two passports and two flags, one passport likewise issued by the Netherland authorities, and the other by the Sultan of Bughi.

The Undersigned is instructed to bring these circumstances under the notice of his Excellency M. de Lightenvelt, Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and the Undersigned is authorized in fulfilling these instructions, to express the complete persuasion of the British Government that instructions will be sent to the Netherland authorities in the Indian Archipelago strictly to investigate into these transactions, and to take every measure effectually to prevent the use of the Netherland flag and the employment of the subjects of the Netherland Crown in practices so repugnant to the humanity and civilization of the age.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

No. 131.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 6, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of September 10, you addressed on the 15th ultimo, to M. de Lightenvelt, on the subject of the Traffic in Slaves carried on between the Portuguese settlements of Timor and Solor, in the Molucca Archipelago, and the Dutch settlements of Macassar.

I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Netherland Minister on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 132.

Sir Edward Disbrowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord, *The Hague, October* 12, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note from his Excellency M. de Lightenvelt, dated 6th October, in answer to mine of the 15th September, explaining the report that a commerce in slaves exists between Timor and Solor and the Netherland establishment at Macassar, and stating the circumstances which occurred in 1845 as accounting for the report, and forwarding a decree of the Portuguese Governor of Delly, of the 18th April, 1848, which I have had translated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. DISBROWE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 132.

M. de Lightenvelt to Sir Edward Disbrowe.

La Haye, le 6 *Octobre,* 1849.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, a eu l'honneur de recevoir la note que Sir Edward Disbrowe, &c., a bien voulu lui adresser le 15 Septembre dernier, par rapport au Commerce supposé d'Esclaves entre les possessions Portugaises de Timor et Solor et l'établissement Néerlandais de Macassar.

Ayant pris à cet égard des renseignements au Département des Colonies, le Soussigné se voit à même de répondre que le seul cas connu ici date de l'an 1845. Alors, deux bâtiments ont été expediés par un négociant de Macassar, au su du Gouvernement, pour les possessions Portugaises à Timor et Solor, dans le but de louer quelques personnes libres pour une entreprise d'agriculture. Les autorités Portugaises croyant voir dans cette opération le Trafic défendu d'Esclaves, ont maltraité et arrêté l'équipage de ces navires, mais la Cour de Justice à Macassar, au jugement de laquelle cet équipage avait été soumis, après son extradition par M. le Gouverneur-General, du chef de l'accusation de s'être rendu coupable du Commerce d'Esclaves, a prononcé une sentence, dont il conste, que le fait commis par les capitaines des bâtiments susmentionnés ne constitue ni crime, ni délit, ni aucune autre contravention punissable.

Cette affaire, ainsi que quelques différends d'une autre nature, ayant engagé M. le Gouverneur-Général à envoyer un fonctionnaire à Timor Delly, le résultat de cette mission a été pour ce qui regarde cet objet, que M. le Gouverneur Portugais de Delly a fait le 18 Avril, 1848, la publication ci-jointe, à l'effet d'établir les règles d'après lesquelles dorénavant des personnes libres pourront être louées.

Le Soussigné peut encore ajouter, que malgré que les circonstances indiquées ci-dessus pourraient faire considérer les instructions ultérieures comme superflues, M. le Gouverneur-Général des possessions Néerlandaises aux Indes Orientales n'en a pas moins été invité à donner les ordres nécessaires pour que la plus grande vigilance soit observée.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) LIGHTENVELT.

(Translation.)

The Hague, October 6, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive the note which Sir E. Disbrowe, &c., addressed to him on the 15th ultimo, with respect to a Traffic in Slaves supposed to be carried on between the Portuguese possessions of Timor and Solor and the Netherland establishment of Macassar.

Having received information on this subject from the Colonial Department, the Undersigned is now enabled to reply, that the only case known here occurred in the year 1845. Two ships were then dispatched by a merchant of Macassar, with the knowledge of the Government, for the Portuguese possessions at Timor and Solor, for the purpose of hiring some free persons for an agricultural enterprise. The Portuguese authorities, thinking that this was an operation in the forbidden Traffic in Slaves, ill-treated and arrested the crews of these vessels; but the Court of Justice of Macassar, before which the crews were sent for trial, after their extradition by the Governor-General, on a charge of having been guilty of slave-trading, pronounced a sentence, from which it appears that the act of the masters of the vessels in question neither constitutes a crime nor a delinquency, nor any contravention of law liable to punishment.

This affair, as well as certain disputes of another nature, having induced the Governor-General to send a functionary to Timor Delly, the result of the mission as respects this affair was, that the Portuguese Governor of Delly issued on the 18th of April, 1848, the inclosed proclamation, for the purpose of settling the regulations under which, in future, free persons could be hired out.

The Undersigned can further add, that although the circumstances above

stated might cause ulterior instructions to appear superfluous, the Governor-General of the Netherland possessions in the East Indies has nevertheless been instructed to give orders for the observance of the greatest vigilance.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) LIGHTENVELT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 132.

Decree of the Governor of Delly.

(Translation.)

JULIAO JOSE DA SILVA VIEIRA, Fidalgo of the house of Her Majesty, Commander of the Order of Christ and of several foreign Orders, Colonel of Artillery, ——— of the Military Academy of Goa, Honorary General-in-chief, Governor of the Islands of Timor and Solor for Her Most Faithful Majesty, and Deputy of the National Cortes for these islands,—

Makes known,

ARTICLE I. That, taking into consideration that the existing laws for these islands against the Slave Trade require some further explanation with regard to the conveyance of free people, natives of these islands, who wish to depart for foreign countries, as is allowed according to the Constitutional Charter of the kingdom, title 8, Article 145, § 5; and desiring to unite the several duties which are imposed on me, in order at once to put a stop to the shameful Traffic in Slaves in these islands, and at the same time to protect and extend, as much as is in my power, the friendly commercial relations which exist between the said Portuguese and the neighbouring European Powers, he declares that the publication of the 18th June, 1845, and all former and subsequent orders relating to the afore-mentioned Slave Trade, shall remain in full force, in conformity with the tenor of the commands recently received from Her Most Faithful Majesty and from the chief Government of these countries.

ART. II. That no Portuguese, nor any foreign ship, shall be permitted to take on board any native, or even any free individual, for the purpose of conveying them away from these islands, without a passport signed by me; for the procuring of which passport he (the party concerned) shall be obliged to apply in person, and, if he has been a slave, to exhibit his letter of freedom, and in default thereof, a judicial verdict, or some security answering the same purpose.

ART. III. Nobody shall be allowed to embark for foreign parts except from the ports of Delly, Manatutu, Batugadé, Occusse, and Larantuca, which, in pursuance of the said proclamation, shall provisionally remain opened to foreign commerce. To that effect they must previously demand a passport from me, which, with the exception of Delly, must be exhibited to the authorities of the place where they embark, who shall convince themselves of the identity of the person, and suffer free persons, who of their own accord wish to proceed to foreign countries, as permitted by the law, to embark unmolested, and give me notice thereof by the first opportunity.

ART. IV. Vessels taking any native of these islands on board, without observing the above-mentioned formalities, their commanders and crews will be punishable, conformably to the Decree of the 10th December, 1836, and moreover be responsible for the consequences.

And that every one may have knowledge hereof, the publication of the present enactment shall take place and be registered, by the sound of the drum, in public, at the accustomed places in every respective garrison.

Given at the Castle of Delly, at Timor, on the 18th April, 1848.

(Signed) JULIAO JOSE DA SILVA VIEIRA.

By order of his Excellency,

(Signed) ZEFERINO BENEDICTO GONZALVES,

Secretary of the Government.

PERSIA.

No. 133.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Sheil.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to the correspondence which has passed between Colonel Farrant and myself on the subject of the firmans against Slave Trade which were issued by the late Shah of Persia in the month of June 1848.

You will perceive that although His Majesty the present Shah has confirmed those firmans, yet he has not hitherto granted permission to Her Majesty's ships and to those of the East India Company to search and detain vessels under the Persian flag which may be found carrying on the Slave Trade in defiance of the firmans.

Her Majesty's Government are earnestly desirous that Her Majesty's ships of war, and those of the East India Company employed in the Persian Gulf, should be allowed to search vessels under the Persian flag suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade, and should be allowed to seize all slaves found on board such vessels and convey them to a British colony to be made free. With respect to the disposal of the vessels on board of which the slaves may be found, and with regard to the punishment of their crews, Her Majesty's Government propose that such vessels and persons should be delivered up to the Persian Government, to be dealt with in such manner as their infraction of the firman may be considered to warrant.

It is to be feared that if such permission is not granted, Persian vessels may be employed in carrying slaves not only to Persia, but also to the Turkish dominions, to the dominions of the Imaum of Muscat, and to the territories of the maritime chiefs of the Persian Gulf. But the Sultan, the Imaum of Muscat, and the Arabian chiefs, have all prohibited their subjects from transporting slaves by sea; and in order to render effectual the prohibition which they have promulgated, they have conceded the above-mentioned permission to Her Majesty's ships and to those of the East India Company.

You will impress upon the Persian Government the deep interest which is felt by Her Majesty's Government in this matter; and you will urge them in the most earnest manner to grant to Her Majesty's and to the East India Company's ships a permission without which the firmans of June 1848, issued by the late Shah in compliance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, are likely to be unavailing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 134.

Mr. Thomson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 18, 1850.)

(Extract.) *Tehran, November* 21, 1849.

MAJOR HENNELL, the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, having announced in a despatch to Colonel Farrant's address, the arrival in that port of

a Persian vessel with 18 negro slaves on board, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I brought this circumstance to the notice of the Persian Prime Minister, and requested that the stipulation contained in the firman issued by His late Majesty Mahomed Shah should be enforced, by the punishment of Mohamed Berdas, the commander of the vessel in which the negroes had been imported. The amount of punishment I claimed was, that the vessel in question should be confiscated, and that Mahomed Berdas should also in person be punished for his open and flagrant defiance of the firman granted at the instance of the British Government for abolishing the importation of negroes by sea into the Persian dominions. His Excellency did not attempt to oppose the principle that punishment ought to be inflicted in such cases; but as the nature of the penalty to which a violation of the firman is liable has not yet been defined, he objected in the strongest manner to the amount of punishment I claimed, and declared it was one to which he could by no means consent. It was clear from the mode in which he treated the subject, and from his professions that he would take such steps that no similar occurrence should take place, that he was desirous of avoiding the actual infliction of any punishment whatsoever, so that at length, finding there was no probability of his granting the total confiscation of the vessel, I withdrew from the discussion, with the understanding that a fine of 300 tomans should be levied from the commander of the vessel, and that it should be arrested and detained in the roadstead of Bushire until the money was paid. When, however, the letter ordering the Prince Governor of Fars to levy the fine was sent to me, I found that his Excellency the Prime Minister had with his own hand erased the words "arrested" and "detained" in the roadstead, and substituted in their place "remain for some time" in the roadstead, thereby rendering nugatory the whole substance of the letter, as no Governor would venture to enforce the penalty where so evident an outlet was given for the escape of the offender; and I accordingly refused to accept it. After another interview, his Excellency agreed to the insertion of the words I required.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of Major Hennell's despatch reporting the arrival of the negroes at Bushire, and a translation of the letter of the Ameer-i-Nizam to the Prince Governor of Fars, for the punishment of Mahomed Berdas, the commander of the slaver; also a copy of my despatch to Major Hennell on the same subject.

I trust your Lordship will not be of opinion that I have acted in this matter with precipitation in not awaiting the arrival of Her Majesty's Minister, as my chief object was to obtain the arrest of the vessel before it could leave Bushire, and thus enable his Excellency Colonel Sheil to have the opportunity of obtaining a more suitable punishment, if on arrival here he should judge it expedient, in the present situation of the country and the Government, to press the matter further.

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

Major Hennell to Lieutenant-Colonel Farrant.

Sir, *Bushire, October* 17, 1849.

INCLOSED I have the honour to forward for your information the accompanying copy of a letter from Commodore Porter, reporting the arrival in this port of a Persian vessel belonging to Hajee Khan, of Dashtee, with 18 slaves on board.

I need hardly observe that so long as boats under the Persian flag can thus convey slaves for sale from one port to another with impunity, the firman of the late Shah and our Treaties with the maritime Arabian chiefs will prove of little efficacy in suppressing the Slave Trade in this gulf.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. HENNELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 134.

Commodore Porter to Major Hennell.

Sir, *Bushire Roads, October* 16, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to bring to your notice that I have received positive information that the bugla "*Futh-ool Khair,*" Nakhoda Mahomed Berdas Soonee, owned by Hajee Khan Dashtee, of Dashtee, arrived from Muscat and Lingah in this port, last evening, with 18 slaves on board for this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. PORTER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 134.

Mr. Thomson to Major Hennell.

Sir, *Tehran, November* 19, 1849.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 17th of October, intimating the arrival at Bushire of 18 negro slaves from Muscat and Lingah in a boat belonging to Hajee Khan Dashtee, and commanded by Mahomed Berdas, I have the honour to acquaint you that I endeavoured to obtain, but without success, from the Persian Government, the confiscation of the vessel and punishment of the commander. Being, however, of opinion that some degree of punishment should be immediately inflicted on the person contravening the stipulations of the firman prohibiting the importation of negroes by sea to the ports of Persia, I have in the meantime accepted from the Persian Government a letter from the Prime Minister, enjoining the Prince Governor of Fars to send a special agent to Bushire to levy a fine of 300 tomans from the commander of the vessel, and in the event of the fine not being immediately paid, to arrest and detain the vessel in the roadstead until the amount of the penalty is recovered.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the letter from his Excellency the Ameer-i-Nizam to the Prince Governor of Fars, the original of which I shall forward by the present courier to Sheeraz.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 134.

The Ameer-i-Nizam to the Prince Governor of Fars.

(Translation.) *November* 18, 1849.

ACCORDING to what has been stated, 18 negroes boys and girls have recently been shipped on board the bugla "*Futh-ool-Khair,*" the property of Hajee Khan Dashtee, and commanded by a person named Mahomed Berdas, and brought by sea to the port of Bushire. As by the firman issued by His late Majesty, subjects of this State must not bring negro slaves by sea to the ports of Fars, and as the above commander has acted in opposition to the order contained in that firman, therefore let your Royal Highness send a special person to the port of Bushire, who having ascertained the fact of the said commander having committed an act of this nature, he will imperatively take from that person the sum of 300 tomans on account of this Government, and bring it to Sheeraz; and in the event of the said commander being dilatory in paying the above amount, you will instruct the person who goes to Bushire to arrest and detain the said bugla in the roadstead of Bushire until the commander shall have paid the above amount in full; that this may be a warning to others, and that henceforward no one may be guilty of such actions or bring negro slaves by sea to the ports of Fars. Your Royal Highness will use your utmost exertions in this matter.

No. 135.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Sheil.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 9, 1850.

I HAVE received Mr. Thomson's despatch of the 21st of November last, reporting the steps which he took in order to obtain the punishment of the parties concerned in the importation of 18 slaves into Bushire in the Persian bugla "*Futh-ool-Khair,*" and I have now to instruct you to acquaint Mr. Thomson that I approve of the course which he pursued on that occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 136.

Colonel Sheil to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 21.)

(Extract.) *Tehran, January* 26, 1850.

FROM Mr. Thomson's reports your Lordship is already aware that a Persian vessel had brought 18 negro slaves from Africa for sale, to the port of Bushire, and that at the demand of that gentleman, orders had been transmitted to the Governor of Fars to inflict a fine of 300 tomans on the owner of the vessel. I lately received a letter from the Resident at Bushire, in which he reports the inability of the Governor of that town to execute the orders he had received, either from the departure of the vessel, or because it belonged to a powerful chief who would resent such an interference. The orders of the Government have been repeated to the Governor of Fars, but I cannot doubt of their being attended with the same result.

PERU.

No. 137.

Mr. Adams to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 3, 1850.)

My Lord, *Lima, December* 31, 1849.

I THINK it right to report to your Lordship that no event connected with the subject of the Slave Trade has occurred in Peru during the present year, nor has any change been made in the laws affecting slaves, during the session of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

PORTUGAL.

No. 138.

Viscount Moncorvo to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 12.)

My Lord, *Portuguese Legation, April* 11, 1849.

AGREEABLY to the orders I have received from Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, I have the honour to lay before your Excellency the details of an occurrence which took place in the month of February of last year, between Commander George Sprigg, of Her Britannic Majesty's brig of war "Ferret," and a Portuguese launch, the "*Cabenda*," belonging to the coasting trade of Angola.

The said launch being bound to sail from Loanda for the ports of the south, was granted the proper documents by the Governor-General, manifesting that her crew was composed of a master and ten sailors (of course slaves), and giving all the particulars of her description and nationality; bail was also taken for the observance of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842, which are the formalities usually required in such cases.

On board the said launch was a Portuguese subject, J. J. da Silva Guimaraens, who was returning to a factory of his master, José Vicente Mangueira, furnished with a passport in which it was expressly mentioned that he was to be accompanied by two slaves, Joaquim and Manoel.

The launch and the passenger, so prepared, sailed from Loanda on the 8th of the said month of February, 1848, and being met with on the 10th by the brig "Ferret," was visited by its Commander, who took from on board the two slaves mentioned in the passport of J. J. da Silva Guimaraens, and four of her crew, as also a bag of rice, leaving the said Guimaraens deprived of any for the rest of his voyage.

The Governor-General, having been made acquainted with this seizure, immediately ordered a strict inquiry to be made, and having found that the said launch and passenger had complied with the regulations required by law, immediately wrote to the Commander of the "Ferret" on the subject, who, instead of complying with his just request, resolved arbitrarily to send the slaves to St. Helena. The Governor then addressed himself directly to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, who, in his answer, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, did not hesitate to say, that whatever opinion Commander Sprigg might have held respecting the character of the papers belonging to the launch, he considered that it was his bounden duty to have acceded to the Governor's request, and have referred the whole matter to the Court especially appointed to adjudicate in such cases; and finally he stated that he would transmit a copy of the Governor-General's letter, together with his own opinion, to his Government.

It is evident that though the Commodore did not compel his subordinate, the Commander Sprigg, to act according to the Treaty of 1842, he was convinced that the Commander had acted in the most illegal manner.

Being prepared to furnish your Excellency with copies of all the documents if necessary, to prove that the launch, as I stated, had gone through all the legal formalities to guarantee the legitimacy of the voyage and trade for which she was destined, and the Commodore's letter manifesting the illegality of the

Commander's proceedings in this affair, I am directed to claim from your Excellency in the name of my Government, the immediate restoration of the 6 slaves taken from that launch, with an adequate indemnity for the losses resulting therefrom; and also to request that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will take the measures necessary to prevent the repetition of similar infractions of the Treaty of July 3, 1842, which are so detrimental to the coasting trade of the Portuguese dominions, as to threaten its utter ruin by such illegal and violent proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TORRE DA MONCORVO.

Inclosure in No. 138.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Governor-General of Angola.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *St. Paul de Loanda, July* 3, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter dated July 1, and its inclosures, acquainting me of the proceeding of Commander Sprigg in removing 6 slaves, inhabitants of Loanda, from a coasting launch which had been furnished with regular papers by the Government of this province, and his refusal to bring them before the Court of Mixed Commission at this capital.

Whatever opinion Commander Sprigg may have held respecting the character of the papers belonging to the launch, I consider that it was his bounden duty to have acceded to the request of your Excellency, and have referred the whole matter to the court especially appointed to adjudicate upon such cases. I have transmitted a copy of your Excellency's letter to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, together with my opinion on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOTHAM.

No. 139.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, April* 7, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo* I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship the copy and translation of a letter which I have received from Viscount de Castro, in reply to my note of the 24th ultimo, transmitting to his Excellency an extract of the report of Vice-Admiral Dacres.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 139.

Viscount de Castro to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, April* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 24th of March last, inclosing, by order of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, an extract of the Report of Vice-Admiral Dacres on the Slave Trade, in which the said Admiral praises the conduct of the Portuguese authorities on the east coast of Africa. With much satisfaction I this day transmit copies of the said note and accompanying extract to the Marine Department, for the due effect.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT DE CASTRO.

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* See Class B, presented 1849. No. 197, p. 244.

No. 140.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, May 7, 1849.*

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Lordship the copy and translation of a note addressed to me on the 3rd instant by the Duke of Saldanha, in reply to my note of the 25th of last October.*

In this communication the Duke of Saldanha informs me that the Portuguese Government approve of the plan of sending prisoners sentenced by the Mixed Commission of the Cape of Good Hope, to Mozambique, and that the necessary orders have been sent to the Portuguese Commissioner.

In the note of acknowledgment which I have returned to Marshal Saldanha, and of which I beg to transmit a copy, I thought it right to remind him that what is represented as an acquiescence in the views of Her Majesty's Government is in fact only the adoption of a suggestion made originally by the Portuguese Commissioner at the Cape of Good Hope.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 140.

The Duke of Saldanha to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, May 3, 1849.*

IN answer to your note of the 25th of October of last year, which inclosed a copy of a despatch addressed to Lord Viscount Palmerston by the British Commissioners in the city of the Cape of Good Hope, showing the difficulties and impossibility of sending the prisoners sentenced by that Mixed Commission for the crime of Slave Trade to Loanda; I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government, taking these difficulties into consideration, have issued the necessary orders to the Portuguese Commissioner, that those prisoners may in future be sent to Mozambique, in conformity with the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, manifested by you in your said note.

With regard, however, to the conveyance of the prisoners to that place, the said Portuguese Commissioner is also directed to endeavour to come to an understanding with the British Commissioner on the easiest and least expensive mode of conveying them; and Her Majesty's Government trust that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will issue the convenient orders to that effect.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) DUKE OF SALDANHA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 140.

Sir H. Seymour to the Duke of Saldanha.

M. le Duc, *Lisbon, May 7, 1849.*

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note dated the 3rd instant, in which you inform me that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, taking into consideration the difficulties which attend the conveying of prisoners sentenced by the Mixed Commission of the Cape of Good Hope to Loanda, have issued orders that these prisoners should be sent in future to Mozambique.

With regard to the quarter from which the suggestion now about to be acted upon in the first instance proceeded, I am desirous of reminding your Excellency that it had been brought forward originally by the Portuguese Commissioner.

This point, however, is immaterial, the important one being that the agents

* See Class B, presented 1849; inclosure in No. 182, page 230.

of our two Governments, and the Governments themselves, should be fully agreed as to all measures to be adopted with a view to the suppression of slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 141.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, May* 8, 1849.

IN the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy and translation, the Duke of Saldanha, in reply to my note of the 7th of October of last year,* informs me that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty are unable to comply with the demand which that note contained; the resolution taken by the Government with regard to the 20 negroes of the launch "*Fortuna,*" and to any others who may be emancipated at Loanda, being to establish them as freemen and landowners at San Thomé and Principe.

In the note of acknowledgment, a copy of which is inclosed, which I have returned to the Duke of Saldanha's communication, I have confined myself to noticing the inadvertency into which his Excellency has fallen in speaking of a suggestion made by Her Majesty's Government as of a claim or demand which had been brought forward on their part.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 141.

The Duke of Saldanha to Sir H. Seymour.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, May* 4, 1849.

IN answer to the note which you addressed to this department on the 7th of October of last year, claiming in the name of Her Britannic Majesty, that the 20 liberated negroes found on board of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" condemned as a good prize by the Mixed Commission at Loanda, as well as those who may in future be emancipated there, may be sent to a British colony, because the respective Boards of Superintendence had found it impossible to meet with any one to take charge of the former on the condition of the payment of wages according to the stipulations of Article VI of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842; I have the honour to say to you, that as no claim has as yet been presented to Her Majesty's Government, and also not being aware that Her Britannic Majesty's Government have received any, on the fact of liberated negroes who have been delivered over to individuals having been again reduced to a state of slavery in any part of the Portuguese dominions; and as, on the other hand, the word "apprenticeship" mentioned in the said Treaty, only refers to the arts and professions, to the entire exclusion of agriculture, there can be no objection to the negroes emancipated in the Portuguese dominions in Africa being destined to the apprenticeship of agriculture in the archipelago of Cape Verde, or in the Islands of St. Thomé and Principe, where for years no tendency has been manifested to or thoughts entertained of the Slave Traffic.

It therefore appears convenient to Her Majesty's Government that the negroes of the launch "*Fortuna,*" and any others who may be emancipated at Loanda, should be conveyed to St. Thomé and Principe, in the same manner as Her Britannic Majesty's Government causes them to leave Sierra Leone for Jamaica and other ports of the West Indies; as the Portuguese Government not only guarantees their liberty, but even intends that they should become landholders, by forming with them an agricultural colony.

* See Class B, presented 1849; inclosure in No. 180, page 229.

In conformity to this the necessary orders are about to be issued, Her Majesty's Government regretting that the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government cannot be complied with in conveying the negroes in question to an English colony.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) DUKE OF SALDANHA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 141.

Sir H. Seymour to the Duke of Saldanha.

M. le Duc, *Lisbon, May* 8, 1849.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of a note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 4th instant.

It may be proper to remark to your Excellency, that the note of the 7th of October last, to which your Excellency has now replied, contained, not a claim or a demand (reclamação), but a suggestion, to which, as I learn from your communication, the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty do not consider it expedient to assent.

This decision will be immediately brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government, who will at once learn the non-approval of the plan brought forward by them, and the resolution taken by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty of establishing as free landowners at St. Thomé and Principe, the negroes of the launch "*Fortuna*," and any others who, having been similarly captured, may be emancipated at Loanda.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 142.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting that a person named Antonio Monteiro da Silva, owner and master of the Portuguese brig "*Flor d'Azurara Segundo*," had purchased 4 slaves at the Island of Fogo, one of the Cape Verd Islands, where he obtained passports for 2 of them in his own name, and for the other 2 in the name of some person on board his vessel, allowing them to be taken to St. Antonio, the place of his residence.

Instead, however, of taking these slaves to St. Antonio, it appears that Silva proceeded with them to St. Nicholas, the residence of the Commissioners, where he offered them for sale; but as the authorities would not permit him to land them, he took them to other islands of the same group, where he disembarked 2 of them, returning with the other 2 to St. Nicholas.

I have to instruct you to communicate this paper to the Portuguese Government, and to request the earnest attention of the Duke of Saldanha to these proceedings. Her Majesty's Government are the more desirous that these facts should be brought under the immediate notice of the Portuguese Government, because they have reason to believe that this is not the only instance in which the laws of Portugal are set at defiance by the illegal introduction of slaves into the Cape Verd Islands in small numbers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 142.

Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Cape Verd Islands to Viscount Palmerston. February 1, 1849.

[See Class A, presented 1849, No. 133, page 150.]

No. 143.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, reporting that Colonel Rezende, the newly-appointed Governor of Quillimane, who had visited the Cape on his voyage to this post, was not informed of the permission granted by the Portuguese Government to Her Majesty's cruizers to enter the bays, ports, and other places within the Portuguese territories on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, for the purpose of suppressing Slave Trade.

This permission was recorded in a protocol of a conference held at this Office between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Portugal, on the 12th of August, 1847; and I have to instruct you to ask the Portuguese Government whether this protocol has been made known to the proper authorities in all the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 143.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope to Viscount Palmerston. February 22, 1849.

[See Class A, No. 51, page 75.]

No. 144.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing a copy of a note which you had received from the Duke of Saldanha, informing you that the Portuguese Government had not thought fit to adopt the suggestion of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the disposal of the 20 negroes captured in the launch "*Fortuna,*" and emancipated by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at St. Paul de Loanda, by sending them to a British colony to be emancipated, but had resolved upon establishing them as free landowners in the Islands of St. Thomé and Principe.

I have to instruct you in reply, to state to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Her Majesty's Government would learn with great pleasure that these and other negroes similarly circumstanced had been placed as free men in the possession of land in the islands mentioned; and Her Majesty's Government are convinced that such an arrangement would tend much to the prosperity of those islands.

Her Majesty's Government, however, cannot avoid entertaining a hope that the plan for abolishing the condition of slavery in all the Portuguese pos-

sessions will be speedily carried into execution; and thus, while the interests of humanity will be promoted, the agricultural prosperity of the Portuguese colonies will be greatly advanced.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 145.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" condemned by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda for being engaged in Slave Trade, I transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at that place, reporting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the said launch.

You will communicate this paper to the Portuguese Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 145.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston.
January 22, 1849.

[See Class A, No. 81, page 103.]

No. 146.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch and of its inclosure which Her Majesty's Government have received from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, late Commander-in-chief on the west coast of Africa station, from which it appears that the Slave Trade has been and still is carried on to a considerable extent from the coast of Africa between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela; that 1100 slaves had been found in two vessels captured by Her Majesty's ship "Contest" since the month of May last, and that one of these vessels had shipped her slaves at Quicinga. It further appears that barracoons filled with slaves ready for exportation, exist at Rio Longo, Quicinga, and Logita; and that a barracoon capable of containing nearly 2000 slaves stands on Old Benguela Head; and lastly, that slaves are shipped from Bahia Farta, after having been marched from the town of Benguela itself.

I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed papers to the Portuguese Government, and to urge them to give positive directions for the prevention of these criminal practices.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 146.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Penelope,*" *Cape Mount, January* 31, 1849.

I REQUEST you will lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copy of a letter addressed by Commander Murray, of Her

Majesty's sloop "Favourite," to Captain Cordeiro, commanding the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa, indicating the existence of barracoons at the Rio Longo, Quicombo, and Logita.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 146.

Commander Murray to Captain Cordeiro.

Sir, "*Favorite,*" *St. Paul de Loanda, November* 8, 1848.

I CONSIDER it my duty to inform you that the Slave Trade has been and still is carried on briskly from the coast between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela.

Since May last 1100 slaves have been found in two vessels detained by Her Majesty's sloop "Contest," the slaves of one of them had been shipped at Quicinga.

I am informed that barracoons filled with slaves ready for export exist at this moment at Rio Longo, Quicinga, and Logita, but that the largest, containing nearly 2000 slaves, stands on Old Benguela Head. I am also informed that slaves are shipped from Bahia Farta, after having been marched from the town of Benguela itself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALEX. MURRAY.

No. 147.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you for your information copies of a despatch which has been received at the Admiralty from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the west coast of Africa, and of its inclosures, detailing the proceedings of Lieutenant Guimarães, of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego," in two expeditions made by that vessel to the northward and southward of Loanda, for the purpose of destroying slave-barracoons, by order of Captain Cordeiro, commander of the Portuguese squadron.

These papers have been communicated to me since my other despatch of this day's date was written, and I have to instruct you to bring under the favourable notice of the Portuguese Government the zealous and honourable conduct of the commander of the Portuguese naval station in the execution of the Treaty engagements of the Portuguese Crown, and to express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that Captain Cordeiro may be rewarded by the full approbation of his Sovereign, and may be encouraged and instructed to persevere in the effectual measures which he has thus adopted for the suppression of the Slave Trade. It is to be regretted that the Governor of the province has not on this occasion shown the same zealous desire to put down Slave Trade which animated the naval commander; but whether this slackness on his part proceeded from an improper official jealousy, or from a guilty connivance with the slave-traders, Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that in either case the Portuguese Government will make such communications to him as may ensure for the future better exertions on his part for the fulfilment of the Treaty engagements of Portugal.

You will state that Her Majesty's Government are most anxious to bring under the serious consideration of the Portuguese Government the notorious fact that the greater part, if not the whole, of the slaves who are annually imported into Brazil are exported from the Portuguese possessions on the western and eastern coasts of Africa; and it is impossible that this violation of Portuguese and Brazilian law and of Portuguese and Brazilian Treaties with Great

Britain could take place, if it were not for the connivance of the officers of the Portuguese Crown employed on the African coast. For it is manifest that if those officers did their duty, and obeyed properly and zealously the orders which Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt they have received from the Government of Lisbon, no considerable exportation of slaves could possibly take place from those parts of Africa which belong to the Portuguese Crown.

You will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of Portugal will not delay carrying into execution the humane, and wise, and politic measure which the Portuguese Government has in contemplation for the abolition of the condition of slavery within the dominions of the Portuguese Crown.

Such a measure would not only put an end to the Slave Trade now carried on from the Portuguese possessions, but would tend to the prosperity of those possessions, by increasing the native population, by encouraging agriculture, and by paving the way for the spread of civilization, and for the consequent improvement and extension of commerce. But Her Majesty's Government hope and trust that in the meanwhile the Portuguese naval officers on the African station will be instructed to continue to destroy these barracoons and to set free the negroes illegally held in captivity therein for the purpose of being exported to America.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 147.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *Sierra Leone, February* 12, 1849.

1. THE accompanying documents detail the particulars of the destruction of the barracoons at Mazula and Ambriz, by the boats of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego;" a reclamation made upon the Portuguese Government by the proprietors of the factories at Ambriz; and a correspondence which subsequently took place between the Governor-General of the Province of Angola and Captain Cordeiro, the senior officer in command of Her Most Faithful Majesty's squadron.

2. It may be in their Lordships' recollection that at various times they have instructed me to press upon the Portuguese authorities in Angola the adoption of a more effective co-operation in the suppression of Slave Trade, and that, although they had expressed themselves satisfied with the cordial desire of the late Governor-General and the naval commander to fulfil their duty, as far as the cruizers might be concerned, still they directed me to demand the destruction of the factories and barracoons, and to offer the assistance of the force under my command in any way that might be most acceptable.

3. From time to time, as circumstances seemed most opportune, I complied with my instructions, and referred the desire of Her Majesty's Government to the chiefs of the proper departments; and as in the month of July last a change took place in the officers administering the Government, I again seized the opportunity to urge my demand.

4. Prior to making any communication to the Governor-General, it appeared to me but courteous to inform my colleague at the head of the naval department, of my intention, and I commenced by asking whether he was under the orders of the Governor-General in matters which related to Slave Trade; to this he replied by putting his instructions into my hands, and pointed to the paragraphs referring to the subject, which certainly, strange as it may appear, rendered him independent of the local Government in matters connected with Slave Trade.

5. I then opened my mind freely to him, required the destruction of the barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, and proffered the assistance of the British force. To that he replied by again showing his instructions which positively prohibited any conjoint operation on the part of the two countries. Therefore nothing remained but to confide in him, and indicate the most conspicuous haunts of Slave Trade; but before concluding the interview I proposed a com-

munication to the Governor-General, whom I was unwilling to exclude; finding, however, that Captain Cordeiro had the strongest objection, positively declaring that in one hour the whole town would know the nature of the expedition, and making other assertions which it is unnecessary to report, I consented to leave the matter in his hands, to be dealt with as might to him seem fit.

6. Their Lordships have been already informed of the result of the expedition which indubitably struck a heavy blow at the Slave Trade in those quarters, and reflected credit on the several parties concerned. The inclosures now forwarded will give all the details, as well as the correspondence between the Governor-General and Captain Cordeiro.

7. I lament to find that the Governor-General intends to make a strong representation of the impropriety of Captain Cordeiro's conduct to the Portuguese Government. I am sorry to find that amongst the charges stands an accusation "of executing the instructions of the Commodore commanding the west coast of Africa, instead of combining (*combinar*) with the Representative of Her Most Faithful Majesty;" an accusation as unjust as it is disloyal; and I equally regret that the Governor-General in his despatch positively refused to receive the liberated negroes, leaving them in the custody of Captain Cordeiro.

8. I fear that unless Her Majesty's Government intercedes in his behalf, this officer will be removed from his command. I do not pretend to understand Portuguese etiquette, or give any opinion on the propriety of the proceeding, but the despatches show that a latitude was left to the senior naval officer, and that he to the very utmost of his ability carried out those instructions which others, from dread of responsibility, evaded. He says that if the powerful support of Her Britannic Majesty's Government is granted, he has it in his power to destroy every barracoon and factory in the Portuguese territory. I cannot believe that the support he solicits will be withheld.

9. The society which the Governor-General frequents is said to be composed of slave-dealers; his opinions are openly cited, and it is more than probable that the operation would have been frustrated, had Captain Cordeiro admitted him into the secret.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 147.

Captain Cordeiro to Commodore Sir C. Hotham.

(Translation.) "*Outo de Julho,*" *Loanda,*
November 7, 1848.

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency, as I had promised, the information which the commander of the brig "Mondego" has forwarded to me, relative to the burning of barracoons destined for the infamous Traffic in the Slave Trade (documents 1, 2, and 3).

The commander of the brig received on board 10 negroes, who ran to him; there being no means of releasing the rest that were in irons, these only were taken.

By the despatch (document No. 4) I requested the Governor-General that he should point out some place where I might place the 10 that had been liberated, this being the object for which the expedition was undertaken; to this despatch he replied by the document No. 5.

By the despatch (document No. 6) he replied to this demand, placing it in the required form (document No. 7). To this despatch I replied to the Governor-General as may be seen in document No. 8.

The slave-dealers of Ambriz sent a protest, in which they claimed compensation for their losses and injuries; and this protest was greatly supported by influential slave-dealers at St. Paul de Loanda, such as Mattozo, Garrido, and others; and it is said in their circles, that the Juiz de Direito, as well as the first authorities, offered every possible support to this protest. In consequence of this proceeding I have got into disgrace throughout the whole province, which may be characterized as a province of slave-dealers. Document No. 9 is a copy of the said protest.

If I am supported by the powerful moral influence of the Government of your Excellency and the Government of my nation, I affirm, without fear of erring, that I shall extinguish these haunts of the slave-dealers who are established, or may be intended to be established, on the whole of the extensive dominions of Portugal on this coast.

I also think it very necessary that your Excellency should be informed of the correspondence which has taken place with the Governor-General, concerning the departure of the brig "Mondego," according to your request, from this port, on her expedition to Ambriz. On the 20th of last month, the brig being in sight of this port, I received the despatch marked A which had been already prepared, which I replied to by the despatch B, being answered again by the despatch C, which finished the correspondence on this subject.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MANOEL J. DA S. CORDEIRO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 147.

Lieutenant Guimarães to Captain Cordeiro.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, "*Mondego*," *October* 20, 1848.

IN compliance with the orders of your Excellency contained in a letter which I was ordered to open outside the port of Loanda, on the 13th day of the present month, as the tenor of the inclosed letter shows, I sailed for Ambriz, where I arrived on the morning of the 14th, and after working about for some hours in front of the anchorage, so that I might well reconnoitre the place, as well as to make them imagine on shore that my principle object was to cruize, I anchored in nine fathoms, in front of the factories, from whence I thought I could best protect the force I intended to send on shore. After it was dark I hoisted out two large boats, and at half past 1 in the morning, embarked on board the two large boats 42 soldiers, commanded by Lieutenant Nobrego, with orders to land and destroy the barracoons wherever he should find indications of Slave Trade. At 3 o'clock the force disembarked; having marched about two miles to the S.E., they found a barracoon and a shed, where were several slaves huddled together, and every indication of Slave Trade. The surprise was complete, for when they endeavoured to get the slaves out by a back door in the barracoon, they found that passage already occupied. Immediately Lieutenant Nobrego ordered that they should free the slaves who were there, and set the buildings on fire. This gave occasion to a small conflict between the naval soldiers and guard of the establishment, who, armed with knives and sticks, endeavoured to resist, which ended in the death of one of the guard, who endeavoured to lay hold of the arms of a soldier, and wounded another. Several of the slaves, profiting by their liberty, fled under favour of the night. Lieutenant Nobrego brought on board 10 slaves whom he found bound together.

These barracoons were the most distant from Ambriz, and Lieutenant Nobrego, after the rising of the sun, climbed some heights, from whence he could see a considerable distance, but could see no signs of any stir in the interior.

It is my duty to bring to the knowledge of your Excellency that Lieutenant Nobrego perfectly justified the confidence I placed in him when I charged him with this service.

At 10 o'clock, the day before yesterday, the 15th, having hoisted in the boats I made sail, and sailed to leeward of Ambriz. I saw no existence of any barracoons until I arrived at Mazula Pequeno. I myself approached the little landing place of Capuzo, where it was impossible to land in consequence of the surf, and I did not see a shed of any sort over a long distance.

On the 16th, having sufficiently explored the coast, I resolved to disembark at Mazula Pequeno, where, as I have already said, there are some barracoons, situated on an eminence about a mile and a half from the shore; the landing was very difficult, on account of the surf, so that the ammunition, notwithstanding the greatest caution, got wet. The barracoons were all abandoned; but as there were signs of the Slave Trade, such as pipes of water, &c., the officer charged with the expedition, Lieutenant Traga, set fire to the barracoons,

and returned on board. They found at the place of disembarkation 2 Cabenda blacks, who said that the landing at Ambriz was generally known, and that the whole coast was in a state of alarm; for this reason, as well as on account of the great surf, I resolved not to land at Mazula Grande, although it was nearer than Little Mazula, and where they say there are some barracoons, many of which are used for lawful purposes.

I repaired to the Dande to endeavour to prevent the news of my various expeditions arriving before myself.

It is unnecessary to explain to your Excellency the causes of the delay which took place between the various operations, because your Excellency knows the difficulty that exists in working to windward against a strong current close to the shore, where I kept in order that I might make the necessary observations. Between Mazula and the Dande I saw nothing worthy of notice.

On the 19th, being prepared to order another disembarkation in the Dande; I passed within hail of the cutter "Principe Real." I ordered her to anchor on the bar, and protect the landing party which I should send on shore. At 2 o'clock Lieutenant Nobrego landed, and notwithstanding all the inquiries he could make and all the information he could obtain from the regent of the district he could find no vestige whatever of Slave Trade.

Considering the service your Excellency had intrusted to me to be terminated, I have returned to the port of Loanda, where I have just anchored.

I await your Excellency's orders relative to the destination of the 10 men I have freed at Ambriz.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) IZIDORE F. GUIMARAES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 147.

Lieutenant Guimarães to Captain Cordeiro.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, "*Mondego*," *Loanda, October* 27, 1848.

IN compliance with the order of your Excellency which I received at the entrance of Loanda, under date the 19th of the present month, I sailed for for Cape St. Bras, where I arrived on the 22nd. I commenced on the 23rd, the exploration of the coast. Landing on the north of the said coast, in a small port, well adapted for small vessels, formed by a spit of sand that runs along the coast in this port I found some small houses entirely abandoned, without doors or anything else; I continued examining the coast most scrupulously as far as Cape Ledo, without finding the vestige of a barracoon. On the 24th I landed at Cape Ledo, where we found some barracoons, entirely abandoned, similar to those at Cape St. Bras. The same day we landed at Punto Negro where there are some barracoons used for the trade of varella and morfim, of which they make a small trade. A factor and 2 blacks were trading in the factory, but we could find no symptom of Slave Trade. There is nothing else which merits attention between this and Coanza. On the 25th I approached as near as possible to the mouth of this river, and sent a boat with orders to pass the bar, which, on account of the surf, and the want of a pilot, could not be done; the Cabendas who accompanied us would not undertake it, although some of them were very good sailors, having gone in launches and landed there. We fired some musket-shots to attract the notice of a pilot, but without avail. Our search was thus limited to looking into the river, upon the banks of which we saw nothing. The same day, and following, I examined the whole coast called the Terra de Tanza, and I landed at Palmarinhas and Buraco. I saw nothing at these points that indicated they were continuing the Slave Trade.

Having thus fulfilled the commissions that your Excellency instrusted to me, I made sail for the port of Loanda, in conformity with the instructions I I had received.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) IZIDORE F. GUIMARAES, JUN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 147.

Lieutenant Guimarães to Captain Cordeiro.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, "*Mondego*," *Loanda, October* 30, 1848.

IN addition to my despatches of the 20th and 27th of this month, which the circumstances of the moment did not permit to be very minute, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the destruction at Ambriz consisted in the burning of two barracoons which held negroes in irons; the fire communicated with some sheds which were close to the barracoons, as well as to a factory of goods.

The two barracoons to which they put fire had 200 slaves in them, whom we liberated. In Mazula Pequeno we attached fire to 12 or 14 large barracoons, all giving evidence of the Slave Traffic, which these people had abandoned, leaving it free to us. Lieutenant Nobrego burned two barracoons at Cape Ledo, which were in the same state of ruin, as well as those we found at Cape St. Bras; they might serve, as it is declared they have served, for the embarkation of slaves.

God guard, &c. (Signed) I. F. GUIMARAES, JUN.

Inclosure 6 in No. 147.

Captain Cordeiro to the Governor-General of Angola.

(Translation.) "*Outo de Julho*," *Loanda, October* 27 1848.

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

I HAVE already brought to the notice of your Excellency the information which I have received from the Captain of the brig "Mondego," as well as the copy of the order which I transmitted to him the evening he was in this harbour, in which I directed him to execute on the coast south of the port of Loanda, the same instructions which I destined for the leeward coast, that is, from Ambriz to the Dande. Will your Excellency condescend to direct that I may be informed to what station I should send the 10 free men which the brig "Mondego" brought, in order that they may be *bonâ fide* and promptly placed at liberty, according as is directed in the Portarias of the 1st July, 1847.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) M. T. DA S. CORDEIRO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 147.

The Secretary to the Government of Loanda to Captain Cordeiro.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Sir, *Angola, October* 28, 1848.

IN order that his Excellency the Governor-General of the province may clearly see how he is to administer justice over the 10 free blacks of whom your Excellency treats in to-day's despatch, and which reached me a little after 10 o'clock P.M. to-day, it is essentially necessary that you should remit the authentic copy of the order on which the commander of the brig "Mondego" acted when he put on board the said brig the 10 negroes who are called *bonâ fide* free, before his Excellency can decide anything in that respect.

I am ordered by his Excellency to avail myself of this occasion to acknowledge the receipt of the copy of your despatch of the 27th of this month, which your Excellency addressed to Captain J. F. Guimarães, as well as the copy of the instructions given by you to the said commandant, documents which were inserted in a despatch to which this is a reply.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) F. J. DA COSTA E SILVA.

Inclosure 8 in No. 147.

Captain Cordeiro to the Governor-General of Angola.

(Translation.) "*Outo de Julho,*"
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Loanda, October* 30, 1848.

I HAVE received the despatch of the Civil Department, under which the orders of your Excellency were transmitted to me on the 28th of the present month; and complying with that which is required of me, I transmit herewith the order under which the 10 free blacks were received on board the brig "Mondego" at Ambriz, which I have ordered to be extracted from the proper book.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) M. T. DA S. CORDEIRO.

Inclosure 9 in No. 147.

Order.

(Translation.) "*Mondego,*" *Loanda, October* 15, 1848.

THERE having been sent to the district of Ambriz, a force from this brig, commanded by the second lieutenant of the fleet M. I. Nobrego, with the intention of destroying the barracoons destined for the Traffic in Slaves, there were brought on board by the same force 10 blacks from among many who were found heaped together in those barracoons.

The commander ordered that they should be victualled in order that they might be *bonâ fide* promptly liberated in conformity with the order of the Major-General of the fleet, dated 29th May, 1848, and the portarias of the Minister of Marine and Colonies and of annexes, under date 22nd May and 1st July, 1847, which accompanied the instructions authorizing the operation.

(Signed) I. F. GUIMARAES, *Commander.*
I. M. G. ALGEROS, 1*st Lieutenant.*
M. I. NOBREGO, 2*nd Lieutenant.*
M. QUERIOL, *Clerk.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 147.

The Secretary to the Government to Captain Cordeiro.

(Translation.)
Most Excellent Sir, *Angola, November* 3, 1848.

IN reply to the despatch of your Excellency of the 30th of the past month, in which his Excellency the Governor-General refers me to the despatch in which already by order of his Excellency I had the honour to address to you about the expedition which you ordered to Ambriz and Mazula. Your Excellency having in contravention of Article XXIII of his instructions, acted independently and without consulting his Excellency, there being nothing to excuse such a proceeding, because the direct orders which you have in that particular are anterior to the Portarias of 23rd March and 10th May, and of the instructions of the 26th —— of the present year, render them completely subordinate. You acted under your own responsibility and the negroes on board the "Mondego" are equally under the charge of your Excellency without his Excellency being able to give you any order concerning them, neither can he proceed in conformity with the orders of Her Majesty to judge these negroes *bonâ fide* free according to the law referring to it.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) F. J. DA COSTA E SILVA.

Inclosure 11 in No. 147.

Protest of M. J. de Mattos.

(Translation.) *Ambriz, October* 18, 1848.

THE protest of Manoel José de Mattos, a Brazilian subject, factor in the house of Amaral G. Bastos, of Rio de Janeiro, established at Ambriz, on the west coast of Africa, that the brig of war of Her Most Faithful Majesty "Mondego," commanded by Captain J. F. Guimarães, junior, anchored at Ambriz at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 14th day of the present month, and at 3 o'clock on the following morning landed some people from the brig commanded by a naval officer. This force ran through the commercial establishments or factories here established, excepting those belonging to British and American subjects also established here, and examined them closely, and then proceeded to set fire to a barracoon on the point of Ambriz. When this intelligence was circulated, the population nearest to the force promptly appeared to the number of more than 4000, armed with axes and muskets, as they said, to expel the invaders of their country, but in all probability to profit by the alarm which might arise in case of resistance, and under the pretence of avenging the invasion, plunder the effects of all the residents of the factories. In order to avoid the probable results, and others of a more grave nature arising from the proceedings of the ship of war, the factors here established were obliged to satiate the avarice which rule them by expending a great quantity of goods, which they gratuitously gave to this enraged and excited multitude, for which the protester appeals for redress for his respective quota. Besides the effectual and real loss of goods, the factory under the charge of the protester also suffered from the damage and destruction practised by these savages before they were satisfied, as well in his own residence as in his house of business, and the boats which were anchored in the ports.

After the before-mentioned facts, the said brig of war "Mondego" sailed in the evening for the south, and on the 17th day of the same month made a similar disembarkation at Mazula, a point where the factors of Ambriz have others which they use as deposits for goods and effects of considerable value, which, at certain seasons of the year, they exchange for the produce of the country. They destroyed in the same way the full barracoons, and the Blacks employed in them abandoned them and came to seek refuge here, and, without the least pretext or provocation, they reduced them to ashes, as they had already done the barracoons at the point of Ambriz. In this destruction was a factory that the protester had long used, and through these unheard-of and unexplained facts, strangely carried out by people employed by a civilised Government, violating all the principles and rules of international right, virtually accepted and practised by all the civilised nations, have resulted losses and destructions, cessation of profits, &c., calculated to be worth 50 contos of reis to the partners of the protester, subjects of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, with whom the Crown of Portugal enjoys the most perfect peace, having no right to exercise on the persons and property of Brazilian subjects established in the territory where the Portuguese nation exercises neither sovereignty nor any jurisdiction, that is to say, Ambriz and Mazula, on the west coast of Africa. He protests against such facts as have already declared themselves as his partners also do. Amaral G. Bastos, of Rio de Janeiro, claims to have from the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty a reparation for the injury done to his rights as subject of a nation so independent and sovereign as is Portugal, and indemnification for the losses mentioned, injuries, cessation of profits arising to him, calculated at 50 contos of reis, and for all the results in consequence of the protested facts, as if each of the said effects and consequences had been each expressly inserted; and because in this place there are no authorities of a recognised Government before whom can be given to this protest the solemn character that usually accompanies such a document, he protests here by means of an attestation before the Portuguese Tribunal in the city of St. Paul de Loanda, giving to the present protest all the solemnities required by custom and right.

In faith of which, the before-mentioned protester signs the present testimonials.

(Signed) MANOEL JOSE DE MATTOS.

Witnesses:

MANOEL A. DE MOURRA, jun. *Cashier of a Factory.*
C. A. LOJOS, *Ditto.*
M. J. DA SILVA VIANNA.
JOSE M. JUNQUEIRA, *Resident.*
A. M. DE MOURA, *Resident.*
J. G. DE LIMOR, *Resident, as Factor.*
JOSEPH ROOKE, *English Factory.*
AUGUSTUS MAGANN, *American Factory.*

True copy,
Signed by the Notary,
(Signed) D. J. H. SILVEIRA.

True copy,
(Signed) J. F. GUIMARAES, *Commander.*
M. T. DA S. CORDEIRO, *Commanding the Naval Station.*

Loanda, November 4, 1848.

Inclosure 12 in No. 147.

A.—*The Secretary to the Government to Captain Cordeiro.*

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Loanda, October* 20, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor General of the province knew of the sailing of the brig "Mondego" by the ordinary channels, but believing that this brig sailed with a fixed destination and a determined object, his Excellency has until to-day waited for another communication from you in this respect. As nothing has arrived, his Excellency finds himself in the grievous necessity to inform you, through me, that not only his instructions compel you to make known all the movements ordered by you, Article XXIII, and the Portarias, and to them annexed, but even more clearly in that Article of the instructions which his Excellency received from the Secretary of Marine and Colonies, and of which he sends you an authentic copy. It is clear that your Excellency is permitted to act independently of the Governor-General under your own responsibility in what relates to the suppression of the Slave Trade, when there should be a difference of opinion between you and the Governor-General on that point, or in urgent cases; but as no such disagreement has taken place, seeing that your Excellency never showed the instructions which you gave to the commander of the "Mondego," or told to what point or port he was going; there was no reason to prevent your communicating previously with his Excellency.

His Excellency supposes there must be some other motive which should be made known to him, in order that he may act in conformity with the dignity and authority which Her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon him, and therefore I am directed to request you to declare positively and categorically,

1st. Whether you consider yourself in these transactions as superior to the authority of the Governor-General of Angola and its dependencies?

2ndly. Whether you are or are not resolved to follow strictly the instructions which were given to you in accordance with the Article, a copy of which is transmitted to you?

God guard, &c.

(Signed) F. J. DA COSTA E SILVA.

Inclosure 13 in No. 147.

B.—*Captain Cordeiro to the Governor-General of Angola.*

(Translation.) "*Outo de Julho,*"

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Loanda, November* 6, 1848.

I HAVE received the confidential despatch which by order of your Excellency was directed to me under date 20th of this month, and with reference to its contents I have to say:

1st. That from the moment that your Excellency came on board my ship, until the present time, I gave, and made my subordinates give, as is their invariable duty, all proper obedience and respect to your Excellency, as the supreme authority, and complied with all the requisitions of your Excellency compatibly with my instructions, and conformably with that which was determined in them. I think I have satisfied, categorically, the 1st and 2nd interrogatories of the before cited despatch.

2ndly. That on the 9th of the present month, your Excellency told me that the brig "Mondego" should sail for a cruize, and in reply to your Excellency I made known that it was extremely important that it should not be said that we complied ostensibly with the Treaty, and that consequently I had ordered the commander that he should take on board two months' provisions, and not having sailed sooner it was necessary to take the duty of the brig "Audaz," which could not sail for want of means in the province, as your Excellency has repeatedly told me. And now how is it that your Excellency recollects nothing, or has no knowledge of the sailing of the brig? All these occurrences took place with respect to the suppression of the infamous Traffic of Slaves, for which I am, in reality, responsible to the Government of our august Sovereign. They (the occurrences) shall be brought to the knowledge of your Excellency as soon as the brig finishes her cruize and her commander informs me how he has executed his orders, seeing that it cannot be otherwise, as at present I am ignorant of the matter. If I am ignorant concerning the infamous Traffic of the Slave Trade, which I am ordered to destroy, as well as to grant authority to commanders of ships of war under my command, and to execute, and cause to be executed, the Royal Orders given in the Portarias of the 2nd May and 1st July, 1847, being in this formal manner in order that I should accept as a logical and metaphysical fact Article 23, of which I have already made mention in the before-cited despatch.

3rdly. That in consequence of the responsibility under which I act with respect to the infamous Traffic in Slaves, I am allowed by the Portaria of the 10th of May of the present year to send to sea a ship belonging to the station under my command, making myself responsible to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, every time that I find myself in such necessity, subsequently informing, through the Department of the Colonies and Marine, or the Major-General of the Fleet, my August Sovereign, of the circumstances which obliged me thus to act.

God guard, &c. (Signed) M. T. DA S. CORDEIRO.

Inclosure 14 in No. 147.

C.—*The Secretary to the Government to Captain Cordeiro.*

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Loanda, October* 22, 1848.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General of the province directs me to acknowledge the receipt of the two confidential despatches of your Excellency of the 20th of the present month, both received by his Excellency to-day, the first being a reply to that which by his order I had addressed to your on the same date, at 3 o'clock P.M., and the second at 7 P.M.; and it is incumbent upon me to signify to you that he has not been able to understand the expressions of your Excellency in the beginning of the first of the two despatches

already cited, or of its termination, or of the style in which it is finished, or of the forced interpretation which your Excellency wishes to give to the tenor of Article 23 of your instructions, which are clear, and decided by the following words:

"However, in points of urgency of service, relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, in case of a disagreement with the Governor-General on such a subject, it is permitted to him to adopt his own resolution, separating himself from the Governor, and acting on his own responsibility."

But as there was no such urgency, which is easily proved by your own correspondence, there existed no disagreement, because your Excellency had arranged that there should be no previous communication with his Excellency, therefore the logical acceptation which your Excellency gives to Article 23 cannot appear correct, according to the understanding of his Excellency.

I am also ordered to say, that however rigidly your Excellency may cling to comply with your instructions relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, you certainly do not do so in a greater degree than the Governor, who by intimate conviction and by his duty feels it incumbent upon him rigidly to fulfil the orders of the Government of Her Majesty.

Your Excellency also forces an interpretation of another Article, "when the urgency is evident," to your Excellency it is permitted to act independently, and afterwards report, so that such participation and report should be one continuous act (as in the present case, when anchored in the port of this city), and not as your Excellency understands it, after the expedition decided upon has been finally concluded.

His Excellency sees also with most profound regret that with reference to the Portarias of the Government of Her Majesty, 27th May and 1st July, 1847, your Excellency should consider it to be more appropriate to the national dignity to listen to and execute the instructions of the Commodore of the English forces on the west coast of Africa, rather than co-operate with him as the delegate of Her Most Faithful Majesty in this part of her dominions.

It being well to observe that your Excellency has not wished to notice that there have been three portarias expedited by this Government, and by them ordered to be complied with by the Commander of the naval station, the predecessor of your Excellency. It is not determined in these portarias that there should be a previous understanding between his Excellency and you, but it is clearly showed by the expressions of these portarias, besides other reasons of convenience of the public service, which his Excellency does not judge it necessary to enumerate, and by the formation of certain acts from which it appears that nothing of any consequence happened, as the commander of the brig "Mondego" relates, mentioned in the second despatch which your Excellency has mentioned.

Lastly, as his Excellency intends to represent the whole proceeding to Her Majesty, he thinks that the correspondence on this disagreeable subject should now terminate.

God guard, &c.

(Signed) F. J. DA COSTA E SILVA.

Inclosure 15 in No. 147.

Commodore Sir C. Hotham to Captain Cordeiro.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *Cape Mount, January* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated Loanda, November 7, 1848, and its inclosures, containing the accounts of the destruction of the barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, and the further operations which you contemplate for the extinction of the Slave Trade.

With the most sincere pleasure I have perused these despatches, and heartily and cordially congratulate you on the result of your plans and the manner in which your instructions have been fulfilled.

Each despatch that I receive from my Government urges more and more the demolition of slave-barracoons; and in a recent communication, Ambriz and Mazula are especially named.

I am convinced that my Government will view with high gratification your exertions in a cause which the enlightened world have so much at heart.

It will be my duty on my return to England, to point out and make most honourable mention of your exertions; and I am not without hope that my Government will direct a special recommendation to be made to the authorities at Lisbon by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister resident at that Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HOTHAM.

No. 148.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch of this day's date, I herewith transmit to you copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, detailing the proceedings of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego" in destroying slave-barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, belonging to Brazilian subjects, and inclosing the translation of a protest made by the agent of the Brazilian house of Amaral and Bastos, to whom one of the destroyed barracoons at Ambriz belonged, against those proceedings, and demanding compensation from the Portuguese Government for the loss incurred thereby.

I have to desire that you will communicate the inclosed papers to the Portuguese Government, and that you will suggest that their answer to the protest would be, that these Brazilians being engaged in Slave Trade in violation of the laws of their own country, deserve punishment instead of compensation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 148.

1. *Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, October* 28, 1848.

2. *Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, November* 15, 1848.

[See Class A, presented 1849; Nos. 125 and 127, pages 144 and 146.]

No. 149.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir H. Seymour.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 6, 1849.

I HAVE been informed by Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at the Cape of Good Hope, that a Traffic in Slaves is carried on to a considerable extent at the Portuguese settlements at Timor and Solor, and at other islands of the Molucca Archipelago.

The Commissioners state that this Slave Trade is carried on by the Bughi people; that many of the slaves are carried to the Dutch settlement of Macassar, in the Island of Celebes; and that of these from 800 to 1000 are annually exported from Timor alone.

They state also, that though this Slave Trade is carried on generally in vessels under the Bughi flag, yet in some instances the Dutch flag has been made use of, and that slave-vessels have been found furnished with both flags.

The Commissioners further express an opinion that if measures are not taken for the suppression of this Slave Trade, the Island of Timor will be dispeopled; and they conclude by stating that a few slaves are also exported from Flores, and taken to Celebes, Borneo, and Siam.

I have to instruct you to communicate this information to the Portuguese

Government, and to express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that such instructions will be sent to the authorities in these Portuguese settlements as will prevent the continuance of such illegal practices for the future.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 150.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, transmitting to me a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting the circumstances under which the laws of Portugal are set at defiance by the illegal introduction of slaves into those islands.

I have consequently, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, addressed to Viscount de Castro the note, a copy of which I beg to inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 150.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

HER Majesty's Government are very anxious that the serious attention of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government should be directed to the facts stated in the despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Cape de Verde Islands, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy to your Excellency.

It appears that a person named Antonio Monteiro da Silva, owner and master of the Portuguese brig "*Flor d'Azurara Segundo*," purchased 4 slaves at the Island of Fogo, where he obtained passports for two of them in his own name and for the other two in the name of some person on board his vessel; the passports allowing them to be taken to St. Antonio, the place of his esidence; instead, however, of taking these slaves to St. Antonio, it appears that M. Silva proceeded with them to St. Nicholas, the residence of the Commissioners, where he offered them for sale.

As the authorities would not permit the landing of the slaves, he then took them to other islands of the same group, where he disembarked two of them, returning finally with the other two to St. Nicholas.

Her Majesty's Government are the more desirous that the facts above detailed should attract the serious notice of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, because there is unfortunately too much reason for believing that the above is not the only instance in which the laws of Portugal are set at defiance by the introduction, in small numbers, of slaves into the Cape de Verde Islands.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 151.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

IN acknowledgment of the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, reporting that Colonel Rezende, the newly-appointed Governor of Quillimane, was not informed of the permission granted to Her Majesty's cruizers to enter the bays, ports and other places within the Portuguese

territories on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, for the purpose of suppressing Slave Trade, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the note which in obedience to your Lordship's instructions I have addressed to Viscount de Castro, and in which I have reminded his Excellency that this permission was recorded in a protocol of a conference held at the Foreign Office on the 12th August, 1847, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britian and Portugal

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 151.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

IT appears by official reports which Her Majesty's Government have received from the Cape of Good Hope, that Colonel Rezende, the newly appointed Governor of Quillimane, who had visited the Cape on his way to his new post, had not been informed of the permission granted by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to Her Majesty's cruizers, to enter the bays, ports and others places on the east coast of Africa, in which no Portuguese authorities are established, for the purpose of suppressing Slave Trade.

This permission, as your Excellency will no doubt remember, was recorded in a Protocol of a conference held at the Foreign Office on the 12th August, 1847, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and Portugal.

It becomes then my duty, in pursuance of orders which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to request your Excellency to inform me whether the protocol in question has been made known to the proper authorities in all the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 152.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

I HAD the honour of receiving on the 2nd instant your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo.

In fulfilment of your Lordship's instructions I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Viscount de Castro, the note of which I beg to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 152.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

THE note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 4th ultimo, having been brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I am ordered by his Lordship to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government would learn with great pleasure that the 20 negroes captured in the launch "*Fortuna,*" and other negroes similarly circumstanced, had been placed as free men in possession of land in the Islands of San Thomé and Principe.

Her Majesty's Government, as I may further state, are convinced that such an arrangement would tend much to the prosperity of those islands. Her

Majesty's Government, however, as I am directed to observe to your Excellency, cannot avoid entertaining a hope that the plan for abolishing slavery in all the Portuguese possessions will be speedily carried into execution, and thus that whilst the interests of humanity will be promoted, the agricultural prosperity of the Portuguese colonies will be greatly advanced.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 153.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, transmitting to me the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna*," I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of the note in which in obedience to your Lordship's directions I have brought this circumstance to the knowledge of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 153.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

IN pursuance of directions which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to communicate to your Excellency the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the launch "*Fortuna*."

Your Excellency will not fail to be struck by the circumstance of no legal proceedings having been instituted against the reputed owner of the launch, one Manoel Pereira, while, as the actual owner, Constantine, has left the country, the real guilty parties remain unpunished.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 154.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, reporting that according to a despatch with its inclosures which had been received by Her Majesty's Government from Sir Charles Hotham, the Slave Trade was still carried on to a considerable extent from the coast of Africa between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela, and detailing other facts indicating the existence of barracoons at several points; and I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have in consequence lost no time in communicating these papers to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs in a note the copy of which is herewith inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 154.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 3, 1849.

HER Majesty's Government have received information from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, late Commander-in-chief on the west coast of Africa station, from which it appears that the Slave Trade has been and still is to a considerable extent carried on from the coast of Africa, between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela; that 1100 slaves had been found in two vessels captured by Her Majesty's ship "Contest" since the month of May last; and that one of those vessels had shipped her slaves at Quicinga. It further appears that barracoons filled with slaves ready for exportation exist at Rio Longo, Quicinga, and Logita, and that a barracoon, capable of containing nearly 2000 slaves, stands on Old Benguela Head; and lastly, that slaves are shipped from Bahia Zarta after having been marched from the town of Benguela itself.

In communicating to your Excellency the inclosed papers I am directed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to urge upon the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty the necessity of giving positive directions for the prevention of these criminal practices.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 155.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

I HAVE been honoured by the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 26th ultimo, of which the note addressed by me to Viscount de Castro in obedience to your Lordship's orders, will be found to be nearly a transcript.

The facilities afforded by the colonial officers of the Portuguese Crown to the practice of slave-dealing of which Her Majesty's Government complains, are mainly referable, like very many of the evils brought under my official notice, to the miserable state of the finances and to the extreme irregularity with which diminished salaries are doled out to the employés of all classes, the most distant faring habitually the worst.

So long as the cause exists, so long I am convinced will one of its effects be, that colonial servants will seek in illicit gains those means of subsistence which are in some measure dried up in their legitimate sources.

Another cause of the flourishing state of the trade in human beings is I apprehend to be found in the well-calculated liberality of the captains of slaving-vessels. The system now pursued is, that a certain number of the sailors of a slaver are interested in the safe landing of the human cargo, by being promised a share in the venture. These men devote themselves accordingly to the care of the slaves during their passage, and are rewarded for their unremitting exertions by the bonus of a slave a-piece or a slave every two or three men, if the slaves are brought ashore in good health and condition.

No device ever hit upon by the dealers has, as I am informed, led to such favourable results as that which I am noticing to your Lordship, the consequence being that, as I have reason to believe, it is now very generally adopted by the Portuguese.

That very large sums, the proceeds of slaving ventures, are remitted annually to Oporto, is a matter of notoriety, and Mr. Consul Johnston, if called upon by your Lordship, would I do not doubt be able to supply your Lordship with many details as to the amount of Portuguese capital employed in this trade and the number of vessels annually built at Oporto for the purpose of carrying it on.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 155.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have been put in possession of a despatch, with its various inclosures, which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Government by Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, detailing the proceedings of Lieutenant Guimarães, of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego," in two expeditions made by that vessel to the north and south of Loanda, by orders of Captain Cordeiro, Commander of the Portuguese squadron, for the purpose of destroying slave-barracoons.

It is with very great satisfaction that I find myself charged with the duty of stating to your Excellency that the reports to which I am alluding have impressed Her Majesty's Government with a full sense of the zealous and honourable conduct of the commanders of the Portuguese station, and at the same time of expressing the earnest hope entertained by Her Majesty's Government, that Captain Cordeiro may be rewarded by the full approbation of his gracious Sovereign, and instructed to persevere in the effectual measures which he has adopted for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is to be regretted that the Governor of the province has not, on the late occasion, shown the same zealous desire to put down slaving which has been manifested by the naval commander; but whether this slackness on his part proceeded from an improper official jealousy, or from a guilty commerce with the slave-dealers, Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that, in either case, such communication will be made to him by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty as will insure for the future more exertion on his part for the fulfilment of the treaty engagements of Portugal.

Her Majesty's Government are most anxious to bring under the serious consideration of that of Her Most Faithful Majesty, the notorious fact that the greater part, if not the whole, of the slaves who are annually imported into Brazil, are exported from the Portuguese possessions on the western and eastern coast of Africa; and it is impossible that these violations of Portuguese and Brazilian law and of Portuguese and Brazilian treaties with Great Britain should take place if it were not for the connivance of the officers of the Portuguese Crown employed on the African coast. It is manifest that if those officers did their duty, and obeyed properly or zealously the orders which Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt they have received from the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, no considerable exportation of slaves could possibly take place from those ports of Africa which belong to the Crown of Portugal. I have it further in charge to express to your Excellency the hope entertained by Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will not delay carrying into execution the humane and wise and politic measure which they have in contemplation for the abolition of the condition of slavery in the dominions of the Portuguese Crown.

Such a measure would, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, not only put an end to the Slave Trade now carried on from the Portuguese possessions, but it would tend to the prosperity of those possessions, by increasing the native population, by encouraging agriculture, and by paving the way for the spread of civilisation and the consequent improvement and extension of commerce.

In the meantime Her Majesty's Goverment hope and trust that the Portuguese naval officers on the African station will be instructed to destroy barracoons, and to set free the negroes illegally held in captivity therein for the purpose of being exported to America.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 156.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 5, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, in which you inclose to me duplicates of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, detailing the proceedings of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego" in destroying slave-barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, belonging to Brazilian subjects, and inclosing the translation of a protest made by the agent of the Brazilian house of Amaral and Bastos against those proceedings; I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I have addressed to Viscount de Castro upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure in No. 156.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount de Castro.

M. le Vicomte, *Lisbon, June* 5, 1849.

IN obedience to instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, detailing the proceedings of the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego" in destroying slave-barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, the property of Brazilian subjects.

Your Excellency will perceive from the inclosure of one of these despatches, that the agent of the Brazilian house of Amaral and Bastos, to whom one of the destroyed barracoons belonged, has protested against these proceedings, upon which he has attempted to ground a claim for compensation.

According to the view entertained by Her Majesty's Government, the answer to be returned to such a demand would be, that these Brazilians being engaged in slave-trading in violation of the laws of their own country, deserve not compensation but punishment.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 157.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 23, 1849.

I HAVE received Sir Hamilton Seymour's despatch of the 4th instant, communicating a copy of a note which in pursuance of my instructions he addressed on the same day to the Viscount de Castro, reporting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" condemned by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at St. Paul de Loanda.

I have now to instruct you to call the intention of the Portuguese Government to Article XII of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, which, besides providing for the punishment of the master, pilot, crew, and passengers of a condemned vessel, stipulates that the owner of the vessel, the persons interested in the equipment and cargo, and their several agents, shall be tried and punished, unless they can prove that they took no part in the infraction of the Treaty, on account of which the vessel was condemned; and I have to desire that in virtue of the stipulations of this Article, you will call upon the Portuguese Government to institute legal proceedings against Manoel Pereira, the reputed owner of the launch, for his implication in her illegal Slave Trade adventures.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 158.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that the American brig "*Herriet*," which arrived at Loanda from Bahia in the month of December last, had sailed from thence to Ambriz, and had carried off from the neighbourhood of that place no less than 880 slaves.

I also transmit to you a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners, inclosing a number of the "Boletim Official" of Loanda, which contains a copy of the manifest with which the "*Herriet*" cleared outwards from Loanda for Bahia, by way of Ambriz, and other ports to the north.

You will perceive from the latter despatch, that Her Majesty's Commissioners having called the attention of the Governor of Loanda to the suspicious nature of the cargo with which this vessel was allowed to clear out from Loanda, that officer had stated that he was unable, either under the provisions of the Portuguese Law of December 1836, or in virtue of the Treaty with this country of July 1842, to take any measure with respect to any vessel, because she had on board things which, however suspicious their nature, were regularly entered on her manifest.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to the Portuguese Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 158.

1.—*Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, January* 26, 1849.

2.—*Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston, February* 23, 1849.

[See Class A, Nos. 82 and 87.]

No. 159.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 5.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 20, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th May last, I have the honour to transmit to you the copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal, and in which his Excellency informs me that in consequence of the information which has reached Her Majesty's Government, of the increase of the Traffic in Slaves on the coast of Africa, between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela, the Minister of Marine has been moved to issue the most positive orders to the port authorities on that coast to use their utmost endeavours to put a stop to this prohibited Traffic, and to punish with the rigour of the laws all those who are convicted of such evil practices.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 159.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, June* 19, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Sir G. H. Seymour addressed to my predecessor on the 3rd instant, requesting that the necessary measures may be taken for preventing the continuation of the Traffic in Slaves, which by what is said in that note appears to have increased lately on the coast of Africa, between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela. I have brought the said note to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, to the end of his causing the issue of the most positive orders for the cessation of this prohibited Traffic, and for punishing with the rigour of the laws those who practise it.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 160.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 5.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 22, 1849.

WITH reference to the note which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, Sir Hamilton Seymour addressed on the 4th instant to the Duke of Saldanha, inclosing to his Excellency the copy of a despatch from the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Loanda, respecting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" and in which the attention of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty was called to the circumstance of the owner of the said launch having been allowed hitherto to escape punishment; I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the copy and translation of a note from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, by which your Lordship will perceive that the Minister of Marine has been requested to issue the most positive orders for the prosecution of the parties implicated in this transaction, and to prevent for the future the possibility of such malpractices remaining unpunished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 160.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, June* 21, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Sir G. H. Seymour addressed to my predecessor on the 4th instant, with a copy of a despatch from the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Loanda, respecting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" and in which the said Minister calls the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the circumstance of the owners of the said launch not having been punished. I have brought the said note to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, requesting that the most positive orders may be issued for the prosecution of the criminals indicated in this case, and that in future those who deserve punishment may not fail in being judicially prosecuted.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 161.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 6, 1849.

I HAVE received a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Court at the Cape of Good Hope, in which they state that the slave-traders in the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa had taken advantage of the want of cruizers in the Mozambique to renew their operations at all the Portuguese settlements with the exception of Delagoa Bay, and Mozambique itself, at which latter place they are probably overawed by the presence of the Governor-General; but that even from Mozambique, although no shipments of slaves are actually made at the port, slaves are still sent down in small numbers overland to Angozha for exportation.

The Commissioners further state that the Slave Trade is said to be carried on at Quillimane by Messrs. Cazaretto and Coimbra, and by both the brothers Azevedo; at Inhambane by all the residents, except M. Fornazini, who is strongly opposed to it; at Xerigone near Sofala, by Messrs. D. Bamba; at Ibo by all the residents; and at Angozha by the Sultan, and by convicts who have deserted from Mozambique.

The Commissioners state also that during the year 1847, 1100 slaves were exported from Ibo, 2,400 from Angozha, 504 from Xerigone, 1400 from Quillimane, and 640 from Inhambane, making a total of about 6000; and that in 1848 the Trade was carried on with still greater activity, though they could not give the particulars of the numbers of slaves exported in that year.

They state that the tribes which bring down the greatest number of slaves from the interior are the Moravis and Moiaos, who come to the coast from a distance of 1200 miles, and bring slaves down in caravans of from 3000 to 4000 each; but they say that besides this the petty dealers who trade in the interior are constantly bringing in from 10 to 12 at a time; and that owing to this continued supply, vessels are furnished immediately with cargoes of slaves, and avoid making their appearance at the ports at which Portuguese authorities are actually resident, by going direct to any one of the small rivers which are so numerous in the neighbourhood of the ports, and at such rivers cargoes are soon collected by the agents of the slave-traders, and sent down to the vessels for embarkation.

By this means the Commissioners observe any open connivance by the Portuguese officers in the Trade is avoided, although those officers cannot but be aware of what is going on, and do not in general make any exertion to detect and prevent such enterprises; but the Commissioners conclude by stating that the conduct of Senhor do Valle, the Governor-General, and of Major Campos, the Governor of Quillimane, form an honourable exception in this respect to the general practice.

I have to desire that you will send a written statement to the foregoing effect to the Portuguese Government, and that you will express the hope and expectation of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Portugal will give such orders and take such measures as may be effectual for putting an end to these violations of the treaty engagements of Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 162.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 10, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to the correspondence which passed in the course of last year between Sir Hamilton Seymour and the Portuguese Government, on the subject of the suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government to that of Portugal, relative to the destruction of slave-barracoons within the Portuguese

possessions on the west coast of Africa; and I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch which has recently been received from Commodore Fanshawe, inclosing a translation of a letter addressed to him by Governor-General Pinto, stating his views with regard to the destruction of barracoons as a means of suppressing Slave Trade.

You will perceive that the Governor-General of Angola states his opinion that there can be no useful result attending the burning of barracoons; and that he mentions as his principal reasons for coming to this opinion, that notwithstanding the secresy and caution with which such expeditions are planned and carried out, it is seldom that such a number of slaves can be captured as can influence the Trade; that the barracoons are constructed so far in the interior that there would be great risk of loss from fever to the persons composing the expeditions; that freeing the slaves at the depôts and the simple burning of barracoons, has no influence over the slave-traders, because they can easily erect others; and that the barracoons are always erected in places where there are no authorities or protecting force.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers, by note, to the Portuguese Government, and to state that Her Majesty's Government cannot concur in the validity of the reasons thus set forth by Governor Pinto.

Her Majesty's Government consider it a matter of great importance that it should be shown to the persons who carry on this Trade, that they are at no period during the progress of their criminal undertaking secure from molestation; and Her Majesty's Government think that while on the one hand the allowing impunity to the collectors of slaves while engaged in their nefarious pursuits on the continent of Africa would tend to facilitate the Traffic, so, on the other hand, their criminal pursuits would be discouraged by the feeling of insecurity which cannot fail to be engendered among them by a well-arranged system of operations for destroying their barracoons and for liberating the slaves found therein.

It is to be further observed that Governor Pinto, while attempting to dissuade the adoption of the course recommended by Her Majesty's Government, has suggested no other means for punishing the violators of the laws of Portugal residing within the territories of Her Most Faithful Majesty; and professing himself as he does to be animated by a sincere desire to prevent the continuance of the Trade, it was to be expected that he would have proposed some other measure, if any such had occurred to him, for preventing the pirates and malefactors of other countries from congregating within the Portuguese dominions in order to carry onfrom thence the Slave Trade of Brazil.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, sincerely trust that the Portuguese Government will issue instructions to the Governor-General of Angola to co-operate with the Commander of the Portuguese Naval Force on that station in taking the most active measures for destroying within the limits of his command all factories, barracoons, or other buildings which are used for the purpose of collecting slaves for transportation beyond the seas, in contravention equally of the Laws of Portugal and of the Treaty of 1842. And you will repeat the offer already made by Sir H. Seymour, of the co-operation of Her Majesty's squadron in the execution of this important service.

It is obvious that if in consequence of the measures thus recommended, the barracoons are removed from the coast into the interior, they will no longer answer the purpose of providing the means of readily supplying slave-vessels with cargoes on their arrival on the coast, and that thus a material impediment will be opposed to the prosecution of Slave Trade operations.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 162.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Centaur*," *Ascension, April* 20, 1849.

INCLOSED I have the honour to transmit to you for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty, a translated copy of a despatch which I have

received addressed to my predecessor, Sir C. Hotham, from his Excellency the Governor-General of Angola, exposing his views on the subject of the destruction of the barracoons used for Slave Traffic on that coast; and I beg you will acquaint their Lordships that I shall notwithstanding on my visit to Loanda, urge his Excellency to follow up those measures which have been jointly recommended by our respective Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 162.

The Governor-General of Angola to Commodore Sir C. Hotham.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Loanda, February* 22, 1849.

ON the 6th instant I had the honour of receiving the despatch of your Excellency, dated Island of Ascension, on board the "Penelope," on the 18th December last, signifying to me the wish of the Government of Her Majesty to cause the destruction of the barracoons serving as depôts for negroes for illicit Traffic, and which have been erected on the shores of the province I have the honour to govern, pointing out Ambriz and Mazula as central points. Neither the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, or your Excellency, can for a moment doubt that the same wishes are entertained by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty and the Governor of this province, which was acknowledged by your Excellency yourself in your despatch addressed to my predecessor, dated 23rd November, 1847, and that which I have now the honour of answering; and I take the liberty of informing your Excellency that we are not less pledged than yourself to the extinction of such a nefarious Traffic. Not only do I comply with the orders and instructions I receive from my Government, but also by my own particular conviction and wishes.

Referring to a despatch dated 20th June of last year, which my illustrious predecessor had the honour of addressing to your Excellency, I cannot help agreeing with him that there can be no useful result attending the burning of barracoons.

1st. Because, notwithstanding all the secresy and caution with which such expeditions are planned and carried out, it is seldom that such a number of slaves can be captured as can influence such a nefarious Traffic.

2nd. According to the information I have this day received, I find that these depôts are constructed so far in the interior of the country, that there would be great risk and loss from fever to those composing the expedition, before you could arrive at any beneficial result. Freeing the slaves in the depôt and the simple burning of the barracoons, does not have any influence over those miserable traffickers in men, because with very little expense and great facility, they can erect others, which must be well known to you from your great experience in this country and this Traffic. These barracoons are erected always in spots where no sort of authority exists or protecting force, which it would be difficult to sustain over such an extent of country.

What I have already stated has been proved by experience. Previous to my arrival, many barracoons had been burned, and since I have taken up the government of this province, an expedition has been directed on Ambriz and Mazula. They succeeded in burning several barracoons. They could scarcely capture 10 Blacks, who being liberated were employed as sailors of the lowest class on board a vessel belonging to the naval station. Another expedition with the same object was lately directed to the southward.

Notwithstanding all the exertions put in force, assisted also by one of Her Britannic Majesty's vessels of war (the "Philomel"), they could obtain no beneficial results on account of these depôts being so far in the interior of the country.

With all this I do not wish to say that this vigilance ought not to be continued—quite the contrary. With much pleasure I accept the valuable co-operation that your Excellency has at your disposal, when it is convenient to make fresh efforts.

Your Excellency is aware that barracoons serving as depôts for lawful traffic for wax, ivory, orchilla weed, and copal gum, have been erected along the coast

of Ambriz and Mazula, more than in other parts of the coast, and for this reason it is desirous to act with care and circumspection, and not to cause losses to innocent persons which may afterwards lead to serious reclamations, and not affect those who prosecute the illicit Traffic so justly condemned. It is my humble opinion that the results will not equal your wishes, and it will be advisable to adopt more positive and useful measures, which I have already had the honour respectfully to propose to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and from which I expect ultimate results.

This is all the answer I can at present return to your Excellency, with whom I am most anxious to concur in this important question, in which both our Governments take so much interest.

(Signed) ADRIAO A. DA SILVA PINTO.

No. 163.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to you by the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing you, in reply to a communication which Sir H. Seymour had made to his Excellency in compliance with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 26th of May last, that the Minister of Marine had been moved to issue orders to the Portuguese authorities on the west coast of Africa to use their utmost endeavours for the suppression of the Slave Trade on that coast.

I have received also your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, inclosing a copy of a further note addressed to you by the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the Minister of Marine had been moved to issue orders for the prosecution of the owner of the launch "*Fortuna*," condemned in the Mixed British and Portuguese Court at Loanda for being engaged in Slave Trade.

I have to desire that you will convey to the Portuguese Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for these proofs of their desire to carry out the stipulations entered into with Great Britain for the suppression of this iniquitous Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 164.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 12, 1849.

I HAVE to acquaint you that, under date of the 29th of January last, Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and that they intended in future to trust their speculations to foreign bottoms.

They have further reported that, owing apparently to the infrequency of the visits of ships of war of the United States to the west coast of Africa south of the line, it was the intention of the slave-traders to employ vessels under the United States' flag on a part of the coast termed by the Commissioners "the southern range," namely, from Benguela, in about 12° 30′ south latitude, to Mayumba, which lies between the 3rd and 4th degrees of south latitude.

I have to instruct you to communicate this statement to the Portuguese Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 165.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 14.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, instructing me to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to Article XII of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, which, besides providing for the punishment of the master, pilot, crew, and passengers of a condemned vessel, stipulates that the owner of the vessel, the persons interested in the equipment and cargo, and their several agents, shall be tried and punished, unless they can prove that they took no part in the infraction of the Treaty on account of which the vessel was condemned, and directing me in virtue of the stipulations of this Article, to call upon the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to institute legal proceedings against Manoel Pereira, the reputed owner of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" for his implication in her illegal Slave Trade adventures.

In pursuance of these directions, I have addressed to his Excellency Count Tojal the note of which I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 165.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 3, 1849.

WITH reference to a note which was addressed by Sir Hamilton Seymour to Viscount de Castro on the 4th ultimo, reporting the trial and condemnation of the crew of the Portuguese launch "*Fortuna,*" condemned by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at St. Paul de Loanda, I have the honour, in pursuance of instructions from Viscount Palmerston, to call your Excellency's attention, for the information of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, to Article XII of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, which, besides providing for the punishment of the master, pilot, crew, and passengers of a condemned vessel, stipulates that the owner of the vessel, the persons interested in the equipment and cargo, and their several agents, shall be tried and punished, unless they can prove that they took no part in the infraction of the Treaty on account of which the vessel was condemned; and in virtue of the stipulations of this Article, I am directed to call upon the Portuguese Government to institute legal proceedings against Manoel Pereira, the reputed owner of the launch, for his implication in her illegal Slave Trade adventures. In thus fulfilling the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I avail, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 166.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 14.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, transmitting to me copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, of which one reports that the American brig "*Herriet*" had carried off from the neighbourhood of Ambriz no less than 880 slaves, and the other incloses a number of the "Boletim Official" of Loanda, which contains a copy of the manifest with which the "*Herriet*" cleared outwards from Loanda to Bahia, by way of Ambriz and other ports to the north.

Your Lordship will perceive from the note which, in obedience to your instructions, I addressed to Count Tojal, and of which a copy is inclosed, that I

have communicated these papers to the Portuguese Government, and that I have especially called the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the declaration which had been made by the Governor of Loanda of his inability, either under the provisions of the Portuguese Law of December 1836, or in virtue of the Treaty with this country of July 1842, to take any measure with respect to any vessel, because she had on board things which, however suspicious their nature, were regularly entered on her manifest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 166.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Government by Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that the American brig "*Herriet,*" which arrived at Loanda from Bahia in the month of December last, had sailed from thence to Ambriz, and had carried off from the neighbourhood of that place no less than 880 slaves.

I also transmit to your Excellency a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners, inclosing a number of the "Boletim Official" of Loanda, which contains a copy of the manifest with which the "*Herriet*" cleared outwards from Loanda to Bahia, by way of Ambriz and other ports to the north.

Your Excellency will perceive from the latter despatch, that Her Majesty's Commissioners having called the attention of the Governor of Loanda to the suspicious nature of the cargo with which the vessel was allowed to clear out from Loanda, that officer had stated that he was unable, either under the provisions of the Portuguese Law of December 1836, or in virtue of the Treaty with this country of July 1842, to take any measure with respect to any vessel, because she had on board things which, however suspicious their nature, were regularly entered on her manifest.

In communicating these papers to your Excellency for the information of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and in obedience to the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 167.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 14.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have this day received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in answer to Sir Hamilton Seymour's communication of the 5th ultimo to Viscount de Castro, reporting the measures taken by the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego," for destroying barracoons at Ambriz and Mazula, and stating that the agent of the Brazilian house of Amaral and Bastos, owners of one of the said barracoons, had protested against these proceedings.

Your Lordship will see from this note, that Count Tojal states that he is certain that the Brazilian Government will not interfere in this affair, inasmuch as they cannot be ignorant of the right of the Portuguese Government to those territories, but should they, contrary to expectation, take a different view of the question, he will not fail to make use of the language suggested by your Lordship in your despatch of the 26th May last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 167.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, July* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Sir G. H. Seymour addressed to my predecessor on the 5th ultimo, inclosing copies of two despatches from the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Loanda, reporting the measures taken by the Portuguese brig of war "Mondego" for destroying some barracoons destined for the Traffic in Slaves at Ambriz and Mazula; and stating that the agent of the Brazilian house of Amaral and Bastos, owners of one of the said barracoons, had protested against these proceedings. Having taken note of the contents of the said despatches, of which I have informed the Minister of Marine, and thanking the promptitude with which they were communicated, it is my duty to state to you that I am sure that the Brazilian Government will not support the the said protest, as the said Government cannot be ignorant of our right to those territories. I will not, however, fail in making use of the reason stated in the above-mentioned note, in the answer which may have to be returned to the Brazilian Government, if, contrary to expectation, they should favour these slavers, the proprietors of the barracoons that were destroyed.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 168.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 20, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to the despatch of Sir Hamilton Seymour dated the 12th of March last,* containing the answer of Viscount de Castro, late Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Sir Hamilton Seymour's note of the 25th January last, respecting the proposed abolition of the Mixed Commissions in Jamaica and the Cape de Verde Islands under the Treaty with Portugal of 1842.

Her Majesty's Government having duly considered the observations which Viscount de Castro made upon the draft of protocol which Sir Hamilton Seymour was instructed to submit to the Portuguese Government for the purpose of carrying the proposed measure into effect, I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government with every desire to meet the wishes of the Portuguese Government, see objections to the alteration which the Viscount de Castro proposed to make in the clause of the protocol which relates to the landing of slaves from on board of captured slave-vessels before being taken to the place of adjudication.

The principal object of Her Majesty's Government in proposing that upon the abolition of the Mixed Commission in Jamaica and the Cape Verds, slaves captured in the vicinity of either of those places should be at once landed in one of the British West India islands or at Sierra Leone, according to circumstances, was to save the slaves from the sufferings and danger of a long passage to Loanda or to the Cape of Good Hope; but the wording of the counter-proposal which the Viscount de Castro put forward with a view to make the stipulation in regard to the landing of slaves reciprocal, would have the effect that if any vessel should be captured in the West Indies by a Portuguese cruizer, the slaves would not be landed near the place of capture, but would be carried away to one of the distant Portuguese settlements of St. Thomas or Prince's Islands off the coast of Africa, by which means the humane object which Her Majesty's Government have in view would be defeated. Moreover, as slavery has not yet been abolished in the Portuguese dominions and colonies, the Portuguese Government must surely see that it is far more consistent with the purposes which both Governments have in view in liberating negroes, that negroes captured in slave-

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 199, page 247.

ships within easy reach of Sierra Leone and of the Cape Verd Islands should be landed at Sierra Leone, where they must necessarily be free, rather than at the Cape Verds, where their freedom could not be so well secured. I have therefore to instruct you to propose to Count Tojal that all slaves found on board of vessels captured either by British or Portuguese cruizers to the north of the Equinoctial Line, should be landed either in one of the British West India islands or at Sierra Leone; and that any slaves found on board of vessels captured to the south of the Equinoctial Line should if captured by a British cruizer, or by a Portuguese cruizer, be taken to Loanda or to the Cape of Good Hope, to be disposed of according to the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842.

If the Portuguese Government should agree to this proposal, you are authorized to sign the protocol in the amended form of which I inclose a copy.

With respect to the omission of certain words in the first draft of protocol, to which Viscount de Castro drew Sir Hamilton Seymour's attention, I find that words to the effect of those which Viscount de Castro proposed to supply, were in fact in the original draft, but were omitted by an error of the copyist, and the omission was not observed before the copy was sent off.

Before I close this despatch, I wish to make an observation upon one other point in Viscount de Castro's answer to Sir Hamilton Seymour's note. His Excellency, in adverting to that part of the note in which Sir Hamilton Seymour stated that the proposal that slaves found on board captured vessels should be sent to the British West India islands or to Sierra Leone, instead of being sent to Loanda, is in fact nothing more than what was provided for in the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842, remarked that he did not find in the said Treaty, nor in the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, any such provisions; that on the contrary, in Article IV of the Instructions, 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. The Viscount de Castro then went on to observe that an exception is only made in cases when 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; that this exception therefore 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; but that, 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.

In reply to these observations on the part of the Viscount de Castro, I have to instruct you to state to Count Tojal that I concur in the correctness of Viscount de Castro's quotations from the Treaty and its annexes; but you will remind his Excellency that the proposal of Her Majesty's Government, as conveyed to his predecessor in Sir Hamilton Seymour's note of the 25th of January applied only to slaves found on board such vessels as would, under the arrangements now existing, be tried either at Kingston or at Boa Vista, that is to say, on board vessels captured in the vicinity either of the West Indian islands or of the Cape Verds; and when Her Majesty's Government assented to the proposal that the Mixed Commissions at Kingston and at Boa Vista should be abolished, their proposal respecting the immediate landing of slaves from vessels captured in these localities was made, as I have already stated, on the ground of humanity, to save the negroes from the miseries and mortality that might attend a long passage to the Cape of Good Hope or to Loanda, and in this point of view Her Majesty's Government considered themselves justified in stating that what they proposed was nothing more that what was already virtually sanctioned by the provisions of the existing Treaty under its exceptional clause.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 168.

Protocol of a Conference held at , on the , 1849, between the Chargé d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

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 IInd 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 Sovereign; 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 of its annexes, 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, when captured either by the Commander of a British cruizer or by the Commander of a Portuguese cruizer to the north of the Equinoctial Line, shall be landed either in one of the British West India possessions, or at Sierra Leone, whichever may be deemed by the captor nearest or most convenient for that purpose; and that any slaves found on board of such vessels when captured to the south of the Equinoctial Line, shall, if captured either by the Commander of a British cruizer, or by the Commander of a Portuguese cruizer, be taken to Loanda, or to Cape Town, to be disposed of according to the stipulations of Annex C to the before-mentioned Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

Done at Lisbon in duplicate original, English and Portuguese, the of 1849.

No. 169.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 13, 1849.

WITH reference to the note which, in conformity with your Lordship's instructions, I addressed to Viscount de Castro on the 14th ultimo, stating that Her Majesty's Government had been informed by the British Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, that the Traffic in Slaves was carried on to a great extent at the

Islands of Timor and Solor, not less than from 800 to 1000 slaves being exported annually from the former to the Dutch settlement of Macassar, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal, in answer to that communication, in which his Excellency informs me that, in accordance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, all possible zeal will be employed in preventing and doing away with such Traffic, if it is, his Excellency adds, really carried on in the manner described in my note of the 14th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 169.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, July* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you addressed to my predecessor on the 14th ultimo, stating that Her Britannic Majesty's Government had been informed by the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, that the Traffic in Slaves was carried on extensively at the Islands of Timor and Solor, not less than from 800 to 1000 slaves being exported annually from the former to the Dutch settlement of Macassar.

I have brought the above-mentioned note to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, and I can assure you that in accordance with the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, all possible zeal and dedication will be employed for preventing and doing away with such Traffic, if it is really carried on there.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 170.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 13, 1849.

WITH reference to the note which, in obedience to your Lordship's directions, I addressed on the 3rd instant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in which were inclosed copies of two despatches from the British Commissioners at Loanda, stating that the American brig "*Herriet*," from Bahia, had sailed from that port for Ambriz, and had taken on board in that neighbourhood 880 slaves, and that the attention of the Governor-General at Angola had been called to the suspicious nature of the cargo; I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy and translation of the answer which Count Tojal has returned to that communication, and by which your Lordship will see that his Excellency has requested the Minister of Marine to cause an investigation to be made into the suspicious circumstances under which the American vessel was allowed to leave the port of Loanda, and to recommend the strict observance of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, and of the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, with respect to foreign as well as to Portuguese vessels.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 170.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, July* 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 2nd instant, with copies of two despatches from

the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Loanda, stating that the American brig "*Herriet*," from Bahia, had sailed from that port for Ambriz, and had taken on board in that neighbourhood 880 slaves, and transmitting the No. 176 of the "Boletim Official," published at Loanda, containing the manifest of the cargo which the said brig shipped there; to which they had called the attention of the Governor-General of the Province of Angola. Thanking you for this communication, it is my duty to inform you that I am going to bring it to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, that he may cause investigation to be made respecting the foundation upon which that vessel was allowed to leave the port of Loanda with the said cargo, and to recommend the strict observance of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, and of the Decree of 10th December, 1836, with respect to Portuguese as well as foreign vessels, in that part which is applicable to them.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 171.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 14, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, in which you inform me, on the authority of Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Court at the Cape of Good Hope, that the slave-traders in the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa had taken advantage of the want of cruizers in the Mozambique to renew their operations at all the Portuguese settlements, with the exception of Delagoa Bay and Mozambique itself; I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in that despatch, I have addressed to Count Tojal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 171.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 14, 1849.

HER Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received a despatch from the British Commissioners in the Mixed Court at the Cape of Good Hope, in which they state that the slave-traders in the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa had taken advantage of the want of cruizers in the Mozambique to renew their operations at all the Portuguese settlements, with the exception of Delagoa Bay and Mozambique itself, at which latter place they are probably overawed by the presence of the Governor-General; but that, even from Mozambique, although no shipments of slaves are actually made at the port, slaves are still sent down in small numbers overland to Angozha for exportation.

The Commissioners further state that the Slave Trade is said to be carried on at Quillimane by Messrs. Cazaretto and Coimbra, and by both the brothers Azevedo; at Inhambane, by all the residents except M. Fornazini, who is strongly opposed to it; at Xerigone, near Sofala, by Messrs. D. Bamba; at Ibo, by all the residents; and at Angozha by the Sultan and by convicts who have deserted from Mozambique.

The Commissioners report that during the year 1847, 1100 slaves were exported from Ibo, 2400 from Angozha, 504 from Xerigone, 1400 from Quillimane, and 640 from Inhambane, making a total of about 6000; and that in 1848 the Trade was carried on with still greater activity, though they could not give the particulars of the numbers of slaves exported in that year.

They state that the tribes which bring down the greatest number of slaves from the interior, are the Moravis and Moiaos, who come to the coast from a

distance of 1200 miles, and bring slaves down in caravans of from 3000 to 4000 each; but they say that besides this the petty dealers who trade in the interior are constantly bringing in from 10 to 12 at a time, and that owing to this continued supply, vessels are furnished immediately with cargoes of slaves, and avoid making their appearance at the ports at which Portuguese authorities are actually resident, by going direct to any one of the small rivers which are so numerous in the neighbourhood of the ports; and at such rivers cargoes are soon collected by the agents of the slave-traders, and sent down to the vessels for embarkation.

By this means, the Commissioners observe, any open connivance by the Portuguese officers in the Trade is avoided, although those officers cannot but be aware of what is going on, and do not in general make any exertion to detect and prevent such enterprises; but the Commissioners conclude by stating that the conduct of Senhor do Valle, the Governor-General, and of Major Campos, the Governor of Quillimane, form an honourable exception in this respect to the general practice.

In bringing the foregoing statement under your Excellency's notice, for the information of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to express the hope and expectation of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Portugal will give such orders and take such measures as may be effectual for putting an end to these violations of the treaty engagements of Portugal.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 172.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 15, 1849.

THE note of which a copy and translation is herewith inclosed, acknowledges the receipt of a communication which Sir Hamilton Seymour addressed on the 4th ultimo to Viscount de Castro, calling his Excellency's attention to the contents of a despatch in which the British Commissioners in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established in the Cape Verd Islands make mention of the fact of Antonio Monteiro da Silva, owner and master of the Portuguese brig "*Flor de Azurara Segundo*," having bought 4 slaves in the Island of Fogo, and of his having attempted to sell them at the Island of St. Nicolas, after having procured a passport for the island of St. Antonio; and also of his having effected the landing of 2 of them in other islands of that archipelago.

This communication, Count Tojal informs me, has been brought to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, in order that he may cause all possible measures to be taken to prevent the introduction of slaves, for the purpose of sale, into those islands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, July* 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Sir G. H. Seymour addressed to my predecessor on the 4th ultimo, calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the contents of a despatch of which a copy was inclosed in the said note, in which the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Cape de Verde, relate the fact of Antonio Monteiro da Silva, owner and master of the Portuguese brig "*Flor de Azurara Segundo*," having bought 4 slaves in the Island of Fogo, and whom he had attempted to sell at the Island of St. Nicolas, after having procured a passport for the Island of St. Antonio, and also having effectively landed 2 of them in other islands of that archipelago.

I have brought the said note to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, that he may cause all possible measures to be taken to prevent the introduction of slaves for commerce in those islands.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 173.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 17, 1849.

THE note, of which I inclose a translation, and which I have received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, is an answer to the communication which I addressed to his Excellency on the 14th instant, in which I referred to the information which Her Majesty's Government had received from the British Commissioners of the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, with reference to the prohibited Traffic in Slaves being still carried on at some points of the east coast of Africa.

It was, Count Tojal observes, with the deepest regret that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty had received this communication, which will be immediately brought to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, in order that, through that department, a rigorous investigation may be instituted into the facts indicated in the above communication; that legal proceedings may be adopted against those who thus elude the laws which prohibit the inhuman Traffic in Slaves; and furthermore, that the authorities, who are not vigilant in preventing, or who in any way may connive at these practices, may be made responsible for neglecting the execution of the duties which have been confided to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 173.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, July* 16, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 14th instant, in which you refer to the reports which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty received from the British Commissioners in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, stating that at some points of the east coast of Africa, the prohibited Traffic in Slaves was still carried on.

It was with the deepest regret that Her Majesty's Government received this communication, which I will immediately bring to the knowledge of the Minister of Marine, that through that department a rigorous investigation may be instituted on facts indicated by you in your note, and proceeding according to law against those who thus elude the laws which prohibit the inhuman Traffic of Slaves, and further, making responsible those authorities who are not vigilant in the discharge of their duties, with reference to the execution of the said laws.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 174.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, referring me to the correspondence which passed in the

course of last year between Sir Hamilton Seymour and the Portuguese Government, on the subject of the suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government to that of Portugal, relative to the destruction of slave-barracoons within the Portuguese possessions on the west coast of Africa, and transmitting to me a copy of a despatch received from Commodore Fanshawe, inclosing a translation of a letter addressed to that officer by Governor-General Pinto, stating his views with regard to the destruction of barracoons as a means of suppressing Slave Trade.

In compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the note of which I have the honour herewith to inclose a copy, in which I have communicated to his Excellency the opinions of Governor Pinto upon this subject, and I have at the same time stated that Her Majesty's Government cannot concur in the validity of the reasons thus set forth by the Governor-General of Angola.

Having given Count Tojal clearly to understand what are the views of Her Majesty's Government upon this important question and the grounds upon which they dissent from the opinion of Governor Pinto, I have informed his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government sincerely trust that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will issue instructions to the Governor-General of Angola to co-operate with the commander of the Portuguese naval force on that station, in taking the most active measures for destroying within the limits of his command, all factories, barracoons, or other buildings which are used for the purpose of collecting slaves for transportation beyond the seas, and the more effectually to attain this object I have repeated the offer already made by Sir Hamilton Seymour, of the co-operation of Her Majesty's squadron in the execution of this important service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 174.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

IN obedience to the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to call your Excellency's attention to the correspondence which passed in the course of last year between Sir H. Seymour and your Excellency's predecessors, on the subject of the suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government to that of Portugal, relative to the destruction of slave-barracoons within the Portuguese possessions on the west coast of Africa; and I have now to inform your Excellency that a despatch has recently been received from Commodore Fanshawe, inclosing a letter addressed to him by Governor-General Pinto, stating his Excellency's views with regard to the destruction of barracoons as a means of suppressing Slave Trade.

In this communication the Governor-General of Angola gives his opinion that there can be no useful result attending the burning of barracoons; and that his principal reasons for coming to this conclusion are, that notwithstanding the secrecy and caution with which such expeditions are planned and carried out, it is seldom that such a number of slaves can be captured as can influence the Trade; that the barracoons are constructed so far in the interior that there would be great risk of loss from fever to the persons composing the expeditions; that freeing the slaves from the depôts and the simple burning of barracoons, has no influence over the slave-traders because they can easily erect others, and that the barracoons are always erected in places where there are no authorities or protecting force.

I have it in command from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government cannot concur in the validity of the reasons thus set forth by Governor Pinto. Her Majesty's Government consider it a matter of great importance to show to the persons who carry on this Trade, that they are at no period during the progress of their criminal undertaking secure from molestation; and Her Majesty's Government think that while, on the one hand, the allowing impunity

to the collectors of slaves while engaged in their nefarious pursuits on the continent of Africa, would tend to facilitate the Traffic, so, on the other hand, their criminal pursuits would be discouraged by the feeling of insecurity which cannot fail to be engendered among them by a well-arranged system of operations for destroying their barracoons and for liberating the slaves found therein.

It is to be further observed that Governor Pinto, while attempting to dissuade the adoption of the course recommended by Her Majesty's Government, has suggested no other course for punishing the violators of the laws of Portugal residing within the territories of Her Most Faithful Majesty; and professing himself as he does to be animated by a sincere desire to prevent the continuance of the Trade, it was to be expected that he would have proposed some other measure, if any such had occurred to him, for preventing the pirates and malefactors of other countries from congregating within the Portuguese dominions in order to carry on from thence the Slave Trade with Brazil.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, sincerely trust that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will issue instructions to the Governor-General of Angola to co-operate with the commander of the Portuguese naval force on that station in taking the most active measures for destroying within the limits of his command, all factories, barracoons, or other buildings which are used for the purpose of collecting slaves for transportation beyond the seas, in contravention equally of the laws of Portugal and of the Treaty of 1842; and the more effectually to attain this object I have now, in compliance with my instructions, to repeat the offer already made by Sir H. Seymour, of the co-operation of Her Majesty's squadron in the execution of this important service.

It is obvious that if in consequence of the measures thus recommended, the barracoons are removed from the coast into the interior, they will no longer answer the purpose of providing the means of readily supplying slave-vessels with cargoes on their arrival on the coast, and that thus a material impediment will be opposed to the prosecution of Slave Trade operations.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 175.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in answer to one which Sir Hamilton Seymour addressed to Viscount de Castro on the 14th of February last, calling the attention of the Government to the report of the Traffic of Slaves being carried on at Bissão, and in which it was requested that a rigorous investigation into the truth of this information should be immediately set on foot.

In this note Count Tojal incloses the report of the Governor-General of the Cape Verd Islands, to whom Sir Hamilton Seymour's statement had been referred, and of whose answer I have likewise the honour to transmit a copy and translation. In this communication it is stated that the schooner "Cape Verd" had been cruizing during the month of April between the Cape Verd Islands and the coast of Guinea, without reporting the meeting with or even the escape of any vessel suspected of being engaged in the illicit Traffic of Slaves, and that on the arrival which was daily expected of the said schooner at Bissão, an examination would be made into the truth of the charges which have been brought forward by Her Majesty's Government.

In consequence, however, the Governor says, of the inquiries which he had caused to be made on this important subject, he had been informed that on the River Bessyssi, which flows into the river of Bissão, a Spaniard (Don Victor) had resided for about three years, having left the town of Bissão to establish himself on the territory of the tribe Biombo, where it was suspected that he was engaged in the Traffic of Slaves; suspected, the Governor adds, because for a long time no mention had been made of the capture of a slaver, in conse-

quence of the activity which was shown by the English, American, and French Commodores, and from which circumstance he draws the inference that in all probability the report of the Traffic of Slaves being carried on at Bissão is ill-founded.

M. de Mello, however, mentions his intention of stating his suspicions with respect to the Spaniard, to the commanders of foreign cruizers, to increase if possible their attention and vigilance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 175.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, July* 23, 1849.

IN answer to the note which Sir G. H. Seymour addressed to my predecessor on the 14th of February last, respecting the information received by Her British Majesty's Government of the Traffic in Slaves being carried on at Bissão, and in which it was requested that a serious investigation should be entered into of the truth of this report; I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of the answer given on this subject by the Governor-General of the Province of Cape Verd, through the Marine Department, and dated the 30th April last.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 175.

The Governor-General of the Cape Verds to the Minister of Marine.

(Translation.) *Head-Quarters, Villa da Praia,*
Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *April* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of the portaria of the 10th March last, referring to a note of the British Minister at that Court (of which a copy was inclosed), and in which the said Minister states that his Government had received information that the Traffic in Slaves was carried on in Bissão; and in consequence requests that a severe investigation of the truth of this information should be entered into, and that the requisite measures may be taken to prevent the continuance of this corruption and crime: respecting which it is my duty to state to your Excellency, that the schooner "Cape Verd" has been cruizing during the whole of this month between these islands and the coast of Guinea, without having reported the meeting with, or even the escape of, any vessel suspected of being engaged in the illicit Traffic of Slaves; and to-day the said schooner should arrive at Bissão, for which port she sailed on the 26th, with the detachment appointed to relieve the garrison of that fortress and its dependencies. Whatever may be the news brought by that schooner on her return, I will proceed by every means in my power to the examination, and to take every possible measure for investigating the fact of the statement.

Without wishing to destroy the part or the whole of the truth which may be contained in the above-mentioned report, I will state to your Excellency that, from my previous inquiries on this important subject, I have learned that on the River Bessyssi, which flows into the river of Bissão at one-third of the distance between the mouth of this river and the anchorage of that citadel, a Spaniard (Don Victor) has been residing for about three years, having left the town of Bissão to establish himself on the territory of the tribe Biombo, where it is suspected that he is engaged in the Traffic of Slaves; I say 'suspected,' because for a long time no mention has been made of the capture of a slaver, all the coast being so carefully watched by the active English, American, and French Commodores. And, therefore, I beg leave to observe that, in the absence of

captures or apprehensions of vessels, it is difficult to comprehend what the report of the Traffic of Slaves being carried on at Bissão can be founded upon.

Notwithstanding, I am prepared to state that suspicion to the commanders of the foreign cruizers, to increase, if possible, their attention and vigilance.

(Signed) JOAO DE FONTES PEREIRA DE MELLO.

No. 176.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, acknowledging the receipt of my despatches in which I had the honour to report that the Minister of Marine had been moved to issue orders to the Portuguese authorities on the west coast of Africa to use their utmost endeavours for the suppression of the Slave Trade on that coast; and that the same department had been moved to issue similar orders for the prosecution of the owner of the launch "*Fortuna*," condemned in the Mixed British and Portuguese Court at Loanda for being engaged in Slave Trade; and desiring me to convey to the Portuguese Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for these proofs of their desire to carry out the stipulations entered into with Great Britain for the suppression of this iniquitous Traffic; I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in obedience to these instructions, I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Since writing the above I have received from Count Tojal the notes of which I beg likewise to inclose copies and translations, in which his Excellency acquaints me that the orders above alluded to have been actually issued by the Minister of Marine.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 176.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 23, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs your Excellency's note of the 19th ultimo, acquainting me that the Minister had been moved to issue orders to the Portuguese authorities on the west coast of Africa to use their utmost endeavours for the suppression of the Slave Trade on that coast; and likewise your Excellency's further communication of the 21st ultimo, stating that the Minister of Marine had been requested to take measures for the prosecution of the owner of the launch "*Fortuna*," condemned in the Mixed British and Portuguese Court at Loanda for being engaged in Slave Trade; and I have to convey to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for these proofs of their desire to carry out the stipulations entered into with Great Britain for the suppression of this iniquitous Traffic.

In thus fulfilling the instructions which I have received from Viscount Palmerston,

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD

Inclosure 2 in No. 176.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

IN addition to my note of the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the Minister of Marine has communicated to me that he has issued the necessary orders to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, as well as to the Commander of the respective naval stations, not only for preventing, as far as lays in their power, the continuance of the Slave Traffic, which it is said has increased on the African coast, between St. Paul de Loanda and Benguela, but also that they may immediately report as to the truth of the facts mentioned in the note addressed by Sir H. Seymour to my predecessor on the 3rd ultimo.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 176.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

IN addition to my notes of the 21st ultimo and 9th instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that the Minister of Marine informs me that he has issued orders to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, that on the part of the Crown he may cause the respective process to be instituted against the Portuguese subject Manoel Pereira, as owner of the launch "*Fortuna*," condemned by the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission established at Loanda; and also that the same course may in future be followed in similar cases, in order that judicial punishment may not fail in overtaking those who render themselves liable to it.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 177.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 24, 1849.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch which you did me the honour to address to me on the 12th instant, acquainting me that Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda had reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and that they intended in future to trust their speculations to foreign bottoms, and that Her Majesty's Commissioners had further reported, that owing apparently to the fact of the visits of ships of war of the United States being made at rare intervals to the west coast of Africa, south of the Line, it was the intention of the slave-traders to employ vessels under the United States' flag, on a part of the coast termed by the Commissioners "the southern range" namely, from Benguela in about 12° 30′ south latitude, to Mayumba, which lies between the 3rd and 4th degrees of south latitude.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have, in obedience to your instructions, communicated the foregoing statement to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the note of which I beg to inclose herewith a copy to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, July* 23, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that, under date of the 29th of January last, Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and that they intended in future to trust their speculations to foreign bottoms.

Her Majesty's Commissioners have further reported, that, owing apparently to the fact of ships of war of the United States visiting but at rare intervals the west coast of Africa, south of the Line, it was the intention of the slave-traders to employ vessels under the United States' flag, on a part of the coast termed by the Commissioners "the southern range," namely, from Benguela in about 12° 30′ south latitude, to Mayumba, which lies between the 3rd and 4th degrees of south latitude.

In communicating this statement to your Excellency, for the information of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, in obedience to the instructions which I have received from Viscount Palmerston,

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 178.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 16, 1849

I HAVE duly received your despatches of the 4th and 13th ultimo respectively.

I approve of the note, a copy of which you inclose in the first of those despatches, addressed by you to Count Tojal under my instructions, on the subject of the American brig "*Herriet,*" which was reported by Her Majesty's Commissioners at St. Paul de Loanda to have been allowed to clear out from that port with a cargo of a very suspicious nature, and to have subsequently carried off 880 slaves from the neighbourhood of Ambriz.

I have to instruct you to thank Count Tojal for the assurance conveyed to you in his note of the 11th ultimo, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 13th ultimo, to the effect that he was about to bring the subject of the "*Herriet*" under the notice of the Minister of Marine, and to state to Count Tojal that I shall be glad to be informed of the result of any investigation which may be made by order of the Minister of Marine into the circumstances of the case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 179.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

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

I HAVE received your despatches of the 14th and 17th ultimo respectively.

I approve of the note, a copy of which you inclose in the first of those

despatches, addressed by you to Count Tojal, under the instructions conveyed to you in my despatch of the 6th ultimo, on the subject of the renewal of slave-trading adventures at most of the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

With reference to Count Tojal's reply to that note, of which you inclose a copy in your despatch of the 17th ultimo, I have to instruct you to present a note to that Minister, saying that Her Majesty's Government are much gratified by the assurances given by Count Tojal, that orders shall be given for the purpose of preventing the continuance of these abuses, and for enjoining a strict execution of the engagements of the Portuguese Crown; but that Her Majesty's Government must beg again upon this occasion to press upon the Portuguese Government the expediency of adopting the only measure which is calculated fully to secure the accomplishment of the objects aimed at by those orders.

You will say that it is plain that the only effectual remedy for these abuses, and the only complete security for the faithful execution of the treaty engagements of the Crown of Portugal, in regard to the final and entire suppression of the Slave Trade, would be the carrying into execution that measure, which has now for some time been under the consideration of the Portuguese Government, for the total abolition of the condition of slavery in every part of the dominions of the Portuguese Crown.

You will observe that to such a humane and wise measure, those interested objections which in other countries have so long prevailed, could not in Portugal be urged; because Portugal has no transatlantic colonies, and it cannot be said that any of her colonial possessions are dependent upon Slave Trade for an adequate supply of labour.

The very contrary is the fact; for the Slave Trade carried on within the colonial dominions of Portugal tends to rob those dominions of the population by which the lands therein ought to be cultivated. This dispeopling produces poverty, and the poverty of the colonies paralyses the natural resources of the mother-country.

The condition of slavery can be no more necessary for any good purpose in the African dominions of Portugal than it is in the British possessions at Sierra Leone, in the Gambia, or at the Cape of Good Hope, or in any of the French or Danish settlements on the African coast. On the contrary, if the condition of slavery were abolished within the dominions of Portugal, it is probable that a most abundant supply of cheap labour would flow into them, because natives of other and adjoining countries would seek therein a refuge from the tyranny and oppression of native chiefs; and by reason of the liberty and security which the laws of Portugal would then afford to the African race, the dreary and desolate regions which are now marked in the map as the colonies of Portugal, would be converted into thriving and wealthy provinces, contributing to the resources of Portugal, and reflecting lustre upon the Portuguese Crown.

You will conclude by saying, that by such measures also the Portuguese Government would put an end to those constantly recurring discussions with the British Government, which the continual violations of the treaty engagements of the Portuguese Crown by Portuguese authorities in Africa necessarily give rise to. The goodwill of the British nation would, moreover, thereby be conciliated in an eminent degree; while the additional pecuniary resources which the increased commerce of the Portuguese colonies would afford to the revenue of the State, would tend materially to improve the public credit of Portugal, and to render more easy any financial arrangement which might be desirable for the purpose of covering the existing deficiency of the public revenue of the State.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 180.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

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

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of July 9, you addressed on the 24th ultimo to Count Tojal, relative to the destruction of factories, barracoons, and other buildings within the Portuguese dominions on the west coast of Africa, which are used for the purpose of collecting slaves for exportation; and I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Portuguese Minister upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 181.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

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

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of July 12 you addressed on the 23rd ultimo to Count Tojal, on the subject of the arrangements said to have been made by the slave-traders of Brazil for prosecuting the Slave Trade between Mayumba and Benguela on the west coast of Africa.

I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Portuguese Minister on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 182.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th ultimo, stating the objections of Her Majesty's Government to the alterations which Viscount de Castro proposed to make in the draft of protocol which Sir Hamilton Seymour was instructed to submit to the Portuguese Government, and instructing me to propose to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, that all slaves found on board of vessels captured either by British or Portuguese cruizers to the north of the Equinoctial Line should be landed either in one of the British West India Islands or at Sierra Leone, and that any slaves found on board of vessels captured to the south of the Equinoctial Line should, if captured by either a British or a Portuguese cruizer, be taken to Loanda or the Cape of Good Hope, to be disposed of according to the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842; and furthermore, authorizing me, in the event of the Portuguese Government agreeing to this proposal, to sign the Protocol in the amended form, of which a copy was transmitted in your Lordship's despatch. I beg to inform your Lordship that, in obedience to these orders, I have lost no time in addressing to Count Tojal the note of which a copy is herewith inclosed, and I have reason to believe, from the conversation which I held yesterday with his Excellency, that it is very probable the Portuguese Government will have no objection to sign the Protocol in its resent amended form.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWAR

Inclosure in No. 182.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, August* 2, 1849.

WITH reference to Viscount de Castro's answer, dated 9th March last, to the note which Sir Hamilton Seymour addressed to his Excellency on the 25th of January last, respecting the proposed abolition of the Mixed Commissions in Jamaica and the Cape de Verde Islands, under the Treaty with Portugal of 1842, I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have duly considered the observations which your Excellency's predecessor made upon the draft of protocol which Her Majesty's Minister was instructed to submit to the Portuguese Government for the purpose of carrying the proposed measure into effect; and I am instructed to state that Her Majesty's Government, with every desire to meet the wishes of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, see objections to the alteration which Viscount de Castro proposed to make in the clause of the Protocol which relates to the landing of slaves from on board of captured slave-vessels before being taken to the place of adjudication.

The principal object of Her Majesty's Government in proposing that, upon the abolition of the Mixed Commissions in Jamaica and the Cape Verds, slaves captured in the vicinity of either of those places, should be at once landed in one of the British West India Islands or at Sierra Leone, according to circumstances, was to save the slaves from the sufferings and dangers of a long passage to Loanda or to the Cape of Good Hope; but the wording of the counter-proposal which Viscount de Castro put forward, with a view to make the stipulation with regard to the landing of slaves reciprocal, would have the effect, that if any vessel should be captured in the West Indies by a Portuguese cruizer, the slaves would not be landed near the place of capture, but would be carried away to one of the distant Portuguese settlements at St. Thomas or Prince's Islands off the coast of Africa, by which the humane object which Her Majesty's Government have in view would be defeated. Moreover, as slavery has not yet been abolished in the Portuguese dominions and colonies, the Portuguese Government must surely see that it is far more consistent with the purposes which both Governments have in view, in liberating negroes, that negroes captured in slave-ships within easy reach of Sierra Leone and of the Cape Verd Islands, should be landed at Sierra Leone, where they must necessarily be free, rather than at the Cape Verds, where their freedom could not be so well secured. Such being the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, I have now, in obedience to my orders, to propose to your Excellency, that all slaves found on board of vessels captured either by British or Portuguese cruizers to the north of the Equinoctial Line, should be landed either in one of the British West India Islands or at Sierra Leone; and that any slaves found on board of vessels captured to the south of the Equinoctial Line should, if captured by a British cruizer or by a Portuguese cruizer, be taken to Loanda or to the Cape of Good Hope, to be disposed of according to the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842.

I have to acquaint your Excellency that if the Portuguese Government agree to this proposal, I am authorized to sign the Protocol in the amended form of which I inclose a copy.

With respect to the omission of certain words in the first draft of Protocol, to which Viscount de Castro drew Sir Hamilton Seymour's attention, I find that words to the effect of those which Viscount de Castro proposed to supply were, in fact, in the original draft, but were omitted by an error of the copyist, and the omission was not observed before the copy was sent off.

I am desirous, before closing this note, of making an observation upon one other point in Viscount de Castro's answer to Sir Hamilton Seymour's note; his Excellency, in adverting to that part of the note in which Sir Hamilton Seymour stated that the proposal that slaves found on board captured vessels should be sent to the British West India Islands or to Sierra Leone, instead of being sent to Loanda, is, in fact, nothing more than what was provided for in the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842, remarked, that he did not find in the said Treaty, nor in the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, any such provision; that, on the contrary, in Article IV of the Instructions, it is very especially for-

bidden 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. Viscount de Castro then went on to observe, that an exception is only made in cases when this would become necessary for saving their lives, or for any other humane considerations, or for the safety of the persons charged with the conduct of the vessel after its seizure; that this exception, therefore, authorizes in the above-mentioned cases, only the transfer of slaves from one vessel to another, but in nowise under any other circumstances, and makes no mention of landing them in the British colonies before the adjudication of the prizes; but that, on the contrary, according to Article VI, section 2 of the Annex B, and Article II of Annex C, it is only after their adjudication that the slaves shall be given up to the Government of the captor.

In reply to these observations on the part of Viscount de Castro, I am instructed to state to your Excellency, that Viscount Palmerston concurs in the correctness of Viscount de Castro's quotations from the Treaty and its Annexes; but I am at the same time to remind your Excellency that the proposal of Her Majesty's Government, as conveyed to your predecessor in Sir Hamilton Seymour's note of the 25th January, applied only to slaves found on board such vessels as would, under the arrangement now existing, be tried either at Kingston or at Boa Vista, that is to say, on board vessels captured in the vicinity either of the West India Islands or of the Cape Verds; and when Her Majesty's Government assented to the proposal that the Mixed Commissions at Kingston and at Boa Vista should be abolished, their proposal respecting the immediate landing of slaves from vessels captured in these localities was made, as I have already stated, on the ground of humanity, to save the negroes from the miseries and mortality that might attend a long voyage to the Cape of Good Hope or to Loanda; and in this point of view Her Majesty's Government considered themselves justified in stating that what they proposed was nothing more than what was already virtually sanctioned by the provisions of the existing Treaty under its exceptional clauses.

I have thus fulfilled the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. It only remains for me to express the hope that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will see the force of the objections which Her Majesty's Government entertain to Viscount de Castro's counter-proposal, and that they will, by giving their assent to the amended form of the Protocol which is now submitted to them, help in some degree to diminish the horrors to which captured negroes would be otherwise subjected.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 183

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 11, 1849.

IN addition to the note addressed to me by Count Tojal on the 11th ultimo, of which I had the honour to inclose a copy and translation to your Lordship in my despatch of 13th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy and translation of a further communication which I have received from his Excellency, informing me that it was not possible to obtain any information respecting the proceedings of the Governor-General of Angola, and of the Governor of Benguela, with regard to the increase in the prohibited Traffic of Slaves in those places, except through the Governor-General himself, and as it was just to hear him on his own defence, he had been directed to report upon the charges which had been brought against him.

In acknowledging the receipt of Count Tojal's despatch, I have observed to his Excellency, that justice certainly demanded that the Governor-General of Angola should be heard in his own defence, but that I conceived justice like-

wise demanded that the Portuguese Government should also cause inquirie to be made in other quarters, as it was not to be expected that the Governor General of Angola would be disposed to criminate himself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 183.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, August* 10, 1849.

IN addition to my notes of the 10th and 11th ultimo, I have the honour to acquaint you that the Minister of Marine has, on the 4th instant, informed me that as it was not possible to obtain any information respecting the proceedings of the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, and of the Governor of Benguela, with regard to the alleged increase of the prohibited Traffic of Slaves in those places, except through the said Governor-General; and, on the other hand, it being but just to hear him in his own defence, on that day the necessary orders were issued to him to report upon the several points on which he is accused. In due time I will inform you of what is learnt on this subject.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 184.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 17, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 13th ultimo, communicating to your Lordship a note which had been addressed to me by Count Tojal, and in which it was stated that all possible zeal would be employed in the endeavour to put an end to the Traffic in Slaves which was carried on to a great extent between the Islands of Timor and Solor and the Dutch settlement of Macassar; I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a further communication which I have received upon this subject from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which his Excellency informs me that in consequence of the measures which had been adopted, two Dutch vessels from Macassar had been captured, one of which had a passport given by the authorities of Batavia, and the other two passports and two flags, a Dutch one and one belonging to the Sultan of Bughi; and that on the authority of the Minister of Marine, it could be confidently asserted that in the Portuguese ports of the two islands of Timor and Solor, the Slave Trade was no longer carried on.

In acknowledging the receipt of this note, I shall not fail to express to his Excellency the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government will learn the success which has attended the efforts of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to put an end to the inhuman Traffic in Slaves, and the important fact that the Slave Trade can be asserted to have ceased in those distant settlements of the Portuguese Crown.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 184.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, August* 16, 1849.

IN answer to the note which you addressed to my predecessor on the 14th of June last, stating that Her Britannic Majesty's Government had been informed by the British Commissioners in the Mixed Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, that the Slave Trade was carried on very extensively at the

Portuguese settlements of Timor and Solor and other islands of the Molucca Archipelago, I have the honour to inform you that having communicated to the Minister of Marine the contents of the said note, as I made known to you on the 6th ultimo, the said Minister acquainted me on the 9th instant, that through the department under his charge, all possible measures have been taken for hindering and for doing away with this barbarous and criminal traffic, and in consequence of these measures, two Dutch vessels from Macassar were captured there, one of which had a passport given by the authorities of Batavia, and the other two passports and two flags, a Dutch one and one of the Sultan of Bughi; and it can now be confidently asserted that in the Portuguese ports of the two Islands of Timor and Solor, where there is a garrison, the Slave Trade is not carried on. Notwithstanding, through that department the most positive orders will be repeated that the desire which simultaneously animates the two Governments of Portugal and of Her Britannic Majesty of doing away with this inhuman Traffic may be effected.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 185.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 31, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to Sir Hamilton Seymour's despatch dated the 4th of June last, in which, adverting to the various practices adopted for carrying on the Slave Trade, Sir Hamilton Seymour stated that very large sums, the proceeds of slaving adventures, are remitted annually to Oporto, and he expressed his opinion that Her Majesty's Consul at Oporto would be able to supply me with many details as to the amount of Portuguese capital employed in the Slave Trade, and as to the number of vessels built annually at that place for the purpose of carrying it on.

I have to state to you that I transmitted a copy of that despatch to Mr. Johnston, Her Majesty's Consul at Oporto, and I instructed him to endeavour to obtain and to communicate to me full information on the matters to which it related.

I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch which I have received in reply from Mr. Jones, Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Oporto, containing such information as he had been able to obtain upon the subject in question, and inclosing a list of vessels built at Oporto in the year 1848, which it is believed were intended for the Slave Trade, and a list of vessels now building at the same place, also said to be intended for that Traffic.

I have to instruct you to make a representation to the Portuguese Government, communicating to them the substance of the inclosed papers, and you will express the confident expectation of Her Majesty's Government that effectual measures will be taken to prevent the building of vessels at Oporto, or at any other Portuguese port, for the purpose of being employed in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 185.

Acting Consul Jones to Viscount Palmerston, August 8, 1849.

[See No. 217.]

No. 186.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 31, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th instant, inclosing a copy and translation of a further note addressed to you by Count Tojal on the previous day, on the subject of the alleged implication of the Governor-General of Angola and of the Governor of Benguela in the renewal of slave-trading adventures from places within Portuguese jurisdiction on the west coast of Africa; and I have to inform you that I approve of the terms of your reply to that note.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 187.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 26, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant.

I am much gratified to learn that your Lordship has been pleased to approve of the note which, in obedience to your orders, I addressed to Count Tojal on the subject of the American brig "*Herriet*," which was reported by Her Majesty's Commissioners at St. Paul de Loanda to have carried off 880 slaves from the neighbourhood of Ambriz.

With reference to your Lordship's instructions in the same despatch to thank Count Tojal for the assurance conveyed to me in his note of the 11th ultimo, to the effect that he was about to bring the subject of the "*Herriet*" under the notice of the Minister of Marine; and to state to his Excellency that your Lordship would be glad to be informed of the result of any investigation upon that subject; I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I addressed on the 25th instant a note to Count Tojal in compliance with the above instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 188.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 27, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal in answer to one which, in obedience to your orders, I addressed to his Excellency on the 4th of June last, respecting the report made by Sir Charles Hotham to Her Majesty's Government on the expeditions executed by order of the commander of the Portuguese naval station on the west coast of Africa, with the view of destroying various barracoons destined for the Traffic in Slaves.

The conduct of this Portuguese officer (your Lordship will be glad to find) in strictly complying with the orders which were given to him for that purpose, has met with the full approval of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

With regard to the want of zeal on the part of the Governor-General of Angola in aiding these expeditions, the information necessary to substantiate such a charge, Count Tojal states, has already been demanded of the Marine Department.

The Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty having in view, his Excellency adds, the advantages that would result from the abolition of slavery in the transmarine provinces of Portugal, named on the 14th of April of last year a committee to propose the means the most efficacious for carrying into effect the emancipation of slaves in all the Portuguese dominions.

This committee, his Excellency concludes by observing, was instituted, but has not yet presented its report, and that it is only when the result of its labours shall be known, that the Portuguese Government will be enabled to adopt any measure upon this important subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 188.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, August* 22, 1849.

IN answer to the note which you addressed to me on the 4th of June last, respecting the report made by Sir Charles Hotham to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, on the expeditions executed by order of the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the west coast of Africa, for destroying various barracoons destined for the Traffic in Slaves, I have the honour to inform you, with reference to the communication I have received from the Minister of Marine, that the conduct of that officer, in the strict compliance with the orders which were given to him for that purpose, has met with the full approval of Her Majesty the Queen; and it is to be expected that he will continue to merit the approval of the same august lady and of her Government.

With regard to the want of zeal which is said to have been remarked on the part of the Governor-General of Angola in aiding these expeditions, the requisite information has already been demanded through the Marine Department, that may serve to estimate the foundation of the complaints made against him.

Her Majesty's Government having in view the convenience that would result from the abolition of slavery in the transmarine provinces of the Crown of Portugal, named by Decree of the 14th April of last year a committee to propose the practical means which may be most appropriate and efficacious for carrying into effect the emancipation of slaves in all the said provinces where they may be found, keeping in view the existing laws and practices, as also the lessons taught by experience in all the various districts where slavery has been done away with. This committee is instituted, but has not yet presented the result of its task; and it is only when that has been done, that Her Majesty's Government can adopt any adequate measure on that subject.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 189.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, August* 27, 1849.

I AM much gratified to learn by your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, that you have been pleased to approve of the note which, in compliance

with your Lordship's orders, I addressed to Count Tojal on the subject of the renewal of slave-trading adventures at most of the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

With reference to your Lordship's subsequent instructions in the same despatch, and to the opinion which you direct me to express, that the only effectual remedy for those abuses, and the only complete security for the faithful execution of the treaty engagements of the Crown of Portugal in regard to the final and entire suppression of the Slave Trade, would be the carrying into execution that measure which has now for some time been under the consideration of the Portuguese Government, for the total abolition of the condition of slavery in every part of the dominions of the Portuguese Crown; I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in conformity with your directions, I have addressed to Count Tojal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 189.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M le Comte, *Lisbon, August* 25, 1849.

HAVING communicated to Viscount Palmerston your Excellency's note of the 17th ultimo, in reply to one which I had the honour to address to you on the subject of the revival of slave-trading adventures at most of the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa, I am instructed by his Lordship to state that his Lordship's Government are much gratified by the assurance given by your Excellency, that orders shall be given for the purpose of preventing the continuance of these abuses, and for enjoining a strict execution of the engagements of the Portuguese Crown; but that his Lordship's Government must beg again upon this occasion to press upon the Portuguese Government the expediency of adopting the only measure which is calculated fully to secure the accomplishment of the objects aimed at by those orders.

It is evident that the only effectual remedy for these abuses, and the only complete security for the faithful execution of the treaty engagements of the Crown of Portugal in regard to the final and active suppression of the Slave Trade, would be the carrying into execution that measure which has now for some time been under the consideration of the Portuguese Government, for the total abolition of the condition of slavery in every part of the dominions of the Portuguese Crown.

To such a humane and wise measure, those interested objections which in other countries have so long prevailed, could not in Portugal be urged; because Portugal has no transatlantic colonies, and it cannot be said that any of her colonial possessions are dependent upon Slave Trade for an adequate supply of labour.

The very contrary is the fact; for the Slave Trade carried on within the colonial dominions of Portugal tends to rob those dominions of the population by which the lands therein ought to be cultivated. This dispeopling produces poverty, and the poverty of the colonies paralyses the natural resources of the mother country.

The condition of slavery can be no more necessary for any good purpose in the African dominions of Portugal than it is in the British possessions at Sierra Leone, in the Gambia, or at the Cape of Good Hope, or in any of the French or Danish settlements on the African coast; on the contrary, if the condition of slavery were abolished within the dominions of Portugal, it is probable that a most abundant supply of cheap labour would flow into them, because natives of other and adjoining countries would seek therein a refuge from the tyranny and oppression of native chiefs; and by reason of the liberty and security which the laws of Portugal would then afford to the African race, the dreary and desolate regions which are now marked on the map as the colonies of Portugal would be converted into thriving and wealthy provinces, contributing to the resources of Portugal, and reflecting lustre upon the Portuguese Crown.

In conclusion, I would observe to your Excellency that by such measures also the Portuguese Government would put an end to those constantly returning

discussions with the British Government, which the continual violations of the treaty engagements of the Portuguese Crown by Portuguese authorities in Africa necessarily give rise to. The goodwill of the British nation would, moreover, thereby be conciliated in an eminent degree; while the additional pecuniary resources which the increased commerce of the Portuguese colonies would afford to the revenue of the State, would tend materially to improve the public credit of Portugal, and to render more easy any financial arrangement which might be desirable for the purpose of covering the existing deficiency of the public revenue of the State.

In the fulfilling the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

I avail, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 190.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of the 16th August, you addressed on the 25th ultimo to Count Tojal, urging upon the Portuguese Government the expediency of totally abolishing the condition of slavery in every part of the dominions of the Portuguese Crown.

I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Portuguese Minister upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 191.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Moncorvo.

M. le Vicomte, *Foreign Office, September* 17, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th of April last, in which you inform me that you are directed by your Government to claim from Her Majesty's Government the immediate restoration of 6 slaves taken out of a Portuguese launch belonging to the coasting trade of Angola by Commander Sprigg, of Her Majesty's ship "Ferret," in the month of February of last year, and compensation for the losses sustained by their owner in consequence of that act.

You say that this launch, bound from Loanda to the ports to the south of that place, was furnished with the proper documents by the Governor-General of Angola, stating the number of her crew and proving her nationality, and that bail had been given for the observance of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842.

You state further, that there was a Portuguese subject named Guimaraens on board the launch, who was accompanied by two domestic slaves, who were the property of his master, and who were expressly stated to be so in his passport; and that Commander Sprigg took out of the launch these two slaves and four of her crew, whom he sent to St. Helena to be liberated; and you conclude by requesting that Her Majesty's Government will take the necessary measures for preventing the repetition of such infractions of the Treaty of 1842, which are so detrimental to the coasting trade of the Portuguese dominions.

I have the honour to inform you in reply, that Her Majesty's Government, in conjunction with the proper Law Officer of the Crown, have taken the subject matter of your letter into their attentive consideration, and that they are of opinion, that the 6 slaves in question having been adjudicated upon by a British court of law, and having been pronounced to have been at the time of seizure liable to forfeiture, and having thereby now become free men, Her Majesty's Government have no power to hand them over as slaves to their asserted owner.

I beg further to state to you that, with respect to those two of the above-mentioned 6 negroes who were said to be domestic servants under the care of the passenger Guimaraens, it appears from a letter addressed by Commander Sprigg to the Governor-General of Angola, that the passport which was produced by Guimaraens as his authority for having these slaves on board, the launch, was informal and invalid, inasmuch as the slaves were only alluded to therein by the words "os escravos en seu servicio" and that the passport did not contain, as it ought to have done, any specification of their names or number. And with respect to the other 4 slaves, said to have been part of the crew of the launch, it appears from the declaration which Commander Sprigg made of his reasons for seizing the slaves, and which he drew up on the day when he made the seizure, that those slaves did not know the Portuguese language, that they had all the appearance of having been long confined in a barracoon, and that they were covered with craw-craw; and it is obvious that these circumstances afford a strong presumption that these negroes were not domestic or agricultural slaves, but were Bozal negroes on their way to some slave-trading station on the coast, in order to be thence shipped on board some slave-vessel. Such being the case, Her Majesty's Government think that it is to be regretted that Commander Sprigg did not seize the launch as well as the 6 slaves, and that he did not carry her into Loanda for adjudication by the Mixed Commission, by which tribunal, if she had been found to have been really Portuguese property, she would doubtless have been condemned.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government trust that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will concur with them in opinion that this is not a case in which compensation can on any just ground be claimed for the owner of the confiscated slaves.

In conclusion, I have the honour to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely agree with you in thinking that it is proper that all launches captured with slaves on board by Her Majesty's cruizers in the neighbourhood of the Portuguese possessions on the west coast of Africa should, if found to be Portuguese property, be sent to Loanda to be adjudicated by the Mixed Commission established at that place; and no time will be lost in issuing instructions to that effect to Her Majesty's naval officers.

Of course such vessels, if found to be the property of the subjects of any other nation, would be given back to the charge of the captor or of his prize officer, to be carried before the proper tribunal for adjudication.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 192.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 17.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, September* 3, 1849.

WITH reference to the note which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 18th ultimo, suggesting that, with respect to the charges of conniving at the Slave Trade which had been brought forward by Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda against the Governor-General of Angola, it would not be expedient for the Portuguese Government to content themselves with the report which the said Governor had been directed himself to draw up, I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal, acquainting me that the Minister of Marine has given orders that the Judge of the district of Loanda should likewise report upon this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 192.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, September* 1, 1849.

IN answer to the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 18th August last, on the necessity of hearing the report of some other authorities of Angola besides that of the respective Governor-General, with regard to the charges made against the said Governor and the Governor of Benguela, respecting the increase which has lately taken place in the Traffic in Slaves, I have the honour to state to you that the Minister of Marine has informed me that he has given orders that the Judge of the District of Loanda should report upon this subject.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 193.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, September* 14, 1849.

I HAVE been honoured by the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, transmitting to me a copy of a despatch which you had received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Oporto, and instructing me to express to the Portuguese Government the confident expectation of Her Majesty's Government that effectual measures will be taken to prevent the building of vessels at Oporto or at any other Portuguese port, for the purpose of being employed in the Slave Trade; and I beg to inclose herewith to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in compliance with these instructions, I have addressed to Count Tojal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 193.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, September* 14, 1849.

IN the month of June last, Her Majesty's Government having been informed that very large sums, the proceeds of slaving adventures, were remitted annually to Oporto, for the purpose of building and fitting out vessels for the Slave Trade, Her Majesty's Consul at Oporto was forthwith directed to endeavour to obtain and to communicate to Her Majesty's Government all the details he might be enabled to collect as to the amount of capital thus employed in the Slave Trade, and as to the number of vessels built annually in that place for the purpose of carrying it on.

In consequence of these instructions the necessary inquiries have been made, and I have been put in possession of a despatch which has been addressed to Viscount Palmerston by Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Oporto, the substance of which tends to confirm the accuracy of the report which had been communicated, as I have stated above, to Her Majesty's Government.

It would appear, then, that although Portuguese capital is not to any great amount employed in these Slave Trade transactions, large remittances are made annually to Oporto from the Brazils, which are presumed to form part of the proceeds of slaving adventures; but they are made either for account of mercantile houses established in the Brazils, or of persons connected with those houses, and who having been Portuguese subjects residing in the Brazils when that empire became independent, acquired the privilege of Brazilian subjects.

There are many such, it seems from the statement of Her Majesty's Acting Consul, residing in the Oporto district as well as in Lisbon; and some of these persons are strongly suspected of having capital still employed in houses in the Brazils engaged in slaving adventures.

The most important facts, however, are the following ones:—In the year 1848, nineteen vessels were built at Oporto, of which 11, it is believed, were

intended for the Slave Trade, and which are included in the inclosed Table* (No. 1); and there are now on the stocks 14, of which 5 are supposed to be intended for the same trade, and which are included in Table No. 2,* also inclosed.

I find that the orders for the construction of these vessels are transmitted from the Brazils, and chiefly from Bahia, to houses at Oporto, both Portuguese and Brazilian. The cost of building them is much lower than in the United States, for although the wood of which they are built is of inferior quality, and consequently their durability less, this is not of much consequence, as one or two slave trips amply remunerate their owners. For 1500*l.* to 2000*l.*, according to size, a vessel is made ready for sea.

From the statement which is before me, I perceive there is no instance of any of these vessels proceeding direct from Oporto to the coast of Africa, or of their being furnished in that port with the requisite tanks and other necessary equipments for a slaving voyage, which would naturally excite attention and occasion embarrassment to the parties interested. They almost uniformly, it would appear, proceed to the Brazils, generally with a ballast of salt, and principally to Bahia, where, or in its vicinity, they are fitted out for the Trade, and whither they return with their cargoes of human beings, which they land on that coast or at the Havana.

In bringing these facts to your Excellency's knowledge, for the information of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, I have it in charge to express the confident expectation of Her Majesty's Government that effectual measures will be taken to prevent the building of vessels at Oporto, or at any other Portuguese port, for the purpose of being employed in the Slave Trade.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 194.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 28, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for communication to the Portuguese Government, the accompanying extracts from a report made by Captain Watson, of Her Majesty's ship "Brilliant," to the Admiral on the Cape of Good Hope station, on the subject of the prevalence of Slave Trade in the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 194.

Captain Watson to Rear-Admiral Reynolds.

(Extract.) "*Brilliant,*" *Simon's Bay, July* 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that from all the information I can gather, I find that from the beginning of June to the end of February the Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa appears to be still in an active state, and the reason of these months being particularly chosen is, that it is the healthy season. I believe the neighbourhood of Quillimane to be, as usual, the head-quarters for all slave-dealing to the southward of Mozambique, and from Fernan Velosa to Cape Delgado every facility is offered for the embarkation of slaves, and I believe that most of the Governors and public functionaries on the east coast of Africa are still deeply interested and concerned in the Slave Trade, notwithstanding his Excellency Captain Do Valle, the Governor-General of Mozambique, discourages it by every means in his power. From Cape Delgado to Zanzibar, fresh impulse has lately been given to the Trade, all doubtless caused by the knowledge of the limited means of guarding the coast.

In the year 1848, the Slave Trade may have been carried on with greater activity than ever, which is simply accounted for by the fact that in that year most of the vessels on the station were withdrawn from the coast and centered at Mauritius, for the purpose of proceeding to Tamatave in Madagascar, and doubtless information of that fact would be forwarded from the Cape to the slave-dealers at Rio. Her Majesty's ship under my command was in the

* See Inclosures in No. 217.

Mozambique during the months of January and February 1847 and 1848, and captured in those months one, the "*Phaon*," in February 1847, the other the "*Alzira*," in January 1848; probably the two last vessels left on the coast from the preceding seasons, as in 1847.

Nothing was afterwards seen up to the latter end of May, when the "Brilliant" left the coast.

With reference to the reports made by the commanders of Her Majesty's ships employed during the last twelve months in the Mozambique, I can only state to your Excellency that my opinion ever has been, and still is, that the Slave Trade is carried on to a great extent from the ports on the east coast of Africa, and principally in vessels which arrive on the coast under American colours, under which they continue until the slaves are embarked. I can only account for Her Majesty's ship under my command taking so few vessels, notwithstanding her having been almost constantly employed on the east coast of Africa, from the fact of the chances of the service only placing her there during the sickly season, and when the Slave Trade is not in its greatest activity.

No. 195.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 30, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th instant, inclosing a copy of a note which in pursuance of the instructions conveyed to you by my despatch of the 31st August last, you addressed on the 14th instant to Count Tojal, on the subject of the construction of slave-vessels at Oporto, and the implication of persons residing in Portugal in Slave Trade; and I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Portuguese Minister upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 196.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 4.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, September* 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal in answer to one which, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I addressed to his Excellency on the 14th instant, stating the number of vessels built under suspicious circumstances at Oporto during the past and present year, and expressing the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that effectual measures would be taken to prevent the building at Oporto, or any other Portuguese port, of vessels destined for the Slave Trade.

Count Tojal, your Lordship will perceive, professes the inability of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to put a stop to a Trade which is more flourishing than any other at the present moment, and stating that it is only upon the unsupported testimony of the Acting Consul at Oporto, that these charges are made, and that no positive proof is adduced that these vessels are built with the object of carrying on the Slave Trade. In different ports of the United States, his Excellency asserts vessels are built more cheaply than at Oporto, and the fact of their not being fitted with water-tanks and other necessary equipments, sufficiently demonstrates that they are not built with any criminal intention.

Even however, his Excellency adds, if it were proved that such vessels were occasionally employed in the Slave Trade, the Portuguese Government would not be justified in discouraging a trade the prosperity of which is so essential to the commerce as well as to the defence and independence of the Portuguese dominions.

In the hope of being soon honoured by your Lordship's further instructions, I have in the meantime confined myself to acknowledging the receipt of Count Tojal's communication, and to informing his Excellency that I would bring it without loss of time to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 196.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, September* 17, 1849.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which you addressed to me on the 14th instant, in which, stating the information given by the British Consul at Oporto to his Government respecting the number of vessels said to have been constructed at that place last year, and those at present on the stocks destined in part for the Traffic in Slaves, you express the confident hope of your Government, that Her Majesty's Government will take effectual measures for preventing the building at that or any other port of this kingdom of vessels destined for that inhuman Traffic.

The statement received by the British Government, that vessels have been built, and are building, at Oporto with that criminal destination, is founded upon the gratuitous assertion of the British Consul at Oporto, and of which no positive proof is shown.

He limits himself to a vague indication that such vessels are built by order, and with capital of commercial houses in Rio de Janeiro and Bahia known to traffic in Slaves, or by their agents or partners at Oporto. Supposing this to be the case, this circumstance alone could never prove the illegal destination which those vessels may have.

The other indication, that slave-dealers seek to build their vessels at Oporto as being cheaper than at the United States, as at the former place a vessel costs from 1500*l.* to 2000*l.*, according to her size, is not exact, it being well known that in Baltimore, as well as in Norfolk, Virginia, a similar vessel only costs $50 per ton, ready for sea. It is to be remarked that the Consul himself in his report, is the first to admit that such vessels are not furnished with water-tanks nor with other necessary equipment for these criminal speculations, and the finding of which on board might justify any proceeding on the part of the Government against the vessels and their owners; adding that they do not even go direct from Oporto to Africa, but to Brazil, from whence they are sent there, which of itself does not establish the slightest indication of a criminal intention in building them.

The true cause of the increase in the number of vessels built lately at Oporto and sent to the Brazils, is the greater development of commerce which annually takes place there and which demands a greater number of vessels, and these are built at that city, as the Oporto builders are celebrated for their good workmanship.

The danger of such vessels being, or even the fact of their having been employed in the prohibited Traffic of Slaves, could never justify Her Majesty's Government in placing obstacles to the advance of a science which all maritime nations animate and reward, setting the highest value on it as being so essential to their commerce, as well as their defence and independence.

If owing to the abuses which may be made of the arts and sciences, their progress had been obstructed or prohibited, human knowledge would certainly never have arrived at its present height. If from the fact of slavers taking advantage of the quantities of fire-arms and ammunition destined in England for the commerce of Africa, as well as of the immense quantity of cotton goods manufactured in Manchester, Lancashire, and Glasgow, which are exported from thence for the same destination, to Brazil, the Island of Cuba, and the United States, it was to be inferred that the British Government should prohibit those manufactures or at least prevent their increase even if such a measure should deprive thousands of families of the means of subsistence, such a conclusion would be quite foreign to good principles and sound reasoning.

The same argument applies to Her Majesty's Government with respect to the naval construction at Oporto, which may be considered as a manufacture, equal to any other, and even as the most important to any nation, and which therefore cannot and ought not to be restricted on account of the abuses committed by evil-disposed persons; in the same manner that the manufacture of fire-arms being indispensable to the defence of the country, nobody thinks of restricting it, only because assassins make use of them to perpetrate their crimes.

The proofs which Her Majesty's Government have given of their decided wish to contribute effectually towards the suppression of the illegal Traffic of Slaves being so repeated and unequivocal, the expectation of the British Government that they will not cease to contribute towards the attaining of so just and praiseworthy an object, is certainly well founded, excepting, however, when the sacrifices required are such as may essentially prejudice the prosperity of the country, as in the present case, it being no more lawful for nations than for individuals to commit suicide.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 197.

Viscount Moncorvo to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 26.)

Legação de Portugal, Londra, em 25 *de Outubro de* 1849.

O ABAIXO-Assinado, Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario de Sua Magestade Fidelissima junto de Sua Magestade Britanica, teve a honra de recebar a carta, que na data de 17 de Setembro proximo passado lhe dirigiu sua Excellencia Milord Visconde Palmerston, Principal Secretario d'Estado de Sua Magestade Britanica na Repartição dos Negocios Estrangeiros, e da mesma carta deu logo o Abaixo-Assinado conhecimento ao Governo de Sua Magestade Fidelissima.

O grande pesar, com que o Abaixo-Assinado leu o contenido da sobredita carta foi tal, qual elle esperava que o seu Governo tambem sentiria, quando della fosse sabedor. Dignou-se pois o Governo de Sua Magestade Fidelissima ordenar ao Abaixo Assinado, que respondesse aos pontos essenciaes do assumpto daquelle documento; porisso que nelle sua Excellencia não destróe os fundamentos da reclamação, que o Abaixo-Assinado teve a honra de dirigir a sua Excellencia em 11 de Abril deste anno.

O Abaixo-Assinado não pertende contestar a doutrina tirada da legislação Inglesa, e apontada por sua Excellencia como opinião sua e dos Lettrados da Corôa Britanica, à cerca de não poderem escravos reverter á escravidão depois de terem sido emancipados. Mas o Abaixo-Assinado não poderá jamais subscrever á doutrina, que sua Excellencia parece querer dedusir da allegação, que fez; isto é, que taes principios da legislação Inglesa devem e podem ter vigor com propriedades pertencentes a estrangeiros, que não são subditos da Corôa Britanica. Poisque a annuencia do Abaixo-Assinado a semelhante principio seria equivalente a reconhecer o Abaixo-Assinado que a Inglaterra tinha uma supermacia sobre todas as outras nações em questões de Escravatura; principio este a que nem o Abaixo-Assinado, nem Representante algum de outra qualquer Potencia independente jamais se quererá sujeitar.

Demais sua Excellencia não apresenta na sua resposta prova alguma positiva e convincente para sustentar o que allega, tal qual se requer ne legislação dos paises civilisados, e muito especialmente no fôro Britanico; onde mesmo os "indicios vehementes," a que nelle se chama "circumstancial evidence" não são as mais das vezes reputados como prova sufficiente para uma condemnação. Naõ apresenta pois sua Excellencia prova alguma sufficiente para mostrar que os escravos apresados na lancha pelo Commandante Spriggs não estavão nos termos de serem daquelles escravos domesticos, que formão uma propriedade particular em Angola, e como tal é garantida pelo Tratado de 2 de Julho de 1842. Tanto isto é assim que em vez de sua Excellencia designar as provas em contrario, apenas se limita a dizer que existão "fortes presumpções" para assim se julgar.

Se pois esses escravos uma vez livres não podem regressar á escravidão segundo as leis deste paiz; não parece possivel que essas mesmas leis obstem a que uma compensação adequada seja paga ao dono desses escravos. Porque as leis Inglesas nem auctorisão nem acconselhão que pessoa alguma seja arbitrariamente despojada da sua propriedade particular; de que é boa prova a compensação paga aos proprietarios Britanicos nas Indias Occidentaes pela emancipação dos seus escravos ordenada por Acto de Parlamento.

Pelo que respeita á questão se era ou não legalmente passado, e emfórma o passaporte de que estava munida a lancha apresada, o Abaixo-Assinado segura a

sua Excellencia que as informações das auctoridades de Angola sobre esse ponto parecêrão ao Abaixo-Assinado tão dignas de credito como o que sobre o mesmo assumpto poderá allegar qualquer outra pessoa.

Sem querer o Abaixo-Assinado duvida de fórma alguma de veracidade de um official Inglez, é todavia muito de presumir que o Commandante Spriggs pouco ou nada entenda da lingua Portuguesa para poder fazer commentarios sobra um documento escripto nessa lingua, conforme as regras estabelecidas. Em todo o caso esse ponto teria vido perfeitamente aclarado, e livraria o Commandante Spriggs de toda e qualquer arguição, se elle tivesse observado, como era do seu dever, o Tratado existente entre Portugal e a Gram Bretanha condusindo a lancha apresada a Angola para ser julgada alli pela Commissão Mixta estabelecida naquella paragem. Sendo esta omissão de parte de Senhor Spriggs de um caracter que até o proprio commandante da estação naval Britanica na costa d'Africa Sir Charles Hotham naõ póde deixar de notar. Omissão que não e somente para ser lamentada por sua Excellencia na sua carta; mas que deveria ser punida como falta de execuçaõ de um Tratado existente.

Em quanto á promessa feita por sua Excellencia nos dous ultimos paragrafos da sua carta, o Abaixo-Assinado espera que ella será vigorosamente executada. No entanto o Abaixo-Assinado não póde deixar de observar que tendo decorrido mais de sete annos depois da assinatura do Tratado de 3 de Julho de 1842, é bem de sentir que os officiaes empregados no cruseiro Britanico na costa d'Africa para a suppressão do Trafico da Escravatura não tenhão recebido instrucções claras e positivas para o cumprimento das estipulações daquelle Tratado, porque da resposta de sua Excellencia se conclue que o Commandante Spriggs ignorava os seus deveres a tal respeito; e então é na verdade injusto que a consequencia dessa ignorancia seja toda em prejuiso da propriedade Portugueza. Pelo que o Abaixo-Assinado de novo reclama o que havia pedido na sua carta de 11 de Abril desto anno.

O abaixo, &c.

(Assinado) VISCONDE DA TORRE DE MONCORVO.

(Translation.)

Portuguese Legation, London, October 25, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated the 17th of September ultimo, from his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston, &c., which letter the Undersigned forthwith communicated to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

The great regret with which the Undersigned read the contents of the above letter, was such as he expected would be felt by his Government, when made acquainted with its tenor. The Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty thereupon commanded the Undersigned to reply to the essential points contained in that letter, because his Excellency does not in that letter subvert the grounds of the reclamation which the Undersigned had the honour to make to his Excellency on the 11th day of April last.

The Undersigned does not wish to controvert the doctrine derived from the legislation of England, and quoted by his Excellency as his own opinion and that of the Law Officers of the British Crown, that slaves after emancipation cannot again revert to slavery; but he will never subscribe to the doctrine which his Excellency seems to wish to deduce from that allegation, that is to say, that such principles of English legislation ought or could be enforced in regard to property belonging to foreigners who are not subjects of the British Crown, because the assent of the Undersigned to such a principle would be equivalent to his acknowledging that England held a supremacy above all other nations in questions of Slavery; a principle to which neither the Undersigned nor any Representative of any other independent Power will ever willingly submit.

His Excellency, moreover, does not bring forward in his reply any positive and convincing proof to support his allegation, as required in the legislation of civilized countries, and most especially in British tribunals, where even the "indicios vehementes," which are there called circumstantial evidence, are not in most cases considered as a proof sufficient for a condemnation.

His Excellency, then, does not bring forward any proof sufficient to show that the slaves captured in the launch by Commander Sprigg were not in the

condition of those domestic slaves who constitute in Angola a distinct property, which is guaranteed as such by the Treaty of the 2nd July, 1842. So much is this the case, that his Excellency, instead of stating proofs to the contrary, contents himself with barely saying that there is a "strong presumption" in favour of such an opinion.

And if those slaves, once emancipated, cannot return to slavery by the laws of that country, it does not seem possible that those same laws should oppose the payment of an adequate compensation to the owner of those slaves; for the laws of England do not authorize or require that any person be arbitrarily deprived of his private property—a good proof of which is found in the compensation paid to British owners in the West Indies for the emancipation of their slaves effected by Act of Parliament.

With respect to the question whether or not the passport with which the captured launch was provided had been legally issued, and was in form, the Undersigned assures his Excellency that the evidence given by the authorities of Angola appeared to him as worthy of belief as anything which could be alleged by any person relative to this matter.

The Undersigned will not in any manner throw a doubt on the veracity of an English officer; but it may be presumed with much probability that Commander Sprigg knows nothing or too little of the Portuguese language to be able to make comments upon a document written in that language, according to established rules. In any case this point would have been perfectly cleared up, and Commander Sprigg would have been exempt from blame of any sort whatever, if he had observed, as it was his duty to do, the Treaty existing between Portugal and Great Britain, by carrying the launch to Angola, to be judged there by the Mixed Commission established in that quarter; this omission on the part of Commander Sprigg being of such a character that even the Commandant of the British naval station on the coast of Africa, Sir Charles Hotham, could not avoid remarking it; an omission which is not only to be lamented by his Excellency in his letter, but which should be punished as a neglect to observe an existing treaty.

With regard to the promise made by his Excellency in the two concluding paragraphs of his letter, the Undersigned hopes that it will be rigorously fulfilled. In the meantime, the Undersigned cannot refrain from observing that more than seven years having elapsed since the signature of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, it is much to be regretted that the British officers employed in cruizing on the African coast for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have not received clear and positive instructions to carry out the stipulations of that Treaty; because it is to be inferred from his Excellency's reply, that Commander Sprigg was unacquainted with his duties in that matter; and it is indeed unjust that the effect of his being unacquainted with those duties should be wholly to the injury of Portuguese property. Wherefore, the Undersigned once more puts forward the reclamation which he made in his letter of the 11th day of April last.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT DA TORRE DE MONCORVO.

No. 198.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 26, 1849.

THE Portuguese Government are doubtless aware of the capture of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna,*" by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Cyclops," in the month of March last, on suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, and of the circumstances which attended her trial and adjudication by the Mixed Commission at Loanda.

During the proceedings before the Court, several points arose upon which a difference of opinion occurred between Her Majesty's Commissioner and the Commissioner of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and on each of these occasions the Commissioners drew lots for an Arbitrator to decide upon the disputed point.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the course so taken was

wrong, and that, according to the Fourth Article of the Regulations which govern the Mixed Commissions, and which was annexed to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, whenever an Arbitrator has once been chosen to act in a particular case, that Arbitrator is the person to whom all subsequent matters of dispute in the same case ought to be referred; and as Her Majesty's Government think it essential that the Commissioners of the two Governments should, as far as possible, be furnished with similar instructions, I have to desire that you will request the Portuguese Government to issue instructions to their Commissioners in accordance with the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of this point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 199.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston—(Received October 27.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, October* 19, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 28th and 30th ultimo, and I beg to inform you that I have, in obedience to the instructions contained in the former despatch, communicated to Count Tojal the extract from Captain Watson's report on the subject of the prevalence of Slave Trade in the Portuguese settlements on the east coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 200.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, November* 4, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, informing me that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the course taken by the Mixed Commission at Loanda, during the trial and adjudication of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*" was wrong; that according to the IVth Article of the Regulations which govern the Mixed Commissions, an Arbitrator having once been chosen to act in a particular case, that Arbitrator is the person to whom all subsequent matters of dispute in the same case ought to be referred; and desiring me to request the Portuguese Government to issue instructions to their Commissioners in accordance with the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of this point; I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in compliance with your Lordship's directions, I have addressed upon this subject to Count Tojal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 200.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, November* 4, 1849.

THE Portuguese Government have been informed of the capture of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*" by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Cyclops," in the month of March last, on suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, and of the circumstances which attended her trial and adjudication by the Mixed Commission at Loanda.

During the proceedings before the court several points arose upon which a difference of opinion occurred between Her Majesty's Commissioner and the Commissioner of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and on each of these occasions the Commissioners drew lots for an Arbitrator to decide up the disputed point.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the course so taken was wrong, and that According to the IVth Article of the Regulations which govern the Mixed Commissions, and which are annexed to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, whenever an Arbitrator has once been chosen to act in a particular case, that arbitrator is the person to whom all subsequent matters of dispute in the same case ought to be referred; and as Her Majesty's Government think it essential that the Commissioners of the two Governments should, as far as possible, be furnished with similar instructions, I have, in obedience to the orders which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to request your Excellency to cause instructions to be issued to the Portuguese Commissioners in accordance with the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of this point.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 201.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for communication to the Portuguese Government, a copy of a despatch from the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa, and of its inclosures, which are copies of letters which he had addressed to the Governor-General of Angola and to the officer commanding the Portuguese naval forces on that coast, on the subject of Slave Trade carried on from the Province of Benguela, and copies of the replies returned to those communications by those officers respectively.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 201.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Centaur,*" *Loanda, August* 30, 1849.

I BEG you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copies of letters which, in consequence of the capture of three Brazilian slave-vessels during last month on the coast of Benguela, and the information I received from the Commanders of the "Sealark" and "Cygnet," who captured them, and in pursuance of my instructions on the subject, I addressed on my arrival here yesterday, to the Governor-General of Angola, and to the officer commanding the Portuguese naval forces on the coast, and of the answers (with translations) which I promptly received from them; and I hope their Lordships will approve of the course I have taken.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 201.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Governor-General of Angola.

Sir, "*Centaur,*" *Loanda, August* 29, 1849.

IN pursuance of my instructions from my Government to acquaint your Excellency with any information I might receive relative to the Traffic in Slaves, or of the existence of barracoons, for the purpose, within the dominions of Her Most Faithful Majesty on the west coast of Africa, I have the honour to address your Excellency for the purpose of communicating to you the facts that the 3 vessels named in the margin*, sailing under Brazilian colours, coming from ports of the Brazils, and fully equipped for the conveyance of slaves, have

* "*Emprehendedor,*" "*Maria José,*" and "*Orihté.*"

been captured by Her Britannic Majesty's cruizers under my orders, between the 14th and 30th of July, on the coast of Benguela, between Novo Redondo and Salinas, and that the captains of these 3 vessels had all declared to my officers that they were on the coast for the purpose of taking slaves, and that it had been their intention to have shipped them at one or other of the well-known shipping places within the Province of Benguela, and one of the captains asserted that slaves were collected at Salinas for the purpose.

I have also reason to believe, from the reports made to me by the commanders of my cruizers, that a brig has within the last month, taken off slaves from Logito, or from a small place on the coast four or five miles to the northward of it, and that an agent of the slave-dealers resides at Logito, and has barracoons for slaves at both places.

Having received from your Excellency the assurance of your earnest desire to prevent the Traffic in Slaves throughout the province you govern, I perform the duty of making known to you the circumstances (confirming the apprehension on the subject which I had expressed to your Excellency in my letter of the 11th June), in the confident hope that your Excellency will cause immediate measures to be adopted for the destruction of these barracoons or establishments for Slave Trade purposes, and for preventing the further embarkation of slaves from that part of the territory of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 201.

Commodore Fanshawe to Captain Cordeiro.

Sir, "*Centaur*," *Loanda, August* 29, 1849.

IN pursuance of the instructions received from Government to furnish you with any information I might obtain relating to the existence of barracoons for the purpose of the Slave Trade, within the dominions of Her Most Faithful Majesty on the coast of Africa, I have the honour to acquaint you that I have received a report from the captain of one of the cruizers under my orders, that there is an agent of a slave-dealer established at Logito, with a barracoon, and that he has also another barracoon a few miles to the northward of that place; and that he believes that a Brazilian brig shipped slaves from one or both these barracoons about a month ago.

It would also appear from the fact of the 3 vessels named in the margin*, under Brazilian colours, and fully equipped for the conveyance of slaves, having been captured between the 14th and 30th July, by my cruizers on the Benguela coast, between Salinas and Novo Redondo, and of the masters of those vessels having declared it was their intention to have shipped slaves at one or other of the many shipping places on that coast, and one of them having asserted that slaves were prepared for shipment at Salinas; that this nefarious Traffic is still carried on extensively within that part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's dominions.

On these circumstances being made known to you, Sir, who have shown yourself so earnestly desirous of carry out most fully the instructions of your Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I feel confident that you will give instructions for the destruction of the barracoons reported to be at Logito and its vicinity, and for an examination whether any actually exist at Salinas; and I beg to assure you of my readiness to place any of my squadron at your disposal to co-operate for the purpose, should you wish it.

I avail myself of this opportunity of thanking you cordially for the assistance in various ways that has been rendered by your direction to the vessels under my orders which have visited Loanda, and have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

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* "*Emprehendedor*," "*Maria José*," and "*Orihté*."

Inclosure 4 in No. 201.

The Governor-General of Angola to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Loanda, August* 29, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, in which you are pleased to communicate to me, in consequence of the information which you have received from the officers commanding the cruizers under your orders, the strong suspicion which you entertain of slaves having been collected for embarkation at different points within the district of Benguela, and especially at Salinas and Logito.

Although the places you have named do belong to the Portuguese Crown, yet there are no authorities there whom I can hold responsible as I have done those at other points of the coast, and therefore I have this day addressed a letter to the commandant of the Portuguese naval station, Captain Manoel Thomaz da Silva Cordeiro, requesting him to cause a close examination to be made of the whole coast of Benguela and particularly of the places named in your letter, in order that the instructions of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty respecting the nefarious Traffic in Slaves may be fully carried into execution.

I again assure you that I have much at heart the termination of this reproved Traffic, and that I will always co-operate with my authority and with the force which I may have at my disposal for its complete extinction.

I avail, &c.

God preserve your Excellency.

(Signed) ADRIAO ACCACIO DE SILVA PINTO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 201.

Captain Cordeiro to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, "*Outo de Julho*," *August* 29, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, in which you acquaint me of the existence of barracoons destined for the nefarious Traffic in Slaves upon the coast between Novo Redondo and Benguela.

It is my duty to inform you that I will order the brig "Corimba" to proceed to sea the day after to-morrow, taking with her a sufficient force to examine closely the said coast and to reduce to ashes all those nefarious haunts which may present the slightest indication of their being destined for the horrible Traffic in Slaves.

I would have had the greatest satisfaction not only in acting under the orders of your Excellency, but also conjointly with you, if the decisive orders which I have received were not in this instance diametrically opposed to my doing so.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MANOEL THOMAZ DE SILVA CORDEIRO.

No. 202.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January* 8, 1850.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, transmitting to me copies of a correspondence which had passed between the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa, the Governor-General of Angola, and the officer commanding the

Portuguese naval forces on that coast on the subject of Slave Trade carried on from the Province of Benguela; I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have in obedience to your orders communicated these documents to the Portuguese Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

No. 203.

Viscount Moncorvo to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 24.)

Londres, en 23 de Janeiro de 1850.

O ABAIXO-Assinado, Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario de sua Magestade Fidelissima junto de Sua Magestade Britannica tem a honra de, per ordem de seu Governo, levar ao conhecimento de sua Excellencia Lord Visconde Palmerston Principal Secretario de Estado de Sua Magestade Britannica na Repartiçao dos Negocios Estrangeiros o occorrido com o brigue Portuguez "*Galianna,*" detido por infundadas suspectas de se destinar ao Trafico de Escravos afim de obter para os intercessados a sua justa indemnisação pelos prejuisos que sofrérão em consequencia de semelhante detenção.

Foi o dito brigue detido no 1° de Março proximo passado em lat. 5° 48′ N. e long. 1° 48' E. de Greenwich pela fragata de vapor da Marinha de Sua Magestade Britannica "Cyclops," commandada pelo Honourable George Foules Hastings, a conduzido a Loanda para sur julgada pela Commissão Mixta Portugueza e Ingleza alli estabelecida.

Carecendo o captor de fazer figurar como factos provados os falsos indicios sob que procedêra a detenção do dito brigue, correu o seu instaurado processo por mais de dous mezes até que em 21 de Maio a mesma Commissão com intervenção de arbitro proferiu, come da certidão junta, sentença em cujo final se lê. "A Commissão julga não provada, e que não pode proceder a materia da accusação de ser o dito brigue '*Galianna,*' esquipado em contravenção do referido Tratado (o de 3 de Julho de 1842) e de suspeite de se destinar ao Trafico da Escravatura. Portanto mandamos que se relaxe a custodia do pessoal, e a detenção do navio '*Galianna,*' o qual e a sua carga no estado em que se acharem sejão desde já entregues ao respectivo mestre José dos Sanctos Lessa, ou a quem o representar. Outrosim decretamos que o captor, the Honourable George Foules Hastings, que como dos autos, não foi induzido em erro, paguetodos os gastos despezas, e prejuizos occasionados pela detenção e julgamento do sobredito navio '*Galianna.*"

Fundados nesta sentença o capitão e o sobrecarga do dito brigue apresentarão à Commissão a conta do importe dos gastos, despezas, e prejuizos delle requerendo que fosse julgada e se expedisse titulo para o seu pagamento.

A Commissão tendo dado vista desta conta e requerimento ao official representante do captor em Loanda o arbitro Portuguez servindo de Commissario propuz ao Commissario Britannico o tratar de julgar uma justa indemnisação ao brigue em conformidade do Artigo VII° Annexo B do dito Tratado, no que este não concordou, e demais recusou-se ao sorteamento de um arbitro necessario para decidir a questão contra o que protestou o arbitro servindo de Commissario Portuguez, assim como o advogado do referido capitão e sobrecarga do dito brigue.

Na presença do exposto, o Abaixo-Assinado tem a observar a sua Excellencia Lord Visconde Palmerston, que não se trata no presente caso de reclamar contra as sentenças de Commissoens Mixtas, que por menos infundadas que hajão sido, jamais tem sido revistas; mas de levar a effeito uma sentença da Commissão Mixta em Loanda, que declarou má presa o brigue Portuguez "*Galianna,*" e determinou a indemnisação dos interessados nelle sentença que não foi proferida sem audiencia do captor, e de que elle não appellou.

O Abaixo-Assinado, tem mais a fazer notar mui particularmente a sua Excellencia Lord Visconde Palmerston, o proceder do dito Commissario Britannico. Propondo o Commissario Portuguez votar-se a indemnisação, negou se elle tornando se por isso indispensavel fazer o sorteio de um arbitro, oppoz-se,

e como sem a sua annuencia não pode este sorteio ter logar, e consequentemente o negocio ter decisão, segue-se que empregou todos os meios ao seu alcance para annullar aquella sentença na parte em que estatuiu o direito á indemnisação; mas como este proceder é a completa violação dos Artigos III° e IV° do Annexo B do Tratado de 3 de Julho de 1842, mallogra as providencias do Artigo IV° deste, e dos Artigos II°, V°, e VII° do mesmo Annexo.

Se este proceder pudesse ser sustentado, seguir-se-hia que contra as disposiçoens preventivas adoptadas naquelle Tratado todo o crusador Britannico teria um incentivo para deter e fazer julgar todo o navio Portuguez que encontrasse por mais legaes que fossem as suas circunstancias, pois que sendo julgado boa presa o capitão teria a lucrar; e no caso contrario não sofreria prejuizo, nem elle nem o seu Governo, porque o Commissario Britannico pelo seu voto negativo, os salvaria de serem obrigados a pagar a divida indemnisação.

O Abaixo-Assinado está certo de que sua Excellencia, Lord Visconde Palmerston, reconhecerá que proceder semelhante ao que o Commissario Britannico da Commissão Mixta em Loanda seguiu quando per ante ella se tratou de julgar a indemnisação de brigue Portuguez "*Galianna*," detido pelo Commandante do vapor da marinha Britannico "Cyclops," e sentenceado como má presa, alem de irrogar uma manifesta e accintosa injustiça aos interessados no dito brigue com inteira violação do Tratado de 3 de Julho de 1842 e annexos, abre se não fôr desde já reprimido, um precedente, que teria as mais fataes e destruidoras consequencias para todo o commercio Portuguez, e com esta convicçao o Abaixo-Assinado requer a sua Excellencia, Lord Visconde Palmerston, que o Governo de Sua Magestade Britannico desejando dar tantas provas de que pela sua parte quer observar todas as disposiçoens do referido Tratado ainda que lhe sejão desvantajosas, como o Governo de Sua Magestade Fidelissima ha dado, se appresse não só a fazer expedir as ordens necessarias ao seu Commissario em Loanda para que pela parte que lhe respeita concorra por si, on pela nomeação do respectivo arbitro para se julgar a indemnisação a que por sentença tem direito o brigue Portuguez "*Galianna*," mas a mais positivamente determinar a todos os seus Emprezados nas Commissoens Mixtas que jamais lancem mais de meios que importem a violação do referido tratado.

O Abaixo-assinado, &c.

(Assinado) VISCONDE DA TORRE DE MONCORVO.

(Translation.)

London, January 23, 1850.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Most Faithful Majesty at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty, has the honour by order of his Government to acquaint his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston, Her Britannic Majesty Principal Secretary of State in the Foreign Department, with the circumstances of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*," detained from unfounded suspicions of having been intended for the Slave Trade, in order to obtain a just indemnity to the interested parties, for the losses suffered by them in consequence of such detention.

The said brig was detained on the 1st of March last, in lat. 5° 48′ N. and long. 1° 48′ E. from Greenwich, by Her Britannic Majesty's steam-frigate "Cyclops," commanded by the Honourable George Fowler Hastings, and carried to Loanda to be adjudicated by the Mixed Portuguese and English Commission established there.

The captor failing to prove the false charges under which he had detained the said brig, the suit entered by him having lasted more than two months, on the 21st day of May the said Commission after having recourse to arbitration, pronounced sentence as by the inclosed certificate, which concludes as follows: "The Commission declares the accusation not proved, and that it cannot be proceeded with, that is to say, that the said brig '*Galianna*' should have been fitted out in contravention of the said Treaty (that of the 3rd July, 1842), and under suspicion of being intended for the Slave Trade. We therefore direct that the custody of the crew and the detention of the ship '*Galianna*' do cease, and that the vessel and cargo be forthwith delivered up to the master thereof, José dos Santos Lessa, or to his representative, in the state in which they were found. We also direct that the captor, the Honourable George Fowler Hastings, who according to the documents has not acted in error, do pay

all the expenses, costs, and damages caused by the detention and trial of the said ship '*Galianna.*'"

In pursuance of this sentence, the captain and supercargo of the said brig presented to the Commission an account of the amount of the expenses, costs, and damages, demanding that it should be examined and an order issued for its payment.

The Commission having communicated this account and demand to the official representative of the captor in Loanda, the Portuguese Arbitrator acting as Commissioner proposed to the British Commissioner to treat of the settlement of a fair indemnification to the brig, in conformity with Article VII of Annex B of the said Treaty, to which the latter would not agree nor would he consent to the choice of an arbitrator necessary to decide the question, against which protest was entered by the Arbitrator acting as Portuguese Commissioner, as well as by the advocate of the said captain and supercargo of the said brig.

In reference to what is stated above, the Undersigned has to observe to his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston, that in the present case the question is not to appeal against the sentences of Mixed Commissions, which, however unfounded they may have been, have never been revised, but to carry into execution a sentence of the Mixed Commission in Loanda which declared the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*" improperly detained, and pronounced an indemnification to the interested parties in a sentence which was not pronounced without the knowledge of the captor, and against which he did not appeal.

The Undersigned has also to call most particularly the attention of his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston to the conduct of the British Commissioner aforesaid. The Portuguese Commissioner having proposed that an indemnification should be declared, he refused; this rendering the selection of an Arbitrator indispensable, he opposed it; and as without his assent this selection could not be made nor consequently the business be decided, it follows that he employed all the means in his power to annul the sentence so far as it declares a right to indemnification. But as this conduct is a complete violation of Articles III and IV of Annex B of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, it annuls the provisions of the IVth Article of the Treaty and of the IInd, Vth, and VIIth Articles of the said Annex.

If this conduct could be supported, it would follow that every British cruizer against the provisions to the contrary in the Treaty would have an incentive to detain and bring to trial every Portuguese vessel it might fall in with, however lawful its circumstances might be, because if declared to be lawful prize, the captain would profit, and in the contrary case, neither he nor his Government would suffer damage, because the British Commissioner by his negative vote would save them from being compelled to pay the due indemnification.

The Undersigned is persuaded that his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston will acknowledge that conduct like that followed by the British Commissioner in the Mixed Commission of Loanda, when the question was before it of the indemnification to the Portuguese brig "*Galianna,*" detained by the commander of the British war-steamer "Cyclops," in addition to being a manifest and express injustice to the interested parties of the said brig with entire violation of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, and its Annexes, does, if not at once suppressed, open a precedent which would have the most fatal and destructive consequences for the entire Portuguese trade; and with this conviction the Undersigned requires of his Excellency Lord Viscount Palmerston, that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty desirous of giving as many proofs that on its part it wishes to observe all the provisions of the above Treaty, although they may be disadvantageous to it, as the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty has given, will not only issue the necessary orders to its Commissioner in Loanda, that in the part which appertains to him he may concur either by his own act or by the nomination of an Arbitrator in declaring the indemnification which by the sentence the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*" has a claim to, but will also positively direct all its functionaries in the Mixed Commissions never to take any measures in violation of the Treaty above mentioned.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DA TORRE DE MONCORVO.

Inclosure in No. 203.

Sentence of the Mixed Commission at Loanda, restoring "Galianna."

[See Class A, Inclosure 11 in No. 98.]

No. 204.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Moncorvo.

Foreign Office, February 18, 1850.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Viscount Morcorvo, &c., addressed to him on the 23rd ultimo, complaining of the conduct pursued by the British Commissioner at Loanda in the case of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna,*" in having, after the sentence of the Court had been pronounced for the release of that vessel, refused to treat of the question respecting the expenses, costs, and damages to which the captor was liable by virtue of such sentence; thereby causing the proceedings of the court in this case to be suspended.

The Undersigned begs, in reply, to inform Viscount Moncorvo, that before his note was received by the Undersigned, Her Majesty's Government had received from Her Majesty's Commissioner and Arbitrator an account of the whole of the proceedings in this case, and had learnt therefrom that Her Majesty's Commissioner having been overruled in regard to the sentence by which the "*Galianna*" was restored, considered himself as no longer having any voice in any of the ulterior proceedings, and consequently thought that he could not be called upon to sign any further decree in the case, except with a reservation stating himself to have been overruled; but Her Majesty's Government upon receiving this information, came at once to the conclusion that Her Majesty's Commissioner was not borne out in the view which he had taken of this matter; and therefore by a despatch dated the 29th of December last, he was informed, in accordance with the opinion which had been delivered by the British Arbitrator, that by the plain meaning of the stipulations of the VIIIth Article of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, the Mixed Commission is bound to take cognizance of, and to decide definitively and without appeal, all claims for compensation for losses occasioned to vessels or cargoes which have been detained under the provisions of the Treaty, but have not been condemned as legal prize; and further, that if in conformity with the abovementioned Article, the Commissioners should upon an examination of the claim presented to them, unite in signing a decision as to the admission or as to the rejection of any item or items of compensation for such losses, neither of the Commissioners ought, with respect to the item or items thus admitted or rejected, to add the word "overruled" to his signature.

Viscount Moncorvo will thus see that Her Majesty's Government have before they received the complaint of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, sent out such instructions to Her Majesty's Commissioners as will at once remove all impediment to the closing of the proceedings in the case of the "*Galianna,*" and will provide against a recurrence of the error into which the British Commissioner was led by a mistaken notion of his duty.

The Undersigned begs, however, to make a remark as to the sentence which has been passed upon the brig "*Galianna.*" Her Majesty's Government admit that the decision of the court was in accordance with the evidence which was before it. But it appears that near the close of the trial an averment was made on behalf of the captor, that certain circumstances respecting the skylight on the deck of the "*Galianna,*" warranted a suspicion that the skylight was intended to serve as a hatchway for the admission of air to slaves who might be confined in the cabin under that skylight; and that circumstance, if it had been duly investigated, might have made a material difference in the decision on the case. But the Portuguese Commissioner would not allow that circumstance to be investigated by an examination of the vessel, and Her Majesty's Government

think that it is to be regretted that the Portuguese Commissioner should have so decided, as the survey thus asked for by the prize-officer must have tended to a more correct ascertainment of the facts upon which the decision of the court was to be founded.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 205.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston—(Received February 23.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, February* 14, 1850.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of October last, stating to me that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the course taken by the Mixed Commission at Loanda in the adjudication of the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*" was wrong, that according to the IVth Article of the Regulations which govern the Mixed Commission, whenever an Arbitrator has once been chosen to act in a particular case, that Arbitrator is the person to whom all subsequent matters of dispute in the same case ought to be referred; and desiring me to request the Portuguese Government to issue instructions to their Commissioners in accordance with the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of this point; I have the honour to transmit to you Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from Count Tojal, by which your Lordship will perceive that the necessary instructions are about to be issued to the Portuguese Commissioners, in order that the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in this matter may be immediately complied with.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 205.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, February* 7, 1850.

IN answer to the note which you addressed to me on the 4th of November of last year, respecting the manner in which the Portuguese and British Mixed Commission established at Loanda had proceeded on the occasion of the sentence and adjudication of the ship "*Galianna,*" I have the honour to state to you that the necessary orders are about to be issued to that Commission, that in the event of an equal number of votes on any question or in the event of a difference of opinion between the two Commissioners, the stipulations of the IVth Article of the Annex B to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, be exclusively attended to, the first arbiter named serving to decide any difference of opinion which may arise with reference to the same question.

In thus complying with the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, as expressed in the said note, I avail, &c.

(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

No. 206.

Mr. Howard to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 18.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, March* 9, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy and translation of a note which I have received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing me that a communication had been received from the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, from which it appeared that the Commander of the Portuguese brig of war "Corimba," having by order of the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the west coast of Africa, explored the extent of coast

from Quicombo to Mossamedes, had destroyed seven barracoons, which were found constructed for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade; and I have likewise to inclose a copy of the note which I have addressed to Count Tojal in reply to his Excellency's gratifying communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 206.

Count Tojal to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, March* 4, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Minister of Marine has communicated to me on the 22nd of February last, that by a despatch dated the 15th November, 1849, from the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, it was shown that the Commander of the brig of war "Corimba" having, by order of the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the west coast of Africa, explored the extent of coast from Quicombo to Mossamedes, for the purpose of examining if any barracoons for the illicit Commerce of Slaves existed on the same, and had destroyed seven which were found constructed for this purpose on the sea-shore. According, therefore, to the above statement, you will see how anxious Her Majesty's Government are for the total extinction of this inhuman Traffic, and the efforts and measures employed to that end, as soon as the slightest indication of its existence is observed in any part of Her Majesty's dominions.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) COUNT TOJAL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 206.

Mr. Howard to Count Tojal.

M. le Comte, *Lisbon, March* 7, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 4th instant, informing me that a despatch had been received by the Minister of Marine from the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, from which it appeared that the Commander of the Portuguese brig of war "Corimba," having, by order of the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the west coast of Africa, explored the extent of coast from Quicombo to Mossamedes, had destroyed seven barracoons which were found on the coast and which had been constructed for the purpose of carrying on the illicit Commerce of Slaves; and I have to acquaint your Excellency that I shall have the greatest satisfaction in bringing this intelligence to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government, affording as it does a fresh proof of the admirable zeal which is displayed by the naval officers in the service of Her Most Faithful Majesty in carrying out their instructions to put an end to the accursed Traffic in human beings.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. G. HOWARD.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 207.

Consul Rendall to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 9, 1849.)

My Lord, *St. Antonio, December* 19, 1848.

I READ lately, with much concern, a great deal of matter inclining to an approval of the immediate withdrawal of the British squadron from the coast of Africa, but I was much gratified at the same time in the perusal of the printed slave correspondence issued during the last sitting of Parliament, in which the successes of the squadron, and the abolition question generally, are ably set forth; and as these matters appear to be progressing most favourably, I trust there may be no existing cause for believing that Her Majesty's Government intends to withdraw any one of the ships employed in that particular service.

I, however, have my fears respecting the course that will be deemed the most proper to have pursued in this matter, because I believe the existing Slave Trade agitation emanates from a powerful, or I may say at this period, desperate class of individuals, *i. e.*, the advocates of Slave Trade; and besides, the principal subject they have chosen for agitation is of very considerable importance—in fact it is an appeal to the humanity and good feelings of the people of England; but the subject in all its bearings does not appear to be well understood. I have put the matter under three heads, although the decision upon the first must decide the whole question.

1st. In respect to the sufferings of the slave during the middle passage, from their crowded and neglected state.

2nd. In the belief that the acts of the British squadron increase the misery of the slave, from its inefficiency to put down export Slave Trade; and that consequently,

3rdly. The cruizing British squadron is considered to entail a very heavy and useless expense upon the mother-country. I beg, therefore, your Lordship's permission to make a few observations in reference to this interesting subject.

I regret to be obliged to admit to the fullest extent the sufferings endured by the slave in the middle passage; this evil has unfortunately existed too long and been narrated too often to be at this date doubted. It is, however, a great mistake to ascribe all this existing misery to the system pursued by the English squadron to put down the export Traffic. Did not the same evils exist, the same loss of life, the same crowding of the hold, the same scanty supply of provisions and water, the same amount of sickness, filth, and stench in the slave-ships of Spain and Portugal (which includes Brazil), at the period when they were quietly carrying on the Slave Trade without any annoyance from English cruizers, and keeping their dealings within the limits of Treaties? Most certainly it was the case, and the facts can be proved by a reference to the records describing the state of the first prize slave-vessels brought into Sierra Leone belonging to those nations. I was an eye-witness to such scenes in the early stages of the suppression, and had plenty of opportunities of observing the state in which these vessels were always found, and can therefore speak to the facts I have stated. The same miseries, therefore, having existed during a

period of legitimate trade, it is not surprising that the same evils should accompany the same trade when carried on under a system of contraband.

To elucidate, however, this question further, I will suppose that the miseries of the middle passage were the natural consequence of the English squadron's measures, and, therefore, it was deemed necessary to relax some of the existing regulations, to admit a free exportation of the African, under an impression that by so doing matters during the passage would be improved thereby. To do so, however, would be committing a sad mistake, because in such a case 100 slaves would be then shipped where only one now is embarked, consequently 99 more per cent. of misery would be added in marching to the coast, and in the kidnapping and warfare which always prevail upon an increased demand for slaves, and which, when summed up, from cruelties, from starvation, from thirst, and from fatigue, would amount far beyond anything that now exists in the middle passage.

To charge the acts of the British squadron with the miseries existing in the middle passage, because, forsooth, the Traffic is contraband, is incorrect, the same evils having existed, almost to the same extent, when the Slave Trade was legitimate, and therefore of long standing. It is, however, a great and unfortunate evil that the African should be doomed to a life of continual toil, privation, and misery, from the period of being torn from home and the ties of youth, to an instalment upon some sugar plantation in America. I know not which epoch of that transition is the one in which he suffers the most; and although Her Majesty's Government are not in a position to interfere in his behalf to ameliorate his condition during the middle passage, they can, nevertheless, effect an immense deal for him before embarkation, and after crossing the Atlantic. The princes, chiefs, and headmen in Africa would, no doubt, listen to any suggestions made to them, and an appeal to the Spanish and Brazilian Governments might have a good effect.

The efficiency, however, of the British squadron's proceedings must be judged by the present actual state of the Slave Trade question. What does the printed correspondence tell us upon this subject? We learn that the English squadron is acting in concert and perfect harmony with the fleets of France, America, and Portugal, by open warfare against the abominable slave-dealer; that they have made prizes in extent not known at any former period; that France has wholly and for ever abolished the Slave Trade; and that the natives upon the banks of the Senegal and Gambia will soon become strangers to the horrors of slave-trading, because the white people of their neighbourhood no longer hold or deal in human flesh. Portugal has already done much, and is willing to do more; but is quietly waiting the decision of England in respect to the agitation in question. The harbours of Cuba and Porto Rico no longer swarm with slave-ships: one or two during the last twelve months are as many as can be named. Spain is also anxiously waiting the result of the present agitation. Brazil is the only nation now extensively pursuing this infamous traffic; but I am informed that her losses have already been so heavy that she would at once give in and cease the Trade, but she has hopes in the agitation also, and therefore holds on for a longer period. It also appears that treaties are being made very generally with the native Powers in Africa, and the most pleasing results have already begun to show. The ground-nut is cultivated to an incredible extent; the people of the noted slave-haunts of Cacheo, Bissao, Rio Grande, Nunez, and Pongos (places north of Sierra Leone), are devoting their time and means to the important subject of agriculture. A Republican Government has been declared south of Sierra Leone, which embraces a very large tract of country; and I have no doubt, my Lord, that other independent Governments will come into existence, effecting much good in the abolition of Slavery. I was informed the other day of three Portuguese vessels being at anchor at Sierra Leone, in the pursuit of legitimate commerce. I think, my Lord, this fact speaks volumes in favour of the measures adopted for slave abolition, as within the last six years the harbour in question was nearly filled with the same flag, prizes to English men-of-war, on account of slave-dealing.

In the face, therefore, of even the few facts I have quoted, no argument can remain good touching the non-effective state of the English squadron; and the conclusions to be drawn must be, that as they have effected so much, there can be no doubt of their final, and, I would say, early success.

The withdrawal, therefore, of the British squadron from Africa cannot be

pleaded on the score of humanity, or for the want of success. Some more plausible reasons must be assigned. Should, however, such an event unfortunately take place, the consequences, without doubt, will be lamentable. Indeed, I have no hesitation in stating my belief to your Lordship, that the whole line of that coast will swarm with slave-dealers and pirates; that all the good which has been effected in that unfortunate country will be lost, and a state of lawless anarchy exist not to be described; in fact, outrages will be committed of the blackest dye, whilst terror and dismay will have seized the whole land.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 208.

Consul Rendall to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 9, 1849.)

My Lord, *St. Antonio, December* 30, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that his Excellency the Governor-General of this province, Admiral Fontes Pereira de Mello, left this island a few days since, upon his return to Brava, having made a tour of these islands.

I am informed that the most particular regulations exist for the suppression of dealings in new slaves in the islands, and I am happy to be able to report to your Lordship that I have not heard lately of any importation, although, I have no doubt of the continuance of the common practice of introducing by vessels from Bissao and Cacheo, upon the African coast, 4, 5, and sometimes 10 new slaves into these islands. They are generally entered upon the muster-roll of the vessel, clothed in a similar manner as the crew, and work in common with them, and sold at the different islands, by one and two, as an opportunity may offer.

Suspicious vessels have been reported seen in the islands, but without data to make a report upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 209.

Consul Rendall to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 21.)

My Lord, *St. Antonio, March* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed to your Lordship copy of a despatch I addressed Commodore Fanshawe, Commander-in-chief of the western coast of Africa squadron, wherein was a copy of mine to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone, relating to the appearance again of slave-vessels in these islands.

The Vice-Consul, who has just made a tour of the islands, speaks of other suspicious vessels that have been seen, and also refers to some that have loaded cargoes of salt, but the data at present are not sufficiently clear for me to make a report. I shall however use my best exertions to obtain every information, and if I can make out a case, I will not fail to bring it under the notice of the Governor-General of the province.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 209.

Consul Rendall to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir, *St. Antonio, March* 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated "Centaur," St. Vincent, 26th ultimo, acquainting me with your arrival to assume the command-in-chief of Her Majesty's squadron upon the western coast of Africa, and stating that you will at all times be ready to co-operate with me for the benefit of Her Majesty's service, and more especially with reference to the great object which Her Majesty's Government have in view, viz., the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

I avail myself, therefore, of this occasion to transmit a copy of a report which I make to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone in reference to the proceedings of the slave-dealers in these islands.

I am convinced that these islands require the strictest watching and the occasional presence of a man-of-war as a cruizer upon the station, to prevent them again becoming a nest for pirates and slave-dealers; for although the principal authorities do not countenance these people, they nevertheless remain with security in the secluded outports, when they are satisfied no cruizer is near that can touch them.

I regret exceedingly that I had not the pleasure of meeting you when in the islands. I trust I shall be more fortunate upon your return, as the Vice-Consul tells me that it is your present intention to be at St. Vincent in September next.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 209.

Consul Rendall to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Sierra Leone.

Gentlemen, *St. Antonio, March* 22, 1849.

IT is now more than two years since a vessel of Her Majesty's squadron has been stationed in these islands, and as I thought, so the slave-dealers have become acquainted with this fact, and again make the same convenience of these islands that they formerly did, as the following catalogue of slave-vessels seen here since the commencement of this year will show to be the case.

A schooner with slaves at the Island of Fuego, where she was supplied with water.

A Brazilian barque at the Island of Mayo, where a bargain was attempted to be made for a cargo of slaves.

A Spanish barque, "*Esperança,*" at the Island of St. Vincent, from Liverpool, cleared out for Manilla, but bound to Mozambique for a cargo of slaves, with seven guns, one on a pivot, and 35 men.

A Spanish schooner at the Island of Brava, where she took in water.

A steamer and a brig at Tarafal and Montrego, at the south side of this island, where they took in water.

A Portuguese brig at Porto Praia, where she was visited by the authorities upon the suspicion of Sir Charles Hotham, who was there in the "Penelope."

Under these circumstances, I beg to suggest the propriety of your urging the Commodore to detach one of his squadron to this quarter to cruize for a short time, which will, I am satisfied, have the effect of checking the doings of the abominable slave-dealers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

P.S.—Small parcels of slaves are continually imported into the islands from Bissão and Cacheo.

J. R.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Loanda.*

No. 210.

Vice-Consul Brand to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received July* 25.)

My Lord, *Loanda, April* 19, 1849.

I TAKE the liberty of inclosing herewith, for the information of your Lordship, the copy of a letter which I have thought it right to address to Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, relative to certain proceedings of the master of the English brig "William Stoveld," recently here with a cargo of coals for the depôt established at this place for the use of Her Majesty's steamers on the southern division.

The tenor of the letter itself shows the circumstances under which it was written, and I fully explained to the master of the "William Stoveld" the characters of the persons he intended to take as passengers, and remonstrated with him, although in vain, as to the propriety of his doing so.

He replied that his instructions from his owners were, that he should take passengers, could they be found, and as the parties who presented themselves had regular passports, it did not appear to him necessary to inquire into what might have been their previous characters or pursuits.

The case of Montgomery presents one of the many disgraceful abuses which are so frequently practised under the American flag in this neighbourhood.

He arrived here in the command of an American brig; cleared out from this place for Ambriz, &c.; transferred, as it appears, his vessel to take a cargo of slaves, and then returned quietly to Loanda, where a passport is readily granted him by this General Government, and, I regret to add, a passage to Brazil in an English vessel, there, probably, to enter on another speculation of the same kind.

Again, the cases both of Montgomery and Estappe show the facility with which even persons whose characters cannot but be known to the authorities, have in obtaining passports at this place, not only for themselves, but also for such negroes as they may choose to call for the time free servants.

As by the carrying as passengers persons known to be engaged in the Slave Trade, and, more especially, when such persons are accompanied by negroes, it appears to me English vessels may facilitate the schemes of parties engaged in that abominable traffic, I was induced to address Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and I have further thought it my duty to bring the matter under the consideration of your Lordship.

I may add that Commander Wood, of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," the boats of which vessel were sent to watch the proceedings of the "William Stoveld," has informed me that 5 black boys were seen on board of her whilst at Ambriz.

I have no knowledge of this, however, beyond what Commander Wood stated to me; but as the master's great object seemed to be that of getting passengers, and as at such a notorious haunt of the Slave Trade as Ambriz, he would be likely to meet with either slave-agents or crews of captured vessels

desirous of returning to Brazil, it is probable that he may have been induced to take some of these persons who, if accompanied by negroes, it is to be feared would only be carrying with them their own slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

P. S.—The register of the "William Stoveld," No. 460, is dated London, December 15, 1841.

Inclosure in No. 210.

Vice-Consul Brand to Consul Porter.

Sir, *Loanda, March* 27, 1849.

THE English brig "William Stoveld," George Smart, master, sails tomorrow from hence for Bahia *viâ* Ambriz, where she will touch to take on board five barrels of salt beef from the American factory of Messrs. Brookhouse and Hunt of Salem, there being no salt provisions to be procured in this city at present.

The master of the "William Stoveld," contrary to my advice and urgent remonstrances, purposes to take as passengers two men of such character, that it has been to me a matter of sincere regret that any English master should have been found so ready to afford them passages.

The first, B. I. Estappe, a Spaniard by birth, has been known to me for several years as the master of slavers, and in that character he has been frequently captured by Her Majesty's cruizers.

The second, J. Montgomery, an American, was lately here in command of an American brig named the "*Albertine,*" which vessel arrived from Rio de Janeiro *viâ* Benguela on the 13th January last, sailed from hence for Ambriz and the ports to the north on the 21st of the same month, and has since been transferred, and, as I learn, escaped with a cargo of about 800 slaves.

Both Estappe and Montgomery have been lounging about this place for some time, and having readily obtained from this General Government regular passports, they have engaged with the master of the "William Stoveld" for passages to Bahia.

Estappe takes with him 3 negro boys, named Manoel, A. Filippe, and I. José, at least these are the names given to them; they are declared to be free, to be natives of this province, and they are described as Portuguese subjects.

One of the boys is entered in the passport of Estappe as a free servant, the other two have separate passports with letters of emancipation attached to them under the public seal of this Government.

I inquired at the department of the police of the city respecting these letters of emancipation, where the superintendent informed me that he had seen them, that they were perfectly regular, and that therefore it was impossible to prevent those negroes from accompanying their former master, as they were willing to do so.

Notwithstanding all this, however, I am not without fear that on the arrival of these negroes in Brazil they will again be reduced to a state of slavery, that the granting of the letters of emancipation was a mere expedient to obtain for the boys a passage from this place, and that as soon as they have arrived at Bahia the documents in question will be destroyed.

I make these circumstances known to you, in order that on the arrival of the "William Stoveld" at Bahia you may take such steps as you may judge expedient. Perhaps by bringing the matter under the notice of the Portuguese Consul, who as it appears to me ought to afford the negroes due protection, with a view to securing to these 3 boys the full enjoyment of their liberty, as well as to prevent the disgrace of an English vessel being in any way employed in facilitating the schemes of parties engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

April 14.

P.S.—This letter was written on the eve of the departure of the "William Stoveld;" but the master having left without affording me an opportunity of sending it on board, I am now obliged to forward it, although perhaps too late, by the ship "North Star," which sails for Bahia this day.

G. B.

No. 211.

Vice-Consul Brand to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received July* 25.)

(Extract.) *Loanda, April* 19, 1849.

MANY of the slave-vessels, especially such as clear out from Bahia, proceed to the coast north of the Line; whilst a great many destined for the south coast go direct to Cabenda, the River Congo, Ambriz, and other haunts of the Slave Trade; but many of the slaving establishments at these places, especially those at Ambriz and in the River Congo, are under the control of parties residing here.

No. 212.

Vice-Consul Brand to Viscount Palmerston. —(*Received November* 14.)

My Lord, *Loanda, August* 20, 1849.

I AVAIL myself of the departure of Her Majesty's brigantine "Dolphin" this day for England, to acquaint your Lordship that the Portuguese brig "*Galianna,*" detained by Her Majesty's steam-frigate "Cyclops," and restored by the Mixed Commission at this place in May last, sailed from this port on the 1st instant, with a clearance for Bahia, touching at Whydah.

The person who was master of the "*Galianna*" when detained, had left the vessel before her departure from hence, and proceeded, I understand, to Lisbon.

The notice of this brig's departure, as it appeared in the provincial Gazette, declared C. Elstone to be master, the crew to be nineteen in number, the passengers to be F. F. de Souza and A. F. de Souza, Portuguese merchants, and C. J. da Silva, a Brazilian bookkeeper; and the cargo to consist of aguardente, earthenware, and various smaller articles.

Besides the change of master, I have heard that some changes took place among the persons composing the crew; the passengers, however, were the same as at the detention of the vessel, two of them being sons of the notorious Da Souza of Whydah (a report of whose death, I may state, has reached this place), the elder Francisco Felix da Souza, Junr., although again appearing as a passenger, being in fact the supercargo.

On the day of the sailing of the "*Galianna,*" the newly appointed master, who recently arrived here from Rio de Janeiro, waited upon me and earnestly requested that I would give him a certificate that the brig was the same vessel which had been detained by the "Cyclops," and restored by the Mixed Court.

He was evidently labouring under a dread of the brig being again detained by Her Majesty's cruizers, and went on to state that although his papers were perfectly clear and regular, he even having a copy of the sentence of the court restoring the vessel on board, yet that all these documents might not save him from being overhauled during the voyage.

He confessed that the external appearance of the "*Galianna*" might give rise to suspicion that he was not of a build suitable for carrying cargo as a merchant-vessel, and that the extraordinary tauntness of her masts, combined with the peculiar form of the hull, made her look as if intended solely for quick sailing.

This person was disposed to attribute the capture of the brig by Her Majesty's steam-frigate "Cyclops" very much to the mismanagement of the former master, whom he described as incapable of commanding such a vessel,

and who, by his absurd manœuvres on sighting the steamer, made it appear that he was attempting to escape being boarded.

The cargo he declared to be the same as when the vessel was restored by the court, with the exception of what had been sold to defray expenses, and a quantity of tobacco damaged in consequence of the detention, which, according to his statement, had been delivered over to the Mixed Commission.

He seemed to be influenced in applying to me, not only by the confessed suspicious construction and rig of his vessel, but also by a consciousness of the fact that papers, however regular in form, may not always be a true indication of a ship's ulterior destination, or carry conviction to the mind of a boarding officer that such destination is a legal one.

He therefore endeavoured to urge me in a variety of ways to give him a certificate of the identity of the vessel, or to attest his papers in some shape; and on my refusing to do either the one or the other, he left, evidently much disappointed, stating that he would be boarded and searched by every cruizer he might meet with on his voyage, and that serious inconveniences might possibly ensue on that account.

I have thought the above application (one of several of a similar kind which I have had to refuse during my residence here) sufficiently important in the peculiar circumstances of the case of the "*Galianna*," to trouble your Lordship by referring to it; for whilst, on the one hand, the anxiety of the master to obtain a certificate from me, and his evident fear of the consequences of being boarded and searched by Her Majesty's cruizers, show how conscious he was of the illegal character and destination of his vessel, his admission, on the other, in urging for that document, as to her build and external equipment, and his desire to explain the suspicious manœuvres which preceded her capture, by attributing them to the incapacity of the former captain, may be regarded as a reluctant confession, that, apart from her internal fittings, there were good reasons for inducing the captor to believe that the vessel was at the period of her detention intended for the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Oporto.*

No. 213.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Johnston.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch and of its inclosure which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon.

You will perceive that in adverting to the various practices adopted for carrying on the Slave Trade, Sir Hamilton Seymour states that very large sums, the proceeds of slaving adventures, are remitted annually to Oporto, and he expresses his opinion that you will be able to supply me with many details as to the amount of Portuguese capital employed in the Slave Trade, and as to the number of vessels built annually at Oporto for the purpose of carrying it on.

I have therefore to instruct you to endeavour to obtain and to communicate to me full information on these matters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 213.

Sir H. Seymour to Viscount Palmerston, June 4, 1849.

[See No. 155.]

No. 214.

Acting Consul Jones to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord, *Oporto, July* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch and inclosure addressed to Mr. Consul Johnston, dated the 26th ultimo.

I am not aware of any details which Mr. Johnston may possess on the matters referred to in your Lordship's despatch, but I shall use every endeavour to obtain the fullest information on the subject, and will communicate the result as soon as possible to your Lordship. I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH JONES.

No. 215.

Lord Eddisbury to Consul Johnston.

Foreign Office, July 27, 1849.

LORD EDDISBURY presents his compliments to Mr. Johnston and transmits herewith to Mr. Johnston, by Viscount Palmerston's direction, a

duplicate despatch dated the 26th ultimo, which was addressed to Mr. Johnston by Viscount Palmerston, desiring Mr. Johnston to furnish information respecting the connexion of merchants and other persons at Oporto with Slave Trade.

The original of this despatch was addressed to Mr. Johnston at Oporto, and has been acknowledged by Mr. Pro-Consul Jones in a despatch of which Lord Eddisbury incloses a copy for Mr. Johnson's information.

Inclosures in No. 215.

1.—*Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul Jones, June* 26, 1849.

2.—*Acting Consul Jones to Viscount Palmerston, July* 9, 1849.

[See Nos. 213 and 214.]

No. 216.

Consul Johnston to Lord Eddisbury.—(*Received August* 2.)

My Lord, *Collumpton, August* 1, 1849.

I HAD the honour to receive yesterday your Lordship's note of the 27th ultimo, inclosing a duplicate of Viscount Palmerston's despatch of the 26th June last, and a copy of Mr. Pro-Consul Jones' despatch of the 9th ultimo.

I regret that it is not possible for me at present to furnish the details required by Viscount Palmerston, which, if they can be obtained at all, can be obtained only at Oporto. However, I have been in communication with Mr. Pro-Consul Jones on the subject, he having acquainted me that he had received the original of Viscount Palmerston's despatch above mentioned; and as he is informed of the means by which he should seek the requisite particulars, no doubt his Lordship will receive from him the best information procurable on the matter.

I doubt if it would be possible to show that Portuguese capital belonging to persons at Oporto is employed in the Slave Trade. There are, indeed, many persons there who are generally believed to be, and I doubt not, are concerned in that Traffic; but they claim to be considered as Brazilian subjects. It is generally believed that those individuals receive large remittances from the Brazils, the proceeds of slaving ventures; and the great amount of the bills drawn from Brazil on London, which are negotiated in Oporto and in Lisbon, being much beyond the amount of probable returns for shipments from Portugal, renders this very likely, but I apprehend the fact cannot be proved.

Mr. Jones will no doubt be able to furnish Viscount Palmerston with a correct though not an authentic account of the vessels built at Oporto and sent to the Brazil to be used in the Slave Trade.

I beg your Lordship to submit my apology to Viscount Palmerston for not making the report which his Lordship has ordered on these matters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN I. JOHNSTON.

No. 217.

Acting Consul Jones to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received August* 15.)

My Lord, *Oporto, August* 8, 1849.

IN reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Johnston, dated the 26th June, I have the honour to transmit the following information.

From all the inquiries which I have made, I cannot discover that Portuguese capital to any amount is employed in the Slave Trade. That large remittances are made annually to this place from the Brazils, which are presumed, and perhaps justly, to form part of the proceeds of slaving adventures, is a fact, but they are made either for account of mercantile houses established

in the Brazils, or of persons connected with those houses, and who, having been Portuguese subjects residing in the Brazils, when that empire became independent, acquired the privilege of Brazilian subjects. There are many such now residing in this district, as well as in Lisbon, and a few are strongly suspected of having capital still employed in houses in the Brazils engaged in slaving adventures. It would, however, I believe, be very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain proof of the fact.

In the year 1848 nineteen vessels were built at Oporto, of which eleven, it is believed, were intended for the Slave Trade, and which are described in Table No. 1, inclosed. There are now on the stocks fourteen, of which five are supposed to be intended for the same Trade, and which are described in Table No. 2, also inclosed.

The orders for the construction of these vessels are transmitted from the Brazils, and chiefly from Bahia, to houses here both Portuguese and Brazilian. The cost of building them is much lower than in the United States of America, for although the wood of which they are built is bad, and consequently their durability less, this is not of much consequence, as one or two slave trips amply remunerate their owners. The chief expense here is for the rigging and outfit; but for 1500*l.* to 2500*l.*, according to size, a vessel is put ready for sea.

I find no instance of any of these vessels proceeding direct from hence for the coast of Africa, or of their being furnished here with the requisite tanks, and other necessary equipments for a slaving voyage, which would of course excite attention, and probably occasion embarrassment to the parties interested. They almost uniformly proceed to the Brazils, generally with a ballast of salt, and principally to Bahia, where, I am informed, or in its vicinity, they are fitted out for the Trade, and return with their cargoes of slaves, which they land on that coast or at Havana.

This is all the information which I am able to transmit at present on the subject referred to in your Lordship's despatch, and being derived from private sources, it cannot be considered authentic, but I have every reason to believe it to be true.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH JONES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 217.

TABLE of VESSELS built on the River Douro in the year 1848, and which it is believed were intended for the Slave Trade.

Names.	Class.	Tonnage.	Sailed.	Destination.
Segredo	Schooner	124	July 24, 1848	Bahia.
Encanto	Brig	198	Sept. 17 „	Bahia.
Seguro	Schooner	150	Oct. 18 „	Bahia.
Alipede	ditto	141	Jan. 8, 1849	Angola *viâ* Figueira.
Uniaõ e Segredo	ditto	92	„ 21 „	Bahia.
Pedro Grande	Brig	198	„ 21 „	Rio de Janeiro.
Previsto	ditto	179	Feb. 7 „	Bahia.
Dous Amigos	ditto	176	„ 12 „	Rio de Janeiro.
No name	ditto			
Leonidas	ditto	252	Feb. 22 „	Rio de Janeiro.
Andorinha 3a	Schooner	149	June 20 „	Bahia.

Oporto, August 8, 1849. (Signed) JOSEPH JONES, *Pro-Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 217.

TABLE of VESSELS now building at Oporto, and which it is believed are intended for the Slave Trade.

Name.	Class.	Tonnage.
Constante	Brig	150
Amizade	ditto	150
Pensamento	ditto	150
Positivo	ditto	140
Janota	Schooner	70

Oporto, August 8, 1849. (Signed) JOSEPH JONES, *Pro-Consul.*

SARDINIA.

No. 218.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bingham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 12, 1849.

I HAVE to acquaint you that under date of the 29th of January last, Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Commission established at Loanda under the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the Slave Traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flags or papers, and that they intended to trust their speculations in future to foreign bottoms.

This information appears to be strongly confirmed by the periodical returns furnished by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, of the vessels which arrive at that port from, and depart from thence to the coast of Africa.

I inclose to you two tables compiled from the above-mentioned returns, showing the number of Sardinian vessels which sailed from Bahia for the African coast, and which arrived at that port from thence from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849. You will perceive that during those fifteen months, 31 vessels sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa, and that 26 arrived from thence; of the latter no less than 21 are reported as having arrived in ballast, from which fact it would appear that these vessels had either landed cargoes of slaves on the coast of Brazil, and had then reported themselves at Bahia as in ballast, or had carried out for the slave-dealers cargoes of goods to be bartered for slaves, who were to be carried to Brazil in other vessels, either destitute of flag or papers, or under such flag as might appear to the speculators to afford to them the best chance of impunity.

I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed lists to the Sardinian Government, and to call their earnest attention to the facts above stated, and to urge them to take measures for preventing a state of things clearly contrary to the spirit if not to the letter of the Treaty of the 8th of August, 1834, and repugnant apparently to the law of Sardinia, which decrees that "it shall not be lawful for any captain, owner, supercargo, sailor, or other person, to purchase one or more slaves, nor to have any concern or participation in the Traffic or Commerce of Slaves of any sort."

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 218.

LIST of VESSELS under the Sardinian Flag reported by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia to have cleared out from that port for the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849.

No.	Date of Sailing.		Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.
	1848.								
1	January	18	Polacca	Galileo	182	10	G. Solari	Not known	General
2	"	19	Smack	Concordia	103	8	F. Dodero	ditto	ditto
3	"	19	Polacca	Giudetta	184	11	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto
4	February	2	ditto	Vencitore	209	10	P. A. Campodonico	ditto	ditto
5	March	16	ditto	Frederico	237	12	J. B. Grandona	ditto	ditto
6	April	19	Brig	Universo	245	11	G. Bonsignore	ditto	ditto
7	May	15	Polacca	Calixto	192	10	G. Grenelli	ditto	ditto
8	"	20	Brig	Penguin	228	14	M. J. B. Dodero	ditto	ditto
9	"	21	ditto	Empirio	227	11	G. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto
10	"	26	Polacca	Italia	169	10	L. Ghiliara	ditto	ditto
11	June	21	Schooner	Iride	106	10	L. Guistiviani	ditto	ditto
12	"	28	Polacca	Tereo	185	11	D. Cagnoli	ditto	ditto
13	July	1	Smack	Eu Não Sei	123	10	M. G. Dodero	ditto	ditto
14	"	4	ditto	Concordia	103	9	M. F. Dodero	ditto	ditto
15	"	5	Polacca	Vincitore	209	10	P. A. Campodonico	ditto	ditto
16	"	12	Schooner	S. Andre	134	10	G. B. Bonsignore	ditto	ditto
17	August	14	Polacca	Galileo	182	10	Solari	ditto	ditto
18	"	18	Brig	Eridano	231	11	J. B. Scala	ditto	ditto
19	September	2	Polacca	Enrico	156	11	G. Bartoletti	ditto	ditto
20	"	4	Patacho	Berrizo	108	9	M. A. F. Tiscornia	ditto	ditto
21	"	21	Brig	Universo	245	11	G, Bonsignore	ditto	ditto
22	November	2	ditto	Maria Thereza	224	10	G. Colombino	ditto	ditto
23	"	11	Patacho	Iride	116	11	G. Guistiviani	ditto	ditto
24	"	14	Polacca	Volatrice	337	14	E. Piaggio	ditto	ditto
25	"	24	Schooner	Esperanza	107	9	G. B. Delcanto	ditto	ditto
26	December	13	Smack	Eu Não Sei	123	9	G. Dodero	ditto	ditto
27	"	16	Polacca	Italia	169	10	Q. Chibiazza	ditto	ditto
	1849.								
28	February	14	Polacca	Emilia Luiza	240	12	Matheo Vinini	ditto	ditto
29	March	21	Smack	Christina	51	8	G. Morello	ditto	ditto
30	"	22	Brig	Bocomini	195	11	A. Denegri	ditto	ditto
31	"	27	Smack	Concordia	103	9	F. Dodero	ditto	ditto

Inclosure 2 in No. 218.

LIST of VESSELS under the Sardinian Flag reported by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Bahia to have entered that port from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of Jannary, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849.

No.	Date of Entry.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
	1848.									
1	January 4	Polacca	Frederico	237	12	G. B. Grandona	Not known.	General	Ajuda	29
2	March 3	ditto	Archangelo	182	14	G. Devoto	ditto	Ballast	Coast of Africa	44
3	April 10	Brig Schooner	S. Andre	139	11	L. Raggio	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	42
4	May 1	Polacca	Galileo	182	10	E. Solari	ditto	ditto	Onim	25
5	„ 12	Smack	Concordia	103	8	F. Dodero	ditto	ditto	ditto	37
6	„ 25	Polacca	Vencitore	209	10	P. A. Campodonico.. ..	ditto	ditto	Popo	26
7	„ 27	ditto	Judita	184	11	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto	Onim	25
8	June 8	Brig	Eridano	231	11	G. B. Scala	ditto	ditto	ditto	21
9	August 17	ditto	Universo		11	G. Bonsignore	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	27
10	September 6	Patacho	Iride	116	10	T. Guistiviani	ditto	ditto	Onim	24
11	„ 10	Polacca	Caristo	192	10	M. G. Grenelli	ditto	General	ditto	24
12	„ 23	Brig	Empirio	227	11	G. Pittaluga	ditto	Ballast	ditto	30
13	„ 30	Smack	Eu Não Sei	123	10	M. G. Dodero	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	27
14	October 9	Polacca	Italia	169	10	L. Ghiliara	ditto	General	ditto	39
15	„ 25	ditto	Vencitore	209	10	J. A. Campodonico.. ..	ditto	Ballast	Popo Pequeno..	30
16	November 1	Brig	Galileo	182	10	E. Solari	ditto	ditto	Onim	25
17	„ 20	Polacca	Guidetta	184	10	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto	ditto	29
18	„ 25	Smack	Canordia	103	9	F. Dodero	ditto	Oil	Porto Novo ..	
19	December 9	Polacca	Enrico	156	11	G. Bartoletti	ditto	Ballast	Onim	29
20	„ 14	Schooner	S. Andre	139	10	G. B. Bonsignore	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	30
21	„ 17	Brig	Bocomini	159	11	E. Gottozo	ditto	ditto	Onim	19
22	„ 19	ditto	Eridano	231	11	... .	ditto	ditto	ditto	27
	1849.									
23	February 2	Patacho	Berrizo	108	8	Feliz Bregunti	ditto	General	Ajuda	32
24	„ 28	ditto	Iride	160	11	J. L. Guistiviani	ditto	Ballast	ditto	30
25	March 9	Brig	Maria Thereza	221	20	G. Colombiño	ditto	ditto	Onim	26
26	„ 11	Smack	Eu Não Sei	123	9	G. Dodero	ditto	ditto	Ajuda	26

No. 219.

Mr. Bingham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *Turin, July 25, 1849.*

IN conformity to the instruction conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant, directing me to call the earnest attention of the Sardinian Government to the increase of the Slave Trade under their flag, and to urge them to take measures for the suppression of a state of things so contrary to the Treaty of the 8th of August, 1834, I addressed to this Government on the 21st instant, the note, copy of which I have the honour to inclose, together with copy of the answer which has been returned thereto.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICH. BINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 219.

Mr. Bingham to Chevalier d'Azeglio.

Turin, July 21, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been informed by Viscount Palmerston, &c., that under the date of the 29th of January last, Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Commission established at Loanda under the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, reported to the British Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flags or papers, and that they intended to trust their speculations in future to foreign bottoms.

That information appears to be strongly confirmed by the periodical returns furnished by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, of the vessels which arrive at that port from the coast of Africa, and which depart from Bahia for that coast.

The Undersigned has the honour to inclose to the Chevalier d'Azeglio, &c., copies of two tables* compiled from the above-mentioned returns, showing the number of Sardinian vessels which sailed from Bahia for the African coast, and which arrived at that port from same coast, from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849. M. d'Azeglio will perceive that during those fifteen months, thirty-one vessels under the Sardinian flag sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa, and that twenty-six vessels, likewise under the Sardinian flag, arrived from that coast; of the latter no less than twenty-one are reported to have arrived in ballast, from which it would appear that these vessels had either landed cargoes of slaves on the coast of Brazil, and had then reported themselves at Bahia as in ballast, or had carried out for the slave-dealers cargoes of goods to be bartered for slaves, who were to be carried to Brazil in other vessels, either destitute of flags or papers, or under such flag as might appear to the speculators to afford to them the best chance of impunity.

The Undersigned has been instructed to communicate the accompanying lists to the Sardinian Government, and to call their earnest attention to the facts above stated, and to urge them to take measures for preventing a state of things clearly contrary to the spirit if not to the letter of the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834, and repugnant apparently to the Law of Sardinia, which decrees that "it shall not be lawful for any captain, owner, supercargo, sailor, or other person, to purchase one or more slaves, nor to have any concern or participation in the Traffic or Commerce of Slaves of any sort."

(Signed) R. BINGHAM.

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* See Inclosures in No. 218.

Inclosure 2 in No. 219.

M. Ménabréa to Mr. Bingham.

Turin, le 24 *Juillet,* 1849.

LE Soussigné, &c., a reçu la note que Mr. Bingham, &c., lui a fait l'honneur de lui adresser en date du 21 de ce mois pour lui faire connaître les graves soupçons que, d'après le rapport de son Consul à Bahia, le Gouvernement Britannique a conçus que les bâtimens sous pavillon Sarde désignés dans les états annexés à la dite note, se soient livrés au Commerce des Esclaves. Le Soussigné s'empresse d'offrir ses remercîmens à Mr. Bingham pour cette importante communication, en l'assurant qu'il en a aussitôt donné connaissance à M. le Ministre de la Marine, afin de donner les dispositions nécessaires pour vérifier les imputations dont il s'agit, et faire juger et punir ceux qui seraient reconnus coupables de l'infâme Trafic des Noirs.

(Signé) pour le Ministre, le premier officier,
L. MENABREA.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., has received the note which Mr. Bingham, &c., did him the honour to address to him under date of the 21st of this month, in order to make him acquainted with the grave suspicions which, from the report of their Consul at Bahia, the British Government entertains that vessels under the Sardinian flag mentioned in the lists inclosed in the said note, had been engaged in the Slave Trade. The Undersigned hastens to offer his thanks to Mr. Bingham for this important communication, and to assure him that he immediately brought it to the notice of the Minister of Marine, in order that the necessary directions should be given to ascertain the truth of the imputations in question, and to bring to trial and punish those who may be found to be guilty of the infamous Traffic in Slaves.

(Signed) for the Minister, the first officer,
L. MENABREA.

No. 220.

Mr. Bingham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord, *Turin, October* 1, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th July last, relative to the supposed increase of the Slave Trade under the Sardinian flag, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a note, with its inclosure, together with a translation of the latter, which has been addressed to me by the Sardinian Minister of Foreign Affairs, upon the subject of the communication contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 12th of July last.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Sardinian Government repudiate forcibly the charge brought against their flag, and express a desire that measures may be taken in order that the Sardinian vessels trading lawfully between Bahia and the African coast may not in future meet with unnecessary impediments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICH. BINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 220.

M. Ménabréa to Mr. Bingham.

Turin, le 24 *Septembre,* 1849.

PAR la note que Mr. Bingham, &c. a adressée, le 21 Juillet dernier, au Soussigné, &c., il lui a envoyé deux tableaux, indiquant le nombre des bâtimens

Sardes qui avaient fait voile de Bahia pour la côte d'Afrique, et *vice versâ*, du 1 Janvier, 1848, au 31 Mars, 1849, et lui a fait part en même temps du soupçon que cette circonstance avait fait naître; c'est-à-dire, que ces bâtimens avaient servi au Commerce des Esclaves.

Le Soussigné, empressé de vérifier l'exactitude de ces suppositions, n'a pas manqué de les faire connaître à M. le Ministre de la Marine, afin que si elles avaient une apparence de fondement, les dispositions les plus promptes et les plus efficaces fussent prises pour réprimer et punir un abus aussi grave.

Il vient maintenant de recevoir de ce Ministre une réponse de laquelle il résulte que les faits signalés par M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté Britannique ayant été communiqués au Conseil d'Administration de la Marine Royale, celui-ci en a fait l'objet des plus soigneuses investigations, et a reconnu par l'ensemble et par la concordance des notions qu'il a recueillies, que l'augmentation du nombre des bâtimens Sardes qui ont abordé à la côte d'Afrique, a été produite par le manque à Bahia de nôlissemens pour l'Europe, à raison des événemens politiques, motif pour lequel nos capitaines, afin de ne pas demeurer oisifs dans ce port, ou de ne pas revenir sans chargement, ont profité de ceux qui se présentèrent pour la côte d'Afrique, quoiqu'offrant un bien faible bénéfice, à cause du grand concours des bâtimens.

Ces raisons étant plus longuement développées dans la délibération du Conseil d'Administration de la Marine, le Soussigné croit devoir en envoyer ci-jointe une copie à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté Britannique, afin qu'il veuille bien la mettre sous les yeux de son Gouvernement.

Il le prie en même temps de vouloir lui exprimer la confiance de celui de Sa Majesté que les raisons exposées dans cette délibération feront cesser les soupçons qu'on a pu concevoir, et qu'il voudra bien donner des dispositions pour que les bâtimens Sardes ne soient pas empêchés de se livrer à une opération permise et légitime, par la seule supposition d'un délit qui, s'il était réel, aurait été facilement constaté par les nombreuses croisières Anglaises et Françaises qui naviguent dans ces parages.

Le Soussigné, en remerciant d'avance Mr. Bingham des bons offices qu'il réclame de son obligeance, saisit cette occasion, &c.

Pour le Ministre, le 1er Officier,
(Signé) L. MENABREA.

(Translation.)

Turin, September 24, 1849.

IN the note which Mr. Bingham, &c. addressed, on the 21st July last, to the Undersigned, &c., he sent him two lists, showing the number of Sardinian vessels which had sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa, and *vice versâ*, from the 1st January, 1848, to the 31st March, 1849; and stated to him, at the same time, the suspicion which this circumstance had given rise to that these vessels had been employed in the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, desirous to ascertain the correctness of this supposition, did not fail to make it known to the Minister of Marine, in order that, if there appeared to be any foundation for it, the most prompt and efficacious measures might be taken to suppress and punish so gross an abuse.

He has just received from that Minister an answer, from which it appears that the facts stated by the Chargé d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty having been communicated to the Board of Admiralty, the latter has made them the object of the most careful investigation, and has found, by the uniformity and agreement of the evidence collected, that the increase in the number of Sardinian vessels that have arrived on the coast of Africa has been occasioned by the want at Bahia of freights for Europe, on account of political events; in consequence of which the masters of our vessels, in order not to remain idle in that port, or not to return without a cargo, profited by the freights which presented themselves for the coast of Africa, although offering a very small profit, on account of the great competition of vessels.

These reasons being more fully set forth in the report of the Board of Admiralty, the Undersigned thinks it right to send herewith a copy thereof

to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, that he may bring it under the notice of his Government.

He requests, at the same time, that he will express to them the confidence of His Majesty's Government that the reasons set forth in this report will put a stop to the suspicions which have arisen, and that they will give orders that Sardinian vessels may not be prevented from engaging in an allowable and legitimate operation, on account of the suspicion alone of a criminality which, if real, would have been easily proved by the numerous English and French cruizers in those waters.

The Undersigned, in thanking Mr. Bingham beforehand for the good offices which he requests of his kindness, takes this opportunity, &c.

For the Minister, the first Officer,
(Signed) L. MENABREA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 220.

Report of the Sardinian Board of Admiralty.

(Translation.)

HAVING heard a statement made by the British Chargé d'Affaires, on the part of his Government, pointing out the fact of an increase of trade in Sardinian vessels, from the 1st January, 1848, to the end of March last, between Bahia and the coast of Africa, whence they almost all returned in ballast; from which he infers that they may have landed cargoes of slaves on some point of the Brazilian coast, or have transported for the slave-dealers cargoes of merchandize to be exchanged for slaves to be transported to Brazil in vessels either without flag or papers, or under such flag as might offer them the best chance of escape; in consequence of which the Government of His Majesty is urged to take measures for the cessation of a state of things contrary to the Treaty which it has stipulated for the suppression of the Slave Trade, on the 8th of August, 1834, and to the Law of the 13th January, 1827, which forbids the same.

The Council having made an accurate investigation of the above representations, accompanied by the most exact information which it has been possible to procure, has come to the conclusion that the increase of Sardinian vessels on the African coast, was owing to the want at Bahia of occasions of freight for Europe, on account of the political convulsions which then disturbed her, and which caused our captains, instead of remaining there idle, or returning in ballast to avail themselves of opportunities of getting freight for the coast of Africa, although of little profit, on account of the great competition existing there.

That the merchandise to be transported to that coast consists almost entirely of brandy and tobacco, which are equally brought there by English vessels, but not from Brazil, as they are not allowed to take them except from their colonies, in order to obtain a market for their produce.

That the introduction of Brazilian merchandise in our vessels is very injurious to the English, who formerly were alone in possession of this advantageous Traffic.

That our vessels are obliged to return to Brazil in ballast, there being no storehouses on the coast of Africa to supply them with cargoes, the climate being at the same time too unhealthy to allow of their remaining long enough to trade there, whilst, on the other hand, the English have established on various points factories, in which are deposited wax, gum, and palm-oil, which they obtain from the natives in the interior in exchange for British produce, and the captains, therefore, find on their arrival cargoes ready to be shipped, and are thus perfectly safe, both as regards speculation and health.

That it results from all this that the trade carried on between Bahia and the African coast in Sardinian vessels, is lawful, and that it is expedient that the Government of His Majesty should take measures to remove the apprehensions of that of England, in order that no impediment may be put in the way of the lawful operations of our captains, who cannot be suspected of occupying themselves in the Traffic of Slaves, for which fittings and articles

which a ship could not bear at the same time as a cargo of merchandise, are indispensable, and which could not be concealed from the strict search made by the English and French squadrons, which are constantly watching the African coast.

(Signed) MONTANO, *Secretary.*

No. 221.

Baron d'Isola to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 13.)

11, *Grosvenor Street, le* 12 *Octobre,* 1849.

DANS le mois de Juillet dernier, le Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté Britannique à Turin a communiqué au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne deux états indiquant le nombre des bâtimens Sardes qui avaient fait la traversée de Bahia à la côte d'Afrique, et *vice versâ,* depuis Janvier 1848, jusqu'au 31 Mars, 1849. Le Chargé d'Affaires faisait observer dans la même communication, que l'augmentation qui en résultait du nombre des bâtimens Sardes qui font ordinairement cette traversée n'avait pas manqué d'exciter le soupçon qu'ils eussent pu servir aux Commerce d'Esclaves.

Le Gouvernement Sarde, pour donner une nouvelle preuve au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique de sa sollicitude à veiller à l'exécution du Traité de la répression de la Traite des Noirs, a fait de ce simple soupçon le sujet d'investigations les plus sérieuses dans la ferme intention de réprimer immédiatement un abus si grave s'il venait à être prouvé.

Le Soussigné, Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne, d'après les ordres qu'il a reçu de son Gouvernement, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Vicomte Palmerston, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique, le résultat des investigations faites à ce sujet par le Conseil Administratif de la Marine Royale.

Il résulte des conclusions de ce Conseil que le nombre de bâtimens Sardes faisant le commerce entre le Brésil et la côte d'Afrique a augmenté à l'époque susindiquée en conséquence du manque de nolissements pour l'Europe causé par les événemens politiques qui s'y accomplissaient. Les capitaines de ces bateaux n'ont eu d'autre objet en entreprenant ces courses, que celui de se tirer de l'oisiveté, quoiqu'elles rapportassent en définitive aux marchands Sardes de bien minimes profits par suite de la concurrence que leur faisaient d'autres navires déjà placés dans des circonstances plus favorables, et qu'ils dussent s'en retourner presque sans cargaison, faute d'entrepôts de marchandises pour le Brésil.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne a la conviction que le Gouvernement Anglais appréciera les explications qui viennent d'être données, lesquelles font connaître la cause éventuelle qui avait fait augmenter le nombre des bâtimens Sardes qui abordent ordinairement à la côte d'Afrique; et le Soussigné exprimant la confiance que son Gouvernement nourrit que, ce soupçon ainsi écarté, les bâtimens Sardes ne rencontreront aucune entrave dans leur commerce dans ces parages, saisit, &c.

(Signé) D'ISOLA.

(Translation.)

IN the month of July last Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Turin communicated to the Government of His Majesty the King of Sardinia two lists, showing the number of Sardinian vessels which made voyages from Bahia to the coast of Africa, and *vice versâ,* from January 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849. The Chargé d'Affaires pointed out in the same communication that the increase which was shown in the number of Sardinian vessels usually employed in such voyages had raised a suspicion that they might have been engaged in Slave Trade.

The Sardinian Government, in order to give to Her Britannic Majesty a fresh proof of its earnestness in watching over the execution of the Treaty for

the suppression of the Slave Trade, caused this bare suspicion to become the subject of the most serious investigations, with the firm intention of immediately putting down so great an abuse, if it should be proved to exist.

The Undersigned, Chargé d'Affaires of His Majesty the King of Sardinia, in pursuance of instructions which he has received from his Government, has the honour to acquaint his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., with the result of the investigations which have been made into this subject by the Administrative Council of the Royal Navy.

It results from the conclusions of this Council, that the number of Sardinian vessels employed in commerce between Brazil and the coast of Africa increased at the time above mentioned, in consequence of the want of freights for Europe caused by the political events which were then in course of accomplishment there. The masters of these vessels had no other object in view in undertaking these voyages than to prevent their ships from lying idle; although they in fact returned but very small profits to the Sardinian merchants, owing to the competition of other vessels already placed in more favourable circumstances, and to the fact that they were obliged to return almost empty, because there were no depôts of merchandise for Brazil.

The Government of His Majesty the King of Sardinia is convinced that the English Government will appreciate the explanation above given, which shows the cause of the increase in the number of Sardinian ships which usually resort to the coast of Africa; and the Undersigned, in expressing the confidence entertained by his Government that, this suspicion being thus dispelled, Sardinian vessels will meet with no interference in their commerce in those parts, avails himself, &c.

(Signed) D'ISOLA.

No. 222.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bingham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 29, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st instant, inclosing a copy of a note which was addressed to you on the 24th ultimo by M. Ménabréa, in reply to that which you had addressed to M. d'Azeglio, on the 21st of July last, on the subject of the employment of the Sardinian flag in Slave Trade between Brazil and Africa.

I have now to instruct you to present a further note to the Sardinian Government, stating that Her Majesty's Government regret that they cannot consider this answer of the Sardinian Government as in any degree satisfactory.

I inclose to you, for the information of M. d'Azeglio, two further lists, one showing the number of Sardinian vessels which cleared out from Bahia for the coast of Africa during the years 1846 and 1847; the other showing the number which entered inwards at Bahia from Africa during the same period.

These lists show that the number of Sardinian vessels employed in this suspicious trade was nearly as great in the year 1847 as it was in the year 1848; and these lists, therefore, entirely disprove the allegation that it was the political events which happened in Europe in 1848 that occasioned so large a number of Sardinian vessels to be employed in trade between Bahia and the coast of Africa during the fifteen months ending March 31, 1849.

The real cause of the employment of so many Sardinian vessels in Slave Trade is very different, and has nothing whatever to do with the political convulsions of Europe. That cause is that the slave-traders of Brazil finding that the Governments of other countries have taken measures to prevent their flags from being thus fraudulently used to cover Slave Trade transactions, and not finding that any such measures have been taken by the Government of Sardinia, determined to employ Sardinian vessels as the safest and most convenient for their nefarious purposes.

In this course, moreover, the slave-traders were further encouraged by the decisions of the Sardinian courts of law, which acquitted the vessels "*Sansone*" and

"*Sommariva*," in spite of the clearest proof that those vessels, when detained by Her Majesty's cruizers, were equipped for Slave Trade.

With respect to the observations made by the Council of Marine as to the manner in which the British trade on the west coast of Africa is carried on, and to the statement that the introduction of Brazilian merchandize into Africa in Sardinian vessels is very injurious to British trade, I have only to observe that Her Majesty's Government are far from viewing with any jealousy the innocent interchange of legitimate articles of commerce between Brazil or any other country and Africa. But, indeed, the statement made by the Council of Marine itself affords the strongest proof that the Sardinian vessels in question were employed for purposes of Slave Trade, for the Council of Marine says that the reason why they returned empty to Brazil is that on the coast of Africa there are no stores of goods to be brought back to Brazil in exchange for goods carried out to Africa. That assertion is perfectly true; but that assertion is itself an admission that the only trade between Brazil and Africa is a trade in slaves; and that men, women, and children, and not ivory, gold-dust, cotton, coffee, ground-nut, or palm-oil, are the commodities brought back to Brazil from the African coast. It is quite true that there are not on the coast of Africa any storehouses to hold goods which the Sardinian vessels could bring back to Rio or Bahia, but there are on the coast of Africa barracoons full of slaves destined for the markets of Rio and of Bahia; and these Sardinian vessels either come back to Brazil from Africa laden with these living cargoes, or else they return empty, having taken out to Africa the means which are to enable Brazilian or other vessels to bring such cargoes back to Brazil. In either case these Sardinian vessels are employed in a manner inconsistent with the laws of Sardinia and with the treaty engagements of the Sardinian Crown.

This is not the sort of employment in which Sardinian vessels ought to be engaged, and it is not consistent with the good faith and honour of the Crown of Sardinia that such practices should be allowed to continue; and Her Majesty's Government confidently hope that the Sardinian Government will take such steps as may be proper and necessary to put a stop to these violations of the treaty engagements of the Sardinian Crown.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 222.

LIST of VESSELS under the Sardinian Flag reported by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia to have cleared out from that port for the Coast of Africa, from January 1, 1846, to December 31, 1847.

No.	Date of Sailing.		Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.
	1846								
1	February	2	Schooner	Speranza	..	..	D. Dodero	Not known	General
2	March	9	Brig	Empirio	..	..	G. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto
3	April	11	Schooner	Bella Sophia	74	7	Giacomo Dodero	ditto	ditto
4	May	9	Polacca	Archangelo	182	10	Giacomo Devoto	ditto	ditto
5	„	21	ditto	Ebe	233	12	Giuseppe Morrice	ditto	ditto
6	„	30	Schooner	Iride	106	10	L. Gustavino	ditto	ditto
7	August	4	ditto	Bella Sophia	122	7	G. Dodero..	ditto	ditto
8	„	16	Brig	Amabile Emilietta..	215	11	Nicolao Barilaro	ditto	ditto
9	„	26	Polacca	N. Sa. da Assumpto	230	11	F. Chiapello	ditto	ditto
10	October	20	ditto	Abdel Medjid	246	11	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto
11	November	22	ditto	N. Sa. de la Guardia	175	8	M. G. B. Consigliere	ditto	ditto
12	December	5	Brig	Archangelo	182	9	Giacomo Devoto	ditto	ditto
	1847								
1	January	3	ditto	Andre	139	10	M. Nicolo Mangini	ditto	ditto
2	„	14	Schooner	Iride	106	9	Lorenzo Gustavini..	ditto	ditto
3	„	26	ditto	Speranza	104	8	D. Parodi	ditto	ditto
4	February	28	Brig	Empirio	227	12	G. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto
5	March	17	ditto	Amabile Emilietta..	215	12	Gio. Merello	ditto	ditto
6	„	23	Polacca	N. Sa. de la Guardia	175	12	Gio. Batta. Consigliere	ditto	ditto
7	April	3	ditto	Africana	200	11	E. Piaggio	ditto	ditto
8	May	31	ditto	Archangelo	182	9	M. G. Devoto	ditto	ditto
9	June	25	ditto	Galileo	198	10	E. Solari	ditto	ditto
10	July	11	Schooner	S. Andre	139	..	N. Mangini	ditto	ditto
11	August	10	ditto	Iride	106	11	L. Guastavino	ditto	ditto
12	„	25	Polacca	Giudetta	184	11	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto
13	„	31	ditto	Africana	200	12	E. Piaggio..	ditto	ditto
14	September	8	Brig	Vencedora	155	10	Not known..	ditto	ditto
15	„	13	ditto	Frederico	237	12	G. B. Grandona	ditto	Rum, &c.
16	October	1	ditto	Empirio	227	12	G. Pittaluga	ditto	General
17	„	„	Schooner	Elisa	138	..	Not known..	Francisco Godinho	ditto
18	November	24	Polacca	Archangelo	182	9	G. Devoto	Not known	ditto
19	December	5	Schooner	Iride	106	10	L. Guastavino	ditto	ditto
20	„	5	ditto	Santo Andre	139	11	L. Raggio	ditto	ditto

Inclosure 2 in No. 222.

CLASS B.

LIST of VESSELS under the Sardinian Flag reported by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia to have entered that port from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of January, 1846 to the 31st of December, 1847.

No.	Date of Entry.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
	1846.									
1	January 8	Polacca	Galileo	182	12	E. Solari	Fratelli Secchino	Ballast	Onim	28
2	„ 20	ditto	S. José	196	13	Emmanuel Piaggio	ditto	ditto	ditto	27
3	February 27	Schooner	Iride	106	10	A. Denegri	ditto	ditto	Ajudá	31
4	July 1	ditto	Bella Sophia	122	7	Giacomo Dodero	Not known	General	Cabo Lobo ..	22
5	„ 24	Polacca	Abdel Medjid	246	10	L. Camarro	ditto	Ballast	Porto Novo ..	34
6	August 29	ditto	Ebe	233	12	Giuseppe Morrice	ditto	ditto	Onim	25
7	Sept. 28	ditto	Archangelo	182	10	Giacomo Devoto	ditto	ditto	ditto	33
8	October 27	Brig	Empirio	227	14	Giuseppe Pittaluga	ditto	Palm-oil	ditto	32
9	Nov. 15	Schooner	Iride	106	11	Lorenzo Gustavino	ditto	Ballast	ditto	34
10	Dec. 18	ditto	Speranza	104	7	D. Parodi	ditto	Palm-oil	Ajudá	30
	1847.									
1	January 16	Brig	Amabile Emilietta	169	12	Nicolao Barilaro	ditto	General	Angola.. ..	22
2	March 4	Polacca	N. Sa. de la Guardia ..	175	12	G. B. Consigliere	ditto	Ballast	Onim	32
3	„ 4	ditto	Abdel Medjid	246	11	Miguel Dodero	ditto	Palm-oil	Porto Novo ..	29
4	April 17	ditto	Archangelo	182	9	G. Devoto	ditto	Ballast	Onim	36
5	„ 29	ditto	Galileo	198	10	E. Solari	ditto	ditto	ditto	27
6	May 21	ditto	Bella Juditta	184	11	G. Galle	ditto	ditto	ditto	
7	June 13	Schooner	Esperanza	104	8	D. Parodi	ditto	Oil, &c.	Porto Novo ..	28
8	July 3	Polacca	Africana	200	11	E. Piaggio	ditto	Ballast	Ajudá	19
9	„ 26	ditto	Frederico	237	11	Grandona	ditto	ditto	Onim	21
10	„ 28	Brig	Empirio	227	12	G. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto	ditto	22
11	August 21	ditto	Amabile Emilietta	169	..	....	ditto	ditto	Porto Novo ..	34
12	Sept. 27	Polacca	Archangelo	182	9	M. G. Devoto	ditto	ditto	Onim	33
13	October 29	ditto	Galileo*	182	10	E. Solari	ditto	ditto	ditto	29
14	„ 29	Brig	Eridano†	271	11	J. Pittaluga	ditto	ditto	ditto	30
15	November 7	Schooner	Iride‡	106	10	L. Guastavino	ditto	ditto	Loanda.. ..	21
16	„ 12	Yacht	Santo Andre	139	10	N. Mangini	ditto	ditto	Ajudà	29
17	December 7	Polacca	Africana	200	12	E. Piaggio	ditto	ditto	Popoe	25
18	„ 16	Brig	Empirio	227	12	G, Pittaluga	ditto	ditto	Gallinas ..	18
19	„ 19	ditto	Giudetta	184	11	M. Dodero	ditto	ditto	Onim	24
20	„ 25	Polacca	Vencitore	209	10	Campodonico	ditto	ditto	ditto	25

* Brought 12 passengers—crews of captured slavers. † Brought 38 passengers—crews of captured slavers. ‡ Brought 24 passengers—crews of captured slavers.

No. 223.

Viscount Palmerston to Baron d'Isola.

Foreign Office, October 29, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which was addressed to him on the 12th instant by Baron d'Isola, &c., on the alleged employment of Sardinian vessels between Bahia and the coast of Africa in Slave Trade.

The Baron d'Isola's note is in reply to a representation made by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Turin to the Sardinian Government in the month of July last. That representation was accompanied by two lists: the one of Sardinian vessels which had cleared out from Bahia for the coast of Africa from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849; the other of vessels which had entered inwards at Bahia from that coast during the same period. Those lists showed that thirty-one Sardinian vessels had sailed from Bahia for the coast of Africa during that period, and that twenty-six Sardinian vessels had arrived there from that coast; and the fact that twenty-one of those twenty-six vessels had entered themselves inwards at Bahia as in ballast, was pointed out to the Sardinian Government as a proof that these vessels must either have landed cargoes of slaves on the coast of Brazil, or have carried out to Africa for the slave-dealers, cargoes of goods to be bartered for slaves who were to be carried from Africa to Brazil in other vessels under some other flag, or without any national flag or papers. This conclusion is irresistible; because it is impossible to suppose that if these vessels had been engaged in legitimate commerce from Brazil to the coast of Africa, they could have returned from Africa to Brazil entirely empty.

In answer to this grave allegation, Baron d'Isola contents himself by stating that the number of Sardinian vessels employed in trade between Brazil and Africa had increased during the period above mentioned, namely, between January 1848, and March 1849, in consequence of the want of freights for Europe, caused by the political events then passing in Europe; and that the commanders of the vessels in question had no other motive for engaging in those voyages than a desire not to remain in idleness, that the profits realized by them were very small; and that they were obliged to return to Brazil from Africa without cargoes because there were no stores on the coast of Africa of merchandize for the Brazilian market.

The Undersigned regrets to have to inform Baron d'Isola that Her Majesty's Government cannot consider this answer as at all satisfactory.

The Undersigned now begs to inclose for the information of Baron d'Isola two further lists:* the one showing the number of Sardinian vessels which cleared out from Bahia for the coast of Africa during the years 1846 and 1847; the other showing the number which entered inwards at Bahia from Africa during the same period. These lists show that the number of Sardinian vessels thus employed in the Slave Trade was nearly as great in the year 1847 as it was in the year 1848; and these lists, therefore, entirely disprove the allegation that it was the political events which happened in Europe in 1848, that occasioned so large a number of Sardinian vessels to be employed in trade between Bahia and the coast of Africa during the fifteen months ending March 31, 1849.

The real cause of the employment of so many Sardinian vessels in Slave Trade is very different, and has nothing whatever to do with the political convulsions of Europe. That cause is that the slave-traders of Brazil finding that the Governments of other countries have taken measures to prevent their flags from being thus fraudulently used to cover Slave Trade transactions, and not finding that any such measures have been taken by the Government of Sardinia, determined to employ Sardinian vessels as the safest and most convenient for their nefarious purposes.

In this course, moreover, the slave-traders were further encouraged by the decisions of the Sardinian courts of law which acquitted the vessels "*Sansone*" and "*Sommariva*," in spite of the clearest proof that those vessels, when detained by Her Majesty's cruizers, were equipped for Slave Trade.

* See inclosures in preceding despatch.

But, indeed, the statement made by Baron d'Isola himself affords the strongest proof that the Sardinian vessels in question were employed for purposes of Slave Trade, for Baron d'Isola says that the reason why they returned empty to Brazil is, that on the coast of Africa there are no stores of goods to be brought back to Brazil in exchange for goods carried out to Africa. That assertion is perfectly true; but that assertion is itself an admission that the only trade between Brazil and Africa is a Trade in Slaves; and that men, women, and children, and not ivory, gold-dust, cotton, coffee, ground-nut, or palm-oil, are the commodities brought back to Brazil from the African coast. It is quite true that there are not on the coast of Africa any storehouses to hold goods which the Sardinian vessels could bring back to Rio or Bahia, but there are on the coast of Africa barracoons full of slaves destined for the markets of Rio and Bahia, and these Sardinian vessels either come back to Brazil from Africa, laden with these living cargoes, or else they return empty, having taken out to Africa the means which are to enable Brazilian or other vessels to bring such cargoes back to Brazil. In either case these Sardinian vessels are employed in a manner inconsistent with the laws of Sardinia and with the treaty engagements of the Sardinian Crown.

Her Majesty's Government are convinced that this is not the sort of employment in which Sardinian vessels ought to be engaged, and that it is not consistent with the good faith and honour of the Crown of Sardinia that such practices should be allowed to continue; and Her Majesty's Government confidently hope that the Sardinian Government will take such steps as may be proper and necessary to put a stop to these violations of the treaty engagements of the Sardinian Crown.

Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Turin has been instructed to make a further representation to the Sardinian Government on this matter; and the Undersigned trusts that Baron d'Isola will also have the goodness to bring this note under the serious notice of his Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 224.

Mr. Bingham to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord, *Turin, November* 6, 1849.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of October last, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have addressed to the Sardinian Government upon the subject of the employment of the Sardinian flag in Slave Trade between Brazil and Africa.

I have used your Lordship's arguments to the fullest extent in urging the adoption, on the part of this Government, of such measures as may effectually prevent any fresh violations of the treaty engagements of Sardinia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICH. BINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 224.

Mr. Bingham to the Chevalier d'Azeglio.

Turin, November 5, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been instructed to express to the Chevalier d'Azeglio, &c., the regret of his Government that they cannot consider as in any degree satisfactory the answer of the Sardinian Cabinet, contained in his Excellency's note of the 24th of September last, relative to the employment of the Sardinian flag in Slave Trade between Brazil and Africa.

The Undersigned has been further instructed to transmit to the Sardinian Government, for their information, two lists: the one showing the number of Sardinian vessels which cleared out from Bahia for the coast of Africa during

the years 1846 and 1847; the other showing the number which entered inwards at Bahia from Africa, during the same period.

These lists show that the number of Sardinian vessels employed in this suspicious trade was nearly as great in the year 1847 as it was in the year 1848; and these lists therefore, entirely, disprove the allegation that it was the political events which happened in Europe in 1848 that occasioned so large a number of Sardinian vessels to be employed in trade between Bahia and the coast of Africa during the fifteen months ending March 31, 1849.

The real cause of the employment of so many Sardinian vessels in Slave Trade is very different, and has nothing whatever to do with the political convulsions of Europe. That cause is, that the slave-traders of Brazil, finding that the Governments of other countries have taken measures to prevent their flags from being thus fraudulently used to cover Slave Trade transactions, and not finding that any such measures have been taken by the Government of Sardinia, determined to employ Sardinian vessels as the safest and most convenient for their nefarious purposes.

In this course, moreover, the slave-traders were further encouraged by the decisions of the Sardinian courts of law which acquitted the vessels "*Sansone*" and "*Sommariva*," in spite of the clearest proof that those vessels, when detained by Her Majesty's cruizers, were equipped for Slave Trade.

With respect to the observations made by the Council of Marine as to the manner in which British trade on the west coast of Africa is carried on, and to the statement that the introduction of Brazilian merchandize into Africa in Sardinian vessels is very injurious to British trade, the Undersigned has only to observe, that Her Majesty's Government are far from viewing with any jealousy the innocent interchange of legitimate articles of commerce between Brazil, or any other country, and Africa. But indeed the statement made by the Council of Marine itself affords the strongest proof that the Sardinian vessels in question were employed for purposes of Slave Trade; for the Council of Marine says that the reason why they returned empty to Brazil is, that on the coast of Africa there are no stores of goods to be brought back to Brazil in exchange for goods carried out to Africa. That assertion is perfectly true; but that assertion is itself an admission that the only trade between Brazil and Africa is a Trade in Slaves, and that men, women, and children, and not ivory, gold-dust, cotton, coffee, ground-nut, or palm-oil, are the commodities brought back to Brazil from the African coast. It is quite true that there are not on the coast of Africa any storehouses to hold goods which the Sardinian vessels could bring back to Rio or Bahia, but there are on the coast of Africa barracoons full of slaves destined for the markets of Rio and of Bahia; and these Sardinian vessels either come back to Brazil from Africa laden with these living cargoes, or else they return empty, having taken out to Africa the means which are to enable Brazilian or other vessels to bring such cargoes back to Brazil. In either case these Sardinian vessels are employed in a manner inconsistent with the laws of Sardinia and with the treaty engagements of the Sardinian Crown.

Her Majesty's Government are convinced that this is not the sort of employment in which Sardinian vessels ought to be engaged, and that it is not consistent with the good faith and honour of the Crown of Sardinia that such practices should be allowed to continue; and Her Majesty's Government confidently hope that the Sardinian Government will take such steps as may be proper and necessary to put a stop to these violations of the treaty engagements of Sardinia.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) R. BINGHAM.

No. 225.

The Marquis d'Azeglio to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 27.)

13, *Old Cavendish Street*, 25 *Novembre*, 1849.

EN réponse à la note que son Excellence M. le Vicomte Palmerston, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique, a adressé à cette Légation en date du 29 Octobre dernier, relativement au

Commerce présumé des Esclaves par des navires Sardes entre la côte d'Afrique et Bahia, le Soussigné, Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne, après avoir donné connaissance de ce document au Gouvernement du Roi, d'après le désir de sa Seigneurie, a été autorisé à lui présenter les observations suivantes. Le Soussigné, en les soumettant à l'esprit éclairé de sa Seigneurie, ne peut que s'estimer heureux de servir d'organe au langage modéré et équitable de son Gouvernement.

On a regretté à Turin de voir par la teneur même de la note de son Excellence, que des doutes parussent s'être élevés dans son esprit quant aux motifs qui ont guidé le Gouvernement du Roi dans sa conduite relativement à cette affaire.

Le Soussigné croit donc de son devoir de repousser avant tout de la manière la plus complète toute imputation tendant à présenter le Gouvernement du Roi comme favorisant même indirectement des transactions commerciales qui ne seraient pas entièrement compatibles avec la bonne foi et l'honneur de la Couronne, ou qui se trouveraient en opposition avec les traités par lesquels elle s'est engagée. Si le pavillon Sarde doit flotter sous la protection de lois exceptionnelles, ces lois ne devront jamais être de nature à favoriser un trafic aussi couvert de réprobation que celui de la Traite des Noirs. Les même principes de loyauté qui ont présidé aux actes des Ministres de Sa Majesté le Roi, lorsque des questions intérieures ont agité le pays dans ces derniers tems, ne sauraient être autrement appliqués dans les questions extérieures vis-à-vis des Puissances Alliées; de celles surtout qui ont, comme la Grande Bretagne, donné au Piémont des preuves d'un intérêt aussi soutenu.

Dans le cas actuel, les deux questions intérieure et extérieure se trouvant réunies, une juste application de ces principes d'équité peut faire espérer des deux côtés un résultat favorable. Car de même que le Gouvernement du Roi croit devoir réserver son droit de protection pour le commerce Sarde en toute occasion et dans de justes limites, il est également prêt en tous tems à adhérer aux vues du Gouvernement Britannique pour la répression du Commerce des Esclaves, ou de tout autre abus également repréhensible. Ces deux propositions sont trop évidentes pour avoir besoin de commentaires. Il serait donc inutile de chercher à les démontrer.

Le Soussigné croit par conséquent devoir en appeler pour la répression des dangers précités en premier lieu aux traités existans qui ont été conclus sous les auspices éclairés de sa Seigneurie dans ce but, et auquels le Gouvernement du Roi a adhéré. Mais il croit devoir ajouter en outre, que son Gouvernement désirant prouver à l'évidence la justice de ses intentions et donner en même tems une marque de déférence aux vues du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, se déclare prêt à examiner d'un commun accord quelles seraient les mesures à prendre pour empêcher que, non seulement des inconvéniens, mais que même des doutes fondés ne pussent s'élever sur la nature des transactions commerciales effectuées par la marine marchande Sarde dans les parages signalés. En un mot, le Gouvernement se déclare prêt à s'associer aux dispositions prises à cet égard par d'autres Puissances pour autant qu'elles ne compromettront par des intérêts légitimes.

Le Soussigné, en portant cette réponse à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Vicomte Palmerston, se réserve de présenter ultérieurement d'une manière plus catégorique des renseignemens sur cette affaire qui lui sont annoncés de Turin.

Il ose espérer que sa Seigneurie voudra bien avec le tact qui la distingue voir dans l'exposé ci-dessus, une nouvelle preuve des sentimens de déférence qui animent le Gouvernement du Roi dans ses rapports avec celui de la Grande Bretagne, et de son désir de reserrer toujours davantage des liens et une union qu'il sera heureux pour son compte de voir se perpétuer.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) E. D'AZEGLIO.

(Translation.)

13, *Old Cavendish Street, November* 25, 1849.

IN answer to the note which his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., addressed to this Legation on the 29th October last, relative to the Trade in

Slaves supposed to be carried on by Sardinian vessels between the coast of Africa and Bahia, the Undersigned, His Sardinian Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, after having communicated this document to the Government of the King, according to his Lordship's wishes, has been authorized to make to him the following observations. The Undersigned, in submitting them to his Lordship's enlightened mind, cannot but deem himself fortunate in being the organ of the moderate and equitable language of his Government.

It has caused regret at Turin to see by the tenor of his Excellency's note, that doubts appear to have arisen in his mind as to the motives which have guided the Government of the King in its conduct relative to this affair.

The Undersigned, therefore, considers it his duty before all to deny most entirely any imputation tending to represent the Government of the King as favouring even indirectly commercial transactions which are not entirely compatible with the good faith and honour of the Crown, or are in violation of the Treaties by which it has bound itself. If the Sardinian flag is to float under the protection of exceptional laws, such laws will never be of a nature to favour a trade so covered with infamy as the Slave Trade. The same principles of loyalty which have dictated the acts of His Majesty's Ministers, when internal questions have agitated the country in these later times, could not but be equally applied in external questions with Allied Powers, especially of such as have, like Great Britain, given Piedmont proofs of so sustained a sympathy.

In the present case the two questions, internal and external, being united, a just application of these principles of equity may cause a favourable result on both sides to be expected. For at the same time that the Government of the King deems it its duty to reserve its right of protecting Sardinian commerce on every occasion, and within just limits, it is at all times ready to accede to the views of the British Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, or of any other equally reprehensible abuse; both propositions are too self-evident to require to be commented on; it would be useless to seek to demonstrate them.

The Undersigned consequently thinks that he ought to refer for the suppression of the dangers mentioned above in the first place to the existing Treaties which have been concluded under his Lordship's enlightened auspices with this object, and to which the Government of the King has acceded. But he considers it his duty to add further, that his Government, desirous to prove by evidence the justice of its intentions, and to show at the same time a mark of deference to the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, declares itself ready to take into consideration conjointly, the best measures to be taken for preventing not only inconvenience, but even well-founded doubts from arising as to the nature of the commercial transactions effected by the Sardinian merchant navy in the latitudes in question.

In a word, the Government professes itself ready to join in the arrangements made for this purpose by other Powers, in so far as they will not compromise lawful interests.

The Undersigned, in bringing this answer under the notice of his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, reserves to himself to present at a future time, in a more categorical manner, the explanations which it has been announced to him will be sent to him from Turin.

He ventures to hope that his Lordship will, with the tact which distinguishes him, see in the foregoing explanation a fresh proof of the sentiments of deference which animate the Government of the King in its relations with that of Great Britain, and of its desire to draw closer the bonds of an union which it will be happy for its own sake to see perpetuated.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) E. D'AZEGLIO.

No. 226.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bingham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 26, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which in pursuance of the instructions conveyed to you in my despatch of

the 29th of October, you addressed on the 5th ultimo to the Chevalier d'Azeglio, on the subject of Slave Trade carried on under the Sardinian flag; and I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Sardinian Minister upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 227.

Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis d'Azeglio.

Foreign Office, December 31, 1849.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note dated the 25th ultimo which the Marquis d'Azeglio, &c., has addressed to the Undersigned in reply to his note of the 29th of October, on the alleged employment of Sardinian vessels between Bahia and the west coast of Africa in Slave Trade.

The Undersigned begs leave to inform the Marquis d'Azeglio that Her Majesty's Government receive with great satisfaction the earnest assurances which his note conveys of the desire and determination of the Government of His Sardinian Majesty, whilst upholding and protecting the legitimate commerce of Sardinia, faithfully to fulfil His Sardinian Majesty's engagements with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade; in furtherance of which object the Marquis d'Azeglio is instructed to propose that the Governments of Her Majesty and of His Sardinian Majesty should by common agreement enter upon an examination to determine what measures it may be advisable to take not only to prevent practices such as those which it has been the duty of the Undersigned to bring under the notice of the Sardinian Government, but also to remove all doubts as to the nature of the commercial transactions of Sardinian merchant-vessels trading between Brazil and the coast of Africa.

The Undersigned has the honour to add that he will be happy to enter fully into this proposition when he shall have received from the Marquis d'Azeglio the further particulars thereupon which he is expecting from Turin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 228.

Viscount Palmerston to the Hon. R. Abercromby.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 8, 1850.

I HAVE to refer you to my despatch to Mr. Bingham of the 29th of October last, on the subject of the Slave Trade carried on between Africa and Brazil under the Sardinian flag; and I have to acquaint you that under the same date I made a communication to the same effect to Baron d'Isola, at that time Sardinian Chargé d'Affaires at this Court.

I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a note which I have received from the Marquis d'Azeglio in answer to my note of the 29th of October to Baron d'Isola, and a copy of a note which I addressed to the Marquis in reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 228.

1. *The Marquis d'Azeglio to Viscount Palmerston, November* 25, 1849.

2. *Viscount Palmerston to the Marquis d'Azeglio, December* 31, 1849.

[See Nos. 225 and 227.]

No. 229.

The Marquis d'Azeglio to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 25.)

13, *Old Cavendish Street, le* 24 *Janvier,* 1850.

FAISANT suite aux communications, au sujet du commerce des bâtimens Sardes entre le Brésil et la côte d'Afrique, qui ont été précédemment échangées, le Soussigné, Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne, croit de son devoir d'informer son Excellence M. le Vicomte Palmerston, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique, qu'il vient de recevoir l'avis de Turin, qu'après de minutieuses investigations, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères s'est empressé de donner tous les détails concernant cette affaire, en les consignant dans une note qui a été adressée en date du 15 courant à Mr. Abercromby, en réponse à celle qui avait été précédemment adressée par la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique à Turin.

Cette réponse, ayant été rédigée d'après des pièces authentiques, résume les points qui étaient restés en discussion, ainsi que la manière dont le Ministère Sarde les envisage. Le Soussigné croit donc pouvoir s'en référer à cette note, puisqu'il ne pourrait, pour son propre compte, entrer que dans des répétitions inutiles.

Le Soussigné, en y ajoutant l'espoir que sa Seigneurie ait pu voir dans le document précité l'intention et le désir invariable du Gouvernement Sarde d'obtempérer autant qu'il était en lui, aux vues de celui de Sa Majesté Britannique, saisit, &c.

(Signé) E. D'AZEGLIO.

(Translation.)

13, *Old Cavendish Street, January* 24, 1850.

FOLLOWING up the communications on the subject of the commerce carried on by Sardinian vessels between Brazil and the coast of Africa, which have been heretofore exchanged, the Undersigned, &c., thinks it his duty to inform his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, &c., that it has just been announced to him from Turin, that after a searching investigation, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has given all the information in detail which has been collected about this matter, by setting it forth in a note which he addressed on the 15th instant to Mr. Abercromby, in reply to that which had been previously addressed to him by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at Turin.

This reply having been drawn up in accordance with authentic documents, reviews the points left under discussion, and shows the light in which the Sardinian Minister sees them. The Undersigned, therefore, begs to refer to this note, since he would be unable, for his own part, to do more than enter into useless repetitions.

The Undersigned, in the hope that his Lordship will have seen in the document above alluded to the intention and the invariable desire of the Sardinian Government to coincide, as far as it is able, in the views of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, avails himself, &c.

(Signed) E. D'AZEGLIO.

No. 230.

The Hon. R. Abercromby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 29.)

My Lord, *Turin, January* 22, 1850.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, together with its inclosures.

With reference to the contents of that despatch I have now the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a note I have received from his Excellency the Chevalier Massimo d'Azeglio, defending the Sardinian Mercantile Marine from the suspicions entertained against it, of being engaged in the Traffic of Slaves between the coast of Africa and the ports of the empire of the Brazils; and I add at the same time copy of the reply that I have addressed to the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs in consequence.

The Chevalier Massimo d'Azeglio in his note defends also the Sardinian authorities at Genoa, before whom the cases of the "*Sommariva*" and "*Sansone*" were brought for judgment, under the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834.

The details of those cases are so well known to your Lordship that it is unnecessary for me to go into them again; but I cannot, upon the present occasion, refrain from repeating the observation that I formerly made, that in addition to the difficulty of obtaining a sentence against Sardinian vessels brought to Genoa for adjudication, owing to a feeling and sympathy, perhaps not quite unnatural, for the prejudice that would thereby be done to a fellow countryman, there is also this impediment in the way of a searching and conclusive investigation of the case being obtained at Genoa: that the members of the Court of Inquiry are completely ignorant of the various devices and tricks employed to cover and misrepresent the proofs of guilt, and unacquainted with the articles of equipment and of fittings that really indicate the true nature and character of the commerce in which a vessel sent to Genoa for adjudication was engaged, whereas the finding of such articles and fittings on board a vessel would, in the eyes of those accustomed to deal upon the coast of Africa with vessels engaged in the Trade of Slaves, be at once sufficient to establish a verdict of guilty in the case under investigation.

By the Additional Article to the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834, signed at Turin on the 8th December of the same year, a power is granted to French or English cruizers detaining a Sardinian vessel with slaves on board, and which vessel, according to the stipulations of the Treaty of 8th August, would have to be sent to Genoa, to land the negroes at such port or place to which a French or English slave-vessel found and detained under similar circumstances and at the same place by a French or English cruizer, as the case might be, would under the aforesaid circumstances be sent or taken. But the words of this article appear to provide solely, in the interests of humanity, for the case in which slaves should be found on board the Sardinian vessel, and not for that in which a Sardinian vessel should be detained and sent for adjudication on the ground of having articles of equipment and fittings on board, which afford sufficient reason for accusing her of being actually employed in, or destined for, the Traffic of Slaves.

This Additional Article gives, therefore, but a limited faculty to detaining cruizers to send their prizes elsewhere than to Genoa, and unless it shall be possible to send Sardinian vessels before a mixed tribunal upon the coast of Africa, accustomed to deal with suspicious cases, I am afraid it will be almost hopeless to expect to obtain convictions against Sardinian vessels.

To secure effectually a full co-operation on the part of Sardinia in the provisions of the Treaty of the 8th August, 1834, it appears to me that the Additional Article of the 8th December, 1834, should be made more comprehensive, or that another article should be added, establishing upon the coast of Africa mixed tribunals, before which Sardinian vessels detained under the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade might be brought for trial.

There is also another point to which I will venture to draw your Lordship's attention.

The VIth Article of that convention enumerates various objects which, if found in the outfit or equipment, or on board of a vessel, such vessel shall be held and taken of right to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

Under the eighth head of such Article appears "the having on board two or more *copper* boilers, or even one evidently larger than requisite for the use of her crew, as a merchant vessel."

The words "*copper* boilers," employed in this article, have given rise to quibbling, and instances are not wanting where finding of a larger number of boilers on board a vessel than was requisite for the service of her crew was not considered as valid evidence of the character and employment of such vessel, because they were not copper boilers.

The adoption of cast-iron boilers on board merchant-vessels instead of copper boilers has of late much increased, and it appears to me that a material amelioration of the efficacy of the Treaty would be accomplished if the wording of the eighth paragraph was altered, either by omitting the word copper altogether or by inserting those of "or cast iron" between those of "copper boilers," by which means, at least one mode of defeating the object of the Treaty would be avoided.

I have ventured to offer these suggestions for your Lordship's consideration, in case the adoption of them should appear to you to be advisable, and in the mean time, I have it in my power to state that the Chevalier d'Azeglio, to whom I mentioned the expediency of establishing a mixed tribunal at some convenient spot upon the coast of Africa, is disposed to consider favourably such a proposition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RA. ABERCROMBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 230.

The Chevalier d'Azeglio to the Hon. R. Abercromby.

Turin, le 15 *Janvier*, 1850.

LE Soussigné, Président du Conseil, &c., &c., a l'honneur d'adresser à Mr. Abercromby, &c., &c., la réponse qu'il doit encore à la note que Mr. Bingham lui a remise le 5 Novembre dernier, pour lui communiquer des observations de son Gouvernement au sujet des bâtimens de la marine marchande Sarde, soupçonnés de s'être livrés à la Traite des Noirs entre les côtes d'Afrique et les ports du Brésil. Le soin que les Ministres de la Marine et du Commerce ont désiré apporter à recueiller les données les plus propres à réfuter une imputation si peu fondée a été la cause du retard que le Soussigné a mis à cette réponse.

On fonde principalement les accusations lancées contre les navires Sardes, sur la présomption, que ne trouvant pas à faire de chargemens pour leur retour des côtes d'Afrique au Brésil, ils s'empresseraient d'abandonner ces parages, s'ils n'avaient pas l'espoir d'y réaliser un profit considérable en faisant la Traite des Noirs, ou au moins en y portant des marchandises pour les échanger contre des esclaves.

Pour réfuter une telle supposition, il faut d'abord dire qu'il est notoire que les bâtimens Sardes par le petit nombre d'hommes composant leur équipage, par leur manière économique de vivre et par la modicité de leur prix de transport, offrent plus d'avantage que ceux des autres nations, et qu'ils savent trouver du bénéfice dans des voyages qui seraient ruineux pour d'autres. En effet, il résulte de plusieurs contrats que des bâtimens de 200 a 250 tonneaux ont été nolisés pour douze à quatorze contos de reis, soit 35,000 à 40,000 francs. Or, en considérant que ces voyages peuvent s'exécuter dans l'espace de trois à quatre mois, on verra quel bénéfice doit recueillir un navire qui peut faire plusieurs de ces voyages même en revenant sur l'est.

Il faut ajouter que la préférence généralement accordée aux bâtimens Sardes provient encore des formes polies et conciliantes de nos capitaines, de la ressemblance du langage, de l'identité de réligion, de la conformité des mœurs et usages, circonstances qui ne laissent pas que de disposer favorablement les Portugais et les Brésiliens. Il est donc très probable que les imputations faites à nos 31 bâtimens viennent de personnes intéressés à les éloigner d'un commerce primitivement exploité par les négocians Anglais, possesseurs des principales factoreries des côtes Africaines, et que le Gouvernement Anglais a été induit en erreur par des suppositions qui paraissent n'avoir d'autre origine qu'une rivalité d'intérêts commerciaux.

Si l'on tient compte de la stagnation dont on se plaint généralement depuis deux ans, même dans les ports les plus fréquentés, on trouvera tout naturel que les navigateurs Sardes, à raison de leur activité et de leur économie habituelles, trouvent du bénéfice dans le seul nolis des chargemens consistant eau-de-vie, tabac, sucre, qu'ils prennent en Brésil pour les transporter sur les côtes d'Afrique ; c'est d'autant plus naturel que les objets d'exportation des factoreries étant peu nombreux, les bâtimens ne trouvent pas de quoi former un chargement dans le voyage de retour et qu'ils sont en conséquence forcés d'aborder sur l'est. Une autre raison qui empêche les navires Sardes de charger sur la côte d'Afrique, c'est que les agens commerciaux établis et protégés par les nations Européenes qui y possèdent les factoreries, s'emparent entièrement, en temps opportun, du petit nombre de produits indigènes, tels que huile-de-palmier, ivoire, et autres articles de quelque valeur mais d'un petit volume, qu'ils transportent sur des bâtimens portant leur propre pavillon tant dans les ports d'Europe, que dans ceux d'Amérique.

Ces considérations suffiraient pour prouver que les accusations portées contre les bâtimens Sardes sont sans fondement, mais pour éloigner le soupçon qui plane sur eux de se livrer à la Traite des Noirs, il faut remarquer que leur équipage restreint, leur carcasse, leur mâture, leurs agrets, sont loin d'être propres au transport des esclaves, qui exige des formes différentes et des dispositions intérieures et extérieures, qui mettent le bâtiment négrier à même de rivaliser de vitesse avec les croiseurs Anglais et Français, ordinairement les plus fins voiliers des deux marines, et, qui, pour la répression de la Traite, emploient en outre des pyroscaphes.

En tenant compte de toutes ces raisons, comment expliquer que les bâtimens Français et Anglais qui parcourent les côtes d'Afrique et d'Amérique, n'aient jamais arrêté, saisi en flagrant délit, aucun de ces nombreux navires accusés, ou seulement trouvé à bord des preuves de cet infâme Trafic, tels que des compartimens, des instrumens, des provisions, &c. ; cette raison seule ne montre-t-elle pas évidemment l'injustice de l'accusation.

Quant à l'imputation faite au Gouvernement Sarde d'insuffisance ou de négligence dans les mesures adoptées pour empêcher la Traite des Esclaves, il suffit de rappeler le zèle des Consuls de Sa Majesté, la régularité exigée dans les papiers de bord, l'obligation de tenir un journal timbré et paraphé qu'il n'est pas possible d'altérer et dont la présentation met dans un jour évident l'historique de la navigation, l'embarquement et le débarquement des marchandises et des passagers, enfin chaque opération du bâtiment constatée par des témoins jurés.

C'est ici le cas de réfuter la grave accusation portée par le Cabinet Anglais contre la magistrature des Etats de Sa Majesté : celle d'avoir encouragé la Traite en acquittant le "*Sansone*" et le "*Sommariva*," arrêtés en 1847 par les croiseurs Anglais et consignés aux autorités Sardes.

On ne peut raisonnablement pas admettre que le Conseil Supérieur d'Amirauté, composé pour plus de la moitié de magistrats de l'ordre judiciaire, c'est-à-dire de trois conseillers et de l'Avocat Fiscal-Général de la Cour d'Appel de Gênes, ait usé d'une coupable indulgence envers les prévenus, et qu'ils l'ait poussée jusqu'à leur réserver les indemnités qui leur auraient été dûes pour avoir été injustement arrêtés. L'injustice de cette assertion pourrait encore se prouver par un autre fait, l'arrestation du brigantin, "*Notre-Dame-des-Grâces*," Capitaine Perasso, capturé à la même époque par la croisière Française sur la côte d'Afrique, et conduit à Brest ; il fut également acquitté par les tribunaux de cette ville avec allocation d'une indemnité à l'armateur par l'officier commandant le bâtiment de guerre qui l'avait capturé.

Quoique intimement convaincu que le Conseil Supérieur d'Amirauté ait bien jugé les deux capitaines du "*Sansone*" et du "*Sommariva*," le Ministre de la Marine a cru devoir se faire envoyer ces deux procédures qu'il a communiquées au Ministre de la Justice pour qu'il les fasse scrupuleusement examiner, et dans le cas où il résulterait qu'il y a eu quelque vice de procédure ou même la plus petite indulgence dans l'application de la loi, il prendrait les dispositions les plus propres à empêcher le retour d'un tel antécédent, car l'intention bien formelle du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est qu'il soit procédé avec la plus grande rigueur à la répression de la Traite des Noirs.

Quant à l'autre imputation faite aux susdits bâtimens Sardes d'importer en Afrique des denrées et des objets qui servent de moyen d'échange aux spéculateurs Brésiliens qui se livrent au Trafic des Noirs, elle doit être considérée

comme n'étant d'aucun poids, puisque si elle était admise, il faudrait que, pour les mêmes raisons, cette exclusion fût prononcée pour les navires de toutes les autres nations.

Empêcher les bâtimens Sardes d'être nolisés pour importer du Brésil sur la côte d'Afrique des objets de consommation dont le pays a besoin, serait un acte arbitraire attentatoire au droit universellement reconnu de la liberté du commerce, question qui doit être étrangère à la Convention pour la répression de la Traite des Noirs, attendu que l'une ne pourrait impliquer l'autre sans porter atteinte au Traité même dans lequel les circonstances exceptionnelles qui prouvent le flagrant délit, et qui donnent lieu aux soupçons, sont clairement indiquées.

Il peut bien arriver parfois que des bâtimens construits dans nos ports et chargés pour le Brésil, trouvent des acheteurs et soient vendus au profit de l'industrie nationale; comme ces bâtimens sont en général d'excellente construction, il peut se faire que les Brésiliens s'en servent ensuite pour la Traite; mais ces ventes étant faites dans les formes voulues, et aux moyens des actes consulaires prescrits, et ces bâtimens étant passés dans des mains tierces d'une manière légale, on ne peut raisonnablement demander compte aux vendeurs de l'usage bon ou mauvais que les acheteurs puissent en faire sous un pavillon étranger.

Quoiqu'il résulte des considérations qui viennent d'être développées que les accusations portées contre les bâtimens Sardes indiquées plus haut ne sont point fondées, le Gouvernement du Roi, toujours empressé de se prêter aux désirs de celui de Sa Majesté Britannique, redoublera encore de soins pour empêcher toute contravention de la part de la marine marchande Sarde à la défense si précise de se livrer à la Traite. La présence d'un bâtiment de la Marine Royale vers les côtes si étendues du Brésil et de l'Afrique serait, à son avis, de trop peu d'utilité, pour ne pas dire d'une nullité complète, pour y empêcher ce Trafic, s'il avait lieu; mais le Soussigné s'empressera de recommander encore d'une manière toute particulière aux Consuls du Roi dans ces parages, d'exercer, autant qu'il pourra dépendre d'eux, une exacte et rigoureuse surveillance sur les bâtimens nationaux qui trafiquent dans ces mers, et d'informer avec soin le Gouvernement des faits qui seraient à leur charge, afin qu'il puisse prendre les mesures énergiques que réclameraient les circonstances.

En donnant les explications et les assurances qui précèdent à Mr. Abercromby, le Soussigné espère que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique trouvera dans cette réponse la prouve que les suppositions dont la marine marchande Sarde a été l'objet, loin d'être fondées sur des faits et des raisons admissibles, sont au contraire victorieusement détruites par ceux qui viennent d'être développés. Il a aussi la parfaite confiance que lassurance qu'il s'empresse de renouveler ici de la ferme et loyale intention du Gouvernement du Roi d'exécuter fidèlement les Traités qui le lient à l'Angleterre, sera pour celui de Sa Majesté Britannique une garantie entière des efforts qu'il ne cessera de vouer aux moyens de réprimer un trafic aussi honteux et aussi coupable que celui de la Vente des Esclaves.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) AZEGLIO.

(Translation.)

Turin, January 15, 1850.

THE Undersigned, President of the Council, &c., has the honour to address to Mr. Abercromby, &c., the answer which is still due to the note which Mr. Bingham addressed to him on the 5th November last, communicating to him some observations of his Government, on the subject of vessels of the Sardinian merchant navy, suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade between the coast of Africa and theports of Brazil. The care which the Ministers of the Marine and Commerce have been desirous of employing in collecting data to refute so unfounded an imputation has been the cause of the delay of the Undersigned in sending this answer.

The accusations brought against Sardinian vessels are chiefly founded on the presumption that not finding freights for their return from the coast of Africa to Brazil, they would hasten to quit those latitudes if they were not in hopes of realizing a considerable profit by engaging in Slave Trade, or at least by carrying goods there to be exchanged for slaves.

To refute such a supposition, it is first necessary to mention that it is well known that Sardinian vessels from the small numbers of their crews, their economical mode of living, and the moderation of their charge for freight, offer more advantage than those of other nations, and that they are able to derive profit from voyages which would be ruinous for others. In fact it appears from several contracts that vessels of from 200 to 250 tons have been chartered for 12 or 14 contos of reis, or 35,000 to 40,000 francs. Now considering that these voyages can be performed in the space of from three to four months, it will be seen what profit a ship must derive that can make several of these voyages even when returning in ballast.

It must be added that the preference generally given to Sardinian vessels arises further from the civil and conciliating manners of our masters, the resemblance of the language, the similarity of religion, and the conformity of manners and customs, circumstances which cannot fail to dispose the Portuguese and Brazilians favourably. It is then very probable that the accusations brought against our thirty-one vessels originated from persons interested in driving them away from a trade originally carried on by English merchants, owners of the principal factories on the coasts of Africa, and that the English Government has been led into error by suppositions which appear to have no other origin than a rivalry of commercial interests.

Taking into account the stagnation generally complained of during the last two years even in the most frequented ports, it will appear quite natural that Sardinian sailors by reason of their habitual activity and economy should find profit in the freight of cargoes consisting only of brandy, tobacco, and sugar, which they ship in Brazil to convey to the coasts of Africa: it is still more natural that the articles of export in the factories being few in number, these vessels are unable to obtain a return cargo, and are consequently obliged to go back in ballast.

Another reason which prevents Sardinian vessels from obtaining freights on the coast of Africa, is that the commercial agents established and protected by the European nations who possess factories there, possess themselves entirely, at a favourable opportunity of the small number of native products, such as palm-oil, ivory, and other articles of some value but of small bulk, which they ship in vessels bearing their own flag as well for the ports of Europe as of America.

These considerations would be sufficient to prove that the charges brought against Sardinian vessels are without foundation, but to remove the suspicion of their being engaged in Slave Trade, it is to be remarked that their small crew, their build, masting, and rig, are far from being adapted for the conveyance of slaves, which requires a different form and arrangements both internal and external so as even to make the slave-vessel equal in swiftness to the French and English cruizers, generally the best sailers of the two navies, and who moreover employ steam-vessels for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Taking into account all these reasons, how is it to be explained that the French and English ships which scour the coasts of Africa and America have never detained, or seized in *flagrante delicto*, any one of these numerous accused vessels, or even found on board proofs of this infamous traffic, such as compartments, slave-irons, provisions, &c. Does not this alone clearly prove the injustice of the accusation.

As regards the imputation thrown on the Sardinian Government of the insufficiency of or negligence in the measures adopted to prevent the Slave Trade, it is sufficient to refer to the zeal of His Majesty's Consuls, the regularity required in the ship's papers, the obligation of keeping a stamped and signed log, which it is not possible to change, and the presentation of which makes clear the details of the voyage, the embarkation and disembarkation of the goods and passengers; in fact, every proceeding of the vessel, attested by sworn witnesses.

It is now proper to proceed to the refutation of the serious accusation brought by the English Cabinet against the judiciary body of His Majesty's States, that of having encouraged slave-trading by acquitting the "*Sansone*" and the "*Sommariva*," detained in 1847 by English cruizers, and delivered up to the Sardinian authorities.

It cannot reasonably be admitted that the Superior Council of Admiralty, composed for the most part of magistrates of the judicial order, that is to say, of three Counsellors, and of the Advocate Fiscal-General of the Court of Appeal of Genoa, should have shown a culpable indulgence towards the accused, and

that it should have carried it so far as to award damages to them as having been unjustly detained. The injustice of this assertion could moreover be proved by another fact, the detention of the brigantine "*Notre Dame des Grâces*," Perasso, master, captured at the same time by the French squadron on the coast of Africa, and carried to Brest; she was equally acquitted by the tribunals of that city, with the award of damages to the shipper against the officer commanding the ship of war which had captured her.

Although entirely convinced that the Superior Council of the Admiralty has rightly judged the masters of the "*Sansone*" and "*Sommariva*," the Minister of Marine thought it necessary to have sent to him copies of these two proceedings, which he communicated to the Minister of Justice, in order that he might cause them to be carefully examined; and in case it should appear that there was any flaw in the proceedings, or even the smallest indulgence in the application of the law, he might take the fittest measures to prevent the recurrence of such a circumstance; for it is the firm intention of His Majesty's Government to proceed with the utmost rigour in the suppression of Slave Trade.

As regards the other charge made against the above-mentioned Sardinian vessels, of conveying to Africa provisions and articles used to barter for slaves by Brazilian dealers, it must be considered as of no weight; since, if it were admitted, this exclusion must for the same reason be pronounced on the ships of all other nations.

To prevent Sardinian vessels from being freighted to import from Brazil into Africa articles of consumption of which that country is in need, would be an arbitrary act, attacking the universally recognized right of freedom of commerce; a question which ought to be entirely foreign to the Convention for the suppression of Slave Trade, because the one could not implicate the other without attacking the treaty itself, in which the exceptional circumstances proving a vessel's criminality, or rendering her liable to suspicion, are clearly pointed out.

It may sometimes happen that vessels built in our ports and loaded for Brazil, find purchasers and are sold to the profit of the national industry. As these vessels are generally of excellent construction, it may be the case that Brazilians afterwards use them in the Slave Trade; but these sales being executed in the forms laid down, and by means of the prescribed Consular acts, and these vessels passing into third hands in a legal manner, the sellers cannot reasonably be called to account for the use which the purchasers might make of them under a foreign flag.

Although it appears, from the considerations just set forth, that the before-mentioned charges made against Sardinian vessels are without foundation, the Government of the King, always ready to accede to the wishes of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, will redouble its care in preventing any infraction, on the part of the Sardinian Mercantile Marine, of the prohibition against engaging in Slave Trade. The presence of a ship of the royal navy on the extensive coasts of Brazil and Africa would be of very little or no use in preventing such trade if it existed; but the Undersigned will hasten to give very particular directions to the Consuls of the King in those countries to keep, as far as is in their power, an exact and strict watch over the national vessels trading in those seas, and to inform Government carefully of any facts which might be laid to their charge, in order that it may take energetic measures as circumstances might require.

In giving the preceding explanations and assurances to Mr. Abercromby, the Undersigned hopes that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will be convinced by this answer that the suspicions of which the Sardinian Mercantile Marine has been the object, far from being founded on admissible facts and reasons, are in fact triumphantly refuted by those which have just been set forth. He is also quite confident that the assurance which he here hastens to renew of the firm and loyal intention of the Government of the King to execute faithfully the treaties which bind it to England, will be to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty a complete guarantee of the efforts which it will not cease to devote to the suppression of so disgraceful and guilty a traffic as the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) AZEGLIO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 230.

The Hon. R. Abercromby to the Chevalier d'Azeglio.

Turin, January 21, 1850.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 16th instant by his Excellency the Chevalier Massimo d'Azeglio, &c., in reply to a note presented by Mr. Bingham to the Government of His Sardinian Majesty on the 5th November, 1849, relative to the suspicions entertained that vessels belonging to the mercantile marine of Sardinia are engaged in carrying on the Slave Trade between the coast of Africa and the ports of the empire of the Brazils.

The Undersigned will not fail to transmit to his Government the note of his Excellency the Chevalier d'Azeglio of the 15th instant.

The Undersigned feels certain that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will give due consideration to the arguments advanced in the note of the Chevalier d'Azeglio in defence of the Sardinian mercantile marine, and he reserves to himself the faculty of communicating to the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs at a future period the opinion which Her Majesty's Government may form with regard them, but he would be wanting in his duty did he not express the satisfaction with which he accepts the renewed engagement of the Sardinian Government contained in the note of the 15th instant, to redouble their care to prevent the violation on the part of the mercantile marine of Sardinia of the precise prohibition to engage in the Trade of Slaves, and to acknowledge at the same time the declaration made by the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs of the firm intention of the Government of the King of Sardinia to execute faithfully the treaties which bind them to Great Britain for the suppression of the odious and criminal Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c

(Signed) RA. ABERCROMBY.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana.*

No. 231.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, March* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st of January, desiring that I would endeavour to ascertain and report to your Lordship how many slaves are supposed to have been landed in Cuba during the year 1848.

In obedience thereto I have now the honour of reporting to your Lordship that I have not been able to obtain any authentic information as to the landing of slaves in the Island of Cuba during the year 1848, excepting 130 captured at Cabañas and 20 who were placed upon an estate near that place, making 150 which were brought from the coast of Africa by the Spanish felucca "*Columbia*" the 16th of July, last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 232.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, March* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, copy and translations of a correspondence which has passed with the Captain-General, and which was given rise to by a communication which I received from his Excellency, dated the 20th February, in which he acquaints me that having submitted to Her Majesty the Queen of Spain the circumstances of Mr. Kennedy's interference in September last respecting the freed emancipada Monica, his Excellency had been instructed by Royal Order dated the 5th of January last, to make me acquainted with that whole affair, and to acquaint me that in future his Excellency is to consider Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge's attributions as limited exclusively, according to the Treaties of 1817 and 1835, to judge cases of captured negro vessels made at sea by the cruizers.

I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of the communications and correspondence which has necessarily passed in consequence thereof between Mr. Kennedy and myself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosures in No. 232.

1. *The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford, February* 20, 1849.

2. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, February* 24, 1849.

[See Class A, presented 1849, Inclosures 2 and 5 in No. 65, page 77.]

3. *The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford, February* 26, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosure 2 in No. 10, page 18.]

4. *Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Kennedy, February* 21, 1849.

5. *Mr. Kennedy to Consul-General Crawford, February* 22, 1849.

6. *Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Kennedy, February* 24, 1849.

[See Class A, presented 1849, Inclosures 1, 3, and 4 in No. 65, page 77.]

No. 233.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, March* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship, copy and translations of a correspondence which I have lately had with the Captain-General of this island, with a view to obtain the freedom of an unfortunate negress, who, years ago, during the operation of the Registry of Slaves Act, was illegally brought away from the Bahamas by her mistress Miss Elizabeth Bethel, who having married a German of the name of Stoltz, merchant of Vera Cruz, on finding that slavery had been abolished in Mexico, sold this poor creature, Mary or Marianne Bethel, into slavery at this place.

My claim for the freedom of Marianne, by which name the negress in question is known here, and who was the registered slave of the family of Bethel, of the island of Eleuthera, but afterwards baptised at Nassau, New Providence, was founded upon the forfeiture under the Act of Parliament, 46 Geo. III, cap. 52, and that consequently she was not the property of Mrs. Elizabeth Bethel or Stoltz when she was by her sold to a coloured person of the name of Fellet, at this place.

Having presented proofs of her registry and of her baptism obtained from the Bahamas, it remained to identify Marianne as the same person, and this might have been a matter of some difficulty, but for the fortuitous return of the woman Fellet to the Havana.

But, my Lord, this poor woman's freedom has been denied to me by His Excellency the Captain-General, upon the principle that a British Act of Parliament can have no force within the Spanish dominions, a point which it never was my intention to raise in support of my claim, it having been the operation of that Act of Parliament within the British dominions, upon the condition of the woman Marianne, as I sought to explain to his Excellency, which rendered the sale illegal; Mrs. Elizabeth Bethel or Stoltz's property in

her having been forfeited by her having been illegally brought away from the Bahamas.

I would most respectfully beg leave to submit this case to your Lordship's high consideration, and with great respect,

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 233.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, January 15, 1849.

THE negress Mary (a) Mary Ann, held as a slave in this place by Mrs. Aurora Rossi, some time ago presented herself at this Consulate-General, and stated that many years ago she was brought from New Providence by Miss Elizabeth Bethel, whose slave she was (having been born upon her father's property at the island of Eleuthera, one of the Bahama islands), and the said Miss Elizabeth Bethel having married with a certain M. Stoltz, and being about to go and reside with her husband at Vera Cruz, where slavery had been abolished, she, the said Elizabeth Bethel or Stoltz, sold the said negress as a slave here in Havana to a certain free coloured French woman called Madame Fellet, by whom she was afterwards sold to another owner, and from one owner to another until now that she is held in slavery by the said Donna Aurora Rossi.

In consequence of this poor negress' statement, I wrote to his Excellency the Governor of the Bahama Islands, and I have ascertained that the said Mary (a) Mary Ann was the registered slave of the family of Charles Bethel, under the Act of Parliament, 46 Geo. III. cap. 52; and whereas according to the provisions of the said Act of Parliament which enacted the registration of all slaves at that time within the British colonial territories, it was prohibited to remove slaves from the said colonial territory where such slaves were registered. The said Act of Parliament provides, That if any slave or slaves shall be exported or embarked, shipped, transshipped, or taken on board of any ship or vessel whatever, at any island, settlement, colony, plantation or territory under the dominion of His Majesty, in order and with the intent to be transported to any other settlement, island, or territory, or plantation on the continent of America or in the West Indies, all and every such slave and slaves shall be forfeited to the Crown.

Therefore I have to represent to your Excellency that the said negress has been so forfeited to the Crown of Great Britain, and as having been registered at the Bahamas under the Act of Parliament in question, and illegally carried away therefrom brought here and sold into slavery, I claim her as forfeited to the British Crown, and that she may be delivered up to me, so that she may obtain her liberation from slavery, she being entitled to her freedom as a British subject.

I have, in support of the case of this poor woman, to lay before your Excellency, the certificate of her baptism at Nassau, dated the 17th May, 1818.

The affidavit of Mr. Charles Bethel of Eleuthera, brother to Miss Elizabeth Bethel or Stolz, by whom the said negress Mary (a) Mary Ann was sold into slavery, in which it is sworn that said negress was taken away from the Bahamas, Miss Elizabeth Bethel or Stolz being now dead.

It therefore is only necessary for me to prove to your Excellency that the negress Mary (a) Mary Ann is the same person who was sold by Mrs. Bethel or Stolz, and this can be done by calling up the person who bought her, Madame Fellet, who is or very lately was in this city, but in case the said Madame Fellet should have gone away from Havana, as she lately informed me it was her intention to do, I have other persons here and at Matanzas who will prove her identity. And in the mean time I have to request, that as the father of Madame Aurora Rossi has consented to the deposit of the negress in my house your Excellency will be pleased to authorize her being so deposited to abide the decision of your Excellency.

It may not be unnecessary for me, however, to state to your Excellency

that the case of this negress is precisely similar to that of the negress Charlotte Gallagher, who was given up in the year 1845 (8th March), and I would notice to your Excellency that the documents I now transmit are duly certified by Her Catholic Majesty's Consul at Nassau.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Persons who can prove the identity of the negress Mary (a), Mary Ann:
Mrs. Charlotte Bethel, now Madam Bastian, residing near Matanzas.
Lucy, a free person of colour in Havana.
Beck, also residing here.
Jane, a free person of colour in Havana.

Inclosure 2 in No. 233.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.) *Havana, February* 5, 1849.

THE case of the negress Charlotte Gallagher, cited by your Honour in your official note of the 15th of January last in support of your pretention respecting her of the same colour, Mary Ann, is so different from this one, that not even the most remote point of contact exists between the one and the other. It being declared by the tribunal of the dead, in the matter of the estate of Mary Encarnacion Gallagher, that Charlotte did not belong to the property of that estate, and all title of ownership being wanting to the heirs said negress was delivered to your Honour by virtue of the documents presented by you, by which it was shown her lawful owners were the minors Susan Buchanan and John Kennedy, residents of New Providence, and neither as being free, nor as a slave, but in order that she should be sent to Nassau, there to follow out the claim of her freedom, she not belonging to any Spanish subject, it did not correspond to this Government to take cognizance respecting her.

I could have wished that Mary Ann was in a similar position in order to have been able to accede to your wishes, but as I have already said, the circumstances under which she is, are different from those of Charlotte. Her quality of slave is proved, the documents which your Honour transmitted along with the letter I now answer, are nothing in her favour, and the British Act of Parliament to which you refer not having legal force in Spain, your pretension is ill founded; and therefore I cannot, nor ought I to admit it in any sense. Under this view, I hope you will send the said negress to the Secretary's office of this Government, in order to her being delivered to her owner Donna Aurora Rossi, who with ample justice claims her, and has not authorised her deposit in your Honour's power.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 233.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, February 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 5th instant, in reply to mine of the 15th ultimo, respecting the negress Mary Ann, who is claimed by Mrs. Aurora Rossi, as being a slave, her property.

Your Excellency is pleased to state that the case of this woman is entirely different from that of Charlotte Gallagher, for the reasons which appear in the proceedings respecting the latter in the Tribunal de Difuntos, Charlotte not appertaining to the effects of the deceased Donna Encarnacion Gallagher; but, your Excellency, my claim for the liberation of the woman Charlotte, and that which obtained her freedom from slavery, in which state she was so long improperly held, was precisely the same as that which I now assert in behalf of

Mary Anne. Charlotte was a registered slave at the Bahamas, as belonging to Miss Buchanan and J. Kennedy; Encarnacion Gallagher, who was mother to Susan Buchanan, brought Charlotte away from the Bahamas in contravention of the Act of Parliament 46 Geo. III, cap. 52. and in consequence, under the 4th clause of that Act, she became from the moment she was embarked to be taken from the British territory of the Bahamas, where she was registered, forfeited to the Crown of England, and as such was immediately free.

As being forfeited to the Crown according to that Act of Parliament, which I pray your Excellency to notice, operated the freedom of the slave Charlotte, within the British dominions at the moment she was embarked to be taken away from New Providence, she became free, and therefore she was illegally held in slavery by the deceased Mrs. Encarnacion Gallagher. Mary Ann, a registered slave belonging to the family of Bethel at Eleuthera, one of the Bahama islands, is the person I now claim as freed at New Providence by the operation of the same Act of Parliament within the British dominions, not that that Act of Parliament could have any effect in the dominion of Her Catholic Majesty, which is quite out of the question.

Said Mary Ann was illegally embarked at New Providence, and immediately by her being so embarked was forfeited to the British Crown, and became free. Consequently, she was free when she arrived in this island, and was criminally sold into slavery by Mrs. Stolz, who was one of the family of Bethel of Eleuthera, whose slave in the Bahamas the said Mary Ann was until (under the Act of Parliament which I have cited) she was forfeited to the Crown, became free, and to all intents and purposes is a British subject who has been for many years improperly held here in slavery, having passed through the hands of many owners, not one of whom had any legal right to her as a slave, and all of whom may claim back to Madame Fellet, who first obtained possession of this unfortunate woman from Mrs. Stolz, who sold her without having any right to do so whatever.

Under these circumstances I claim the woman Mary Ann's freedom. She was brought here and was sold by Mrs. Stolz (á), Elizabeth Bethel, but that person committed a crime in so selling her, because as I have shown your Excellency, this poor woman Mary Ann was as free from the moment she was taken away from the Bahamas as the person who sold her, pretending to be her mistress.

The law of England in our own colonies your Excellency will observe, operated the freedom of the registered slave in the way I have endeavoured to explain. That law could have no operation out of the British dominions; but it made the woman Mary Anne, as it did the woman Charlotte Gallagher, free, and as British subjects, no longer slaves.

I trust that your Excellency in reconsidering this most interesting and important matter will see that it is impossible for me to deliver up the woman Mary Ann to be again placed in slavery, and that however reluctantly I do so, my duty to my own Government obliges me to make this appeal to your Excellency in demurring to the request that she may be sent to the Secretary's office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 233.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.) *Havana, February* 14, 1849.

I DO not consider your Honour's claim of the 8th instant, pretending to retain in your power the negress Mary Ann, who, you stated before, you held in deposit with assent of the father of the owner, who, as I said to your Honour in my communication of the 5th instant, has represented against such deposit.

Under these circumstances your Honour will send her as I intimated of said date, to the Political Secretary's Office of this Government, without prejudice to the continuation of the proceedings to ascertain the real condition of said negress.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 233.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, February 16, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 14th instant, in which your Excellency is pleased to state that my retaining the negress Mary Ann is not justifiable under the sanction of the father of Mrs. Aurora Rossi, who claims said negress, and has represented to your Excellency objecting to Mary Ann's continuing in deposit at this Consulate.

And your Excellency having required that the said negress should be sent to the Secretary's office, pending the final resolution of your Excellency as to her true condition.

Considering as I do, that the woman in question, the negress Mary Ann, is forfeited to the Crown of Great Britain, according to the Act of Parliament 46 Geo. III. cap. 52, she ought not, under any circumstances, to be sent back to the possession of Mrs. Aurora Rossi, to be treated as a slave, and that I ought not to be consenting that she should be treated as a slave, wherever your Excellency may see fit to order the poor creature an asylum, or to be deposited to await the final resolution of your Excellency. The Oidor Don Joaquin Muñoz Ysaguoire, No. 4, Calle del Empedrado, has consented to be the *depositario,* should your Excellency direct that Mary Ann be deposited at his house.

With reference to the general statement of this poor woman's case in my letters of the 15th ultimo and 8th instant, I have now the satisfaction of acquainting your Excellency that Madame Fellet, the coloured person who first possessed Mary Ann in this island, and obtained her from Mrs. Elizabeth Stolz or Bethel, has returned to this city from Santiago de Cuba, and is residing near to San Juan de Dios, which I mention in case it should be necessary to identify the negress, or refer to the first title which Madame Fellet received along with said Mary Ann from Mrs. Stolz. And I am ready, at any time that it may be desired by your Excellency to produce the Act of Parliament, the operation of which operated the forfeiture of the woman Mary Ann to the British Crown, within Her Majesty's dominions, so that when she was brought to the Havana, she was not the property of Mrs. Stolz or Bethel, who could not legally sell her, nor give any legal title along with her to the purchaser in this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 6 in No. 233.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.) *Havana, February* 22, 1849.

IT corresponds to the Government to designate the deposit of the negress, Mary Ann, whilst her real condition is elucidated, and it is not possible, therefore, for me to accede to your proposal that of the Oidor Don Joaquin Muñoz Ysaguoire.

I consequently reiterate to your Honour, the intimation that she be immediately sent to the Secretary's Office of this Government and Captaincy-General.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 7 in No. 233.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General.

Havana, February 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging your Excellency's note of this date, in answer to mine of the 16th instant.

I regret that your Excellency finds it impossible to accede to my request that the negress Mary Ann should be placed in deposit with the Oidor Don Joaquin Muñoz Ysaguoire, pending the decision of the question of her true condition. I beg leave to renew before your Excellency the reasons which I had the honour of producing in my communication of the 16th instant, against this poor woman's being placed in the power of the person who claims her, to be treated as a slave; and your Excellency, I am sure, in ordering her to be deposited in the meantime, will not permit that she shall be treated as a slave, in consideration that she is claimed by me on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, as I have endeavoured to explain to your Excellency in the course of this correspondence.

It will, therefore, be gratifying to Her Majesty's Government that your Excellency enables me to report that the individual Mary Ann, has been ordered to be deposited in other hands than Mrs. Aurora Rossi, and that she is not to be treated as a slave whilst she is so deposited. In that hope, I send her to the Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 8 in No. 233.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.) *Havana, March* 23, 1849.

THE negress Mary Ann, whose declaration of freedom your Honour solicited in your communications dated 15th January, 8th, 16th, and 22nd of February last, and who was in deposit, as your Honour is aware, I have ordered to be delivered to Donna Aurora Rossi, to whom she lawfully belongs according to the laws of the kingdom.

Passing over other well founded facts, which in the suit appear in an undeniable manner, I shall limit myself in saying to your Honour that the British Act of Parliament on which you pretend to found all the negress' rights cannot have either force or admission in these dominions of Her Majesty without the promulgation of a Royal declaration, and consequently the legitimate property of Donna Aurora Rossi having been proved, I shall not admit of any new interference of your Honour. Such being illegitimate, beside being incompatible with your functions.

The negress Mariana has, like all individuals of her class, a legal medium by which to make valid her rights, which she believes will help her. And your Honour can direct yourself to your Government if you think fit to insist in your demand.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 234.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, March* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Excellency copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General relative to an infraction of the existing Treaties, which occurred the last days of the past months at Cabañas and Bahia Honda, where some 400 Bozal negroes were landed from a brig slaver with the connivance and co-operation of all the Spanish authorities in that direction.

85 only of these Bozals were captured, chiefly consisting, as I understand, of women and children, all the sturdy hands of the expedition having been secured in the manner described in my denouncement to his Excellency, who has passed the matter to the Royal Audiencia, he having previously removed

the Capitan de Partido, or Juez Pedaneo, of the district, and the commandant of the fort of Cabañas from their employment.

I have communicated all these circumstances to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, Mr. Kennedy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosures in No. 234.

1. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, March* 3, 1849.

2. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, March* 3, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 4 and 5 in No. 12, page 25.]

3. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, March* 22, 1849.

4. *The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford, March* 23, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 2 and 5 in No. 13, page 26.]

No. 235.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 15.)

(Extract.) *Havana, April* 21, 1849.

THE repeated infractions of the Treaties for the Suppression of Slave Trade, by the importation of Bozal negroes from Africa and also from Brazil, which have recently occurred at various places in this island, has given rise to a correspondence with the Captain-General which I now do myself the honour of laying before your Lordship.

In my despatch* of the 9th of September last I reported the departure for Spain of the notorious slave-trader Don Julian Zulueta, accompanied by a nephew of Don Salvador Samá, a name also well marked for slave-trading in former years, and I stated to your Lordship that the supposed object of their journey was that of obtaining through influence and the use of money at Madrid, protection for projected adventures in slave-trading by parties in connexion with Don Antonio Parejo, their agent here, said parties intending to carry on that detestable traffic upon a very extensive scale.

M. Zulueta went to Spain *viâ* United States; several slaver captains preceded him, and he also took with him Pigat, the master of the felucca "*Columbia*," which brought a cargo to Cabañas in July last year, and who was denounced by Don Juan Besamilla, but who was allowed to escape by these authorities; doubtless in the United States these worthies bought and fitted out vessels and otherwise made their arrangements. About two months ago Zulueta returned here, and I am to suppose that his object was fully attained at Madrid. Its effects are those described and complained of in my correspondence with the Captain-General, whose apathy is strongly displayed in his attempts to evade action upon the denunciations I have made to him, and the absurd proposal contained, by his Excellency's direction in the Colonial Secretary's note of yesterday's date, to the effect that those from whom I obtained information should present themselves to the Captain-General, in order to enable him to proceed upon their denouncements before the Royal Audiencia

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 225, page 290.

against the parties implicated, instead of at once issuing the most stringent orders, and adopting measures calculated to put an end to the traffic, or even proceeding to investigate the circumstances of the disembarkations specially complained of at the Isle of Pines and elsewhere, is quite remarkable.

Your Lordship will not fail to observe also, that he treats these denouncements as vague and probably unfounded, so that his Excellency's manifest indifference and disinclination to do his duty, induces the conclusion which I have come to, that the order sought for was obtained at Madrid, and that his Excellency having received secret instructions "*hacerse de vista gorda,*" or to shut his eyes to the acts of the slave-traders, the traffic may now be carried on with safety and impunity as respects all interference by these authorities for its suppression.

The negroes brought in these last expeditions having been sold for prices averaging $340 to $425 each, the gain is enormous, so that if one only out of four or five cargoes comes safe, those interested will still make money upon the whole, which will induce many to adventure, seeing that they have only to fear the risk of capture by our cruizers at the coast.

There is little or no hope of any measures being adopted here to check or put an end to this most abominable trade.

Inclosures in No. 235.

1. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, April* 17, 1849.

2. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, April* 18, 1849.

3. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, April* 19, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 3, 6 and 7 in No. 18, page 31.]

4. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, April* 20, 1849.

5. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, April* 20, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 2 and 3 in No. 19, page 35.]

No. 236.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 23.)

My Lord, *Havana, April* 26, 1849.

I MOST respectfully beg your Lordship's reference to my despatch dated the 21st instant, and I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship the subsequent correspondence which has passed with the Captain-General upon the subject of the recent infractions of the Treaties of which there is so much reason to complain.

His Excellency, it appears, has taken exception at my insisting upon the truth of these denouncements against his bare denial that such infractions have taken place, without his having ordered any sort of investigation of the circumstances, and even now he has found it convenient to pass over the case at the Isle of Pines, which is one of the most flagrant and notorious.

He complains, too, of my having made unappropriate allusion to the officers at Mariel and Bahia Honda retaining their commands after past experience, and insinuates that it is not within his attributes to interfere in their prosecution which is pending before the Royal Audiencia.

The information I have enables me to state to your Lordship, that the arbitrary dominion exercised by these officers is such, that no one in their district has dared to declare against them, which would most probably not have been the case had they been suspended or removed, and thus the slavers may count upon a sure place to land their cargoes in future.

My information has been received from the surest sources, from those who have seen sailors belonging to the expeditions—who have seen the Bozals, and who have purchased them in considerable numbers; consequently I considered it my duty to insist, as I have done, in my communications with his Excellency upon the correctness of my statements, and in so doing I hope I have not incurred your Lordship's displeasure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosures in No. 236.

1. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, April* 22, 1849.

2. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, April* 23, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 4 and 5 in No. 19.]

No. 237.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th of March, 1849, inclosing copies of a correspondence which you had had with the Captain-General of Cuba, and with Mr. Kennedy, respecting the opinion which appears to have been expressed by the Spanish Government of the steps taken by Mr. Kennedy, in the month of September, 1848, in order to induce the authorities of Cuba to permit the emancipated negress Monica to go to Jamaica, whither the emancipado Valentin, her reputed husband, had already been removed.

I have, in reply, to instruct you to state to the Captain-General, that although Her Majesty's Government cannot admit the principle put forward by him and by the Spanish Government, in regard to the restriction which they wish to impose upon the functions of an officer of the British Crown, yet Her Majesty's Government have no desire to press that which they consider their right in this respect so long as the Captain-General shall continue to pursue an honourable course of conduct with respect to Slave Trade, and so long as he shall persevere in enforcing by those effectual means which he has within his power, a faithful fulfilment of the treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, and an impartial execution of those laws which the Spanish Government have passed in furtherance of those engagements.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 238.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 12, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th of March last, inclosing a copy of a correspondence which you had had with the Captain-General of Cuba, arising out of a claim which you put forward for the freedom of Mary Ann, a British subject, a native of the Bahamas, who was removed from thence in

contravention of the Statute of the 46th of Geo. III. cap. 52, and was illegally sold into slavery in Cuba, where she is still retained in bondage.

I approve of the zeal which you have displayed in behalf of this much-injured person, and of the arguments which you made use of in order to prove her title to freedom; and I have to instruct you to repeat your demand for the liberation of this British subject, detained in slavery in the Island of Cuba.

You will say that Her Majesty's Government cannot admit that there is any force in the argument used by the Captain-General, that the British Act of Parliament, by virtue of which this woman became free, has no operation in Cuba; for as well might the Captain-General argue that the law of England, by which all the slaves in the British Colonies were emancipated, has no operation in Cuba, and that if any of the free negroes now residing in a British island were to be kidnapped and sent to Cuba, and to be there sold as slaves, the British Government would not be entitled to demand the immediate release of such kidnapped British subjects. The woman in question was, at the time when she was illegally sold into slavery in Cuba, as much entitled to her freedom by a British law then in existence, as the whole of the negroes in the British West Indies are now entitled to their freedom by a law which has been passed since, and Her Majesty's Government hope, therefore, that the Captain-General will see the justice of the claim, and will not, in the present unfortunate state of the relations between Great Britain and Spain, add another subject of difference to those which already exist.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 239.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 21st and 26th of April last, inclosing copies of a correspondence which you had had with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting importations of slaves which had recently taken place at Cabañas, the Isle of Pines, and other places in the Island of Cuba, and I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of the several communications which you addressed to his Excellency on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 240.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crawford.

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

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th of March last, inclosing a copy of a correspondence which you had had with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting negro slaves who were landed at Cabañas and Bahia Honda, towards the close of the month of February; and from which it appears that 85 of the slaves in question had been seized by the authorities; that further inquiry into this infraction of the law of Spain against Slave Trade, was in progress with a view to the prosecution or the offenders, and that the Captain-General had dismissed the Juez Pedaneo of the district, as well as the Commandant of the fort of Cabañas from their employments on account of their neglect of duty in this affair.

I have in reply to instruct you to state to the Captain-General, that it is very satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, that these subordinate officers should have been removed; and that Her Majesty's Government hope that such proofs of the determination of the Captain-General, to cause the Treaty engagements of the Crown of Spain to be respected, will serve as examples to impress upon other officers the necessity of performing their duty, and of not permitting such infractions of the law to take place.

With respect, however, to the disposal of the seized negroes, the greater part if not all of whom have been represented to me by Mr. Kennedy, to have been assigned to a person named Parejo, who is known to have fitted out slave-vessels for the coast of Africa, I have to instruct you to state in writing to the Captain-General, that Her Majesty's Government cannot consider it a faithful execution of the engagements of the Spanish Crown, that negroes seized upon importation should be given up as emancipados to the persons who were concerned in their illegal importation. Such a course of proceeding can be regarded by Her Majesty Government, only as an evasion of the Treaty engagements between the two Crowns, and as a connivance on the part of the Government of Cuba with the slave-traders.

With respect to the remainder of the cargo, said to amount to upwards of 300, who appear to have safely reached their destination, I have to desire that you will express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that they may be sought out and seized, and that the parties concerned in the transaction may be brought to punishment.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 241.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 22.)

My Lord, *Havana, May* 21, 1849.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship, further correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General upon the subject of the late infractions of the Treaty, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is only a waste of your Lordship's valuable time, to go into a refutation of the Captain-General's denial of the occurrence of these repeated breaches of good faith.

The Treaty under existing circumstances, whether because of some superior private instructions, or from the too common disgraceful venality of these authorities, has again become as a dead letter, and the enormous profits of the slavers enabling them to bribe high, there is little hope of any better observance of the solemn engagements of Spain for some time to come.

The "*Maria del Rosario*" did take on board the aguardiente as I stated, it being shipped as Catalan wine, and there is little doubt about the voyage she is gone upon, notwithstanding Mr. Kennedy's belief that that vessel is an honest trader to La Guayra. Your Lordship will see in my letter to that officer, that I have reason to think she is in reality engaged in conveying slaves from an intermediate place to this island, that place I conceive to be Crabbe Island, or some other of the many near to Puerto Rico to windward, and laying between it and Santa Cruz, which I have brought under the notice of his Lordship the Vice-Admiral, commanding on the north American and West Indian station, in order that occasion may be taken to examine those localities.

As regards the landing effected at the Isle of Pines, General Campbell, the Consul of the United States, himself informed me that he had his information from some of the crew who were Americans, besides which various parties known to me, were purchasers of the negroes.

But the case to windward of Cardeñas, is the most outrageously flagrant of them all, since it is acknowledged in the Captain-General's answer to my communication relative to that infraction, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardeñas actually was, as I denounced to him, at the estate of Menendez in the district of Ceja del Pueblo, but his Excellency contents himself with stating, that the Lieutenant-Governor's report has proved the inexactness of my information. Whereas the truth is, that had the Lieutenant-Governor done his duty, instead of accepting a large bribe, he would have captured the whole 300 Bozals who were at that time on Menendez's premises.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosures in No. 241.

1. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, April* 26, 1849.

2. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, May* 1, 1849.

3. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, April* 28, 1849.

4. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, May* 1, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 3, 4, 5, and 6 in No. 23.]

5. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, May* 9, 1849.

6. *The Government ecretary to Consul-General Crawford, May* 11, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 2 and 3 in No. 24.]

7. *Mr. Kennedy to Consul-General Crawford, April* 28, 1849.

8. *Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Kennedy, May* 2, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures 1 and 2 in No. 23.]

No. 242.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received July* 23.)

My Lord, *Havana, June* 26, 1849.

A FAVOURITE scheme for evading the existing Treaties for Suppression of the Slave Trade, which has for some time been contemplated here, has lately been carried out, and one, if not more, cargoes of negro slaves have been brought to this island from Brazil, upon the pretence that such slaves having been the legally-acquired property of Spaniards in that country, they are not committing any infraction of the Treaty by bringing them here.

Having good information that 400 negroes had been landed at or near to Trinidad, all furnished with their regular passports from Brazil, and with documents showing them to be the property of a Spaniard settled at Trinidad de Cuba, I lost no time in addressing his Excellency the Captain-General upon the subject, and I pointed out to his Excellency that the importation of any description of people to be used and employed as slaves is slave-trading to all intents and purposes, and that the negroes so brought into this island from Brazil, or from any other place or country, notwithstanding their having been provided with passports, would doubtless be dealt with by his Excellency, and will be laid hold of to be emancipated in due time.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship the letter just referred to, accompanied by a copy and translation of the Captain-General's answer through the Colonial Secretary, Colonel Don Crispin Ximenes de Sandoval; and I have transmitted a copy of this correspondence to Mr. Kennedy, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, in a note to him, copy of which I have also the honour of submitting herewith to your Lordship.

I regret to be obliged to state to your Lordship, that the apprehension which I expressed to Mr. Kennedy has been realised, these same negroes having been landed at another place, have been sold as slaves for an average price of 23 ounces, or $391, and are being retailed at 28 doubloons, or $476, leaving a profit of some 25 per cent. to the wholesale purchaser who took them on speculation. But this, bad as it is, is not the worst feature of this most infamous transaction, for it has been stated by the public brokers who are offering these unhappy negroes for sale, that there is no danger as to their safe possession,

because the highest authority in the island was concerned, and rumour says that three ounces a head is the established rate at which the trade can be carried on! And carried on it is, and will be, to an extent which has not been known for several years past, all the notorious slave-traders having gone into it with renewed energy.

However well-disposed the present Captain-General may have been at the beginning, he is much abused by common report if his principles have not given way before the allurements of gain, resulting from such infamous transactions as I have just pictured to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosures in No. 242.

1. *Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General, June* 18, 1849.

2. *The Government Secretary to Consul-General Crawford, June* 20, 1849.

3. *Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Kennedy, June* 22, 1849.

[See Class A, Inclosures in No. 28.]

No. 243.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 30, 1849.

I HAVE received Consul-General Crawford's despatch of the 26th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a correspondence which he had had with the Captain-General of Cuba, on the subject of a cargo of slaves who had been brought from Brazil, and had been landed in the neighbourhood of Trinidad de Cuba.

I have now to instruct you to present a note to the Captain-General, in reply to that which he addressed to Mr. Crawford on the 20th of June last, in which he maintained that such transactions were not contrary to the Treaty, which prohibits only the introduction of slaves from Africa and not from other countries where slavery still exists.

You will point out to the Captain-General that the first Article of the Treaty of 1835 declares, that the Slave Trade, on the part of Spain, shall thenceforward be totally and finally abolished in every part of the world; and his Excellency will see that, according to the plain and literal construction of those words, it is just as much a violation of the Treaty for Spanish subjects to trade in slaves in Brazil as in Africa, and that the purchase of slaves in Brazil for transportation to a Spanish colony is as much prohibited by the Treaty as is the purchase of slaves for that purpose on the African coast, or the purchase of Bozal negroes in the island of Cuba itself.

You will further say, that Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Captain-General, seeing that this proceeding is inconsistent with the good faith and honour of the Spanish Crown, of which he is the representative and guardian in Cuba, will take proper measures for putting a stop to such delinquencies.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 244.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 18, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to the archives of Her Majesty's Consulate at the Havana for the correspondence which passed in the years 1839, 1840, and 1841 between this Department and Consuls Tolmé and Turnbull, on the subject of a native of Jamaica, by name Henry Shirley, who, being of free condition in Jamaica, was kidnapped from that island about the year 1831 by a Spanish subject, named Le Desma, and was taken to Cuba, where he was reduced to slavery.

You will perceive that after repeated attempts made by the authorities of Cuba to evade giving him up, he was eventually delivered in the month of June, 1841, to Consul Turnbull, and was by him sent to Jamaica; you will moreover see that Shirley owned a house which he had built on a piece of ground, said to have been presented to him by the Commandant of Santa Cruz, and that Mr. Turnbull, under date of the 10th of June, 1841, requested the Captain-General to cause that house to be sold, and the proceeds to be remitted to Shirley; and that Mr. Turnbull had also asserted the right of Shirley to compensation for his forced labour.

You will further perceive, on reference to Class B of the Slave Trade Papers, presented to Parliament in the year 1842, that Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid demanded that Le Desma should be sent to Jamaica to be tried for his offence; or, if, according to Spanish law, that could not be done, that he should be brought to public trial at the Havana; and you will see that on the 22nd of September, 1841, the Spanish Minister stated to Mr. Aston that a criminal prosecution was going on against Le Desma.

Since that period nothing has been reported to this Department about this matter; but the case has recently been brought to my notice by a letter addressed to me by a Mr. Lewis, of Jamaica, of which I now transmit to you a copy, stating that a sum of $500 was awarded in the year 1841 to Shirley as compensation for his services and detention, but that this sum had not been paid to him; and that moreover the proceeds of the sale of his house had not been remitted to him.

I have accordingly to instruct you to inquire whether any prosecution was instituted against Le Desma, and what was its result; to ascertain whether any award of money was made in favour of Shirley; and if any such award was made, how it has happened that Shirley has not derived the benefit of it; to request that the amount may be sent to him, and to demand that the sum realised by the sale of Shirley's house may be remitted to him.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 244.

Mr. Lewis to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord, *Kingston, Jamaica, June* 20, 1849.

I BEG leave to address you on behalf of Henry Shirley, a free born black man, who was inveigled away from this island, on board the Spanish vessel "*Anna Maria,*" by the commander and owner, Antonio Le Desma, some years ago, and was sold as a slave in the Island of Cuba, in which situation he was detained about seven years, I am informed, near Puerto Principe, until his liberation was obtained by Her Majesty's Consul, David Turnbull, Esquire, in or about the year 1841, and a sum of $500 (say $500) awarded to him as compensation for his services and detention, but which sum has not to this moment been received by him nor any portion of the same, neither of the proceeds of his house, said to be about $300 (say $300) sold by order of the Government by a Don Santiago James, of the Santa Cruz Custom-house.

If your Lordship would be pleased to condescend by any means to assist in

obtaining redress for these grievances, and by obtaining that which is due to this poor old man, who is in ill health, and in great distress, which is so general here unfortunately at the present moment, that few comparatively can afford him assistance, which renders his situation the more deplorable, that he can hardly hope to survive long if early relief be not granted, and it would be an act of great benevolence and mercy to the individual to intercede in his behalf; your condescension in directing early attention thereto may be the means of preserving his life, which otherwise must be of short duration, for want of the common necessaries to support it, and both he and myself will be ever grateful.

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

No. 245.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, August* 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter I addressed on the 30th July to the Captain-General, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 11th June last, respecting the case of the emancipated negress Monica.

His Excellency, in his note of the 6th instant, intimates that the observations therein repeated can in no manner alter his opinions or conduct, based as they are upon the instructions he had received from Spain.

In my reply of this date I thought it right only to say that I would take the earliest opportunity of forwarding his Excellency's observations to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 245.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, July* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received a despatch from Viscount Palmerston, addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General in this place, with reference to the opinion expressed by your Excellency respecting the steps I had taken in the month of September, 1848, to obtain liberty for the emancipated negress Monica to go to Jamaica, whither her reputed husband Valentin had been already removed; and I am therein instructed to state to your Excellency, that though Her Britannic Majesty's Government cannot admit the principle put forward by you and the Spanish Government, in regard to the restriction which you wish to impose upon the functions of an officer of the British Crown, yet Her Majesty's Government have no desire to press that which they consider their right in this respect so long as your Excellency continues to pursue the honourable course of conduct hitherto followed with respect to Slave Trade, and so long as your Excellency shall persevere in enforcing, by those effectual means which you have within your power, a faithful fulfilment of the treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, and an impartial execution of those laws which the Spanish Government have passed in furtherance of those engagements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 245.

The Captain-General to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, August* 6, 1849.

WHATEVER may be the manner in which your Government understands the principle held by that of Her Majesty my august Sovereign, with respect to the true functions of the British Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice, which I communicated to the Consul-General of England at the due time, and with reference to the question put forward by the former, that the negress Monica might be sent to Jamaica to join her reputed husband, it does not pertain to my authority to alter in anything, for that is the opinion in which I must remain, in obedience to existing instructions, notwithstanding the conditional desire you say your Government holds not to press aught of what they consider their right on this particular.

To fulfil strictly the Sovereign instructions, punctually and in conformity to the faith of treaties, I put aside the stimulus of every approbation, and of the announcement of any censure that does not emanate from Her Majesty or Her Government.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 245.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 8, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of the 6th instant, in acknowledgment of my communication of the 30th ultimo, repeating the opinion of Her Britannic Majesty's Government respecting the proceedings taken in the case of the emancipated negress Monica, and I beg to say that I will take the earliest opportunity of forwarding your Excellency's reply to her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 246.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, August* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter I addressed on the 31st July to the Captain-General, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 12th of June last, respecting the woman Mary Anne, a British subject, native of the Bahamas, now held in slavery in Cuba.

His Excellency, in his note of the 6th of August, intimates that the question is of an international character, which can only be treated of between the two Governments, and that he can only act upon it according to the instructions he may receive from the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, to whom he has given a detailed account of it.

In my reply of yesterday's date, I had thus only left me to say, that I would take the earliest opportunity of transmitting his observations to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 246.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, July* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that I have received a despatch from Viscount Palmerston, addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General in this place, with reference to the steps he had taken in support of the claim for the freedom of Mary Ann, a British subject, a native of the Bahamas, who was removed from thence in contravention of the Statute of the 46 Geo. III. cap. 52, and illegally sold into slavery in Cuba, where she is still retained in bondage.

Her Majesty's Goverment approves of the claim made by the Consul-General for the liberation of this British subject, detained in slavery in the island of Cuba, and instructs him to repeat his demand; also to say, that Her Majesty's Government cannot admit that there is any force in the argument used by your Excellency, that the British Act of Parliament, by virtue of which this woman became free, has no operation in Cuba; for as well might your Excellency argue, that the law of England by which all the slaves in the British colonies were emancipated, has no operation in Cuba, and that if any of the free negroes now residing in a British island were to be kidnapped and sent to Cuba and there sold as slaves, the British Government would not be entitled to demand the immediate release of such kidnapped British subjects. The woman in question was, at the time when she was illegally sold into slavery in Cuba, as much entitled to her freedom by a British law then in existence as the whole of the negroes in the British West Indies are now entitled to their freedom by a law which has been passed since; and Her Majesty's Government hope, therefore, that the Captain-General will see the justice of the claim, and will not, in the present unfortunate state of the relations between Great Britain and Spain, add another subject of difference to those which already exist.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 246.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, August* 6, 1849.

IN nothing is it possible for me to alter that which, under date of the 23rd of March last, I stated to the Consul-General of England, as the result of the proceedings instituted on his claim, respecting the negress Mary Ann, nor to engage myself in any manner on this particular, until, from the Government of Her Majesty, to whom I gave a detailed account of all, I am provided with corresponding instructions.

The considerations you communicate to me, in your letter dated the 31st ultimo, fulfilling the orders of your Government, would be held present in this case, although they add nothing in favour of the alleged right if Her Majesty deign to order the prosecution of the proceedings, I making to you this explanation, as the want of official relations between the two Governments may to a certain point authorize me at present; but, in respect to your last observation that it is hoped that I would not add, in this matter, new cause to the differences existing, I will say to you that I would have avoided it, because that beyond its appearing what has been and is always my frank course on this point, regulated according to the Treaties and former good relations, I was as little ignorant that my powers are very far from being able to add to or take anything from international questions, which thus (as also those to which they do not reach, even when they embrace affairs of this

island, such as that of the negress Mary Ann, the occasion of your communication) ought only to be treated of with the Supreme Government of the mother country.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 246.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 8, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of the 6th instant, in reply to the communication I had it my duty to address your Excellency of the 31st ultimo, respecting the case of the negress Mary Ann, a British subject, native of the Bahamas, and I will take the earliest opportunity of forwarding your Excellency's observations to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 247.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, August* 10, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter I addressed to the Captain General of this island on the 1st instant, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, given in the despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 16th June last, repeating the opinion of Her Majesty's Government on the steps taken in March last, respecting the 85 recently introduced Africans, who had been seized by the local authorities near Cabañas in the month preceeding.

His Excellency in his note of the 6th instant, after repeating that he only owes explanations and obedience to Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, desires to be excused receiving in future any judgment, favourable or adverse, that he may merit in the exercise of his authority; but lays much stress on the proceedings being continued in the Supreme Court, according to law. It may be, perhaps, too soon to expect from that Court to learn the consequences.

With respect to the allegation of the greater part of the 85 captured Africans having been consigned to Don Antonio Parejo, the Captain-General states that only 12 were assigned him, and denies the right of Her Majesty's Government to interfere, even if all had been so assigned. On this point I beg to say that I am credibly informed that the greater portion are in fact engaged in Parejo's works; whether formally assigned to him by name or not, I presume, making no difference.

But what is most observable in the Captain-General's note, is the assertion that he had no previous knowledge of Parejo's having fitted out slave-vessels, which, however, he avoids denying to be true, now when directly brought to his knowledge, as he could easily ascertain, if he pleased, Parejo being a daily visitant at the Government-house, and much mixed up with Government affairs, as the agent of Queen Christina. Neither does the Captain-General deny that the remainder of the cargo brought, about 300 in number, are yet to be accounted for.

In my reply of the 8th instant, considering that his Excellency had been sufficiently informed of your Lordship's opinion, without entering into any further discussion, I stated that I would take the earliest opportunity of forwarding his observations to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 247.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that I have received a despatch from Viscount Palmerston, addressed to Her Majesty's Consul-General, on the subject of the correspondence that had been reported in March last, respecting the landing of a cargo of slaves at Cabañas and Bahia Honda, when 85 of them had been seized by the local authorities, and further inquiry was in progress into this infraction of the law of Spain against Slave Trade. Your Excellency having meanwhile dismissed the Juez Pedaneo of the district as well as the commandant of the fort of Cabañas from their employments, on account of their neglect of duty in the affair.

And I am instructed to state to your Excellency, that it is very satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government that these subordinate officers have been removed; and that Her Majesty's Government hope these proofs of your Excellency's determination to cause the Treaty engagements of the Crown of Spain to be respected, will serve as examples to impress upon other officers the necessity of performing their duty and of not permitting such infractions of the law to take place.

With respect, however, to the disposal of the seized negroes, the greater part, if not all, of whom were represented to have been assigned to a person named Parejo, who was known to have fitted out slave-vessels for the coast of Africa, Her Majesty's Government cannot consider it a faithful execution of the engagements of the Spanish Crown, that negroes seized upon importation should be given up as emancipados to the persons concerned in their illegal importation. Such a course of proceeding can be regarded by Her Majesty's Government only as an evasion of the Treaty engagements between the the two Crowns, and as a connivance on the part of the Government of Cuba with the slave-traders.

With respect to the remainder of the cargo, said to amount to upwards of 300, who appear to have safely reached their destination, I am desired to express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government, that they may be sought out and seized, and that the parties concerned in the transaction may be brought to punishment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 247.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, August* 6, 1849.

RESPECTING the measures which, in fulfilment of existing instructions in this island, I may think it right to adopt for any purpose, it is only to Her Majesty the Queen of Spain to whom I owe explanations and obedience, equally whether she deign to approve of my conduct or whether she may judge it erroneous; and, without this in any manner or conception offending the susceptibility of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, in compliance with whose recent instructions you tell me you addressed to me your communication of the 1st instant, it is not possible for me to avoid making known to you for your information and for the use you think fit, that it would be better in future to excuse me being acquainted with the judgment, favourable or adverse, that I may merit in the exercise of the authority confided to me.

In the case of the disembarkation and seizure of the 85 Bozal negroes, which occurred in the month of March last near Cabañas, to which you allude in your said letter, you are already aware the proceeding was had entirely in subjection to the laws, and that the Court of Royal Audiencia is engaged in the prosecution of the case.

Respecting the destination or consignation given to the negroes declared

emancipated, it is very foreign for you or your Government to offer to interfere, since it belongs only and solely to my authority, without there existing in any place stipulated intervention or reservations. Wherefore, if the 85 Bozals had been consigned to the person you name, instead of the 12 that in fact I assigned him, your complaint would remain with as little value as now. On the other hand, there never came to my knowledge, until I read your letter, that fitting out of vessels for the coast of Africa, which you cite, made by the same person; and I cannot believe that if it had been previously in your knowledge, you would have delayed the denunciation.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 247.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 8, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of the 6th instant, in reply to mine of the 1st, in which I obeyed Viscount Palmerston's instructions to communicate to your Excellency his Lordship's opinion respecting the steps taken relative to the disembarkation of slaves effected in February last, when 85 recently introduced Africans were seized by the local authorities near Cabañas, and I beg to say that I will take the earliest opportunity of forwarding your Excellency's observations on the subject to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 248.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 28, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo, inclosing, first, a copy of a note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch to Consul-General Crawford of the 12th of June last, you had addressed to the Captain-General, repeating the demand for the liberation of the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, who is illegally held in slavery in Cuba; and, secondly, a copy of his Excellency's reply, in which he declines taking any further steps in the matter, until he shall receive instructions from his Government on the question, which he states his opinion, ought only to be treated of with the Supreme Government of the mother country.

I have now to instruct you to repeat your demand for the liberation of this British subject, unjustly and illegally detained in slavery, and to say that as the woman is in Cuba, it is to the Governor of Cuba that Her Majesty's Government must look for the freedom of one of Her Majesty's subjects detained within his Government in illegal bondage; and Her Majesty's Government anxiously hope that the Captain-General, on a full consideration of all the circumstances of the case, will put an end, by a prompt act of justice, to this very unpleasant discussion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 249.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 30, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th ultimo, inclosing copies of a correspondence between the Captain-General of Cuba and yourself, on the subject of the cargo of negro slaves which was landed at Cabañas and Bahia Honda in the month of February last.

In reply to the Captain-General's letter to you of the 6th ultimo, I have to instruct you to state to him, that Her Majesty's Government regret that he should think that some of the communications which you are instructed to make to him on matters connected with the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown are not in accordance with his proper functions and his position; but the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the Governments of Madrid and London, Her Majesty's Government have no means of making such communications at Madrid; and as these communications relate to the acts and conduct of the Captain-General, as the responsible officer who is charged in these matters with upholding the good faith and fulfilling the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, it is to him that such communications must, under existing circumstances, necessarily be made, and there are many obvious reasons why it is better that such communications should, in the first instance, at all events, be made through the officer performing the duties of Consul-General, than that they should be addressed to the Captain-General through the Admiral commanding the British naval forces on the West India station.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 250.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 20, 1849.

I HAVE to refer you to Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatches* of the 5th and 22nd of August, the 16th of September, and the 2nd and 26th of November 1848, for information respecting the case of Juan Manuel Besamilla, the mate of the slave-vessel "*Columbia,*" which landed 150 slaves at Cabanas in the month of July, 1848, and who gave information to Mr. Crawford, and subsequently made a deposition before the Captain-General as to the particulars of that case.

I now transmit to you a copy of a letter which I have recently received from Mr. Crawford, and a copy and translation of a letter therein inclosed, which was addressed to him on the 20th of August last by Besamilla from the royal prison at the Havana, stating that he was still confined in gaol, and subjected to the greatest hardships, and praying Mr. Crawford to intercede with Her Majesty's Government to obtain his release.

I have to instruct you to bring this man's unfortunate condition under the favourable consideration of the Captain-General, expressing the hope of Her Majesty's Government that Besamilla may not any longer be made to suffer for having given Her Majesty's officers in Cuba information tending to lead to the better execution of the Treaty between the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain for the Suppression of Slave Trade, an act for which, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, Besamilla is deserving, not of punishment, but of reward.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 250.

Consul-General Crawford to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord, *London, September* 26, 1849.

I RECEIVED by the packet which arrived yesterday from Havana, the letter which, with a translation, I consider it my duty herewith to transmit to your Lordship.

It is from that unfortunate man Don Juan Manuel de Besamilla, who was piloto-supernumerary on board the slaver "*Columbia,*" and gave himself up first to me, and at my instance he presented himself to the Captain-General, now upwards of a year ago.

Through this man's evidence the vessel was found where she was sunk in the

* See Class B, presented 1849, Nos. 218, 221, 227, 229, and 230.

Bay of Cabañas, and proofs have been obtained sufficient and more than complete to have convicted every one connected with that expedition, but it does not suit the policy of the rulers in Cuba to admit the proofs which Mr. Portela* put in on the defence of Besamilla, which go to criminate parties whom it is necessary to protect from the punishment which they so richly deserve, and so a heavy fine is imposed upon him, alleged in public to be for quite another offence, but no doubt with a view to intimidate him in the exercise of his duty towards his client, upon whom also the rancour of the authorities has been visited by increased severity in his protracted imprisonment.

I would venture to express a hope that your Lordship will be pleased to take this poor man's case into consideration, that his release may be obtained as soon as possible. The farce of trial before the Royal Audiencia, under the penal law of Spain, has been carried on long enough, now upwards of a year. Besamilla is the victim, whilst the more guilty actors, against whom the proofs are ample, go unpunished, and in the first instance were allowed to escape, so that there is small chance of any other approver coming forward to denounce, seeing the fate of the first and only one, who, but for the maintenance he has received from Her Majesty, by your Lordship's direction, would long ago, in all probability, have sunk under his sufferings in a loathsome prison, in the climate of Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 250.

Don Juan Manuel Besamilla to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Royal prison, Havana, August* 20, 1849.

SINCE you left this island I am suffering every species of oppression, since even the relief of a lenient imprisonment towards a prisoner of such small consideration, they have not been pleased to allow me; far from it, I have been placed in a jail much more cruel than the other, where there are assassins, prisoners of the greatest guilt, no doubt for the purpose that some night in the morning I shall be found a corpse, without its being known by whom.

Fortunately I am a man who knows the world, and have been able to conciliate these savages.

As soon as my defensor presented the proofs which were to prove my innocence in the Royal Audiencia, he was ordered to go to the Fiscal in order to sustain them. What horror, Mr. Consul! That my proofs should be delivered to the very person who had asked for my condemnation to the chain-gang! By this you will know the practice of this Superior Tribunal.

But they not only treat of injuring me, but my defensor, for having committed no other crime than the having defended me, if it is a crime to defend a prisoner who has been calumniated. The Government imposed a fine of five hundred dollars, because of a memorial which he drew up (dictated), although he neither wrote nor signed it; and not content with this, they published in the "Gazeta de la Havana," (the Government paper,) of the 26th of July, as follows: "On the 17th, the Government scrivener paid in $500, imposed upon the licentiate Don Joaquin Portela by his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, for having expressed himself in a writing highly offensive to the good name and decorum of the honourable military service, which sum his Excellency has destined to the Royal House of Refuge."

This is so much the more scandalous, as in this city it is the rule that in the Gazette they only publish the fines imposed upon infractors of the police regulations. But the object was to be revenged upon my defensor, and for that they stated in public that it was for a paper which he did not even write, nor any thing else than the dictation of a memorial which he neither wrote nor signed, nor does it contain the offence which it supposes.

By this you will perceive what my defensor said to you, that he was about to put in my proofs, but that he knew they would cost him dearly.

I supplicate you, by all that is dear to you, &c., to do all in your power so

* Don Joaquin Portela, charged with Besamilla's defence.

that your Government may obtain my release; because if not, I believe that here they desire to sacrifice me without compassion.

I repeat myself always at your orders,

Your attentive servant.

P. S. Try to read the Gazette; you may be disgusted by seeing what is going on. Mr. Consul, you will please excuse me for having engaged one of my fellow-prisoners to write this, because I am suffering much from nervousness of my hands, for want of pure air in this horrible prison.

Your servant,

(Signed) J. M. DE BESAMILLA.

No. 251.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 20.)

My Lord, *Havana, August* 29, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordship a copy of an application I made, on the 23rd instant, to the Captain-General, on behalf of two emancipados, now held as prisoners at Cardenas. These two persons had sent to this Consulate a memorial to be presented to his Excellency, stating that they were held as prisoners there, though by the sentence of the court before which they had been tried as fugitives, they had been exonerated, and were now only detained for the costs. In the Captain-General's reply to me, of the 26th, his Excellency informed me that they were under sentence of punishment for having caused the death of another negro, though of this the memorialists seemed to be ignorant. On this, I had no further cause of importuning his Excellency, though as the offence charged was not alleged to be one of very malignant character, and might have been wrongly charged against them, knowing how hastily these poor people are dealt with, especially in the country, I only respectfully intimated that I would still receive them, if his Excellency pleased.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 251.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 23, 1849.

UNDER a cover, addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at this place, I received yesterday from the Correo the inclosed memorial for your Excellency, which I forward, having previously taken a copy. It is addressed to your Excellency from two emancipados at Cardenas, upon whose case I do not presume to pass any opinion, hoping your Excellency will give them due consideration. If it please your Excellency to give them up to be sent to Jamaica, I shall be ready to receive them, with any others there may be to be sent; and I need not remind your Excellency how anxious the Government of Her Britannic Majesty is to have full liberty given to all that remain of persons of this class.

I wish to correct an involuntary error the memorialists have fallen into, saying they had been formerly assigned to the English Consul, as I find, in fact, the person referred to was the American Consul, Mr. Trist.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 251.

Memorial of Juan Mandinga and Francisco Ganga.

(Translation.) *Port of Cardenas, August* 12, 1849.

THE negroes emancipados, Juan Mandinga, and Francisco Ganga, placed in liberty ten months since by this Court, and detained in this prison, to your Excellency respectfully state:

That having come to these shores in the year 1825, they were delivered by this Government to different individuals for the term of eight years, which they completed without any trouble, after which, on account of agreement between these persons, they were passed, one to Don Ramon Ayala, and the other to the Consulado (a deposit for runaways), for two years more, to complete ten years, which the Government had imposed on them of slavery. That the Government of his Excellency Don Miguel Tacon having called for all the emancipados, they were judged too young to be freed, on account of which they were delivered to the English Consul, with eight years re-assignment, who sent them to his estate, the "Flor de Cuba," and then they began its cultivation.

That the English Consul having sold the said estate to Don Joaquin Arrieta, they remained in the same to finish the eight years, before stated by contract, from the seller to the buyer, the same having also finished with six years more (*de contra*) added, the whole of which makes together twenty-five years of slavery, that they made an application to their owner, Arrieta, to obtain their liberty, or that in its defect they might be sent to the capital for the purpose of seeking the proper means to obtain it.

Their efforts, most excellent Sir, have been in vain, and as each time they treated respecting this matter they received punishment, they resolved to run away from the said estate, and seek for protection and justice where they could find it, on account of which, having been captured, they find themselves in this prison two years since. Meanwhile they have been judged innocent of all blame, and placed in liberty by that tribunal in October, 1848.

For the which, and on account of the powerful reasons explained, they request your Excellency will be pleased to order that they may be remitted to this capital, or to any individual (a white person) that would have to pay the costs originated, and who might be remunerated for them by so much more service stipulated, and they claim in consequence their liberty, which the Government grants to all emancipados when they fulfil with exactitude and conduct, the time and the re-assignments imposed on them.

The present petition has been presented to the Commandante Gobernador of this port, and has remained unattended to and without result, for which reason they apply to the superior authority, raising their humble voices to your Excellency's feet, so well known for your impartial and accustomed rectitude.

(Signed) JUAN MANDINGA.
FRANCISCO GANGA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 251.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, August* 26, 1849.

THE emancipados Francisco and Juan, who have sent to you from Cardenas the representation which they make soliciting their paper of freedom, and which you address to me, inclosed with your communication of the 23rd instant, ran away on the 3rd June, 1845, on account of having inflicted wounds on their companion, the negro Rafael, from which resulted his death, they having been sentenced, in disobedience of non-appearance, by the Royal Audiencia to ten

years of imprisonment with rigour the first, and six years the second, that' apprehended as they have been, they will conclude the said condemnation duly' And I say this to you in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 251.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 27, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of yesterday's date, informing me that the emancipados Francisco and Juan, from whom I had presented a memorial to your Excellency, were prisoners under a criminal process. I beg to return my thanks for this prompt attention to my application on their behalf. If your Excellency should, notwithstanding, think proper to give them up to be sent to Jamaica, I beg to repeat that I shall be ready to receive them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 252.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 20.)

My Lord, *Havana, September* 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter I addressed to the Captain-General of this island, on the 31st ultimo, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 30th July last.

In that letter I repeated your Lordship's instructions, as to the illegality of slaves being allowed to be brought to Cuba from Brazil, as forbidden by the Article I of the Treaty of 1835, which declares "Slave Trade on the part of Spain thenceforward totally and finally abolished in every part of the world," in reply to the opinion which his Excellency had expressed in his letter to Mr. Crawford of the 20th of June last, that such importations were not contrary to the Treaty.

In answer to my communication, I have received a note from the Secretary to the Government, dated the 4th instant, as he states by order of the Captain-General, in which the question is altogether evaded, with the assertion that it is not given him to make interpretations respecting the meaning of the Treaty, which power only belongs to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, on whom therefore that of Her Britannic Majesty should call for these elucidations, as if there was any ambiguity in the words quoted. His Excellency, however, it is added, had forwarded the matter to the Government at Madrid, for any instructions they might think proper to make him.

In my reply of this date, I stated that I would take the earliest opportunity of forwarding this reply to Her Majesty's Government, regretting his Excellency did not at once acknowledge the force of the explicit declaration referred to in the first Article of the Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 252.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, August* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that I have received a despatch from Viscount Palmerston, with reference to the correspondence between Consul-General Crawford and your Excellency in June last, respecting

a cargo of slaves brought from Brazil, and landed in the neighbourhood of Trinidad de Cuba.

And I am instructed to present a note to your Excellency in reply to that addressed to Mr. Crawford on the 20th June last, in which your Excellency maintained that such transactions were not contrary to the Treaty, which prohibits only the introduction of slaves from Africa, and not from other countries where slavery still exists.

On this I am directed to point out to your Excellency that Article I of the Treaty of 1835 declares "Slave Trade on the part of Spain shall be thenceforward totally and finally abolished in every part of the world," whence your Excellency will see that according to the plain and literal construction of those words, it is just as much a violation of the Treaty for Spanish subjects to trade in slaves in Brazil as in Africa, and that the purchase of slaves in Brazil for transportation to a Spanish colony is as much prohibited by the Treaty as is the purchase of slaves for that purpose on the African coast, or the purchase of Bozal negroes in the Island of Cuba itself.

I am further directed to say, Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that your Excellency, seeing that this proceeding is inconsistent with the good faith and houour of the Spanish Crown, of which you are the representative and guardian in Cuba, will take proper measures for putting a stop to such delinquencies.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 252.

The Government Secretary to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, September* 4, 1849.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your letter of the 31st August last, informing him of your having received a despatch from Viscount Palmerston, referring to the declaration which, by his order, I made to the Consul, Mr. Crawford, on the 20th June preceding, in reply to the communication which he addressed to his Excellency on the 18th of the same June, on the arrival at Trinidad of a cargo of negroes, which the Brazilian brig "*Condor*" brought, coming from the city of Santos. His Excellency charges me to say, in consequence, to you in reply, that it not being given him to make interpretations respecting the meaning of the Treaty, which power only belongs to Her Majesty's Government, it is that on whom the Government of Her Britannic Majesty should call in the regular way for these explications; having, nevertheless, forwarded this matter for their information, in case they should think proper to communicate to him any instructions.

God preserve, &c.
(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 252.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, September* 5, 1849.

I HAVE received the note of yesterday's date, addressed to me by the Secretary to this Government under your Excellency's directions, stating in reply to my communication of the 31st of August, that it is not given you to make interpretations respecting the meaning of the Treaty, which power appertains only to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, on whom that of Her Britannic Majesty should call for these explanations; having, nevertheless forwarded the matter for the information of the Supreme Government, in case

it should think proper to give any instructions on the question, whether the Treaty forbids the introduction of slaves into Cuba from Brazil as well as from Africa.

I beg to say, that I will take the earliest opportunity of forwarding this reply to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, regretting your Excellency does not at once acknowledge the force of the explicit declaration referred to in the Article I of the Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 253.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 28, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th August last, and its inclosures, reporting the steps which you took in order to obtain the release of the emancipados Juan and Francisco, who are imprisoned at Cardenas, and I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of your conduct in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 254.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 29, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd September last, inclosing a copy of the note which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch to Consul-General Crawford of the 30th of July last, you addressed on the 31st of August last to the Captain-General, pointing out that the introduction of slaves from Brazil into Cuba is prohibited by the Treaty of 1835.

You inclose, likewise, a copy of the reply returned to you by order of the Captain-General, stating that it is not in the Captain-General's province to make interpretation of the meaning of the Treaty, which power belongs only to the Government of his Sovereign, to which Her Majesty's Government ought to apply in the usual course.

I have now to instruct you to present a note to the Captain-General, stating that Her Majesty's Government have received and taken into consideration a copy of the letter so addressed to you by his order; and that they have instructed you to say, in reply, that they regret that, the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the two Governments, the Government of Her Majesty has no means of making at Madrid the representation which the Captain-General suggests that Her Majesty's Government should address to the Spanish Government on the subject of his, the Captain-General's, infringement of the Treaty of 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, and Her Majesty's Government have therefore no alternative but to apply to the Captain-General himself for a faithful execution of the engagements of that Treaty, as far as the fulfilment thereof is connected with his local and official acts; and though Her Majesty's Government are sorry to be obliged to trouble him with communications on such matters, yet the state of things above adverted to renders it unavoidable that they should look to him as the responsible organ of the Crown of Spain in regard to these affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 255.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 24.)

(Extract.) *Havana, November* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I wrote to the Captain-General of this island on the 22nd October last, in denunciation of two vessels, reported to be fitting out for Slave Trade. One of these was described to be a brigantine, painted black, lying on the other side of the harbour; and the other, a schooner, lying in a creek under the Fort Atares. There was a further particularity I had to give, that a man, represented to be very dark complexioned, who spoke English very well, had been tampering with the sailors of an English barque here, to go on board his vessel to the coast of Africa, with the promise of $40 a month wages, when at present only receiving about $12. One sailor had been actually taken on board the brigantine, but he was intoxicated at the time, and could not give any satisfactory account of what he had seen. I thought it best at once to make the denunciation; but meantime, it appears, the schooner had left the creek, and the brigantine on being searched, as the Captain-General stated in his reply of the 3rd instant, gave no indication to create a suspicion of its being intended for Slave Trade. It is, however, to be observed that no account is given of the voyage for which the brigantine was intended, which might easily have been done, if it were a lawful one.

For further particulars I beg to refer to the corrrespondence inclosed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 255.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, October* 22, 1849.

I REGRET to have it my duty to submit to your Excellency a serious complaint against certain parties who are now fitting out expeditions for Slave Trade in this harbour.

There are, I understand, two vessels fitting out, a brig painted black, lying at the other side of the harbour, and another, a schooner in a creek under the Fort Atares. On board of one, I believe the brig, is a dark-coloured man, who speaks English very well, and who has been endeavouring to entice the sailors from several English vessels to go in his to the coast of Africa, with an offer of $40 per month wages. This conduct is extremely culpable, not only as acting against the laws and Treaties with Spain, but also cruel against the men, who might be deluded by him to commit an offence against the laws of their own country, in which, if they were caught, they might be subjected to the severest punishment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 255.

The Government Secretary to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, November* 3, 1849.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General received your communication dated the 22nd October last, denouncing that a brigantine painted black, lying at the other side of the harbour, and a schooner in a creek under the Fort Atares, were fitting out for the Trade in Slaves, there being on board of one a man of colour, who was endeavouring to entice the sailors of several English vessels to go to the coast of Africa. His Excellency in consequence directs me to inform you in reply, that having issued the proper orders, that a strict examination

should be made in search of the vessels pointed out by you, and proceedings had accordingly against the infractors, if any evidence against them appeared, it has resulted proved in an unequivocal manner the incorrectness of the complaint or denunciation, since neither is there in the harbour any vessel that induces the least suspicion of such a project, nor has existed the schooner you speak of in the creek beneath the Fort Atares, nor as little is known of such person of colour aboard the brigantine.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 255.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 3, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour this morning to receive your Excellency's note of this date, in reply to mine of the 22nd ultimo, informing me that there has not been found any schooner in the creek under the Fort Atares, nor any person of colour in the brigantine I had pointed out, or any indication in it of its being intended for Slave Trade.

I beg to observe, that I had not said the person who endeavoured to entice the English sailors was a man of colour, but a dark-coloured man, meaning only that he was swarthy. I thank your Excellency for the active investigation had in the matter, and if I can obtain any further information respecting it, I will hasten to repeat it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 256.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, November* 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which on the 2nd instant I addressed to the Captain-General of this island, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 28th September. In this letter I repeated the demand previously made for the liberation of the negress Mary Anne, a native of the Bahamas, now held in slavery in Cuba, with the observations your Lordship had directed.

The Captain-General, in his answer of the 6th instant, contented himself with repeating as before, that the claim, though he considered it not well made, had been forwarded to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty; so that he had not the power to give any other reply.

In my acknowledgment of this note the following day, I expreseed my regret that his Excellency should not at once do this act of justice to this poor woman, adding, she would be entitled to a large compensation for the long detention in slavery she had had to endure.

In fact, at her age, if sent to the Bahamas it is not to be supposed that she could be able to earn a livelihood, even if she had not forgotten the English language; and on every consideration, therefore, it will be advisable that some means, as in justice due, should be obtained for her, to end her days in comfort in compensation for past sufferings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 256.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received instructions from Viscount Palmerston, with reference to my letter to your Excellency of the 31st July last, to repeat the demand for the liberation of the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, unjustly and illegally detained in slavery in this island.

Respecting this woman, your Excellency in your letter of the 6th August, replied, that you could take no further steps until you had received instructions from the Government of Her Catholic Majesty on the question, stating your opinion that it was one only to be treated of with the Supreme Government of the mother-country. Hereon I am directed to say, that as the woman is in Cuba, it is to the Governor of Cuba that Her Majesty's Government must look for the freedom of one of Her Majesty's subjects detained within his Government in illegal bondage; and Her Majesty's Government anxiously hope that your Excellency on a full consideration of all the circumstances of the case, will put an end by a prompt act of justice to this very unpleasant discussion.

I have, &c

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 256.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, November* 6, 1849.

I HAVE received the new communication which, under date of the 2nd instant, you addressed me, insisting on the matter of the negress claimed again, Mary Anne. It must appear to you by the official notes which on this subject I addressed to the Consul-General, Mr. Crawford, the opinion given on his demand, and that, nevertheless, that on my part I agreed with the consultations had, in not finding it well made according to right, I submitted it to the Government of Her Majesty, to whose royal determination I equally raised that which you expressed to me on the 3rd July. Thus then in the state of this business, there is not in my attributions anything but to repeat to you the same which I manifested in the reply to your cited letter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 256.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 7, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of yesterday's date, in acknowledgement of mine of the 2nd instant, in which, in obedience to the orders I had received from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I had repeated the demand for the liberation of the negress Mary Anne, a native of the Bahamas, illegally held in slavery in this island.

In this note of yesterday, your Excellency repeats the reply formerly given in this case of the matter being submitted to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, the which I will take the earliest opportunity of reporting to the

Government of Her Britannic Majesty, regretting very much that your Excellency should not do this act of justice to this unfortunate woman, who is undoubtedly entitled not only to her liberty, but to a large compensation for the unjust detention in slavery she has had so long to endure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 257.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, November* 20, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a letter which on the 2nd instant I wrote to the Captain-General of this island, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General, dated the 30th September last. In this letter I repeated your Lordship's observations on the opinion his Excellency had expressed in the correspondence respecting the landing of a cargo of slaves near Cabañas in February last, and especially in his note of the 6th of August, that Her Majesty's Government regretted he should think some of the communications I had been instructed to make on matters connected with the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, not in accordance with his proper functions and position; but the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the Governments of Madrid and London, Her Majesty's Government had no means of making such communications at Madrid, and as these communications relate to the acts and conduct of the Captain-General, who is charged in these matters with upholding the good faith and fulfilling the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, it was to his Excellency that such communications must, under existing circumstances, necessarily be made, and that there are many obvious reasons why it is better that such communications should in the first instance, at all events, be made through the officer performing the duties of Consul-General, than that they should be addressed to his Excellency through the Admiral commanding the British naval forces on the West India station.

To this letter his Excellency has not returned any reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure in No. 257.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that having duly transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the correspondence with your Excellency respecting the landing of a cargo of slaves near Cabañas, when 85 of them were seized, and your Excellency's note thereon of the 6th August last, I am directed to state, in reply, that Her Majesty's Government regret your Excellency should think that some of the communications I am instructed to make to you, on matters connected with the treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, are not in accordance with your proper functions and position; but the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the Governments of Madrid and London, Her Majesty's Government have no means of making such communications at Madrid, and as these communications relate to the acts and conduct of the Captain-General, who is charged in these matters with upholding the good faith, and fulfilling the treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, it is to your Excellency that such communications must, under existing circumstances, necessarily be made; and there are many obvious reasons why it is better that such communications should, in the first instance, at all events, be made through

the officer performing the duties of Consul-General, than that they should be addressed to your Excellency through the Admiral commanding the British naval forces on the West India station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 258.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 24.)

My Lord, *Havana, November* 26, 1849.

I BEG leave to refer to my previous despatch, dated the 8th instant, in which I reported the correspondence I had had with the Captain-General, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, demanding the liberation of the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, now held in slavery in this island.

This day I have received from the Captain-General a note, which I inclose, from which your Lordship will see that his Excellency has received instructions from the Government at Madrid to give up the woman, on condition of the person being indemnified who holds her as a slave.

In my reply I stated that I would forward immediately his Excellency's proposition to Her Majesty's Government, having myself no authority to accede to it, and expressing my belief that, instead of this indemnity they would rather consider the woman entitled to a large compensation for the long slavery she has had to endure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 258.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Havana, November* 26, 1849.

IN conformity to what I made known to the Consul-General of England, Mr. Crawford, and to you as Commercial Agent in charge of the said Consulate, I gave account to the Government of Her Majesty of the demand made by him that should be delivered up to him the negress Mary Ann, slave of Donna Aurora Rossi, founding it on the fact that by an Act of the British Parliament in the reign of George III., it was prohibited the taking away slaves from the English colonies, declaring that those who were exported, contrary to this law, should become confiscated to the benefit of the Crown. The Government of Her Majesty, from whom I have received instructions, consider the said law as a measure purely fiscal, the punctual compliance with which the English Government may watch over, adopting for that purpose all the measures they think proper within their dominions, but that it cannot be efficacious, nor have application out of them, because its jurisdiction does not reach further; in the same manner as it happens that the Spanish Government prohibits, under the penalty of confiscation, the taking away from the kingdom of various articles; for example, money, when it passes a certain quantity, ordering for its prevention that in their custom-houses they should make the examinations and take the precautions they think necessary, but that if notwithstanding from these any one should succeed in evading the vigilance of the custom-house officer, and export a larger quantity of bullion than that permitted, the Spanish Government has no right to ask its being delivered to them from that of the state to which the defrauder has gone.

So obvious is this doctrine, that it does not need more explanations, and might then at once be applied to the present case, but the Government of Her Majesty does not wish to proceed with strict rigour, regardless of the circumstances of the same, because on this occasion it does not treat only of a question

of interest, but the fate of a person; and so powerful is this consideration in the mind of Her Majesty, that she authorizes me to deliver up to you the negress Mary Ann, always that her present possessor, who has acquired her lawfully, and who has so much right that her property be respected, be indemnified, it remaining in any case to the English Government the power to proceed against the English subject who, in infraction of the laws of his country, exported from the Bahamas the negress Mary Ann.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 258.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 26, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of this date, informing me of your having received instructions from the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to give up the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, now held in slavery in this island, upon an indemnity being given to the person who holds her as a slave. In reply, I beg to state that I have no authority to accede to such a proposition, the which I will forward immediately to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, though I am persuaded that, instead of this indemnity, they will rather consider the woman entitled to a large compensation for the long slavery she has had to endure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 259.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 29, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th ultimo, inclosing copies of a correspondence between the Captain-General of Cuba and yourself, respecting two vessels which you denounced as fitting out for the Slave Trade in the harbour of the Havana; and I have to inform you that I approve of your letters, dated the 22nd of October and 3rd of November, to the Captain-General upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 260.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 30, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatches dated the 8th and 26th of November last, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Captain-General of Cuba on the subject of the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, who is illegally held in slavery in the Island of Cuba.

With reference to the letter addressed to you on the 26th ultimo by the Captain-General, in which he informed you that he had received instructions from his Government to give up the negress Mary Ann, on the payment of compensation to her owner, I have now to instruct you to state to his Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government cannot admit the applicability of the comparison which the Captain-General makes between the illegal exportation of lumps of metal, and the illegal enslavement of a person who, by the laws of her

own country, had become entitled to freedom; and Her Majesty's Government feel sure that the Captain-General himself will, upon reflection, see the points of difference which make a total and entire distinction between the two cases.

With regard to the case of the woman, Her Majesty's Government have claimed her release as a matter of right, and have not asked as a favour the permission to buy her; and they trust that the Spanish Government and the Captain-General will see the justice of the demand, and will, without further delay, set this much injured British subject at liberty. If there can be any just question about the payment of money, it would be as to what is the amount to which this free person is entitled as compensation for a long and illegal detention in slavery.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 261.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 31, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, and I have to inform you that I approve of the note (a copy of which is inclosed in that despatch) which you addressed to the Captain-General on the 2nd ultimo, according to the instructions contained in my despatch of the 30th of September last, explaining why it is unavoidable that communications relating to the Treaty engagements of the Spanish Crown, connected with Slave Trade, should be made to him by the officer performing the duties of British Consul-General at the Havana, in the absence of diplomatic relations between the Governments of London and Madrid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 262.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1850.)

My Lord, *Havana, November* 29, 1849.

I HAD the honour to receive by the steam-ship "Thames," which arrived here last night, your Lordship's following despatches.

1st, dated the 20th October last, desiring me to repeat to the Captain-General the opinion of Her Majesty's Government on the case of the mate of the slave-vessel "*Columbia,*" Juan Manuel de Besamilla, now a prisoner here, on his giving himself up as an evidence against the parties concerned in that adventure.

2nd, dated the 28th October, approving of the steps I had taken in behalf of the emancipados Juan and Francisco, prisoners at Cardenas.

3rd, dated the 29th October, desiring me to repeat to the Captain-General, on the question of the introduction of slaves from Brazil, that Her Majesty's Government look to him for the faithful fulfilment of the engagements entered into between Great Britain and Spain, as connected with Cuba.

I proceed accordingly to obey the instructions herein given. With respect to the emancipados Juan and Francisco, I have only further the satisfaction of presenting to your Lordship's remembrance, that those two individuals were given up by this Government in October last, and were among those then sent to Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 263.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 21, 1850.)

My Lord, *Havana, December* 1, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter I addressed to the Captain-General on the 29th ultimo, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch, dated the 20th October last, to bring under his Excellency's consideration the unfortunate condition of the mate of the slave-vessel "*Columbia,*" Juan Manuel de Besamilla, a prisoner here, under the circumstance of having offered himself as evidence against the parties concerned in the bringing here a cargo of slaves in that vessel. In this letter I expressed the hope of Her Majesty's Government that he might not be made any longer to suffer, for having given such information, an act for which, in their opinion, he was deserving not of punishment, but of reward.

His Excellency, on the following day, replied, that this person being now subject to the cause for that purpose carried on in the Supreme Court, to which by the penal law passed in the Cortes, the cognizance only belongs, he had it not in his power to interfere; but as he had before informed Mr. Crawford he would convey to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty this repeated representation.

Having this day received a letter from the man, Besamilla, of which I inclose a copy, and from which I gather that his release may speedily be hoped for, I considered that it was unnecessary to write further on the subject to the Captain-General. I had, however, previously taken on myself to speak privately to the Secretary to the Government in the same terms, in the belief that Her Majesty's Government would view this imprisonment unfavourably. On this, the Secretary gave me to understand, that the man having been brought to the Captain-General by Mr. Crawford, his Excellency had no alternative but to send the case to the Supreme Court, and that there was a certain degree of jealousy existing between the authorities, which prevented his interfering further in it, than by recommending a free pardon to be sent to him from Spain.

Hoping this has been done, I trust I shall soon have the satisfaction of reporting the man's release to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 263.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 29, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received instructions from the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, to bring under your favourable consideration the unfortunate condition of the piloto, Don Juan Manuel de Besamilla, now confined in the gaol of this place, under the circumstances of his having voluntarily presented himself to your Excellency to give evidence against the parties concerned in the slave-trading expedition of the felucca "*Columbia,*" in July, 1848; and I am now desired to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that he may not any longer be made to suffer, for having given to Her Majesty's officers in Cuba information tending to lead to the better execution of the Treaty between the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain for the suppression of Slave Trade, an act for which, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, Besamilla is deserving not of punishment but of reward.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 263.

The Government Secretary to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, November* 30, 1849.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your communication of yesterday's date, informing him of your having received instructions from your Government to bring under his consideration the condition of Don Juan Manuel de Besamilla, a prisoner, on account of his being an accomplice in the bringing the expedition of the felucca "*Columbia,*" detained with slaves proceeding from Africa. His Excellency directs me, in consequence, to say to you that he is informed of the contents of the said letter, and that the said individual being subject to the cause which for that purpose is carried on by the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, it is not in his power to interfere with the jurisdiction, which by law only belongs to the said tribunal, the which already on the 13th November of last year, he thought proper to inform the Consul Mr. Crawford, in answer to his letter relative to the same matter, but, nevertheless, he will transmit to the Government of Her Majesty your repeated letter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 263.

Don Juan Manuel Besamilla to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.) *Royal Prison, December* 1, 1849.

SENOR CONSUL, know by this that my defender came, on the 20th of last month, and told me that there had come the decision of the proofs I gave, and that they had all come good in my favour, and that they asked of the Captain-General twelve negroes of those that had come in the expedition for better proof, and that they had taken declaration from ten of them, and that there was only two wanting for proof, and that they had asked for them from Don Antonio Benitez, that he should deliver them, under the penalty of $1000, in the course of eight days, to put them with the other proceedings, and that they should finish the case. Now I do not know what will come from the Court, but I have yet confidence in what Mr. Crawford told me.

Señor Consul, have the goodness to send by the bearer what you pass me for my maintenance for the half month, now I believe it will not be a long time that I have to remain here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JUAN MANUEL DE BESAMILLA.

No. 264.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1850.)

My Lord, *Havana, December* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of this island on the 29th ultimo, in obedience to your Lordship's orders given in the despatch dated the 29th October last, on the consideration of his Excellency's note to me of the 4th September, that it was not in his province to make interpretations of the meaning of the Treaty, which power belonged only to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, to which that of Her Britannic Majesty ought to apply in the usual course.

In this letter of the 29th of November, I expressed the regret of Her Majesty's Government that the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the two Governments, there was no means of their making at Madrid the representation his Excellency had suggested, that Her

Majesty's Government should address the Spanish Government on the subject of his Excellency's infringement of the Treaty of 1835; and Her Majesty's Government, therefore, had no alternative but to apply to his Excellency for a faithful execution of the engagements of that Treaty, so far as its fulfilment is connected with local and official acts. I added also, as directed, that though Her Majesty's Government were sorry to be obliged to trouble his Excellency with communications on such matters, the state of things adverted to rendered it unavoidable that they should look to his Excellency as the responsible organ of the Crown in Spain in regard to these affairs.

On the following day I received a reply from the Secretary to the Government, under his Excellency's orders, merely that he was made aware of the communication, and would transmit it to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty.

Having heard from good authority that two more cargoes of slaves were expected from Brazil, I thought it my duty, in my acknowledgment of this note, to add, that all Her Majesty's officers would be bound to act according to these instructions on any occasion arising of such infringement of the Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 264.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 29, 1849.

I BEG leave to refer to the note of the 4th September last, addressed to me by the Secretary, Colonel Sandoval, under your Excellency's orders, on the subject of the representation I had made on the 31st August, by Lord Palmerston's direction, respecting the illegality of allowing slaves to be brought into Cuba from Brazil, as contrary to the Treaty for the suppression of Slave Trade, between Great Britain and Spain. In that note of the 4th September it was expressed, that it was not in your Excellency's province to make interpretations of the meaning of the Treaty, which power belonged only to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, to which that of Her Britannic Majesty ought to apply, in the usual course.

In reply to this I am now instructed to state, that Her Majesty's Government have received and taken into consideration a copy of the letter so addressed to me by your Excellency's order; and that they regret that the Spanish Government having broken off the diplomatic relations between the two Governments, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has no means of making at Madrid the representation which your Excellency suggested that Her Majesty's Government should address to the Spanish Government, on the subject of your Excellency's infringement of the Treaty of 1835, between Great Britain and Spain: and Her Majesty's Government, therefore, have no alternative but to apply to your Excellency for a faithful execution of the engagements of that Treaty, so far as its fulfilment is connected with local and official acts. Though Her Majesty's Government are sorry to be obliged to trouble your Excellency with communications on such matters, yet the state of things above adverted to renders it unavoidable that they should look to your Excellency as the responsible organ of the Crown of Spain in regard to these affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY

Inclosure 2 in No. 264.

The Government Secretary to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Havana, November* 30, 1849.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your letter of yesterday's date, in which you inform him of having received instructions

from your Government in consideration of what by his order I answered on the 4th September last, to the communication which you addressed to him on the 31st August previous, with respect to the introduction of slaves proceeding from Brazil to this island. His Excellency in consequence of which directs me to say to you as I do, that he is apprised of it, and will transmit to the Government of Her Majesty your said letter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CRISPIN XIMENES DE SANDOVAL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 264.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, November* 30, 1849.

I HAVE received a note of this date from the Secretary, Colonel Sandoval, under your Excellency's orders, in acknowledgment of my letter of yesterday to your Excellency, repeating the instructions I had received from the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, as to the construction of the Treaty of 1835 between Great Britain and Spain, for the suppression of Slave Trade, forbidding the introduction of slaves into this island from Brazil, equally as from Africa.

As your Excellency is thus made aware of the opinions of Her Britannic Majesty's Government on this subject, and has been pleased to promise to communicate them to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, I have only further to observe, that it will be the duty of all the officers of Her Britannic Majesty to act according to those instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 265.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 21, 1850.)

My Lord, *Havana, December* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I sent to the Captain-General of this island on the 4th instant, on having heard of the landing of a cargo of slaves, to the east of this place a few days previously. The number was reported at so many as 800, and that they had been brought to the neighbourhood of Cardenas from Brazil in a vessel supposed to be American, it having been sunk immediately after the landing, and the crew, 34 or 35 in number, had been sent off from Cardenas in the American brig "*Abcona*" for New York.

These circumstances I repeated to the Captain-General, who in his answer of the same date replied, that a rumour of this landing had reached him the day before, and that both then and on receiving my denunciation, he had sent off strict orders to the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardenas to take the proper steps respecting the matter.

On the 19th instant, having occasion to see the Captain-General on other business, his Excellency informed me that the denunciation was substantially correct, that the landing had been effected eighteen leagues from Cardenas, and that a number of the Africans brought had been already put on different estates before the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardenas could reach them, so that he had been able to seize only 174 of them. These had been at the time brought here, and were placed on board the "Romney," to be declared emancipados immediately, as he would inform me officially in a few days, they being meanwhile put into quarantine for observation, in case of sickness among them.

This day accordingly I have received the further notice, of which I also inclose a copy, having to observe that, as the Captain-General now seems to assert that no more were brought than the 174 seized, contrary to what he had before stated, I believe the contrary was the fact, though the number 800 might be exaggerated. This number was given me upon such good authority, that coupled with another rumour I heard, I fear two cargoes have been lately

brought to the same neighbourhood. The one from Brazil I have heard of as bringing, according to a corrected report, 600, and another, also from a trustworthy quarter, only 340. Those now on board the "Romney" are described to be principally children, and sickly and aged persons, whence the inference was drawn that the capture was a delusive one. Even in this case the fact of having to bring such persons, seems to me a proof of the depressed state of the Trade, because they surely would not have brought them if they could have brought better in their room.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 265.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, December* 4, 1849.

I REGRET to have it my duty to inform your Excellency of my having heard of another flagrant infraction of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain in the landing of a cargo of slaves, within the last week, near Cardenas. The number is reported at 800, and that they were brought on account of the Señores Riera and Rubirosa. The vessel, I learn, has been sunk, and the crew, as many as 35, were sent away in the American brig "*Abcona,*" which sailed from Cardenas a few days since. It is said the parties had some difficulty in getting their passports hence, and a very large sum for that purpose therefore had to be paid at Cardenas.

I trust that your Excellency will in this case give full proof of your determination to punish such offences.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 265.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)
Sir, *Havana, December* 4, 1849.

IN consequence of a vague rumour which yesterday came to my hearing, respecting a disembarkation of Bozals which was about attempting, or had been done on the coast of the jurisdiction of Cardenas, I directed immediately the Lieutenant-Governor to proceed with activity, and to the tenor of the existing orders, to inquire what there might be in the matter, or the origin of the like reports; and now, in consideration of the information contained in the denunciation you have made to me under date of to-day, and which I send to him, I direct him besides what is proper to fulfil the corresponding investigation.

God preserve, &c.
(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 265.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

(Translation.)
Sir, *Havana, December* 24, 1849.

IN consequence of the orders which I issued the 3rd instant, and which I indicated to you on the 4th, in answer to your denunciation of the same day, respecting the information of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, 174 of both sexes were captured at the place called Sabana de Santa Clara, on their way clandestinely to enter the country in the interior, of whom 2 died, and the remaining 172 being brought to this capital, and placed on board the ship or

ponton, I have declared them emancipados, after having gone through the necessary measures.

As this fraudulent introduction of Bozals, effected notwithstanding the extreme vigilance which is observed, was no doubt the origin of the exaggerated report which reached you, and which you made known to me in your denunciation, I have thought it proper to give you this information, because although when at first it inferred heightening the number of 800, which was expressed, it cannot be that there should be vessels in the present day that would dare, with such a large cargo, to attempt to mock the vigilance, which only is possible with small vessels, as might be that which brought these Bozals, of which according to the investigations practised, and the report of his Excellency, the Commandant-General of Marine, nothing has been found.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 265.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, December* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date, informing me of the seizure of 174 Africans of the cargo which I denounced to your Excellency on the 4th instant, and of which your Excellency had directed the investigation the day preceding. I report this information immediately to Her Majesty's Government, and feel assured they will receive it with much satisfaction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

No. 266.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 4, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 1st of December, 1849, and I have to convey to you my approval of the steps which you have taken, as therein reported, with a view to procure the release of the mate of the slave-vessel "*Columbia,*" who was detained a prisoner at Havana in consequence of having offered himself as evidence against the parties concerned in importing a cargo of slaves in that vessel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 267.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 9, 1850.

I DULY received Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch of the 31st December, 1848, inclosing a list of British subjects residing within the district of his Consulate who are owners of slaves; and I have to refer you to the circular addressed to Mr. Crawford on the 31st of December, 1843, and which, with the Act of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 98, on which it is founded, are annexed as inclosures 22 B and 22 C, to the 26th section of the Consular General instructions. In that circular it was pointed out that from and after the time when that Act came into operation, namely, the 1st of November, 1843, it had become unlawful for any British subject, wherever he or she might be, to deal, trade in, purchase, sell, barter, or transfer a slave or slaves, excepting in cases where by the Act itself special exceptions were made to the general prohibition.

Her Majesty's Government think it right that the special attention of Her

Majesty's subjects residing in Cuba should be again called to the penalties established by that Act; and I have accordingly to instruct you to take measures for causing the material substance of that Act, together with the circular above-mentioned, to be published in some influential journal at the Havana; and further, to take all suitable opportunities of drawing the attention of the British slave-holders to the tenor and purport of those documents.

You will charge the expense which you may incur in executing this instruction in your account current with the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

NOTE.—This circular was also sent to Her Majesty's Consuls at Santiago de Cuba and Porto Rico.

No. 268.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 27.)

My Lord, *Havana, February* 14, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of this island on the 11th instant, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, contained in the despatch dated the 30th December last. In this letter I repeated your Lordship's views, respecting the case of the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, held here in slavery, whom the Spanish Government had ordered to be given up, on compensation being made to the person claiming to be her owner.

In his reply of the 13th instant, his Excellency stated that he would forward this communication to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, notwithstanding that their opinions had been already expressed on the matter, in consideration of the interrupted relations between the two countries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 268.

Acting Consul-General Kennedy to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir, *Havana, February* 11, 1850.

I HAVE it my duty to refer to your Excellency's letter to me of the 26th November, informing me of the instructions received from the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, to give up the negress Mary Ann, a native of the Bahamas, on the payment of compensation to her owners, she being claimed as a British subject entitled to her freedom.

I am now directed by Her Britannic Majesty's Government to state to your Excellency, that they cannot admit the applicability of the comparison your Excellency made between the illegal exportation of inanimate lumps of metal, and the illegal enslavement of a person, who, by the laws of her own country, had become entitled to freedom; and they feel sure that your Excellency yourself will, upon reflection, see the points of difference, which make a total and entire distinction between the two cases.

With regard to the woman, I am directed to say that Her Majesty's Government have claimed her release as a matter of right, and have not asked as a favour the permission to buy her; and they trust the Spanish Government and your Excellency will see the justice of the demand, and will without further delay set this much-injured British subject at liberty. If there can be any just question about the payment of money, it would be as to what is the amount to which this free person is entitled, as compensation for a long and illegal detention in slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. KENNEDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 268.

The Captain-General to Acting Consul-General Kennedy.

Sir, *Havana, February* 13, 1850.

I HAVE received your letter of the 11th instant, relative to the negress Mary Ann, slave of Donna Aurora Rossi, and although the opinion of Her Majesty's Government with regard to this particular is expressed in the letter which I addressed to you on the 26th of last November, I will make known to them this your communication, in consideration of the want of intercourse between the two Governments.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Santiago de Cuba.*

No. 269.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 2.)

(Extract.) *Santiago de Cuba, April* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information copies and translations of a correspondence which has taken place between his Excellency General M'Crohon, Governor of this province, and me, relative to a negro woman called Nancy, who has presented herself at this Consulate, representing herself to be a native of Jamaica and a subject of Her Majesty, and claiming my protection as such.

The circumstances of the case are so fully detailed in that correspondence as to render a recapitulation thereof unnecessary.

As I hope to effect the liberation from slavery of Nancy and her children, under the provisions of the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113.

Inclosure 1 in No. 269.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *Santiago de Cuba, February* 12, 1849.

IT is my duty to acquaint your Excellency that in the month of October last year a negress, called Nancy, presented herself at this Consulate, representing herself to be a British subject, and claiming my protection as such.

From her statement, it appears that she and her mother Eliza were the slaves of Mr. John Clarke, a member of the commercial community of Kingston, Jamaica, who died in England, leaving herself and mother to one Mademoiselle Louise Defournet, with whom he had cohabited. That about the year 1827, the said Mademoiselle Louise Defournet left Kingston for Cuba, accompanied by her reputed mother Mademoiselle Bonne Castain, and Mr. Joseph Touson, all natives of the Island of St. Domingo, and the said Nancy came with them to this city in the capacity of a servant. She says that her embarkation was opposed by the authorities at Kingston, and she has good reason to believe that she was entered on the passport as "free."

Mademoiselle Louise Defournet afterwards became the wife of Mr. Joseph Touson, and in the year 1838, some time after the death of her husband, she took her departure hence for France, along with her family, leaving Nancy to her mother the said Mademoiselle Bonne Castain, upon

whom she attended in the capacity of a domestic up till the time of her death, which took place about the month of July last year. It appears that she died intestate, and in consequence her property and effects, as well as the said Nancy and her infant daughter about ten months old, were taken possession of by the Tribunal de Defuntos.

During her residence in this city she gave birth to three sons, Juan, José, and Lucien. The latter received his freedom from Mademoiselle Bonne Castain, and the other two were sold by Madame Touson previous to her departure for France. Juan was sold to Don Salvador Benitez, and José to Don Francisco Padro, an apothecary in this place.

I may inform your Excellency that under date of the 4th of November last, I requested that the Governor of Jamaica would be pleased to cause search to be made in the records kept by the Island Secretary as to the condition of the said negress at the time of her embarkation at Kingston (to be imported into a colony belonging to foreign State), and that the result of the said search might be transmitted to me, certified in due form by Her Catholic Majesty's Consul at that port, to enable me to claim the said negress Nancy and her children on behalf of the British Crown. To this despatch I have not as yet received a reply, and I have been under the necessity of again calling his Excellency's attention to the subject, under date of the 4th instant. There can be no doubt, however, that the negress must at the time have been free to have been able to leave Jamaica, because by the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, then in force, the carrying away of Nancy from any of the British West India colonies, and holding her in a state of slavery in this place, was, if it took place after the 1st of January, 1825, in violation of the provisions of that Act, and the production thereof, will I apprehend be amply sufficient to establish the right of herself and children to freedom, even had she been a slave at the time of her exportation from Jamaica.

The poor creature is an object of pity, on account of the impaired state of her vision, the sequel of small-pox, and her helpless condition well merits your Excellency's humane consideration and attention.

May I therefore request that you will be pleased to cause a judicial inquiry to be instituted, in order to establish the justice of the claim of Nancy and her children to freedom, and order them to be placed in deposit free from labour, pending the issue of the said inquiry.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 269.

The Governor of Santiago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, February* 16, 1849.

IN consequence of your despatch of the 12th instant, and in conformity with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor of first nomination of this city, I have decreed of this date that a judicial inquiry should be instituted relative to the pretended claim to freedom, of the negress Nancy and her sons, placing her under the charge of the said magistrate, on the condition that you will opportunely produce the information asked by you of the Governor of Jamaica, which I communicate to you in reply, adding, that in so far as regards any further proceedings, I have agreed with like advice, that the necessary steps be taken.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 269.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, February* 17, 1849.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 12th instant, which you have been pleased to address to me, in order that I might institute a judicial inquiry respecting the claim made by the negress Nancy, for the liberty of herself and that of her sons, I have ordained by a decree, with the advice of the Señor Assessor Alcalde Mayor of first nomination, to acknowledge the receipt of said despatch, and to acquaint you in reply that the necessary orders have been given to the effect that the inquiry solicited by you may be instituted, trusting that so soon as you receive the information solicited by you of the Governor of Jamaica, that you will transmit the same to this tribunal, in order that it may be attached to the process now formed, without which requisite the proceedings will be paralyzed in their course, which I communicate to you for your information.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 269.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, February* 19, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 16th, in reply to mine of the 12th instant, and informing me that in consequence thereof, and in conformity with the dictamen of the Señor Alcalde Mayor Primero of this city, you had decreed that a judicial inquiry should be instituted, respecting the pretended claim of the negress Nancy to freedom, as a British subject, in virtue of being a native of the Island of Jamaica, and of her illegal introduction into this island; and that pending the issue thereof, you had caused her to be committed to the charge of the said Alcalde Mayor.

I am glad to observe that in bringing this case to your Excellency's notice, you lost no time in causing a judicial inquiry to be made, which I trust will eventually terminate, as anticipated by me, in the liberation of this poor helpless woman and her children.

I will lose no time in putting your Excellency in possession of the information required by me of the Governor of Jamaica, on hearing from his Excellency, in reply to my inquiries; in the meantime, however, it would no doubt tend to elucidate the matter, if your Excellency would be kind enough to cause search to be made by the Government Secretary, among the archives kept by him in his office, for the passport of Mr. Joseph Touson, and his party, with a view to ascertain the condition of the said Nancy at the time of her embarkation for this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 269.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, March* 15, 1849.

WITH reference to the despatch which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me under date of the 17th ultimo, respecting the judicial inquiry, instituted in your Excellency's tribunal, relative to the pretended claim to freedom of the negress Nancy, in virtue of her being a native of the Island of Jamaica, and a subject of Her Britannic Majesty:—

I have now the satisfaction of transmitting, for the information and

guidance of your Excellency, a copy of a certificate from the island Secretary of Jamaica, from which it appears that the records kept in his office do not supply any information respecting the said negress, either as conveyed, or manumitted, by Clarke, or any one else, under will or deed, or as registered as a slave by him or any one else, under the triennial returns of slaves enrolled at his office, and consequently neither Madlle. Bonne Castain, nor her daughter Madame Touson, had any legal right or title to the said Nancy and her children.

I have likewise the honour to transmit to you herewith, the original of an affidavit taken before one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace, and duly certified by the Spanish Consul, of John Boileau Sorapure, of the city of Kingston, which affidavit sets forth that the said Sorapure knew the negress Nancy, from the time he was a child, and that she was then a servant of his (the deponent's) half-sister, Louise Dufaut, who then lived in the city of Kingston, and who afterwards married Joseph Touson, a merchant there, who subsequently left the Island of Jamaica, along with his wife, and sailed for Cuba about the 1st of October, in the year 1825, in a sloop called the "Rose," William Huntingdon, master, accompanied by the said Nancy, whom he afterwards saw in the year 1831, at the house of Joseph Touson in this city, in the capacity of a house servant.

This important document establishes beyond a doubt the right of the said negro woman, Nancy, to her freedom; the act of embarking and transporting her to Cuba, a colony belonging to a foreign State, was in violation of the provisions of the 5th Geo. IV, cap. 113, which came into operation on the 1st of January, 1825, and thereby created a forfeiture of her owner's rights to the British Crown, and that in consequence, she as well as her children, being British subjects now, and as such should forthwith be restored to freedom.

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

Inclosure 6 in No. 269.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, March* 21, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 15th current, relative to the proceedings instituted respecting the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Nancy and her sons, and inclosing a certified copy, and an original declaration as therein expressed, and by decree of yesterday, by advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor of second nomination, I have resolved to acknowledge the receipt of your said despatch.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

No. 270.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 24.)

My Lord, *St. Jago de Cuba, April* 16, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith inclosed a copy and translation of a despatch addressed to me by his Excellency the Governor of this place, dated the 8th ultimo, relative to the case of the negress Betsy and her sons, recommending me, in order to assist the said negress and her son Joseph in proving their identity, that I would expedite, in so far as lay in my power, the production of the certificates of their baptism, as required by the tribunal, with a view to their liberation from slavery.

I likewise transmit herewith a copy of my reply, dated the 12th, and

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 270.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, March* 8, 1849.

IN consequence of that represented by the Procurator Fiscal and the Syndic Procurator-General in the criminal proceeding officially instituted to inquire into the state of liberty or slavery of the negress named Betsy or Bess, and her three sons, Joseph, John, and Louis, and against those who may be found guilty in the said affair, I have resolved under date the 6th current, with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor of second nomination, to address you the present, in order to remind you that for your part you will be pleased to assist Betsy or Bess in proving her identity by production of the certificates of baptism of herself and her son Joseph, which ought to be procured through your medium from Jamaica, trusting that you will use all possible expedition with a view to their restoration to freedom.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 270.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, March* 12, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch dated the 8th instant, respecting the state of the proceedings now pending in your Excellency's tribunal, relative to the liberation from slavery of the negress named Betsy or Bess, and her sons, and with a view to facilitate the same you had, with consent of the assessor in the case, resolved to remind me of the production of a copy of the baptismal register, kept in the parish wherein the said Bess and her son José were baptized.

In reply, I beg leave to assure your Excellency that so soon as I have been favoured with an answer to the despatch which I addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica on the subject of the certificates of the baptism of Bess and her son José, I will lose no time in communicating to you the result.

In the meantime I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 271.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Forbes.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd of April last, inclosing a copy of a correspondence which had passed between you and the Governor of St. Jago on the subject of the claim which you had made for the freedom of the negress Nancy, who is said to be a native of Jamaica, and of her three children, who appear all four to be illegally retained in slavery in the district of St. Jago.

I approve of the steps which you have taken, as reported in thi despatch, to obtain the liberation of this woman and her children.

No. 272.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 20.)

My Lord, *St. Jago de Cuba, September* 17, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated the 11th of June last, acknowledging the receipt of my despatch of the 3rd of April, with its inclosures, relative to the claim which I had made for the freedom of the negress Nancy, a native of Jamaica, and her three children, who appear to be illegally retained in slavery in this district, and approving of the steps which I have taken to obtain the liberation of this woman and her children.

I now have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith inclosed a copy and translation of a despatch dated the 12th of April last, addressed to me by his Excellency the Governor of this province on this subject, as well as a copy of my reply dated the 17th of the same month, and

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 272.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, April* 12, 1849.

IN the proceedings instituted on the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy, or Bess, and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who are found culpable in the said affair, I have resolved to address to you the present with the following insertion:

"Most Excellent Sir,

"I, Lic. Don Joseph Tomas de Villafañe, Syndic Procurator-General of the most illustrious Corporation of this city, appear before you in the judicial proceedings instituted to inquire into the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy and her sons, and as the most lawful manner, say, that I have examined the communication which has been made to this tribunal by the British Gonsul of the results obtained from Jamaica, the translations of which are registered at folios 226, 227, and 228; the information they contain does not favour the pretension of my clients, nor the object of the inquiry sought after, on account of the difference of dates and persons, and I can only attribute those mistakes to some error in the communications made to obtain such results. Observe, therefore, that in the translation of folio 226, there is mentioned a negress named 'Nancy,' servant of Luisa Dufaut, half-sister of the declarer John Boileau Sorapure, who married with Joseph Touson, all of whom came to this city in a vessel called the 'Rose,' William Huntingdon, master, bringing with them from there the said Nancy on the 1st of October, 1825. The person whose case we now investigate is said to be named Betsy, or Bess (Isabel), who came to this port with M. Lefebre, his wife, and daughter Maria Madelena, in the year 1815 or 1816, bringing with them the said negress and her two sons named Joseph and John, and by comparing them there is a manifest discordance in the name of my client, in the persons who brought her to this city, and in the time of her arrival to it; and also in the matter of the said Nancy, they do not say that she brought sons, and this Betsy brought the two cited; and therefore I repeat, that either in the obtaining of those results which the English Consul communicated to this tribunal, there has been a notorious error, or in his forwarding them to be added to this process, they belonging, perhaps, to some other one with which the same Representative of the British flag is occupied, on account of which it would be well to address him a polite note that he

may be pleased to give the necessary information on the subject; and reminding him at the same time that he inquire anew for the attainment of the baptismal registers that are pending which are solicited from Jamaica, reserving to myself the right of judging of the authenticity which the supplied declaration offers at folio 214 by Madame Juana Denns, known as Gené, when the said results are obtained. In those terms, to you I entreat that you may be pleased to decree agreeably, according to justice, which I ask with the necessary oath, &c.

(Signed) "JOSEPH T. DE VILLAFANE.

"*Cuba, April* 11, 1849.

"With process and sentence. As asked by the Syndic Procurator-General, and pass the note to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, inserting the foregoing request and this decree.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
MARTINES DE BANOS.
JOSEPH URTARTE."

I transcribe to you the foregoing to the end therein mentioned.
God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 272.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, April* 17, 1849.

IN replying to the despatch which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me under date the 12th instant, I will merely direct your Excellency's attention to an error into which the Syndic Procurator-General has, I presume inadvertently, fallen. In his summary he mixes up, and treats of in a promiscuous manner, two cases, which involve a question respecting the liberation from slavery of two negro women and their offspring. The cases are separate and distinct, and ought, I submit, to be dealt with as such. The subject is one of paramount importance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 273.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 2, 1850.)

My Lord, *St. Jago de Cuba, December* 26, 1849.

REFERRING to the despatch which I had the honour to address to your Lordship under date the 16th of April last, relating to the proceedings instituted by me in the tribunal of his Excellency the Governor of this place, respecting the claim to freedom of the negro woman Betsy and her three sons; I now transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies and translations of a continuation of the correspondence which has taken place between his Excellency and me on the subject thereof, from which your Lordship will observe that I have been required by the tribunal to adduce evidence in proof of the allegation made by me, that Betsy was the identical negress emancipated by Mr. George Mackenzie in 1799, in conformity with the record of manumission in her favour.

The task thus imposed on me, although one of difficulty and attended with delay, has been surmounted, and I am glad to think that my efforts on her behalf have so far been crowned with success, as, judging from the

stringent measures immediately afterwards adopted by his Excellency's tribunal against those criminally culpable in this case, I am inclined to think that little apprehension need be entertained as to a favourable issue; indeed, at an interview which I lately had with his Excellency, he admitted that Betsy was free.

I took an opportunity of pointing out to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, that Bastienne Claber, the principal delinquent in this case, was resident in Kingston, and if a case could be made out against her, which I apprehended there would be no difficulty in doing, she ought not, in my opinion, to be allowed to go free; and I have now the satisfaction of transmitting to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch from his Excellency, dated the 1st instant, from which you will learn that criminal proceedings have been instituted in the Admiralty Court sessions at Kingston against her, for having caused the negress Betsy, and her sons, to be illegally sold as slaves in this place.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, May* 9, 1849.

WITH reference to the call which has been made by your Excellency's tribunal for the production of the certificate of the baptism of the negress Betsy, or Bess, and her son José, I beg leave to acquaint you that search has been made by the custos of the parish of Clarendon, in which Kellit's estate is situated, by direction of his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, in the books kept on that estate, but none were found of so early a date as 1798, nor could any trace be found of the negress Betsy, or Bess, and her son José. A similar search was made by the rector and vestry clerk in the registry book of baptisms of the said parish from the year 1776, when the first record of the baptism of a slave was made, down to the year 1804, and no entry was found of the name of Bessy, or Bess, or of José. It appears that there was no record of births kept in the parish at the time referred to, except in the estates' books kept on each property, and it is therefore supposed that Bessy, or Bess, was the woman's property name, and that she was not baptized previous to her manumission.

I regret to find that the practice, in regard to the registry of baptisms, and especially in the case of slaves, appears to have been so loose and irregular in that colony at the time referred to, as to render it hopeless that any further inquiry for any register of the birth or baptism of Bess and her son José would be attended with any useful result.

The evidence which has already been adduced, and more particularly the testimony on record of Mademoiselle Jenny, a native of Jamaica, who knew Bess to be free, is, I apprehend, sufficient to prove the identity of herself and her sons, and the justice of their claims to freedom.

Although the *onus probandi* has been thrown upon Bess, I submit that Bastienne Claber, and her attorney Linares, might with equal justice have been called upon to prove the alleged state of slavery of Bess and her sons, and the legal title of the former to claim or hold them as such. In her declaration, taken before Her Majesty's Attorney-General for the Island of Jamaica, she admitted that she had no other claim or title to the person of Betsy than the will of Christian Claber; now admitting that document were genuine, and it is strongly suspected as being a forgery, it does not satisfactorily prove that Betsy was a slave at the time of his death, and that she was his lawful property.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, May* 26, 1849.

IN the separate process formed in accordance with the judicial decree of the 25th of January of the present year pronounced in the proceedings instituted on the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy, or Bess, and her three sons, Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who in the said transaction may appear culpable; and respecting the explanation given by Miguel Linares as to the inversion or application of the money for which the aforesaid Betsy or Isabel and her sons were sold, I have resolved to address to you the present with the following insertion:

"Most excellent Sir,—Miguel Linares, the manner most conformable to law in the judicial inquiry respecting the liberty of the negress Betsy and her sons, and to justify the inversion of the price for which they were sold, appears before you and says; that at last God granted that Bastienne Claber should remit the document that I asked for, but she has done it in such a manner that it will be necessary to repair again to Jamaica. Everything in this affair has been attended with difficulties and confusion in consequence of the lapse of time. To favour Claber I accepted the power which she conferred upon me for the sale of her slaves, and now, in my old age and surrounded by infirmities, I find myself involved in proceedings, and without the power scarcely to give an account of what is asked; for it is not only the time which has passed would make me forget a thousand particulars, but that being ignorant in those affairs and without suspicion I did not take care to obtain the documents which will now be granted me on account of the steps which are being taken. The application of the money that I received for the sale of the slaves referred to, is justified by the confession of Claber, confirmed by the documents which I transmit, marked with the Nos. 1 and 2, which I swear to in form, and by the testimony of the letter of liberty of Alexi, which already has been lodged in process; but those two documents will not satisfy the tribunal, on account of their informality, yet all can be remedied.

"I believe that the judge wishes to arrive at the truth, and that he has no interest in that I may be prejudged in this affair. The defect which is observed in those documents might be easily remedied by making Claber certify them with the corresponding solemnity, and for that purpose no more opportune channel is presented than that of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, who has done the same in this affair on former occasions. Therefore these the most efficacious means I entreat your Excellency will be pleased, after perusal of the documents referred to, to send them to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, to the end that he should make Claber certify them in Jamaica with the corresponding solemnity; and that so soon afterwards the diligences may be delivered to me on review, in order to represent in justice which I ask, swearing, &c.

"*Cuba, May* 24, 1849.

(Signed) "LIC. YGNACIO GUTIERRES
HIDALGO MIGUEL LINARES."

Let it be done as solicited by Miguel Linares in his escrito, or representation of folio 27, that the documents referred to with the corresponding despatch be remitted to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for final determination; and without prejudice we have resolved that the said Linares shall within the term of three days grant the bond which he has sent to offer, warning him of what may happen in default.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
MARTINES DE BANOS.
JOSE URTARTE.

I transcribe to you the accompanying documents or receipts as stipulated in the foregoing insertion in favour of Linares, which are written in

Spanish, and a strange idiom, hoping that you will be pleased to return to me the aforesaid documents duly executed with the shortest possible delay.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, May* 29, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of date the 26th instant, relative to the criminal proceedings instituted against Miguel Linares, arising out of the cause now pending in your Excellency's tribunal respecting the liberty of the negress Betsy or Bess and her sons.

The inclosures therein contained, marked Nos. 1 and 2, and purporting to be receipts granted by Bastienne Claber in favour of Linares for part of the proceeds of the sale of the said "Bess" and her sons, I shall transmit to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, in order to obtain the ratification indicated by the tribunal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, June* 25, 1849.

IN the criminal proceedings pending as to the state of liberty or servitude of the negress Betsy or Bess, and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who in said matter may be found culpable, I have ordered to address to you the present with the following insertion:—

"*Cuba, June* 22, 1849.

"Examined: Require of the negress Isabel (Betsy) and in her name as her representatives and advisers the Syndic Procurator-General, and the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, that they present some other witness or proof of whatever kind, which may prove the identity of the person of the former as the Royal audience has ordered, and with the result give account, assessorship and examination, 530 reals.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
M. ARANGO.
JOSEPH URTARTE."

And I transcribe it to you for the purposes expressed.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, July* 7, 1849.

IN the proceedings instituted as to the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy or Bess, and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who may be found culpable in the said affair, I have

resolved according to decree of the 5th current, with the advice of the Señor Assessor Alcalde Mayor Segundo, to remind you, with recommendation, of the answer to the despatch which I addressed to you under date the 25th of June last, with a copy of the decree of the 22nd of the same month.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 6 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, July* 11, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 25th of June last, respecting the liberation of the negress Betsy and her sons, as well as that which you did me the honour of addressing to me on the same subject under date the 7th instant, and craving reference to your despatch dated the 25th of June last.

I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that I lost no time in transmitting a translation of that despatch, along with the corresponding vouchers (two in number), to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, for the purposes therein expressed, and that as yet I have not been favoured with a reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 7 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, July* 14, 1849.

IN the proceeding instituted as to the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy, and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who are found culpable in the said affair, I have resolved according to decree of the 12th current, with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor Segundo, to remind you anew of the answer to the despatch which I addressed to you under date the 25th of June last.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, July* 21, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 14th, and in reply I beg leave to refer you to a despatch which I addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, under date the 19th instant, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, for your information and guidance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 9 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, August* 25, 1849.

IN the proceedings pending in this tribunal, in order to discover the state of liberty or servitude of the negress Betsy or Bess, and her three sons Joseph, John, and Luis, by decree dated the 8th current, with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor Segundo, I have ordered that a committal to prison should be issued against the Licentiate Don Juan Bautista Cisneros, and Miguel Linares, with embargo of property to the amount of two thousand dollars for the first, and one thousand for the second, which has been fulfilled with respect to Linares, but not to Cisneros, he being dead, and having received his confession, I have ordered a decree which in its tenor is as follows:—

" *Cuba, August* 23, 1849.

"Require the pursued, Miguel Linares, that at the first hearing he exhibit the documents to which he refers in the preceding Act, and verified added to the proceedings, pass this to the Syndico and the Procurator Fiscal for his orders, advising the English Consul by means of an attentive despatch, of the state of the cause for the corresponding purposes.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
M. ARANGO.
ERASMO REGUEIFEROS."

And I communicate it to you that you may remain informed of the state of the cause.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 10 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, August* 30, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 25th instant, relative to the proceedings now pending in your Excellency's tribunal respecting the liberty of the negress Betsy or Bess, and her three sons José, Juan, and Luis, and annexing a copy of a decree pronounced by the said tribunal, under date the 23rd current, against the parties criminally implicated in the sale of the said Bess and her sons, a copy of which I will transmit to Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 11 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, September* 20, 1849.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 29th of May last, I have now the honour of returning to you herewith inclosed the documents therein referred to, verified in due form, with an additional

authentication thereunto annexed, by the Honourable Dowell O'Reilly, Her Majesty's Attorney-General for the Island of Jamaica.

I likewise transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, dated the 14th instant, in which he explains the cause of the delay which has taken place in returning the said documents.

I also inclose, for your Excellency's information and guidance, a copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Attorney-General to his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, dated the 31st of August last, from which you will observe that Marie Geneviève Claber is about being tried in the Admiralty Court Sessions at Kingston, on the charge of having caused Betsy and her sons to be sold as slaves in this place, and that Betsy will be required as a witness.

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

Inclosure 12 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, September* 25, 1849.

WITH your despatch of the 20th current I have received the documents which are therein referred to, relative to the cause as to the state of liberty or slavery of the negress Betsy, and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis.

And which I communicate to you for your information.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MACCROHON.

Inclosure 13 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, October* 12, 1849.

REFERRING to the despatch which I had the honour to address to your Excellency under date the 20th ultimo, and the inclosures therein contained, relating to the cause now pending in your tribunal, respecting the liberation from slavery of the negro woman named Betsy, and her sons; I stated for your Excellency's information and guidance, that Bastienne Geneviève Claber had been held to bail to answer the charge at the ensuing Admiralty Court Sessions at Jamaica, of having caused the negress Betsy and her children to be sold into slavery in this place, and that she would be required as a witness against Bastienne Claber at the approaching trial.

May I therefore request that your Excellency will be pleased to place the said Betsy at my disposal, in order that she may be sent to Jamaica for the aforesaid purpose, by the ensuing British packet which is expected to arrive in this port on the 18th instant; and I will be responsible for her re-appearance in this place to await the issue of the judicial inquiry now pending for the liberty of herself and children, and am ready to enter into ecognizances to that effect, should your Excellency's tribunal judge such a formality to be requisite.

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

Inclosure 14 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, October* 19, 1849.

IN the proceeding instituted as to the state of liberty or servitude of the negress Betsy and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who in said matter may prove culpable; in view of your despatch dated 12th current, relative to the request to place at your disposition the said Betsy for the purposes therein specified, I have issued the following decree:

"*Cuba, October* 18, 1849.

"Examined: Return this cause to the Procurator-Fiscal, as is ordered, which functionary, in discharging the duty of his office, will represent as to what is solicited by the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty in his last despatch, of which he will acknowledge receipt previously.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
M. ARANGO.
JOSEPH URTARTE."

And I transcribe it to you in acknowledgment of receipt.
God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 15 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, November* 7, 1849.

IN consequence of what was lately represented by the Procurator-Fiscal, Lic. D. Santiago Rodriguez Correoso, in the proceeding formed as to the state of liberty or servitude of the negress Betsy and her sons Joseph, John, and Luis, and against those who in said matter may prove culpable, I have pronounced, with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor Segundo, the following decree:

"*Cuba, November* 6, 1849.

"Examined: In the principal the Procurator-Fiscal asks determinate punishment as is his duty, and it will be decreed in the first appendix, if the English Consul obliges himself personally to present the negress Betsy when the tribunal asks for her, deliver her to him as he solicits in his despatch folio 353, and in the second appendix it cannot be allowed.

(Signed) MAC CROHON.
M. ARANGO.

"By order of their worships,
(Signed) JOSEPH URTARTE."

And I transcribe it to you for the purposes expressed in the inserted decree.
God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 16 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, November* 14, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 7th, annexing copy of a decree pronounced by your Excellency's tribunal on the 6th instant, in the case of Betsy and her

sons, and placing the said Betsy at my disposal, as solicited by me for the purpose mentioned in my last despatch, provided that I oblige myself personally to present her to the tribunal when she may be required.

In reply I beg to acquaint your Excellency that I will accept of her on those conditions, and will feel obliged by your causing the necessary passport to be issued to enable her to take her departure hence by the ensuing British packet, which is expected to arrive in this port on the 18th instant.

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

Inclosure 17 in No. 273.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, November* 17, 1849.

IN view of your despatch of the 14th of the current month, in the proceeding instituted against Miguel Linares and the deceased licentiate D. Juan Bautista Cisneros, on suspicion of the negress Betsy and her sons José, Juan, and Luis, being free, having been alienated by the first, with power of Maria Geneviève Claber, and knowledge and intervention of the second as Syndic Procurator-General, wherein you acknowledge receipt of that which was addressed to you by this tribunal on the 7th of the current month, manifesting that you would receive the servant Betsy under the conditions which are indicated in that communication, and soliciting the dispatch to her of the necessary passport, that she might depart from here in the next British packet, which it is expected will arrive in this port to-morrow; I have expedited, with the advice of the Señor Alcalde Mayor Segundo, the following decree:

"*Cuba, November* 17, 1849.

"Do as is asked by the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty in his preceding despatch, which will be answered with another attentive immediately.
(Signed) MAC CROHON.
M. ARANGO.
JOSEPH URTARTE."

And I transcribe it to you for the purposes expressed, with the understanding that the negress Betsy will be delivered to you by the Syndic Procurator-General, in whose power she is, and that on this same date an order is communicated to the Secretary to the Government to dispatch the solicited passport.

God preserve you many years.
(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 18 in No. 273.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, November* 24, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch dated the 17th instant, annexing a copy of a decree pronounced on same date by your Excellency's tribunal, authorizing the Syndic Procurator-General to place the negress Betsy at my disposal, in conformity with my request. I likewise received by order of your Excellency, from the Secretary to Government, the passport for Betsy, and I now beg leave to acquaint you that I had her forthwith embarked on board the

British packet "Medway," which took her departure hence for Jamaica on the 18th instant.

I have acquainted his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica of the conditions on which the negress Betsy was delivered over to me by order of your Excellency's tribunal, and I did not fail to request of him that she might be re-embarked for this place so soon as the law officers of the Crown had taken down her depositions, required for the conviction of Bastienne Claber.

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

Inclosure 19 in No. 273.

The Governor of Jamaica to Consul Forbes.

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, December* 1, 1849.

IN reply to your letter of the 14th November, I have the honour to inform you that the negress Betsey arrived in the packet on the 20th November, and has been put in charge of the Crown law officers, who will require her attendance in the prosecution of Mrs. Claber, which has already been instituted.

Her Majesty's Attorney-General has been informed that you have undertaken for the appearance again in Cuba, of the negress Betsey.

You must be aware, however, that I have no legal power of compelling her to go out of this island, in case she should refuse to do so.

She has been fully recognized by persons who were formerly employed on the same estate with her, and whom she equally remembers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES EDWARD GREY.

No. 274.

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 2, 1850.)

My Lord, *St. Jago de Cuba, December* 26, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, copies and translations of a continuation of the correspondence which has passed between his Excellency the Governor of this province and me, relative to the claim made by me some time ago on behalf of the negro woman Nancy, for the liberation from slavery of herself, and her three sons Juan, José, and Lucien.

By the affidavit of John Boileau Sorapure, the half-brother of Madame Touson, the identity of Nancy is proved beyond a doubt, and that she is a native of Jamaica, consequently her transportation from a British colony, and importation into this place, a settlement belonging to a foreign State, was a direct violation of the provisions of the 5th Geo. IV, cap. 113, and thereby created a forfeiture of her owner's rights to the British Crown.

I hold, therefore, that if the stipulations of the British Act of Parliament are strictly observed, and impartially acted up to, by his Excellency's tribunal, a decision favourable to the claimants will no doubt be the result.

Your Lordship will observe that Nancy's son Juan has been discovered; the other son, José, I have not as yet been able to discover any trace of; I understand, however, that he is somewhere in the interior of the island.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 274.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, October* 9, 1849.

REFERRING to the despatch which I had the honour to address to your Excellency under date the 15th of March last, respecting the judicial inquiry pending in your Excellency's tribunal, relative to the pretended claim to freedom of the negro woman Nancy and her children.

Accompanying the said despatch I transmitted a copy of a certificate by the Secretary to the Government of Jamaica, from which it appears that the records kept in his office do not supply any information respecting the said negress, either as conveyed or manumitted by Clarke, or any one else, under will or deed, or as registered as a slave by him, or any one, under the triennial returns of slaves enrolled at his office; from which it is evident that neither Mademoiselle Louise Dufaut, nor Mademoiselle Bonne Castain held any legal right or title to the said negress Nancy or her children.

I had the honour of transmitting to your Excellency at same time, the original of an affidavit, taken before one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace, certified by Her Catholic Majesty's Consul, of John Boileau Sorapure, of the city of Kingston, in which affidavit he declares that he knew the said negress Nancy from the time he was a child, and that she was a servant of his (the deponent's) half-sister, Louise Dufaut, who then lived in the city of Kingston, and who afterwards married Joseph Touson, a merchant there, who subsequently left the Island of Jamaica, along with his wife, and sailed for this place about the 1st of October in the year 1825, accompanied by the negress Nancy, whom he afterwards saw in the year 1831, at the house of Joseph Touson, in this city, in the capacity of a house-servant.

This important document not only identifies the person of the said Nancy, but establishes beyond a doubt the right of herself and children to their freedom, as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, in virtue of the provisions of the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, which came into operation on the 1st of January, 1825, as the act of embarking and transporting the said Nancy to Cuba, a colony belonging to a foreign State, was in violation of the provisions of the said Act of Parliament, and thereby created a forfeiture of her pretended owner's rights to the British Crown.

An authentic copy of the British Act of Parliament referred to is herewith inclosed for your Excellency's information and guidance.

I have to acquaint your Excellency that one of Nancy's sons, Juan, is at present in this city, and has presented himself before me, having accompanied Don José Antonio Bayé, of the commercial community of Bayamo, by whom he is now held in slavery; he is domiciled, I understand, at Don Fernando Ferratges, of this place; and I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to cause him to be placed in deposit, free from labour, pending the issue of the present inquiry.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 274.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, October* 15, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th current, relative to the case formed as to the liberty of the negress Nancy, also the provisions of George IV; and having done what is necessary, I say it to you in acknowledging receipt.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 274.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, October* 23, 1849.

CONSEQUENT on the despatch which you were pleased to address to me, dated 9th current, relative to the case as to the liberty of the negress Nancy, I issued a decree whose tenor, and that of the exposition of the interpreter of this Government, upon which I fall back, they say thus: "Excellent Sir, on engaging myself in the fulfilment of the preceding decree of your Excellency, I have been detained by the difficulty, that the treatise printed in English, which contains the 113th chapter of the laws which were sanctioned in the 5th year of the reign of His Britannic Majesty George IV, for the Suppression of the Slave Trade from the Coast of Africa, and to prepare for the Emancipation of the Slaves in the English Colonies: it comprehends a multitude of regulating laws and even treaties with various Powers, fixing limits to their approach to these coasts, and to the duration of the Treaty in the dominions of these Sovereigns; and as what I can do in the matter in question, which is opened up in this case respecting the negress Nancy, he who explains understands that it consists in those local dispositions, referring to the said English colonies; for fear of mistake in translating those paragraphs or articles which may be necessary, and which appear to be those which His Britannic Majesty's Consul recommends to the consideration of your Excellency, I take the liberty of soliciting your Excellency's justice, that, passing the said treatise with a despatch to the Consul, ask him to point out for official answer, which are the articles or paragraphs to be translated, that they may operate in the cause, by which means I will have much assistance in the actuation of this part, and into what it should resolve itself. To your Excellency I supplicate that you will be pleased to take into consideration what is said, resolve as is proposed, or in the manner which may appear best; for the interpreter who subscribes is always disposed to obey and fulfil what is ordered by the Tribunal. Cuba, 22nd October, 1849. Excellent Sir, Augustin de la Texera y Bazo. Cuba, 23rd October, 1849. Do as is begged by the interpreter. MacCrohon, Martinez Baños, Rafael Ramirez."

And I communicate it to you, that you may be pleased, acceding to what is asked, point out the articles or paragraphs which are desired to be translated from the treatise which you sent me, and which accompanies this, in order that they may act in the cause.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MACCROHON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 274.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, October* 26, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of date the 23rd instant, accompanying the British Act of Parliament, 5th George IV, cap. 113, which you were pleased to return to me in order that I would point out, for the guidance of the Government interpreter, such clauses of the Act as bear upon the question now under judicial investigation, respecting the pretended claim to freedom of the negress Nancy and her sons.

In compliance with your Excellency's request, I now return the British Act of Parliament, having marked the clauses 2, 3, 14, 16, 17, and 42, which prohibit the exportation to a foreign settlement of slaves belonging to any colony the possession of the British Crown, under the pain of forfeiture of such slaves to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, except in such special cases as are set forth in clause 16 of the said Act.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 274.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, October* 31, 1849.

I RECEIVED with your despatch of the 20th instant, the British Act of Parliament, 5th George IV, with the information which was solicited, that the interpreter of this Government might be able to translate the clauses relative to the question of the liberty of the negress Nancy and her sons; and the indicated translation having been effected, I have passed it to the assessor of the cause, returning to you the original Act in answer.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 6 in No. 274.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, November* 23, 1849.

HAVING ordered D. Fernando Ferratges to keep in his power as a deposit, until further orders from the tribunal, the negro Juan, son of the named Nancy, he has advised that this slave is not in his possession, and that he has never had him in his house. Which I communicate to you for the corresponding effects.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MAC CROHON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 274.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, November* 29, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that Juan, son of the negress Nancy, presented himself before me again last night, having absconded, according to his statement, on the preceding day, from the Presidio or chain-gang, to which he had been sent about three weeks ago, without the commission of any crime.

It appears that instead of accompanying his pretended owner to this city, as stated by me in a former despatch which I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency, he deserted and came to town, having heard that he had been claimed by me on behalf of the British Crown; that on his arrival here he was captured and sent to jail, where he remained some time, and from thence he was sent to the chain-gang.

May I again request that your Excellency will be pleased to order the said negro Juan to be placed in deposit, pending the issue of the judicial inquiry which has been instituted in your Excellency's tribunal, respecting the justice of the claim of the said Nancy and her sons to their freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 274.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.) *Cuba, December* 2, 1849.

THE negro Juan, of whom you are pleased to advise me in your despatch of 29th November last, respecting his presenting himself, manifesting his having escaped from the works of the chain-gang; he was imprisoned as a runaway, and placed in charge of the deputy of the Board of Protection, from whence, after the lapse of a month, without being reclaimed by his master, he was passed to the public works, conformably to the existing regulations in this matter. But having been captured anew on the morning of this day, and presented by his captor, he remains in deposit in the royal prison of this city until the decision of the official inquiry as to the pretended right to his liberty, as a son of the negress Nancy, which I say to you in answer to your cited despatch, adding, having ordered that with its translation it be added to the proceedings for the necessary effects.

God preserve you many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH MACCROHON.

Inclosure 9 in No. 274.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir, *St. Jago de Cuba, December* 3, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, relative to the negro Juan, whose contents have been answered by my despatch to you of the 29th.

I have also received the despatch which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me under date the 2nd instant, informing me that the said negro had been deposited on that date in the jail of this city, pending the issue of the judicial inquiry which has been instituted in your Excellency's tribunal respecting his pretended claim to freedom as son of the negress Nancy, of which I have taken note.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 275.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Forbes.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 6, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 26th of December, 1849, with its inclosures, showing the steps which you have taken on behalf of the negress named Betsy, or Bess, and her three sons, Juan, José, and Luis, with a view to procure their release from slavery; and also describing your further proceedings in having instigated the Governor of Jamaica to cause judicial proceedings to be instituted in the Vice-Admiralty Court at Kingston against one Bastienne Claber, for having caused the negress Betsy, or Bess, and her sons, to be illegally sold as slaves.

I approve of the measures which you have taken in order to procure the release of this negress and her sons; and I also approve of your exertions with a view to bring Bastienne Claber to trial; but with respect to the sending of the negress Betsy to Jamaica, as a witness on the trial of Bastienne Claber, I am apprehensive that you have taken an engagement in regard to the re-appearance of Betsy in Santiago de Cuba at the time when she may be wanted for the pending judicial inquiry in her own case, which you have no certain means of making good.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

TRIPOLI.

No. 276.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, March* 1, 1849.

I REGRET to state that during the past year the Traffic in Slaves has continued undiminished. The numbers brought to this place from Soudan and Bornou, by the caravans of Mourzouk and Ghadames, amount to more than 1200, of whom, as usual, two-thirds at least were young females.

By a report received from Vice-Consul Herman, it appears that 1262 slaves brought to Bengazi from Waday, had been embarked during the past year at that port for different parts of the Levant.

The total number exported from the Regency within the year has exceeded 2000.

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

No. 277.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, March* 2, 1849.

HAVING, in the course of last year, addressed some observations to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople upon the fact of the chief magistrate of this city being an extensive dealer in slaves, his Excellency brought the subject under the notice of the Ottoman Government, and a vizierial order was thereupon transmitted to the Governor of the Regency, prohibiting officers in the service of the Porte from engaging in the Traffic.

Having ascertained that this order was evaded, upon the pretext that it applied only to officers holding their appointments directly from the Porte, and not to those functionaries who, like the Governor of the city, were appointed by the Pasha, I reported the circumstance to Sir Stratford Canning, and I had the satisfaction to receive from his Excellency, not long afterwards, a despatch, inclosing the translation of a vizierial letter, copies of which I have the honour to transmit herewith, directing the Pasha in very positive terms to prevent all persons in public employments from taking any part in the Commerce of Slaves.

This order has been obeyed; the Governor of the city has ceased to be a slave-dealer. The previous discouragement given to the Trade by the closing of the slave-market at Constantinople, and the odium now cast upon it by making it disreputable, must naturally produce a serious

effect upon those engaged in it, while such a manifestation of the feelings of the Government respecting this inhuman traffic encourages the hope of its ultimate and perhaps not distant abolition.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 277.

Sir Stratford Canning to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *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 am, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure 2 in No. 277.

The Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli.

(Traduction.) 28 *Août*, 1848.

JE vous ai écrit, il y a peu de temps, pour vous dire de défendre le Commerce des Esclaves, auquel quelques employés publics se livrent 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.

(Translation.)

August 28, 1848.

I WROTE to you a short time ago to instruct you to prohibit the Trade in Slaves, in which several persons in the public employment at Tripoli are in the habit of engaging. I had a right therefore to suppose that you would take measures to remedy this. It is said, however, that some of those public servants are still engaged in this trade. Now it is unnecessary for me to repeat to you that this commerce is from its nature a bad thing, and that it is by no means fitting that public servants should be engaged in it.

Your Excellency will therefore issue rigorous orders to this effect to the persons concerned, and will take without delay the necessary steps for putting an end to this state of things; so that it may not again be necessary to write to you on this matter, and with this view I write to you the present letter.

No. 278.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, April* 3, 1849.

I HAD the honour to receive yesterday your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd of January*, directing the measures to be taken for bringing to justice the parties concerned in shipping some slaves at Bengazi in the month of September last.

I received at the same time a despatch from the chief of the Government of Malta, dated March 16th, stating that Rear-Admiral Harvey had been instructed by Sir William Parker to send a steam-vessel to Bengazi, to bring to Malta Messrs. Nani and the witnesses necessary for substantiating the charge against them. With this letter was transmitted the copy of one from the Crown Advocate, requiring information upon several points which he considers essential to the success of the prosecution.

By the courier who set out last night for Bengazi, and will arrive there in fourteen days, I wrote to Vice-Consul Herman, and sent him a copy of your Lordship's despatch directing him to act in strict conformity with the instructions therein contained, except as far as related to the arrest of M. Cesare Nani, who I believe was absent from Bengazi at the time of the transaction. I instructed Colonel Herman, therefore, if my impression was correct, and there was no evidence criminating him, to arrest his brother Alexander only. For this purpose I sent him a warrant; and another to be employed against M. Cesare, if, contrary to my belief, he also should be implicated.

I further instructed Colonel Herman to supply as far as possible the information required by the Crown Advocate, and to make arrangements with the witnesses for their maintenance in Malta and their return to Bengazi, and to take the deposition of any witnesses that might be tendered for examination by the accused party in the manner prescribed by section IV of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 94.

As the evidence of the Director of the Sanità at Bengazi, and of Dr. Casolani, who is the medical officer of the establishment, appears to me of much importance, and as they cannot leave their post without permission from the Board of Health at Constantinople, I will request Her Majesty's Ambassador to move the Ottoman Government to allow them to proceed to Malta, for the purpose of giving evidence on the trial, if his Excellency should learn from the Governor of Malta with whom I shall communicate on the subject, that the Crown Advocate is of opinion that the presence of these gentlemen is indispensable.

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

No. 279.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 26, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo informing me of the measures which you had taken in compliance with the directions contained in my despatch to you of the 22nd of January last, for bringing to justice the parties concerned in the shipping of slaves at Bengazi in the month of September last; and I have to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

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* Class B, presented 1849, No. 267.

No. 280.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, May* 1, 1849.

I REGRET to state that the Messrs. Nani, whom your Lordship has directed me to send to Malta for trial upon a charge of being concerned in exporting slaves from Bengazi, appear by Vice-Consul Herman's report, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, to have been guilty of the same offence upon a recent occasion.

Colonel Herman having learnt that the "*Tre Fratelli*" was engaged to convey the ex-Bey of Bengazi to Constantinople, who intended to take certain slaves with him for sale, sent for M. Nani, and asked him if he were the owner of the vessel. He replied that he was. Upon being told by Colonel Herman that he was informed that slaves were to be embarked, he affirmed that the slaves had been liberated, and promised to bring the act of manumission. The next morning he brought a paper in Turkish, a translation of which is inclosed, which merely states, in general terms, that there were no slaves on board, but only servants and subjects. Colonel Herman observed that the act of manumission must be drawn up in regular form by a competent authority, which M. Nani promised should be done.

In the meantime the Bey embarked with all his people, and when the Vice-Consul sent to M. Nani for the act of manumission, he received instead the letter, copy and translation of which are inclosed, announcing the sale of the vessel, and that consequently the act of manumission was no longer necessary.

Colonel Herman sent for him and informed him that under the circumstances he did not consider the sale valid, and that if there were any slaves on board, M. Nani must abide the consequence. After some fruitless attempts to make it appear that the slaves were liberated, he said he would go on board and order all the slaves to be disembarked. He went accompanied by the cavass of the Consulate, and five slaves were brought on shore, three of whom were intended for sale at Constantinople.

This statement is fully substantiated by the accompanying deposition of the cavass, as to the disembarkation of the slaves, and the deposition of Dr. Casolani as to other circumstances of the case.

There is reason to believe that the sale of the vessel is merely simulated; and it is evident that but for the active interposition of Colonel Herman the slaves would have been exported.

I have sent copies of the depositions to the Governor of Malta, for the purpose of being communicated to the Crown Advocate.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 280.

Colonel Herman to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *Bengazi, April* 9, 1849.

SOME time ago I heard that Nashid Bey, late Governor of this district, had chartered the "*Tre Fratelli*" to carry himself and family *viâ* Tripoli to Constantinople. I determined, in consequence, to keep my eye upon her. On Saturday the cavass of the Consulate reported to me that Nashid Bey, independent of his household, was going to embark some negro slaves intended for sale at Stamboul.

I immediately sent for M. Nani and asked him if he were the owner of the "*Tre Fratelli.*" He replied that he was, I then mentioned to him the report I had received; read to him the sections of the Act of Parliament relative to the case, and impressed on him the responsibility he was incurring. He asked permission to make a copy of the Act, which

I accorded; upon which he told me that he had told Nashid Bey that he could convey away no slaves in his vessel, and that Nashid Bey had in consequence manumitted them all, promising to bring me the act of manumission on the following day. The next morning he brought me a document in Turkish, signed by Nashid Bey, upon which I remarked that the act must be made in due form by a competent legal authority, which he promised me should be done. On my return from a ride the cavass reported to me that Nashid Bey and his harem had embarked, and that the vessel would sail that evening. I immediately sent to M. Nani for the act of manumission, and received in return the inclosed letter. On reading it I immediately recollected that it was Sunday. I accordingly sent again for M. Nani, and told him that no contract of sale made on the Sabbath day was legal; that in consequence I considered him still as the owner of the vessel, and that should there be any slaves on board, he must take the consequence. He replied that all the slaves were now free. I observed, Produce me the proofs; upon which he said he had not been able to find the Cadi, but that he would go and obtain his legalization. This I knew he could not do, for the paper signed by Nashid Bey merely declared that the personnel of his household were servants and not slaves. M. Nani, as I foresaw, returned in a few minutes, and told me that the Cadi refused to legalize the paper, that in fact he could not do so; therefore that he would go on board the vessel and order all the slaves to be disembarked. This he did, accompanied by my cavass; and five slaves were brought on shore, three of whom the Bey's brother-in-law admitted to me this morning, in the presence of Dr. Casolani, were intended for sale at Constantinople.

It is very evident that no credit can be attached to the Bey's certificate; for he not only permitted the disembarkation of the slaves, but subsequently sent his brother-in-law to me to inquire whether, being now owner of the vessel, he might not be allowed to re-embark them.

These facts appear in the deposition of Dr. Casolani and of my cavass, which I transmit herewith.

That M. Nani must have known that slaves were to be taken on board cannot be doubted, for he has always been in most intimate relation with Nashid Bey, and engaged with him in mercantile transactions; and it is evident that the precipitate sale of the "*Tre Fratelli*," after his complicity had been detected, was made solely in the hope of evading the consequences.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 280.

Certificate of Nashid Bey.

(Translation.) 16 *Sefer*, 1265.

THERE are no male or female slaves on board the ship in the port of Bengazi, but only servants and subjects. I have at your request given you the present certificate duly signed.

The Caimacan,
(Signed) NASHID BEY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 280.

M. Cesar Nani to Colonel Herman.

(Translation.)

Honoured Colonel, *Sunday, April* 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you privately that I have at this moment sold the schooner "Euch Cardase" (*Tre Fratelli*). To-morrow, please God, I will present myself at your office to subscribe the contract.

With respect to the paper, it has not yet been signed and authenticated by the Cadi; however, in consequence of this circumstance, I do not any longer think it necessary.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. NANI.

Inclosure 4 in No. 280.

Deposition of the Consular Cavass.

Bengazi, April 9, 1849.

KNOW all men, that I, Mohamet Boheit, Cavass of the British Vice-Consulate at Bengazi, hereby solemnly depose, that having accompanied on the night of the 8th of April, 1849, M. Cæsar Nani, on board the Ottoman schooner belonging to the said M. Cæsar Nani, he brought on shore from the aforesaid schooner, five slaves, viz., one well-dressed fair coloured woman, three negro women, and one negro boy. On my return on shore with M. Cæsar Nani, who was accompanied by his brother, M. Alexander Nani, I immediately reported the disembarkation of the slaves to the British Vice-Consul; and I now in the name of our holy religion, by this solemn deposition, confirm the report I made last night to the Vice-Consul.

(Signed) MAHOMED his mark ⋈ BOHEIT.

The Undersigned certifies that the above deposition was this day made in his presence.

Bengazi, April 9, 1849.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN, *Vice-Consul.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 280.

Deposition of Dr. Casolani.

Bengazi, April 9, 1849.

KNOW all men, that I, Charles Casolani, a doctor of medicine and medical officer of the quarantine establishment at Bengazi, do hereby solemnly depose upon oath, that on the night of the 8th day of April, A. D. 1849, I was present at the British Consulate at Bengazi, and heard the British Vice-Consul distinctly tell M. Cæsar Nani, that no contract of sale executed on the Lord's day was valid; that he in consequence must consider M. Cæsar Nani still the owner of the Ottoman schooner "*Tre Fratelli,*" and that should any slaves be found on board he must abide by the consequences; that M. Nani replied, all the slaves on board had received their manumission; that on the British Vice-Consul demanding the legal proofs of this assertion in the shape of an act or acts of manumission legally framed and attested by the competent authority, M. Nani replied that he had not been able to see the Cadi, but that he would go and procure the documents the Vice-Consul required; that some minutes afterwards he returned and told the Vice-Consul that the Cadi would not give him the act the Vice-Consul required; in fact that he could not do so. M. Nani then said he would proceed on board the vessel and cause all slaves to be disembarked; that he proceeded on board for that purpose, accompanied by the Cavass of the Vice-Consulate; that some time after they both returned, and in my presence reported that the five slaves had been found on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli,*" and disembarked.

And I further state that on the following morning I was at the Consulate when two individuals of the suite of Nashid Bey brought a

message from him to the Vice-Consul to the following purport:—Whether having now purchased "*Tre Fratelli*" it was the opinion of the Vice-Consul, that should he embark any slaves it would injure the Messrs. Nani? To which the Vice-Consul replied, If the vessel belongs to the Bey, he is of course at liberty to do what he likes with her. Upon which it was further asked, if he were to leave the three slaves intended for sale, and took with him only his personal attendants, what would be the consequences. The Vice-Consul reiterated his former observation, upon which they said, It will be safer to take no slaves whatever, and that they would leave them all here.

(Signed) CHARLES CASOLANI.

The Undersigned, British Vice-Consul at Bengazi, hereby certifies that the foregoing deposition was made in his presence.

Bengazi, April 9, 1849.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 281.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord, *Malta, June* 12, 1849.

UPON my arrival here, having consulted the Crown Advocate, I find it to be his opinion, that the evidence of Vice-Consul Herman will be absolutely necessary upon the trial of Messrs. Nani.

As there is no British subject at Bengazi who could be placed in charge of the Vice-Consulate, during Colonel Herman's absence, I have instructed Mr. Vice-Consul Dickson, whom I left at Tripoli waiting for the first caravan going to Ghadames, to proceed to Bengazi; and that no delay may occur after the arrival of the permission for the attendance of the Ottoman witnesses, I have requested that the steamer may first go to Tripoli to convey the permission to the Pasha and receive his orders thereon, and then taking Mr. Dickson on board, proceed to Bengazi to embark Colonel Herman, the accused parties and the witnesses.

I hope that this arrangement will receive your Lordship's approbation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

No. 282.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, June* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that it having been reported to me that an Ottoman steamer, on board of which there are some British subjects serving as engineers and stokers, was about to leave this port for Malta and Constantinople, with a quantity of slaves for sale at the latter place, I thought it my duty to address a letter, copy of which I have the honour to inclose, to his Excellency the Governor of Malta, as well as a similar one to Vice-Admiral Sir William Parker.

I shall not fail to forward to your Lordship what further information I should receive on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure in No. 282.

Acting Consul-General Reade to the Secretary of the Government of Malta.

Sir, *Tripoli, June* 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the Ottoman steamer "Esseri Djedid," at present at anchor in this port, will leave this in a few days for Malta and Constantinople, having on board a quantity of slaves intended for sale at the latter place.

I am informed by a person on whom I can place full reliance, that six slaves have already been embarked, and that the captain of the steamer has purchased some on his own account, and has given orders for more.

As two of the engineers on board are British subjects, and as I understand that there are other British subjects serving on board, having referred to section 2 of the 5th George IV, cap. 113, I consider it my duty to bring this intelligence to your knowledge, for the information of his Excellency the Governor.

Should I receive any further information regarding this, previous to or on the departure of the steamer, I shall not fail to forward it to you by the first opportunity.

I have reported this to Her Majesty's Government, as well as to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

No. 283.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 10, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo, reporting the steps which you had taken to supply the place of Colonel Herman, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi, during his absence at Malta, to give evidence on the trial of Messrs. Nani, on a charge of slave-trading; and I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that I approve of your conduct in this respect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 284.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Reade.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 13, 1849.

I HAVE received Consul-General Crowe's despatch of the 1st of May last, and its inclosures, reporting that five slaves, the property of the ex-Bey of Bengazi, had been shipped on board the "*Tre Fratelli*," a schooner belonging to the Messrs. Nani, British merchants residing at Bengazi, in order to be carried to Constantinople, where three of them were destined to be sold.

Having referred these papers to the proper Law Adviser of the Crown, I have to acquaint you that the conduct of Messrs. Nani, as therein represented, renders them liable to prosecution for breach of the British laws against Slave Trade.

I have communicated this opinion to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and I have requested him to cause a copy of Consul-General

Crowe's despatch and of its inclosures to be transmitted to the Governor of Malta, for the information of the Crown Advocate, with reference to the prosecution which is pending against the Messrs. Nani, on account of a transaction of a similar nature in which they were implicated in the autumn of last year, as reported in Consul-General Crowe's despatch of the 23rd of October, 1848.

Her Majesty's Government intend to wait, to know the result of that trial, before they decide upon the course to be pursued with respect to this further charge against the Messrs. Nani.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 285.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, June* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 6th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, as I was not aware of the intended departure of the steamer till the very moment the captain went to the Pasha for the letters, although the other Consuls received this information some hours before, I was unable to write by her.

It is notorious that she took a quantity of slaves, as the captain fearing, I suppose, he might, under the circumstances, meet with some difficulty in Malta, refused several persons passages which had been previously promised.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

No. 286.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, July* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that Colonel Herman, British Vice-Consul at Bengazi, having heard that a certain Ottoman captain had affirmed that he had taken slaves to the Levant for a French subject, sent to request him to make a deposition in writing, which he did not hesitate to do. I have the honour to inclose a copy of it for your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure in No. 286.

Deposition of Mehemet Zautouti.

PERSONALLY appeared before me, George Frederick Herman, British Vice-Consul at Bengazi, in the Regency of Tripoli, this 31st day of May, 1849, Reis Mehemet Zautouti, a native of Tripoli, commanding the Ottoman brig "Messoud," and having been duly sworn, deposed as follows:

That on or about seven months ago, and some five days before the Curban Beiram, he sailed from Bengazi for the Levant, and contracted with Hadj Mahomet Boballa, a French subject, to take 329 skins of butter, at the rate of 4 Turkish piastres the quintal; and also 5 female

negro slaves, at 36 Turkish piastres each. Hadj Mahomet Boballa and his son also went passengers in the vessel, who sold two of the slaves at Chio, two at Mytelene, and the fifth at Smyrna. That at Canea, a man of the name of Bouscheref Bousaga entrusted to Boballa a slave, whom deponent purchased on board on their voyage to Chio for 900 Turkish piastres.

This deposition having been read and interpreted to the deponent by Jacob Barrouh, also duly sworn, he in confirmation of the same hereunto puts his hand.

(Signed) MEHEMET ZAUTOUTI.

Witnesses:
(Signed) FERIT EFFENDI.
CHS. CASOLANI.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a deposition made and signed this day in my presence.

Given under my hand and seal, at Bengazi, May 31, 1849.

(L.S) (Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 287.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord, *London, July* 28, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a letter which I addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople from Malta, respecting the conduct of the Governor of Bengazi, who was reported by Vice-Consul Herman to have interfered in a most unjustifiable manner in the case of Messrs. Nani, then in custody upon a charge of being implicated in the shipment of slaves.

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

Inclosure in No. 287.

Consul-General Crowe to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Malta, June* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency, that on the day before I left Tripoli, Mr. Vice-Consul Reade received a letter from Colonel Herman, dated 14th May, reporting conduct of the most unjustifiable nature on the part of Sherif Pasha, Governor of Bengazi, in reference to the case of Messrs. Nani, now in custody upon a charge of being implicated in the shipping of slaves.

The following is an extract from the letter which is addressed to Mr. Reade, under the impression that I was no longer at Tripoli:—

"On the arrival of the schooner on Saturday, the Pasha assembled the Meglis, and after administering an oath of secrecy, commanded them to draw up and sign a paper in favour of Nani. To this some of them demurred, when he said he would give them twenty-four hours for reflection. Thus prostituting his official authority for the purpose of coercing those under his command to affirm what in their conscience they know to be false."

Upon the receipt of this information I waited upon the Governor-General of the Regency, and stated the case to him. I informed his Excellency that the prosecution against the Messrs. Nani for an offence against the laws of England, was instituted by orders of Her Majesty's Government; that I had instructed the Vice-Consul to afford them all legitimate means and facilities of defence; that the conduct of

the Pasha appeared to me to be so highly reprehensible in every point of view, that I should feel it my duty to report the matter to your Excellency and to Her Majesty's Government, in order that it might be brought under the notice of the Ottoman Government; that in the meantime I must request that immediate orders should be sent to the Pasha to abstain from further interference in a case which concerned British subjects only.

I delivered a note to his Excellency to the above effect, and he promised that peremptory orders on the subject should be sent to the Pasha by the courier who would set out the next day for Bengazi.

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

No. 288.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, August* 3, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that an Ottoman transport left this port for Constantinople on the 25th ultimo, having on board sixteen slaves, two males and fourteen females, which the Governor-General of this Regency sent from this.

Part of these his Excellency bought from slave-merchants of this place, and part he received as presents from Hassan the Pasha of Mourzouk, who lately arrived here on leave of absence.

I understand that the late Pasha took with him about sixty slaves.

The Pasha's being allowed to buy slaves in such quantities gives great encouragement to the slave-dealers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

No. 289.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, August* 9, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, relative to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government regarding the second charge against the Messrs. Nani for breach of the British laws against Slave Trade.

I shall lose no time in forwarding this information to Mr. Vice-Consul Herman, in order that he may be in readiness, should your Lordship think proper to send out instructions on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

No. 290.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1849.

I DULY received your despatch of the 1st of May last, and its inclosures, reporting a further shipment of slaves intended for sale at Constantinople on board the schooner "*Tre Fratelli,*" the property of Messrs. Nani, the Maltese merchants of Bengazi, who are now at Malta awaiting their trial on a similar charge; and I now transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch which I addressed upon this case to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of that despatch, in which I stated to Mr. Reade that Her Majesty's Government intended to wait to know the result of the pending trial before they decided upon the course to be pursued with respect to this further charge against the Messrs. Nani, I have now to instruct you on your arrival at Malta, to which place I understand that you are about to repair on your return to your post, to advise with the Crown Advocate as to the expediency of proceeding at once upon both the charges against the Messrs. Nani; and you are authorized to adopt that course if, after consulting with the Crown Advocate, you should be of opinion that it is necessary in order to attain the ends of justice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 290.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Reade, July 13, 1849.

[See No. 284.]

No. 291.

Colonel Herman to Mr. Bidwell.—(Received September 25.)

Sir, *Malta, September* 14, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report that in pursuance of the instructions brought to me on the 6th instant by Her Majesty's ship the "Medina," from the Chief Secretary to the Government of this island, I embarked on the following morning with the witnesses I had collected. As the "Medina" came direct to Bengazi, I had no alternative than to dispatch a courier to M. Aquilina, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Derna, and invite him to move forthwith to assume charge of the Vice-Consulate at Bengazi. The archives, *ad interim*, have been confided to the care of Mr. Paulo Cherio, a British subject.

On my reporting myself to Colonel Jones, Royal Engineers, the Acting Governor of Malta, he placed me in communication with the Crown Advocate, who is taking measures to bring forward the case on or about the 24th instant.

It is the general opinion here, that however strong the evidence against the Messrs. Nani may be, no Maltese jury will convict them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 292.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 4.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, August* 24, 1849.

IT is my painful duty to report to your Lordship the occurrence of one of the most appalling disasters that ever took place in this quarter of the globe, connected with the Slave Traffic.

A few days ago the news arrived here that a large caravan, with slaves, on its way from Bornou to Fezzan, had fallen short of water, and that a number of the persons composing it had perished in consequence; and whilst I was doubting as to the truth of it, I received a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Gagliuffi, copy of which I have the honour to inclose, confirming this report.

It is horrible to think, my Lord, that these poor wretches should

be torn from their homes for the purpose of satisfying their desire for money, and be subjected to so dreadful a death, perhaps through the carelessness of these avaricious slave-dealers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure in No. 292.

Vice-Consul Gagliuffi to Acting Consul-General Reade.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Mourzouk, August* 4, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th July last.

An express is just come in from Bornou; he brings the melancholy intelligence that the caravan of Arabs which set out forty days before him, had lost a number of persons by death, in consequence of the want of water. Several Arabs, amongst whom were a son of Ben Alua, the Chief of the town, eight little boys, all brothers, and other Arabs, and Tibboos, about 1600 slaves, forty horses, an infinite number of camels, which they killed, in order to drink their blood and the water in their stomachs, all died of thirst; they say it was a dreadful sight to see so many poor creatures suffer from thirst, and then die. It is truly enough to make any person shudder, who has a human heart, to think that so many unhappy wretches should be torn away from their parents, to die afterwards in such a dreadful manner, from the mere love of lucre, and those miserable men have no other crime than being born black. God grant that this infamous Traffic may shortly cease.

I forward to you three letters, which were delivered to me by a certain Sherif Mahomed, who is gone to Twat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. B. GAGLIUFFI.

No. 293.

Colonel Herman to Mr. Bidwell.—(Received October 5.)

Sir, *Malta, September* 19, 1849.

FOR the information of Viscount Palmerston, I had the honour, on the 14th instant, of reporting my arrival here with the witnesses who accompanied me from Bengazi, a list of whom I now inclose.

In the communication in question I announced to you that the Crown Advocate had informed me he was making his dispositions to bring the Messrs. Nani to trial on or about the 24th instant. Yesterday, however, he told me that it will be necessary to make a reference to the Law Officers of the Crown in England, in order to ascertain the spirit and scope of the Order in Council and the Acts of Parliament under which those legal functionaries reported it to be competent to arrest and send the Messrs. Nani to Malta for trial.

The Governor of the province, Sherif Pasha, although he had received from Constantinople orders to allow me to take to Malta any Ottoman subject whose evidence I might require, to the last moment threw every obstacle in my way, which added to the short stay made by the "Medina" at Bengazi, rendered it utterly impossible to make arrangements on a more economical scale.

Lord Palmerston having in his despatch to Mr. Reade of the 13th July stated that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to wait the result of the trial of the first case before they decided upon the course to be pursued with respect to the further charge against the Messrs.

Nani, I should not have ventured to leave my post, had not the instructions I received from the Chief Secretary to the Government at Malta, left me no other alternative.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure in No. 293.

List of the Witnesses necessary for the first Case against the Messrs. Nani.

(Translation.)

Dr. Charles Casolani.
Ferid Effendi, Director of the Quarantine of Bengazi.
Colonel Herman.
Mahomed Abdallah el Zahany, Boatman of the Lazaretto.
Mahomed Boheit, Cavass in the Vice-Consulate of Bengazi.
M. Frederic Casolani.
Mahbar Bey.
Nejib Effendi.
Abdurahim Sabri, Captain of the Port of Bengazi..

List of Witnesses necessary for the second Case against the Messrs. Nani.

Dr. Charles Casolani.
Mahomed Boheit, Cavass of the Consulate.
Abdurahim Sabri, Harbour-Master of Bengazi.
Colonel Herman.

No. 294.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord, *Malta, October* 9, 1849.

IN pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 10th of September, which I received on my arrival here, I immediately sought an interview with the Crown Advocate.

I found that he had already preferred an indictment against the Messrs. Nani upon the first charge only, a copy of which had been delivered to them.

The proceedings having advanced thus far, it was not thought advisable to withdraw the indictment for the purpose of amending it by including the second charge; and it was therefore decided to prefer a separate indictment upon that charge.

That the accused parties might have as early intimation as possible of the extent to which it is intended to proceed against them, and to avoid the expense of keeping the Bengazi witnesses here longer than is absolutely necessary, I urged the Crown Advocate to draw up the second indictment, and communicate it to the Messrs. Nani without delay, so that both trials may be brought on at the commencement of the ensuing sessions, which open in a few days.

I think it desirable to remain here at least until the first trial is over, in order to watch the proceedings and report the result to your Lordship.

I have &c.
(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

No. 295.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 26.)

My Lord, *Malta, October* 27, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the proceedings against the brothers Cesare and Alessandro Nani, upon the first charge of having aided in the shipping of slaves at Bengazi, commenced on the 12th instant, but upon the motion of their counsel were adjourned till the 19th, when after a legal argument upon some technical objections on the part of the prisoners, the court ordered that the trial should proceed on the 22nd.

On that day they were accordingly arraigned upon the charges, of which a copy and translation are herewith inclosed.

The Crown Advocate stated the case in a very able and temperate speech, and having clearly explained the law, and applied it to the facts to be given in evidence, showed that they constituted the offence contemplated by the statute.

The fact alleged in the first count of the indictment was proved by the captain of the port of Bengazi, who stated that Alexander Nani had complained to him that an Arab dealer, to whom he had advanced money to enable him to procure some slaves and some mats to be shipped on board Nani's schooner, refused to fulfil his agreement; that thereupon he cited the Arab before him, and having investigated the case, he ordered him, in the presence of Nani, either to embark the slaves and mats, or to forfeit half freight. The lending of the money and the nature of the agreement was proved by other witnesses.

In support of the second count of the indictment, it was shown by the testimony of several witnesses that slaves were actually embarked on board Nani's schooner "*Tre Fratelli*;" that some of them were conveyed from the shore in the schooner's boat, while Alessandro was standing by; that after the Acting Vice-Consul's interference some of them were transshipped to another vessel, but that one remained on board the "*Tre Fratelli*," who was subsequently landed at Canea, and there was seen in a store belonging to a brother of the Nani's, who has a mercantile establishment in that port.

On behalf of the prisoners, it was argued that they had not received timely intimation of the charge relative to the alleged loan, and the circumstances connected therewith, the depositions of the witnesses not having been taken in their presence; that therefore they are not called upon to answer that part of the accusation. With respect to the actual embarkation of slaves on board their schooner, it was alleged that Alessandro Nani was ignorant of the fact until it was brought under his notice by the Acting Vice-Consul; that he had then ordered that they should be disembarked, and that if they were transshipped to another vessel, it was done without his orders or knowledge.

With regard to Cesare Nani it was contended, that not being present at Bengazi at the time of the transaction, he could not, although chief of the mercantile establishment, be held responsible for the acts of his brother, even supposing him to be guilty of the offence imputed to him.

In charging the jury, the court adopted the argument of the prisoner's counsel with respect to the first count of the indictment, and stated that as it was the first time a prosecution of the kind had been brought before the tribunal of Malta, it appeared necessary to establish a rule for regulating future proceedings. In all criminal cases, therefore, of this nature, where reference is made to any contract or agreement, it would be required to prove the existence of such contract in the ordinary manner. That had not been done in the case before the court, nor had the prisoners had the opportunity of producing witnesses to disprove the statements given in evidence. The jury would therefore dismiss from their consideration all that they had heard with reference to the first count of the indictment.

The court proceeded to say that even had the charge been established by admissible evidence, there was no proof that the slaves whom

the second count of the indictment affirms to have been actually embarked, were those whose embarkation Alessandro Nani is accused of having insisted upon according to the terms of the alleged argument; that therefore they might have been embarked without his knowledge.

The jury were further informed by the presiding judge that under the circumstances Cesare Nani could not be held to have incurred the legal responsibility for the acts of his partner which it was sought to attach to him, even though the imputed criminality of Alessandro Nani were clearly and fully established.

Under this direction the jury after a very short consultation delivered a verdict declaring the indictment not proved against either prisoner.

The unexpected view of the case taken by the court induced me to consult with the Crown Advocate upon the expediency of adjourning the second trial for the purpose of receiving your Lordship's instructions whether to proceed or not. He was of opinion that this course was advisable, and therefore upon the opening of the court on the 25th instant he moved for an adjournment until the next session, alleging as grounds for his motion the absence of material documentary evidence.

The court rejected the application, and ordered the trial to be proceeded with forthwith.

A copy of the charge and a translation are herewith inclosed.

It was proved that the prisoner and Nashid Bey were joint owners of the schooner "*Tre Fratelli*," of which the prisoner had the general direction. It was stated by Colonel Herman, Vice-Consul at Bengazi, that having received information that Nashid Bey had engaged the schooner for the transport of himself and family, together with some slaves, to Constantinople, he sent for Nani and explained to him the danger he would incur; that upon being told by Nani that Nashid Bey had liberated the slaves, he demanded the production of their letters of manumission; that Nani after promising to produce them, brought instead a contract of sale, by which it appeared that he had transferred to Nashid Bey the entire ownership of the schooner, thinking thereby to relieve himself from all further responsibility. In the meantime the slaves were embarked, and Colonel Herman, considering that under the circumstances there was reason to suspect that the sale of the vessel was simulated, and not a *bonâ fide* transaction, thought it advisable to repeat his caution to Nani as to the dangerous position he might be involved in. Nani then resolved to disembark the slaves, and accordingly went on board accompanied by the cavass of the Consulate, and brought them on shore.

This statement was confirmed by other witnesses, and it was urged by the Crown Advocate, on opening the case, that Nani having freighted the schooner to Nashid Bey for the purpose of embarking his family and slaves, and having notwithstanding the caution given by the Vice-Consul, allowed the slaves to be actually embarked, he had thereby committed the offence charged in the indictment.

The court, however, instructed the jury that it was for the prosecutor to prove that the parties alleged to be slaves were so in fact; that the prisoner could not be required to produce proof of their manumission; that it was no part of the duty of the jury to inquire whether the sale of the schooner were simulated or not; that unless they were convinced by the evidence adduced that the prisoner knew the parties in question to be slaves, and knew that they were embarked for the purpose of being carried away in order to be treated as slaves, and that with this knowledge they freighted the schooner for such purposes, they must by their verdict absolve him from the accusation.

The jury accordingly returned a verdict of not proved.

For this brief statement of the proceedings which occupied the court more than four days, I rely upon my own memory only; but I understand that the Crown Advocate is preparing a more detailed report, which will be transmitted to the Colonial Department, and will no doubt be communicated to your Lordship.

During the whole of the proceedings a very strong popular feeling has been manifested in favour of the prisoners. On the days of trial the court was densely crowded by their partisans, who by words and gestures

insulted the Maltese witnesses as they left the court. Previous attempts had been made to intimidate the Arab witnesses; and it was not easy to convince them that in giving their evidence they would not incur the risk of personal violence, or the chance of being imprisoned. The acts of which the prisoners were accused, do not seem to be considered by the Maltese population as involving any moral offence, or to be deserving of punishment, and under any circumstances I think there would be little probability upon such charges of obtaining a conviction.

But although the accused parties have thus escaped, the trial to which they have been subjected cannot fail to operate most powerfully as a warning to deter others from engaging in similar practices, since it will be felt that Her Majesty's Government is resolved to maintain the law, which humanely protects the slave, and will spare neither trouble nor expense to bring those who may violate it to justice.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 295.

Charges against Alessandro and Cesare Nani.

(Translation.)

1. That the said Cesare and Alessandro Nani, subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, between the 15th of August and 30th of September, in Bengazi, in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, knowingly, wilfully, and feloniously lent and furnished the sum of 500 Turkish piastres to Salah Razadan of Gerbi, to enable, aid, and assist the said Razadan in embarking and shipping slaves in a schooner or vessel under the Ottoman flag, at that time commanded by Abdi Mesondaki, called the "*Tre Fratelli*," or "Uch Chardagh," in order that such slaves should be carried away and treated as slaves.

2. That the said Alessandro Nani and the said Cesare Nani, on the 1st of September, 1848, in Bengazi, in the said dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, illegally and feloniously employed and used the said vessel or schooner called "*Tre Fratelli*," or "Uch Chardagh," for the purpose of shipping or carrying away slaves to be treated as slaves, having then and there illegally and feloniously consented and permitted that the said Captain Abdi Mesondaki should embark, ship and detain on board the said vessel or schooner, as in fact the said Captain Abdi Mesondaki did embark, ship and detain five slaves, to wit, four females and one boy in order that said slaves should be exported and carried to Canea, there to be treated as slaves, the freight for each being one Barbary mahboot each.

Inclosure 2 in No. 295.

Charge against Cesare Nani.

(Translation.)

THAT the said Cesare Nani, subject of Her Britannic Majesty at Bengazi, in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, on the 8th of April, 1849, illegally and feloniously employed and used the schooner or vessel called "*Tre Fratelli*," or "Uch Chardagh," for the purpose of exporting and carrying away certain slaves to be treated as slaves, having then and there illegally and feloniously consented and permitted that there should be embarked and shipped and detained on board the said vessel or schooner, as in fact then and there four slaves were embarked, shipped, and detained, to wit, three females and one boy, in order that the said slaves should be exported to Constantinople and treated as slaves.

No. 296.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul-General Crowe.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 7, 1850.

I TRANSMITTED to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, for communication to the French Government, a copy of Mr. Reade's despatch of the 3rd of July last, and its inclosure, being a deposition made before Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi, by the master of a Turkish merchant-vessel, to the effect that a French subject, named Hadj Mahomet Boballa, had been engaged in Slave Trade.

I now transmit to you, for any observations which you may have to offer thereupon, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador, inclosing the reply of the French Government to the accusation made against Boballa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 296.

The Marquis of Normanby to Viscount Palmerston, December 6, 1849.

[See No. 123.]

No. 297.

Consul-General Crowe to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 11.)

My Lord, *Tripoli, January* 20, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the number of slaves arrived here during the last year, being 275 males and 673 females. Of these 770 have been exported to various ports of the Levant.

I inclose also a statement from Vice-Consul Herman, by which it appears that the number shipped from Bengazi, during the same period, has been 654, making a total of 1424 sent from this Regency in the year 1849.

In the preceding year the numbers exported exceeded 2000. This apparent decrease of the Traffic would be very gratifying, if, unfortunately, it were not accounted for by the non-arrival of the great caravan from Waday, which Colonel Herman states to have been due since August last, and the one from Bornou, which ought to have arrived here some months ago.

Your Lordship will be grieved to learn that the reports I have received from Vice-Consul Gagliuffi, respecting this caravan, are most disastrous. By the inclosed statement it will be seen, that of one division which left Bornou, consisting of 853 slaves, 195 died on the way, of disease, fatigue, and want of nourishment. The second division, amounting to 917, having wandered from the usual track across the desert, were three days without water, and when they arrived at some wells, where they hoped for relief, they found that the earth had fallen in, and filled them up. A dreadful scene of suffering, and violence, and despair, ensued; 600 miserable slaves perished there, on those burning sands, in the agonies of thirst.

I regret to say that according to M. Gagliuffi's statement, there has been during the last year a most deplorable increase in the number of unhappy beings torn from their homes in the Soudan and Bornou.

In 1848 they amounted to 1257, including in the number that arrived at Mourzouk, those who died on the way.

In 1849 the victims of this inhuman traffic were nearly doubled, having been 2384; of these 98 died of disease and fatigue, after their arrival at Mourzouk.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 297.

SLAVES arrived in Tripoli during the year 1849.

Whence from.	Number.		OBSERVATIONS.
	Males.	Females.	
Ghadames and Ghat	116	313	The average price of males has been £40; of females £40 to £90, according to their age and personal appearance. The duty paid upon export is £10½ each slave.
Mourzouk, and other parts of Fezzan..	159	360	
	275	673	
		275	
	Total ..	948	

Tripoli, January 20, 1850.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 297.

RETURN of the number of negro slaves exported from the Port of Bengazi during the year 1849.

To Candia and the Levant 654

N.B.—These slaves were brought chiefly from the Fezzan. The great caravan from Waday, due in August last, has not yet arrived.

Bengazi, December 31, 1849.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN, *Vice-Consul.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 297.

(Translation.)

RETURN of slaves arrived at Mourzouk from 1st January to 31st December, 1849.

Whence from.	Arrived.	Died.		REMARKS.
		On the way.	After arrival.	
Soudan	489	39	18	Cause of mortality: disease, fatigue, and want of proper food and water.
Ghat	86			
Bournou	658	195	65	
Bournou	317	600	15	
Arrived	1,550	834	98	
Died on road	834			
Total brought away from their country	2,384			

Tripoli, January 20, 1850.

(Signed) G. W. CROWE.

TURKEY.

No. 298.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 10.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June* 25, 1849.

INCLOSED herewith for your Lordship's information is a translated copy of a Vizierial letter, addressed on my application to the Pasha of Tripoli, and granting permission to certain Turkish officers to proceed to Malta for the purpose of giving evidence in a Slave Trade trial.

I hope your Lordship will agree with me in thinking that the terms in which this letter is expressed are highly creditable to the character of Reshid Pasha's administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure in No. 298.

The Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli.

(Traduction.) *Le* 23 *Juin,* 1849.

VOTRE Excellence sait que le négociant Anglais Nani, sujet de Sa Majesté Britannique, se trouve sous jugement pour s'être livré à la Traite des Nègres à Bengazi.

L'Ambassade Anglaise vient à présent de demander qu'indépendamment des témoins qui ont été, il y a peu de temps, envoyés à Malte pour assister au jugement de Nani, le Capitaine du Port de Bengazi et d'autres personnes qui ont connaissance de cette affaire, soient aussi envoyés à Malte pour servir de témoins.

Votre Excellence voudra donc envoyer à Malte les individus ci-dessus mentionnés aussi, afin qu'ils rendent témoignage de tout ce qu'ils peuvent savoir relativement à cette affaire; et c'est à cette fin que je lui écris la présente lettre.

(L.S.) MUSTAPHA RESHID.

(Translation.)

YOUR Excellency is aware that the merchant Nani, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, has been indicted for having been engaged in Slave Trade at Bengazi.

The English Embassy has now made a request that, besides the witnesses who were sent to Malta a short time ago to assist at the trial of Nani, the captain of the port of Bengazi, and other persons who have knowledge of this affair, should likewise be sent to Malta to serve as witnesses.

Your Excellency will accordingly send to Malta the individuals above alluded to, in order that they may give evidence of all that they know about this matter; and with this view I write to you the present letter. (L.S.) MUSTAPHA RESHID.

No. 299.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 27, 1849.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 25th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the Vizierial letter addressed at your request to the Pasha of Tripoli, desiring him to send the captain of the port of Bengazi and other persons to Malta, in order to give evidence at the trial of M. Nani on the charge of Slave Trade.

I have in reply to instruct your Excellency to express to Reshid Pasha the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the issuing of this order.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 300.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord, *Therapia, July* 19, 1849.

INCLOSED herewith for your Lordship's information are copies of a despatch addressed to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Tripoli, of a correspondence which has passed between Her Majesty's Consul-General and myself on the subject of that despatch, and of an official note which I have thought myself warranted in addressing to Aali Pasha concerning certain slaves alleged to have been embarked at Tripoli on board the Turkish steamer "Esseri Djedid," for sale, and to have been conveyed to this port.

The circumstance of there being English engineers on board the "Esseri Djedid," a Government vessel, appeared to offer an opportunity of making some impression against the Traffic in Slaves on the minds of the Ottoman Ministry, and therefore I venture to trust that in availing myself of it I have met the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

Aali Pasha, on learning the purport of my note, entered, as on former occasions, into a defence of Turkish slavery, comparing it favourably with that of other countries, and his remarks were by no means destitute of truth, though offering no real compensation for the loss of personal liberty, and the moral degradation resulting from it to the slave, and reacting on the owner himself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure 1 in No. 300.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Tripoli, June* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 6th instant, as I was not aware of the departure of the steamer "Esseri Djedid," till the captain had actually gone to the Pasha for the letters, I was unable to write by her.

All the other Consuls were informed of her departure some hours before by Mr. Michel Devout, his Excellency's dragoman, who was charged to take this information to the Consular Body.

It is notorious that she took a quantity of slaves for sale; the captain fearing, I suppose, he might, under the circumstances, be interfered with in Malta, refused several persons who had previously

obtained passages from him to that island. The slaves were taken on board by night.

I understand that she also took a considerable cargo of different articles, the produce of this country.

(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 300.

Sir Stratford Canning to Consul-General Cumberbatch.

Sir, *Therapia, July* 5, 1849.

IN transmitting to you a copy of a recent despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Tripoli, regarding the Turkish steamer "Esseri Djedid," I have to request that you will acquaint me with the result of the inquiries respecting the object of a former despatch on this subject communicated to you in my No. 13.

(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure 3 in No. 300.

Consul-General Cumberbatch to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Constantinople, July* 14, 1849.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 9th instant, I now inclose for your Excellency's further information a copy of a statement made by Andrew Spring and Wm. N. Davidson, engineers, which leaves little doubt as to the correctness of the report that there were slaves on board of the "Esseri Djedid" on the late voyage of that vessel from Tripoli, although they might not have been destined for traffic and sale in the market of Constantinople.

(Signed) A. CARLTON CUMBERBATCH.

Inclosure 4 in No. 300.

Declaration of Engineers Spring and Davidson.

PERSONALLY appeared at the office of this British Consulate-General on the 13th day of July, 1849, Andrew Spring, engineer, now serving on board of the Turkish steamer "Esseri Djedid," and in consequence of a report that the aforesaid vessel "Esseri Djedid" had been employed on a late voyage from Tripoli to Constantinople, in conveying slaves for sale, the Act 5th Geo. IV, cap. 113, was brought to his notice, and especially the 11th section of that Act.

Furthermore, the said Andrew Spring declared that the "Esseri Djedid" was employed on the voyage aforesaid to convey troops from Salonica to Tripoli, and from Tripoli to this port, and that he was not at all aware that it was the intention of the captain to transport any slaves for sale. That there were certainly blacks on board at Tripoli, but that he, the appearer, could not tell who they were, whether they were slaves, or whether they were the servants of the officers. They were not more than about eighteen in number in all.

(Signed) A. SPRING.

William Noble Davidson subsequently appeared, and having made the same declaration as Andrew Spring, hereunto likewise affixed his name, the act above mentioned having been previously brought under his notice.

(Signed) W. N. DAVIDSON.
A. C. CUMBERBATCH.

Inclosure 5 in No. 300.

Sir Stratford Canning to Aali Pasha.

Therapia, July 14, 1849.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, conceives it incumbent on him to make known to his Excellency the Ottoman Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, according to the information which has reached him, that the "Esseri Djedid," a steamer belonging to the Turkish Government, employed in carrying troops from Tripoli to Constantinople, took on board a number of negro slaves at the former port, with the view, as it may be reasonably supposed, of selling them at some intermediate port, if not at the capital itself.

Although the Turkish law may not condemn this odious traffic as the laws of Great Britain and of other European nations condemn it, the Undersigned is unwilling to suppose that the Porte would knowingly allow its vessels to be used for a purpose so generally repudiated by civilized States, or its officers to take part in the vilest kind of trade, under the protection of the Sultan's flag.

The Undersigned is not only moved by a sense of duty and of friendly regard to convey this information to the Turkish Ministers, distinguished as they are by a benevolent and enlightened policy, but he deems the performance of this duty the more indispensable, as British subjects who are strictly forbidden under severe penalties to have any concern in common with those who deal in slaves, were employed as engineers on board the "Esseri Djedid" in its last voyage from Tripoli.

Abstaining from further remarks, and relying on Aali Pasha's well-known principles of justice and humanity, the Undersigned recommends the subject of this note to his Excellency's serious reflection, and avails himself, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

No. 301.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 31, 1849.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 19th ultimo, respecting certain slaves alleged to have been embarked at Tripoli on board the Turkish steamer "Esseri Djedid," for sale, and to have been conveyed to Constantinople; and I have to state to you in reply, that Her Majesty's Government approve of the note which you addressed to Aali Pasha upon that subject.

With reference, however, to Aali Pasha's defence of Turkish slavery, your Excellency will observe to that Minister, that admitting the physical condition of a slave in Turkey to be much better than that of a slave in Cuba or Brazil, yet the Turkish slave is deprived of that sense of personal liberty which is an essential foundation for all that is respectable and good in human character, and without which no real happiness can exist; and moreover you will point out that the capturing and transporting of slaves from their native countries to the land of slavery are attended with the same violence, burnings, and murders, and are productive of the same disruption of all those natural ties of family affection which Providence has implanted for wise purposes in the breast of man, whether such slaves are destined for America or for Turkey.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 302.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, September* 17, 1849.

WITH reference to the correspondence marked in the margin*, on the subject of the Traffic in Slaves carried on at Tripoli, by functionaries of the Turkish Government, and especially with reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 15th of September, 1848, inclosing a translation of an order issued by the Grand Vizier to the Pasha of Tripoli, directing him to prevent the persons in public employments from taking part in that Traffic, I herewith transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli, reporting that an Ottoman vessel left that port for Constantinople on the 25th of July last, having on board sixteen slaves, the property of the Pasha.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate this statement to the Turkish Government, and to observe that this is evidently a dealing in slaves for profit, and not an acquisition of slaves for domestic uses.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 302.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston, August 3, 1849.

[See No. 288.]

No. 303.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 10.)

My Lord, *Therapia, September* 25, 1849.

AGREEABLY to your instruction of the 31st ultimo, I have communicated to Aali Pasha your Lordship's remarks on the subject of slavery as practised in this country, and his Excellency assures me that a translation of them shall be forthwith submitted to the Grand Vizier and also to His Majesty the Sultan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

No. 304.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord, *Therapia, September* 28, 1849.

I HAVE communicated to Aali Pasha the names of the persons who, in the deposition taken under your Lordship's instruction by Her Majesty's Consul-General, are stated to have been proprietors of some of the slaves conveyed from Tripoli to Constantinople, in the Turkish steam-frigate "Esseri Djedid."

* Viscount Palmerston to Lord Cowley, February 10, 1848; Lord Cowley to Viscount Palmerston, February 3, 1848; Viscount Palmerston to Lord Cowley, March 30, 1848; Mr. Alison to Viscount Palmerston, April 3, 1848; Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning, August 5, 1848. (See Class D, presented 1848, Nos. 18, 21, and 23; and Class B, presented 1849, Nos. 268 and 269.)

I had already communicated your Lordship's instruction on that subject to the same Minister, and his Excellency promised to place your Lordship's remarks under the immediate notice of the Grand Vizier and also of the Sultan himself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

No. 305.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

ir, *Foreign Office, October* 17, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to your Excellency copies of a despatch and of its inclosure which I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli, reporting that a large caravan with slaves, on its way from Bornou to Fezzan, had endured great sufferings from want of water, and that about 1600 slaves, besides Arabs and Tibboos, had perished from thirst.

I have to instruct your Excellency to bring the facts stated in these papers to the knowledge of the Turkish Government, and to urge them to consider whether it would not be proper and becoming for the Turkish Government to take effectual steps for preventing such barbarous and inhuman cruelties from being inflicted on multitudes of innocent persons, by men who are impelled to such crimes solely by the sordid hope of pecuniary profit, and who could not carry on such barbarous practices, if the Turkish Government were to take those steps which would be effectual for their prevention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 305.

Acting Consul-General Reade to Viscount Palmerston, August 24, 1849.

[See No. 292.]

No. 306.

Sir Stratford Canning to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 25.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November* 8, 1849.

I LOST no time in carrying into effect the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo. The letter which I addressed to Aali Pasha, with the papers inclosed in that despatch, is transmitted to your Lordship in copy herewith. I have since taken occasion to recommend the subject of it personally to his most serious attention in connection with the particulars of that dreadful catastrophe which Signor Gagliuffi has reported. My letter will, I trust, be brought under the immediate consideration of His Majesty the Sultan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Inclosure in No. 306.

Sir Stratford Canning to Aali Pasha.

M. le Ministre, *Thérapia, ce 4 Novembre,* 1849.

C'EST par l'ordre exprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine, que je m'empresse de porter à la connaissance de la Sublime Porte, par votre intermédiaire, les circonstances affligeantes dont le récit se trouve dans les pièces officielles annexées à cette lettre.

Votre Excellence y verra avec douleur les faits les plus marquans d'une catastrophe qui semble digne de combler la longue série d'horreurs enfantées par la Traite des Nègres. 1600 de ces malheureux viennent de périr dans une seule caravane pendant sa route de l'intérieur de l'Afrique vers la côte de Tripoli. 1600 de nos semblables, à la couleur près, arrachés de leurs cabanes par la cruelle avarice des marchands de sang humain, ont péri victimes de cette passion infernale, au milieu de souffrances encore plus cruelles!

Le cœur sensible de votre Excellence s'accorde, j'en suis sûr, avec le mien pour désirer ardemment que la source d'un mal aussi affligeant pour l'humanité soit tarie au plus tôt. Le Gouvernement, dont votre Excellence fait partie est éminemment appelé à remplir les volontés bienfaisantes d'un Souverain encore plus illustre par sa clémence que par l'éclat de son pouvoir, et qui donne au monde civilisé, dans la conjoncture actuelle, l'exemple le plus noble de courage dans la plus belle des causes. Je n'ai pas besoin d'ajouter ici que l'application à la Traite en question des principes généreux, dont l'adoption, sous d'autres rapports, fait tant d'honneur à la Sublime Porte, ne pourrait que rehausser la gloire du Sultan, et confirmer son titre aux sympathies des Gouvernemens et des nations qui ont déjà donné des preuves éclatantes de leur dévouement aux vrais intérêts de son empire et de sa personne.

Persuadé que votre Excellence appréciera toute l'importance de ces observations, je profite, &c.

(Signé) STRATFORD CANNING.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Therapia, November* 4, 1849.

BY express order of Her Majesty's Government I hasten to bring to the notice of the Sublime Porte, through your medium, the afflicting circumstances, of which an account will be found in the official papers inclosed in this letter.

Your Excellency will there see with regret the very striking particulars of a catastrophe which seems worthy of crowning the long catalogue of horrors brought forth by the Trade in Slaves. 1600 of these unfortunate beings perished in one single caravan, during its journey from the interior of Africa to the coast of Tripoli; 1600 of our fellow-creatures, differing from us in colour only, torn from their homes by the remorseless avarice of the dealers in human blood, have fallen victims to this infernal passion, in the midst of sufferings even yet more dreadful.

Your Excellency's feeling heart concurs, I am certain, with me in the eager desire that the source of an evil so afflicting to humanity may speedily be rooted out.

The Government of which your Excellency forms a part is in the highest degree called upon to fulfil the benevolent wishes of a Sovereign still more illustrious in his clemency than in the magnificence of his sway, and who affords to the civilized world, in the present state of affairs, a most noble example of greatness of mind in a most glorious cause.

I need not add here, that the application to the Traffic in question of the generous principles, the adoption of which, in reference to other matters, does so much honour to the Sublime Porte, cannot but enhance the glory of the Sultan, and confirm his title to the sympathies of the

Governments and the nations who have already given signal proofs of their devotion to the true interests of his empire and of his person.

Convinced that your Excellency will entirely appreciate the importance of these observations,

I avail, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

No. 307.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 24, 1849.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 8th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note, which, in pursuance of the instruction contained in my despatch of the 17th of October last, you addressed on the 4th ultimo to Aali Pasha, urging the Turkish Government to take measures for preventing the importation of slaves from Africa; and I have the satisfaction of informing your Excellency that I approve of the note which you addressed to the Turkish Minister upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 308.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Stratford Canning.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 26, 1849.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the slaves which were shipped at Tripoli in the month of June last, on board the Turkish steam-frigate "Esseri Djedid," for conveyance to Constantinople, I herewith transmit to your Excellency for your information, a copy of a deposition made before the Mayor of Kingston-upon-Hull, by Andrew Spring, one of the British engineers who were serving in the above-named ship, and which entirely corroborates the deposition made before Her Majesty's Consul at Constantinople on the 26th of September last by William N. Davidson, the other engineer employed in the "Esseri Djedid," and which deposition was communicated to your Excellency by Her Majesty's Consul.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 308.

Deposition of Andrew Spring.

Borough of Kingston-upon-Hull.

BE it remembered, that on this fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, Andrew Spring personally appeareth before me, the Undersigned, Thomas William Palmer, Esquire, Mayor of the said borough, and upon his oath deposeth and saith as follows:

"In the month of June in this present year, I, along with William Noble Davison, was serving on board the Turkish steam-frigate "Esseri Djedid," while on a voyage from Tripoli to Constantinople. Her first voyage was from Salonica to Tripoli, to which latter port the said vessel was conveying troops. After the said vessel had discharged the troops, and previous to her sailing for Constantinople, certain black women and boys, which I understood to be slaves, were brought on board the frigate. These women and boys were brought on board at different times, to the number of between eighteen and twenty in all. I did not see more than

five or six actually brought on board, but I saw the whole number I have mentioned when they were on board, and during the voyage. The first load which came on board in a boat was accompanied by an officer of the frigate, named Arif Effendiz. During the voyage the boys went about the ship in the same way as the sailors on board. The girls during the voyage were confined to a room off the after-cabin. On the frigate's arrival at Malta, the whole of these blacks were kept out of sight, but the boys again appeared about the ship as before, when we left that island. The females were then, as before, still confined to their room. I saw the females once during the voyage. Only one of the boys was employed during the voyage, and that one was employed by the third engineer, Arif Effendiz, whom I have before mentioned as the officer who accompanied one load of the blacks on board of the frigate. This boy, I believe, belonged to the third engineer; I was informed so by him. The captain of the frigate told me that one of the boys belonged to him. I do not think any other of the boys belonged to any of the officers of the frigate. Two of the girls belonged to the third engineer, one girl to the first captain, and one girl to the second captain. Three of the blacks, one boy and two girls, were represented as belonging to Salih Pasha, superintendent of the arsenal. I believe that the remainder of these blacks were brought to Constantinople, by commission for other parties. I believe that slaves are purchased at private houses at Tripoli, not in open market. I did not see any of the slaves which we had on board purchased at Tripoli. The girls were dressed in the usual manner, with a loose blanket or wrapper round them; the boys had a loose tunic about the loins. I did not see any of these slaves after our arrival at Constantinople. I was present when the captain of the frigate told Davidson that these blacks were slaves bought to be presented to his and the officers' friends in Constantinople. I heard the captain state this to Davidson.

A. SPRING.

Taken and sworn before me the day and year first above mentioned.

(Signed) T. W. PALMER,
Mayor of Hull.

UNITED STATES.

No. 309.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 9, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for your information, in the event of any representation being made to you by the United States' Government, the accompanying extract of a despatch from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty, with its inclosures, on the subject of a complaint made by the master of the American merchant vessel "*Madonna*," of the conduct of Lieutenant Swinburn, of Her Majesty's sloop "Wanderer," while visiting the "*Madonna*," in order to ascertain her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 309.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.) "*Penelope*," *Accra, January* 10, 1849.

I REQUEST you will lay before my Lords the accompanying copy of a complaint made by Commodore Bolton, commanding the squadron of the United States on the west coast of Africa, relative to the conduct of Lieutenant Swinburn, belonging to Her Majesty's sloop "Wanderer," whilst visiting the American ship "*Madonna*," on the 22nd of March, 1848.

Their Lordships will perceive that I have felt myself compelled to offer an apology to Commodore Bolton.

Commander Montresor erred in neglecting to inform me of the circumstance; but he pleads entire ignorance of Lieutenant Swinburn's transaction, and says that he attached no particular importance to the visit.

Having reprimanded Commander Montresor and Lieutenant Swinburn, I trust their Lordships will think that sufficient notice has been taken, and not consider it necessary to pursue the matter any further.

Inclosure 2 in No. 309.

Commodore Bolton to Commodore Sir C. Hotham.

Sir, "*James Town*," *near Teneriffe, July* 10, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a complaint recently received from the master, Richard E. Lawlins, of the American ship "*Madonna*," against the boarding officer of Her Majesty's cruizer "Wanderer."

In my personal knowledge of your official views, I repose entire confidence, that this representation will meet your early and scrutinizing attention.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. C. BOLTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 309.

Mr. Lawlins to the Commander of the United States' brig "Porpoise."

Dear Sir, "*Madonna,*" *Monrovia Roads, May* 16, 1848.

I AVAIL myself of the opportunity your presence affords me of reporting the conduct of the person or persons said to be officers of Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Wanderer," by whom we were boarded under the following circumstances:—

March 22nd. Civil Act. At 4 P.M. we sailed in this ship for the Island of St. Thomas, with wind at N. heading with port-tacks on board E.N.E. At 5 P.M. made a sail bearing S.E. standing towards us under all press of canvas. She having wind at about S.W. At 6 P.M. we had it calm. The sail about two miles distant now, we made out to be an armed brig.

After dark a light breeze springing from the eastward, we braced around, steering on our course to the N.W. At about 7 P.M., the moon rising, we saw the brig making for us; I immediately hauled up the courses, showing a brilliant light, and hoisted the ensign at the peak; we were going less than two miles per hour. At 9 P.M. she ranged up to us, and hailing, asked "what ship we were." I replied promptly and distinctly, "American ship '*Madonna*;'" he then said "he would send his boat on board." I begged him to be pleased to send it quickly (Cabrilla Rock not far distant under our lee); he made no reply, but a quarter of an hour passed, when, to my surprise, two boats made for us. As soon as they got near, say twenty yards, I asked what boats they were, but got no answer; but on my repeating the question, I was answered by their "Hurrahs," and "give way, boys;" and so they grappled to the ship, and officers and men sprang on my ship with drawn sabres. I felt quite indignant, and demanded of one of the officers, while yet on my rail, who they were? He then mentioned they were from Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Wanderer," demanding my papers at the same time. I asked him below, and in the presence of Governor Russwarne of Cape Palmas, who was then a passenger in the "Madonna," and the first officer of this ship, I produced my ship's register, his drawn sword lying on the cabin table. While engaged with this person below, the remaining officer on my decks was hailed by the brig, and we were ordered to bring-to on the starboard tack; to this I objected at first, but finding the breeze freshen, I brought to on the starboard tack. The two officers now walked forward, and so around the ship, and finding a good many kroomen on my decks, demanded "who those black fellows were?" I replied "they could speak for themselves." He said we were very suspicious, having, as he termed it, whitewashed sides. I told him he would find by examination, it was good paint; he then ordered his men in the boats, and informed me that he was a second lieutenant of the "Wanderer," and that he would, if I wished it, insert in my log-book, his boarding of me; I told him we had distinguished proof enough on board, and declined his offer; he then left my ship, and I went on my course.

It may be well for me to state, that I asked him for proof of his being a British officer, and that he told me "his uniform and word of honour was such," and that I replied I could wear a uniform and say the same thing if I chose. I also asked him, could he be certain that the paper I showed him was my register? He replied in the affirmative. In reference to the kroomen, I had twenty more than the number I usually employ on the coast, but they were passengers going to their places or homes, having been discharged from the French ships of war in the Gaboon, and

by my permission put on board of my ship by the French authorities, and who furnished them with a general passport, which can be seen on board of my ship now, if necessary. It is also a customary thing for all ships to bring kroomen from the leeward coast to the windward; and for the whitewashed sides, I must only say, that my ship, like many others, was painted a lead colour.

Having now said all in reference to this matter, you can now judge how far we were suspicious; and I do not hesitate to say, that Governor Russwarne, I am sure, will corroborate every word I say here, as I have given it no colour, and I feel that I have not said as much as I should, not having entered into every minutiæ.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. E. LAWLINS, *Master.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 309.

Commander Montresor to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

Sir, "*Wanderer*," *Princes*, *January* 1, 1849.

IN reference to your letter of this day's date, desiring me to call upon the boarding officer of Her Majesty's ship "Wanderer" for a full and particular statement of all the occurrences which took place on the occasion of visiting the United States' merchant-ship "*Madonna*," I beg leave to state that I have examined Lieutenant Swinburn thereon, who admits generally the statement made by the master of the American ship, with modifications, however, which though they do not tend to clear him, in my opinion, of very inconsiderate and unofficer-like conduct, do yet, I conceive, tend to give different ideas derived from the very words which the master of the vessel disclaims having given any colour to. Lieutenant Swinburn admits his having his sword drawn, but having lost the scabbard overboard in boarding; he states that he explained this circumstance, and apologized for appearing in the cabin with the naked blade. He admits having encouraged his men in pulling alongside by words similar in effect to those stated. Lieutenant Swinburn declares that it was at the request of the master of the "*Madonna*" himself that he went round her decks, and that his remarks relative to her suspicious appearance were made as of a thing that had been, and he does not recollect, though he does not disown, having made any remarks upon the Kroomen.

Lieutenant Swinburn further declares that he explained the reason of his not having his commission with him, which was, that having gone to bed, preparatory to keeping the middle watch, he was sent away in the first watch, and in the hurry had forgot to bring it with him; and he also declares that these explanations were received with an apparently friendly disposition, and that he had no idea of the matter ever being reported. My reasons for not having reported these circumstances were their being entirely unknown to me until the moment of my receiving your letter, and the usual return of vessels boarded was all I thought necessary to forward.

The boarding officers have my strict instructions not to leave the ship without their commissions, and I have frequently cautioned them as to the necessity of temperate behaviour, and have also pointed out to them the instructions by which vessels under American colours cannot be searched, after producing their papers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. B. MONTRESOR.

Inclosure 5 in No. 309.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to Commodore Bolton.

Sir, "*Penelope,*" *Princes, January* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated July 20, 1848, and the copy of a complaint preferred by Mr. R. E. Lawlins against the lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship "Wanderer," who visited the American merchant-ship "*Madonna*" on March 22, 1848.

It is impossible for me to defend the conduct of Lieutenant Swinburn, the officer in question. He violated his instructions in allowing the crew to leave the boat, and in a still greater degree by sanctioning their appearance on the deck of the "*Madonna*" with their swords drawn.

Nor can I acquit the commander of the "Wanderer." It was his duty to have made a full and complete report of all the circumstances connected with this case; instead of which I remained in ignorance of the transaction until I received your communication. Seeing that Lieutenant Swinburn tendered his apology for appearing with a naked blade, I entertain hope that you will consider that part of the charge disposed of. Still, there is more than sufficient to prove the impropriety of the proceeding, and it becomes my duty to express my regret that the officers of the "Wanderer" should have so completely mistaken the character of their instructions.

In conclusion, I must take occasion to offer you my thanks for the agreeable manner in which you have chosen to bring this subject to my notice. It is my anxious desire to conduct the service entrusted to me in the most friendly and conciliatory style; and you may depend that your representations of occurrences which are almost inseparable from our duty here, will meet from me the greatest attention, and be followed by such measures as may tend to prevent their recurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

No. 310.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 20.)

My Lord, *Washington, April* 2, 1849.

WISHING to have an opportunity of bringing the subject of the frequent employment of American shipping in the conveyance of slaves to Brazil under the serious consideration of the newly-formed Administration of the United States, I delayed carrying into effect the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of January last,* until after the expiration of Mr. Polk's term of office, during the last days of which I had the honour of receiving that despatch.

I was gratified to find on the part of Mr. Clayton, to whom I read the reports from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch, both a strong disposition to have recourse to every means within the power of the United States' Government, and to a rigorous enforcement of the law, in order to put a stop to, or at least to check, the employment of American shipping in this disgraceful traffic; and an inclination to recommend the adoption by Great Britain, France, and the United States, of a much more peremptory tone towards the Government of Brazil in relation to this matter than has as yet been held.

He would, he said, in the meantime, however, not fail to instruct the United States' Minister at Rio de Janeiro to renew in the most earnest

* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 286.

manner those remonstrances with the Brazilian Government which the United States' Government has engaged itself to make in concert with Her Majesty's Government under the Treaty of Washington.

I then directed Mr. Clayton's attention to the practice some time since adopted by the United States' Consul at Rio de Janeiro of granting sea-letters to American vessels, which, as was clearly pointed out by Lord Howden's despatch* of November 12, 1847, affords such great facilities to the operations of slave-traders, and which I had on a former occasion brought under the consideration of the Government of the United States.

Mr. Clayton stated to me that he would carefully examine this subject with a view to devising such instructions to the American Consul at Rio de Janeiro as might, if possible, counteract the evil effects of the practice in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 311.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 30, 1849.

HER Majesty's Government have received a despatch dated the 21st of February last from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, late Commander-in-chief on the west coast of Africa station, inclosing copies of reports from Lieutenant G. Smith, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Blazer," and from the second master and clerk-in-charge of that vessel, detailing the particulars attending the visit of the American barque "*Sea Mew*," of Salem, for the purpose of verifying her nationality, by the boats of the "Blazer," on the 28th of October, 1848; as well as of a collision which unfortunately took place between the "Blazer" and "*Sea-Mew*," in which a boat of each vessel was stove. Commodore Hotham likewise transmits a copy of a letter which he had addressed to the United States' Commodore, expressing his regret at the latter occurrence.

In order that you may know the circumstances of the case, in the event of the United States' Minister mentioning the matter to you, I now transmit copies of the papers above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 311.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *Cape Mount, February* 21, 1849.

THE accompanying letters contain an account of a slight collision which took place on the 28th October, 1848, between Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Blazer" and the American barque "*Sea-Mew*," of Salem.

The copy of my letter to the Commodore commanding the naval forces of the United States explains the manner in which the subject has been treated. No reply has yet been received, but from the friendly sentiments expressed in Commodore Cooper's despatches dated on the 6th and 7th instant, I entertain every hope that the result of the accident will be satisfactorily arranged.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

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* See Class B, presented 1848, No. 215.

Inclosure 2 in No. 311.

Lieutenant Smith to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

Sir, "*Blazer*," *off Congo River, October* 29, 1848.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that a barque hove in sight of the "Blazer" on the 28th instant at 2 P.M., running to the northward under all sail, upon which I immediately dispatched a paddle-box boat in charge of the second master, to cut her off, at the same time proceeded to weigh and make sail in this vessel, and ordered the steam to be got up with all dispatch.

At 3 o'clock, the paddle-box boat passed close ahead of the barque, and wore round with the intention of boarding, but no notice was taken of him; seeing this I run down on his beam and hailed him to heave to, which he most reluctantly did.

Our cutter, to board her, was lowered, but accidentally nearly swamped alongside; the galley was then lowered and the clerk in charge sent to board her.

On his going alongside, he reports, the master of the barque gave him no rope or anything to climb the side with, and said at first he had no papers, and also asked by what authority they were demanded.

He afterwards produced a register of February 1846, and on opening, the same said, "There, now you are as wise as ever;" and the clerk in charge not feeling satisfied with this suspicious conduct, he informed the master of the barque that he was to remain in company until the particulars were reported to me, and that should the "Blazer" dip her ensign, he was to consider that a permission to depart.

I ordered the barque then to be re-boarded by the second master who had come up in the paddle-box boat, to ascertain her legality, and I beg to forward the statements of the proceedings of that officer and of the clerk in charge; and lastly to acquaint you that the conduct of the master of the "*Sea-Mew*" of Salem, was most reprehensible and blameable, as when the cutter was swamped alongside the "Blazer," and she not being able to use her engines in consequence, I hailed him to fill in her after-yards to clear us, but he paid no attention, nor tried to prevent a collision between the "Blazer's" stem and his quarter, which caused the staving of our dingy and his quarter-boat.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE H. SMITH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 311.

Mr. Heather to Lieutenant Smith.

Sir, "*Blazer*," *off Congo River, November* 28, 1848.

HAVING by your request boarded the barque in company with American colours, I beg to say that her name is the "*Sea-Mew*," of Salem, and that from the manner in which the master treated me when first going on board, threatening, and asking me by what authority I demanded to see his papers, which, when produced, he went to his cabin, where his deportment in throwing me a paper saying, "that was the only paper he had," which I on examining found to be a register dated February, 1846, caused me to suspect his legality; I therefore informed the master that I would return and make my report to you, and that should the "Blazer" dip her ensign, he might consider that a permission to part company.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BEN. P. HEATHER,
Clerk in charge.

Inclosure 4 in No. 311.

Mr. Aldrick to Lieutenant Smith.

Sir, "*Blazer*," *off Congo River, October* 28, 1848.

ACCORDING to your order I boarded the barque "*Sea-Mew*," of Salem, and having requested to see the papers of the said vessel, the master of which produced an American register of February, 1846, at the same time showing me the nature of the cargo, by lifting his hatches, which proved to be, as he had stated, logwood, gum, and ivory.

After making courteous inquiries, and offering to insert the particulars of my proceedings in his log, which was not required by him, I was fully convinced of the legality of the barque "*Sea Mew*," of Salem.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. J. ALDRICK,
Second Master.

Inclosure 5 in No. 311.

Commodore Sir Charles Hotham to Commodore Cooper.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *Cape Mount, January* 31, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you a copy of a letter from the Lieutenant commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Blazer," as well as two reports from the officers who were intrusted with the duty of visiting the American barque "*Sea-Mew*" on the 28th October, 1848, with a view of ascertaining her nationality.

Until we should receive the report of the American master, and be enabled to compare the respective statements, I feel that it would be premature to offer any opinion; but I extremely regret that the result of the visit should have been a collision, and that the quarter-boat of the "*Sea-Mew*" should have been stove.

Lieutenant Smith omits to mention the measures which he subsequently took; but I hope that he not only tendered every assistance, but offered to give a bill on Her Britannic Majesty's Government for the amount of damage.

Should this not have been the case, I feel convinced that Her Majesty's Government will cheerfully satisfy any charge which the "*Sea-Mew*" may fairly claim.

The cause of the disaster is clearly explained, and it does not appear to have originated from unseamanlike or improper conduct, but to have been one of those accidents incidental to our profession.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

Inclosure 6 in No. 311.

Commodore to Sir Charles Hotham to Lieutenant Smith.

Sir, "*Penelope*," *Cape Mount, January* 31, 1849.

I HAVE received your letter of October 29, 1848, detailing the particulars of the collision which took place on the occasion of the visit of the clerk in charge to the "*Sea-Mew*" between that vessel and the "Blazer" under your command.

You must be perfectly well aware that, according to the rules of the sea, it was your business to keep clear of the "*Sea-Mew*," and the American master cannot be blamed for refusing to follow your advice, although his not doing so was uncourteous. The accident does not appear to have arisen from want of caution, but to have been one over which you

had no control. I hope, however, that you offered to repair his damage, or give him a bill for the amount.

Respecting the impropriety of the master's behaviour, I do not see that any redress can be obtained, for I believe that an American citizen would as readily have made use of the same language to an officer of his own country as to yourself.

I regret that Mr. Aldrick accepted the offer of the master to look into her hold; and I would caution you for the future to recommend your officers to decline the measure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. HOTHAM.

No. 312.

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

My Lord, *Washington, April* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo*, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, transmitting to him an extract from a report dated Simon's Bay, December 1, 1848, from Vice-Admiral Dacres to the Secretary to the Admiralty, 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 on the east coast of Africa.

I have also the honour to inclose a copy of Mr. Clayton's acknowledgment of the receipt of my communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 312.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Clayton.

Sir, *Washington, April* 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith 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 of the Admiralty, upon the state of the Slave Trade within the limits of his command.

I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to communicate this paper to the Government of the United States, 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 avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 312.

Mr. Clayton to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, April* 12, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 11th instant, in which, by direction of your Government, you communicate an extract from a report of Vice-Admiral Dacres, late Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's ships and vessels on the Cape of Good Hope station, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, upon the state of the African Slave

* Class B, presented 1849, No. 287.

Trade within the limits of his command, 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 have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN M. CLAYTON.

No. 313.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 26, 1849.

I HEREWITH transmit to you, for communication to the United States' Government, copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda: the one reporting that the United States' barque "*Eunomus*" shipped a cargo of 800 slaves at Ambriz on the 13th of January last; the other that the United States' brig "*Harriet*" carried off 880 slaves from the same place on the 22nd of January, and that she sailed in company with the United States' brig "*Albertine.*" Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the United States' Government will be anxious to take measures for preventing United States' vessels from being thus employed in carrying on the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 313.

Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to Viscount Palmerston.
January 22 *and* 26, 1849.
[See Class A, Nos. 80 and 82.]

No. 314.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 27, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch* of the 26th of January last, on the subject of the employment of United States' vessels in the Slave Trade of Brazil, and to your despatch in reply thereto of the 2nd of April last, I herewith transmit to you a copy of a despatch dated the 13th of January, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that the employment of United States' vessels in Slave Trade had been checked in the port of Rio by the vigorous measures adopted by the United States' authorities at that place.

I also transmit to you a copy of a further despatch, dated the 23rd of April, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, stating that during the preceding three months no United States' vessel had been loaded at Rio for Africa, but expressing a fear that vessels under the United States' flag in the employment of the slave-dealers heretofore loaded at and dispatched from Rio de Janeiro, would in future clear out in ballast from that port for Bahia or other ports on the coast of Brazil, and would ship their cargoes for the coast at such ports.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to Mr. Clayton.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 314.

1. *Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, January* 13, 1849.
[See Class B, presented 1849, No. 55.]

2. *Mr. Hudson to Viscount Palmerston, April* 25, 1849.
[See No. 22.]

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* See Class B, presented 1849, No. 286.

No. 315.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 12, 1849.

WITH reference to the several representations which you have recently made by my direction to the United States' Government on the subject of the facilities given to Slave Trade by the use of the United States' flag, I have to acquaint you that under date of the 29th of January last Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Commission established at Loanda under the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and that they intended to trust their speculations in future to foreign bottoms, and to employ vessels under the United States' flag on a part of the coast termed by the Commissioners the Southern Range, namely, from Benguela, in about 12° 30′ south, to Mayumba, which lies between the 3rd and 4th degrees of south latitude; and the Commissioners add that there is nothing to obstruct the slave-traders in this course, as no American vessel of war had been to Loanda, or had been heard of to the south of the Line since 1847.

I now transmit to you, as showing the extent to which the United States' flag has contributed to the carrying on of the Slave Trade: first, an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro, containing information as to the manner in which the Slave Trade of Brazil was carried on in the year 1848; secondly, a list furnished by Her Majesty's Acting Consul of United States' vessels reported to have been employed in African voyages during the year 1848; thirdly, a return of vessels stated to have landed slaves within the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the same year, showing that four vessels which sailed from Rio de Janeiro under United States' colours had landed on the coast of Brazil 3,400 slaves, and that five others had landed cargoes of slaves, the number of whom was not known; fourthly, a return of vessels under the flag of the United Sates, which sailed from Rio de Janeiro and Bahia for the coast of Africa from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849; and lastly, a return of vessels under the United States' flag which entered those ports from Africa during the same period.

From the two last-mentioned papers you will perceive that during those fifteen months twenty-four vessels sailed from Rio and Bahia for the coast of Africa, and that twenty-six arrived from thence. Of the latter no less than twenty-five are reported as having arrived in ballast; from which fact it would appear that these vessels had either landed cargoes of slaves on the coast of Brazil, and had then reported themselves at Rio or Bahia as in ballast, or had carried out cargoes of goods to be bartered for slaves, who were to be carried to Brazil in other vessels either destitute of flag or papers, or under such flag as might appear to the speculators to afford to them the best chance of impunity.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to Mr. Clayton, and to express to him the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the United States' Government may be able to employ some vessels of war on the west coast of Africa to the south as well as to the north of the Line, in order to exercise an efficient supervision over vessels frequenting those seas under the flag of the Union.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures 1 to 3 in No. 315.

Acting Consul Westwood to Viscount Palmerston, February 28, 1849, (paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4; and Lists forming Inclosures 3 and 4 in do).

[See No. 92.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 315.

LIST OF VESSELS under the United States' flag reported by Her Majesty's Consuls at Bahia and Rio de Janeiro to have cleared out from those ports for the Coast of Africa, from January 1, 1848, to March 31, 1849.

From Bahia.

No.	Date of Sailing.		Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.
	1848						
1	Feb.	19	Brig ..	Cadet	294	10	J. Hawson
2	March	29	Barque ..	Helena Augusta ..	232	11	Henry Sinclair
3	June	24	Patache ..	Bridgeton	144	8	M. D. Burckly
4	July	29	Yacht ..	J. W. Kampton ..	192	7	M. R. Stanhope
5	Sept.	12	Brig ..	Cadet	294	11	J. Hawson
6	Nov.	5	Ditto ..	Harriet	333	9	Thomas Duling
7	Dec.	2	Schooner ..	J. W. Kampton ..	193	7	M. R. Stanhope
	1849						
8	March	7	Brig ..	Cadet	294	11	J. Hawson

From Rio de Janeiro.

	1848						
1	Jan.	9	Brig ..	Whig	318	11	Jno. A. Forsyth
2	„	27	Ditto ..	Brazil	281	10	D. C. Bevans
3	March	19	Schooner ..	Morris	126	7	W. G. Currier
4	„	20	Brig ..	Caracas	236	9	W. Sellars
5	„	26	Schooner ..	Martin L. Smith ..	90	5	M. Smith
6	April	13	Brigantine ..	C. H. Rodgers ..	199	7	C. Rock
7	„	21	Barque ..	California	236	10	O. Pinto
8	May	25	Brig ..	Oregon	270	9	Peter Aymes
9	„	28	Barque ..	Louisa	309	13	S. Saunders
10	June	20	Schooner ..	Juliet	138	6	M. Nathaniel
11	July	16	Ditto ..	Morris	105	7	— Jones
12	„	20	Smack ..	Zenobia	125	6	J. C. Betten
13	August	17	Brig ..	J. W. Huntington ..	247	9	J. M. Roberts
14	„	29	Barque ..	Globe	260	11	Bevans
15	Sept.	19	Schooner ..	Mary Catherine ..	130	7	W. Griffin
16	October	1	Brigantine ..	Venus	200	7	G. W. Adams
17	„	7	Schooner ..	Marion	138	7	W. J. Rogers
18	Nov.	5	Ditto ..	Henrietta	110	5	O. Pinto
19	„	7	Barque ..	Camilla	336	11	J. A. Forsyth
20	„	15	Schooner ..	Morris	126	7	W. S. Jones
21	„	16	Barque ..	Eunomus	281	9	S. K. Appleton
22	„	21	Ship ..	France	615	19	R. S. Corning
23	Dec.	15	Barque ..	A. D. Richardson ..	220	10	C, W. Storer
	1849						
24	Feb.	4	Brig ..	Susan	230	12	Woolford*

* Seized outside Rio Harbour by the American Commander-in-chief.

CLASS B.

Inclosure 5 in No. 315.

List of Vessels under the United States' flag reported by Her Majesty's Consuls at Bahia and Rio de Janeiro to have entered those Ports from the Coast of Africa, from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849.

Into Bahia.

No.	Date of Entry.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
	1848								
1	Apr. 13	Patacho	Bridgeton	144	8	N. B. Huttlesten	Ballast	Ajuda	45
2	June 17	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	193	..	M. R. Stanhope	Ditto	Ambriz	17
3	July 2	Brig	Cadet	294	10	J. Wansen	Ditto	Onim	29
4	Oct. 8	Barque	Adeline	249	12	S. G. Gamage	General	Loanda	25
5	Nov. 1	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	193	6	M. R. Stanhope	Ballast	Onim	30
6	„ 11	Patacho	Bridgeton	144	8	D. Buddy	Ditto	Ambriz	22
	1849								
7	Jan. 14	Brig	Cadet	294	11	J. Wansen	Ditto	Onim	28
8	Feb. 25	Yacht	J. W. Kampton	150	8	M. R. Stanhope	Ditto	Onim	28
9	Mar. 9	Barque	Adorio	268	12	J. R. Brown	Ditto	Gallinas	17

Into Rio de Janeiro.

	1848								
1	Feb. 13	Schooner	Alicia	137	8	S. Smith	Ballast	Ambriz	30
2	„ 16	Barque	Camilla	233	10	Charles Ranch	Ditto	Africa	32
3	Apr. 6	Ditto	Ceres	191	6	Higgins	Ditto	Ambriz	30
4	„ 28	Brig	Whig	225	11	Forsyth	Ditto	Loango	34
5	May 1	Ditto	Vintage	199	10	Baddege	Ditto	Ambriz	26
6	„ 2	Ditto	Huntington	192	8	J. M. Roberts	Ditto	Africa	28
7	June 10	Schooner	Morris	105	7	M. Courier	Ditto	Ditto	22
8	„ 11	Brig	Caracas	173	9	W. Sellars	Ditto	Loango	22
9	July 5	Ditto	Brazil	245	11	Bevans	Ditto	River Congo	25
10	„ 25	Barque	St. Andrew	288	9	E. Doane	Ditto	Africa	20
11	Sept. 2	Brig	Oregon	205	10	Peter Ayres	Ditto	River Zaire	25
12	Oct. 1	Barque	Louisa	267	13	J. Saunders	Ditto	Congo	33
13	„ 15	Schooner	Morris	105	7	W. S. Jones	Ditto	Loango	23
14	Nov. 2	Pilot Boat	Zenobia	125	6	G. C. Bitten	Ditto	Congo	24
15	„ 23	Brig	Huntington	193	10	J. M. Roberts	Ditto	Loango	24
	1849								
16	Jan. 20	Brigantine	Venus	149	6	G. W. Adams	Ditto	Ditto	36
17	„ 21	Schooner	Morris	105	7	W. Johns	Ditto	Ditto	23

No. 316.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 18, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatches to you of the 18th of April last, and of the 9th of April last, inclosing copies of two communications made by Commodore Sir C. Hotham to the Commodore in command of the United States' squadron on the west coast of Africa: the one dated the 5th of December, 1848, returning thanks for the assistance rendered in the month of September, 1848, by the United States' ships of war "Jamestown" and "Porpoise," to Her Majesty's ship "Ranger;" the other, dated 2nd January, 1849, tendering an apology for the proceedings taken by Her Majesty's sloop "Wanderer" towards the United States merchant-vessel "*Madonna,*" on the 22nd of March, 1848; I now transmit to you copies of two letters, dated respectively the 6th and 7th of February last, from Commodore Cooper to Sir Charles Hotham, expressing his gratification at the sentiments expressed by the latter officer in his communications of the 5th of December and 2nd January, above alluded to.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to the United States' Government, and to say that, in transmitting them to me, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty stated that "it would be highly agreeable to them if an opportunity could be taken of communicating to the Government of the United States the sense which they entertain both of the services rendered to the 'Ranger,' by the captains of the 'Jamestown' and 'Porpoise,' and also of the amicable and rational spirit in which the difficulties that can hardly fail to arise from the indiscretion and inexperience of young officers, in such a service as that upon the coast of Africa, have been dealt with and settled by the Commodores of the two countries."

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 316.

Commodore Cooper to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

"Portsmouth," Monrovia Roads,

Sir, *February* 6, 1849, 1 *o'clock*, A.M.

I INCLOSE you a copy of my communication to the Navy Department, forwarding those I received from you, addressed to my predecessor commanding this station; time forbids my expressing to you, as I would wish, my sentiments in relation to those communications, as the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Pluto" informs me that he sails within an hour's time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJAMIN COOPER,

Commanding the United States' Naval Forces, West Coast of Africa.

Inclosure 2 in No. 316.

Commodore Cooper to Mr. Mason.

Sir, *"Portsmouth," Monrovia Roads, February* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose you communications from Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on this station, to my predecessor, Commodore W. C. Bolton, acknowledging the assistance rendered by the United States' ship "Jamestown" and brig "Porpoise," to Her Majesty's ship "Ranger," and also in relation to the visit made by Lieutenant Swinburn, of Her Majesty's ship "Wanderer," to the American ship "*Madonna.*" To my own mind these communica-

tions are highly satisfactory, and I am sure I will be but carrying out the sentiments of the department in expressing them, at the earliest opportunity, to Sir Charles Hotham, as also my gratification for the handsome manner in which his communications are made.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJ. COOPER,

Commanding United States' Naval Forces, Coast of Africa.

Inclosure 3 in No. 316.

Commodore Cooper to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham.

Sir, "*Portsmouth,*" *off Monrovia, February* 7, 1849.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your communications of December 5th and January 2nd, addressed to my predecessor, Commodore W. C. Bolton, acknowledging the assistance rendered by the United States' ship "Jamestown" and brig "Porpoise," to Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Ranger," and also in relation to the boarding of the American ship "*Madonna,*" by Lieutenant Swinburn of Her Majesty's ship "Wanderer." These communications I have had the honour to forward to the Honourable Secretary of the Navy. The Commanders of the "Jamestown" and "Porpoise" performed but a pleasing duty in rendering the aid they did to the "Ranger," and I am happy to say in this they but reflected the sentiments of the squadron and the spirit of our Government at home. If anything could enhance the gratification of Commanders Mercer and Gordon, it was the worth and deserving of Commander Newland of the "Ranger." From the representations made me by officers who witnessed his untiring zeal and indomitable energy and perseverance, under circumstances of great difficulty, and almost hopeless discouragement, I am satisfied that he is an officer of much merit, and that his example in misfortune has done much to atone for the accident, or possibly the error which caused it.

To my own mind, your communication relative to the affair of the "Wanderer" is highly satisfactory, and I am sure will be so considered by the United States' Government, as will also the exalted sentiments you have so handsomely expressed. In these sentiments I cordially unite, and am well assured that where such a spirit prevails, there can be little danger of unpleasant consequences resulting from the imprudent action of well-meaning but injudicious officers; this spirit it will be no less my duty than my pleasure to cultivate.

I hope, Sir, to have the pleasure of meeting you during our respective terms of duty on this station, and in the meantime

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJN. COOPER.

No. 31 .

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord, *Washington, July* 23, 1849.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch* of the 22nd of December last, by which I am informed of the circumstances under which the American brig "*Lawrence*" was seized in the port of Sierra Leone, in September last, and brought into the Court of Vice-Admiralty at that place, on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade, I have the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which has been addressed to me by the United States' Secretary of State, inclosing the copy of a letter dated February 2nd, from Edward A. Yorke, master of the "*Lawrence,*" to the predecessor of the present Secretary of State, accompanied by a statement by Mr. Yorke, of what he represents as the "illegal seizure of

* Class B, presented 1849, No. 283.

his vessel" on the above-named occasion, and calling for the interference of the United States' Government to procure for him redress and indemnification for the losses which he has thereby sustained.

As Mr. Clayton requests me to furnish him with any information of which Her Majesty's Legation may be in possession with regard to this transaction, I have, in accordance with your Lordship's instructions in anticipation of such an inquiry, communicated to him in a note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, copies of the papers which were transmitted to me with your Lordship's above-named despatch, in order to enable me to inform the United States' Government of the facts of this case, so far as they had then been communicated to Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Clayton stated to me, in conversation, that his attention has been called to this case by the French Minister near this Government, who, from the circumstance of a part of the cargo of the "*Lawrence*" being the property of a French citizen, has, it appears, been moved to make inquiry as to what steps the Government of the United States have taken, or are about to take in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 317.

Mr. Clayton to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, July* 9, 1849.

I BEG leave to submit for your perusal a letter addressed by Mr. Edward A. Yorke, of Philadelphia, to my predecessor, on the 2nd of February, this year, and a statement which accompanied it, respecting the illegal seizure, in the port of Sierra Leone, in September last, of the brig "*Lawrence*," whereof Mr. Yorke was master and part owner.

If your Legation is in possession of any information in regard to this alleged seizure, and the losses occasioned by it to the complainant, you will greatly oblige me by communicating the same for the use of this Government.

Be pleased to return the inclosed original papers.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN M. CLAYTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 317.

Mr. Yorke to Mr. Buchanan.

Sir, *Philadelphia, February* 2, 1849.

PURSUANT to the conversation I had the honour to hold with you in Washington a short time since, I submit herewith, through the favour of Mr. C. J. Ingersoll of the House of Representatives, a statement of the illegal seizure of my brig "Lawrence," in the port of Sierra Leone, in September last. For the amount of the losses I have sustained by this seizure, amounting, as I am prepared to show, to not less than 25,000 dollars, I ask the interference of my Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD A. YORKE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 317.

Deposition of Mr. Yorke.

I WAS master and part owner of the brig "*Lawrence*," and cleared from New Orleans on the 12th of February, 1848, for Havana, on freight. Arrived there the 25th of February, and discharged the cargo.

March 14th, chartered my brig to Manuel Clementi and Co. of Havana, for a voyage to Tobasco and back to Havana, which was completed May 17th.

On the 9th of June I chartered my brig to A. Percy, Esq., to carry a cargo to Cabenda on the coast of Africa, with the privilege of selling goods at other ports on the coast if the supercargo desired it. In the meantime the time of service of my men having expired, I was obliged to ship a new crew at Havana, and there being no American seamen in port at the time, as appears by the Consul's certificate, I had to take foreigners, chiefly Spanish.

On the 11th of July I sailed from Havana, having on board two mates, five seamen, cook, and cabin boy, Mr. Antoine Etchelbarne, supercargo and owner of the cargo, and three Spanish cabin passengers. The cargo consisting of 60 pipes, 116 half-pipes of rum, 4 boxes of beads, 60 barrels of wheat and corn flour, 1 box of woollen caps, 48,000 cigars, 10 barrels of beef and pork, 10 barrels and 22 bags of beans, 46 buckets (wooden), and 2 packages of tin-ware.

We had heavy weather on the passage, and on the 2nd of September, in latitude 7° 39′ north, longitude 2° 40′ west, having five feet water in the hold, we ran down and spoke the brig "Regalia" of Liverpool, bound to Guatemala, wanted to buy her long-boat, which she refused to sell us, but promised to keep in company with us: at midnight she left us.

3rd, 4th, and 5th of September, brig under short sail and crew pumping.

September 5th, a consultation was held of officers, crew, and passengers, and it was decided to proceed to St. Thomas' to repair.

On September 7th, another consultation was held, being then in latitude 6° 10′ north, longitude 12° 10′ west. It was decided to bear up for Gallinas, and dispose of part of the cargo to enable the vessel to proceed on her voyage.

On the 9th of September, at 8·30 A.M. we anchored off the River Gallinas: two armed boats came alongside from Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Sealark." The officer in command asked to see my papers, which were shown him. At 11·30 A.M. the supercargo went on shore.

September 10th, at 6 P.M., Commander Moneypenny of the "Sealark," came on board and asked to see my papers, which were shown him. He asked my business there, which I told him; he said my manifest contained nothing illegal, or which he could prevent me selling; and after examining my vessel, the hatches being off, he advised me to proceed to Sierra Leone for repairs, saying there were facilities for that purpose there, which no other place on the coast afforded.

From the 10th to the 17th of September I was unable to land cargo, from the state of the surf.

September 12th.—An officer from the "Sealark" came on board, asking, in the name of Commander Moneypenny, leave to send thirty-two prisoners on board my brig until the surf admitted them being put on shore, alleging that the "Sealark" wished to go on a cruize. I refused to receive them, because it was a number of men so disproportioned to the number of my crew. This request was repeated on September 16, and again refused; on the 17th of September I landed the cargo sold, losing one canoe and load in the surf; 30 pipes and 2 half-pipes rum, 60 barrels corn and wheat flour, 10 bags beans, 46 wooden buckets, and 2 packages tin-ware.

On the 18th September, at 8 A.M., got under weigh for Sierra Leone; a man-of-war schooner in sight to the eastward. At 10·30 A.M. was fired at with shot from a large boat (the American flag hoisted at the time). Boarded by an officer in a master's-mate's uniform, and eighteen armed men; a sentry put at the cabin-door, and the brig's papers demanded, which were shown. Said master's-mate then ordered the hatches to be taken off, saying he had orders from Commander Forbes, of Her Britannic Majesty's schooner "Bonetta," to search the brig; I told him that he did so at his peril. He then ordered the brig to be steered for the "Bonetta," then distant three miles. On coming alongside the "Bonetta" we were hailed to know what was the matter, when the

officer in charge of my vessel replied that I resisted being searched. The officer was ordered to board with his men, and the "*Lawrence*" to remain hove-to till Commander Forbes, who came on board without uniform, examined the brig's papers, and demanded permission to search, which I refused to grant. He then left me, after a detention of ten hours, with a threat he would follow me to Sierra Leone. I again made sail and proceeded on my passage to Sierra Leone, and on the 22nd of September, at 4·30 P.M., came-to off Freetown, Sierra Leone.

September 23rd, entered the vessel and cargo; 30 pipes and 115 half-pipes rum, four boxes glass beads, 50,000 cigars, 1 box woollen caps, and 20 bags beans, at the custom-house, paid the tonnage dues and pilotage, and entered the usual bonds at the Colonial Secretary's office; sent six men on board to assist in pumping.

At 8·30 A.M. on the 25th September went on board the brig, and found her in possession of an officer and a number of armed men, and was informed by Mr. Levi Howland, mate, that the brig "*Lawrence*" had been boarded at 6·30 A.M., by an officer, who represented himself to be Commander Prevost of Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Pantaloon," and a number of armed men. Said officer demanded the brig's papers, and on being told they had been deposited in the custom-house, forced open the hatches, went below, and searched the cargo. He then left the brig in charge of an armed force, with orders to send for him when the captain came on board. I requested that he should be sent for, and when he came on board, demanded his authority for such violent proceedings; he said I was not captain, but as I passed for such he would show me his authority. In about ten minutes an officer returned with a treaty between Great Britain and Spain, which I returned to him, with the remark that such a treaty did not apply to an American vessel, and ordered the American flag to be hoisted. Commander Prevost then ordered the search to be continued, which was conducted in a riotous manner, and a number of the men were soon intoxicated with rum and wine from the cargo and my cabin stores. At 9 A.M. Commander Hugh Dunlop, of Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Alert," came on board, and demanded of Commander Prevost why the brig "*Lawrence*" had been boarded and searched without his being informed of it; Commander Prevost said that the urgency of the case must be his excuse, as he had been told the vessel was fitted in every respect as a slaver, and he was afraid I would hear of his intention of searching the vessel, and put to sea. Commander Dunlop said he would now take charge himself, and continue the search. Commander Prevost then asked him if he would take the responsibility off him? he answered only from the time he took charge. By Commander Dunlop's orders the decks were then filled with cargo hoisted up from below, and the search continued until 4 P.M., when Commander Dunlop informed me he would be on board next morning to take an inventory of all the goods and effects on board the "*Lawrence*," as the brig would be put in the Vice-Admiralty Court for aiding and abetting in the Slave Trade; he then left the brig in charge of the sailing-master and ten armed men of the "Alert."

On the morning of the 26th of September, whilst on shore for advice from E. C. Hartung, Esq., Bremen Consul, to whom I had consigned the brig "*Lawrence*" and cargo on my arrival, I received a letter from R. A. Oldfield, who represented himself as Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty Court, requesting me to come on board, as himself and Commander Dunlop were waiting for me to assist in taking the inventory. I went on board, but declined taking any part in their proceedings, as the cargo and stores had been broken open and plundered in the preceding day's search. After the inventory was taken the said Commander Dunlop and R. A. Oldfield insisted on my trunk being searched, and took from it 1450 dollars in silver, and a number of papers and private letters. The hatches and all the brig's stores were then sealed up, and R. A. Oldfield ordered me to leave the vessel with my crew; I refused to do so, he then said that he would put me on shore by force, the next morning. They then left the brig in charge of the same men as on the previous day. At 3 P.M. Commander Dunlop called on Mr. Hartung, and

told him that R. A. Oldfield was wrong in ordering me to leave the vessel, and requested him to write to me to that effect.

On the 27th of September, not being able to get any provisions, I wrote to Commander Dunlop, and inquired what myself and crew were to live upon, stores, water, and firewood being all sealed up; he wrote for answer that he had nothing to do with it, as the vessel was now in the Vice-Admiralty Court, to whom I must apply. I then went on shore and made arrangements with Mr. Hartung to have the vessel supplied with provisions from the shore. At 12 A.M. I was served with a summons to appear at the Vice-Admiralty Court in fourteen days, to show cause why the brig "*Lawrence*" should not be condemned as being engaged in the Slave Trade, and otherwise aiding and abetting therein. On this day the men in charge of the brig commenced discharging the cargo and unbending the sails and sending them ashore.

On the 28th of September, the men from the "Alert" were taken away, and eight negroes were left in charge of the brig, with a Mr. Sheriff wearing a master's-mate's uniform, who informed me he was only there to prosecute the vessel, but had no command whatever over the negroes, and showed me his instructions from Commander Hugh Dunlop to that effect. From this date until 10th October, the brig was being discharged at intervals, sails unbent and sent on shore, and the light spars sent down from aloft, the most of the running rigging unrove and stolen, also every thing moveable about the decks; and Mr. Sheriff, when not drunk, was employed in taking notes of all the conversation on board; the brig's boat was stove lying at the stone pier, when employed in carrying the men in charge to shore and off again.

On the 10th October I attended the court, when the judge asked if any one appeared to claim the "*Lawrence*." I told him there was no necessity for any further claim to her than the brig's papers in his possession, which were granted to me by my Government, and that said papers fully proved my claim, but that I was there to disprove any charges that might be brought against the brig in accordance with the summons I had received. Judge Carr then told me I must employ a lawyer, and claim my vessel in a legal form. I said he knew as well as I did there was not a lawyer in the colony of Sierra Leone at that time. He said he would appoint one for this case, and told Mr. Meheux (who was clerk for the Recorder, clerk for the Queen's Advocate, acting postmaster, storekeeper of the merchant's powder magazine, and a merchant,) he would appoint him proctor in this case. I refused his services for two reasons: first, he had never practised as a lawyer; second, it was more his interest to prove me guilty than innocent, as in his capacity of clerk of the Queen's Advocate, he shared in the prize-money paid for the capture of slavers. I desired to know what were the charges against my brig, and was told, as soon as I employed a lawyer and claimed my vessel in a legal form, he would be furnished with a legal copy of the charges against me. I then protested against all their proceedings against my vessel coming into the port of Sierra Leone in distress, with a lawful cargo on board. The court was then dismissed without my receiving any notice when it would be held again. I waited until 15th October, when not hearing from the court, my vessel by this time nearly a wreck, and being without any funds to maintain myself and crew.

For the truth of the above statement from the 22nd of September, I refer to E. C. Hartung, Esq., Bremen Consul, through whose kindness I was enabled to procure provisions and a passage for myself and crew to Bahia, where I claimed the protection of A. H. Tyler, Esq., United States' Consul, and was sent home by him in the barque "Emma Isidora" of Boston.

(Signed) EDWARD A. YORKE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 317.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Clayton.

Sir, *Washington, July* 14, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 9th instant, inclosing for my perusal a letter addressed by Mr. Edward A. Yorke to your predecessor, with a statement which accompanied it, respecting the alleged illegal seizure in the port of Sierra Leone, in September last, of the American brig "*Lawrence.*"

In compliance with your request that I should furnish you with any information of which Her Majesty's Legation is in possession with regard to this seizure, I have the honour to inclose to you herewith copies of three documents which relate to the transaction in question: first, an extract of a letter, dated July 25, 1848, from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston, in which the brig "*Lawrence*" is mentioned as having left that port under circumstances of a character to give good reasons for believing that she was about to engage in the Slave Trade; second, a report from Commander Dunlop, of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," dated September 27, 1848, to Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, then in command of Her Majesty's naval forces on the west coast of Africa, giving an account of the circumstances under which the seizure of the "*Lawrence*" was effected by Commanders Dunlop and Prevost in the harbour of Sierra Leone; and third, an extract of a letter, dated November 4, 1848, from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone, stating that the "*Lawrence*" was then before the Court of Vice-Admiralty at that place.

A perusal of these papers will, I am persuaded, satisfy you, Sir, that the "*Lawrence*" was legally and properly brought into the Court of Vice-Admiralty under evidence fully sufficient to sustain a charge of her having been found within British jurisdiction equipped for the Slave Trade, and to justify a presumption that she was about to be sent away from a British port for the purpose of being employed in that disgraceful traffic.

Of the decision of the Court of Vice-Admiralty in the case I am not at present informed. So soon, however, as I shall be made acquainted with it I will not fail to communicate it to you, Sir, for the information of the Government of the United States.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 318.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 21.)

My Lord, *Washington, August* 6, 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 26th of June last, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, communicating to the United States' Government copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda: the one reporting that the United States' barque "*Eunomus*" shipped a cargo of 800 slaves at Ambriz, on the 13th of January last; the other that the United States' brig "*Harriett*" carried off 800 slaves from the same place on the 22nd of January, and that she sailed in company with the United States' brig "Albertine."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 318.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Clayton.

Sir, *Washington, July* 16, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for the information of the United States' Government, copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda; the one reporting that the United States' barque "*Eunomus*" shipped a cargo of 800 slaves at Ambriz on the 13th of January last; the other that the United States' brig "*Harriett*" carried off 880 slaves from the same place on the 22nd of January, and that she sailed in company with the United States' brig "Albertine."

Her Majesty's Government, in directing me to communicate these documents to you, Sir, do not doubt that the Government of the United States will be anxious to take measures for preventing American vessels from being thus employed in carrying on the Slave Trade.

I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 319.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 24, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, inclosing the copy of a correspondence between the United States' Secretary of State and yourself on the case of the American brig "*Lawrence,*" which was seized in the month of September last, by Commander Dunlop, of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," in the harbour of Sierra Leone, and brought for adjudication before the Vice-Admiralty Court of that colony on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade.

I have caused the papers inclosed in your despatch to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for any observations which their Lordships may have to make thereupon; and in the meantime, and with reference to the concluding paragraph of my despatch of the 22nd of December last, I herewith transmit to you, for communication to Mr. Clayton, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Acting Governor of Sierra Leone to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, containing copies of the decrees of the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, condemning the "*Lawrence*" and her cargo upon the charges brought forward by her captors.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosures in No. 319.

1.—*The Acting Governor of Sierra Leone to Earl Grey, May* 10, 1849.

2.—*Judgment of Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, in the case of the "Lawrence."*

[See Inclosures 3 and 4 in No. 116.]

No. 320.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord, *Washington, August* 13, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 27th of June last, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, communicating to him two despatches received by your Lordship from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that the employment of United States' vessels in Slave Trade had been checked in that port by the vigorous measures adopted by the United States' authorities there; but expressing a fear that such vessels would in future be loaded and dispatched from Bahia and other ports on the coast of Brazil.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 320.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Clayton.

Sir, *Washington, August* 7, 1849.

I HAVE been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to communicate to you the copies which I have the honour to inclose of two despatches which have been received by Viscount Palmerston from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro: the one dated January 13, 1849, reporting that the vigorous measures which have been adopted by the commander of the United States' naval forces on the coast of Brazil, and by the other United States' authorities at Rio, have had the effect of checking, in a great measure, the employment at that port of American vessels in the Slave Trade; the other, dated the 23rd of April last, confirming this gratifying result by the fact, that during the three intervening months no United States' vessel had loaded at Rio for Africa, but expressing a fear that vessels under the United States' flag in the employment of the slave-dealers, heretofore loaded and dispatched from Rio de Janeiro, would in future clear out in ballast from that port for Bahia or other ports on the coast of Brazil, and would ship their cargoes for the coast of Africa at such ports.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 321.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 4.)

(Extract.) *Washington, August* 20, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 12th ultimo, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, communicating to him the information received by Her Majesty's Government from the Commissioners at Loanda, as to the intention of the Brazilian slave-dealers to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and trusting their speculations in future to foreign bottoms.

I have at the same time communicated to the United States' Government the various papers inclosed in your Lordship's above-named despatch, showing the extent to which the United States' flag has contributed to the carrying on of the Slave Trade; and I have expressed the earnest desire of Her Majesty's Government that the United States'

Government may be enabled to employ some vessels of war to the south as well as to the north of the Line, in order to defeat the plan entertained by the slave-dealers, of employing United States' vessels in the Southern range, where no American vessels of war have appeared since 1847.

I have also taken this opportunity to point out to Mr. Clayton the evidence which is afforded by these papers, of the evil effect of the indiscriminate grant by the United States' Consuls in foreign ports, of sea-letters to American vessels, when sold there by one citizen of the United States to another.

Inclosure in No. 321.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Clayton.

Sir, *Washington, August* 15, 1849.

WITH reference to the several representations which, by the direction of Her Majesty's Government, I have at different times had the honour of making to the Government of the United States on the subject of the facilities given to the Slave Trade by the use of the United States' flag, I have now the honour to acquaint you that, under date of the 29th of January last, Her Majesty's Commissioners in the Mixed Commission established in Loanda under the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have reported to Her Majesty's Government that they had received information that the slave-traders of Brazil had determined to abandon the system of employing Brazilian vessels without flag or papers, and that they intended to trust their speculations in future to foreign bottoms, and to employ vessels under the United States' flag on a part of the coast termed by the Commissioners the Southern Range, viz., from Benguela, in about 12° 30′ south latitude, to Mayumba, which lies between the 3rd and 4th degrees of south latitude, and the Commissioners add that there is nothing to obstruct the slave-traders in this course, as no American vessel of war had been to Loanda, or had been heard of south of the Line, ever since 1847.

I have the honour of transmitting to you herewith, as showing the extent to which the United States' flag has contributed to the carrying on of the Slave Trade: first, an extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Rio de Janeiro, containing information as to the manner in which the Slave Trade of Brazil was carried on in the year 1848; secondly, a list furnished by Her Majesty's Acting Consul of United States' vessels reported to have been employed in African voyages during the year 1848; thirdly, a return of vessels stated to have landed slaves within the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the same year; showing that four vessels which sailed from Rio de Janeiro under United States' colours had landed on the coast of Brazil 3,400 slaves, and that five others had landed cargoes of slaves, the number of whom was not known; fourthly, a return of vessels which sailed from Rio de Janeiro and Bahia for the coast of Africa, from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 31st of March, 1849; and lastly, a return of vessels under the United States' flag which entered those ports from Africa during the same period.

From the two last-mentioned papers, you will perceive, Sir, that during those fifteen months twenty-four vessels sailed from Rio and Bahia for the coast of Africa, and that twenty-six arrived from thence. Of the latter no less than twenty-five are reported as having arrived in ballast, from which fact it would appear that those vessels had either landed cargoes of slaves on the coast of Brazil, and had then reported themselves at Rio or Bahia as in ballast, or had carried out cargoes of goods to be bartered for slaves, who were to be carried to Brazil in other vessels either destitute of flag or papers, or under such flag as might appear to the speculators to afford them the best chance of impunity.

In communicating to the United States' Government these papers, I am instructed to express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of the United States may be able to employ some

vessels of war on the west coast of Africa, to the south as well as to the north of the Line, in order to exercise an efficient supervision over vessels frequenting those seas under the flag of the United States.

I would also take this opportunity of directing your attention to the striking confirmation which, by the list furnished by Her Majesty's Consul, of American vessels reported to have been engaged in African voyages during 1848 (Inclosure No. 2), is afforded of the correctness of the remarks which I had the honour of submitting to your predecessor in my note* of the 20th of January, 1848, and which formed the subject of our late conversation; I allude to the facilities given to the employment of American vessels in the Slave Trade by the law which authorizes the Consuls of the United States to grant sea-letters to United States' vessels which may be sold in foreign ports to United States' citizens, without limiting either the duration or the destination of the voyages in which those vessels shall engage when they have passed into new hands. A reference to a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio to Viscount Palmerston, of which a copy was inclosed in my above-named note, will show that the Consul of the United States at Rio had usually refused to grant such sea-letters in cases where the employment and destination of the vessel appeared to him to be of an equivocal nature; and it was not until positive instructions were addressed to him in the latter part of 1847, by which he was precluded from exercising in future any discretion in the matter, that he adopted an opposite practice. The prejudicial effects of this will now be made manifest to you, Sir, by a glance at the column of "remarks" appended to the list to which I have referred, showing the great proportion of American vessels which have by means of such sea-letters been made available to the slave-dealers for the purposes of their inhuman traffic.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 322.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 17, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of the 12th of July last, you addressed on the 15th ultimo to Mr. Clayton, calling the attention of the United States' Government to the extent to which the flag of the Union is used in the Slave Trade of Brazil, and to the facilities given to that traffic by the grant of sea-letters by the United States' Consuls in Brazil to American vessels, when sold in that country by one United States' citizen to another.

I have the satisfaction of informing you that I entirely approve of the note which you addressed to Mr. Clayton on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 323.

Viscount Palmerston to Sir Henry Bulwer.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 7, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a copy of a despatch and of its inclosures from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at the Havana, reporting that a cargo of slaves had been brought from Brazil to Cuba in a vessel supposed to be American, and had been landed in the neighbour-

* See Class D, presented 1848, Inclosure in No. 104.

hood of Cardenas; that the vessel was sunk immediately after the landing of the slaves was effected, and that her crew, thirty-four or thirty-five in number, had sailed from Cardenas for New York in the American brig "Abcona."

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to the United States' Government with reference to the participation of citizens of the United States in this transaction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 323.

Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at the Havana to Viscount Palmerston, December 24, 1849.

[See No. 265.]

VENEZUELA.

No. 324.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 22.)

My Lord, *Caracas, May* 18, 1849.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch* of the 16th of January last, I have the honour of herewith transmitting a list of several British subjects and of persons claiming to be so, who are believed to be the owners or hirers of slaves in Venezuela, with all the particulars it has been possible to obtain respecting the estates upon which those slaves are employed, in order to enable the Law Adviser of the Crown to form an opinion whether the owners or hirers in question can bring themselves within the exceptions referred to in the 6th section of the Act 6 and 7 Victoria, cap. 98.

Copies of the despatches from the Vice-Consuls in Venezuela, upon which this list and statement of particulars have been partly founded, together with a copy of my circular to which those despatches have been written in reply, are likewise inclosed.

The estates referred to in the accompanying list are all situated in the Province of Carabobo, or in the newly-created Provinces of Caracas, Aragua, and Guarico, which until the beginning of last year formed the single Province of Caracas, and amongst them are included several of the most valuable and extensive properties of the kind in Venezuela.

Mr. Vice-Consul Mathison reports that no slaves have been owned or hired within his district by British subjects since the year 1840, and I have not been able to ascertain that British subjects are the owners or hirers of slaves in any other provinces of the Republic than those above mentioned, and indeed I feel persuaded that if any other British subjects employ slaves or manumisos in Venezuela, it can only be in the capacity of domestic servants.

It would be found exceedingly difficult to procure legal evidence sufficient to convict any of the parties mentioned in the inclosed statement, if considered guilty of an infringement of the Act 6 and 7 Victoria, cap. 98, as they would naturally withhold all information upon the subject tending to criminate themselves, and as permission to inspect the registers kept at the public record offices, in order to obtain such evidence, could not be granted on application to the Venezuelan Government, as Mr. Cocking suggests, without a provision of the law establishing rules for the registration of deeds being set at defiance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

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* Class B, presented 1849, No. 295.

Inclosure 1 in No. 324.

List of several British Subjects who are the reputed Owners or Hirers of Slaves in Venezuela, with particulars respecting the manner and time of their becoming possessed of such Slaves, so far as it has been possible to ascertain the same.

Caracas, May 18, 1849.

Mr. William Ackers, Danish Chargé d'Affaires to Venezuela, rents a valuable sugar plantation in the Province of Caracas, called Camuri Grande, cultivated almost entirely by slaves and manumisos (the children of female slaves born since 1821, nominally free, but practically held in slavery until they attain the age of twenty-five). This estate is believed to have been first rented by Mr. Ackers in 1826 or 1827, for a term of years since expired, but several times renewed. The owners are not likely to grant another renewal upon the expiration of the last term, which is now drawing to a close.

Mr. Ackers is also the joint owner with M. Juan Pablo Huizi, a Venezuelan citizen, of the sugar plantation of Juan Dias, in the Province of Caracas, chiefly worked by slaves and manumisos. This estate was purchased by Mr. Ackers many years prior to 1843.

Mr. John Alderson, a British subject, naturalized in Venezuela, has for many years before the passing of the Act 6 and 7 Victoria, cap. 98, been the owner of an extensive cocoa plantation called Aguas Frias de Curiepe, and also of Savana Grande, a coffee estate, both situated in the Province of Caracas, and cultivated by slaves and manumisos.

Mr. William Anderson, proprietor of the cattle estate of Piragua, in the Province of Guarico, is, on his own admission, the owner of a slave purchased in 1837.

Mr. Christopher Chitty has for many years rented the valuable cocoa estate of Cata, in the Province of Carabobo, entirely worked by slaves.

Mr. George Gosling, in the year 1842 or beginning of 1843, took a lease of a large sugar and coffee estate, called Mocundo, in the Province of Carabobo, about half of the labour on which is performed by slaves, the other half by manumisos and free labourers. Mr. Gosling is likewise the manager of the sugar estate of La Trinidad, in the Province of Aragua, the property of M. José Antonio Paez, on which slaves and manumisos are employed. This estate is now advertized to be sold at public auction, for the payment of a debt due to the National Bank of Venezuela. In lieu of salary Mr. Gosling is entitled to one-third of the net annual profits, and he represents himself for that reason to be a partner with M. Paez in the estate. Mr. Gosling has frequently claimed British protection, but doubts are entertained whether he is in reality a British subject.

Mr. Rawlins Hartman in 1844 took a lease of Tiquire, a sugar and coffee plantation, in the Province of Aragua, the whole of the labourers on which are slaves or manumisos.

Messrs. Powles and Co., of London, are the owners of Guare, an extensive coffee estate in the Province of Caracas, cultivated by slaves, under the superintendence of Mr. George Ward, a British subject, formerly a partner in the firm of Messrs. Powles, Ward, Lord and Co., of La Guayra, now dissolved. This property was taken over in 1828 from Señor Juancho Echezurria, in payment of a debt due to that firm, since which time several slaves have been purchased and placed upon it, but whether before or after 1843 cannot be ascertained.

Mr. Robert Syers, Danish Consul at La Guayra, is the owner of Curiana, a sugar plantation in the Province of Caracas, worked by slaves

and manumisos, and which was taken over by him about the year 1840, in payment of a debt. The manager, Mr. Morrow, a British subject, is believed to be entitled to a share of the produce, or of the profits arising from the cultivation of the estate.

The Colonial Bank of London in 1844 acquired and still holds possession of a coffee estate called Villegas, in the Province of Caracas, together with the slaves belonging to it, mortgaged to the Caracas branch of that establishment, in 1842, as security for the payment of a debt.

Mr. John Thomson is said to employ several slaves and manumisos, purchased in 1842, as domestic servants.

(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 324.

Acting Vice-Consul Cocking to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *La Guayra, April* 12, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular dated the 1st ultimo, addressed to Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Hall, in which, after embodying an extract from the 6th clause of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, you request that he will send you, with the least possible delay, a detailed report respecting the acquisition by British subjects of slave property situated within his Consular district, or of slave property in which British subjects may be in any way interested, in order that an opinion may be formed whether they can bring themselves within the exceptions of the aforesaid Act of Parliament.

It has not been possible for me to reply to your circular before now; for while making the necessary inquiries, both time and patience, as well as tact and precaution, have been required, in order not unnecessarily to alarm the morbid sensibilities of the Venezuelan advocates of domestic slavery, who are always ready to give a tortuous direction, and a palpably false interpretation, to the most insignificant question of a British public functionary, that has any bearing whatsoever upon slaves or slave-owners in Venezuela.

And I fear that even now, at this late hour, and after all my endeavours to procure correct information, the only reply within my competency will not be held to be by Her Majesty's Government of any practical utility, inasmuch as it is altogether founded upon hearsay evidence.

It is however generally believed, and it is my deliberate conviction, that British subjects are the owners or hirers of a large number of slaves in Venezuela, and that they have a direct or indirect interest as owners, joint owners, or mortgagees, in several of the principal plantations in this country, which are wholly or in part worked by slaves.

But I am acquainted with no means by which these facts can be proved, so as to be made available for the purpose stated in your circular, namely, that an opinion may be formed whether such British subjects can bring themselves within the exceptions provided for by the 6th clause of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98; unless it be, and I hope to be pardoned for attempting to intrude my suggestion, by direct application to the Government of Venezuela, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to the effect that the registry of every document, whether of purchase, lease, mortgage, or otherwise in any way connected with each and every slave property, said to belong to, to be rented by, or mortgaged to, British subjects, be submitted to the inspection of Her Majesty's Consuls resident in Venezuela, by which means the truth would be got at, as well as the correct date of such purchase, lease, mortgage, or otherwise.

There are four slave properties within this Consular district, that are

said to be held by British subjects, either as owners or renters thereof, or in which they have an interest, by mortgage or otherwise, namely:—

Camuri Grande, a sugar plantation, said to be rented on a lease of years by Mr. William Ackers (Danish Chargé d'Affaires); and that he pays a rent of 5000 dollars, at exchange of 6¼ dollars to the pound sterling, equal to 800*l.* per annum. This plantation is almost wholly worked by slaves and manumisos, the latter being the children of slave mothers, and who are held in slavery under this name until they attain the age of twenty-one, from which age until that of twenty-five they are continued to be held as slaves under another name, that of "aprendiz" (apprentice).

Juan Dias, a sugar plantation, said to belong to M. Juan Pablo Huizi (a native of Caracas), and that Mr. William Ackers holds an interest in it by mortgage. This plantation is also worked by slaves and manumisos.

Curiana, a sugar plantation said to belong to Mr. Robert Syers (Danish Consul at La Guayra), and that it was taken over by him several years ago, in payment of a debt. The labourers on this plantation are all slaves or manumisos.

Aguas Frias de Curiepe, a cocoa plantation, on which sugar is also made, said to belong to Mr. John Alderson. The labourers on this plantation are also slaves and manumisos.

These properties are likewise managed or superintended by British subjects, and have all been held by their present reputed owners and renters long before the year 1843; but with respect to Camuri Grande, it is believed that the original lease granted to Mr. William Ackers was for a term of nine years; in which case this lease must have been renewed more than once; for if I have been correctly informed, Mr. Ackers got possession of this property in the year 1826 or 1827, thus making it appear that the last renewal of the lease must have been effected subsequent to 1843, supposing that each renewal was for an equal term, say nine years.

Besides the above-mentioned slave properties held by British subjects, there are several others, which although not within this Consular district, I trust I shall not be accused of having travelled out of my proper sphere, if I venture to give their names; the names of their reputed British owners or renters, and the part of the country in which situated. They are:—

1. Guare, a large and valuable coffee estate situated near to the town of Tácata, which is said to belong Messrs. Powles and Co. of London, although under the sole superintendence and management of Mr. George Ward, lately a partner in the house of Powles, Ward, Lord, and Co. of La Guayra. This property was taken over some years ago from Señor Juan Jose Echezurria in payment of a debt; since which time several additional slaves have been purchased and put upon it; but whether these purchases were made previously or subsequently to 1843 cannot be ascertained but from Mr. Ward himself, or by referring to the books of the Registry office at Caracas.

2. Mocundo, a large sugar plantation situated near to the towns of Maracai and San Joaquin, in the fertile valleys of Aragua, said to be rented on a lease of years by Mr. George Gosling, and that it is entirely worked by slaves. The lease of this slave property must have been effected by Mr. Gosling in 1842 or 1843. Mr. Gosling is also the manager of a large sugar plantation, La Trinidad, almost adjoining Mocundo, the property of the ex-General José Antonio Paez, on which there is a large number of slaves and manumisos.

3. Cata, a very fine cocoa estate, situated on the coast, not far from Puerto Cabello, and near to the towns of Choroni and Ocumare," said to be rented by Mr. Christopher Chitty, and that it is entirely worked by slaves.

4. Tiquire, a sugar and coffee plantation situated near to the village of El Consejo, at the north entrance into the valleys of Aragua, said to be rented by Mr. Hartman, and that all the labourers on it are either slaves or manumisos. The lease of this slave property, it is said, was entered into by Mr. Hartman so lately as the year 1844.

And it is highly probable that there are other slave properties throughout the country in which British subjects are some way or other interested, but of which I have not been enabled to procure any information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS R. COCKING.

Inclosure 3 in No. 324.

Vice-Consul Mathison to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Bolivar, March* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular despatch of the 1st instant, and in answer thereto have the honour to report that being intimately acquainted with all the British subjects within this Vice-Consulate, and having a general knowledge of their pursuits and affairs, I am enabled to assert with perfect confidence, that there is not one of them employing slaves as domestic servants, labourers, or otherwise, nor holding the remotest interest directly or indirectly in slaves or slave property, separately or jointly with others, in any manner whatsoever.

The only British subject that held slaves in this province since 1833, was Colonel James Hamilton, who had four as peons or labourers on his cattle estates: of these individuals two purchased their freedom in 1839, and the other two received their freedom from Mr. A. F. Hamilton in 1840, shortly after the decease of his father that year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KENNETH MATHISON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 324.

Vice-Consul Mc Whirter to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Puerto Cabello, March* 21, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of date the 1st instant respecting British subjects who may be interested in or owners of slave property in this province.

I have made diligent inquiry, and find that the sugar and coffee estate of Mocundo, situated about thirty miles distant from this, is rented by Mr. George Gosling, said to be a British subject, and that one-half of the labour on such estate is performed by slaves, the other half by manumitted slaves and free labourers.

He also has the management of the estate La Trinidad, in the Province of Caracas, the labour on which is nearly all performed by slaves. As remuneration for his services he receives, I believe, one-half of net annual profits.

I am not aware of any other British subject in this or the neighbouring provinces who is in any respect whatever interested in slave property.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. MC WHIRTER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 324.

Circular to the British Vice-Consuls in Venezuela.

Sir, *Caracas, March* 1, 1849.

IT is a well known fact that many British subjects are the owners or hirers of slaves in Venezuela, employed as domestic servants or field labourers, whilst others have a direct or indirect interest as owners, joint

owners, or mortgagees, in several of the principal plantations in this country, which are wholly or in part worked by slaves.

The statute of the 5th 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; *primâ facie*, therefore, these British subjects, though they may be resident in Venezuela, have been guilty of a 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 (Nov. 1, 1843), 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 of this Act, or which such person shall or may have become possessed of or entitled unto *bonâ fide* prior to such sale, by inheritance, devise, bequest, marriage, or otherwise by operation of law."

I have therefore to desire that you will send me, with the least possible delay, a detailed report respecting the acquisition of slave property situated within your consular district, by British subjects, or of slave property in which British subjects may be in any way interested, in order that an opinion may be formed whether they can bring themselves within the exceptions of the before-cited Act of Parliament.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

No. 325.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord, *Caracas, June* 30, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of herewith transmitting to your Lordship the translation of an extract from the report of the Venezuelan Minister for the Interior and Justice, presented to Congress during its last session, a copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch of the 3rd of April last, earnestly recommending the Legislature to reform the laws relating to slavery and manumission, and pointing out the injustice which had been inflicted by former Administrations upon slaves and their children born since 1821 (manumisos).

The principles therein advocated carry with them a greater weight, since the report is the production of M. Antonio Leocadio Guzman's pen, who was this year raised to the Vice-Presidency of the Republic by an immense majority of the votes of the members of the electoral college, and who will in all probability be the chosen of the people at the next presidential election.

Your Lordship will also observe that the facts now officially recorded by M. Guzman most fully confirm all that has been reported to your Lordship upon this subject by Mr. Belford Wilson.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure in No. 325.

Report of the Venezuelan Minister of the Interior and Justice to Congress.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

CONTINUING the examination of the branches connected with the population, as the chief element of labour, production and progress, I will now address you on the subject of manumission, which has not less affinity with the good order, justice, rights, and honour of society.

The law of Colombia of 1821, enacted in a country (Venezuela) whose agricultural wealth depended almost exclusively upon slavery, is without dispute one of the most noble conquests of the War of Independence, one of the most eminent achievements of the victory, one of the most honourable results of the revolution, and one of the benefits which it heroically guaranteed to humanity. Colombia dictated a law immortal as her name and as her glory.

The Venezuelans are satisfied with the law; we only desire that it may be religiously observed. That law, the only medium between liberty and property which the Colonial Government had placed at poles diametrically opposed, admits of no inclination in its strict observance.

But, Sir, abuses have been introduced, and injustice has been committed, which the Congress ought to reform with a strong hand.

I will confine myself to the principal points of the matter.

In 1821 the Sovereign Congress declared that the offspring of female slaves should be free, and that they should enter upon the enjoyment of their liberty at eighteen years of age.

It was a natural right, conquered, recognized, and consecrated by civil right, at the time of constituting the Grand Republic. That right was henceforward conceded to all the children of female slaves, so long as there should be any in the Republic.

This right was and is irrevocable.

That law of 1830, which deprived of three years of liberty those already born free, and who should enjoy that supreme blessing three years earlier, is contrary to the eternal and immutable principles of right.

The decree of the Executive Power, which, under the pretext of regulating the operation of the law, restricted natural, civil, and political rights, and disposed of the most eminent property, was a scandalous abuse of legislative power. It transgressed the system and outraged justice.

Well is it that the manumitted (manumiso), yet a minor, should remain under the care and custody of a guardian until he attains his majority. But this guardian, who by law is of free election at twelve and at fourteen years of age, with greater reason should be of free election at eighteen years of age.

If at twenty-one years of age a Venezuelan citizen enters upon the exercise of his political rights, the reason cannot be fathomed why this tutelage, which has been called "Patronato," should be extended until twenty-five years of age.

In order that justice may be administered in the Juntas, they should not be composed of proprietors alone, they should be composed half of manumitted Venezuelans, already benefited by this humane and philanthropic law.

The Syndic is always a proprietor, and in a great number of cases personally interested. Every citizen in the exercise of his rights should be a legitimate person to represent those of the manumiso, because if there is cause which of right may produce popular action, it is without doubt the cause of liberty.

Every judge amongst us is competent to try common and political offences, because vengeance is ever the same in society. Liberty is also ever the same. Neither the slave nor the manumiso has a legal residence (vecindario). Every judge should be competent to hear and to do them justice. Easier is it that the proprietors should be made to represent themselves at a distance, than the wretched slave and the poor manumiso.

The leniency with which the executive regulations treat those who hold in bondage men now free, forms a contrast with the severity which the laws display towards those guilty of judicial violence and illegal detention.

It is of imperious necessity that a law should define these rights, and those of the owner and the guardian as respects the correction of the slave and of the manumiso, as well as the right of these unfortunate beings to be fed, clothed, attended, and prescribed for in sickness.

It is urgent to declare that matrimony, as an independent state that produces emancipation according to the laws, shall produce that of the

manumisos; and that their fathers, grandfathers, brothers, or uncles, who are free men, when they have any such relatives, may enter upon the exercise of the tutelage of their kindred who are minors.

The tariff, Sir, of the value of slaves, is the same as that made use of by the Spanish Government, when their children, from generation to generation, must go on augmenting and perpetuating the property. Will it be just to preserve their price, now that the law has decreed that slavery shall terminate, and has limited the property to the individual alone whom it found a slave? No: the property is less, its price is therefore less. Slavery should terminate at the age of fifty; by which means the money with which they have been purchased would be fully repaid; and starting from this point, I am of opinion that the values, according to the tariff, should be reduced,—and let them not plead the rights of property, because this unhappy property is placed, by the secrets of fate, and by acts and rights past and consummated, in collision with the holy right of liberty, property also, and the greatest, the most sacred of all properties.

It is scandalous, Sir, that an impost for the annual manumission of slaves, established twenty-eight years ago, should not have been levied with exactness, nor manumission religiously complied with, except during the two years that Bolivar governed Colombia. Rare have been the cases in which the precept has not been carried into effect in a manner imperfect, mean, and obscure. It is necessary to impose a severe responsibility upon the managers of the manumission branch, and to enjoin them, under definite penalties in case of omission, that the statements of the receipts and disbursements of those coffers and of their monthly inspections shall be published once a month in the Government Gazette. And it is indispensable that the parish incumbents report every death to the provincial governors, also monthly, in order that these statements may be published along with those that may be forwarded by the manumission treasurer. It is thus public opinion and the competent authorities will be enabled to judge those employés who up to the present time appear to have been independent of all jurisdiction.

I do not propose in the preceding paragraphs more than the mandates of right in force in Venezuela and in the civilized world, setting out from the great right, perfect and irrevocable, consecrated in 1821 by the Constituent Congress of Colombia, and which being the declaration of a natural right, no legitimate power has ever existed or now exists to modify or restrict it, because there never has been, nor is there now any legitimate power to decree or to establish slavery.

And it is a problem to me whether she (Venezuela) would now be agricultural with exportable produce if the Colonial Government had not introduced African slaves, the value of whose labour should constitute the riches of their owners.

However it may be, that number of arms was necessary to the existing agriculture, because by means of them it had been created, and as the Republic had to put an end to slavery, and did so in 1821, and as from that date it has gone on decreasing, and as we have arrived at that point at which we may affirm that within ten years there will be no slaves in Venezuela, inasmuch as it will not then even be worth while to keep those that remain, it results that agriculture, being deprived of its principal agent, namely, the arms that gave it existence, will inevitably decline.

No. 326.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord, *Caracas, August* 29, 1849.

THE article advocating the speedy manumission of slaves in Venezuela, of which I have the honour of herewith transmitting to your Lordship a printed copy in duplicate, together with a translation, has

appeared in the last number but one of a newspaper published in this city, called "El Republicano," edited by M. Blas Bruzual, one of the Councillors of State, and an influential leader amongst the party now in power.

Prior to the Presidency of General Monagas, the public enunciation of such sentiments would have insured the prosecution of their author, whereas they are now so favourably received by a considerable section of the dominant party, of which the Vice-President is the head, that they will in all probability ultimately prevail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure in No. 326.

Article from the Caracas newspaper "El Republicano" of August 25, 1849.

(Translation.)

MANUMISSION.

LUSTRES have passed away since the philosophical spirit of the age has cried out against personal slavery, against the invention that has most degraded the human species; and manumission, consulting with more or less justice the opposing interests of the proprietor and of the slave, has helped to remedy the evil.

The Constituent Congress of Colombia took into consideration this grave affair, and decreed the liberty of those who should be born of a female slave, and it applied funds to emancipate a certain number of slaves annually; but this emancipation has been so slow, that after a lapse of twenty-eight years slavery still exists amongst us, although much diminished. Should this tardiness in emancipation continue, or should the term of slavery be shortened? This is the question we propose to examine, and to submit to the enlightened discussion of the Venezuelan Press, in order that it may become one of the matters with which the Congress shall preferably occupy itself next session.

The law passed twenty-eight years ago prohibited the importation of slaves, declared the new-born free and destined some funds for the gradual liberation of the existing ones; but these funds have been so insignificant, that we have yet 14,000 slaves twenty-eight years after the Congress declared that slavery should be abolished; but that, out of regard for the rights of property, the owners should preserve their right to the possession of the slaves previously born with a view to their paying, by a life service, for the liberty it accorded to their children. If to this arrangement our first legislators should have added that they would become free after a certain number of years' service, so calculating the number of them that the services performed in that period would reimburse the owner for the value of the slave, the philanthropic idea of manumission would have been carried out. But not having done so, we ought to perfect the great work of Colombian philanthropy by selecting one of the two paths that may conduct us in a short time to the extinction of slavery.

If the tenth part of our national revenue should be applied to the annual manumission of slaves, so far as the amount would reach, within eight years the complete extinction of slavery might be accomplished.

Calculating the term of service required by the slave to remunerate the owner for the capital employed in his acquisition, the liberty of slaves might be declared on the 24th of January, 1855.

Either of these two bases being adopted, it might be enacted by the Law of Conspiracy, that the slaves of him who commits treason against his country, or disturbs public order, become free.

As our object is merely to place this important matter in discussion, we will for the present confine ourselves to provoking that discussion, in which we will take an active part by supporting the expediency and even

the necessity of a measure that will shorten the period of slavery without ruining the proprietors.

Having conquered independence, the Congress of Colombia considered there was an incompatibility between political emancipation and slavery, and for that reason it enacted the Law of Manumission. Liberty being now conquered we ought to declare that personal slavery is inconsistent with the social advantages we have acquired, and from that moment we ought to hasten to dictate a law that shall put a stop to the degrading servitude of those unfortunate Venezuelans, who from the depths of our habitations or of our estates chaunt hymns to liberty, of which only their children will know the enjoyment.

No. 327.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 2.)

My Lord, *Caracas, October* 2, 1849.

I HAVE the honour of herewith transmitting to your Lordship a copy of a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Vice-Consul Mathison, of Bolivar, stating he has been informed that a British-born female subject is wrongfully held in slavery in the Province of Guayana by a Venezuelan citizen, and soliciting instructions from me as to whether he should endeavour to obtain her freedom.

If the female in question was brought to Venezuela subsequent to the promulgation at the place of her arrival of the Law of Columbia of the 21st of July, 1821, she is undoubtedly entitled to her freedom, and I have accordingly instructed Mr. Mathison in my reply to his despatch, of which a copy is likewise inclosed, to ascertain that fact, and if he finds such to be the case, and that she is a British subject, to claim her freedom from the proper authority.

But if on the other hand it should appear, as Mr. Mathison conjectures, that she was brought to Venezuela prior to the promulgation of that law, I am apprehensive this unfortunate creature must continue in slavery unless it can be shown that her introduction was contrary to any Venezuelan law then extant.

In the event of its being necessary to incur any expense in this matter, allow me to request your Lordship's permission to charge the amount in my account of extraordinary disbursements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 327.

Vice-Consul Mathison to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Bolivar, August* 18, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a very strange letter received by me this day from a person who is totally unknown to me, but its real object and tenour demand more serious consideration than the writer supposes necessary before entering on the required proceedings. He states that there is a black woman, native of Nassau, New Providence (a British colony), held as a slave by a Mr. Astor at Barancas. To my knowledge a considerable number of slaves were removed by special licence from New Providence to Trinidad by a Mr. Williams in 1818 or 1819, and this woman may have been one of them, and afterwards brought to this country by some of the numerous refugees who resided in Trinidad about that period.

As the expense of investigating this case at Barancas will be heavy, and Mr. Astor being a Venezuelan citizen, makes the question a delicate

affair, I will abstain from touching the subject until I receive your instructions thereon, and authority to incur such expenses as this case, the liberating a British subject from slavery, may require.

I am, &c.
(Signed) KENNETH MATHISON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 327.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Vice-Consul Mathison.

Sir, *Caracas, September* 27, 1849.

HAVING had under my consideration your despatch of the 18th ultimo, inclosing a letter addressed to you by Mr. Loxdale, stating that a British-born female subject is held in slavery by a Venezuelan citizen of the name of Astor, residing at Barancas, in the Province of Guayana, I have to instruct you to ascertain whether the female in question is a British subject, and when she was introduced into Venezuela.

Should you find that the woman in question is a British subject, and that she was brought into Venezuela subsequent to the promulgation at the place of her arrival of the law passed by the Constituent Assembly of Colombia on the 21st of July, 1821, you will denounce the fact to the competent authority and claim her freedom in virtue of the 7th Article of that law, by which the introduction of slaves into Venezuela was for ever prohibited, except in the capacity of domestic servants, and then in the proportion of one only to each person arriving in Venezuela, but on condition that they should not be alienated in the country and that the importers should give a bond not to re-export them, and by which it was also enacted that slaves introduced contrary to the provisions of that law became, *ipso facto*, free.

With reference to your remark that the expense of investigating this case at Barancas will be heavy, and that you will therefore abstain from touching the question until you are authorized by me to incur such expenses, I have to observe, in the first place, that I am not empowered to authorize you to incur expenditure under any circumstances whatever, without special directions to that effect from Her Majesty's Government; and in the second place, that it does not appear to me necessary that you should institute these inquiries in person as you suggest in your private letter to me of the 21st ultimo, as I conceive they might be made by any person residing at Barancas with whom you may be acquainted, on whose veracity, and zeal, and discretion in the matter you can place reliance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

No. 328.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 2.)

My Lord, *Caracas, October* 4, 1849.

IN my despatch of the 4th of December of last year of the general series, I informed your Lordship that one of the grounds of complaint made by the Venezuelan Government against the Governor of Curaçoa was, that Venezuelan manumisos had been taken from Venezuela by Venezuelan political refugees, and sold as slaves at Curaçoa.

In consequence of that information I considered it my duty to address a note, of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, to M. Guzman, then the Venezuelan Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who related to me the circumstance, in order to ascertain what steps had been taken by the Venezuelan Government to obtain the liberation from perpetual slavery in a foreign country of their free-born citizens.

But I regret to have to state that though I have constantly urged the

attention of every one of M. Guzman's successors to the matter, no notice whatever has yet been taken of my application, from whence it must be inferred that it is a subject to which the Government is indifferent, or that M. Guzman's assertion was unfounded.

I have, &c
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure in No. 328.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Señor Guzman.

Caracas, January 16, 1849.

IN a conference the Undersigned, British Acting Consul-General, had the honour of holding with M. Antonio Leocadio Guzman, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, on the 29th of November of last year, he was informed by M. Guzman that several manumisos, carried away from Venezuela by political refugees, had been sold and treated as slaves in Curaçoa during M. Guzman's residence in that island as the agent of the Venezuelan Government, but that his, M. Guzman's, remonstrances against such proceedings had been invariably disregarded, and his expulsion from the island threatened by the Governor whenever the subject was referred to, in consequence of which M. Guzman was at length compelled to desist, his continued presence there being of vital importance to his country, in order to discover and thwart, if possible, the hostile intrigues of the Venezuelan rebels at the time congregated there.

Her Majesty's Government, to whom the fact of the sale of those manumisos has already been reported, will be most desirous to ascertain further particulars respecting these transactions and their final issue; the Undersigned therefore begs to solicit from M. Guzman the favour of his supplying him at his early convenience with every information upon the subject that may be in his possession, as regards not only the sale of the unfortunate beings in question, but also as to the measures pursued by the Venezuelan Government to procure the liberation of her free-born citizens, who have thus, in violation of the laws of Venezuela and of the dictates of humanity, been barbarously torn away from the country of their birth, from their homes, their parents, friends and kindred, to be sold into a state of perpetual slavery; for M. Guzman will not fail to perceive that if the great principle involved in the Treaties which Venezuela and the Netherlands have entered into with Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, can be violated in such a manner, however unwillingly on the part of Venezuela, a door will be opened to a species of slave traffic infinitely more heinous than the transport of barbarians from the coast of Africa for the purpose of disposing of them in countries considering themselves civilized.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) J. RIDDEL.

No. 329.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 9, 1849.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, reporting the steps which you had taken to cause inquiry to be made into the case of a British subject, a native of the Bahamas, who is said to be held in slavery by a Venezuelan citizen at Barancas, in the Province of Guayana; and I have the satisfaction of informing you that I approve of your proceedings in this case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 330.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 11, 1850.)

My Lord, *Caracas, November* 20, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th August, inclosing a copy of an article published in a newspaper of this city, called "El Republicano," upon the subject of manumission, I have the honour of herewith transmitting to your Lordship copies in duplicate of two other articles, together with their translations, which have since appeared in subsequent numbers of that periodical, in continuation of the same series.

In another number of the "Republicano," M. Rafael Acevedo, formerly Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs, but now Governor of the Province of Apure, has caused an exposition of his views on the necessity for the abolition of Slavery in Venezuela to be inserted; and it appears, from a letter he has addressed to the editor upon the subject, that this exposition would form a part of his annual official report to the Provincial Assembly, and that he had forwarded copies of it to the Governor of every province in Venezuela.

These facts, and the publication of such articles as are now inclosed, will suffice to show your Lordship that a movement in favour of the entire abolition of Slavery not only exists in Venezuela, but finds favour with a considerable portion of the people, whose suffrages it is thus proposed to obtain for the candidates at the next Presidential election who advocate the measure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 330.

Article from the Caracas newspaper "El Republicano" of October 3, 1849.

(Translation.)

MANUMISSION.

THE mere utterance by us of this philanthropic word has sufficed to alarm the timid, and it has served as a pretext to the wicked to misrepresent our intentions and to combat our laudable desire to see slavery disappear without injuring the proprietor. The "den of thieves" has already made itself heard through one of those shameless organs that abound amongst them; and utterly regardless of the universal opinion that proclaims the abolition of slavery, they have dared to insult liberty and civilization, by designating slavery as the "motor of territorial wealth," as if territorial wealth was only to be found where there are slaves; as if there could be no territorial wealth without slaves.

It has also been said, "that it is not the opportunity." How! Is it not the opportunity for treating of the liberty of the individual, after forty years of independence? And when will this opportunity arrive? When the Venezuelans, who groan under slavery, have died in it? We believe there is neither patriotism nor good faith in advising or thinking that this question should be deferred, as evils are not to be cured by feigning to forget them, but by applying to them the proper remedies. However much we may propose to ourselves not to speak of slavery, nor to pronounce the word "manumission," none the less on that account will the former cease to be a reality and the latter one of the most urgent necessities of our situation. After so many years in which we have been invoking liberty and conquering in her name, the maintenance of slavery is a contradiction; and a good patriot ought to hasten to abolish it, by

determining on the means that may conciliate the opposite interests of the slave and of the master, and these means are manumission. By various roads it may be arrived at, and we decide in favour of the first of the two bases proposed in the 236th number of this periodical, that is, "for annual emancipation, devoting to that object the tenth or twentieth part of our national income." In this second law of manumission it might be provided that the slaves who may reach the age of fifty-five, are, *ipso facto*, manumitted; and that the slave who runs away after the promulgation of the second law cannot be manumitted, except on the latter condition. The law might also provide that slaves belonging to any one who conspires against his country, or makes an attempt against the public security, should become manumitted or free. A multitude of other provisions regulating its operation might very directly contribute to stimulate to labour, and to the correction of the habits of the degraded beings in whose favour the law is enacted.

Such a system of manumission is alike favourable to the master and to the slave. To the latter, because it secures to him that which is most earnestly desired by mankind; and to the master, because it will repay to him that which within a very few years he has to lose, inasmuch as all the slaves being upwards of twenty-eight years old, it is evident that they must in course of nature cease to exist before many years expire, by which their owners will lose the capital invested in them. We have already heard this calculation made by a proprietor, who expressed himself in the following manner: "My estate has 25 slaves upon it from from thirty to sixty years of age; the oldest are now useless, and the rest will be so within four, six, eight, ten, or fifteen years, and it is manifest that from to-day henceforward I shall lose annually a portion of the capital invested in those slaves; but if there should be a law that would manumit them by degrees, instead of suffering that loss, I should go on receiving back my capital annually; and if the law should provide that those who conduct themselves the best should be preferred for manumission, it is clear that the labour of my slaves would produce me 100 per cent. more, at the same time that society would be a gainer by the improvement in the behaviour of slaves, who, strongly and powerfully influenced by the necessity of conducting themselves well in order to merit the benefit of the law, would acquire habits of industry which would improve their manners, thus preparing them the better to enjoy their personal liberty."

This is a truth, and only the ignorant and perverse are unable to comprehend the immense benefits that manumission would confer upon society.

Venezuela may perhaps have 14,000 slaves, which, valuing the males at 200 dollars and the females at 150 dollars each, gives a total of 2,450,000 dollars. Our national income is 2,500,000 dollars, the tenth part of which is 250,000 dollars; and by deducting so many per cent. of the slaves that would die in the course of six years, and by adding the 10 per cent. corresponding to the interest of our income in those six years, and the sums that would not require to be paid for such slaves as may have something to assist them in obtaining their manumission, who would be preferred by the respective Juntas, it is demonstrated that within six years slavery would have disappeared, and the owners would be indemnified for their capital, which death would have reduced to one-half in that period.

And after this demonstration, can there be men so wicked, so infamous, as to distort our opinions in order to intimidate some and to flatter the propensity to tyranny of others? Since it is shown that manumission will not prejudice but favour the owner, and that the burden to be borne by the Public Treasury is not insupportable, he who can pronounce against manumission is nothing less than a bad man, a tyrant, and a monster of inhumanity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 330.

Article from the Caracas newspaper "El Republicano" of October 17, 1849.

(Translation.)

THE clique (los connotados) have said and written "that the editor of the 'Republicano' wants to sell us to the English." Every one has laughed at such stupidity; but it is necessary to explain this, in order that all may know where the folly of the clique is going to end. Great Britain is the nation at the head of the movement in favour of the abolition of slavery, although she was not the first that initiated that question, the merit of which is due to Venezuela and to the Constituent Congress of Colombia, which raised to a law the Venezuelan project. Bolivar was the first who supported in America the abolition of slavery, thus repairing the error committed by one of his ancestors called Simon Bolivar, who was the first to import slaves into Venezuela. Great Britain has a treaty with Venezuela, in which the abolition for ever of the Traffic in Slaves has been stipulated, and as the clique think to re-establish that traffic and slavery by repealing the Law of Manumission with a retrospective effect, in order that the manumisos may again become incorporated with "the grand motor of territorial wealth;" and as they know we maintain the right that Great Britain has to require the observance of the treaty, for that reason is it they give out that we are going to sell them to the English, designating as a sale to the English our opposition to their enslaving and selling a great portion of the Venezuelan people, and to their re-establishing the odious traffic, which, together with the English, we have compromised ourselves to abolish for ever.

The clique have stated in their accursed libel "that we counsel slaves to disobey their masters;" and this advice is no other than that we propose that Congress should occupy itself in amplifying the Law of Manumission, by devoting the tenth of our revenue to liberate by degrees Venezuelans groaning in slavery, without injury to those who have unfortunately acquired a property in rational beings.

As a preliminary to sustain the necessity of the re-establishment of slavery and of the Traffic in Africans, is it that they have advanced in their libel that slavery is the motor of territorial wealth, and in order to conceal their infamous plan is it that they have armed themselves with the cry of calumny against the writer who with boldness and constancy will contend against the idea of the re-establishment of the motor of territorial wealth. But nothing will terrify us in our efforts to attain the realization of our grand liberal programme with all its consequences.

No. 331.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 11, 1850.)

My Lord, *Caracas, December* 16, 1849.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 2nd of October, respecting a British-born female subject supposed to be illegally held in slavery in Venezuela, I have the honour of herewith transmitting to your Lordship a copy of Mr. Vice-Consul Mathison's reply to my communication to him, of which a copy was forwarded to your Lordship in the above-mentioned despatch, stating that the woman in question, who is known by the name of Molly or Maley, had herself informed him that she was a native of the town of Nassau, New Providence, and that she was removed from thence in the year 1826, and subsequently introduced into the Republic of Colombia.

I have likewise the honour to inclose a copy of my reply to Mr. Mathison's last despatch, in which I have instructed him to represent the facts of the case to the Governor of Guayana, whose duty it is to watch over the due observance of the laws, and more especially of the

present law of manumission, as Chairman of the Provincial Board thereby established for carrying out its provisions; and I have therein moreover instructed Mr. Mathison to endeavour to obtain further particulars of Molly's origin, and if possible to ascertain with more certainty the date of her arrival in Venezuela or Colombia, as the case may be, in order that the matter may be brought under the notice of the Venezuelan Government.

With the same object in view I have addressed the despatch, of which a copy is also sent herewith, to Mr. Vice-Consul McWhirter, directing him to institute certain inquiries for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of Molly's statement, but I have not yet received his official reply.

Mr. Mathison further informs me in a private letter, and Mr. McWhirter confirms the fact, that two of Molly's sons are held as manumisos by General Beluche, who resides in the Province of Carabobo; so that the liberation from slavery of three human beings mainly depends upon the accuracy of Molly's assertion as to the date of her introduction into Colombia.

I cannot conclude this despatch without mentioning to your Lordship, as a proof of Mr. Mathison's zeal in the public service, that immediately on his return to Bolivar from Barancas, he was attacked with fever, brought on by exposure on the river at so unhealthy a season in an open canoe, in which he made the journey to that place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 331.

Vice-Consul Mathison to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Bolivar, October* 19, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 27th ultimo, regarding a supposed British-born female held in slavery by a Mr. Astor, a Venezuelan citizen residing at Barancas in the Province of Cumaná; and instructing me to ascertain whether the female in question is a British subject, and when introduced into Venezuela.

Anticipating the nature of your instructions, and well knowing the total inutility of placing the slightest reliance on the information to be obtained by letter from natives, in matters of interest between them and foreigners, I left this on the 9th instant for Barancas, to ascertain by personal inquiry every possible fact relating to that female. On my way down the river I landed at Las Tablas, where, by mere chance, I met Mr. Astor, who I immediately addressed on the object of my mission to him. He replied that he had disposed of the woman in question a few days ago to M. José Lezama, of Bolivar, and that she was sent off the previous day for that city. To my further inquiries he stated that her name was Maley or Molly, and that she might be about thirty-nine years of age; that he bought her two years ago from a Madame Fortuné at Tabasca, and only parted with her in consequence of her being dissatisfied at her residing in Barancas; that he could not say where she originally came from, or who brought her to this country, nor when introduced into it, as she had served many owners before him. On my return here yesterday, I waited on M. José Lezama, but he refused to allow me to ask Molly any questions at his house; this, however, was only a short and expected interruption for which I was prepared, and this morning I had her at my office, when she related the following circumstances to me, viz.: That her name was Molly but called "Maley," that she was born at the town of Nassau, New Providence, but retains no recollection of the names of any of her relations there, as she was removed from that colony in 1826 when about thirteen years of age; that her 1st master was a Mr. Mathieu (1826), who carried her to Carthagena, and there sold her to Captain, now General, Beluche; her 3rd master was Royal Phelps at La Guayra; 4th, Antonio Mato, at Piritú, Province of Barcelona; 5th, José Barato, at Barcelona; 6th, Ignacio Maiz, at Cumaná; 7th, Margarita Rubio, at Cumaná; 8th, Maria Gomez, at Cumaná; 9th, Pacífico Monagas, at

Maturin; 10th, Marie Fortuné, at Tabasca; 11th, Manuel Astor, at Barancas; 12th, José Lezama, at Bolivar, her present master. Her personal appearance is rather respectable and much in her favour; but although her tale bears the full stamp of truth, her mere unsupported assertions of being a British-born subject, will not, in my opinion, be admissible in law, or authorize my taking any steps here in her behalf, without your further advice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KENNETH MATHISON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 331.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Vice-Consul Mathison.

Sir *Caracas, November* 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt yesterday of our despatch of the 19th ultimo, reporting further particulars respecting the female named Molly, alias Maley, calling herself a British subject, formerly held as a slave by Mr. Astor, but since transferred to the possession of M. José Lezama, of Bolivar, and requesting to be informed how you should proceed to obtain this unfortunate creature's release from slavery.

The 14th Article of the Law of the 28th of April of last year creates a Superior Board of Manumission in the chief town of each province, composed of the Governor and other functionaries, and the 15th Article of the same law defines as one of the duties of those boards, to report to the Provincial Assemblies their proceedings in order that those bodies at their annual sessions may efficiently exercise the power conferred upon them by the 8th section of the 161st Article of the Constitution, of watching over the observance of the Law of Manumission.

Taking into consideration that you have no evidence of the truth of this woman's assertion that she is a British-born subject, or that she was introduced into Venezuela in the year 1826, and as this despatch will in all probability reach you before the ordinary session of the Assembly of Guayana closes, it appears to me the best course you can pursue is to denounce the fact to the Governor of the province and to request him to lay the case before the Assembly, or to take such steps as may appear to him proper in order to obtain her freedom, to which she is undoubtedly entitled if her story be true.

Having done so you will please to inform me of the result, and to endeavour in the meantime to ascertain such further particulars of Molly's birth and parentage, as well as of the date of her arrival in Venezuela, as may conduce to the corroboration of her statement, with a view to ulterior measures, should those I have recommended fail of their desired effect.

It affords me pleasure to observe with how much zeal you have taken up the cause of humanity in this instance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 331.

Acting Consul-General Riddel to Vice-Consul Mc Whirter.

Sir, *Caracas, November* 8, 1849.

I HAVE to request you to ascertain and to report to me whether it is true that General Beluche, who, if I am not misinformed, resides at Puerto Cabello, was some years ago the owner of a female slave named Molly, but generally called Maley; whether he purchased her at Carthagena (New Granada), subsequent to the year 1826, of a M. Mathieu; whether he afterwards sold her to Mr. Royal Phelps; whether he can certify that she is a native of the British colony of New Providence;

whether she was first introduced into Venezuela in the year 1826, when about thirteen years of age; whether two of her sons are in his service as domestic servants; and I have also to desire you to ascertain and report to me whether those sons are able to testify to any of the above particulars.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RIDDEL.

No. 332.

Viscount Palmerston to Acting Consul-General Riddel.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 9, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of May, 1849, inclosing a list of British subjects residing in Venezuela, who are owners of slaves; and I have to refer you to the circular addressed to Mr. Belford Wilson, on the 31st of December, 1843, and which, with the Act of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 98, on which it is founded, are annexed as Inclosures 22 B, and 22 C, to the 26th section of the Consular General Instructions. In that circular it was pointed out that from and after the time when that Act came into operation, namely, the 1st of November, 1843, it had become unlawful for any British subject, wherever he or she might be, to deal, trade in, purchase, sell, barter, or transfer, a slave or slaves, excepting in cases where by the Act itself special exceptions were made to the general prohibition.

Her Majesty's Government think it right that the special attention of Her Majesty's subjects residing in Venezuela should be again called to the penalties established by that Act; and I have accordingly to instruct you to take measures for causing the material substance of that Act, together with the circular above mentioned, to be published in some influential journal at Caracas, and further to take all suitable opportunities of drawing the attention of the British slave-holders to the tenor and purport of those documents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.