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On your arrival at the Gambia, you will be pleased to convey this information also to his Excellency the Governor of that Settlement.

I myself saw the vessel in question, and I cannot help thinking that there are grounds for the suspicions which all the circumstances have raised regarding her.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. STODDART.

No. 327.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, reporting the steps which you had taken in consequence of information which you had received from Mr. Read, British Vice-Consul at Terceira, of the suspicious character of the Portuguese vessel "Laura," which had sailed from that island, as was suspected, on a slaving voyage.

And I have to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 328.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing copies of your further correspondence with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the proposal of the Portuguese Government that the Governments of Great Britain and of Portugal should bind themselves for the future not to sell, when no longer available for service, vessels which having been condemned as slavers had been employed in the service of either Government, and reporting that, under this arrangement, the brig "Carvalho" is to be taken back into the service of Portugal on her return from her present voyage. And I have to convey to you my approval of the arrangements which you have made in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 329.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs and with Mr. Consul Stoddart respecting the suspicious circumstances under which the Portuguese vessel "Laura" had left the port of Terceira, I have to acquaint you that I approve of the steps which you have taken in the case of this vessel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 330.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith the certified copies* which I have received from Mr. Jerningham of the letters referred to in my despatch to you of the 18th of August, which were found in 1851, in the possession of Jacintho Derizans, the master of the slave-vessel "*Valoroso*," and which were stated to contain evidence showing that Francisco Antonio Flores, a Brazilian subject now resident at Loanda, was in the year 1850 engaged in carrying on the Slave Trade from Loanda.

I have to instruct you to communicate these documents to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to renew the application which you were directed by my abovementioned despatch to address to his Excellency for the removal of F. A. Flores from Loanda.

You will take this opportunity of referring to the apprehension which Viscount d'Athoguia expressed to you in his note of the 20th of September as to the probability of the Brazilian Government resenting the expulsion of a Brazilian subject from a Portuguese colony; and you will state to his Excellency that when it is borne in mind that there have been several notorious cases in which the Brazilian Government has not hesitated to expel from Brazil Portuguese subjects who were suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, it is not very likely that the Brazilian Government will complain of the expulsion from Loanda of such a well-known Brazilian slave-trader as Francisco Antonio Flores.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 331.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.

WITH reference to Mr. Consul Hunt's despatch of the 28th September, of which he informs me that he has transmitted to you a copy, I have to inform you that I have instructed Mr. Hunt to convey to Vice-Consul Read my approval of his proceedings in the case of the "*Laura*," as reported in that despatch. And with reference to what Mr. Hunt states as to the imperfect manner in which the survey of the "*Laura*" was conducted by the Portuguese authorities at Terceira, I have to instruct you to request that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty will issue orders to all the Civil Governors of the Azores, directing them to make such surveys in strict conformity with the VIIth Article of the Portuguese Decree of December 10, 1836, which requires that such surveys shall be conducted by the Civil Governor and by one of the principal officers of Customs.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 332.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.**Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the Honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 24th of October, by Count Lavradio, &c., renewing his request that Her Majesty's Government will compensate the owner of the vessel and the barracoon which were destroyed by Captain Bunce, of Her Majesty's ship "*Castor*," at Quissanga, in August 1852.

* See Inclosures in No. 114.

The Undersigned has attentively considered the arguments upon which Count Lavradio finds his refusal to accept as satisfactory the defence of Captain Bunce's proceedings, which is contained in the note which the Undersigned addressed to Count Lavradio on the 30th of September.

Those arguments are as follows :

1. Count Lavradio says that the depositions of the Arab witnesses, which he has communicated to Her Majesty's Government, were taken in due legal form, and were the result of a judicial inquiry ; and that the simple denial of Captain Bunce, the accused party, cannot be set against such evidence.

Count Lavradio, however, states that he is ready to accept Captain Bunce's contradiction of that portion of the judicial evidence in question which accuses him of having spoken disrespectfully of the Queen of Portugal and of the Portuguese flag ; for Count Lavradio says that it is possible that, on the one hand, the inhabitants of Quissanga did not understand what Captain Bunce was saying ; and that, on the other hand, Captain Bunce did not see that the flag which was shown to him was a flag of two colours, viz., white as well as blue.

2. Count Lavradio maintains that Falume Chande Bun and Badre Buno Ayaia, who presented themselves to Captain Bunce as Chief Captain and Chief Serjeant of Quissanga, were, although Arabs, Portuguese authorities appointed by the Governor of Ibo.

3. Count Lavradio asks what right Captain Bunce had to burn the dhow which he found lying on the shore at Quissanga ; and with reference to the statement of Captain Bunce, that she was in a position out of which it was difficult for him to extricate her, Count Lavradio adds, that if Captain Bunce, with a great number of strong and skilful English sailors, required a long time and great exertion for such an undertaking, there could be no good reason for apprehending that the dhow might be soon got out by the natives of the country, in order to be employed in the Slave Trade.

4. Count Lavradio repeats his former inquiry, why Captain Bunce did not apply to the Governor of Ibo, with whom he could have communicated in less than two hours ; and he complains that the charges brought by Commodore Wyvill against the Portuguese authorities in Africa, and particularly against the Governors of Ibo and Inhambane, are vague ; and that the statement of the Undersigned, in his note of September 30, that the Governor of Ibo was in the habit of conniving at the slave-dealers, is inconsistent with the evidence given before a Committee of the House of Commons by Captain Bunce, who stated therein " that the Governor of Ibo had only lately come."

With regard to the first point, the Undersigned begs to state that he has examined with particular attention the details of the judicial inquiry upon which Count Lavradio lays so much stress. It appears that the Governor of Ibo took as the groundwork of that proceeding two letters which were addressed to him on the 6th and 8th of August, 1852, by the Arab Chief Captain of Quissanga, complaining of Captain Bunce's proceedings ; and the statements contained in those letters were embodied by the Governor in eleven questions, to which the Deputy Attorney-General was directed to obtain answers. They were as follows :

1. What is the name of the proprietor of the dhow ?
2. Was the dhow new, and had she ever made a voyage ?
3. Where was she built ?
4. To what place did the owner intend that she should sail ?
5. What was her exact tonnage ?
6. Had she on board provisions, or water, or any trace of Slave Trade (escravatura) ?
7. Why did the English burn the house belonging to the Governor of the Moors ?
8. Was there any sign of Slave Trade in that house ?
9. Circumstantial information to be obtained as to the truth of the statement that the English captain refused to recognize the Portuguese flag which the Chief Captain showed him.
10. To ascertain clearly whether the English captain said that he knew nothing either of the Queen or of the Government of Portugal.
11. To inquire also whether it is true that the English captain said that he could, if he chose, set fire to the whole coast, because he did not acknowledge any one except his own Admiral.

Lastly. The Deputy Attorney-General was instructed to procure any further information which he could obtain respecting this affair, in order that the Portuguese Government might be enabled properly to uphold the dignity and honour of the Portuguese flag.

Twenty Arab witnesses were summoned, and they all returned nearly identical answers to the above questions; the only material variation being with regard to the amount of the dhow's tonnage; and the result was that these twenty depositions were an exact counterpart of the Chief Captain's two letters.

No other question, except those contained in the instruction from the Governor of Ibo, appears to have been put to any of the witnesses; and it is obvious that most of the questions relating to the dhow and to the Governor's house were such, that if the witnesses had given any other answers than those which they gave, they would have criminated the proprietor of the dhow and of the barracoon, who was one of their chief men (Boana Xaque Daly, Governador dos Mouros).

Moreover, although these questions were put, and the concurrent answers were recorded, by a Portuguese law officer, the whole inquiry can only be regarded as an *ex parte* proceeding, which, as far as it went, may have been quite regular, but the Undersigned conceives that it cannot be considered as conclusive, because the accused party was not present at the inquiry, neither was he represented by any advocate who could have examined the witnesses, and could have produced opposing testimony.

2. In answer to Count Lavradio's statement that Falume Bun and Badre Ayaia, although Arabs, were Portuguese authorities, the Undersigned begs leave to observe that the whole question as to whether or not Captain Bunce's proceedings were justifiable, turns upon this point; for according to the terms of the Protocol of August 12, 1847, the power given to British cruizers of entering places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, in order to suppress the Slave Trade, is limited to places where no Portuguese authorities are established; and it is clear from Count Lavradio's statement that the only authorities in Quissanga were Arabs and not Portuguese, and therefore, although these Arabs may have been subordinate to and named by the Governor of Ibo, Her Majesty's Government must maintain that Quissanga was a place which Captain Bunce was empowered by the Protocol to enter.

3. In answer to Count Lavradio's question as to the right of Captain Bunce to burn the dhow, the Undersigned can only repeat what was stated in his note of the 30th. of September; viz., that the dhow was found without having on board any colours to show what was the nation to which she belonged; and that she was equipped for Slave Trade, the whole of her hold being laid with wicker-mats, which, moreover, were partially defiled by human excrement, as if the slaves had been very recently on board; she was also fitted with the usual upright stanchions for securing the wicker-decks to; and she had besides an unusually large cooking-place: and in answer to Count Lavradio's remark, that if the English sailors were not able to get the dhow to sea, there was no reason to apprehend that the natives might employ her in the Slave Trade, the Undersigned begs leave to observe, that it has been already explained to Count Lavradio, that the reason why Captain Bunce was not able to get the dhow out to sea, was, because her sails were not on board; but if she had not been destroyed, the sails could soon have been supplied by the Arab owner, and she might have been sent to sea by him.

4. In answer to Count Lavradio's complaint, that Captain Bunce did not apply to the Governor of Ibo before he proceeded to Quissanga, the Undersigned has to state, that Captain Bunce received his orders from Commodore Wyvill, who was the proper person to exercise his discretion in deciding whether it was expedient or not to communicate with the Governor of Ibo before he sent the boats of the "Castor" to visit Quissanga. With regard to this matter, it appears from Captain Bunce's evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1853, that in 1850 Commodore Wyvill sent an officer to Major Mascarenhas, who was then Governor of Ibo, to tell him that the Commodore understood that the Slave Trade was carried on to a great extent in the neighbourhood of Ibo; and the Commodore begged that Major Mascarenhas would give, in conformity with the Treaty of 1842, his assistance to the English, in endeavouring to stop the Traffic. Major Mascareuhas replied, that he was

not aware that there was any such Traffic ; but that the paucity of the force at his disposal put it quite out of his power to render any assistance to Commodore Wyvill.

Now when this reply of Major Mascarenhas is considered in connection with what took place at Quissanga in November 1851, as stated in the note from the Undersigned of September 30, it is not surprising that Commodore Wyvill should have made the declaration recorded in that note, namely, that previous experience had convinced him that the Governor of Ibo was in the habit of conniving at the slave-dealers ; and it appears to the Undersigned, that under these circumstances the Commodore was fully justified in determining, not only to send Captain Bunce to visit Quissanga, but also to abstain from previous consultation with the Governor of Ibo.

The Undersigned begs leave further to state, that as there were no authorities at Quissanga except an Arab chief captain and chief serjeant, Her Majesty's Government consider that Captain Bunce was borne out in concluding that he was authorized by the terms of the Protocol of 1847, "to pursue and capture any slave-vessels which might be found in that place, and also to destroy any barracoons or other arrangements which might be made on shore for purposes of Slave Trade." And as Captain Bunce has shown that the dhow and barracoon in question were being employed for those purposes, Her Majesty's Government cannot entertain any claim on the part of the owner of that vessel and of that building to receive compensation, unless he shall first establish that claim before the proper tribunal at the Cape of Good Hope.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 333.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 8.)

(Translation.)

London, November 6, 1853.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Most Faithful Majesty, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 5th instant by his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., in answer to the note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 24th ultimo.

The Undersigned has read his Excellency's note with due attention ; and although he is convinced of the inconclusiveness of the arguments brought forward by his Excellency for the purpose of refuting those used by the Undersigned in his previous notes of the 12th of September and of the 24th of October last, in order to prove the irregularity of the proceedings of Commander Bunce at Quissanga, under the orders of Commodore Wyvill, and in order to obtain reparation for those acts, yet the Undersigned thinks proper to abstain from replying to his Excellency's last note until he shall receive from his Government fresh orders, which he is about to request without delay.

The Undersigned, however, considers it to be his bounden duty again to protest solemnly, in the name of the Queen his august Sovereign, against the violation of territory committed at Quissanga by Commander Bunce, and against the illegal destruction, under his orders, of property belonging to Portuguese subjects.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 334.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 10, 1853.

I COPY from the newspaper called the "Revoluçaõ de Setembro," of the 7th of this month, the following article, which may be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, as showing in what light the Slave Trade is viewed by the organ of the popular party in this country :

“In the last numbers of the ‘Correio Mercantil,’ published at Rio de Janeiro, we read the following :

“We are informed that by the last vessel arrived from the coast of Africa news was received that preparations were being made there for an attempted importation of Africans into Brazil.

“We are also informed that some measures have been taken upon this subject.

“We sincerely hope that the Portuguese possessions have taken no part in this attempt, not only because of the general considerations against the Traffic, but also, as capture and the loss of the slaves is almost infallible, we would lose, besides the labouring hands exported, the capital embarked in such a speculation to the prejudice of legal commerce which has of late so much increased.

“There can be no doubt that the Slave Trade would now ruin the Ultramarine provinces, and cause great loss to the trade of Lisbon.

“Two or three unsuccessful slaving speculations undertaken, say by the merchants of Loanda, would retard its commercial development full twenty years, and cause an immense loss to Lisbon.”

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 335.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 10, 1853.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose copies of two notes which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the first on the 12th of July last and the second on the 2nd of this month, reminding his Excellency, as directed by your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of June, of the proposition made to this Government so far back as the year 1851, for the removal of negroes liberated by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda to Sierra Leone; the proposal being on this last occasion accompanied by an offer on the part of Her Majesty's Government to defray the expense of such removal.

I have the honour also to inclose a translation of the answer which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject, from which your Lordship will perceive that, for reasons which appear to be taken in a great measure from the Curator's report transmitted with your Lordship's late despatch, and also in view of the presumed improbability that the number of liberated negroes should henceforth become inconveniently great, the Portuguese Government are of opinion that the negroes so circumstanced should continue in their present employments until the expiration of the term of their apprenticeship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 335.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, July 12, 1853.

WITH reference to the note which the Undersigned, &c., had the honour, on the 9th of August, 1851, to address to Her Most Faithful Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the difficulty which had been experienced in finding suitable employment within the Portuguese settlements for negroes emancipated by the Mixed British and Portuguese Courts on the coast of Africa, and proposing, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that such

negroes should be sent to Sierra Leone or to Liberia, where they would be sure to enjoy their liberty and would easily find employment; the Under signed has now the honour to inclose for the Viscount d'Athoguia's information a copy of a despatch which Her Majesty's Government lately received from the British Commissioner at Loanda, inclosing a report from the Curator of the liberated Africans respecting the condition of the negroes under his charge.

The Undersigned is instructed, in communicating these papers to Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, to say that as it appears that there is some difficulty in treating those negroes in the slave-holding colony of Angola in strict conformity with the stipulations of Annex C to the Treaty of 1842, Her Majesty's Government are willing at their own expense to relieve the Colonial Government of Angola from the charge of these persons and to remove them to some British colony.

The Undersigned begs leave to recommend this matter on account of its importance to the early attention of his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia, and he takes, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 335.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, November 2, 1853.

I BEG leave to recall to your Excellency's recollection a note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 12th of July last (referring to a former note to your Excellency on the same subject), respecting the condition of the negroes emancipated by the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda, and containing a proposition on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the removal of such negroes to Sierra Leone, free of expense to Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government.

By a note dated the 18th of July, your Excellency was pleased to inform me that my note on the above-mentioned subject had been referred to the Marine Department, in order that the necessary information might be obtained to enable your Excellency to give me an answer on the matter to which it related; but since that date I have not had the honour to receive any further communication from your Excellency on the subject in question, which is nevertheless one of importance to the accomplishment of the beneficial views of the two Governments on all matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 335.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, November 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 2nd instant, pressing for an answer to those which you addressed to me on the 9th of August, 1851, and 12th of July last, in which you request, in the name of your Government, that the liberated negroes existing at Angola should be transferred at the expense of that Government to Sierra Leone or Liberia, where they would more readily be apprenticed.

In answer, I have to state to you that I have been informed through the Marine Department, to which I transmitted your above-mentioned notes, that, from the last report of the Curator of liberated negroes, it appeared that these were all employed, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, and that the treatment they received was truly satisfactory.

Notwithstanding, however, that it is stated in the said report that two of those liberated negroes do not apply themselves assiduously to their trades, and neglect their work, this is no matter for surprise, inasmuch as, whatever may be their position, it cannot be expected that every one of them should behave well, and defects of this nature are often met with among freemen.

It is my duty to add, that the Board of Superintendence watches, as it ought, over the execution of the Treaty and the improvement of the liberated negroes, and it is to be expected that the fears which arose in 1851, owing to the difficulty in providing employment for such as had been up to that time delivered over to the said Board, will not occur again, inasmuch as the measures adopted by the European Governments and those of the Continent of America for the abolition of the Traffic, ought certainly to contribute towards preventing the number of liberated negroes by sentence of the Mixed Commission from increasing.

In consideration, then, of what I have the honour to state, I trust that you will, together with Her Britannic Majesty's Government, admit that, as the treatment of those individuals is satisfactory, and their improvement in the different trades for which they are intended is manifest, it would not be proper to separate them from their occupations till such time as their apprenticeship was up.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 336.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 10, 1853.

WITH my despatch of the 28th of October I had the honour to transmit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 25th of last month, expressing, as desired by your Lordship's despatch of the 7th of October, the surprise and regret of Her Majesty's Government that their request for the expulsion of a well-known slave-trader, named Francisco Antonio Flores, from the province of Angola should not have been complied with.

I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship a translation of the Viscount d'Athoguia's answer to my note of the 25th of October, in which his Excellency, after repeating the objections put forward in his former note to comply with the application for the expulsion of Flores, proceeds to say that, "if it should be shown by any act of the said Flores that he contributes to the revival of the odious Traffic, Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government will oblige him to quit the province, or punish him."

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 336.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, November 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 25th of October last, expressing the regret of your Government at the refusal of Her Majesty's Government to cause strict orders to be issued, as requested by you in your note of the 3rd of September last, for the expulsion from Loanda of the Brazilian subject Francisco Antonio Flores, in consequence of the criminal endeavours which he is said to carry on for the revival of the illicit Traffic in Slaves in the province of Angola.

In reply, it is my duty to say to you, that it is surely very unfair to punish a citizen or subject of a foreign nation upon mere suspicion, and England, more than any other country, keeps this principle in view, and follows it. In the

meantime, I can at once assure you that, if by any act of the said Flores it should be shown that he contributes to the revival of that odious Traffic, Her Majesty's Government will cause him to quit the province or will punish him, and in such case no complaint will surely be made on the part of the Brazilian Government; but unless the crime is proved, what could be expected but that the said Government would defend their subject, as England would do in a similar case?

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 337.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 17, 1853

I HAVE had under consideration the letter which you addressed to me on the 22nd ultimo, inclosing a translation of a memorandum stating the conditions upon which the Portuguese Government has determined to grant to M. de Souza e Almeida, of Benguella, a license under which he is to liberate his slaves now in Benguella, and is to be allowed to convey them from thence to Prince's Island, where they are to be employed as labourers on his estate for a period not exceeding seven years.

Your letter explains that this communication is made to Her Majesty's Government, in order to prevent the occurrence of any misunderstanding, in case the vessels conveying M. Almeida's negroes should be met at sea by a British cruiser; and I have the honour to state to you in reply, that I am fully convinced that the Portuguese Government are sincerely desirous of taking every possible precaution, in order to prevent the grant of this license from being abused, and in order to insure the *bond fide* liberation of the negroes in question: but it appears to me, that Her Majesty's Government would not be borne out in undertaking to say that the vessels conveying these negroes from Benguella to Prince's Island will not be detained by British cruisers, because it is scarcely possible that their commanders should be enabled properly to execute the instructions with which they are provided, and at the same time be expected to distinguish the difference between such a conveyance of negroes by sea and an ordinary slave-trading operation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 338.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th instant, referring to the determination of the Portuguese Government to establish custom-houses at several places on the coast of the province of Mozambique, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having pointed out to the Portuguese Government the expediency of immediately carrying into effect that determination with regard to Angoza.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON

No. 339.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 18, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 5th and 8th instant.

I beg leave herewith to submit a copy of a note which I have addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the case of the brig "*Laura*," pointing out the imperfect nature of the survey which was made of that vessel previously to her departure from Terceira, and requesting, as desired by your Lordship's last despatch of the 5th instant, that instructions may be sent to all the Civil Governors of the Azores in future, to conduct such surveys in strict accordance with the provisions of the Royal Decree of 10th December, 1836, which require that they should be executed by the Civil Governor, and by one of the principal officers of the Customs.

I have communicated to the Portuguese Government, as directed by your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, the names and descriptions of Her Majesty's ships which have been furnished with instructions to act in the suppression of the Slave Trade, under the Treaty of 1842, a list of which accompanied your Lordship's despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 339.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, November 15, 1853.

WITH reference to the note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on 29th September last, relative to a vessel called the "*Laura*," which had sailed from the Island of Terceira, under circumstances justifying a suspicion that she was bound on a slaving voyage, and to the note which your Excellency was pleased to address to me on 7th October in reply, I have now the honour to lay before your Excellency an extract from a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Madeira, stating that the "*Laura*" had touched at that island on the 25th of last month, and gone to sea again, after a delay of only a few hours, her captain having obtained from the competent authorities a certificate that the vessel had called at that island, such certificate being of course intended to release the "*Laura*" from further responsibility, by reason of the bond into which, as your Excellency is already aware, her captain was obliged to enter before he quitted the Island of Terceira.

All these circumstances having been duly reported to Her Majesty's Government, I have received instructions to represent to your Excellency the additional suspicions respecting the character of the "*Laura*," which arise from the hasty way in which she quitted the Island of Madeira, clearly denoting that she visited that island for no legitimate and *bonâ fide* purposes, but simply in order to get rid of the liability which hung over her in consequence of the security which she had been obliged to enter into at Terceira.

As to what took place in the case of this vessel at the Island of Terceira, I am directed to observe to your Excellency, that considering the highly suspicious circumstances respecting the "*Laura*," detailed in the paper which I had the honour to transmit with my note of 29th September, and which were duly brought to the notice of the Civil Governor by the British Vice-Consul, it appears to Her Majesty's Government that the survey which was held on the "*Laura*" was not conducted in a manner to lead to any practical or profitable result.

I beg leave to inclose a copy of a communication addressed by the Civil Governor to Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, informing him of the steps taken with regard to the "*Laura*," in which it is stated, that from the survey which had

been held on board of her, there did not appear sufficient reason to believe that she was intended for the African Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government have, however, to regret, that the survey thus spoken of was a very imperfect one, having been executed by the captain of the port alone, and without the presence of the public authorities, required by Article VII of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Decree of 10th December, 1836, to take part in such investigations.

I am accordingly directed to convey to your Excellency the request of Her Majesty's Government, that Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government will issue orders to all the Civil Governors of the Azores, directing them in future to make such surveys in conformity with the provisions of the Decree of 10th December, 1836, which require that such surveys should be conducted by the Civil Governor, and by one of the principal officers of the Customs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 340.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Foreign Office, November 26, 1853.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the official note which was addressed to him on the 17th of September, by Count Lavradio, &c., complaining that Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's ship "Harlequin," violated the sovereign rights of Portugal by concluding, in January last, a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade with the King of Cabinda, on the west coast of Africa; and by attempting, in the month of March, to negotiate a similar Treaty with the King and Chiefs of Ambriz.

Count Lavradio's note also contains accusations affecting the honour and good faith of Captain Wilmot in his dealing with the Portuguese Commandant of Bengo, and with the King of Cabinda.

The Undersigned begs to inform Count Lavradio that Captain Wilmot has been required by the Lords of the Admiralty to explain his conduct in regard to the several matters of complaint thus alleged against him by the Portuguese Government; and the Undersigned has now the honour to reply to the above-mentioned charges.

The first charge is, that Captain Wilmot took into his service at Bengo, and conveyed from thence to Cabinda, a Portuguese interpreter named Vicente Antonio Cabo Verde, who had received from the Commandant of Bengo permission to that effect, on condition that it should be confirmed by the Governor of Angola; but it is alleged that Captain Wilmot prevented Vicente from applying to the Governor of Angola, and forcibly kept the interpreter in his service without leave.

It appears from Count Lavradio's note that Vicente has made a deposition before the competent authorities on this and other matters relative to the proceedings of Captain Wilmot; but Count Lavradio says that he is withheld by motives of delicacy from sending a copy of that deposition to the Undersigned.

Captain Wilmot states in reply to this charge that, on the occasion of his making a complimentary visit to the Captain of the Port at Bengo, Vicente was called in to act as interpreter, which led to a proposal being afterwards made by Captain Wilmot that Vicente should enter his service; and before this engagement was concluded, Vicente told Captain Wilmot that he was out of employment, that he was not a Portuguese subject, that he was at liberty to go where he liked, and that he was perfectly willing to go with him. Accordingly, Captain Wilmot engaged Vicente as his interpreter, and three days afterwards Vicente voluntarily went on board the "Harlequin;" and Captain Wilmot asserts positively that there is no truth in the statement about his having forced Vicente to join him.

Captain Wilmot further says, that Vicente told the Captain of the Port at Bengo that he intended to go with Captain Wilmot, and that the Captain of the Port did not state to Captain Wilmot that Vicente must first have leave from the Governor-General of Angola; and if that formality had been indispensably

requisite, there was ample time, during the above-mentioned interval of three days, for the authorities of Bengo to have warned both Vicente and Captain Wilmot accordingly.

It appears besides, that after the termination of Vicente's service, he was imprisoned by the Portuguese authorities for the alleged crime of having accompanied Captain Wilmot, but he was released on the Captain interfering in his behalf; and he afterwards frequently came on board the "Harlequin," and said that he had been most cruelly treated by the Portuguese.

The Undersigned concurs with Captain Wilmot in thinking that no great reliance can be placed upon any declaration which may have been extorted under these circumstances from an unfortunate man who was deprived of the power of helping or defending himself.

The second charge is, that Captain Wilmot, on the 1st of January, 1853, addressed a letter to the King and Chiefs of Cabinda, threatening to use force, and to blockade their coasts, if they should decline to sign an Anti-Slave-Trade Treaty; and that he pointed out to them that the Portuguese residing in their country were their worst enemies, and ought to be expelled from Africa.

The only part of this charge to which the Portuguese Government can ask for any answer from Her Majesty's Government is that which relates to the conduct of Captain Wilmot, in suggesting to the King and Chiefs of Cabinda that they should expel the Portuguese from their territory; and the Undersigned begs leave to observe, that the portions of that letter which have been underlined by Count Lavradio clearly show that the Portuguese to whom those passages relate are persons who are obstinately bent on continuing to carry on the Slave Trade in defiance of the Treaty of July 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal. And it is scarcely necessary that the Undersigned should add, that Captain Wilmot was fully justified in requiring that such persons should be banished from the Cabinda territory.

The third charge in Count Lavradio's note relates to the Anti-Slave-Trade Treaty concluded by Captain Wilmot with the King of Cabinda; and the substance of that charge is, that Captain Wilmot tried to induce the King and Chiefs of Cabinda to sign a Treaty, which he presented to them first on the 24th of January, and afterwards on the 10th of February, 1853; and that, having failed in that endeavour, because the King and Chiefs maintained that their allegiance to the Queen of Portugal did not allow of their concluding Treaties with foreign Powers, Captain Wilmot, accompanied by Captain Coote and the interpreter, went to the King's house, and persuaded him to take some brandy, of which he drank so copiously that he lost his senses, and put his mark to a paper which was presented to him for signature by Captain Wilmot, who told the King that it was a document signifying his consent to entrust his son to Captain Wilmot.

In answer to this imputation upon the honour and integrity of Captain Wilmot, the Undersigned transmits herewith that officer's narrative of what took place in his several interviews with the King and Chiefs of Cabinda, which will show that the Chiefs made no representation about their being under the authority of Portugal, and that there was no truth in the opprobrious statement that Captain Wilmot made the King drunk, and obtained his signature to the Treaty by a false representation.

The Undersigned has to add, that he has informed the Lords of the Admiralty that he is of opinion that Captain Wilmot has completely and satisfactorily exonerated himself from the charge in question; and the Undersigned has stated to their Lordships that the Treaty concluded by Captain Wilmot with the King of Cabinda must be held to be valid, and that its punctual fulfilment must be enforced.

The Undersigned begs leave to point out to Count Lavradio that the Portuguese Government must be well aware of the grounds upon which Her Majesty's Government maintain that they have a right to enter into Treaties with the Chiefs of Cabinda and of Ambriz; because Her Majesty's Government have formally refused to admit the claim of Portugal to a right of sovereignty over that portion of the west coast of Africa which lies between 5° 12' of south latitude and 8° of south latitude. The reasons of that refusal were explained in a note which Mr. Southern, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon, addressed, by order of Her Majesty's Government, to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 24th of November, 1846, and they were in substance

CLASS B.

as follows: Mr. Southern stated that, on referring to Article II of the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, additional to the Treaty of the 22nd of January, 1815, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the prevention of the Slave Trade, it would be seen that, with respect to the west coast of Africa, the territories described as possessed by the Crown of Portugal extended from the 8th to the 18th degree of south latitude; but with respect to the part of the coast from the 5th degree 12 minutes south latitude down to the 8th degree south, namely, the territories of Molembo and Cabinda, His Most Faithful Majesty declared that he maintained his rights.

Mr. Southern, therefore, stated that it appeared, that while the right of Portugal to sovereignty and jurisdiction from the 8th to the 18th degree of south latitude was fully recognized by the British Government, her right from 5° 12' down to 8° south was not recognized.

The Undersigned has to observe, that this declaration on the part of Her Majesty's Government was not answered by the Portuguese Government.

But it appears from Count Lavradio's note that the Portuguese Government consider that their right to the sovereignty in question is established not only by the IInd Article of the Convention of July 1817, but also by the Xth Article of the Treaty of Alliance between Great Britain and Portugal of the 19th of February, 1810, and by the IInd Article of the Treaty of the 22nd of January, 1815.

Although the above-mentioned Treaty of February 1810 is no longer in force, and although the question of right now under consideration must be decided according to the terms of the most recent Treaty in which it is mentioned, that is to say, by the IInd Article of the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, yet the Undersigned will nevertheless proceed to examine these three Articles of Treaties between Great Britain and Portugal, which are referred to by Count Lavradio, as proving that Great Britain has recognized the rights of sovereignty belonging to Portugal in the territories of Molembo, Cabinda, and Ambriz.

And first, with regard to the Xth Article of the Treaty of Alliance of February 1810, the Undersigned has to observe that the only fact which that Article proves is, that Great Britain accepted a declaration that the Prince Regent of Portugal claimed rights of some kind to the territories of Cabinda and Molembo, and that "His Royal Highness was resolved not to resign nor forego his just pretensions thereto, nor the rights of his subjects to trade with those places in the same manner as they had done up to that time." But it does not appear from this Article that Portugal did at that time hold *de facto* possession of the territories in question; it appears only that she claimed a right to do so.

The next Treaty engagement to which Count Lavradio refers is the IInd Article of the Treaty of the 22nd of January, 1815, by which, as Count Lavradio states, the British Government renewed the recognition contained in the Xth Article of the Treaty of February 19, 1810.

The IInd Article of the Treaty of January 1815, states that "Her Britannic Majesty engages, in concert with the Prince Regent of Portugal, to give such orders as may effectually prevent any interruption being given to Portuguese ships resorting to the *actual dominions of the Crown of Portugal*, or to the *territories which are claimed in the Treaty of Alliance of the 19th of February, 1810*, as belonging to the Crown of Portugal to the southward of the line."

In this Article a clear distinction is drawn between the territories actually held under the dominion of Portugal, and those which were claimed by her under the Treaty of 1810, and accordingly the said distinction is clearly laid down in the IInd Article of the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, which Count Lavradio quotes, and this is the distinction which is pointed out in the above-mentioned note from Mr. Southern to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs of the 24th of November, 1846.

Count Lavradio's explanation respecting these Treaty stipulations is followed by some remarks upon Captain Wilmot's proceedings at Ambriz, and the Undersigned observes that Count Lavradio, in defending the alleged rights of Portugal over that place, seems to consider that Her Majesty's Government is entirely precluded from questioning those rights, because it is stated in a letter which Viscount Palmerston addressed to Baron Moncorvo on the 30th of November, 1846, that Ambriz is the extreme northern point recognized by Great Britain as belonging to Portugal.

It is true that there is such a passage in Lord Palmerston's letter, but the paragraph in which it occurs concludes by stating that Her Majesty's Government maintain the right to unrestricted intercourse with that part of the west coast of Africa which lies between $5^{\circ} 12'$ of south latitude and 8° of south latitude.

The Undersigned begs to state that it is evident that Lord Palmerston was not then aware of the fact that Ambriz is situated eight miles to the north of the 8th parallel of south latitude. But that statement in Lord Palmerston's letter of November 1846, cannot invalidate the terms of the Treaty of July 1817; and, according to those terms, Her Majesty's Government still maintains that the Treaty of 1817 does not establish the claim of Portugal to the sovereignty of the coast lying between $5^{\circ} 12'$ of south latitude and 8° of south latitude, within which parallels Ambriz is situated.

This matter was distinctly explained to the Portuguese Government by an official note which Sir Hamilton Seymour addressed to Count Tojal on the 9th of November, 1850; and further, in January, 1851, by the communication from Sir Hamilton Seymour to Count Tojal of a despatch from Lord Palmerston to the British Commissioners at Loanda, dated the 2nd of December, 1847, stating the reason why Lord Palmerston had thought it unnecessary to correct the geographical error which was contained in his note to Baron Moncorvo of the 30th of November, 1846, namely, because it could not be construed into an admission by Her Majesty's Government of the right of Portugal to the sovereignty, either of Ambriz or of that part of the coast which lies between Ambriz and the 8th parallel of south latitude.

Captain Wilmot has, moreover, informed Her Majesty's Government that the King and Chiefs of Ambriz do not acknowledge the Queen of Portugal as their Sovereign, and that at the last interview he had with them they were very angry at being called the vassals of Portugal. They said: "We do not owe any allegiance to Portugal; we are our own masters; we are not their subjects."

This statement is confirmed by the information which Her Majesty's Government has received as to the actual condition of the coast between Loango and Ambriz, which is represented as never having had civilized laws, government, flag, or constituted authorities. Slave-dealers have resided there with impunity, and slavery, with all its horrors and in its worst forms, has been permitted to exist unnoticed.

Thus it is manifest and notorious that the African tribes inhabiting the line of coast claimed by Portugal between $5^{\circ} 12'$ and 8° south, are in reality independent, and that the rights which Portugal acquired by priority of discovery at the close of the fifteenth century, have been long since suffered to lapse in consequence of the Portuguese Government having neglected to occupy the countries so discovered.

Under these circumstances the Undersigned must repeat the declaration of Her Majesty's Government, that the interests of commerce render it imperative upon them to maintain the right to unrestricted intercourse with that part of the west coast of Africa which lies between $5^{\circ} 12'$ of south latitude and 8° of south latitude.

The Undersigned cannot conclude this note without expressing his satisfaction at learning from Count Layradio that the Government of Portugal is not only determined to spare neither exertions nor expense in actively cooperating towards the extinction of the Slave Trade, but is also resolved to put an end to the state of Slavery in the Asiatic and African possessions of Portugal.

Her Majesty's Government hope that a decree to this effect may soon be issued and brought into operation by the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty; and they trust that the future acts of the Governors of the Portuguese dominions in Africa will prove that they do not regard the suppression of the Slave Trade to be an undertaking adverse to the influence of Portugal in Africa.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 340.

Commander A. E. Wilmot to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extracts.)

Basing Park, Alton, October 26, 1853.

BEFORE visiting the King of Cabinda in his own town, which is twenty-five miles inland, I sent a letter to His Majesty to request an interview, which after some delay was granted. Commander Coote and a few of the officers of the "Volcano" accompanied me.

We were received with great respect and courtesy, and at the palaver which followed I laid before them all the arguments in my power in favour of giving up the Slave Trade, as well as offered for their acceptance a Treaty with Great Britain for its abolition.

There was no indication of Portuguese authority amongst them of any kind, neither did they say that being under the sovereignty of Portugal, the permission of that country must first be asked for and given.

Many of the Chiefs were in favour of the Treaty, and the whole population turned out, and danced and sung with joy upon hearing that the white man was come to prevent their being sold as slaves.

We parted upon the best possible terms, and with the understanding that I was to come again after they had assembled all the great Mafucas or Chiefs of the country, to ask their opinion upon such a momentous question.

I can assure their Lordships that the real feeling of the great proportion of the people present upon the occasion was in favour of giving up the Slave Trade, but that they were afraid to express themselves openly.

Upon the second time of my visit I saw the King himself at one of the towns situated in the Bay of Cabinda.

I must here mention that the old King had lately died, and according to the custom of the country some time elapses before his successor is appointed, which was the reason why there was no King present at the first palaver.

On this second occasion nothing satisfactory was concluded, but the King told me this by my interpreter, that he was prepared to sign the Treaty. He said I must return in fourteen days, when he would assemble his Chiefs, and give his answer. There was no threat, no intimidation on my part used to induce him to make this declaration: the offer came from himself quite unexpected in every way.

The interval of fourteen days was passed by me in effecting the Treaty with the King of Zanga Tanga and Cape Lopez.

I again returned to Cabinda, and met the King and Chiefs. Commander Coote and several officers were with me, as well as four marines to carry the union jack and the customary presents. The same arguments and entreaties were made use of. I said that Great Britain was determined to stop the Slave Trade by every means in her power, and that it was far better to accept the hand of friendship held out to them now by accepting the Treaty, than on a future occasion when probably it would be too late. I explained the advantage of legitimate trade, and the great sin of selling their fellow-creatures. I placed before them the condition of the King of Lagos, who, refusing to listen to the voice of reason and humanity, was eventually turned off his throne.

I neither threatened to burn him, nor to blockade their country; but merely placing before them the condition of Cabinda as a blockaded port, showed them what miseries they would suffer, and what calamities they would be called upon to endure.

The Chiefs were much divided, but the King made frequent signs to me both with his eyes and his hands, that all was right; before the interview Francisco Franco, who calls himself Governor of Porto Rico, which is one of the many small villages in Cabinda Bay, told me he would sign the Treaty if the King did.

The palaver broke up without anything being done; but the King sent to say I was to pretend to look about the town until the Chiefs had departed, when I was to return to his house, where he would sign the Treaty. I accordingly did so, and in the presence of Commander Coote and myself, the interpreter (Vincent Antonio), and his own two sons, he made a cross opposite his name, and also

against the names of two of his Chiefs. He said he did not care for his Chiefs; that he was the King and would act as he thought proper. The Treaty was read and explained to him, and so far from being unacquainted with its contents, he asked in the most cunning way, whether, having now signed the Treaty, he might take all the vessels which came to Cabinda for slaves, as well as their cargoes! and said he should allow them to come in and make their bargains first before he seized them, to prevent suspicion. He also entered into most minute details with regard to the present he was to receive, bargaining for part to be in cloth, and part in guns and powder.

This conduct does not in the least appear like that of a "drunken man," which the Portuguese authorities have fabricated against him. If the King had been forced into signing the Treaty against his will, and had conceived himself under the power of Portugal, is it not natural to suppose that he would have alluded to this in his attempt to extricate himself from such a perilous proceeding? On the contrary, he voluntarily came forward and offered himself, making no difficulties and no stipulations. He even had refrained from drinking spirits, according to the custom of the country, and would hardly be persuaded to drink the Queen of England's health after the Treaty was signed.

It was not until his mark was attached to the Treaty that he mentioned his son, by asking me if I would take him and have him educated in England, which I most willingly acceded to, and turned him over on the spot to Commander Coote, who was most anxious for the charge. There was no document given to him about his son, nor any agreement made concerning him. The whole is a mere invention. It was an act of kindness on my part which I thought due to a friendly country.

No. 341.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1853.

I HAVE to refer you to the Protocol which the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Portugal signed at this office on the 19th of November, 1850, whereby the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty agreed to renew, for a period of three years from that date, the permission granted by the Protocol of the 12th of August, 1847, authorizing Her Majesty's ships employed in suppressing the Slave Trade to enter the bays, ports, creeks, rivers, and other places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, in order that those ships might prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on in such places.

As the period stipulated in that Protocol expired on the 19th ultimo, I have to instruct you to propose to the Portuguese Government a renewal of the above-mentioned arrangement for a further period of five years; and I inclose herewith a draft of a Protocol recording it, which you will request the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to sign with you in duplicate.

It is not improbable that when you make this proposal, the Portuguese Minister may refer to the complaint which Count Lavradio has recently addressed to me, under his orders, relative to the proceedings of Commander Bunce at Quissanga in August 1852; and if this affair should be mentioned by his Excellency, you will state to him that it appears to Her Majesty's Government that there can be no doubt that Commander Bunce acted with perfect good faith in drawing the conclusion, from all that he saw and heard at Quissanga, that there was no person at that place duly entitled to be considered as a Portuguese authority, and that the place was entirely under the control of Arab Chiefs, who, although subjects of the Crown of Portugal, have constantly shown a determination to set at nought the engagements under which the Government of Portugal is solemnly bound to put an end to the Slave Trade in all parts of the Portuguese dominions.

You will say that Her Majesty's Government regret to learn, by the reports which they have received from the British naval commanders on the east coast of Africa, that the unfortunate natives of the interior are still collected in large numbers at many places in the Portuguese possessions on that coast, in order to

supply the vessels which come there to bring slaves for the Cuba market, and that the Portuguese Governors of the neighbouring chief towns are still without the means effectually to suppress that infamous Traffic; and you will add, that under such circumstances Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Portuguese Government will readily renew the permission by which British cruizers are enabled to assist that Government in obliging the refractory natives to respect the laws of Portugal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 341.

Draft of Protocol of a Conference held at Lisbon, December , 1853, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and Portugal.

WHEREAS by the Protocol of a conference between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Portugal, held at London on the 12th of August, 1847, the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty consented to grant, for the period of three years from that date, permission for Her Britannic Majesty's ships employed in suppressing the Slave Trade to enter the bays, ports, creeks, rivers, and other places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, and to prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on in such places:

And whereas, on the expiration of the above-mentioned period of three years, the permission granted as aforesaid was, by a Protocol signed at London on the 19th of November, 1850, by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and Portugal, renewed for a further period of three years:

And whereas that further period has expired:

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty at the Court of Portugal, requested that such permission might be renewed; and the Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, &c., declared that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, with the desire to fulfil and carry out, to the utmost of its power, the obligations contracted by the Treaty signed at Lisbon on the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, consents to grant the permission requested on the part of the British Government for a fresh period of five years commencing from the 19th of November, 1853, under the conditions laid down in the Protocols of the 12th of August, 1847, and of the 19th of November, 1850, above referred to.

Done at Lisbon, this day of December, 1853.

No. 342.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 6, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, copies of four notes* which I have received from Count Lavradio, and of the answers which I have returned to the representations which they contain, complaining of the conduct of Commander Bunce, of Her Majesty's ship "Castor," in destroying a slave-vessel and a barracoon at Quissanga, on the east coast of Africa, in August, 1852; and of the proceedings of Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's ship "Harlequin," in negotiating Treaties with the King and Chiefs of Cabinda and of Ambriz, in February last.

You will explain to the Portuguese Government the entirely unfounded nature of the charges against these British officers, who have performed their arduous duties with untiring zeal as well as with prudence and moderation. And you will observe, that their success in breaking up the haunts of slave-

* Nos. 311, 316, 322, 332; and 313 and 340.

dealers, and in checking the infamous Traffic which existed to such a disgraceful extent both on the east and west coasts of Africa, should have entitled those officers to the approbation of the Portuguese Government, which, however, by entertaining and bringing forward such complaints has given direct encouragement to the slave-trading party, which Her Majesty's Government is determined to put down.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 343.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 12, 1853.*

WITH reference to my despatches to you of the 18th August, 7th October, and 5th November, urging the expulsion from Loanda of the Brazilian slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores, I have to acquaint you that Commander Wilmot having stated in an official letter to the Lords of the Admiralty, that he was able to prove that the American brig "*Silenus*," which carried away 600 slaves from Ambriz on the 4th of January last, was consigned to a person residing at Loanda, who was protected by the Governor-General of Angola, he has been required to state the name of that person, and to furnish Her Majesty's Government with the proof mentioned in his letter.

I now inclose a copy of a letter from Commander Wilmot to the Secretary of the Admiralty, stating that Francisco Antonio Flores was the person to whom he referred, and that this information was obtained from the captain and mate of the "*Silenus*," and from a Mr. Walker, the agent of a Liverpool house at Ambriz.

I have to instruct you to communicate a copy of Commander Wilmot's letter officially to the Viscount d'Athoquia, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government cannot believe that the Portuguese Government will continue to permit the residence of this notorious man at Loanda.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 343.

Commander A. E. Wilmot to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Basing Park, Alton, Hants, November 29, 1853.*

I HAVE the honour to reply to their Lordships' letter of 25th instant, calling upon me to state the name of the man to whom the brig "*Silenus*," that carried away 600 slaves from Ambriz in January last, was consigned; and also to furnish the proof referred to in my letter of the 26th ultimo.

The name of the individual referred to, is Francisco Antonio Flores, and he resides at St. Paul de Loanda, under the protection of the Governor-General of Angola.

In a correspondence that passed between the Governor-General and myself upon this subject, his Excellency states, that this person is a Brazilian, and is employed in the legitimate trade of the country; that he denies being engaged in the Slave Trade; and that he has become naturalized in that country.

I beg to refer their Lordships to my correspondence with the Governor-General upon this particular question, which has doubtless been forwarded to the Admiralty by the Commander-in-chief in Africa.

This person incurred, some two years ago, the suspicion of the British Commander-in-chief, for an offence of a similar nature, which led to a communication between that functionary and the Governor-General upon the subject.

The latter was called upon to carry out the principle of the Treaty between the two countries relative to slave-dealers being permitted to reside in the Portuguese possessions.

Our Commissioners at Loanda are quite aware of the real character of

Senhor Flores ; and Mr. Brand our Vice-Consul, who has lately returned from Africa in the "Spy," will be able to verify my statement.

Senhor Flores was not in Africa, I believe, during the period that an Anti-Slave Trade Governor was ruling the destinies of Angola, but returned again when he found that the old game might be carried on with impunity.

The Slave Trade party is now dominant at Loanda ; not that the present Governor-General, who is a most honourable man, is favourable to its continuance, but because he has not the power to prevent it.

I come now to the proof of this man's connection with the Slave Trade :

1. When the "*Silenus*" was boarded off the Congo river, by Commander Coote, accompanied by the paymaster and purser of the "*Volcano*," previous to shipping the cargo of slaves from Ambriz, the captain and mate told Commander Coote that "he was consigned to Senhor Flores at Loanda." They repeated this when questioned by Commander Coote, who was of course much struck by the name and circumstances.

There was no attempt at concealment, but it came spontaneously from the officers of the "*Silenus*." There is only one Senhor Flores at Loanda.

2. When I told Mr. Walker, agent to a Liverpool house at Ambriz, that I knew who was the consignee of the "*Silenus*," he said, "Since you know all about it, I will tell you that she was consigned to Senhor Flores."

Mr. Walker has been long resident at Ambriz, and is a very intelligent person ; he was there when the slaves were sent to the "*Silenus*," and doubtless could give most important information upon any subject connected with the "past and present of the Slave Trade."

Senhor Flores has agents at Ambriz, and nothing is easier than to carry on the abominable Traffic under the cloak of legitimate trade, and apparently without the knowledge of the Government.

This person could not live in the style he does by being alone concerned in the small trade that is carried on under his name at Loanda.

I will not trouble their Lordships further.

(Signed)

ARTHUR EARDLEY WILMOT

No. 344.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 17.

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 7, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of 21st and 22nd November.

The gentleman lately appointed to succeed the Chevalier Drummond as Brazilian Minister at this Court, is expected to arrive by the homeward-bound packet from Rio, now nearly due.

I hope that he will be furnished with instructions, or at least be prepared to act upon the instructions which were given to his predecessor, to cooperate with this Mission in everything relating to the prevention of the Slave Trade, when I shall perhaps be able to turn to good account the list which accompanies your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd November, of the persons said to be members or agents of the Brazilian Portuguese Slave Trade company.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

No. 345.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 7th instant, stating that you hope that the new Brazilian Minister who is expected shortly to arrive at Lisbon may be provided with instructions to cooperate with you in matters relating to the

prevention of the Slave Trade, I have to instruct you to ascertain and report to Her Majesty's Government whether or not the Brazilian Minister has received such instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 346.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 18, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 5th and 6th instant.

I will proceed without delay to the fulfilment of the instructions contained in these despatches.

I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I received a few days ago from Her Majesty's Consul for the Western Islands, representing the circumstances under which a vessel called the "*Nova Tentativa*" had sailed from the Island of Terceira, which seem to afford strong grounds for suspecting that she was bound on a slaving voyage.

In my despatch of 8th October I had the honour to report to your Lordship the information which I had received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Terceira relative to a vessel called the "*Laura*"—a case presenting strong indications of an intended slaving voyage, and which I had accordingly lost no time in bringing to the notice of the Portuguese Government. This case being so soon followed by another involving circumstances of equally strong suspicion, I have thought it right, in pointing it out to the attention of the Viscount d'Athoquia, to allude to the serious responsibility which would arise if, after the notice which had been taken of the case of the "*Laura*," it should turn out that a second vessel, belonging to the same owners, the "*Nova Tentativa*," had also been suffered to depart from that island with full cognizance on the part of the local authorities of the suspicious circumstances attending her.

Your Lordship will not fail to remark that in Mr. Vice-Consul Read's statements respecting the "*Laura*" and the "*Nova Tentativa*," these vessels are described as being owned by Antonio Severino Avellar, whose name appears in the list lately furnished to your Lordship by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, as the resident member and agent in the Azores of the Brazilian Portuguese Slave-Trading Company.

I have the honour to submit a copy of the note which I address to the Viscount d'Athoquia relative to the case of the "*Nova Tentativa*," which I hope will meet your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 346.

Consul Hunt to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

St. Michael's, November 19, 1853.

AS a vessel is about to sail for Lisbon, and it is unlikely that there will be any other early opportunity, I think it my duty to communicate to you the following private information received from Mr. Vice-Consul Read, in anticipation of his official report.

The "*Nova Tentativa*," a fine clipper brig, of larger size and greater speed than the "*Laura*," belonging to the latter vessel's owners, arrived at Terceira on the 12th instant from Plymouth, and proceeded the next day to Fayal. Mr. Read states that her master is a Portuguese, "twenty-seven years of age, good looking and accomplished, speaking English, French, Spanish, and Italian, and that he has been taken three times."

When the "*Laura*" sailed from Terceira thirty casks of manioc were left in
CLASS B.

the Custom-house for supplying another vessel. These were afterwards sent to Fayal with "a large boat-load of water-casks," and one of the Avellars went there to meet a vessel said to be expected from Brazil.

If the "*Nova Tentativa*" has any slave-deck, gratings, or other fittings on board, it is probable that they were in her when she discharged her Brazilian cargo in England, if they were not purchased by her there.

It is to be feared that no proceedings will be taken at Fayal to ascertain if she deserves the suspicions Mr. Read entertains of her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 346.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, December 15, 1853.

WITH reference to the notes which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on 20th September and 15th November last, communicating the information which had reached me respecting a vessel called the "*Laura*," supposed to have sailed on a slaving voyage under circumstances not very creditable to the zeal and efficiency of the public authorities of the Island of Terceira, where she was fitted out, I have now the honour to lay before your Excellency a copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul for the Western Islands, stating certain things with respect to another vessel called the "*Nova Tentativa*," belonging to the same owners as the "*Laura*," which induce the belief that she also has been dispatched on a slaving voyage. I beg leave to direct your Excellency's attention more particularly to the following paragraph in Mr. Hunt's letter: "When the '*Laura*' sailed from Terceira, thirty casks of manioc were left in the Custom-house for supplying another vessel." These were afterwards sent to Fayal with "a large boat-load of water-casks, and one of the Avellars went there to meet a vessel said to be expected from Brazil."

Thus it will be seen that operations having all the appearance of connection with the Slave Trade were carried on with the complete cognizance of the local authorities of Terceira, and this too after the attention of those authorities had been especially directed to such proceedings by the British Vice-Consul at that island.

I must also mention a circumstance of great importance in this case, which is, that the reputed owner of the "*Laura*" and "*Nova Tentativa*," Antonio Severino d'Avellar, is borne on a list in possession of Her Majesty's Government of the individuals composing the Brazilian-Portuguese Slave-Trading Association, as the resident member and agent of that association in the Azores, the consignee of the "*Laura*" being João Severino d'Avellar, a relation of the owner.

I cannot doubt that the information which I have thus the honour to convey to your Excellency respecting what is passing at Terceira, and which is of a nature to cause grave suspicions as to the criminal character of such proceedings, will induce Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government to take proper measures to arrest the progress of so crying an evil.

Her Majesty's Government will sincerely rejoice if the suspicions now entertained with regard to the "*Laura*" and the "*Nova Tentativa*" should prove unfounded, and it should turn out that those vessels have after all been employed in some legal traffic.

On the other hand I need scarcely remark that, if after the notice which was taken of the case of the first of these vessels, with a view to induce more zeal and circumspection on the part of the authorities at Terceira in the fulfilment of their duty, it should turn out that the second vessel, the "*Nova Tentativa*," has been suffered to depart on a slaving voyage, a very serious responsibility will have been incurred by such an infraction of the laws and obligations of this country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No 347.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 30, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, reporting the suspicious circumstances attending the arrival at and departure from Terceira of the Portuguese vessel "*Nova Tentativa*," and inclosing a copy of a note which you had thought it right to address to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting this vessel. And I have to acquaint you in reply that I approve of this note, and that I hope the Portuguese Government will feel that their honour and integrity are concerned in the complete investigation of this very suspicious case.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 3, 1854.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 28, 1853.

IN the Portuguese "*Official Gazette*" of the 14th of last month, there appeared a Decree by which a grant of four miles square of land, in the island called Princes Island (*Ilha do Principe*), on the west coast of Africa, is conferred on a certain Senhor José Maria de Souza e Almeida, holding the rank of Councillor, for the purpose, as stated in the preamble to the Decree, of encouraging the improvement of the island, and subject to certain conditions therein set forth.

By Article VIII of this Decree, permission is given to transport to Princes Island, 100 slaves of those already possessed by Senhor Souza e Almeida in the province of Angola, "after that he shall have made them free in conformity with the regulations annexed to the Decree;" a translation of which regulations I have the honour to inclose.

"The negroes thus liberated may be transported in vessels of the State when this can be effected without injury to the public service."

On looking over the regulations thus spoken of, I find that they are taken in a great measure from the Annex C to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, entitled "*Regulations in respect to the treatment of liberated negroes*," and they may therefore be supposed to present sufficient security against abuses and irregularities in the treatment of the persons for whose protection they are framed, provided they are honestly administered. Upon this point of course everything will depend.

Her Majesty's Government may perhaps be of opinion that the whole arrangement, if it does not amount to a violation of the letter of the Treaty of July, 1842, is at variance with the spirit and intention of that agreement. But if it should be found that the right of the Portuguese Government to carry out the measure cannot be disputed, from anything contained in the Treaty of 1842, your Lordship will probably think it advisable to cause information to be obtained through the Agents of Her Majesty's Government at Loanda, and through the officers of Her Majesty's cruisers visiting Princes Island; as to the manner in which the provisions of the Decree may have been carried out. With this view I purpose forwarding copies of the Decree and annexed regulations to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda by the first opportunity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 348.

Regulations referred to in Article VIII of the Decree of October 25, 1853, in respect to the Treatment of Liberated Negroes.

(Translation.)

ART. I. The slaves selected for removal to the Island do Principe must previously be baptized, if they are not so already, and receive their letters of emancipation, drawn up with all the legal formalities.

II. At the same time that their letters of emancipation are delivered to them, a contract or indenture shall be drawn up, in the presence of the Crown lawyer, and with all legal formalities, the parties to which shall be, on the one hand, the hirer or his solicitor, and, on the other hand, the Curator of Liberated Negroes of Benguella appointed by Decree of 30th December last, or whosoever may be acting for him. In this contract or indenture shall be embodied the conditions or stipulations hereinafter mentioned; and the liberated negroes and the hirer being thus mutually bound, the former shall forthwith be delivered up to the latter, or to his solicitor.

III. The liberated negroes, after being removed to the Island do Principe, will be placed under the superior superintendence of a Board which *ad instar* of that established by Article III of the Annex marked C to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, shall be constituted at the Island of St. Thomas, under the denomination of "Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes," having for President the Governor of the province, and for members, the chief of the Crown lawyer's office, and the Secretary to the Government.

§ 1. The Curator of the Liberated Negroes of the district of St. Thomas, also appointed by the said Decree of 30th December last, or whosoever may be acting for him, shall in every way promote the interest of the liberated negroes in question before this Board, and shall lend himself for any service which the said Board may demand of him in this sense.

§ 2. If at the time of carrying into effect the agreement above mentioned, the duties of the Curator of Liberated Negroes at Benguella should have devolved upon the Crown officer, the Governor of the district shall, in accordance with what is enacted in the clause of the ensuing Article, appoint a person of known probity and humanity, being also a lawyer, if possible, to act as Curator of the Liberated Negroes in this and in other cases of legal impediment, and who must in the same manner take the oath to discharge conscientiously the duties entrusted to him.

IV. A subordinate deputation of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes shall also be constituted at the Island do Principe, composed of the Governor of the island as President, and of two persons selected by the Board.

§. At the Island do Principe the sub-delegate of the Attorney-General, or whosoever shall be acting for him, shall act as Curator of Liberated Negroes, and the Board of Superintendence, or its constituted delegates, shall appoint, to take his place in cases of incompatibility between the duties which he will have to perform as such, and the duties of his office as Counsel for the Crown, a person of known probity and humanity, if possible, a lawyer, who must take oath to discharge conscientiously the duties entrusted to him.

V. An authentic copy of the contract mentioned in Article II shall be sent to the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes at St. Thomas's, from which copy the Board shall cause another to be taken and sent to its delegates at the Island do Principe.

§. The respective curators shall explain, by means of an interpreter if necessary, to each negro, the nature of this or of any other contract to which he may become a party, and shall inform him that, if he should at any time be ill-treated by his master, he must make his complaint to the proper curator, to the delegates of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, or to the Board itself.

VI. The person to whom the liberated negroes are delivered, shall make out and sign duplicate receipts for them, specifying the number of each sex.

§. One of these original receipts, after being registered in the books of the Municipal Chamber, shall remain in the hands of the Crown officer, and the other shall be delivered to the curator.

VII. In the act of delivering up the liberated negroes, they shall be inspected by the curator, who shall enter the name of each one in a book, to be called "Register of Emancipated Negroes." Opposite to the name shall be entered a description of the person, with the probable age and bodily marks, and with any particulars which can be ascertained regarding the family and nation of such negro.

§ The curator, after having extracted an authentic certificate from this register, which he shall send to the delegates of the Board of Superintendence at the Island do Principe, shall send the book itself to the Board, in the archives of which it shall be kept.

VIII. Each negro, after being inscribed on the register mentioned in the preceding Article, shall be marked on the upper part of the right arm with a small silver instrument, bearing for its device a symbol of freedom.

IX. The liberated negroes removed to the Island do Principe by virtue of the contract under consideration, should be, if possible, an equal number of each sex.

§. In every case one-third at least must be of the female sex, and in no case shall a child under fourteen years of age be separated from its mother, nor a husband from his wife.

X. The period of service for which such negro shall be bound shall be seven years. Those under thirteen years shall be bound to serve till the age of twenty.

§. The period during which such negroes may be absent through desertion, or imprisonment for offences, shall not be counted in their time of service.

XI. Liberated negroes who, for a period of six years have invariably behaved well, so that their conduct in all respects may be considered exemplary and of the greatest advantage to their liberator, shall be, in consequence thereof, exempted from serving him any longer.

§. It will be the duty of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes to decide, upon the report of its delegates, whether such negroes are worthy of this indulgence.

XII. The name and address of the master, together with the name and position of the estate or house where the liberated negroes are to reside, shall be inserted opposite to the names of said negroes in the contract or indenture mentioned in Article II of these Conditions; and in the event of a change of residence, immediate notice must be given to the curator of their new place of abode.

§. The place of residence of liberated negroes may not be changed to any place out of the Island do Principe till such time as their period of service be completed.

XIII. If the master of any liberated negro shall commit any breach of the conditions of the contract, failing to provide him with the necessary food and clothing, or otherwise ill-treating him, such negro will be exempted from serving him any longer, and will recover his full freedom.

§. Such cases, however, must be tried by the Judge (Juiz de Direito) of the First Instance, at the appeal of the proper curator.

XIV. The master shall bind himself to allow to each negro one day in each week, besides Sundays and holidays, and when no holiday occurs during the week, that he may employ it to his own benefit, or to pay to him a certain sum equivalent to such day's work.

§. This sum must be stipulated by agreement with the Board of Superin-

tendance of Liberated Negroes, and be delivered, one-half to the negro and the other to the coffers of said Board, or of its delegates.

XV. The master shall undertake also :

1. That the liberated negroes shall be maintained with wholesome and abundant food, and to provide them with such clothes as are usual, according to the custom of the country.

2. That they shall be instructed in the principles of the Catholic religion.

3. That they shall be vaccinated as soon as possible, and receive in sickness proper medical advice, according to the means available in the country, and be treated with due care and attention, and that in case of death they shall be decently buried.

4. That whenever an infant is born of any female liberated negro, immediate information thereof shall be given to the delegates of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, in order that the fact may be duly registered.

5. That baptism of an infant so born shall take place within three months after its birth, and that the freedom of the child shall be recorded in the register of baptism; but that such child shall remain with its mother, and shall be maintained and treated by the master of the mother in the same manner as a liberated negro, until the term of service of the mother ceases.

XVI. No master shall, in any case, be authorized to transfer to another person any of the liberated negroes without the special and written sanction of the Board of Superintendence; and if the master shall leave the province, or if he shall become so reduced in his circumstances as to be obliged to give up his establishment, then, and in any of these cases, he shall report the same to the delegates of the Board, and shall bring his negroes and deliver them up to said Board, who shall receive them, and afterwards deliver them to another master for the remainder of the period which they may have to serve, and under the same conditions as those imposed upon the first master.

§. In no case may the master, or any other person to whom the negroes may be confided according to this Article, be allowed to deliver them up to any other authority than the said delegates, or to the proper curator.

XVII. If any of the negroes shall be guilty of crimes which render them amenable to the laws of the country, or shall be guilty of habitual drunkenness, insubordination, wilful carelessness, or destruction of his master's property, the master shall, in such case, inform the Board thereof, which will provide due punishment in accordance with the laws; and upon the demand of the master, shall cancel their indentures.

XVIII. If a negro should run away, his master shall give immediate information thereof to the curator, who shall instantly proceed to a summary investigation of the fact, for the information of the delegates of the Board of Superintendence, and of the Board itself.

XIX. Any master who shall be proved to have improperly disposed of a negro, whom he has reported as dead or absconded, shall pay as a fine the sum of 30\$000 reis, one-half of which will be for the informer, and the other half shall be delivered to the curator, to be placed at the disposal of the Board for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

§ 1. In case of a repetition of the offence, if it be proved before the proper magistrate, the indentures shall be cancelled, and the Board shall give to each negro a certificate showing that he is in the full enjoyment of his freedom.

§ 2. The stipulations of this Article do not interfere with any legal proceedings which may be instituted against the master, if any violation of the laws which prohibit the Traffic of Slaves has been committed.

XX. If a negro should die, notice thereof shall immediately be given to the curator, in order that he may ascertain or cause to be ascertained that the deceased negro was really and truly the one described in the register; employing for this end the means authorized by the laws. The curator shall acknowledge the receipt of the notice of such death, but if he fail to do so, the master or his representative may send the notice to two members of the Board; or in their absence, to two other authorities.

§. A summary report of the result of this inquiry shall then be drawn up officially by the curator, and shall be delivered without delay to the Board.

XXI. The curator, after having identified the body of the deceased negro, shall investigate the cause of the death; and if the death shall appear to have been natural, he shall note that fact in the register.

§. If the cause of the death be doubtful, or shall appear to be otherwise than natural, the curator shall give proper notice to the Crown officer, and furnish such information and documents as he may have obtained, and which may conduce to bring the offender to trial before the proper Courts.

XXII. In the case of the death of the master, his heir, or the person to whom the charge of the negroes shall devolve, shall within eight days after the death of such master, report the same to the delegates of the Board, in order that it may be known who in such case will be answerable for the negroes.

§. If the heir or person in possession of such negroes, shall neglect to report the death of the master within eight days, he shall pay 1000 reis a-day for each negro, until he shall have given proper notice; and he shall, moreover, be subject to the other penalties which attach to the non-performance of the stipulated conditions.

XXIII. When a negro shall for any cause leave the service of his master or his heirs, or of any other person to whom he may be bound, he shall remain under the care of the delegates of the Board, and of the curator, who shall take care that he be provided with employment, so as to be useful to himself and to the State.

XXIV. It shall be the duty of the curator to inspect the liberated negroes once in every six months, at a convenient place, for which end he will give notice in writing to the master or his representative twenty-four hours previously. On these occasions he shall examine and inspect all such negroes, receive their complaints, inquire into those complaints, and search out the truth, and investigate any abuses that may affect the said negroes; and he shall also inquire into the general conduct of the negroes themselves.

§. The inspections above prescribed shall be made at such times as the curator shall judge most convenient.

XXV. The curator shall then bring to the notice of the delegates of the Board every complaint on the part of the said negroes, and every breach of the conditions and stipulations of the contract on the part of the master; and in all cases of well-founded complaint the delegates shall take proper means for affording redress.

XXVI. The curator shall also report to the delegates of the Board every six months the state in which he finds the liberated negroes; and his report shall be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose, to be called "Curator's reports," and to be deposited in the office of the Board, so that on reference thereto the condition and behaviour of every liberated negro may be easily known.

XXVII. All proceedings of the curator, together with a statement of all facts which may from time to time come to his knowledge respecting the liberated negroes, shall be immediately communicated by him to the delegates of the Board, and he is not to institute any proceedings, nor to take any steps in respect to such negroes, without the knowledge and sanction of the said delegates.

XXVIII. When the prescribed term of the liberated negroes shall have expired, the curator shall, under the direction of the delegates of the Board, summon such negroes, together with their master, to appear before said delegates, in order that the contract drawn up between the master and the negroes by their curator at Benguella may be cancelled, such negroes receiving from the delegates a certificate specifying that they have completed their term of service, and are entitled to all the rights and privileges of free persons.

§. The curator shall see that this certificate be authenticated and registered according to the custom of the country.

XXIX. The Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, as also its delegates, shall have the power to admonish the curator and any other officer serving under them, if such curator or other officer should fail to execute his duty faithfully.

XXX. The necessary proceedings for recovering such sums as may be due to the liberated negroes by their masters, and for enforcing the payment of the several fines and penalties hereinbefore imposed upon neglect of compliance with these conditions, shall be instituted in the Courts of Correctional Police, and shall be carried on at the instance of the delegates of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes.

XXXI. The money arising from the hire of liberated negroes, and also from the penalties incurred by the masters, or other persons who by these conditions are amenable thereto, shall be received by the curator, who shall at once deliver to the delegates of the Board of Superintendence the several sums as he receives them, making previously an entry of the receipt in a book to be kept for that purpose.

XXXII. The delegates shall transmit to the Board all the money delivered to them by the curator, as stipulated in preceding Article, that it may be deposited in the coffers of the Board of Finance, where it shall be kept on separate account, to be applied in the following manner; that is to say: a portion thereof, at the discretion of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, shall be applied towards defraying the expenses of said Board, and the remainder to be applied to the promotion of the comfort and welfare of the liberated negroes, either during their terms of service, or at its expiration, and especially in rewards to liberated negroes for good conduct.

§ 1. The accounts of these moneys, and of the manner in which they have been applied, shall, at the expiration of every year, be made up in duplicate by the curator, whose duty it will be to see that the provisions of this Article are duly observed, and after these accounts have been examined and approved by the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, one of such duplicates shall be transmitted to the Government by said Board.

§ 2. If the fund should not prove sufficient to liquidate the just and necessary demands made for the purposes required, the deficiency shall be made good by the coffers of the province, with the sanction of the Governor of said province in council.

XXXIII. The business of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, as well as that of its delegates, may be carried on by only two members, but in the event of a difference arising the third must necessarily interfere, in order that the matter in dispute may be decided by plurality of votes.

XXXIV. It shall not be permitted to the members of the Board or to its delegates, nor to any officer acting under them, to demand or receive from any one, excepting as herein specified, any emolument, under any pretext whatsoever, for the performance of their duties.

XXXV. The delegates of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes shall furnish the Board every three months with a detailed report of all that occurs, or that may have occurred, relating to the liberated negroes who form the subject of these conditions, and to the execution of them, and this report, accompanied by the remarks of the Board, shall be by it sent in original every six months to the Ultramarine Council, an authentic copy thereof to be kept in the office of the Board, in order that the Council may be enabled to recommend to the Government what is most convenient, in accordance with No. 2 of Article XIV of the Decree of the institution of said Council.

XXXVI. Nothing that is contained in these Regulations shall be construed to exempt any liberated negro, to which they refer, from his liability as a free

man to be proceeded against for any offence committed by him against the laws of the country. But in all cases where any offence against such laws is imputed to any such negro, the laws shall be administered to him as to a free man; and the curator shall, either personally or by a responsible person deputed by him for the purpose, attend the Courts of Justice to see that justice is done to the negro.

XXXVII. The conditions of the concession to be made to the petitioner shall be published in the official "Gazette" of the Government of Angola, and Her Majesty's Government shall convey to the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes and its delegates, and to the respective curators, such authority as may be necessary to enable the said Board, its delegates, curators, and officers acting under them respectively, to perform the duties entrusted to them.

Marine and Colonial Department, October 25, 1853.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOQUIA.

No. 349.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, inclosing copies of a Decree and of the Regulations thereto annexed, by which Senhor José Maria de Souza e Almeida has been authorised, under certain conditions, to transport from Benguella to Prince's Island 100 slaves; and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your intention to send copies of those documents to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda.

I transmit herewith, for your information, copies of a correspondence* which has passed between Count Lavradio and myself upon this matter; and also copies of an instruction† which I have addressed to the British Commissioners at Loanda thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 350.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ from the British Commissioners at Loanda, stating what passed between Sir George Jackson and the Acting-Governor of Angola respecting an American barque called the "*Republic*," suspected of being destined for the Slave Trade, and of being consigned to Francisco Antonio Flores, which arrived at Loanda in August last, and was allowed to clear out from thence for the coast to the northward without proper investigation or vigilance on the part of the authorities.

I have to instruct you to communicate the substance of the inclosed despatch to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to say that Her Majesty's Government hope that the Government of Portugal will convey to the Viscount de Pinheiro their disapproval of the conduct of the Acting-Governor of Angola in this matter. And you will state with regard to F. A. Flores, that so many circumstances concur to show that he is an active participator in all the Slave Trade transactions carried on at Loanda, that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that Viscount de Pinheiro cannot succeed in effectually extinguishing the Slave Trade in Angola, unless he expels Flores from that colony.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 321 and 337.

† See Class A, No. 74.

‡ See Class A, No. 81.

No. 351.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you copies of a despatch* and of its inclosure from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, stating the substance of communications which have passed between Sir George Jackson and the late Governor of Angola in consequence of additional evidence which had come to light that Francisco Flores was deeply engaged in the iniquitous Traffic in Slaves.

I have to instruct you to communicate to the Portuguese Government the additional circumstances against Flores which are recorded in the inclosed despatch, and again to apply for his removal from the colony of Angola.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 352.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1854.

ON reference to the inclosures of my previous despatch of the 14th instant,† you will observe that Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda have drawn my attention to the attempt made by the Government of Loanda in 1850 to confine within narrow limits the subjects of official correspondence between the British Commissioners and himself.

I have to point out to you that it is impossible that the intentions of the two Governments with regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade can be carried into effect, unless the British Commissioner at Loanda is permitted to communicate freely with the Governor-General of Angola; and with reference to your despatch of the 12th of July last, stating that you would endeavour to obtain from the Portuguese Government that suitable instructions upon this point should be given to the Viscount de Pinheiro, I have to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs the hope of Her Majesty's Government that instructions to that effect were given to Viscount Pinheiro; but if not, you will say that Her Majesty's Government trust that orders will be sent to Loanda directing the Governor-General to receive without hesitation any amicable representations which the British Commissioner may have occasion to address to his Excellency with regard to the furtherance of the common objects which the Governments of Great Britain and Portugal had in view when they concluded the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 353.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17.)

(Translation.)

London, January 16, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received orders from his Government to bring to the knowledge of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., the inclosed document,‡ the appreciation of which the Undersigned leaves entirely to the wisdom and justice of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, and of Her Majesty's Government.

The palhabote "*Agua*," mentioned in the inclosed document, had been detained on suspicion of being engaged in the infamous Traffic in Slaves by Her Britannic Majesty's cruizer "*Spy*," and taken for adjudication before the Mixed

* See Class A, No. 82.

† No. 350.

‡ Class A, Inclosure 13 in No. 77.

Commission, which after a legal trial adjudicated her to have been unjustifiably detained, of which Her Britannic Majesty's Government will have been already informed from the proper quarter.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 354.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

(Translation.)

London, January 20, 1854.

ON the 16th of August of last year, a Portuguese vessel called "*Quatro d'Abril*," the property of a merchant of Damaun, but coming from Mozambique, and under the command of the Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, entered the harbour of Bombay.

Five negro boys came on board of that vessel, all of them freed: two of them servants of the captain, one of the mate (piloto), and the two others of two passengers who had embarked on board of that vessel.

On the same 16th day of August, in which the vessel anchored in Bombay, the five negro boys were taken on shore by day, and without any concealment; and they had scarcely landed when they were arrested and carried before the police magistrate, who thought proper to detain them. As soon as Captain Sequeira had information of this fact, he appeared before the proper police magistrate, and having laid before him the regular passports of the five negroes, and the other documents proving that they were free, he demanded that they should be set at liberty; but the magistrate not only did not attend to the just demand of the captain, but he ordered that the captain and the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*" should be detained, obliging the former to give security; and after hearing the opinion of the advocate of Government, the aforesaid magistrate ordered that the affair should be put into the hands of the judicial authority.

The unfortunate and innocent Captain Sequeira, through the intervention of the Consular agent of Portugal, hastened to have recourse to the Governor in Council, but with the unfortunate result that his demand was not attended to, and did not even obtain any reply whatever.

The case of Captain Sequeira proceeded, and being accused before the Supreme Court of Bombay, he was, on the 4th day of October last, condemned by it to three years imprisonment and hard labour. It must be observed that the persons constituting the jury were all British subjects, and that the Chief Justice, as it appears, did not give sufficient time for the accused party to produce all the documents which he considered essential for his defence.

In the journal called the "*Bombay Gazette*," of the 5th of October last, the sentence passed by the Court of Bombay against the Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, was published. This journal can be produced, if it be thought necessary.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Most Faithful Majesty, has received the commands of his Government to acquaint his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., with the facts above referred to, and to call the attention of his Excellency to the illegality of the proceedings of the Police Magistrate, of the Governor, and of the Supreme Court of Bombay, who all violated several Articles of the Treaty concluded between the Crowns of Portugal and Great Britain, on the 3rd of July, 1842, for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, the result of these violations being an attack upon the liberty, property, and honour of a Portuguese subject.

The Police Magistrate of Bombay, in arresting a Portuguese subject and detaining a Portuguese ship whose papers were found to be regular, not only violated various Treaties existing between the Crowns of Portugal and Great Britain, but also the principles of the Law of Nations recognized and observed even by those nations which are not, like Portugal and Great Britain, bound by Treaties.

The Police Magistrate, for his proceeding as he did, could not allege the provisions of the Act of George IV of the 24th of June, 1824, which were modified by the above-mentioned Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842. Nor could

he allege any article of this Treaty which would be favourable to his proceedings.

If the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*" could be suspected of having been engaged in the Slave Trade, there might perhaps have been a pretence for maintaining that the authorities of Bombay had a right to detain her, and to bring her before the proper Mixed Commission, the only Court which has cognizance of similar causes. But this very fact cannot be admitted by the Undersigned, because it is not in conformity with the letter of Article II of the Treaty mentioned. Nor can it be alleged that the case exists which is supposed in No. 4, Article III, of that Treaty.

In case of suspicion that the ship was engaged in the Slave Trade, the right and the duty of the Bombay authorities would be merely to give the proper information to the cruizers of either of the two nations that might happen to be nearest, that they might proceed in conformity with the stipulations of the Treaty of 1842.

But even though the Undersigned could admit that the police of Bombay had the right of proceeding to search Portuguese ships entering the harbour, even then the Police Magistrate, in detaining the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*," would have violated the above-mentioned Treaty, for the reason that the rules therein laid down were not observed, nor was there found on board the said ship any of those things which are pointed out in Article IX of the said Treaty as required to legalise the detention of any ship whatever, as suspected of being employed in the Slave Trade.

The five negro servants who came on board of the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*," even if they had been proved to be slaves (though the contrary was proved), could not, in view of Article V of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, cause the detention of the ship. But even though they could give rise to the detention, the Bombay Court could never, without a plain violation of Article VI of the said Treaty, be competent to take cognizance of an accusation which could only be brought before Mixed Commissions, as it is stipulated in the VIth Article mentioned.

The Undersigned is of opinion that the Governor of Bombay also violated the said Treaty, inasmuch as having duly received timely information of the illegal procedure of the Police Magistrate, which the Undersigned has the honour to prove by the two documents annexed, he took no steps tending to remedy the same, nor did he even send any reply to the petition in which an unfortunate Portuguese subject had recourse to his protection, requesting to be allowed to defend his liberty and property, so illegally and unjustly attacked by an agent of the Administration over which he presided.

The Undersigned thinks it expedient to abstain, for reasons which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon will without doubt appreciate, from analyzing the remarkable sentence of the Supreme Court of Bombay, and the equally remarkable address of the Chief Justice, and will confine himself to complain and protest, as a violation of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, against the competency of that Court to try a cause the cognizance and determination of which could only appertain to one of the Mixed Commissions instituted in conformity with the stipulations of the above-mentioned Treaty.

The Undersigned will not do the Chief Justice of Bombay the injustice to suppose that he was ignorant of the provisions of a Treaty which has the force of law through the whole British Empire. It being, then, unquestionable that, in view of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, the Supreme Court of Bombay is incompetent to take cognizance of accusations brought against Portuguese subjects suspected of being engaged in the infamous Slave Trade, it is evident that the sentence passed by that Court on the 4th of October last, against the Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, captain of the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*," is null, and consequently all the effects thereof are null.

In consequence hereof, and in accordance with the orders which he has received from his Government, the Undersigned hopes that, so soon as his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon shall have examined into this matter with the requisite circumspection, Her Britannic Majesty's Government, with its characteristic justice, will hasten—

First. To give due satisfaction for the violation, or rather violations, of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, committed by the above-mentioned authorities of Bombay.

Secondly. To repair the grave injury done to the Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, captain of the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*," and to indemnify him for the sufferings resulting from his illegal condemnation, and the losses and damages arising therefrom, as also from those which resulted from the detention of the ship under his command.

Thirdly. To indemnify in a just manner the owners, passengers and charterers of the said ship, for the losses arising from her illegal detention.

But the Undersigned, being aware that Her Majesty's Government cannot take a definitive resolution upon the facts above alleged, without having first proceeded to a minute investigation, and conscious also of the rigorous duty which binds him, as the Minister of Her Most Faithful Majesty at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty, to make every possible effort to obtain, with the utmost practicable speed, that the innocent Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, illegally deprived of his liberty, and compelled to hard labour, may experience some alleviation in his misfortune, and be released from his sufferings, the Undersigned hopes, trusting in the well-known justice and clemency of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, that, before the result of the inquiry shall be brought before it, it will, in the exercise of the power conferred on it by the laws, direct the necessary orders to be transmitted, to the effect that the unfortunate and innocent Portuguese subject, now imprisoned in Bombay, may be immediately set at liberty, without prejudice to the reparations and indemnifications which are due to him.

The Undersigned begs leave to observe to his Excellency that the reparations and indemnifications demanded by him, besides being in conformity with the principles of natural law, and being found written in the codes of all civilized nations, are expressly determined in Articles IV and VIII of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 355.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, January 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 16th instant, inclosing a paper containing charges of improper conduct against the British prize officer and crew of the Portuguese schooner "*Agua*," which was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Spy*" on suspicion of Slave Trade in June 1853, and taken for adjudication before the Court of Mixed Commission at Loanda, by which Court she was released.

And I beg to inform you, in reply, that I have requested the Lords of the Admiralty to cause strict inquiry to be made into the charges in question, the result of which I shall have the honour of making known to you as soon as it shall be communicated to me.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 356.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 18, 1854.

BY your Lordship's despatch of 5th of December last, I was instructed to propose to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government a renewal of the arrangement originally concluded on 12th August, 1847, as recorded in the Protocol of that date, and continued for a further period of three years by the Protocol of 19th November, 1850, whereby the Portuguese Government consents to allow Her Majesty's ships employed in suppressing the Slave Trade to enter the bays, ports, creeks, rivers, and other places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are esta-

blished, in order the better to prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on at those places.

I have the honour to submit herewith the copy of a note which, in fulfilment of this instruction, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on 21st of last month, and a translation of his Excellency's answer received a few days ago, which states that "the necessary instructions have been sent to the Count Lavradio upon this subject, to be made suitable use of at the proper time," and this, because the former Protocols referred to in your Lordship's instructions had been signed in London.

When I spoke to the Viscount d'Athoguia respecting a further renewal of the Protocol of 1847, I thought it better not to appear to anticipate any objection on his part to the proposed arrangement, nor did he make any observations to lead me to suppose that there would be any difficulty about the matter.

He merely said that he would look into what had formerly taken place respecting the arrangement which it was thus proposed to renew.

I hope that the Viscount d'Athoguia's determination to commit the management of this affair to the Count de Lavradio may not arise from a desire to resist the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in the matter in question, in consequence of the correspondence which has lately taken place between your Lordship and the Count de Lavradio relative to the proceedings of Commander Bunce at Quissanga in August 1852, but if this should unfortunately prove the case, it will be all the better that the discussion of the question should be altogether in your Lordship's hands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 356.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, December 21, 1853.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to recall to the recollection of his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia that, on the 19th of November, 1850, there was signed in London by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Portugal a Protocol, whereby the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty agreed to renew for a period of three years from that date, the permission granted by the Protocol of the 12th of August, 1847, authorizing Her Majesty's ships employed in suppressing the Slave Trade to enter the bays, ports, creeks, rivers, and other places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal, on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, in order that those ships might prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on in such places.

As the period stipulated in that Protocol expired on the 19th of last month, Her Majesty's Government have instructed the Undersigned to propose to Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government a renewal of the above-mentioned arrangement for a further period of five years.

With this view the Undersigned has the honour to inclose the draft of a Protocol, recording the proposed agreement between the two Governments for an object which they have both equally at heart, and for the further attainment of which the Undersigned needs scarcely to observe the united efforts of the two countries must still for some time be constantly required.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 356.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, January 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you addressed to me on the 21st December last, acquainting me that you had received instructions from your Government to propose to His Majesty's Government the renewal, for five years more, of the Protocol signed at London on the 19th

November, 1850, by which Her Britannic Majesty's ships engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade were authorized, as they had been by the former one, also signed at London on the 12th August, 1847, to enter the bays, ports, rivers, and gulfs within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities may be established, inasmuch as the time stipulated in that Protocol had expired on the 19th November of last year.

In answer to your note above mentioned, I have to state to you that the Count de Lavradio, His Majesty's Minister at that Court, has been furnished with the necessary instructions upon this subject, to be acted upon as required, and at a fitting time, seeing that the Protocols referred to had been also signed there.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 357.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 18, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 14th of this month to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 7th instant, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between your Lordship and the Count de Lavradio, relative to the permission lately granted by the Portuguese Government to a certain Senhor José Maria de Souza e Almeida, to transport from Benguella to Prince's Island one hundred negroes; and inclosing also copies of an instruction addressed by your Lordship to the British Commissioners at Loanda, and of a letter to the Admiralty relative to the same affair.

I have the honour herewith to submit a copy of a letter which I wrote to Sir George Jackson, inclosing copies of the late Decree of the Portuguese Government.

I am glad to find that the suggestions contained in that letter are in perfect accordance with your Lordship's instructions to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, and with what is said in the letter to the Admiralty on the subject referred to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 357.

Sir R. Pakenham to Sir George Jackson.

Sir,

Lisbon, December 30, 1853.

IN the inclosed numbers of the official "Gazette" you will find a Decree lately issued by the Portuguese Government, conferring on a certain José Maria de Souza e Almeida, a grant of land in the Ilha do Principe, with the privilege of transporting to that island "one hundred slaves of those which he now possesses in the Province of Angola," subject to the condition of first making them free, which freedom it is proposed to secure to them after their arrival at the island by a code of regulations which will be found in another number of the official "Gazette," of which I also forward copies.

You will probably receive instructions upon this subject from Her Majesty's Government by an early opportunity, but in the meantime I think it important that you should be informed of what has occurred, in order that you may be prepared to report to Her Majesty's Government in what manner the condition of previous manumission, and other conditions prescribed by the Decree, are or have been fulfilled; also whether the liberation or pretended liberation of the 100 slaves transported to Principe is not likely to be followed by reducing to slavery an equal number of Africans to supply their place.

You will, I dare say, likewise agree with me in thinking it desirable to

obtain all possible information as to the manner in which this Decree is carried into effect at the Ilha do Principe, if you have any means of communicating with that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 358.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 18, 1853.

SOME conversation has lately taken place in the Portuguese Chamber of Peers upon the subject of the Slave Trade, in consequence of reports which have appeared in the newspapers of the recent equipment of two vessels, the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," at Oporto, strongly suspected of being intended for the Slave Trade.

The principal mover in this matter was the Count de Thomar, who, your Lordship will be glad to hear, as well as the other Peers who took part in the conversation, spoke forcibly on the necessity of resisting every attempt to revive the Slave Trade, either in this country, or in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions.

The tone taken by the newspapers of all parties on this occasion, in speaking on the subject of the Slave Trade, is also, I am glad to say, becoming and satisfactory.

In reply to the inquiries of the Opposition members, the Ministers declared that the Government had received no information on the subject of the equipment of the two vessels, beyond what was stated in the public papers.

They did not deny that such equipments for slave-trading purposes might possibly take place in a Portuguese port, without the agents of the Government having the power to prevent it, owing to the ingenuity of the slave-traders in evading the provisions of the law; but they gave the most positive assurances that everything should be done on the part of the Government to defeat the presumed object of the owners of the two vessels, and, if possible, to bring the offenders to justice.

I wrote to Mr. Consul Johnston on the 29th of last month, requesting him to furnish me with any information which he might be able to obtain respecting those two vessels; but as I have as yet received no answer to my letter, I presume that it must have miscarried, and I have accordingly sent a duplicate of it.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th December, which reached me on the 13th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 359.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 18, 1854.

IN speaking to the Viscount d'Athoguia respecting the alleged equipment of slave-vessels at Oporto, which forms the subject of my preceding despatch of this date, I took occasion again to press for the expulsion of Francisco Antonio Flores, about which I had received fresh orders from your Lordship in your despatch of the 12th of last month.

I beg leave to inclose a copy of the note which I wrote to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 24th of last month, communicating the additional evidence of Flores' criminality furnished by your Lordship's despatch, and calling upon him to redeem the pledge given in his note of the 4th November last, to the effect that if it could be shown that by any act of his, Flores had contributed to the revival of the Slave Trade, he should be either sent away from Angola, or punished according to law.

I am glad to say that from what passed between the Viscount d'Athoguia and myself in the conversation to which I refer, I hope to be able in a short time to inform your Lordship that orders have been given for the expulsion of Flores from the Portuguese dominions. The Viscount d'Athoguia told me that he thought we had furnished sufficient evidence to justify that step on the part of the Government of Portugal; but that it would be necessary to prepare materials to meet any remonstrance which might be made on the part of the Government of Brazil respecting such a summary proceeding in the case of a Brazilian subject.

I have accordingly pointed out to his Excellency in the printed papers relating to the Slave Trade for the years from March 1850 to April 1853, the precedents furnished by the Brazilian Government for dealing in the same way with persons notoriously concerned in the Slave Trade, but whose criminality it might not be easy to establish by formal trial, which course of proceeding is upheld as a principle by the Brazilian Government, the persons so expelled from the Brazilian territory being, moreover, Portuguese subjects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 359.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, December 24, 1854.

IN a note which I had the honour to receive from your Excellency, dated the 20th of September last, your Excellency was pleased to explain the reasons which determined Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government not to accede to the application made by me, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, for the expulsion of a certain Brazilian subject named Francisco Antonio Flores, on the ground of his notorious participation in the Slave Trade, and of his persevering endeavours to revive that criminal Traffic in the province of Angola, where he has for some time been allowed to reside.

In reply to your Excellency's note of the above-mentioned date, I was directed to express to your Excellency the surprise of Her Majesty's Government that their request for the expulsion of Flores should not have been complied with, because it seemed to Her Majesty's Government that the motives of your Excellency's refusal to adopt that measure were not sufficiently founded.

This communication on my part was followed by one from your Excellency dated the 4th of last month, in which your Excellency was pleased, amongst other things, to say that "if, by any act of the said Flores, it should be shown that he takes part in the revival of that odious Traffic, Her Majesty's Government will cause him to depart from the province or to be punished, in which case there will surely be no complaint on the part of the Brazilian Government."

I beg leave to assure your Excellency that when, in the month of September last, Her Majesty's Government directed me to apply for the removal of a Brazilian subject from the Portuguese territory of Angola, that step was not taken without a full conviction in the mind of Her Majesty's Government of the justice of the measure which they wished Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government to adopt, as well as of the urgent necessity of such a proof on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government of their determination no longer to tolerate the Slave Trade in any part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's dominions.

But Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government were of opinion that the case against Flores rested only on suspicion, and that some satisfactory evidence of his criminality would be required to justify his expulsion.

This evidence it is now in my power to supply to your Excellency, in such a convincing form as ought, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, to remove all doubts or hesitation on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government as to the propriety of the step which Her Majesty's Government now expect them to take.

If your Excellency will have the goodness to turn to page 227 of the printed papers relating to Slave Trade laid before Parliament last year, your Excellency will find that, among the documents shown to have been found in the possession of a certain Don Jacintho Derizanz, captain of the "*Valoroso*," a

CLASS B.

slaver under Sardinian colours, detained by Her Majesty's ship "Sharpshooter" on the coast of Brazil in June 1851, there were two letters, one from Flores to Derizanz, and the other from Derizanz to Flores, both of them clearly establishing the participation of Flores in slaving operations.

I have the honour herewith to inclose copies of these letters,* attested by the Honourable W. Stafford Jerningham, late Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro. I beg leave further to inclose a copy of a letter† lately addressed to the Admiralty by Commander Wilmot, an officer for some time employed on the coast of Africa, stating that, to his positive knowledge, Francisco Antonio Flores was the consignee of an American vessel called the "Silenus," which carried away 600 slaves from Ambriz in the month of January last; as well as other facts tending to prove Flores' active participation in the Slave Trade.

In communicating these facts to your Excellency, I am commanded to add, that Her Majesty's Government can now no longer believe that Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government will continue to permit the residence of a man so notorious as Flores in the province of Angola.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 360.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 1.)

(Translation.)

London, January 31, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Most Faithful Majesty, has the honour to transmit to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., the inclosed copy of a letter which the Governor-General of Portuguese India addressed on the 18th day of November last, to Lord Falkland, Governor of Bombay, complaining of the detention, ordered by the authorities of that Presidency, of the Portuguese subject Antonio Maria da Costa, captain of the Portuguese brig "*Nossa Senhora da Conceição*," under the pretext of his having African servants on board, although they were free, which appears to have been proved by the said Captain Costa, before the proper authorities.

This case appears to be in everything similar to that of the unfortunate João Antonio de Sequeira, the captain of the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*," and this being the case, all those arguments will be applicable to it, which the Undersigned employed in the note which he had the honour to address to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon on the 20th instant, which would prove to him the irregularity of the proceedings of the authorities of Bombay, and demanding reparation. But it appears to the Undersigned unnecessary to repeat what is said in that note.

The Undersigned begs leave to observe to his Excellency, that it being very difficult, or almost impossible, for the merchant ships of Portuguese Asia and Africa to complete their crews with white men, and being therefore compelled to have recourse to African freed men, if the authorities of English India shall continue to proceed as they have recently done with Captains Sequeira and Costa, the commerce of the remaining colonies which the Crown of Portugal has still in India will be shortly annihilated, as well as that of those vast colonies which it still possesses on the eastern coast of Southern Africa.

To prevent then the ruin of those possessions, which are so dear to the descendants of their heroic discoverers and conquerors, and also to prevent the repeated and unpleasant reclamations which the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty is frequently compelled to address to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, it appears to the Undersigned that it will be expedient, by means perhaps of an additional Article to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, to regulate this matter in a way which may restrain the excesses of zeal of certain colonial authorities which have produced much injury to the subjects and commerce of Portugal, without any result for the great objects which, at the cost of con-

* See Inclosures in No. 114.

† See Inclosure in No. 343.

siderable sacrifices, the two Governments of Portugal and Great Britain have aimed at for many years—the complete abolition of the trade in negroes, and of the state of slavery.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

Inclosure in No. 360.

The Governor-General of Portuguese India to Lord Falkland.

(Translation.)

Goa, November 18, 1853.

THE owner of the brig [brigue palla] “*Nossa Senhora da Conceição*” has just represented to me that the captain of the said brig, Antonio Maria da Costa, has been detained in Bombay by the English authorities, on account of African servants which the said captain had on board of the above-mentioned ship.

2. Under date the 19th October last, I had the honour to write a note to your Excellency pointing out the manifest injustice of the sentence and condemnation of the Portuguese subject João Antonio de Sequeira, in contravention of the Treaty concluded between Portugal and Great Britain, the 3rd July, 1842.

3. I am informed that the said servants of Captain Costa are not slaves, because they were solemnly emancipated in Mozambique, by deed of manumission. If this is so, or if in their passports it is declared that they are free, I hope that your Excellency will not permit the matter to be intrusted to the judicial courts of Bombay, but that you will decide it by your own authority, according to the Treaty above-mentioned, investigating the legality of the documents brought forward by the prisoner, which can be attested by the Portuguese agent, Braz Fernandez.

4. In case the decision of the cause of detaining the captain of the Portuguese ship “*Nossa Senhora da Conceição*,” in Bombay, be intrusted to the judicial courts of that city, as was the case of Captain Sequeira, I request your Excellency to receive the protest which I make against the incompetence of the said courts to pass sentence upon a Portuguese subject for the fact of bringing African servants from a Portuguese colony, and on board of a ship of that nation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT DE VILLA NOVA D'OUREM.

No. 361.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 3, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which, in compliance with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 14th ultimo, you addressed on the 25th of January to the Viscount d'Athoguia, urging his Excellency to issue instructions to the Governor-General of Angola to receive, without hesitation, any communications which Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda may have occasion to address to him on matters relating to the suppression of Slave Trade.

And I have, in reply, to inform you, that I entirely approve your note to the Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 362.

Sir R. Pakenham the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 28, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 22nd instant to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 14th instant.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in the first of these despatches by presenting to the Viscount d'Athoguia a note complaining of the want of zeal and vigilance exhibited by the authorities of Loanda in the case of the American barque "*Republic*," which formed the subject of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners to your Lordship of 10th September, 1853.

In the course of a conversation which I had yesterday with the Viscount d'Athoguia respecting this affair, and other matters connected with the Slave Trade, his Excellency told me that he had received from the late Acting Governor-General of Angola, who is now at Lisbon, explanations respecting the case of the "*Republic*," from which it would appear that the local Government had been deterred from detaining that vessel, through fear of a heavy claim for damages on the part of the American Government; there being no absolute proof, although a very strong presumption, that she was engaged on a slaving expedition.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 363.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, January 28, 1854.

WITH reference to what I had the honour to say in my despatch of the 18th instant, respecting the equipment of two vessels at Oporto, supposed to be intended for the Slave Trade, I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Consul Johnston in answer to my letter of inquiry relative to those vessels.

Inclosure in No. 363.

Consul Johnston to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Oporto, January 21, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 29th ultimo respecting a statement which appeared in the "*Revolução*" newspaper of the 27th ultimo, that vessels intended for the Slave Trade had been equipped at Oporto, and sailed hence for the coast of Africa.

I have delayed my report, hoping to be able to submit to you positive information on the subject, which, previously to my receipt of your letter, I was, as I have since been, endeavouring to collect; but hitherto I have obtained none which I can consider as certain, but what I have reason to believe has already been laid before the Portuguese Government, namely, that the "*Guerra*" sailed on the 6th November last, bound to Santos, calling at Vianna; and the "*Trajano*" on the 9th ultimo, bound to Rio Grande, calling at the Azores; neither of the vessels being more than half laden, and both taking a large quantity of rice and beans, and large cooking stoves.

I shall not fail to continue my inquiry, and to communicate to you any circumstances worthy of your notice which I may learn.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

No. 364.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th January, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 25th instant, in order, if possible, to bring to a settlement the long-standing question with regard to freedom of communication between Her Majesty's Commissioners and naval officers, and the Portuguese authorities in the African settlements.

Your Lordship will perceive that in this note reference is made to two former notes addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia upon the same subject, besides which I have in conversation repeatedly recalled this matter to his Excellency's recollection.

I feel obliged, in justice to the Viscount d'Athoguia, to say that he has always treated the affair as one about which no difficulty ought to be made, and has as often assured me that orders to this effect should be sent to the colonies without further delay; but, unfortunately, this promise has hitherto remained unfulfilled.

I hope that, with the help of your Lordship's late instructions, such an unnecessary and vexatious obstruction to the public service of both countries as that raised by the Portuguese colonial authorities will now at length be removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 364.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, January 25, 1854.

WITH reference to my previous note of this date upon the subject of a vessel under American colours, called the "*Republic*," which arrived at Loanda in August last, and was allowed to depart unmolested, notwithstanding the circumstances in her case affording strong suspicion that she was engaged in the Slave Trade, I am instructed to acquaint your Excellency that in the course of the communications which passed between the British Commissioners and the Acting Governor-General on that occasion, his Excellency manifested a certain degree of reluctance to receive the representation made to him by the British Commissioners relative to the case of the "*Republic*;" thus, in point of fact, reviving the question which was first raised by the Governor of Loanda in 1850, as to the extent to which the British Commissioners would be allowed to communicate with the chief of the Colonial Government.

I am accordingly directed to point out to your Excellency that it is impossible that the intentions of the two Governments with regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade can be carried into effect unless the British Commissioner at Loanda is permitted to communicate freely with the Governor-General of Angola.

Your Excellency will have the goodness to recollect that I have already had the honour on various occasions to direct your Excellency's attention to this point (more particularly by my notes of 12th July and 2nd November last), and as I know that your Excellency is well disposed to remove whatever difficulty may exist as to the freest and most unreserved communication between the servants of the two Crowns in all that relates to the suppression of the Slave Trade, I venture to hope that your Excellency will see fit to take advantage of the first opportunity which may present itself to transmit instructions to the Viscount de Pinheiro, directing him to receive without hesitation any amicable representations which the British Commissioner may have occasion to address to his Excellency in furtherance of the common objects which the Governments of Great Britain and Portugal had in view when they concluded the Treaty of July 3, 1842.

I take, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 365.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Foreign Office, February 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the notes addressed to him on the 20th and 31st ultimo by the Count de Lavradio, &c., relative to the trial at Bombay of two Portuguese subjects, named Sequeira

and Da Costa, who it appears have been accused of dealing in African slaves.

The Undersigned begs to inform Count Lavradio that he is in communication with the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India upon the subject of these two cases, and when they shall have been investigated, the Undersigned will have the honour of communicating further with Count Lavradio thereupon.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 366.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Foreign Office, February 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform the Count de Lavradio, &c., that he has received from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon a despatch stating that the Viscount d'Athoguia has sent instructions to Count Lavradio with regard to the request of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty will renew for a period of five years the Protocol which has lately expired, whereby Her Majesty's ships employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade were authorized to enter the bays, ports, creeks, rivers, and other places within the dominions of the Crown of Portugal on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, in order that those ships might prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on in such places.

Accordingly the Undersigned begs leave to transmit to Count Lavradio a draft of the proposed Protocol,* and he requests that Count Lavradio will have the goodness to state when he may be able to meet the Undersigned for the purpose of signing the said instrument.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 367.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 17.)

(Translation.)

London, February 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty, had the honour to receive the note addressed to him on the 8th instant by his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., informing him that it appeared from a despatch received from Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Lisbon that his Excellency Viscount d'Athoguia had sent instructions to the Undersigned in reference to the proposition made by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to that of His Most Faithful Majesty, for the further renewal for five years of the concessions made to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to the effect that the cruizers engaged in preventing the Slave Trade in Eastern Africa might enter into the bays, harbours, creeks, rivers, and other places belonging to the Crown of Portugal on the eastern coast of Africa, where there should be no Portuguese authorities to prevent the Slave Trade, in conformity with what the two Governments had agreed to on the 12th of August, 1847, and subsequently on the 19th November, 1850, which is contained in the Protocols signed in London on the dates mentioned.

Inclosed in his Excellency's note alluded to, the Undersigned received the draft of a new Protocol, proposing not only the renewal of the concessions made in the two preceding, but also that their duration should be for five years instead of three.

The Undersigned, previously to the termination of the period fixed in the Protocol of the 19th November, 1850, for the duration of the concessions

* See Inclosure in No. 341.

contained in it, had received from his Government the instructions requisite for replying categorically to any proposition which might be made by Her Britannic Majesty's Government for the renewal of the above-mentioned concessions.

First of all, the Undersigned received the commands of his Government to observe to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon that during the interval between the signature of the first and second Protocols, that is to say, from the 12th August, 1847, to the 19th November, 1850, the conduct of the British cruizers had not given occasion for any complaint or reclamation on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and this was one of the reasons which induced the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to consent (although with very great difficulty) to the wishes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, prolonging for three years more concessions which, it must be said, were hardly in conformity with the principles of law regulating the inviolability of the territory of independent nations.

But if, during a term of more than three years, the British cruizers did not overstep the limits of the generous concessions which the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty has made to that of Her Britannic Majesty, this was not the case after the signature of the second Protocol. The Undersigned is not now about to write anew the history of the proceedings of British cruizers on the eastern coast of Africa, which belongs to the Crown of Portugal; but yet he cannot but take this opportunity to remind his Excellency that the reclamations made by the Undersigned against the proceedings alluded to have not yet been satisfied; and this alone would be sufficient for the Undersigned, in fulfilment of his instructions, to refuse signing a new Protocol on this matter.

The Undersigned takes the liberty of again calling the attention of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon to the notes which, on the 12th September, and on the 24th October, and lastly, on the 6th November of last year, he had the honour to address to his Excellency. But even though the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty should not consider the facts treated of in the above-mentioned notes to be sufficient for refusing to renew the extraordinary concessions which it had made for a time to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, there is now a legal impediment to the renewal of those concessions, which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government cannot remove without the previous consent of the Cortes. According to the provisions of Article X of the Additional Act of the Constitutional Charter of the Portuguese monarchy, the Government cannot ratify a Treaty, Concordat, nor any Convention, whatever its nature may be, without the previous approval of the Cortes.

If, then, His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, in view of all that has taken place on the eastern coast of Portuguese Africa (with the manifest indignation of the public in Portugal), should dare to lay before the Cortes for approval a new Protocol, proposing the renewal of the concessions made in the the above-mentioned preceding Protocols for five years more, not only would the requested approval be refused with indignation and heavy censure, but an accusation would probably follow against the Ministers who could not or would not defend the dignity of the Crown, and the independence and interests of the nation.

For all these reasons then, which will certainly be duly appreciated by his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, the Undersigned has received the most positive commands of his Government to make known to his Excellency that the concessions contained in the Protocols of the 12th August, 1847, and renewed for three years more on the 19th November, 1850, and which ceased to have effect on the 19th November of last year, could not, chiefly for the reasons above-mentioned, be again renewed.

By the same occasion, the Undersigned received the commands of his Government to assure his Excellency that the most positive orders had been transmitted to the various governors of Portuguese Africa, and to the commanders of the naval stations, to pursue with the utmost activity and energy all who should engage or endeavour to engage in the infamous Traffic in Slaves, and to promote, so far as it should depend upon them, the application of the severe laws in force against slavers, and against any person soever who directly or indirectly should protect them.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty has used, uses, and will continue to use every possible effort, not only completely to prevent the infamous Traffic, but also to extinguish the state of slavery in all its dominions, so soon as

this great act of humanity of which Great Britain has given a very laudable example to the civilized world, shall be compatible with the means at its disposal.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 368.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, copies of a letter, and of its inclosures from the Admiralty, respecting a right asserted by the commander of the Portuguese war schooner "Conde do Tojal," of boarding an English merchant-vessel, which was lying in the port of Ambriz, in company with Her Majesty's ship "Atholl," but which pretension was resisted by Lieutenant Pearse, the officer in command of the "Atholl."

I also transmit to you a copy of the answer which I have caused to be returned to the Admiralty; and in accordance with what is therein stated, I have to instruct you to make the facts of this case known to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, and to say that the conduct of Lieutenant Pearse has been approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 368.

Rear-Admiral Bruce to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, January 10, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of a correspondence between the commander of the Portuguese vessel of war "Conde do Tojal," and Lieutenant Pearse, of Her Majesty's ship "Atholl," relative to an objection made on the part of the latter to a boat from the above-mentioned vessel boarding an English schooner while at anchor in company with one of Her Majesty's ships, without the requisition being duly made, as in such cases is provided for by Article IV of the Treaty with Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Their Lordships will not fail to notice that this question cannot be considered without reference to the claim of Portugal to the sovereignty of Ambriz. Acting, however, on the spirit of the instructions with which I am furnished, I shall approve of Lieutenant Pearse's proceedings, which appear to have been marked by a proper firmness of purpose, and carried out with that degree of courtesy which is due between the officers of friendly nations.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 368.

The Commander of the "Conde do Tojal" to Lieutenant Pearse.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir,

IT being my duty to recognise this port as belonging to the Crown of Portugal, I am, according to my instructions, authorized to visit all vessels, Portuguese, English, or any other nation, anchored in the waters of ports belonging to the above-mentioned Crown, but in no manner to be wanting in the respect due to the commander of a vessel of war of a friendly Power.

I would have given you notice of my desire to board the English schooner at anchor here, but by your communication through my First Lieutenant, that you could not consent to such visit in the presence of a vessel of war of the same

nation, I wish you to be kind enough to communicate to me in writing with regard to this same question, so as to enable me to present it officially to the commandant of the Portuguese naval forces stationed on this coast.

God guard your worship.

On board the Portuguese schooner of war of Her Faithful Majesty "Conde do Tojal," under sail in front of Ambriz, November 4, 1853.

(Signed) JOZE PACHEUR INVREIRA,
Second Lieutenant Commanding.

Inclosure 3 in No. 368.

Lieutenant Pearse to the Commander of the "Conde do Tojal."

Sir,

"Atholl," off Ambriz, November 10, 1853.

IN reply to your letter of the 14th instant, requesting me to communicate to you in writing my reason for having objected to your boat boarding the English schooner "Honest," lying in the roads, I have the honour to inform you that, when Her Britannic Majesty's ship under my command is at anchor off Ambriz, I consider myself responsible for the character of any British merchant-vessel which may also be lying there; and upon the occasion in question, the English schooner referred to had both name and colours flying; and was known to me as a legal trader, the particulars of which I offered to give the officer whom you sent from my own boarding-book; and as no place can be recognized as a maritime port without the existence of some resident official authority, I put it to you with the utmost consideration whether, under such circumstances, the fact of your boarding a British vessel in the presence of a vessel of war of the same nation might not justly be considered as a slight to the British flag itself.

At the same time I beg, Sir, to assure you that, as my instructions enjoin the utmost courtesy to and cordial cooperation with the vessels of war of Her Most Faithful Majesty the Queen of Portugal engaged in suppressing the Traffic in Slaves, should you at any time, and under any circumstances, have reason to suspect a vessel bearing the British flag, I shall, at your written requisition, be most happy to accompany you in person to board such vessel, and render every assistance in ascertaining her true character.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. A. R. PEARSE.

No. 369.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th ultimo, stating that the Viscount Athoquia had informed you that instructions had been sent to Count Lavradio respecting the proposal of Her Majesty's Government to renew, for a period of five years, the Protocol of August 12, 1847, whereby Her Majesty's ships employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade were authorized to enter the bays, ports, creeks, &c., within the Portuguese territory on the eastern coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established; I now transmit to you a copy of the note which, on the receipt of that despatch, I addressed to Count Lavradio, together with a copy of the answer returned to it by that Minister; and I regret to find that Count Lavradio, so far from being charged to settle this matter with me, has simply received instructions to refuse the renewal of the Protocol.

You will inquire whether the Portuguese Government abides by the note of Count Lavradio, and intends to decline giving to Her Majesty's Government a power which is essential to the suppression of the Slave Trade on the African coast, and which, as most be well known to the Portuguese Government, is not and cannot be used for any other purpose.

As regards the statement of Count Lavradio, that the Portuguese Government can no longer sign such a Protocol without the previous consent of the

CLASS B.

Cortes, you will be able to judge whether the permit in question is such a document as, in accordance with the Constitution, would require to be submitted to the Cortes. But if this be not the case, it would be an additional reason for pressing our request upon the Portuguese Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 370.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 18, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches of the 18th of August, the 7th of October, the 5th of November, the 12th of December, and the 14th of January last, pressing for the expulsion of the Brazilian slave-trader Francisco Antonio Flores from the province of Angola, and to my despatches on the same subject of the 8th and 28th of September, the 28th of October, and the 10th of November of last year, and of the 18th and 28th of January last, I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship a translation of a Portaria, or order in the King's name, to the Governor-General of Angola, directing him to oblige Flores to withdraw as soon as possible from that province to wherever he may think proper, provided it be not in any of the ultramarine possessions of Portugal.

This order has been communicated to me informally by the Viscount d'Athoguia, in order that I might inform your Lordship of it by the present packet.

I hope to be able to forward by the next packet an official communication to the same effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 370.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

WHEREAS it has come to the knowledge of His Majesty the King, Regent in the name of the King, that the Brazilian merchant, Francisco Antonio Flores, who by a Portaria dated the 24th of December, 1845, was permitted to reside in the province of Angola, under the express condition that this favour should be without effect when once his conduct as a dealer in slaves should render him unworthy of it, has conducted himself in this respect so as to offer every indication of having been a participator in the nefarious Traffic which has been carried on in some parts of that province, as is shown not only from the several reports of the commander of the British naval station, and of the British Commissioners at Loanda to the Governors-General of that province and to the British Government, but also from the remonstrances addressed by the British Minister at this Court, by order of his Government, to His Majesty's Government with regard to the said Flores, it being also shown by the note and annexed documents, addressed by the said Minister under date of the 24th of December last, that from a correspondence found in the possession of a certain Don Jacinto Derizanz, captain of the "*Valoroso*" a slaver captured under the Sardinian flag, by Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Sharpshooter*," on the coast of Brazil in 1851, it is proved that the said Flores had taken part in this nefarious affair; and whereas, it is necessary for the faithful observance of the Treaties entered into for the abolition of the above-mentioned Traffic, not only that transgressors of these Treaties, the proofs of whose criminality can be made the subject of an action, and receive sentence, should be punished as the law requires, but also that, with regard to those who excite strong suspicion, such preventive measures should be taken as reason and good faith dictate, in order that the vigilance of the authorities, who are bound faithfully to observe the Treaties, may not be eluded:

The same August Sire ordains, through the Marine and Colonial Department, that the Governor-General of the said province shall intimate to the above-mentioned Francisco Antonio Flores, that by this present Portaria, the one of the 24th of December, 1845, by virtue of which he was permitted to reside in the said province of Angola, is declared to be of no effect, and that he shall, with as little delay as possible, leave the province of Angola for any place that may suit him, with the exception of the Portuguese territory beyond the sea, and that the same Governor-General shall promptly report his compliance with this Royal determination.

Palace, February 14, 1854.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 371.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose for your Lordship's information a translation of a letter from the Portuguese Minister for the Marine and Colonial Departments to the Minister for Foreign Affairs (who, as your Lordship knows, are one and the same person), stating amongst other things that instructions have been sent to the Governor-General of Angola, to grant to the British Commissioners at Loanda, and to the commanders of Her Majesty's ships on that station, the facilities of communication with the Chief of the Colonial Government which have been long desired by Her Majesty's Government.

I hope to be able to forward the substance of this communication to your Lordship in an official form by the next packet. For the present it has been only informally communicated to me by the Viscount d'Athoguia in order to save time.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 371.

Viscount d'Athoguia to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

*Marine and Colonial Department,
February 14, 1854.*

IN answer to your Excellency's despatches of the 4th and 31st of January last, and confidential despatch of the 31st of same month, which accompanied the notes from the British Minister at this Court, referred to in those despatches, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency, for your information, and for the necessary purposes, the inclosed authentic copy of the Portaria, which, under this date, is addressed to the Governor-General of the province of Angola, that he may send out of the said province the Brazilian merchant Francisco Antonio Flores, at present residing there, and who forms the subject of the said notes. I have also to state to your Excellency, in reply to the subject of the second note, which was annexed to your Excellency's despatch of the 31st of January, in which that diplomatist, referring to previous despatches, sets forth the necessity that exists for allowing the free communication of the Commander of the British naval station, and the Commissioner of the Mixed Commission at Loanda, with the Governor-General of the province, upon subjects connected with Slave Trade, that the facility which he solicits is granted, to be made use of only upon the above-mentioned subject, and when the urgency of the case is such as to render it inconvenient to await a solution through the established course; and in this sense the above is communicated to the Governor-General of Angola for the necessary purposes.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 372.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1854.

I HAVE to refer you to Viscount Palmerston's despatch to Mr. Howard of the 16th of August, 1849, in which, with reference to a difference of opinion which had arisen between the British and Portuguese Commissioners at Loanda, as to whether the Mixed Commission Court would be borne out in opening certain sealed letters which had been found on board the Portuguese brig "*Galianna*," which had been captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Cyclops*," on suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, and had been taken to Loanda for adjudication, Viscount Palmerston stated the grounds upon which Her Majesty's Government were clearly of opinion that the letters in question ought to have been opened, and instructed Mr. Howard to move the Portuguese Government to give orders to the Portuguese Commissioners accordingly.

Mr. Howard executed that instruction in a note addressed to Count Tojal on the 25th of August, 1849; but it does not appear that the Portuguese Government answered Mr. Howard's representation.

This question as to the opening of sealed letters found on board a Portuguese vessel detained by a British cruiser, has been lately raised again at Loanda, as you will learn by the contents of the inclosed despatch* from Her Majesty's Commissioners; and I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of an instruction† which I have addressed to the Commissioners upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 373.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of February, inclosing a Portaria issued by the Portuguese Government, directing the expulsion from the province of Angola of the Brazilian slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores; and I have, in reply, to instruct you to convey to the Portuguese Government the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the issue of the above order in compliance with their request.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 374.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 2, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of February, reporting that the Portuguese Government had issued instructions to the Governor-General of Angola, directing his Excellency to receive official communications relating to Slave Trade, addressed to him by Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, and by the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships on that station; and I have, in reply, to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the issue of orders to that effect.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, No. 78.

† Class A, No. 87.

No. 375.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.*Sir, *Foreign Office, March 7, 1854.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th ultimo, reporting that the Portuguese Government had issued orders for the expulsion of the Brazilian slave-dealer Flores from Angola, I transmit to you a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that slaves were collected in considerable numbers in the neighbourhood of Ambriz, ready for embarkation, and that the barracoons containing them belonged to Flores.

And I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed despatch to the Portuguese Government, as an additional proof that Her Majesty's Government were fully borne out in requesting the Government of Portugal to expel this notorious slave-dealer from Angola.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 376.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.*Sir, *Foreign Office, March 7, 1854.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of January, and to the previous correspondence respecting the permission granted to Senhor Almeida to transport a number of his negroes from Benguella to Prince's Island, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a report which Rear-Admiral Bruce, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa station, has made to the Board of Admiralty upon Senhor Almeida's project.

You will observe that Admiral Bruce fully shares the apprehensions which Her Majesty's Government entertain as to the abuses which this scheme will give rise to, if carried out; and I have to instruct you to communicate to the Portuguese Government the substance of Admiral Bruce's remarks, in the hope that the Portuguese Government may reconsider its determination to sanction Senhor Almeida's project.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 376.

*Rear-Admiral Bruce to the Secretary to the Admiralty.*Sir, *"Penelope," Monrovia, December 29, 1853.*

1. HAVING taken into consideration your despatch of the 19th ultimo, and its inclosures, relating to the Portuguese Government having licensed a proprietor at Benguella, named De Souza e Almeida, to convey negroes from that place to Prince's Island, under certain conditions, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, the Earl of Clarendon's view of this matter is in every sense just and reasonable, when his Lordship remarks that it is scarcely possible that the commanders of British cruisers "should be enabled properly to execute the instructions with which they are provided, and at the same time be expected to distinguish the difference between such a conveyance by sea and an ordinary slave-trading operation."

2. But the measure in itself has, in my opinion, graver objections than that which is stated above; in the first place, it seems to me that the conveyance of negro slaves by sea, from one part to another of this coast, is a dangerous practice to admit, particularly in the case of such as are intended for those colonies whose slavery is sanctioned by law. In the instance under discussion the slaves would be subject to a sea voyage of upwards of 900 miles. The

* See Class A, No. 92.

transportation of free blacks is quite a different thing, for it can always be ascertained from them whether they are on board the ship with their own consent or not. Secondly, it is objectionable, because the time of service in what may be called "apprenticeship" can be extended to seven years, which is very far too long; for I doubt whether the average term of life of the adult slaves generally, working on the estates in Prince's Islands, exceeds that period. And, thirdly, it is objectionable, because we have too much reason to believe that the local Governments in those Portuguese colonies, such as Prince's, for instance, where there are no British residents, official or otherwise, would not be sufficiently careful to ascertain that the stipulated conditions of the importation of the negroes had been strictly and properly fulfilled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 377.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 28, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 18th of this month, by which I had the honour to inform your Lordship that the Portuguese Government had, in conformity with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, sent orders to the Governor-General of Angola to oblige the Brazilian slave-trader Francisco Antonio Flores to withdraw from the Portuguese ultramarine possessions, and that instructions had likewise been sent to the same Governor-General to afford greater facilities than had hitherto been granted to Her Majesty's Commissioners and to the commanders of Her Majesty's ships for communicating with his Excellency on matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade; I have the honour to lay before your Lordship a translation of an official note from the Viscount d'Athoguia, inclosing a copy of the Portaria for the expulsion of Senhor Flores, and informing me of the instructions sent to the Governor-General on the subject of his communication with Her Majesty's Commissioners and the officers in command of Her Majesty's ships.

Your Lordship will perceive that on this latter point the privilege of communicating directly with the Governor-General is limited to matters connected with the Slave Trade, and to cases of emergency in which inconvenience might arise from the delay attending the usual forms of communication.

This condition is introduced merely for the purpose of upholding the Governor's dignity with relation to local etiquette, and will not, it may be hoped, occasion practical obstruction to the execution of the public service.

A translation of the Portaria, inclosed with the Viscount d'Athoguia's present note, were inclosed with my despatch of the 18th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

P.S.—Lest any accident should befall the original order forwarded by the Portuguese Government for the expulsion of Flores, I beg leave to inclose herewith a duplicate of it, which the Viscount d'Athoguia has had the goodness to furnish to me, and which your Lordship may perhaps think it advisable to have forwarded by some safe opportunity to its destination.

Inclosure in No. 377.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation)

Palace, February 22, 1854.

IN answer to the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 24th December last, and to the two subsequent ones of 25th January last, in which you renewed the request which you had previously made by order of your Government, that the Brazilian subject, Francisco Antonio Flores, should be expelled from the province of Angola in consequence of his unceasing endeavours

to revive the Slave Trade there, and complained of the conduct of the authorities of Loanda on the occasion of the arrival of the American barque "*Republic*," suspected of being engaged in that odious Traffic in connection with the said Flores, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Government, the inclosed copy of the Portaria which on the 14th instant was issued through the Marine Department to the Governor-General of the province of Angola, to cause the above-mentioned Brazilian subject to withdraw from that province.

In this act Her Britannic Majesty's Government will without doubt recognize the lively interest and good faith with which His Majesty's Government seek to fulfil always the stipulations of the Treaty entered into between Portugal and Great Britain for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade.

With regard to the request contained in your other note, also of the 25th January, that the Commander of the British Naval Station and the British Commissioner of the Mixed Commission at Loanda might be allowed, upon subjects connected with the Slave Trade, to communicate freely with the said Governor-General, it is my duty to inform you that through the Marine Department were also issued the necessary orders granting the said facility, to be made use of only in the above cases, and in cases of emergency, when inconvenience would result from awaiting an answer through the established channels.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 378.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 28, 1854.

SINCE I had last the honour of writing to your Lordship, I have communicated with Senhor Maciel Monteiro, who lately presented his letters of credence as Brazilian Minister at this Court; and I am now enabled, in answer to the inquiry contained in your Lordship's despatch of 21st December last, to say that Senhor Monteiro is in possession of instructions to cooperate with this Mission in matters relating to the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I do not, however, understand that these instructions differ essentially from those forwarded to the Chevalier Drummond, a short time before he ceased to act as Brazilian Minister in this country.

Senhor Monteiro's language on the subject of the Slave Trade is extremely satisfactory, not only as relates to his own personal feelings, but also as to the fixed determination of his Government to do everything possible to effect its total suppression.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 379.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 11, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a translation of the note in which Viscount de Athoguia forwarded to you a copy of the Portaria ordering the expulsion of Flores from Angola, and in which his Excellency stated that the Governor-General of Angola had been directed to receive the communications of Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, and of the commanders of Her Majesty's ships of war, on matters relating to the Slave

Trade; and I have to instruct you to convey to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the course pursued by the Portuguese Government in regard to these two points.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 380.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 20th, 21st, and 25th of February.

Respecting the refusal of the Portuguese Government to renew the Protocol of August 12, 1847, whereby Her Majesty's ships employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade were authorized to enter the bays, ports, and creeks within the Portuguese territory on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established, I had a conversation yesterday with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

He tells me that the instructions on which the Count de Lavradio acted in this affair, had been sent to him some time before he (the Viscount de Athoquia) received the application which I was instructed, by your Lordship's despatch of 5th December last, to make for a renewal of the Protocol; that these instructions were conditional, the renewal of the Protocol, or the refusal to renew it, being made to depend upon the result of certain representations which the Count de Lavradio had been directed to address to your Lordship, respecting occurrences on the coast of Africa in which the Portuguese Government thought they had reason to complain of the conduct of officers commanding British ships of war; that the public feeling in Portugal upon the subject of these proceedings was so strong that, supposing the desired measure of satisfaction not to be obtained, and the Government nevertheless to consent to a renewal of the Protocol, the transaction would certainly not receive the sanction of the Cortes, as required by the late addition to the Charter, thus at once rendering the agreement of no effect, and bringing down upon the Ministers a grave rebuke.

This is in a few words the substance of the explanation given to me by the Viscount de Athoquia respecting the refusal to renew the Protocol, communicated to your Lordship by Count Lavradio's note of February 15.

In reply to which I observed to his Excellency, in the first place, that a careful and dispassionate examination of the correspondence which passed between your Lordship and the Portuguese Minister in London in September, October, and November last, ought to convince His Most Faithful Majesty's Government that the charges which they had brought forward against officers of Her Majesty's Navy in the matters to which his Excellency had referred, were founded on erroneous information; and that such being the deliberate opinion of Her Majesty's Government after a mature examination of the question, it was not to be expected that Her Majesty's Government should alter that opinion in order to satisfy what I might, without offence to any one, call the over-sensitive disposition of the Portuguese Government, and perhaps also of the Portuguese people, in matters of this kind; or by any admission that wrong had been done or the bounds of duty had been exceeded in the transactions to which his Excellency had alluded; nor visit with censure the conduct of two British officers whose zeal, prudence, and moderation in the discharge of an arduous service had already received well-merited commendation.

I then went on to say, that, apart altogether from the above considerations, the Portuguese Government had, in my humble opinion, in refusing to renew the Protocol of August 1847, placed themselves in a position which they could not with decency or propriety long maintain; that Portugal was bound by engagements the most solemn and irrevocable to contribute by every means in her power to the suppression of the Slave Trade; that it was, unfortunately,

notorious that that trade was still carried on to a considerable extent in the Portuguese territories on the coast of Africa—eastern and western; that it was likewise unfortunately notorious that neither the Portuguese establishments in that part of the world, nor the present condition of the Portuguese navy, enabled the Government to fulfil with the vigilance and efficiency so much to be desired, the national obligations in respect to the prevention of the Slave Trade; and that notwithstanding this untoward state of things, when England was willing and ready to perform a duty which the Portuguese nation ought to perform itself, by occasionally visiting those remote parts of the Portuguese territory on the east coast, where no Portuguese authorities are established, the Government refuse to subscribe to an agreement conferring on England a power essential to the suppression of the Slave Trade, which, it is well known, cannot be exercised for any other purpose, and which Portugal, unhappily, has not the means of exercising herself.

His Excellency, I could not help adding, must be well aware from the frequent discussions which take place in Parliament, and from what passes at public meetings convened expressly to examine the existing state of things with reference to the Slave Trade, of the strong feelings of the English people on that subject, and of the universal determination, I might say, to see a stop put to that great scandal to humanity. Accordingly, that when, by the customary presentation of papers to Parliament, it should become known that this Government had thought proper to decline a renewal of the Protocol of 1847, by which refusal a power so necessary to the suppression of the Slave Trade was denied to Her Majesty's Government, and thus virtually to afford encouragement and protection to a trade which they were bound by every kind of obligation to put down, his Excellency must be prepared for a loud expression of displeasure on the part of the British public, and of sentiments very different from those which Her Majesty's Government would desire to promote between the two kingdoms. That in the ferment thus created, questions might be raised not a little embarrassing to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, with regard to right and dominion over those parts of the east coast of Africa where, perhaps, no real occupation or act of positive sovereignty had ever, or at least within a long term of years, been exercised; and that I thought it would have been wiser on the part of this Government, to avoid the agitation of such a question, by acceding to a renewal of the Protocol, which concession, so far from offending in any way, as the Count de Lavradio describes it, those principles of public law "which regulate the inviolability of the territory of independent nations," carried on the face of it the fullest acknowledgment of the sovereign rights of Portugal over those parts of unoccupied territory which Her Majesty's Government submissively asked permission for the British cruisers to visit.

The Viscount d'Athoguia received all these observations in good part, and told me that he would send a summary of our conversation to the Count de Lavradio, to whom it would seem that more than usual powers have been committed for the management of this affair; and although I could not persuade his Excellency to say that he would reconsider the determination communicated by the Count de Lavradio's note of the 15th of February, I am yet inclined to hope that that determination need not be viewed as final and irrevocable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 381.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign-Office, March 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th instant, reporting the language which you held to the Viscount d'Athoguia respecting the refusal of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty to renew the Protocol of August 12, 1847, whereby Her Majesty's ships employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade were authorized to enter those bays, ports, and creeks within the

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Portuguese territory on the east coast of Africa, where no Portuguese authorities are established.

And I have, in reply, to convey to you my entire approval of your language, which faithfully represents the views and opinions of Her Majesty's Government upon this matter.

Her Majesty's Government attach great importance to the renewal of the Protocol of August 12, 1847, because they believe it to be essential to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and they hope that, upon reconsideration, the Portuguese Government will see fit to grant to Her Majesty's cruisers the necessary authority for visiting the ports and creeks above referred to, before the time comes when it will be the duty of Her Majesty's Government to lay the correspondence respecting the Slave Trade before Parliament.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 382.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Foreign Office, March 22, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Count Lavradio, &c., that Her Majesty's Government have had under their consideration the note which Count Lavradio addressed to the Undersigned on the 20th of last January, protesting, in the name of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government, against the proceedings of the authorities of Bombay in the case of the Portuguese subject, João Antonio de Sequeira, who was convicted on the 4th of October, 1853, by the Supreme Court of Bombay, of having imported slaves into that place, and was condemned to three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Count Lavradio not only denies that Captain Sequeira was guilty of the crime with which he was charged, but he also protests against the trial and condemnation of this Portuguese subject by the Supreme Court at Bombay, as being contrary to the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal of the 3rd of July, 1842; and he maintains that Sequeira's case should have been tried by one of the Courts of Mixed Commission constituted under that Treaty, as being the only Court to which Sequeira was legally amenable.

Count Lavradio therefore calls upon Her Majesty's Government to set Captain Sequeira at liberty, and he also demands compensation for Captain Sequeira, for the owners and charterers of the vessel "*Quatro d'Abri!*," and for the passengers, on account of the losses which they respectively sustained by the detention of that vessel, in consequence of the alleged illegal proceedings of the Bombay authorities.

The Undersigned, having made careful inquiry into all the circumstances of this case, has now the honour to observe, in reply to Count Lavradio, that, with regard to the manner in which the judicial proceedings in this case were conducted, it appears that Captain Sequeira had a fair and public trial according to law; that he did not claim to have his privilege of being tried by a jury of whom one half should be foreigners; nor did he challenge any of the jury. He was defended by counsel of his own selection; and the presiding Judge made no attempt, in his charge to the jury, to influence their minds against the prisoner, but left the question of his innocence or guilt entirely to their decision.

And with regard to the objections made by Count Lavradio to the competency of the Supreme Court of Bombay to adjudicate in the case of Sequeira, on the ground that the provisions of the Act 5 George IV, c. 113, were set aside and overruled by the Treaty of July 1842, the Undersigned begs leave to observe that the object of the Treaty, which was signed long after the statute in question had been passed, and with full knowledge of its provisions, was not to overrule or to render inoperative the existing statutes against Slave Trade; but, on the contrary, as stated in the preamble of that Treaty, "to render more effectual the operation of the laws enacted in each country for the punishment of the crime."

The Statute 5 George IV, c. 113, applies to all offences committed by foreigners within British jurisdiction; and in all such cases occurring at Bombay, the Supreme Court of that place has clear and undoubted jurisdiction.

The operation of the Treaty of July 3, 1842, on the other hand, is confined to offences committed upon the high seas, for the prevention of which certain measures of maritime police are adopted, which are chiefly directed to the liberation of slaves, and to the forfeiture of slave-ships captured upon the high seas by the cruizers of either nation.

But the offence of which Captain Sequeira was convicted was clearly not committed upon the high seas, and therefore could not be brought within the intention of the Treaty; and moreover, the Undersigned begs leave to point out that if it were possible to sustain the interpretation of the Treaty which has been put forward by Count Lavradio, Portuguese subjects would in fact be enabled to carry on the Slave Trade with impunity in British territory, wherever, as at Bombay, there are no Mixed Commission Courts established—a result which would be obviously contrary to the objects of the Treaty, and to the determination of both Governments to extinguish this nefarious Traffic.

Both, therefore, as regards the guilt of Captain Sequeira, and also as regards the competency of the Supreme Court of Bombay to adjudicate in his case, the Undersigned, after a careful examination of the circumstances, and of the arguments contained in Count Lavradio's note, is unable to admit the validity of the claims which he has brought forward.

The Undersigned begs leave to add, that the above observations and arguments with regard to the competency of the Court of Bombay, apply equally to the case of Captain Antonio Maria da Costa, whose detention at Bombay forms the subject of Count Lavradio's note of the 31st of January last. It appears that Captain da Costa's trial is not yet concluded; but as there is no ground for calling in question the competency of the Supreme Court of Bombay to try him, Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere to stay the proceedings against him.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with regret that there is ground for believing that these are not the only instances of the clandestine importation of slaves into Bombay by Portuguese vessels, but that slaves have been conveyed in considerable numbers from Mozambique to Bombay, either accompanying their masters as domestic servants, or on their way to Goa or Damaun—a circumstance which fully accounts for the vigilance and activity shown by the authorities of Bombay in bringing Sequeira and Da Costa to trial; and Her Majesty's Government cannot but entirely approve of the steps which have been taken by them to repress such criminal proceedings with the utmost severity of the law.

As, however, Captain Sequeira is the first of these offenders who has been brought to trial, and as it appears that there were extenuating circumstances in his case, the Undersigned is glad to be able to inform Count Lavradio that the Queen has been graciously pleased, upon the recommendation of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, to grant to Captain Sequeira a free pardon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 383.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, March 18, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 11th instant to receive your Lordship's despatches of 28th February and 2nd March.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in the two last-mentioned des-

patches by conveying to the Portuguese Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the orders lately issued on the matters therein referred to, namely, the expulsion of the Brazilian slave-trader, Francisco Antonio Flores, from the province of Angola, and the establishment of a more free system of communication on subjects connected with the Slave Trade between Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda and the commanders of Her Majesty's ships on that station, and the Governor-General of Angola.

No. 384.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 18, 1854.

I HAD the honour, on the 15th instant, to receive by the packet going to Brazil your Lordship's despatches of the 8th instant; I have the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's second despatch of the 8th instant, setting forth the reasons which, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, render it not desirable that the permission lately granted to a certain Senhor de Souza y Almeida to remove 100 of his negroes from the mainland of Africa to Prince's Island, subject to the condition of previous manumission, should be carried into effect, and recommending, for these reasons, that the privilege so granted to Senhor de Souza y Almeida should be revoked.

I had a conversation yesterday upon this subject with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. He said that he was sorry to learn that Her Majesty's Government had found anything to object to in the permission granted to Senhor de Almeida, because the object contemplated by the Portuguese Government in granting to that gentleman the various privileges conferred upon him by the Decree of 25th October last, the grant of land, the right to cut timber, the permission to convey to Prince's Island from the mainland a certain number of emancipated negroes, was to establish, if possible, a system of free labour in the Portuguese islands, to be afterwards, if found successful, extended to their continental settlements in Africa; for which reason, he added, that before he was made aware of the objections to the scheme entertained by Her Majesty's Government, he had felt disappointment at hearing from Angola that it was not Senhor de Almeida's intention to take advantage of the privileges granted to him by the Decree of 25th October last; so that supposing this report to be correct, the whole project seems destined to die a natural death.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 384.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, March 15, 1854.

THE attention of Her Majesty's Government was in due time directed to the Decree issued by Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government on 25th October last, by which, amongst other things, permission was granted to Senhor de Souza e Almeida to remove 100 of the slaves already belonging to him, in the province of Angola, to Prince's Island, subject to the condition that they were first to be made free, and their freedom to be permanently secured to them.

Her Majesty's Government having examined the provisions of this Decree in order to see how far they might be reconcileable with the engagements subsisting between the two countries for the suppression of the Slave Trade, came to the conclusion that, in principle, objection could not be taken to the measure as involving a violation of the Treaty of July 1842, seeing that the Portuguese Government had ordained that the negroes in question should be legally emancipated before embarkation, and that due care should be taken to secure their freedom and proper treatment after their arrival at Prince's Island.

This is the opinion formed by Her Majesty's Government, after examining the measure in question in a legal point of view, according to the literal provisions of the Treaty between the two countries; but, in a practical point of view, Her Majesty's Government are advised that grave objections apply to the execution of the Decree of 25th October, on account of the facilities which it would afford for covering and concealing Slave Trade operations.

It has been represented to Her Majesty's Government, by an officer of long experience on the coast of Africa, that it would be almost impossible "that the commanders of British cruisers should be enabled properly to execute the instructions with which they are provided, and at the same time be expected to distinguish between such a conveyance (of negroes) by sea and an ordinary slave-trading operation.

"That the conveyance of negro slaves by sea from one part to another of the coast of Africa is a dangerous practice to admit, particularly in the case of such as are intended for those colonies where slavery is sanctioned by law."

In the case under consideration, "the negroes would be subject to a sea voyage of upwards of 900 miles."

It is further objected to this measure, that "the time of service, in what may be called apprenticeship, can be extended to seven years, which is very far too long; for I doubt (says the officer who is speaking) whether the average term of life of the adult slaves generally working on the estates in Prince's Island exceeds that period."

Finally, it is remarked, that there is too much reason to believe that the local Governments in remote colonies, such as Prince's Island, are not sufficiently under the control of the Government at home, to insure due care on their part that the conditions upon which the privilege is granted, are faithfully carried into effect.

Her Majesty's Government, considering the apprehensions thus expressed, as to the abuses to which the permission granted to Senhor de Souza e Almeida are likely to give rise, to be well founded, have instructed me to communicate the foregoing observations to your Excellency, in the hope that Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government may be disposed to reconsider that part of the Decree of 25th October, which grants permission to Senhor Souza e Almeida to transport 100 negroes from the mainland of Africa.

I take, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 385.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 27.)

(Translation.)

March 25, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty, has had the honour to receive the note which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., addressed to him on the 22nd instant, in reply to those which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 20th and 31st days of January last.

His Excellency the Earl of Clarendon maintains that Captain Sequeira is guilty, notwithstanding his having presented documents proving that the five negro youths whom he had brought on board the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*" were

freed ; his Excellency also maintains that it is not the provisions of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, which apply to the act which gave rise to the accusation against Captain Sequeira, but those of the Act 5 of George IV, c. 113 ; his Excellency lastly maintains that the Supreme Court of Bombay proceeded regularly, notwithstanding its being proved that Captain Sequeira, though a foreigner, was not allowed a mixed jury, and that also he was not permitted to have the necessary time to bring forward one or more convincing documents to strengthen the proof of his innocence of the infamous crime of which he was accused.

From all this his Excellency concludes that the reclamations made by the Undersigned relative to Captain Sequeira, and the owners, charterers, and passengers of the ship "*Quatro d'Abril*" are inadmissible.

The Undersigned is not without good arguments to reply to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, and to prove to him that his demands are founded on the provisions of the laws of England, and on those of the Treaties subsisting between the Crowns of Portugal and Great Britain, but he is of opinion that his reply is better delayed until he shall receive new instructions from his Government, which he is about to ask for.

Although the Undersigned regrets to see his demands rejected, which demands he considers to be well-founded and just, he has nevertheless received, with due gratification, the communication which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon had the kindness to make to him, to the effect that Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, in the exercise of her Royal prerogative, and upon the recommendation of her Secretary of State in the Home Department, has been graciously pleased to grant a full pardon to Captain Sequeira ; that unfortunate Portuguese subject being at least relieved from the penal sentence passed upon him, if not indemnified for the losses he has sustained. The Undersigned is persuaded that this step, due to the magnanimity of the august Sovereign and the wise counsels of her illustrious Ministers, will be justly appreciated by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

His Excellency observes, in his note above alluded to, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government has reason to believe that slaves have been clandestinely conveyed to Bombay, Goa, and Damaun in Portuguese ships coming from Mozambique. The Undersigned is wholly ignorant of the existence of such facts, but aware of the severity of the English laws against persons engaged in the Slave Trade, and of the laws of Portugal, by virtue of which slaves brought from any quarter to the States of Portuguese India are liberated, he cannot conceive the existence of the alleged facts ; but, notwithstanding, he is assured that his Government will proceed to a rigorous inquiry relative to the accusation brought forward by his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, although very vague, and the guilty parties, if there be any, shall be punished with the utmost severity of the laws.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 386.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a despatch* and of its inclosures from Mr. Howard, &c., containing information which Mr. Howard has received from the Brazilian Government, and from other sources, respecting the schemes of the slave-traders at Loanda. You will also learn from these papers that the Brazilian Government has determined to urge upon the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies the adoption of a project of law, of which I transmit to you herewith a copy,† which was approved by the Brazilian Senate during its last session, and by Article I of which the powers of the Auditors of Marine in cases of slave-

* See No. 161.

† See Inclosure in No. 124.

dealing are extended, while Article II declares that Brazilian subjects, wherever they may reside, and foreigners resident in Brazil, who may be owners, masters, mates, boatswains, or be interested in the business of, any vessel engaged in the Slave Trade, are to be punished in the same manner and to the same extent as persons found guilty of attempting to import slaves.

I have to instruct you to communicate to the Portuguese Government the information contained in the inclosed paper respecting the schemes of the slave-traders at Loanda; and you will point out how desirable it would be, in order effectually to prevent the Slave Trade from being carried on in the Portuguese dominions and by Portuguese subjects, that a law should be passed in Portugal similar to the inclosed project of law, so far as it can be made applicable to the dominions of His Most Faithful Majesty.

You will also state that Her Majesty's Government confidently hope that measures will be taken for the prevention of the criminal projects disclosed in these papers, either by expelling the guilty parties from Angola, or by punishing them in some more stringent and exemplary manner than heretofore.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—Azores.

No. 387.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

St. Michael's, June 10, 1853.

WITH reference to the instructions given to me in the Earl of Malmesbury's despatch of the 19th of May, 1852, I beg leave to report to your Lordship that two young men, formerly master and mate in the Slave Trade, who came here in August last, have left this place for the Brazils by way of Lisbon.

They had ordered a vessel to call here, with a view to open a connection with this island; but no one being disposed to entertain their proposals, the vessel did not come here.

I think it my duty to state that the vessels employed to convey emigrants from these dominions to the Brazils, necessarily carry much of the equipment required for slaves. It will therefore occur to your Lordship that they might be easily turned into the Slave Trade, and might then, in certain directions and distances from the Brazilian coast, be declared to be returning for emigrants.

I believe that, as regards vessels sailing from the Azores, such a cover for the Slave Trade would be confined to the Brazilian flag; because the Portuguese vessels bring back cargoes of colonial produce for these islands. But it will be always easy to learn, at Rio de Janeiro and Pernambuco, what becomes of the emigrant vessels after they have landed their passengers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

No. 388.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 3.)

My Lord,

St. Michael's, September 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter and report received by me from Mr. Read, the British Vice-Consul at Terceira, relative to a suspicious vessel, now called "*Laura*," which had arrived at his port on the 8th instant, and cleared out for Madeira on the 17th; the translation of a letter written to Mr. Read by the Civil Governor on the 18th; the copy of my reply to Mr. Read; and the copy of a letter in which I have communicated Mr. Read's report to Her Majesty's Consul at Madeira.

Mr. Read forwarded a similar report to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon on the 18th instant.

The "*Laura*" is a brigantine of 154 Portuguese tons (about 120 English), carrying a crew of eighteen Portuguese seamen, and a Spanish flag-master, and took on board at Terceira the large supply of stores and water, stated in the list subjoined to Mr. Read's letter, for the ostensible purpose of conveying emigrants to Brazil.

Among those stores are thirty barrels of manioc, an article never used in emigrant vessels; the ship is reported to belong to a person named Antonio

Severino de Avellar, the name of the Slave Trade agent mentioned in the despatch written to me by the Earl of Malmesbury on the 19th of May, 1852; and her Portuguese master and Terceira consignee, the owners' near relatives, are well known in the Slave Trade.

The "*Laura*" is said to have touched at Fayal, under the name of "*Rosa*," at the end of July or beginning of August, on her way from Angola to Lisbon.

Her ownership, disproportionate crew, water and stores, and her supply of manioc, induced Mr. Read to consider her as intended for the Slave Trade, and to call on the Civil Governor to prevent her being supplied for that trade at Terceira, showing him a letter written by me, of which I inclose a copy. The Civil Governor (who, I must add, is a most active and intelligent functionary, and at all times disposed to assist Mr. Read) received the communication in such a manner as to lead Mr. Read to hope that his application would be successful; but afterwards accepted the Captain of the Port's assertion of the ship's lawful character, and allowed her to sail, on giving security for an object foreign to that application.

Mr. Read, in a private letter dated the 18th instant, expresses his surprise at this result; as "he had not heard of any survey," and "the Captain of the Port going on board alone, a few hours before the vessel got under weigh, did not lead any one to imagine that he was going on a survey."

As it may be presumed that the survey and security taken were suggested by Article VII of the Decree of December 10, 1836 (translated in the fifth volume, p. 417, of Hertslet's Treaties), it is to be regretted that the search should not have been made by the Civil Governor and chief Custom-house functionary, according to the terms of that Article.

And I would submit to your Lordship that if this duty were enjoined by a fresh order of the Government of Lisbon, addressed to all the Civil Governors of the Azores, any other vessels of the "*Laura's*" character might be prevented from supplying themselves in these ports.

In my reply to Mr. Read, I have ventured to state my belief that his activity and zeal on this occasion would receive your Lordship's approbation. I should feel great satisfaction if your Lordship would authorize me to confirm this assurance; and the more so, that there is reason to fear that Mr. Read's representation to the Civil Governor was outweighed by testimony less to be depended on.

I have thought it my duty to send a copy of this despatch to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, as some accident may prevent the safe transmission of Mr. Read's report to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 388.

Vice-Consul Read to Consul Hunt.

Sir, *Terceira, September 15, 1853.*

IN compliance with the information and request contained in your letter of August 4, 1852, I beg to forward the inclosed report, agreeable to the form annexed to my general instructions.

So soon as my suspicions were aroused as to the vessel named in the report, I waited on the Civil Governor of this district, and pointed out forcibly to his Excellency the information contained in that letter, as well as facts that were occurring here, such as the large quantity of water said vessel had taken on board, the report of her being destined for Rio de Janeiro *via* Madeira, and, as it was said, without taking colonists from this island. His Excellency did not appear to be aware of these circumstances, and seemed pleased with my communication, stating that he could not proceed at once against the vessel, having no positive proofs of her being engaged in the Slave Trade, but would adopt measures accordingly.

His Excellency further told me that the owner (Avellar) had said to him a few days previous to my interview that he had abandoned the idea of conveying colonists from this island to Rio, through the restrictions of the Portuguese

Government, and the bad sanitary state of Brazil, on which I represented to his Excellency that he had a good point to work upon, and might be turned to either of two purposes; it would defeat the object of the vessel proceeding from hence on a slave-trading voyage, if such was entertained, as well as prevent the embarkation of passengers clandestinely from this or any of the other islands; by issuing orders to start the fresh water, and refill the casks with salt water, so as to ballast the ship, leaving a sufficiency of fresh water for the use of the crew, until the vessel's arrival at Madeira, in which his Excellency concurred.

I further beg to state that sixty barrels of farinha de pão (manioc) were landed at Fayal by the Brazilian ship "*Sophia*" from Rio de Janeiro lately, reshipped to this island, and of which portion thirty barrels have been taken from the Custom-house on board of the "*Laura*." It must be borne in mind that it is not customary to supply flour of that nature on voyages from these islands to Brazil, but *vice versâ*. And this, coupled with the large quantity of water taken on board, has caused a suspicion to arise in my mind that the voyage to Rio de Janeiro *viâ* Madeira, as given out by the owners, is not the real one contemplated by them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN READ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 388.

List of Provisions per "Laura."

11 barrels with 70 arrobas (19 cwt.) salt beef.
 2 " 12 " (3 cwt.) pork.
 30 " 60 " (16 cwt.) biscuit.
 30 barrels farinha de pão (manioc).
 3 moyos (72 bushels) kidney beans.
 60 alqueres (24 bushels) Indian corn.
 60 alqueres (24 bushels) broad beans.
 10 arrobas (3 cwt.) rice.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ pipe of vinegar.
 90 canadas (45 gallons) brandy.
 30 " (15 gallons) sweet oil.
 50 arrobas of fish (16 cwt.).
 11 thousands (about 40 tons) firewood.
 90 pipes of water; some very large.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ moyo (12 bushels) salt.

And a large copper, which is still in the case it came from Fayal in. I suspect it must have been landed at Fayal in the end of July or beginning of August, as she touched there from Angola, on her way to Lisbon, under the name of "*Rosa*."

Inclosure 3 in No. 388.

Report of a Vessel arrived at the Island of Terceira, supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

ON the 8th day of September, 1853, arrived in the bay of Angra, Island of Terceira, from Lisbon, a Portuguese vessel called the "*Laura*" (formerly "*Rosa*"), commanded by a Portuguese subject named Sylverio Severino de Avellar.

The vessel is stated to belong to Antonio Severino de Avellar, at present resident here; is of about 154 tons, Portuguese measurement, and has on board a crew of nineteen men, composed of Portuguese subjects.

No guns are visible, and it is said she is bound from this to Rio de Janeiro, *viâ* Madeira.

The consignee at this place is named João Severino d'Avellar, a relation of

the owner. A Spaniard named Rubustianno José Caza Nova is said to be the caixa or purser, and I hear that they style him "capitão bandeira," which leads to conjecture that the Spanish flag may be used if convenience suits.

Her ostensible object here was reported at first to convey colonists to Rio de Janeiro, but which idea was abandoned, through the restrictions of the Portuguese Government on that head, and the bad sanitary state of Brazil, as stated by the owner to the Civil Governor of this district. She has taken on board ninety casks of water, some very large ones, and thirty barrels of farinha de pão, an article not commonly used by vessels taking passengers from these islands to Brazil. It can be said then, if the fever now prevalent in Brazil is detrimental to the natives of these islands, it may be equally so to those of Madeira, which causes a suspicion to arise that the voyage to Rio *viâ* Madeira is not the real one in contemplation.

Her hull outside is all black, with no streak: she is rigged as a brig-schooner with a main-topsail and topgallant sail; carries a fore-royal, no main-royal; the heads of fore-royal mast and main-topgallant mast have a gilt ball on each, with no vane on either; her masts have a slight rake aft; her bowsprit has very little steave: she has a topgallant forecastle, in which the crew apparently live; she has a small fiddle head, a very sharp overhanging bow, with a great run aft; a wreath of roses across the stern; edges of stern hawse pipes, gilt; the wheel is about six feet abaft the mainmast; four large hencoops on the quarter deck; four large eyebolts about three feet below the covering-board, three scupper holes of a side.

Rigging most particular; short bowsprit; single forestay; single fore topmast stay; double mainstays, both set up on the port side, one with tackles, the other with dead eyes; maintopmast stay sets up in the foretopmast cross-trees.

British Vice-Consulate, Terceira, September 15, 1853.

(Signed)

JOHN READ,
Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 388.

The Civil Governor of Terceira to Vice-Consul Read.

(Translation.)

Sir,

September 18, 1854.

AS the result of the survey which I caused to be held on board the Portuguese brigantine "*Laura*," it appears from the information given by the captain of the port of this city, and by the list of articles found in the ship, that there is no ground for considering those articles as indications that the said brig is intended for trading in slaves on the coast of Africa; but solely as stores for the conveyance of emigrants from these islands to the Empire of Brazil, the declared destination of the vessel.

Under these circumstances and to prevent the illegal shipment of passengers, I ordered that the master, Silverio Severino de Avellar, should give bond, which he gave yesterday at the Administração de Conselho, by which he binds himself to present to me a certificate by the proper authorities of the district of Funchal, to show that the ship had really gone to the port of Madeira; and I this day give Her Majesty's Government an account of all that has occurred relative to the ship, for any requisite purposes.

Nothing further occurs to me to be communicated to you on this head.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

NICOLAU ANASTACIO DE BETTENCOURT.

Inclosure 5 in No. 388.

Consul Hunt to Vice-Consul Read.

Sir,

St. Michael's, September 28, 1853.

I HAVE received this morning your letters relative to the Portuguese brigantine "*Laura*," suspected by you to be engaged in the Slave Trade; and I shall this evening forward copies of your report and the Civil Governor's letter to you, to the Earl of Clarendon.

The Civil Governor, in allowing the "*Laura*" to sail, on the testimony of the captain of the port as to her lawful character, seems to have retained his original belief that the vessel had really come to Terceira for emigrants, and that this plan had been suddenly given up for the reasons stated by her owner, after the shipment of her excessive quantity of stores.

But the notorious recent departure of the Brazilian brig "*Amizade*" from this island, with emigrants shipped by the "*Laura's*" consignee, was obviously inconsistent with these reasons; and this inconsistency afforded an additional ground of suspicion as to the "*Laura's*" character.

It therefore appears to me a subject of deep regret that the former reputed occupation of the persons connected with the "*Laura*," her disproportionate crew, the supply of manioc (an article never used by emigrants from the Azores), and your communication to his Excellency, did not induce the Civil Governor to search the vessel according to the VIIth Article of the Decree of December 10, 1836.

I have, under these circumstances, thought it right to submit to the Earl of Clarendon that a fresh order by the Government of Lisbon, for the observance of that Article, might prevent other vessels of the "*Laura's*" supposed character from supplying themselves in the Azores.

I have to thank you for the zeal and activity with which you have assisted me on the present occasion. I shall not fail to mention this assistance to the Earl of Clarendon, in the belief that it will receive his Lordship's approbation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

Inclosure 6 in No. 388.

Consul Hunt to Consul Stoddart.

Sir,

St. Michael's, September 28, 1853.

I THINK it my duty to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a report forwarded to me by Mr. Read, the British Vice-Consul at Terceira, relative to a suspicious vessel, now called "*Laura*," but formerly "*Rosa*," which cleared out for Madeira on the 17th instant from that port, in order that you may, if you think it expedient, give the information so afforded to the Commanders of any of Her Majesty's ships of war touching at your port.

I should mention, if you are not already aware of it, that Her Majesty's Government received information, early in 1852, that a person named Antonio Severino de Avellar had been appointed agent for slave-trading vessels in these islands by dealers connected with the Havana.

It is probable that this agent and the reported owner of the "*Laura*" are the same person.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

Inclosure 7 in No. 388.

Consul Hunt to Vice-Consul Read.

Sir,

St. Michael's, August 4, 1852.

I HAVE received information from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the Brazilian slave-dealers have made arrangements for trading to the Havana, including agencies in Portugal and the islands for purposes connected with this Traffic; and that they have appointed a person named Antonio Severino d'Avellar, agent in the Azores.

I forward this information to you, in order that you may be prepared to assist me in complying with his Lordship's instructions to endeavour to counteract any plans formed by the slave-dealers in this district.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

No. 389.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hunt.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of September and its inclosures, respecting the case of the Portuguese vessel "*Laura*," which had sailed from the Island of Terceira, under the suspicious circumstances reported to you by Vice-Consul Read, and I have to instruct you to convey to Mr. Read my approval of the activity he displayed in communicating to you and to the Portuguese authorities the suspicions he entertained that the "*Laura*" was really intended for the Slave Trade.

With reference to what you state as to the imperfect manner in which the survey of the "*Laura*" was conducted at Terceira, I have to inform you that it is my intention to instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to request that fresh orders may be issued to the different Civil Governors of the Azores, desiring that all such surveys may be made in strict conformity with the VIIth Article of the Portuguese Decree of December 10, 1836.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 390.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 27.)

My Lord,

St. Michael's, December 5, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo, in reply to mine of the 28th of September, instructing me to convey to Mr. Read your Lordship's approval of the activity he displayed with reference to the Portuguese brig "*Laura*."

I have lost no time in making this communication to Mr. Read, to whom it will afford great satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

No. 391.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord,

St. Michael's, January 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of November last, inclosing a list of persons said to be agents of a Brazilian Portuguese Slave-Trading Company.

I shall lose no time in forwarding copies of this list to the British Vice-Consuls at Fayal and Terceira, in both of which islands the Antonio Severino de Avellar mentioned in it occasionally resides.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOMAS CAREW HUNT.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 392.

Consul Rendall to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, March 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a letter which I this day forwarded to the Admiral upon the West Coast of Africa station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure in No. 392.

Consul Rendall to Rear-Admiral Bruce.

Sir,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, March 21, 1853.

I AM happy to be able to report a continued cessation of any Slave Trade in these islands.

The American Commodore Lavalette has, however, since January last, detained two vessels, under American colours, that came to an anchor at Port Praia, St. Jago, which he has sent to the United States. The Commodore was much opposed in his operations by the authorities of St. Jago.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 393.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 16, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to state to your Lordship, that it has been reported to me by the Vice-Consul of the Cape de Verd Islands, of a large barque under Spanish colours, heavily armed, and reported to have come from Havana, having put into the port of Porto do Sal, St. Antonio, for water and refreshments.

The Vice-Consul only learnt this intelligence a few hours before the starting of the packet by which he wrote from St. Vincent, 31st August; but he states, that he was about taking steps to inform himself correctly of everything relating to the vessel in question, and that he would by the first opportunity inform the Admiral upon the African station with the result of his inquiries, and also send to me the particulars of the steps taken, that I may report for the information of your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 394.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 17.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, January 31, 1854.

IN reference to my letter to your Lordship dated 16th September last, reporting a suspicious vessel having put into one of the ports of St. Antonio, I have the honour to state that the Vice-Consul ascertained that she came from the Havana, where she had landed 300 free persons from Macao, in China, and that she was returning to that place, having contracted to carry another cargo of people from the same port, and to the same destination.

The Vice-Consul reported every particular to the Admiral upon the African station, respecting the vessel in question, which was under the Portuguese flag.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Loanda.*

No. 395.

Vice-Consul Brand to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 16.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 14, 1853.

AFTER the proceedings at Ambriz, referred to in my despatch of 23rd September last, Commander Wilmot proceeded to visit the Chiefs of Cabinda and Loango, with the view of making proposals to them for the abolition of the Slave Traffic within their territories, and he then made arrangements with them for returning to receive their answers to these proposals.

The "Harlequin" has just left this port for that purpose; and I regretted much that I was unable to comply with Commander Wilmot's request to accompany him a second time, the state of my health, as well as other circumstances, rendering it utterly impossible for me to do so.

As the Portuguese language, however, is spoken pretty generally at the different places Commander Wilmot intended to visit, I thought it might facilitate his intercourse with the native Chiefs, were he possessed of a copy of the Treaty he was to endeavour to get them to sign in that language, and I accordingly furnished him with a translation in Portuguese of the printed form of Treaty with which he was provided, as also with the translation of a letter he had drawn up, to be addressed to the native Chiefs, containing the principal arguments against the Slave Trade, to be used in dealing with them.

I ought here to mention, that the authorities of this place look with much jealousy on these proceedings, arising, I presume, from the claim made by Portugal to the sovereignty of the line of coast lying between 5° 12' and 8° south latitude; and they may not improbably make some representation to Lisbon on the subject.

Soon after Commander Wilmot had been at Ambriz in September last, the commandant of the naval station sailed hence in the brig of war "Serra do Pilar" to that place, and he subsequently proceeded to Cabinda.

What the commandant did at these places on that occasion, I have not heard; but I think it possible that Commander Wilmot may find that he has to contend with other influences besides those of the slave-dealers on his return to Cabinda.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

No. 396.

Vice-Consul Brand to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 16.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 16, 1853.

IN my despatch of the 14th of January, reporting the departure of Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," and senior officer of this division, from this place to Cabinda and Loango, for the purpose of receiving the answers of the Kings and Chiefs of these places, to the proposals made to them on a previous occasion relative to the signing of Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade within their respective territories, I stated that the Portuguese

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authorities at this place looked upon these proceedings with much jealousy, and that consequently Commander Wilmot, on his return to Cabinda, might probably have to contend with other influences besides those of the slave-dealers.

I am glad, however, now to be able to say, that the exertions of this very zealous and energetic officer have been crowned with much success, and although the King and Chiefs of Loango have for the present declined to accept the proposals made to them, yet Treaties were concluded by Commander Wilmot during his cruise to the northward, with the Kings of Zanga Tanga and Cabinda, with the former on the 2nd and with the latter on the 11th ultimo.

These Treaties, and especially that concluded with the King of Cabinda, I consider of much importance, not only in their direct effects in the great cause of the suppression of the Slave Trade, but also from the influence they are likely to have in inducing the native Chiefs of other parts of this coast to enter into similar engagements.

Commander Wilmot has subsequently been again in communication with the Chiefs of Ambriz, and I believe, from all accounts, he has made such a favourable impression on their minds, that unless some unexpected obstacle arises, the conclusion of a Treaty with these people may, with proper management, be now considered as little more than a matter of time.

In the meanwhile these proceedings have caused the greatest sensation here; the Council of Government has had frequent and protracted sittings of late, and no fewer than three Portuguese vessels of war are now cruising on the coast between this city and Cabinda, a part of the coast that has for years been almost entirely neglected by them, doubtless for the purpose of watching the movements of the senior officer. Part of the crew of Her Most Faithful Majesty's brig "Corimba" recently landed and examined, or pretended to examine, all the Portuguese factories situated at Ambriz Point, and burned down two huts, within which were found some slave irons and other articles that appeared to be intended for Slave Trade purposes.

The direct effects of these operations on the suppression of the Slave Trade are, I believe, likely to be as little felt as those undertaken and carried out at the same place by the commander of Her Most Faithful Majesty's brig "Mondego" in 1848, as the value of the two huts destroyed (incorrectly called barracoons in the official references to these transactions) and of all they contained did not exceed a few dollars, and further because neither these recent operations, nor those of 1848, were directed against the real centre of Slave Trade speculations at Ambriz. The fact is, that since the destruction of the Slave Trade factories at that place by Her Majesty's cruisers in 1842, the traffickers have never kept the slaves intended for shipment in any numbers at their factories situated at Ambriz Point. These factories have, since that time, been used as depôts for receiving goods intended for the purchase of slaves; but the slaves themselves, as well as the principal articles requisite for carrying on the Traffic, have been kept at another set of factories situated at the inland town of Maybanga, distant four or five miles from the Point.

Had the commander of the "Corimba" directed his operations against that place, he would have found not only a few articles of Slave Trade equipment, but also, in all probability, a considerable number of slaves intended for embarkation. As during the recent cessation of the Traffic, the factors at Ambriz have either abandoned their establishments altogether, or have engaged partially in legal trade, as a temporary means of support, their factories at the present time do not materially differ in appearance from those of the established legal traders.

When I was at Ambriz in September last, I visited more than once, all the factories belonging to parties there for carrying on the Slave Trade, and at all of them, with but one exception, I found the factors engaged in the purchase of ivory, gum, copper-ore, and other articles of legal export trade.

The indirect effects, however, of the operations in question may possibly be useful, should they tend to induce the Ambriz Chiefs to sign more readily the Treaty proposed to them.

Although these operations appear to have been undertaken in consequence of a communication addressed by Commander Wilmot to this General Government, they may nevertheless possibly have had an ulterior object in view, bearing on the assumed right of Portugal to exercise jurisdiction over the Ambriz territory. This seems the more probable as Commander Wilmot's proceedings

at Cabinda and Ambriz appear to have induced the authorities here to set forth, in various ways, the claim of Portugal to the line of coast lying between 5° 12' and 8° of south latitude.

A report made to the Minister of Marine and Ultramar by the two deputies for this province, in which, among other measures supposed to be beneficial to the province, the immediate occupation of Ambriz is recommended, was published in the official "Gazette" of this General Government in a somewhat conspicuous manner, immediately after the news of the signing of the Treaty by Commander Wilmot with the King of Cabinda became known here. I lost no time in making this known to that officer, and I have reported the same to Her Majesty's Consul at Lisbon for the information of your Lordship.

As bearing on the same subject, I beg to inclose herewith a copy of the official "Gazette" of the 5th instant, which contains a curious announcement of a deputation to this General Government from the King and Chiefs of Cabinda.

The idea of sending the deputation, if not suggested to these people from another quarter, may very probably have originated with those of the Cabinda Chiefs who, desirous of still carrying on the Slave Trade, opposed as far as they could the signing of the Treaty with Commander Wilmot, and who, now that it is concluded, are ready to throw themselves into the arms of this General Government as a likely means of creating embarrassment and obstructing its execution.

The King's joining in this measure, as the announcement said he did, would seem to show that coercive means may have been employed to induce him to do so.

The schooner of war "Conde do Tojal" was sent to Cabinda immediately after the news of Commander Wilmot's proceedings reached this place, and seems to have been there when the deputation in question left.

The person styled the Governor of Porto Rico is the native chief of one of the three towns situated around Cabinda Bay, that has received that name: his name is Francisco Franque, better known as "Chico Franco." He received a good education in the Brazils, and has been for many years a notorious slave-dealer.

The mere fact of so singular an announcement appearing in the Gazette of this Government, shows clearly the sensation that exists here at present with regard to the proceedings of Commander Wilmot.

I have further to inform your Lordship that, a few days ago, the present Acting Governor-General, Captain Antonio Ricardo Graça, lately commandant of the naval station, who on the 19th ultimo superseded the Governor-General *ad interim*, Captain Antonio Sergio de Souza, now ordered to return direct to Lisbon by the first opportunity, sent to me a long letter, concluding with a protest against the proceedings of the British cruizers at Cabinda and Ambriz; describing them as a breach of the Treaties existing between Great Britain and Portugal; as unjust acts, and involving a violation of the rights of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

The grounds of protest are twofold; first, because the inhabitants of these territories, as represented by the Governor-General, are Portuguese subjects, and, as such, incompetent to sign Treaties without the consent of the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty; and further, because, in the opinion of his Excellency, commanders of British cruizers are, by the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, also incompetent to conclude Treaties, as among the Regulations therein prescribed for their guidance, no mention is made of their being authorized to enter into such negotiations.

I have just sent a reply to this communication, in which I have declined to receive the protest, except for the purpose of transmitting it to those competent to take cognizance of the same, the proceedings alluded to having all taken place beyond the limits of the district of this Vice-Consulate; and further, because these proceedings are conducted under orders not necessarily known to me.

In my reply, however, I have, on my own responsibility, and out of deference to the lengthened exposition of his Excellency's views, given an answer to the most material parts of his letter, which, your Lordship will see, involve no great difficulty.

These documents being rather long, I am unable, under present circum-

stances, to get copies prepared for transmission by an opportunity which now presents itself *via* St. Helena.

From this despatch, however, your Lordship will learn the substance of what has taken place, and, by an early opportunity, I will transmit full copies of these papers through Her Majesty's Consul at Lisbon.

I will also forward copies of the same to the senior officer, for his information and that of the Commander-in-chief, as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

Inclosure in No. 396.

Extract from the Official "Gazette" of the General Government of the Province of Angola of March 5, 1853.

(Translation.)

Loanda, March 5, 1853.

THROUGH official communications received from the commander of the schooner of war "Conde do Tojal," it is known that the King of Cabinda, the Governor of Porto Rico, and other authorities and people of these territories, over which Her Most Faithful Majesty has reserved rights, are animated by the best and most firm spirit of adhesion and submission to Her Majesty the Queen and the Portuguese authorities, which we have the satisfaction of announcing.

In like manner it is announced that the Government of this province has received a deputation that arrived in a small boat from Cabinda, sent by the King and the Governor of Porto Rico, which deputation presented to his Excellency the Governor-General a letter missive, signed by them and other magnates of the country, declaring that they, and the people whom they represent, respect and recognize the Royal Portuguese authority only, in the same way as all their ancestors have recognized and respected it.

No. 397.

Vice-Consul Brand to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 16.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 23, 1853

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, the copy of a letter addressed by me to the senior officer of the southern division of Her Majesty's squadron, with a view to giving further publicity to the tenour of Viscount Palmerston's circular of the 19th of March, 1847, respecting the question of British subjects in foreign countries receiving, and becoming owners of, slaves in payment of debts due to them.

I also inclose a copy of the answer which I received to that communication, and trust that your Lordship will approve of my having addressed the senior officer on this important subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

Inclosure 1 in No. 397.

Vice-Consul Brand to Commander A. E. Wilmot.

Sir,

Loanda, March 22, 1853.

AS there are several British factories established for purposes of legal trade at different places along the coast within the limits of the division under your charge, but beyond those of the district of this Vice-Consulate, at which places, or their neighbourhood, Slave Trade speculations have been extensively carried on, and where they seem to be partially revived,—as, for example, Ambriz and Loango,—and as it appears very desirable that British subjects connected with these factories should be made fully aware of the penalties to which they are

liable by the statute of 6 and 7 Vict. c. 98, in case of their becoming owners of slaves, countenancing Slave Traffic, or in any way committing acts prohibited by the previous statute of 5 Geo. IV, c. 113; I beg to inclose herewith the copy of a circular issued by Viscount Palmerston to Her Majesty's Consular officers in 1847, containing the decision come to on a question which had arisen in the construction of the said statute of 6 and 7 Vict. c. 98, as to whether British subjects in foreign countries could become owners of slaves, either received in payment of, or seized in execution for, debts due to them.

The substance of this circular was published by me in the form of a public notice on the 30th of September, 1847, and in the official Gazette of this General Government of the 9th of October of that year; but as this publication was confined to the district of this Vice-Consulate, and as it seems desirable to extend it to all those places on this coast where there are British subjects, I have thought it well to transmit a copy of the circular in question to you, fully assured that you will avail yourself of every suitable occasion for making its substance known to Her Majesty's subjects resident at such localities as those now mentioned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

Inclosure 2 in No. 397.

Commander A. E. Wilmot to Vice-Consul Brand.

Sir, "Harlequin," St. Paul de Loanda, March 23, 1853.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, inclosing a copy of a circular issued by Viscount Palmerston to Her Majesty's Consular officers, dated March 19, 1847.

The present state of affairs here seems to be particularly well adapted for the circulation of this paper amongst British subjects upon this coast, and I shall not fail to send, by the earliest opportunity, a copy of this most important decision to every subject of Great Britain carrying on trade within the limits of my station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR E. WILMOT.

No. 398.

The Earl of Clarendon to Vice-Consul Brand.

Sir, Foreign Office, June 27, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of March, 1853, addressed to the Earl of Malmesbury, and its inclosures, on the subject of the interpretation put by Her Majesty's Government upon the statutes of the 5th Geo. IV, cap. 113, and of the 6th & 7th Vict., cap. 98, with reference to British subjects living in foreign countries who may receive or become owners of slaves in payment of debts; and I have in reply to state to you that I approve of your having called the attention of the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships on the southern division of the West African station to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 399.

Vice-Consul Brand to Lord John Russell.—(Received October 4.)

(Extract.)

Loanda, June 25, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, returns of the vessels which have made entry at, and sailed from, the port of Loanda, during the quarter ended on the 31st March last.

Inclosure 1 in No. 399.

LIST of VESSELS which have arrived at the Port of Loanda during the Quarter ended March 31, 1853.

Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Name of Master.	Name of Owner.	Name of Consignee.	Tons registered.	No. of Crew.	Cargo.	Whence Arrived.	REMARKS.
1853 Jan. 3	Portuguese	Patacho	Ioven Wenceslaw	A. J. Correia	A. J. Correira, Lisbon	Master	123	10	Agoardente and sundries	Rio de Janeiro	
" 16	American	Barque	Seamew	Horace Tufts	Robert Brookhouse, Salem, Mass.	Simon Stodder	198	10	Flour, powder, and sundries	Salem	Arrived viz Ambriz.
" 23	Portuguese	Ship	Ioven Carlota	José Franco. Martins	C. E. Ribeira da Silva, Lisbon	Master	347	18	Agoardente and sundries	Rio de Janeiro	Arrived viz Benguella.
" 26	Ditto	Patacho	Restauração	C. de M. Moreira	Widow Tarujo and Sons, Lisbon	Ditto	130	9	Wines, bale goods, and sundries	Lisbon	Ditto.
Feb. 1	Ditto	Brig	Conceição de Maria	F. de O. Chambica	Joao Anto. de L. Robin, Lisbon	Ditto	239	16	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
" 3	Ditto	Patacho	Andorinha 2o.	J. B. Garraio	J. B. Garraio, Lisbon	Ditto	213	13	Provincial produce	Benguella	Entered from coasting.
" 7	Ditto	Brig	Portador	F. A. Pinheiro	Ezequiel & Seixas, Lisbon	Ditto	146	15	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
" 8	American	Patacho	Louisa Beaton	H. Comstock	M. Laurence & Co., New London, Ct.	Mel. Joaqui. de Souza Monteiro	168	8	Oil, gum, and urzella	Ambriz	Ditto.
" 16	Portuguese	Schooner	Lice	M. Gonçalves	Lice Mór Seruya, Lisbon	José Maria do Prado	107	10	Wines, bale goods, and sundries	Lisbon	Ditto.
Mar. 8.	Ditto	Brig	Progresso	Paulo Anto. da Rocha	Paulo Anto. da Rocha, Lisbon	Master	185	12	Agoardente and sundries	Bahia	Arrived viz Benguella.
" 25	American	Patacho	Reindeer	W. J. Julio	H. S. Ingalls, New York	Franco. Barboza Rodrigues	138	11	Sundries	St. Helena	Ditto.
" 31	Portuguese	Brig	Aurora	A. A. de C. Carvalho	A. A. de C. Carvalho, Lisbon	Oliveira & Martins	175	17	Wines, bale goods, and sundries	Lisbon	Ditto.

Loanda, March 31, 1853.

(Signed) G. BRAND, Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 399.

LIST of VESSELS which have cleared out from the Port of Loanda during the Quarter ended March 31, 1853.

Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Name of Master.	Name of Owner.	Name of Consignee.	Tons per Register.	No. of Crew.	Cargo.	Whither Bound.	REMARKS.
1853 Jan. 3	English	Barque	Lanarkshire	Wm. Patterson	Edward Oliver, Liverpool	Albert Schut	688	19	Ballast.	Mobile	Entered with coals from Newport, September 29, 1852
"	Portuguese	Brig	Oriente	D. J. do Faria	D. José de Faria, Lisbon	Master	144	15	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Entered from Pernambuco, August 13; from coasting, November 20, 1852
"	Ditto	Ditto	Africanu	A. F. dos Reis	J. M. G. Monsanto, Lisbon	Ditto	150	14	Ditto	Ditto	Entered from Lisbon, August 21, 1852; from coasting, October 28, 1852
"	Ditto	Ditto	Fortuna	A. da C. M. Cardozo	Anto. da C. M. Cardozo & Brothers, Lisbon	Ditto	320	19	Sundries	Benguella	
"	American	Patacho	Louisa Beaton	H. Comstock	M. Laurence & Co., New London, Ct.	Mel. Joaqui. de Souza Monteiro	168	8	Remainder of inward cargo	Ambriz	
"	Ditto	Barque	Seamew	Horace Tufts	Robert Brookhouse, Salem, Mass.	Simon Stodder	198	10	Ditto	Benguella	
"	Portuguese	Brig	Emilia	J. F. da C. Roso	Mel. de C. Chamburga, Lisbon	Master	180	10	Sundries	Ditto	
"	Ditto	Patacho	Ioven Wenceslaw	A. J. Correia	A. J. Correia, Lisbon	F. S. Ribeira & Sons	123	10	Ditto	Pernambuco	
Feb. 2	Ditto	Barque	Duke de Bragança	A. V. Ferreira	Franco. Roiz Batalha, Lisbon	José Joaqui. Rodrigues	227	20	Ditto	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Brig	Alliança	J. E. Rodrigues	Feliberio José da Costa, Lisbon	José Maria do Prado	130	12	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Entered from Lisbon, October 9, 1852
"	Ditto	Patacho	Largo	J. da Luiz	C. J. Freitas e Abreu, Madaira	Lion & Brothers	118	11	Ditto	London	Entered from Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1852
"	Ditto	Ditto	Restauração	G. de M. Moreira	Widow Tarujo & Sons, Lisbon	Mel. Joaqui. Ramos e Silva	130	9	Ballast	Pernambuco	
Mar. 10	Ditto	Brig	Conceição de Maria	A. J. de Jesses	F. de C. Chamburga, Lisbon	Master	239	16	Sundries	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Schooner	Ceres	F. M. Cardeira	José Lourenço Sobral & Co., Lisbon	Ditto	97	9	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Entered from Pernambuco, December 30, 1852
"	Ditto	Pallabote	Nazareth	Balthazar Marques	Mel. Anto. de Magalhães e Silva, Loanda	Owner	25	12	Sundries	St. Thomas	

Loanda, March 31, 1853

(Signed)

G. BRAND, Vice-Consul.

No. 400.

Vice-Consul Brand to Lord John Russell.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, returns of the vessels which have made entry at, and cleared out from, the port of Loanda during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. BRAND.

Inclosure 1 in No. 400.

LIST of VESSELS which have arrived at the Port of Loanda during the Quarter ended June 30, 1853.

Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Name of Master.	Name of Owner.	Name of Consignee.	Tons per Register.	No. of Crew.	Cargo.	Whence Arrived.	REMARKS.
1853 April 4	American	Barque	Seamew	-	Robert Brookhouse, Salem, Mass.	Simon Stodder	198	10	Provincial produce	Benguella	Entered from coasting.
"	Ditto	Ditto	Catherine	-	Ditto	Ditto	226	10	Flour, powder, and sundries	Salem	Arrived <i>viâ</i> Ambriz.
"	Portuguese	Brig	Oceano	-	Thomaz Maria Bissone, Lisbon	Master	140	10	Provincial produce	Benguella	Entered from coasting.
"	Ditto	Ditto	Novo Africano	-	José Maria da Silva Rego, Lisbon	Ditto	188	19	Wines, bale goods, and sundries	Lisbon	Arrived <i>viâ</i> Benguella.
"	Ditto	Barque	Snyrna	-	The Baron do Cereal, Macao	Florenço Anto. da Cruz	205	25	Rice and sundries	Macao	Arrived <i>viâ</i> Mossamedes.
"	Ditto	Ditto	Carlota é Amelia	-	Mel. José Pereira Bastos, Lisbon	Mel. Anto. Guerreiro	230	18	Bale goods and sundries	Lisbon	
"	Ditto	Patacho	Saudade	-	Anto. M. Tavares, Lisbon	Master	147	9	Agoardente and sundries	Pernambuco	Arrived <i>viâ</i> Benguella.
May 7	Ditto	Brigantine	Roza	-	Gaspar Joaqm. da Motta, Rio de Janeiro	Ditto	154	13	Ditto	Rio de Janeiro	
"	Ditto	Patacho	Ioven Wenceslav	-	A. J. Correia, Lisbon	Silva and Duarte	123	10	Ditto	Pernambuco	
"	Ditto	Brig	Nova Amizade	-	João Anto. de L. Robim, Lisbon	Master	206	15	Wines, bale goods, and sundries	Lisbon	Ditto.
"	Ditto	Ditto	Veloz	-	Anto. Joaqm. de Oliveira, Lisbon	Ditto	237	15	Agoardente and sundries	Pernambuco	Ditto.
June 9	Ditto	Ditto	Conceição de Maria	-	João Anto. de L. Robim, Lisbon	Francisco d'O. Cham-bica	239	12	Provincial produce	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Patacho	Restauração	-	Widow Tarujo and Sons, Lisbon	Master	130	9	Agoardente and sundries	Pernambuco	
"	Ditto	Barque	Linda Flor	-	João Bernardino Nunes, Bahia	Ditto	176	15	Agoardente, tobacco, and sundries	Bahia	

Loanda, June 30, 1853.

(Signed) G. BRAND, Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 400.

List of Vessels which have cleared out from the Port of Loanda during the Quarter ended June 30, 1853.

Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Name of Master.	Name of Owner.	Name of Consignee.	No. of Registers.	No. of Crew.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	REMARKS.
1853 April 6	American	Patacho	Reindeer	W. J. Julio	H. S. Ingalls, New York-	Antonio Lopes da Silva	138	11	Provincial produce	New York	Entered from St. Helena, March 25
"	Portuguese	Ditto	Andorinha 2o.	J. B. Garrão	J. B. Garrão, Lisbon	Master	213	13	Ditto	Lisbon	Entered from Lisbon, September 19, 1852; from coasting, February 3, 1853
"	American	Ditto	Louisa Beaton	H. Comstock	M. Laurence & Co., New London, Ct.	Mel. Joaqui. de Souza Monteiro	168	8	Ditto	New London	Entered from New London, December 31, 1852; from coasting, February 8, 1853
"	Ditto	Barque	Seamew-	Horace Tufts	Robert Brookhouse, Salem, Mass.	Simon Stodder	198	10	Ditto	Salem	Original entry from Salem, January 16
"	Portuguese	Brig	Progresso	Paulo Anto. da Rocha	Paulo Anto. da Rocha, Lisbon	Master	185	11	Sundries	Benguella	
"	American	Barque	Catherine	J. Phillips	Robert Brookhouse, Salem, Mass.	Simon Stodder	226	8	Remainder of cargo	Ditto	
"	Portuguese	Ship	Ioven Carlota	José Franco. Martins	C. E. Ribeira da Silva, Lisbon	Master	347	18	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Entered from Rio de Janeiro, January 23
"	Ditto	Brig	Portador	F. A. Pinheiro	Ezequiel & Seixas, Lisbon	Ditto	146	17	Ditto	Ditto	Entered from Lisbon, October 2, 1852; from coasting, February 8, 1853
May 1	Ditto	Ditto	Novo Africano	J. Primo da Costa	José Maria da Silva Rego, Lisbon	Rego Thomas Auguste. d'Oliveira	188	18	Ballast	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Schooner	Luce	M. Gonçalves	Lice Mór Saruya, Lisbon	José Maria do Prado	107	9	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Entered from Lisbon, February 15
"	Ditto	Barque	Smyrna	Joaqu. Franco. Grill	The Baron de Cereal, Macao	Florenço Anto. da Cruz	205	25	Wines and sundries	Macao	
"	Ditto	Brig	Aurora	A. A. de C. Carvalho	A. A. de C. Carvalho, Lisbon	Oliveira & Martins	175	17	Sundries	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Barque	Carlota e Arnalia	M. A. Guerreiro	Mel. José Pereira Bastos, Lisbon	Master	230	19	Ditto	Ditto	
June 6	Ditto	Brigantine	Roza	Gaspar Joaqui. da Motta	Gaspar Joaqui. da Motta, Rio de Janeiro	Ditto	154	13	Provincial produce	Lisbon	
"	Ditto	Brig	Nova Amizade	A. J. de A. Martins	João Anto. de L. Robim, Lisbon	J. A. Turrão	206	17	Sundries	Benguella	
"	Ditto	Ditto	Oceano	J. S. Fernandes	Thomas Maria Bissone, Lisbon	Master	140	15	Provincial produce	Lisbon	Original entry from Rio de Janeiro, November 17, 1852
"	Ditto	Patacho	Saudade	A. de C. Cotim	Anto. M. Javares, Lisbon	João Diogo de Bastos	147	11	Ditto	Ditto	

Loanda, June 30, 1853.

(Signed)

G. BRAND, Vice-Consul.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Madeira*.

No. 401.

Consul Stoddart to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Madeira, October 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I addressed, on the 19th instant, to the Right Honourable Sir Richard Pakenham, in reply to one, dated September 29, which I received from his Excellency on the previous day, respecting a Portuguese vessel called the "*Laura*," which sailed from Terceira on the 17th ultimo, under circumstances which afforded grounds of suspicion that she was likely to be employed in the Slave Trade.

Your Lordship will observe from these communications the steps which I had already felt it my duty to take in the matter, in consequence of a report on the subject having reached me, on the 3rd instant, from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Terceira, and I trust they will meet your Lordship's approval.

It may be proper that I should mention also, that I was subsequently put in possession of a detail of the causes of suspicion regarding the "*Laura*," by Her Majesty's Consul at St. Michael's.

Although many of Her Majesty's ships touch here on their way to the coast of Africa, and other stations to the south of this island, some of them pass it without having communication with the shore; I would therefore take the liberty of submitting, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, if there be reason to fear that vessels like the "*Laura*" are being fitted out in Portugal or the Azore Islands for unlawful traffic, whether it would not be expedient, as possibly facilitating the means of their capture, to instruct all officers commanding Her Majesty's vessels destined on such voyages, to call at this port for information, if not inconvenient to the public service; particularly as they would not in doing so be much, if at all, deviating from their courses, nor be thereby incurring more than a few hours' delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. STODDART.

Inclosure in No. 401.

Consul Stoddart to Sir R. Pakenham, October 19, 1853.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 326.]

No. 402.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Stoddart.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st ultimo, reporting the steps which you had taken in consequence of a report which you received from the British Vice-Consul at Terceira, of the sailing from that island of the Portuguese vessel "*Laura*," ostensibly for Madeira, but in reality, as was suspected, on a slave-trading voyage; and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 403.

Consul Stoddart to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Madeira, November 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, and to assure you that I derive satisfaction to know, therefrom, that my proceedings in the matter of the Portuguese vessel "*Laura*" had merited your Lordship's approval.

I have since heard from Her Majesty's Acting-Consul at St. Vincent that "the man Avellar, in the '*Laura*,' is well known in the Cape de Verde Islands as a most notorious slave-dealer."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. STODDART.

SARDINIA.

No. 404.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 7, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, reporting the arrival in that port of the Sardinian brig "*Carlotta*," Giacomo Buonsignore, master, with a very unusual quantity of fresh water, which it appears was taken on board the "*Carlotta*" in the London Docks.

I have requested the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to draw the attention of the Board of Customs to this matter; and I now transmit an extract of a report which Mr. Rothery has made to their Lordships on this subject; from which it appears that the master of the "*Carlotta*," in taking so large a quantity of water on board his vessel, was guilty of a violation of the Treaty of August 3, 1834, between this country and Sardinia, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

In accordance with Mr. Rothery's suggestion, I have to instruct you to mention this case to the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to request that the Sardinian Government will cause it to be made known to the masters of Sardinian vessels engaged in trade with the west coast of Africa, that the taking on board their vessels an unusual quantity of fresh water, even though it be not intended for slave-trading purposes, will render their vessels liable to seizure and condemnation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

 Inclosure in No. 404.
Extract from Mr. Rothery's Report of 14th December, 1853.

YOUR Lordships were pleased to transmit these papers to the Commissioners of the Customs for their report thereon, which is also herewith returned, dated the 5th of December instant.

In this report the Commissioners of Customs refer to the Convention concluded on the 8th of August, 1834, between the King of Sardinia, His Britannic Majesty, and the King of the French, whereby the King of Sardinia acceded to two Conventions, which had been concluded between this country and France on the 30th of November, 1831, and 22nd of March, 1833, for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and by Article VI of the latter Convention, it is stipulated that any merchant vessel of either nation visited and detained in pursuance of the Convention of the 30th of November, 1831, and of the provisions thereinbefore recited, shall, unless proof be given to the contrary, be held and taken of right to have engaged in the Slave Trade, or to have been fitted out for such traffic, if any of the particulars hereinafter specified be found in her outfit or equipment, or on board of her, and the following is amongst the particulars recited: "Having on board an unreasonable number of water-casks, or other vessels for holding water, unless the master shall produce a certificate from the Custom House, from the place at which he cleared outwards, stating that a sufficient security had been given by the owners of such

* See No. 29.

vessel, that such casks or other vessels should only be used for the reception of palm oil, or be employed in any other lawful trade."

The Commissioners of Customs do not in their report state clearly, what were the conditions of the bond which had been given by the Sardinian master, nor do they state the substance of the certificate which issued from that department upon the bond being taken; and it did not appear, whether either the one or the other had reference to the fact of there being seventy-three casks containing 8,000 gallons of fresh water on board.

I have the honour further to report, that I have attended at the Custom-house for the purpose of ascertaining the precise nature of the bond, and of the certificate that issued, to ascertain precisely the facts stated; and I learn that on the 3rd of June last, the master of the "*Carlotta*" entered into a bond in the penal sum of 500*l.*, and there is no mention made, either in the bond or in the certificate, as to this quantity of water being on board the vessel, but quite the contrary, they both refer to eighty-five empty casks being on board, and therefore, so far as appears from these documents, the vessel left the port of London with empty casks.

I have the honour further to report, that it is evident that a breach of the Convention has been committed by Gracomo Buonsignore, the master of this Sardinian vessels, and I am rather surprised she was suffered to depart from Lagos without being seized and proceeded against: I beg, however, to suggest that it appears to me to be very advisable that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should represent the circumstances to the Sardinian Minister, in order to prevent a recurrence taking place.

No. 405.

Mr. Hudson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 28.)

My Lord,

Turin, January 20, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 7th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a note from the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing me that a circular has been addressed to the proper authorities, instructing them to make known to the masters of Sardinian vessels engaged in trade with the west coast of Africa, the consequences to which they will expose themselves by taking on board an unusual quantity of fresh water.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

Inclosure in No. 405.

General Dabormida to Mr. Hudson.

M. le Ministre,

Turin, le 18 Janvier, 1854.

JE me suis empressé de donner communication au Ministre de la Marine de la note que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 13 du courant, pour me signaler le résultat de la visite faite à bord du brick Sarde "*Carlotta*," dans les eaux de Lagos.

Mon collègue me répond aujourd'hui qu'il a aussitôt adressé une circulaire aux Consuls des différentes directions maritimes de l'Etat, pour leur enjoindre de prévenir les navigateurs nationaux des conséquences auxquelles ils s'exposeraient en prenant à leur bord, pour les voyages de l'Afrique Occidentale, une quantité d'eau plus grande que celle nécessaire.

J'espère qu'une pareille mesure suffira pour prévenir toute contravention de ce genre au Traité conclu entre la Grande Bretagne et la Sardaigne pour la répression de la Traite des Noirs, et je saisis, &c.

(Signé)

DABORMIDA.

SPAIN.

No. 406.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1853.

I HAVE to instruct your Lordship to communicate to the Spanish Government the substance of the inclosed despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, stating that about 500 African slaves were landed on the coast of Cuba, between Sagua and Cardenas, a few days before the 8th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 407.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 18, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of a note I have received from Count Alcoy, in answer to a communication I made to him, founded on Lord John Russell's despatch of the 21st ultimo, relating to the vessel "*Lady Suffolk*."

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 407.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 15, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note dated the 28th ultimo, in which, in reply to another note from this Office, which alluded to the exaggerated manner in which Mr. Crawford writes his reports relative to preparations for the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba, you state, in your Government's name, that the accusation brought forward by the British Consul at the Havana relative to the case of the ship "*Lady Suffolk*," is not contradicted by the facts which are reported in the communications which have been received on this subject from the Captain-General, and which were transmitted to the British Legation on the 5th of January last. Your Lordship observes, that so long as it be not proved that the persons who were tried on the occasion in question were the principal offenders, Mr. Crawford's expressions remain in their full force. To this, your Lordship will allow me to observe, that only the credit, which I should venture to call an excessive one, which the English Government

* See No. 510.

gives to the assertions of its agents at the Havana, can have suggested an argument like the one which is now set forth.

The charge in question having been brought forward in a vague and undetermined form, without mentioning any persons or positive facts, the defence of the Captain-General's conduct is to be found in the acts which appear from his despatches relative to the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*." These despatches were communicated to your Lordship on the 5th of January last, and your Lordship could not abstain from acknowledging, in your note of the 8th of the same month, the straightforward and loyal behaviour of the aforesaid functionary. Should the British Consul now be able to prove that some individual who had been found guilty in the trial in question had been allowed to escape the action of the law, or that some denounced persons had not been included in the trial, then the charge of partiality which has been preferred against General Cañedo would be well founded, and it might then be required that this functionary should produce the evidence which your Lordship supposes to be necessary for the vindication of his conduct. But such not being the case, and the accusation being reduced to Mr. Crawford's vague assertion, Her Majesty's Government can only confine itself to reject it as unjust and offensive to the dignity of a high functionary, because General Cañedo's responsibility, in the present case, cannot extend beyond the limits of the trial in which his conduct has been justified, and his efforts to detect the crime and its perpetrators have been clearly demonstrated.

Some recent instances must have convinced the British Government that the Captain-General of Cuba spares no effort nor fatigue for the attainment of the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves; and, indeed, when that functionary sees that, instead of the zeal and alacrity with which he devotes himself to the attainment of this object being acknowledged, all sorts of accusations are being preferred against him, he will be compelled to resort to his own sense of duty, in order not to be discouraged in the difficult task entrusted to him.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 408.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a translation of a note I have received from Count Alcoy, announcing measures to be immediately adopted with regard to the final manumission of the emancipados in Cuba, to which I adjoin my answer.

I also transmit translations of two other notes from Count Alcoy, respecting the alleged disembarkation of negroes, to which I equally annex my answer.

Count Alcoy sent me a great mass of papers to show the proceedings which had been instituted in various cases, and I must confess that great pains had been apparently taken to attain the object in view. I need not enlarge upon this question, for as everything depends upon the animus with which these things are done, your Lordship is as good a judge as myself of what are the probabilities of the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 408.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, March 15, 1853.

AS I had the honour of acquainting your Lordship, under date of the 9th of February last, I again urged the Colonial Council to give in its report upon the grave question of the emancipated negroes of the Island of Cuba; and I have now the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that the Queen, my Lady, in consideration of the advice of the Colonial Council, has been pleased to resolve that freedom be granted to all the emancipated negroes actually in the Island of Cuba, originating from the Treaty of 1817, as their contracts of consignment fall in, provided that all of them be set free before the end of the present year, 1853; that each one of these emancipated negroes, after obtaining his letter of liberty, may continue to reside in the Island of Cuba, if it should suit his purpose, and the Captain-General make no objection thereto; and, lastly, that the emancipated negroes originating from the later Treaty of 1835, shall also obtain their freedom, should they have completed the five years of consignment considered as necessary for them to be taught; and that as regards those who are not so situated, endeavours be made to cultivate their education by those means which the present regulations regarding emancipated negroes furnish, or by such means as it may be considered expedient to establish hereafter, so that they may in like manner obtain their letters of liberty as soon as possible.

Her Majesty's Government are aware of the difficulties and no small sacrifices which this measure must produce; but this does not deter them, persuaded that duty imposes it, and loyalty exacts it.

I hope that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will do justice to that of Her Majesty, and that will be its best recompense.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 408.

Lord Howden to the Count of Alcoy.

Sir,

Madrid, March 16, 1853.

IT was with the most unfeigned satisfaction that I received, last night, your Excellency's esteemed note of yesterday morning, announcing the wise, just, and humane measure which the Spanish Government has determined to adopt with regard to the "emancipados" in Cuba. I hasten to express to your Excellency how much I applaud this resolution; and to state that I shall lose no time in conveying the knowledge of it to my Government, who will, I am sure, equally participate in what I feel. I can sincerely assure your Excellency, that if it is sometimes my painful duty to be the channel of disagreeable observations respecting the Slave Trade, those observations are forced upon the Government which I serve, and upon myself, by the public opinion of our country; and I seize, not only with pleasure, but with avidity, every occasion of expressing sentiments as natural to the Government of England, as congenial to my own feelings.

The different Cabinets of Her Catholic Majesty may rest assured that whatever successive steps they may honestly and courageously take for the final suppression of this odious Traffic in Slaves,—one not only indefensible in itself, but having the lamentable result of producing continual dissension between the Governments of England and Spain,—will be measures not only thoroughly appreciated by the English people as a matter of justice, but will be gratefully accepted by them as a proof of

friendly cooperation in a great cause, and as so many reasons for drawing closer and closer those bonds of amity which they are so anxious never to see dissolved.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 408.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 15, 1853.

I HAVE received your Lordship's note of the 11th instant, in which you are pleased to inclose two despatches from the British Consul at the Havana, relative to the supposed landing of 600 negroes at Cabañas, and I hasten to state to your Lordship that, as yet, no intelligence has reached Her Majesty's Government on this subject, though I entertain the hope that the Captain-General of the Havana will have proceeded with the greatest activity to the investigation of facts, and will report them with the punctuality and accuracy which your Lordship will be enabled to appreciate yourself, by perusing the correspondence relative to other analogous cases, which I, confidentially, and under a separate cover, transmit to your Lordship.

But, without my denying or admitting the correctness of the above-mentioned denunciation, I beg to call your Lordship's and the British Government's attention to a circumstance which Mr. Crawford himself mentions in his communications. That functionary states, that the vessel which had conveyed the 600 negroes, was sunk, after landing them; and this assertion either implies that the landing in question is a mere invention, and that in order to prevent the elucidation of the truth, it has been contrived that the vessel should thus disappear; or that the persecution is so active, and the penalties so severe, that the capital which the vessel represents has been sacrificed, in order that its owners may remain undetected, and escape the punishment of the law; which, in the latter case, would thoroughly contradict Mr. Crawford's assertions as to the Slave Trade continuing to be carried on with the greatest audacity and impunity.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 408.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 15, 1853.

IN pursuance of my decided purpose of giving the Government of England every possible proof of the loyalty and good faith with which Her Majesty's Government and its subordinate functionaries make every possible effort to put a stop to the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba, I inclose to your Lordship the original despatches from General Cañedo, Nos. 34, 37, and 39, relative to this subject, trusting that this repeated mark of confidential frankness will be the best answer to the accusations which are so unjustly brought forward against that respectable functionary.

I think it expedient, moreover, to state to your Lordship, that General Cañedo, in a private letter which I have just received from him, tells me, amongst other things, that he is making, and intends to make, every possible effort, even to the prejudice of other exigencies of the service, for the purpose of extinguishing the Slave Trade, and that he

confidently expects that the slave-dealers will at last become disheartened and fatigued at his persecution, and be compelled to desist from their unlawful avocations.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 408.

Lord Howden to the Count of Alcoy.

Sir,

Madrid, March 16, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge two esteemed notes from your Excellency, dated the 15th instant, relating to the fraudulent disembarkation of negroes in the Havana, with the inclosure in one of the notes of a mass of papers relating to the perquisitions made by Captain-General Cañedo for the suppression of such illicit proceedings.

I have taken cognizance of these documents, and I greatly rejoice at all steps taken by General Cañedo for the above object. I shall not fail to report the same to my Government.

But what will give singular satisfaction to the Earl of Clarendon, as it has done to myself, is the allusion to a private letter of General Cañedo, the contents of which your Excellency has kindly communicated to me, in which he gives positive assurances that his utmost efforts will be directed to the extinction of the Slave Trade in Cuba.

I never for one moment can doubt any promise solemnly made by a person who has the honour to wear the glorious uniform of Spain.

I return to your Excellency, with many thanks, the interesting papers with which you favoured me.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 409.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 22, 1853.

I HEREWITH transmit translation of a note and its inclosure, which I have received from Count Alcoy, in reply to a communication I made to him in consequence of instructions I received from your Lordship, inclosing at the same time to his Excellency a list of vessels which, according to Mr. Crawford's account, disembarked their cargo of slaves in Cuba during the year 1852.

I also add copy of my answer to Count Alcoy's note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 409.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 17, 1853.

I HAVE received your Lordship's note of the 12th instant, in which you are pleased to inclose the Report on the state of the Slave Trade which the British Consul at the Havana has sent to his Government at the end of the year 1852.

I beg to express to your Lordship with perfect frankness, the deep regret I have felt on perusing the aforesaid document, and on considering

that such a document is taken as a good foundation to prefer accusations against Her Majesty's Government.

The British Consul at the Havana, in his aforesaid Report, assures that 5,943 Bozal negroes were imported last year into the Island of Cuba, and that it is besides to be supposed that there were one-third more, whose disembarkation has not been detected. And founded on this supposition, he asserts that the importations during the year 1852, amounted to 7,924 negroes, wherefrom he comes to the conclusion that the Slave Trade is carried on almost openly and with impunity.

It seems impossible that the British Government can have considered Mr. Crawford's suppositions as a good foundation to make formal accusations against the Government of a friendly Power, which has given no offence to Great Britain.

If your Lordship examines with attention the return of imported slaves, drawn up by Mr. Crawford, you will observe that the greatest part of the importations which form the total number of 5,943 negroes, are founded on the gratuitous assertions of a functionary who is in the habit of making denunciations on the ground of any vague rumour afloat, and who, although his denunciation be subsequently proved to be untrue, pays no attention to it, and still persists in supposing the fact as a correct one, in order to be able to increase the numbers which suit his purpose. And, as if there were not sufficient, he moreover capriciously supposes that 2,000 more negroes may have been landed without his being apprized of it.

In order that your Lordship may clearly see the real signification of the cypher of 5,943 negroes, who are supposed by the British Consul to have been landed on the Island of Cuba, I transmit to your Lordship a copy of Mr. Crawford's return, accompanied with notes in the margin, showing the result of the legal investigations instituted into every one of the supposed disembarkations; and I beg to assure your Lordship that I do not pretend, in transmitting to you this document, absolutely to deny that slaves have been landed, nor to assert that all the denunciations made by the British Consul are really and decidedly untrue; my only object is to call your Lordship's attention to two points—

First, that a Government can only be accused when the charges against it are founded on the legal truth; and that the vague and unfounded denunciations which Mr. Crawford so frequently brings forth are not the legal truth.

And secondly, that this functionary's assertion as to the Slave Trade being carried on openly and with impunity cannot be correct when so many difficulties are found in the ascertainment of truth in this sort of affairs, which, were they so public as is supposed, would be easily proved.

I repeat to your Lordship that I cannot but experience the most profound regret at seeing that the British Government listens and attaches importance to the information given by an agent, who amongst the charges he prefers against the authorities of Cuba, enumerates the fitting out of ten vessels which were preparing for the Slave Trade, while three of these vessels have been seized by the Spanish authorities, as Mr. Crawford himself acknowledges, and four other vessels are still under trial before the Mixed Court of Justice. If the British Government had on this occasion behaved towards the Government of Spain with the friendly deference which seems to be required by the relations existing between the two countries, it would have naturally suspended its judgment on the subject, considering that Mr. Crawford wanted to bring forth some apparent scandalous transactions connected with the Slave Trade, in order to justify the adoption of arbitrary measures, which can only have been suggested to him by his not dissembled disaffection towards everything which is Spanish in the Island of Cuba.

But Her Majesty's Government intends to enter, on a subsequent occasion, into more detailed explanations on this subject, when it shall have collected the data which are required to prove its impartiality and justice.

I beg your Lordship to excuse the frankness with which I confess my

discouragement on this question; because if the loyalty with which the Spanish Government is acting on this matter, and of which your Lordship possesses numerous proofs, is not sufficient to inspire confidence to the British Cabinet; if its efforts and sacrifices are of no avail; but, on the contrary, the good understanding between the two Governments is to be dependent on the ill-will of an agent who founds his own importance on the exaggeration of his conduct, your Lordship will comprehend that the discouragement of Her Majesty's Government is as well founded as it is difficult to find a remedy for this state of things.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY

Inclosure 2 in No. 409.

List of Vessels arrived at the Island of Cuba with Negroes in 1852.

<i>January</i>	21, 1852.—Cargo of the Brazilian polacca "Sta. Cruz," number unknown (96 captured), supposed to be.. .. .	500
"	Cargo landed at Cochinos Bay	500
	From the investigations made no proofs were found of the landing having taken place.	
<i>February</i>	11, 1852.—Cargo landed at Camarioca	800
	Nothing was clearly proved; but the Governor of Matanzas, Don Julian Pavia, was dismissed for want of vigilance.	
	24, 1852.—Cargo landed at Sierra Morena	640
	Nothing was clearly proved.	
<i>June</i>	2, 1852.—Cargo, by Spanish brig "Cora," landed at Cayo Frances	350
	Although from the first investigation it appeared that the landing was not true, judicial proceedings have been instituted into the matter.	
<i>July</i>	22, 1852.—Cargo, by a vessel, name unknown, landed at Ortigosa	540
<i>September</i>	25, 1852.—Cargo landed at Trinidad, Rio Zarza	390
	From the summary investigations it appeared that no such landing was effected.	
<i>October</i>	4, 1852.—Cargo landed at Ortigosa	400
<i>November</i>	19, 1852.—Cargo landed between Mariel and Cabañas	150
	From the summary investigation it appeared that no such landing took place; but it appeared at the same time that 60 negroes had been landed, and that 25 were seized.	
<i>December</i>	23, 1852.—Cargo landed at Trinidad, Rio Zarza	273
	It was proved by the summary investigations that no such landing had taken place.	
"	Cargo landed at Cabañas	600
<i>About December</i>	23.—It is reported that another cargo was landed near the Havana from a Spanish vessel bearing a particular signal of Cadiz	600
		5,943

Note.—Instead of the two cargoes which are supposed to have been landed at Ortigosa there is only at this office the denunciation of a landing of 700 negroes of which no proofs were found.

Inclosure 3 in No. 409.

Lord Howden to the Count of Alcoy.

Sir,

Madrid, March 19, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's esteemed note of the 17th instant, relating to the number of slaves which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba believed to have been illegally introduced into that island during the year 1852.

I shall not fail to transmit home your Excellency's justification of the Spanish authorities, as in all my dealings with the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, I can have no other possible wish than to act in the most fair, impartial, and friendly manner, and in cases like the present my ardent desire is that the truth should be clearly known and publicly exposed, whatever be the side on which it has been sought to be perverted.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 410.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 11, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st ultimo, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and Count Alcoy, respecting the approaching liberation of the emancipados in Cuba, and the expressed determination of the Spanish Government, and of Captain-General Cañedo, to use their utmost efforts for the suppression of Slave Trade, I have the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that I approve of the notes which you addressed to Count Alcoy, copies of which were inclosed in your despatch above mentioned.

I have at the same time to instruct your Lordship to convey to the Spanish Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the renewed assurances of their determination to suppress the Slave Trade.

You will further say that the liberation of the emancipados is a signal proof of the good faith with which the Spanish Government are acting; and with reference to the solemn pledges now given by General Cañedo, Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that an improved state of things will take place in Cuba, and that the friendly relations of the two countries will no longer be endangered, nor their respective Governments harassed, by the frequent complaints that have hitherto been unavoidable.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 411.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 9, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of the answer I have received from the Spanish Government to the note which I addressed, by your Lordship's instructions, in consequence of the promised manumission of the emancipados in Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 411.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 6, 1853.

I HAVE received your Lordship's polite note of the 4th instant; and I have to state to you, in reply, that Her Majesty's Government has seen with the greatest satisfaction the testimonies of friendship and esteem, conveyed to it through your channel, on the part of the Cabinet of Her

Britannic Majesty, on the occasion of the decision lately adopted with regard to the emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba.

Her Majesty's Government feels highly gratified at seeing that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has acknowledged, in the above-mentioned decision, the intention and the wishes by which the former is animated of drawing closer the relations of amity and good understanding which unite the two nations, and trusts that the measure in question will also be considered as a loyal and sincere testimony of the good faith with which the Spanish Government has proceeded, and will always proceed, in matters relative to the black population of the aforesaid island.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 412.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 26.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 20, 1853.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th of April, I lost no time in addressing to the Spanish Government a note relative to the landing of about 500 Bozal negroes to the east of Cardeñas in Cuba, about the 5th of last month.

Count Alcoy, in his answer, translation of which I herewith inclose, informs me that no intelligence respecting this alleged landing of slaves, has as yet been received in his department, but that he has caused inquiries upon the subject to be instituted in the General Colonial Office, and that he will not fail to let the result of those inquiries be communicated to me without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 412.

The Count of Alcoy to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 12, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note of yesterday's date, relative to a landing of 500 Bozal negroes, which, according to the information received by the British Government, is supposed to have taken place between Sagua and Cardeñas on the coast of Cuba.

I have to state to your Lordship, in reply, that no intelligence having as yet been received at this office respecting the landing alluded to in your aforesaid note, I have instantly caused inquiries to be made on the subject at the General Colonial Office; and as soon as I receive an answer I will lose no time in communicating it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE ALCOY.

No. 413.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 3, 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 5th of April last, in which I informed you that a disembarkation of 500 African slaves had been effected in Cuba between Sagua and Cardeñas, in the beginning of March last, I now transmit to your Lordship copies of three further despatches* and of their inclosures, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-

* Nos. 516, 518, and 520.

General at the Havana; the first showing how the slaves from the slaver above alluded to were disposed of; the second reporting that a further landing of from 1,100 to 1,200 slaves had taken place on the 12th of March, near Cardañas.

I have to instruct you to communicate the substance of these papers to the Spanish Government, and to express the deep regret of Her Majesty's Government that the solemn assurances of the Captain-General so lately given should be so totally disregarded; and you will add, that the Spanish Government cannot be surprised if Her Majesty's Government take effectual measures for putting a stop to such glaring infractions of the Treaty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 414.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 18.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 2, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship translation of a note which I have received from General Lersundi, inclosing me confidentially some reports in the original from General Cañedo on the Slave Trade. I must frankly say that these reports (which, from their nature, and from the manner in which they were put into my hands, I am unable to transmit to your Lordship) were most gratifying to me; and the note itself is written in a tone which cannot fail to be satisfactory to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 414.

General Lersundi to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 26, 1853.

BEING anxious to give to your Lordship new proofs of the wishes by which Her Majesty's Government is animated with regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also of the incessant and loyal efforts made by the Spanish authorities in Cuba for the attainment of that object, I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship, quite confidentially, the despatches, in original, which have been received from General Cañedo, reporting the measures adopted by him, in consequence of intelligence obtained from his agents respecting some projects of disembarkation of slaves.

By the perusal of the aforesaid documents, your Lordship will be enabled to see that, even previously to Mr. Crawford's denunciation of one of the cases alluded to in the despatches from General Cañedo, this functionary had already taken the proper steps for the purpose of preventing, if possible, that the presumed violation of Treaties should be carried into effect, if attempted, as he was induced to think it would be; and your Lordship will likewise be enabled to observe, on reading the report of the proceedings instituted in consequence of a vessel, which was supposed to be a slaver, having been stranded on the coast, that the authorities of Her Majesty's Government, in their efforts to persecute the Slave Trade, meet with difficulties of such nature that sometimes neither their well-known zeal and activity, nor the means—even illegal ones in some cases—to which they have recourse in their investigations, are sufficient to overcome them.

I have to request that your Lordship will have the goodness to cause the inclosed papers to be returned to this office as soon as done with; and I avail, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 415.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 18.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 3, 1853.

YOUR Lordship, from your experience of Spain, must know that the powers of the Captains-General of Cuba, surrounded by persons interested in the Slave Trade, are of such a nature as to be easily neutralised in their passage through the complicated machinery of Government in that island when there is a question of stopping importation. The Captains-General have more power to do ill than to do good, for they are supported in the one and thwarted in the other.

A conversation which I had some time ago with General Concha confirmed me in this opinion, and I have always urged the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to extend the powers of the Captain-General; that is to say, practically, to make him more independent of collateral influences exercised officially by authorities which were in former times established, from jealousy or prudence, as a check on the Governor.

I see with pleasure a new and growing desire on the part of Spain to listen to the just expostulations of England, or perhaps I ought in fairness to say to consult her own honour; and I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship that this day the copy of a report from the Consejo de Ultramar was forwarded to the Foreign Office, recommending additional powers to be conferred on the Captains-General of Cuba, as the means of giving them additional facilities for the prevention of the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 416.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 18.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 12, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a translation of a note which I have this day received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating the efforts made by the chief authority in Cuba to extinguish the Slave Trade. The new powers assumed by the Captain-General for the discovery of secreted negroes will certainly tend to check their importation if honestly exercised, which I timidly trust they will be. The Spanish Government labour under a belief that anything they do is not likely to be appreciated by Mr. Crawford, and should indeed these new efforts of General Cañedo have any manifest result, it would be politic as well as gratifying to give credit should it be due.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 416.

General Lersundi to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 7, 1853.

IN consequence of the recent and peremptory instructions which, as your Lordship is aware, were lately sent to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, directing him to spare no exertion whatsoever until obtaining, as far as possible, the extinction of the Traffic in Bozal negroes, a long communication from that functionary has been received, in which, with reference to the steps he had already taken for that purpose, as your Lordship will have seen on perusing the original documents which, on several occasions have been confidentially shown to your Lordship, he reports the new and energetic measures which he has dictated in order to fulfil the instructions above alluded to.

Every means which could be resorted to, within the strict pale of law, against the dealers in slaves, having been exhausted, the Captain-General, prompted by the desire of attaining the total extinction of the Slave

Trade, has not hesitated to adopt an extreme measure, for which the laws by virtue of which that functionary exercises his authority, offer rather an insufficient foundation.

This measure consists in the instructions which have been sent to all the Governors of districts in the island, to the effect that whenever, under certain circumstances, it may be suspected that in any of the plantations where slave work is made use of some Bozal negroes may have been concealed, those functionaries are allowed to search the plantations in question, and to carry off all Bozal negroes they may find in them, placing the latter immediately at the disposal of the Captain-General.

Your Lordship will easily perceive that this proceeding might be said to be rather inconsistent with the provisions of the laws; and being well persuaded of the reasons and causes which have induced General Cañedo to give such an ample interpretation to the powers granted to him by the existing laws, your Lordship must surely consider this new effort made to attain the abolition of the Slave Trade as a fresh instance of the zeal and energy which the superior authority of Cuba is displaying in the persecution of that Traffic, as well as of the loyalty of his intentions.

Her Majesty's Government, whose wishes on this matter are well-known to your Lordship, feels a gratification in affording to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty this full demonstration of the fact that no means are spared in order to overcome the numerous and serious obstacles which thwart the complete success of the exertions made for the purpose of preventing the landing of slaves; but I beg to state to your Lordship, at the same time, the apprehensions and the regret which General Cañedo entertains as to the inability of the British Government ever to appreciate the loyalty of his conduct, notwithstanding all his exertions, in consequence of the erroneous reports which, on every case, will be addressed to it by Mr. Crawford, who, in his own personal opinion, finds nothing at all acceptable in what is done by the Spanish authorities in the Antilles, and therefore it is to be supposed will present their acts under the most possibly unfavourable point of view.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 417.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith translation of a note I have received from General Lersundi, with the translation of an inclosure transmitted to me confidentially by his Excellency.

I have answered this note, by stating the satisfaction I felt at anything tending to prove an honest cooperation for the extinction of the Slave Trade by the authorities of Cuba.

It would not have been difficult to answer that part of the note relating to Gibraltar, by showing the total want of the parity wished to be established; but I thought it better not to take any notice of this little attempt at smartness, or crush by ponderous reasoning any new-born zeal that from one cause or another may have arisen, and which, if really at work, may be allowed a little gratification of this sort.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 417.

General Lersundi to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 14, 1853.

IN pursuance of my purpose of proving to your Lordship with patent facts, the indefatigable activity which the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba displays in the persecution of the Slave Trade, I have the honour

to inclose, very confidentially, to your Lordship, a communication in original, from the above-mentioned functionary, in which he reports the seizure of 100 Bozal negroes, who formed part of a cargo which in spite of the vigilance of the English cruizers over the coasts of the island, arrived at Siguapa, without any accident whatsoever, the seizure of the aforesaid 100 Bozal negroes being due to the efforts of the Spanish authorities.

In order that your Lordship may appreciate the importance of this result, I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the numerous and grave difficulties which oppose themselves to the success of the measures adopted against the Slave Trade, as well on account of the lucrative nature of this unlawful Traffic, as in consequence of the infinite means which those engaged in it possess to carry their undertakings into effect.

A great part of the inhabitants of the Island of Cuba, being interested in the importation of negroes, if they do not co-operate in an efficient manner to the landing and concealment of Bozal negroes, abstain at least from contributing to the success of the exertions of the authorities when they endeavour to ascertain the truth and to seize the Bozal negroes. For these and other reasons, it frequently happens that, when judicial proceedings are instituted on some case of infraction of Treaties, the authorities act on the subject rather prompted by moral conviction than in virtue of the apparent result of the proceedings.

Such a course, as your Lordship will perceive, cannot be styled a strictly legal one, and yet on several occasions, as in the present instance, Her Majesty's Government and its functionaries in Cuba, have chosen not to be excessively strict in the observance of legal forms, not only because, being firm in their purpose of extinguishing the Slave Trade, they are anxious to facilitate, as much as possible, the persecution of the slave-dealers, but also because, in cases of contraband trade, moral conviction can, on certain occasions, supply the want of patent proofs, which it is so difficult to obtain.

Therefore after requesting that your Lordship will inform your Government of the efforts which are being made by the Government of the Queen, my Sovereign, to prevent the Slave Trade, I beg to express to your Lordship my hope that, in order to prevent the contraband of manufactured goods which the vessels proceeding from Gibraltar are carrying on, with so much injury to the Spanish revenue, the Governor of that fortress, bearing in mind the same principle which guides the acts of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the Slave Trade, will be less rigorous whenever there being a moral conviction of the perpetration of the crime, it may appear to him that the proceedings have not been adjusted to the most strict legal forms.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 417.

Señor Queipo to General Lersundi.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, May 2, 1853.

THE Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba wrote, under date of the 29th of March last, to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, amongst other things, as follows:

"Subsequently to the landing of Bozal negroes which I reported to your Excellency in my communication of the 11th instant, and to which I referred in my subsequent despatch of the 21st ditto, forwarded through the same channel in reply to the Royal Order of the 11th of February last, relative to the repression in general of this reprobate Traffic, another disembarkation of Bozal negroes has taken place between the district of Cardeñas and the point called La Siguapa. Notwithstanding the secrecy with which the landing was carried into effect, which took place on the night of the 11th to the 12th instant, and although the owners of the vessel had adopted the most exquisite precautions for the immediate

distribution of the cargo and the disappearance of the vessel—so much so, that on the following morning at day-break, the latter was already reduced to embers, and the former had been distributed amongst the different parties concerned in the undertaking—very soon, however, the rumour of the transaction reached my ears.

“Feeling intimately persuaded that, if I confined myself to the strict observance of legal forms, I should achieve very little towards the detection of facts, and being well convinced of the absolute necessity of attaining my object at any cost, and of presenting undeniable results which might cause the good faith and noble zeal of Her Majesty’s Government in the faithful execution of Treaties to stand out more strikingly; I found myself compelled to overlook any other consideration, and to adopt that line of conduct which might lead me to the attainment of the desired object. It was not long before the names of the owners of the vessel, of the captain of the same, and of several partners in the undertaking, were found out. Having once taken my determination, I could not hesitate in the adoption of the proper measures, and I dictated them therefore with a view to obtaining by terror, what it would have been a chimerical project to attain by other means, taking into consideration the state of things; I therefore gave immediate orders not only for the seizure of the Bozal negroes, carrying them out from the plantations where they might be and placing them at my disposal, but also for the arrest of the principals and their accomplices in the disembarkation. In order to give a greater impulse to these measures, I commissioned my Aide-de-camp, the Commandant Don José Andriani, and subsequently the Chief of the Staff, Brigadier-Major Don Joaquin Morales de Rada; and I have now the pleasure to inform your Excellency that I have seized already very nearly 100 Bozal negroes, thirty-four of whom were apprehended on a road of the district of Cardeñas, where they had been abandoned by their owners, very likely in the act of flying from the active persecution made of them. The proceedings respecting the whole transaction, which I shall in due course lay before the Pretorial Court of Justice, are being followed up with the same activity. It only remains for me to state to your Excellency, that the number of Bozal negroes who composed the cargo of the vessel in question, amounted to about 500 and odd, and that the vessel arrived at Signapa without any impediment whatsoever, in spite of the activity of the English cruizers on the waters of this island. It may be asserted with full security, that although the British nation should increase her cruizers five-fold, their efforts would be unavailing if the authorities of the Island of Cuba did not exert themselves with so much activity and zeal in the persecution of the Slave Trade. I shall report to your Excellency, in due course, the final result of this case.”

I communicate the above report to your Excellency by command of Her Majesty, for your information and guidance; and I have to add that a copy of your Excellency’s communication of the 12th of April last, and of the note from the British Minister Plenipotentiary therein inclosed, has been sent to-day to the Captain-General of Cuba, instructing him to report on the subject alluded to in that note, if it be a different case from the one above referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

VICENTE VAZQUEZ QUEIPO,
Director-General.

No. 418.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 25, 1853.

I HAVE procured from the Brazilian Minister here the names of two Brazilians, men of great capital, who are supposed to have gone to the Havana to establish themselves as slave-traders there, upon a large scale.

Their names are Antonio Augusto Botelho and Rodrigo José de Abreu.

If your Lordship should receive any information regarding them, in consequence of this indication, I should be glad if you would communicate to me, as the Brazilian Minister seems to have received the names of these two persons from his Government in perfect good faith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 419.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a correspondence which has been going on for the last four years between Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, and the authorities of that place respecting a negro woman named Nancy, who was born in Jamaica, and was in the year 1825 brought as a slave from thence to St. Jago de Cuba, where she died in October 1852, leaving three sons, one of whom had been emancipated by his master, and the other two remain in slavery.

Your Lordship will learn from the inclosed papers that Mr. Forbes has established, by an affidavit which he transmitted to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba on the 15th March, 1849, the following facts, namely, that Nancy had been a slave in Jamaica from her childhood; that she had been illegally carried away from that island to Cuba in October 1825, by which violation of British law the rights of her previous owners became forfeited to the British Crown; and that consequently she and her sons were entitled to be set at liberty.

But it seems that the Captain-General of Cuba refuses to order the liberation of Nancy's sons, alleging that their mother's identity has not been proved, and that the Spanish tribunals are not bound to take cognizance of the British law by the provisions of which Nancy became forfeited to the British Crown; and Mr. Forbes states that he believes that this decision on the part of the Captain-General is founded upon an instruction which the Spanish Government sent to the authorities of Cuba last year when the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel was liberated, directing that no further applications of a similar kind for the liberation of British negroes should be granted.

I have to instruct your Lordship to bring this case before the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to point out to his Excellency that the opponents of this negress's claim to freedom have failed to refute the testimony presented to the proper tribunals by Consul Forbes in proof of her identity, and of her forfeiture to the British Crown.

You will also express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of Spain will disavow such a harsh and indiscriminate instruction as that which Mr. Forbes supposes to have been sent from Spain to Cuba last year; and you will request the Spanish Minister to give directions for the liberation of the two sons of the woman in question, who are still held in slavery at Santiago de Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 419.

List of Inclosures in despatch of June 2, 1853, to Lord Howden, respecting John and Joseph, the two Sons of the deceased Jamaica Negress Nancy, who was brought to Cuba from Jamaica as a Slave in the year 1825, and who died at St. Jago on the 30th of October, 1852.

CONSUL FORBES to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, April 3, 1849. Six inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1849; No. 269, p. 363.)

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Forbes; June 11, 1849. (See Class B, presented 1849, No. 271, p. 367.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, September 17, 1849. Two inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1849, No. 272, p. 368.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, December 26, 1849. Nine inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1849, No. 274, p. 378.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, July 16, 1850. Six inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1850, No. 511, p. 787.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, December 31, 1850. Two inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1850, No. 515, p. 796.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, February 12, 1851. Four inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1850, No. 516, p. 797.)

Consul Forbes to Viscount Palmerston; Santiago de Cuba, December 28, 1851. Two inclosures. (See Class B, presented 1851, No. 629, p. 792.)

Consul Forbes to the Earl of Malmesbury; Santiago de Cuba, December 31, 1852. Six inclosures.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford; Foreign Office, April 9, 1853.

Consul Forbes to Lord John Russell; Santiago de Cuba, March 26, 1853. One inclosure.

No. 420.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 3, 1853.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to you by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, containing a report from the Captain-General of Cuba as to the measures taken by him in consequence of a landing of slaves which took place at Siguapa on the 12th of March last. And I have to state that Her Majesty's Government approve of the answer which you returned to that communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 421.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 22, 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch to Lord Howden of the 31st of March last, on the subject of the complaint made by the Captain-General of Cuba of Mr. Crawford's behaviour towards him, I have to desire that you will state to the Spanish Government that I have received an assurance from Mr. Crawford that he will be scrupulously courteous in his communications with the Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 422.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 27, 1853.

I HAVE received Lord Howden's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to him on the 14th ultimo by General Lersundi, tending to prove that the authorities in Cuba are in earnest in their endeavours to extinguish the Slave Trade; and I have to inform you that I approve of the answer which Lord Howden returned to that note.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 423.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 28, 1853.

I HAVE to inform you that on receipt of Lord Howden's despatch of the 16th of February last, I transmitted to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, copies of the letter from Count Alcoy which accompanied that despatch, and of the letter from M. Bertran de Lis, which was inclosed in your despatch to Lord Malmesbury of the 21st of November, 1852; and I instructed Mr. Crawford to send to me any observations which he might have to make upon the remarks contained in those letters as to the accuracy of some information respecting the disembarkation of the African negroes upon the south coast of Cuba, which Mr. Crawford had transmitted to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 25th of September and on the 23rd of December, 1852.

Having now received Mr. Crawford's reply, I have embodied the substance of it in the accompanying draft of a note which I have to instruct you to address to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 423.

Draft of Note to be addressed by Mr. Otway to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir,

I HAVE received the instructions of Her Majesty's Government to submit to your Excellency's consideration some observations in reply to the letter which the Count de Alcoy addressed to Lord Howden on the 14th of February last, denying the accuracy of the information conveyed to the Captain-General of Cuba by Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, relative to the disembarkation of African negroes at a place called Rio Zarza, on the southern coast of Cuba.

In the first place I have to observe that Mr. Crawford addressed to the Captain-General two statements respecting two separate infractions of the Treaty of 1835 by the landing of negroes at Rio Zarza, one of which took place about the 12th of September, 1852, and was reported to the Captain-General by Mr. Crawford on the 25th of September; the other occurred about the 14th of December last, and formed the subject of a letter which Mr. Crawford addressed to the Captain-General on the 23rd of that month.

Now it appears from the contents of Count Alcoy's letter to Lord Howden of the 14th of February, 1853, and also from a letter which

M. Bertran de Lis addressed to me on the 17th November, 1852, that the Spanish Government do not deny that they had received some information as to the infraction of Treaty which Mr. Crawford represented to the Captain-General on the 25th September, 1852, and which took place at Rio Zarza about the 12th of that month; and Her Majesty's Government are disposed to think that the denial contained in Count Alcoy's letter of the 14th of February does not refer to this first case, but to the second landing of negroes which occurred at this same place, and which was denounced by Mr. Crawford in his letter of the 23rd December last. That letter stated that 38 negroes, being a portion of a cargo which had been landed a few days before at Rio Zarza, were to be sent from Trinidad to Cienfuegos by the steamer "*Isabel*," which was to sail on the 26th December, and Count Alcoy has accused Mr. Crawford of having given this short notice of the expected disembarkation of negroes, because he knew that as Cienfuegos is more than forty leagues from Havana, it was impossible that orders could be sent from Havana by post so as to reach Cienfuegos before the arrival of the "*Isabel*," and because he therefore hoped to have a plausible ground for complaining that the Spanish authorities had neglected their duty in this matter.

Count Alcoy goes on to state that the zeal and activity of the Captain-General defeated this scheme, the Captain-General having sent off an officer, who managed by great exertion, and in spite of many obstacles, to arrive at Cienfuegos before the steamer, and who succeeded in demonstrating the incorrectness of Mr. Crawford's denunciation.

With regard to this statement, Mr. Crawford has informed Her Majesty's Government that he wrote to Mr. Fowler, the British Vice-Consul at Cienfuegos, by the same means of conveyance as that chosen by the officer above referred to, that is to say, by the ordinary mail which is sent by railway to Batabano, and from thence by steamer to Cienfuegos; and Mr. Fowler received Mr. Crawford's letter in time to watch the "*Isabel*," and to report the result to Mr. Crawford in a letter dated the 26th December.

The first inquiries then made by Mr. Fowler in this matter produced no information respecting the negroes on board the "*Isabel*," but four days afterwards he was informed that when that vessel arrived at Cienfuegos on the 26th of December there were ten negroes concealed on board who were taken out there, and sent by a lighter to an estate called Constancia; and he learnt that on her previous voyage the "*Isabel*" had brought from Trinidad to Cienfuegos about 60 negroes belonging to two individuals of that place, which were disposed of there.

Thus it appears that the information which was communicated to the Captain-General in Mr. Crawford's letter of the 23rd of December, 1852, was fully confirmed, for it appears that not only were negroes brought on the 26th of December from Trinidad to Cienfuegos on board the coasting steamer "*Isabel*," but a very short time before that date, 60 newly-imported Africans were brought to and disposed of at Cienfuegos, and these facts proved the truth of Mr. Crawford's statement that the Spanish authorities must have connived at these proceedings.

With regard to the statement in Count Alcoy's letter to Lord Howden of the 14th of February as to the inquiries set on foot by the Captain-General at Trinidad, and the examination of parties there having proved the incorrectness of the information contained in Mr. Crawford's representation relative to the supposed disembarkation of negroes at Rio Zarza, I am instructed by Her Majesty's Government to acquaint your Excellency that Mr. Crawford has received this statement without surprise, because it is quite notorious at the Havana that whenever it has happened that Commissioners have been appointed, or a Judge of the Royal Audiencia has been deputed, to investigate affairs of this nature, the result has been either that no one has been examined who was at all likely to know anything about the matter, or that those who did possess such knowledge would not disclose what they knew. And in point of fact Mr. Crawford states that no Commission of Inquiry held in Cuba upon cases of slave-trading has ever terminated in the conviction of the

offenders; but that on the contrary, it has been shown by numerous instances, that whenever a Commission is resorted to there is something to be covered, and the proceedings always terminate in such a way as to admit of arrangement by the slave-traders.

This statement is confirmed by what took place recently in Cuba upon the occasion of the scandalous violation of the Treaty of 1835, which was committed on the 12th of March last, when 1,100 or 1,200 negroes were landed at or near Cardeñas without the slightest hindrance on the part of the authorities. A Commission, consisting of a Brigadier-General, the Governor of Matanzas, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardeñas, was appointed by the Captain-General to investigate that case; but although it was marked by circumstances of unusual notoriety, the Commission was unable to prove the facts of the case. Instead of arresting and bringing before them Don Antonio Capó, the master of the vessel, his brother, the surgeon, and some of the crew, they merely arrested some four or five persons who were known to be interested in the expedition, and they very properly removed 290 or 300 of the Africans from one or more of the estates to which they had been taken after the landing. But the only known result of this inquiry has been that all the parties implicated who were arrested have been set at liberty, and it is made to appear on the proceedings that the 290 or 300 negroes captured constituted the whole number brought by the slaver in question. And with regard to these negroes it is to be remarked that at the end of April last there was nothing to show that they had been declared emancipados.

In conclusion, I am directed to observe to your Excellency that the above-mentioned facts lead Her Majesty's Government to doubt whether M. Bertran de Lis and the Count de Alcoy were borne out in asserting so positively as they have done in their letters of the 17th of November and of the 14th of February last, that the representations of Mr. Crawford as to the manner in which the Slave Trade is carried on in the Island of Cuba are not deserving of credit.

No. 424.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 20, 1853.

I HAVE observed with satisfaction that on every occasion on which I have seen General Lersundi, or the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, they have appeared most anxious to impress on my mind that the Spanish Government were doing their utmost, and even, as they pretend, committing illegalities to prove to Her Majesty's Government their sincere efforts to put a stop to the Slave Trade; and a few days ago the Under Secretary of State placed in my hands, to be returned to him, the original of the document a translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose to your Lordship.

It is a despatch from the Captain-General of Cuba to General Lersundi, stating that, in obedience to orders received, no efforts will be spared on his part to put down this illegal and immoral Traffic.

I have not failed to avail myself of every opportunity to encourage and keep alive, by all means in my power, this feeling and tendency on their part.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 424.

Señor Queipo to General Lersundi.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, June 8, 1853.

THE Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has written last month to the President of the Council of Ministers, as follows:

"I have received the Royal Order of the 5th of March last, informing me that my despatches Nos. 20 to 29 inclusive had been confidentially communicated to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, as a complement of the reply given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the note addressed to him by the aforesaid Legation on the 7th of November last, respecting several denunciations of landings of slaves, of which a copy was sent to me, stating besides that Her Majesty had been pleased to approve my conduct on the subject, trusting that I will spare no effort whatsoever to persecute incessantly the reprobated African Traffic, in order to avoid thereby serious conflicts with the British Government.

"I have the honour to state to your Excellency in reply, that I will continue with the same perseverance as heretofore in the fulfilment of the superior orders from Her Majesty the Queen, our Sovereign, and of the stipulations of the existing Treaties with England for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and that I will persecute, without any respite whatever, so illegal and immoral a Traffic, for the attainment of which purpose I will act with redoubled zeal and efficiency."

I communicate this to your Excellency, by orders of the Queen and according to instructions from the President of the Council of Ministers, for your information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VICENTE V. QUEIPO,
Director-General of the Colonial Department.

No. 425.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Lordship a translation of a note addressed to me on the 24th instant by General Lersundi.

In this communication his Excellency makes a general complaint against Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, for the facility with which that functionary takes up and denounces to the Captain-General of Cuba supposed disembarkations of negroes, and refers especially to a case which took place last October, when the brig "*Cora*" was at anchor in Cayo Frances, and according to Mr. Crawford about to effect a landing of Bozal negroes at a place called Los Perros.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 425.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 24, 1853.

IN order to give you a further proof in confirmation of what has been stated to the British Legation on several occasions, with respect to the want of foundation which is generally observed in the denunciations relative to landings of negroes, addressed by Mr. Crawford to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, owing to his giving credence to vague rumours which in the greatest number of instances turn out to be untrue, I now proceed to inform you of what took place in consequence of the British Consul at the Havana having informed General Cañedo, in October of last year, that the brig "*Cora*" was lying at anchor at Cayo Frances, and making preparations, according to Mr. Crawford's suppositions, for importing into the island a cargo of Bozal negroes at the place called Los Perros.

So soon as the Captain-General of the island received the denuncia-

tion I have just alluded to, he immediately ordered the most scrupulous investigations to be made by the proper authorities for the purpose of ascertaining whether the preparations for the disembarkation of slaves, which had been denounced by Mr. Crawford, were really being made; and he adopted, at the same time, the proper measures for the seizure of the negroes, should the denunciation be found correct.

The result of these investigations and precautionary measures proved that no vessel had arrived at the place which had been pointed out; and that the packet "*Canario*," which had also been represented by Mr. Crawford as fitting out for the Slave Trade at Trinidad, had taken her clearance for the Cape de Verd Islands, and put to sea in ballast, without any trace whatever having been found of her destination being the above supposed one.

The whole of this information was communicated by the Captain-General to the British Consul; but the latter having insisted upon the correctness of the above-mentioned landing of negroes having taken place, adding that two other vessels, the cutter "*Reforma*" and the barque "*Jasper*," were being fitted out for the Slave Trade on the northern coast opposite to Cardenas, the proper authorities were required to report on the subject, and the result of their investigation was that the former of the two aforesaid vessels had been cleared out for Porto Rico, to which maritime department she belonged, and the latter had left for New York with a cargo of lawful merchandize.

However, the Captain-General being desirous of having the facts mentioned in the denunciation still more completely investigated, ordered the whole judicial proceedings instituted on the subject to be sent to the court of justice at Puerto Principe for the amplification of the investigations. It was done so accordingly, and General Cañedo has transmitted a copy of the decision of the aforesaid tribunal, whereby, in conformity with the opinion of the Queen's Advocate, the judicial proceedings were ordered to be closed, and an individual who had been arrested in consequence of the denunciation, and against whom no charge whatever could be proved, was ordered to be set at liberty.

Thus the incorrectness of the data on which Mr. Crawford founded his supposition of a violation of Treaties in the case in question has been most fully and completely demonstrated, and in consequence of this fresh instance of the levity with which the aforesaid functionary conducts himself in everything connected with the Slave Trade, I indulge in the hope that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will bear in mind what I have stated above, when it will have to appreciate the information which Mr. Crawford may transmit to it, relative to the landing of Bozal negroes in the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 426.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd instant, relative to the behaviour of Mr. Crawford towards the Capain-General of Cuba, I have stated to the Spanish Government that your Lordship had received an assurance from Mr. Crawford that he will be scrupulously courteous in his communications with the Captain-General.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C OTWAY.

No. 427.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, inclosing a translation of a letter dated the 8th ultimo, addressed by the Spanish Colonial Minister to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which had been communicated to you by General Lersundi, and in which is transcribed a letter addressed by the Captain-General of Cuba (Cañedo) to his Government, professing his determination to act "with redoubled zeal and efficiency against the Slave Trade."

I have to instruct you to say to General Lersundi that Her Majesty's Government have received this communication with satisfaction; and to express to him the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Captain-General may act up to his assurances.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 428.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 11.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th ultimo.

In conformity with the instructions therein contained, I have this day addressed to General Lersundi the note of which the draft was inclosed to me for that purpose, communicating to Her Catholic Majesty's Government certain observations in refutation of the statements made in Señor Bertran de Lis' note to me of the 17th of November, 1853, and in Count Alcoy's note to Lord Howden dated the 14th of February last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 429.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 12, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of June, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to you by General Lersundi complaining that Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, communicated to the Captain-General of Cuba, in October 1852, some information relative to several vessels said to be fitting out in the ports of Cuba for the African Slave Trade, which information the Captain-General afterwards discovered to be unfounded.

It appears, on reference to Mr. Crawford's despatches, that the representation to which General Lersundi refers was contained in a letter from Mr. Crawford to the Captain-General of the 9th of July, 1852, a copy of which was inclosed in Lord Malmesbury's despatch to you of the 10th of August last, and that the date of October is given by mistake in General Lersundi's letter to you, instead of July.

Her Majesty's Government have never received from the Havana any denial, on the part of the Captain-General, of the statements in question; and I have transmitted to Mr. Crawford a copy of your despatch of the 28th ultimo, for any observations which he may have to make in reply to General Lersundi's complaint.

In the meantime, I have to instruct you to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs the information contained in the accompanying copies of despatches from the British Vice-Consul at Lagos, and

from the British Consul at Fernando Po,* showing that the "*Jasper*," one of the vessels which was denounced in Mr. Crawford's letter to the Captain-General of the 9th of July, 1852, and which is mentioned in General Lersundi's letter to you as being a legal trader, shipped in March last, at a place called Secco, in the Bight of Benin, a cargo of 300 African slaves, which have in all probability been already landed in Cuba.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 430.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 5, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith a translation of a note which I have just received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the one which, in obedience to the instructions conveyed to Lord Howden in your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd ultimo, I addressed to his Excellency on the 17th ultimo, claiming the restoration to freedom of the two sons of the deceased negress Nancy, who are still detained as slaves at Santiago de Cuba.

Your Lordship will perceive from this note that the Spanish Government enter into detailed explanations of the reasons which prevent their giving their liberty to these two negroes.

I have acknowledged the receipt of General Lersundi's communication in the note of which I likewise inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 430.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 29, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your note dated the 17th instant, in which you inclose a copy of the correspondence which has passed between the authorities at St. Jago de Cuba and the British Consul at that place, relative to a negro woman called Nancy, proceeding from Jamaica, as is pretended, and whose two sons are considered to be entitled to obtain their freedom.

On calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the refusal with which the British Consul's pretensions in the aforesaid instance have met on the part of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, you attribute the decision adopted on this case by the Spanish authorities to the instructions issued to them by Her Majesty's Government on a former similar occasion; and you finish by requesting, in consequence of instructions from your Government, that the aforesaid instructions be revoked, and that the sons of the negress Nancy be set at liberty.

Before entering into the discussion of the arguments which have been set forth as the foundation on which the representation made on the subject by the British Consul at St. Jago de Cuba is grounded, I beg to observe to you that Her Majesty's Government find, precisely in the case of the negress Mary Anne Bethel which has been quoted, a motive why the English Consul at the Havana ought to have abstained from bringing forward any such pretension.

The case of the negress Mary Anne is precisely similar to that of Nancy, now under discussion.

Her Majesty's Government thought, in the former case, as it thinks also at present, that there was no right to claim the slave in question;

* Nos. 5 and 63.

but, however, being desirous of giving a proof of regard and deference to the English Government, granted her freedom to the aforesaid negress, whose master was indemnified by the Treasury of the island. But on so doing, Her Majesty's Government took especial care to declare that the case in question ought never to be cited as a precedent, and such declaration was communicated to the British Legation, the silence of which on the subject could only be considered by Her Majesty's Government as an acknowledgment of our good wishes of preventing thereby the repetition of questions which, besides being painful to the Spanish Government, because they seriously affect the security of the owners of slaves, have, in reality, no influence over the suppression of the Slave Trade, which, after all, is the great object which the two Governments have principally in view.

The freedom granted to the negress Mary Anne was a special boon from Her Majesty, which cannot be adduced as a precedent for reclamations of a similar nature, as was stated to the British Legation on the 14th of November, 1851, in a note which was communicated to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, these being the only instructions which were transmitted to that functionary.

Now, confining myself to the case of the negress Nancy, I proceed to take into consideration the arguments set forth in the papers inclosed in your aforesaid note, for the purpose of proving that, even were it possible for Her Majesty's Government, which is not the case, for the reasons I have stated above, to comply with the wishes of the British Government with regard to the sons of the above-mentioned negro woman; yet there are not sufficient grounds nor reasons to justify a measure like the one which it is desired that General Cañedo should adopt.

The essential basis on which the representation of the British Consul at St. Jago de Cuba has been founded, is only the deposition of the negress Nancy herself, whose words, unsupported by any evidence whatever, have been considered as a sufficient foundation to look upon that negro woman as comprised in the case of the Act 5 George IV, which prohibited the exportation of slaves from the British colonies, and declared that such slaves as, in contravention to the aforesaid Act, should be exported to other foreign colonies, were forfeited in favour of the Crown.

Leaving aside the question of as to what extent the aforesaid English law is applicable in Her Catholic Majesty's dominions, I am of opinion that if such law were to be invoked in the present instance on behalf of the negress Nancy, it ought to have been previously proved that this negro woman proceeded, as she assured, from the Island of Jamaica; and so far from this being done, the authorities of that colony themselves have given conclusive proofs to the contrary, as appears from the certificate which the Government's Secretary of the aforesaid Island of Jamaica issued at the request of the British Consul.

In this document it is stated, that in the slave-registers no information whatever exists as to the negress Nancy, and that it is not known at what time she was imported, nor whether she was ever manumitted; and therefore the supposed origin of the aforesaid negress remains unsupported by proofs, and consequently the principal title is wanting for her being considered as a slave unlawfully exported from a British colony, and still less as a subject of Her Britannic Majesty unduly subjected to slavery.

Neither has any evidence whatsoever been produced as to the uninterrupted series of masters to whom the negress Nancy may have belonged from the first one, who is supposed to have carried her away from Jamaica; and still less has any proof been brought forward as regards Nancy's sons, as it was indispensable to do in order to prove the identity of their persons, therefrom resulting a total want of reasons on which the freedom of the slaves in question might be claimed.

As to the deposition of John Boileau Sorapure, of Kingston, who stated that he had known the negress Nancy as a maid-servant in the service of a sister of his in the aforesaid town, I cannot abstain from observing to you that the assertion of that single individual, so long as it is not supported by proofs of a different kind, has no force whatsoever,

and ought not to be admitted as an irrefutable testimony, as has been pretended by the British Consul; because to this effect, it would be required at least that the statement of the above-mentioned Sorapure should have been corroborated by the deposition of other witnesses, or by the exhibition of documents in support of his assertion.

Having so far demonstrated that in the case in question the reclamation of the British Consul at St. Jago de Cuba was perfectly groundless, I consider it my duty to express to you the regret of Her Majesty's Government at seeing that whilst they are making so many sacrifices in order to obtain, as far as possible, the total suppression of the Slave Trade, the British Consuls in the Island of Cuba are still dissatisfied with them, and bring forward highly dangerous reclamations in a country where slavery does exist, pretending to assume a character of protectors of negroes against the Spanish authorities, and giving rise to difficulties which can only be overcome by the constant decision of Her Majesty's Government to preserve, at all risks, their friendly relations with that of Her Britannic Majesty.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 430.

Mr. Otway to General Lersundi.

Sir,

Madrid, July 5, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt this day of the note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 29th ultimo.

Your Excellency's communication will, without loss of time, be brought to the knowledge of the Government of the Queen, my Sovereign, who will learn, I am convinced, with great regret, the unfavourable decision come to by Her Catholic Majesty's Government as regards the restoration to freedom of the two sons of the deceased negress Nancy, who are still held in slavery at St. Jago de Cuba.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 431.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 18, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of three despatches* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, stating the circumstances under which two cargoes of Africans, one consisting of 684, and the other of 280 persons, were landed towards the end of May last at Cayo Frances on the north, and at Bailen on the south side of Cuba, and were afterwards disposed of as slaves in the interior of the island, with the cognizance of the local authorities.

I have to instruct you to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs those portions of the inclosed despatches which state the particulars of these two disembarkations of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Nos. 541, 542, and 544.

No. 432.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 17th of September last, which inclosed a copy of a letter from Señor Bertran de Lis, informing you that the Captain-General of Cuba had been directed to communicate to the Mixed Court of Justice at Havana the information referred to in Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835 respecting the number of emancipated negroes who have received their letters of freedom, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, by which it appears that the Mixed Court has not yet been authorized to furnish the information in question; and I have to instruct you to address a note respecting this matter to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are at a loss to understand how it has happened that the assurances contained in M. Bertran de Lis' letter to you of the 9th of September last have not been fulfilled.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 433.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, stating that since the beginning of June last there had been a manifest difference in the character of the measures adopted by the Government of Cuba, in order to check the excessive increase of the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to inform the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that General Cañedo appears at length to be endeavouring to suppress the Slave Trade, which under his Government had reached such an alarming and almost unprecedented height.

You will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that this improvement in the administration of the Government of Cuba is only to be attributed to the more energetic instructions which have been sent by the Spanish Government to the Captain-General of that island.

You will say that Her Majesty's Government had intended that you should accompany the communication to the Spanish Government of the facts referred to in my despatch of the 18th instant by a strong representation with regard to the increase of the Slave Trade in Cuba and the consequent inevitable disturbance of the friendly relations between Great Britain and Spain; but you will state that, under the circumstances mentioned in the inclosed despatch, and in another despatch‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, reporting the imprisonment of Don Julian Zulueta, Her Majesty's Government have instructed you to suspend those remonstrances.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See No. 543.

† See No. 552.

‡ See No. 549.

No. 434

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, July 23, 1853.

WITH reference to Lord Howden's despatch of the 18th of March last, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, replying to the observations upon his report as to the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*," which were contained in Count Alcoy's note to Lord Howden of the 15th of March.

And I have to instruct you to address a note to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to his Excellency the substance of Mr. Crawford's reply.

No. 435.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1853.

LORD HOWDEN'S despatch of the 22nd of March last, inclosed a copy of a letter from the Count de Alcoy, dated the 17th of March, denying the accuracy of a list drawn up by Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, which had been communicated to the Spanish Government by Lord Howden, and which stated the numbers of the African negroes imported into Cuba during the year 1852.

Having transmitted to Mr. Crawford a copy of Count Alcoy's letter of the 17th of March, and having directed him to report to me any observations which he might have to make thereupon, I have now to transmit to you Mr. Crawford's reply;† and I have to desire that you will communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs the facts alleged by Mr. Crawford in support of his original statement, a copy of which accompanied my despatch to Lord Howden of the 25th of February last; and you will add that it appears to Her Majesty's Government that Mr. Crawford has satisfactorily established the general accuracy of his list, although he has admitted that he may have overestimated the amount of unascertained landings of negroes during the year 1852.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 436.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a copy of a letter which he addressed by my direction to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting his refusal to allow two liberated African women to remain in Cuba, and a copy of the Captain-General's answer, stating that if Mr. Crawford should again write to him on a similar subject, his letters will be returned.

I have to instruct you to transmit to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, copies of the two above-mentioned letters, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government hope that language so discourteous not only to the British Consul-General, who had given no cause for it, but also towards Her Majesty's Government, will meet with the reprobation which it deserves, from the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See No. 537.

† See No. 540.

‡ See Nos. 538 and 557.

No. 437.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 16.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, August 8, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translation of the rejoinder of the Spanish Government to the note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of June last, I addressed to General Lersundi, upon the subject of the charges brought by Señor Bertran de Lis and by Count Alcoy against Mr. Consul-General Crawford.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 437.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, July 25, 1853.

I HAVE received the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of the 4th instant, wherein, according to the instructions of your Government, you make some observations, in reply to the note of the 14th of February last, addressed by my predecessor, the Count of Alcoy, to Lord Howden, with regard to a supposed landing of Bozal negroes at Rio Zarza, which was denounced by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana.

Although the subsequent information communicated by Mr. Crawford to your Government on this subject is drawn up with the same vagueness and the same spirit towards the authorities of the Island of Cuba which predominate in almost every one of his reports, and although I observe, with regret, that full justice is not done to the loyal and persevering efforts of the Spanish Government to persecute the Slave Trade, notwithstanding the numerous proofs and documents which it has frequently had the pleasure of transmitting to the British Legation, in testimony of the good faith and sincere will by which it is animated on this matter; yet I am going to reply to every one of the points contained in your note with the view that the Government of which you are the Representative may acquire the conviction that Her Majesty's Government, although struggling in this affair with almost insurmountable difficulties, is not discouraged from its purpose of demonstrating that it is in the right on this question, while it entertains the hope that at some future period justice will be done to its conduct.

You observe in your note, in the first place, that there were two cases of landing of negroes at Rio Zarza, the one on the 12th of September, 1852, and the other on the 14th of December last; and that, according to Count Alcoy's note above mentioned, and to the one which was addressed to you by Señor Bertran de Lis on the 17th of November of last year, the Spanish Government did not deny, at that time, that it had received some information respecting the aforesaid landing, wherefrom you suppose that the denial contained in the above-cited note from Count Alcoy does not refer to the former of the two aforesaid cases, but to the latter one, denounced by Mr. Crawford, and relating to 38 negroes supposed by that functionary to have been sent from Trinidad to Cienfuegos in the steamer "*Isabel.*"

Even supposing that the aforesaid observation were correct, I cannot well understand the inference which you draw therefrom, since I cannot suppose that, because in the aforesaid note of the 14th of February addressed to you, it is avowed, with the most perfect good faith, that some intelligence of the occurrence in question, namely, of the denunciation made by Mr. Crawford to the Captain-General, had reached Her Majesty's Government, and because instructions were issued to the aforesaid Spanish

functionary directing him to make the most scrupulous investigations into the matter, and the assurance was given that in case of the fact being true the offenders would be punished with the utmost rigour of the law, there can be any reason for drawing the inference, as you appear to do in your note, that, since we do not deny the fact, we implicitly acknowledge that there was a violation of the Treaty in the landing in question. What we did at that time, with our accustomed circumspection, was to suspend forming any judgment on the matter until we should receive from the Captain-General the information on the subject which we promised, in the aforesaid note, would be communicated to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation.

There is, therefore, in this conduct nothing, in my opinion, which involves either a tacit or an explicit confession of any violation of Treaties, because we could by no means confess what we were ignorant of. And so much was this the case, that on the 14th of February last my predecessor, Count Alcoy, hastened to communicate to Lord Howden the information respecting the above-mentioned occurrences which was received from the Captain-General of Cuba; and in the note of that date, one of the two which you quote, it is very clearly expressed that the cases of landing denounced by Mr. Crawford were, not one, but two in number.

With regard to the former of these cases I consider it useless to repeat what was extensively stated by this office to Lord Howden in the aforesaid note of 14th of February, wherewith numerous documents, and even the Captain-General's despatches, in original, respecting the supposed landing of negroes at Rio Zarza, were transmitted to his Lordship, stating, at the same time, to the British Legation that the voluminous collection of papers relative to that case existed, in original, at this office.

From all these papers it appeared that there was no truth whatever in the landing in question, and their perusal imparted the conviction that no means or effort whatever had been spared, on the part of Her Majesty's functionaries, to the effect of elucidating the truth of the denounced fact, as was fully proved by the judicial investigations which had been instituted by the Lieutenant-Governors of Sancti Spiritu and of Trinidad, and by the depositions of upwards of thirty individuals belonging to the class of land-holders, workmen, and other persons of different stations in life.

Lord Howden's reply, as was to be expected from his Lordship's enlightened judgment, was fully satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government. In his note of the 16th of the same month—that is to say, two days after having received the aforesaid communication from this office—his Lordship hastened to return thanks for the documents which had been transmitted to his Lordship in original, stating at the same time, in an expressive manner, his satisfaction at the efforts made by Her Majesty's functionaries in Cuba for the persecution of the Slave Trade, and expressing the hope that, “with such untiring perseverance, and such undeviating rectitude of intention, as shown in the aforesaid documents, that Traffic might be soon completely extinguished.”

As to the latter of the aforesaid denunciations made by Mr. Crawford on the 23rd of December of last year, to which you refer, relative to a further landing of 38 negroes who formed part of a cargo which, a few days before, had been landed at Rio Zarza, and who were to be conveyed from Trinidad to Cienfuegos by the steamer “*Isabel*,” it was stated to Lord Howden, in the same aforesaid note of the 14th of February, that the landing in question, which ought to have taken place at forty leagues' distance from the capital, was denounced by Mr. Crawford only three days before its being carried into effect, perhaps with the intention that the difficulty in transmitting orders by the ordinary post, in so short a space of time, and the obstacles which therefore prevented the immediate ascertainment of the fact, might afford a pretext to that British functionary for further accusations and complaints. But the activity and zeal of the Captain-General, at the cost of great fatigue and no little expense, succeeded in sending a trusty officer to Cienfuegos with such diligence, that he arrived at that place before the “*Isabel*,” and as soon as this steamer arrived there, a scrupulous search was made on board before allowing any person to leave the vessel. Neither any Bozal negroes were

found on board, nor anything nor trace whatsoever which might lead to the presumption that they had been clandestinely removed.

The Captain-General transmitted to this office, on that occasion, a list of the passengers who were found on board the "*Isabel*," and a certified copy of the judicial investigations made into the matter, which proved that there was no truth whatever in the supposed landing in question.

Mooting anew this question, which seemed to have been settled by Lord Howden's satisfactory reply, and by the numerous data and proofs which were at that time brought forward, you state that, although, from the first investigations made by Mr. Fowler, the Vice-Consul at Cienfuegos, immediately after the arrival of the steamer "*Isabel*," it did not appear that there were any negroes on board, it is now supposed that, four days after—that is to say, when the Commissioner sent by the Captain-General to make the investigations above alluded to was no longer at Cienfuegos—the aforesaid vessel conveyed 10 negroes, who were kept hidden on board, until an opportunity was found of conveying them to a neighbouring plantation, and that the "*Isabel*," on her preceding voyage, had carried from Trinidad to Cienfuegos about 60 negroes belonging to two individuals.

I appeal to your own good faith, requesting you to judge whether such a vague information, which shows, as the consequence of an exaggerated zeal, the constant intention, on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Cuba, of setting forth accusations against the Spanish authorities in that island, can possibly invalidate the positive and evident proofs which have been brought forward demonstrating that the landing in question was utterly devoid of truth.

But by your mooted this question anew you offer to me an opportunity of communicating to you the further data which have been subsequently received from the Captain-General, relative to the aforesaid denunciation of Mr. Crawford, respecting the 38 negroes whom he stated had been landed at Cienfuegos by the steamer "*Isabel*;" and I will point out to you, at the same time, a disagreeable incident which has taken place on this occasion, and which, I have no doubt, your Government and you yourself will learn with regret.

From the above-mentioned judicial proceedings, it appears that a certain John Quesseil, calling himself a person commissioned by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana "for the purpose of watching over the interests of his nation, and the good faith of the two nations in their compacts" (these being the genuine words used by him in his letter addressed to the Governor of Cienfuegos), denounced a landing of 273 negroes at Rio Zarza, 38 of whom he supposed to have been brought over in the steamer "*Isabel*," and to have been hidden in the private house of Don Juan Ferry; adding, that the consignee of the whole cargo was Don Salvador Castro, of Trinidad.

The aforesaid Quesseil finishes his letter with the following words:

"Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, who has entrusted this commission to me, will be made acquainted with the barefacedness with which our national compacts are violated by the degraded public officers of one nation, to the extraordinary injury of her ally."

It is not my intention to enter at this moment into any observations respecting this new and disagreeable incident, which will be tried before the tribunals according to the laws, but only to call your attention to the singular conduct of Mr. Crawford, who, besides pretending to assume every kind of attributions and of interference in questions relating to negroes, considers himself authorized, contrary to the provisions of the laws, to delegate officially and publicly his own powers to other agents, and such kind of agents as that of which Quesseil seems to be. At all events, notwithstanding the anonymous form of this denunciation, the outrageous language of its author, and the illegality of his commission; and although purposing to institute judicial proceedings against Quesseil for those misdemeanours; the authorities of Cienfuegos were still willing to give a proof of their zeal for the extinction of the Slave Trade, by listening even to such informal reports made by an unknown individual.

A scrupulous search was therefore made in the house of Don Juan Ferry, but nothing was found. Don Salvador de Castro and several other witnesses were summoned to appear before the tribunal, and, from their depositions, no trace whatever of any landing of negroes could be detected. On the other hand, the denouncer Quesseil did not appear before the tribunal there to throw some brighter light upon, nor even to confirm, his denunciation. But the Royal Court of Justice being desirous of carrying still farther the investigations, directed further proceedings to be also instituted at Sancti Spiritu, but with no better success, since all the witnesses who were summoned to give evidence were ignorant of any such importation of Bozal negroes.

The denunciation appearing therefore to be untrue—a conviction which was strengthened, moreover, by the disappearance of the denouncer—the Royal Court of Justice of Puerto Principe having taken the opinion of the Queen's Advocate, which is annexed to the aforesaid judicial proceedings, determined that this trial should be closed at once, and that this decision should be communicated to the Lieutenant-Governor of Cienfuegos, that he might annex it to the incidental legal proceedings instituted there against Quesseil on the charges of outrage to the authorities, and of assuming an illegal investiture.

It only remains for me now to reply to the last point mentioned in your note, namely, the landing which took place on the 12th of March last in the vicinity of Cardeñas, and alluding to which you state the number of negroes landed on this occasion to have been 1,200, carried in one single vessel—a circumstance which appears to be unlikely; whilst, according to the reports from the Captain-General, the number of slaves really landed on the occasion in question did not amount to half the aforesaid one.

The information sent by General Cañedo, under date of the 29th of March, on this subject, was communicated to the British Legation in due time, and it appeared therefrom that the landing in question had been carried into effect with great secrecy, and that the owners of the slaves had adopted the most exquisite precautions for the immediate distribution of the cargo, and the disappearance of the vessel, the latter of which was burned; and it also appeared that the Captain-General, being anxious to discover, at any cost, what had become of the Bozal negroes, commissioned for this purpose one of his aides-de-camp, and not still satisfied with this, he entrusted the same commissioned to the Superior Chief of the Staff, Brigadier Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, and that the Captain-General carried on this occasion his zeal even so far as to outstep his powers, and attack private property, by causing about 300 of the aforesaid Bozal negroes to be taken out of the plantations where he knew they had been concealed, and directing, moreover, the authors and accomplices in the landing to be arrested. This, as I am sure you will acknowledge, is carrying things far beyond the mark of our obligations according to Treaties. Unfortunately, these efforts, so far from their being appreciated in their just value, appear to afford a pretext for fresh remonstrances addressed to the Spanish Government, very likely because the aforesaid functionary did not go on breaking into private houses and making further searches, until he should have discovered, at any cost, the 1,200 negroes, which is the exaggerated number which Mr. Crawford chose to quote in his denunciation.

I leave it for your consideration to judge whether it can be possible for our Governments to come to an understanding on this question, when, if the Bozal negroes who have been landed are seized, Mr. Crawford remonstrates because they are not seized in sufficient number, or because the authors of the landing are not arrested; and if the denounced fact turns out to be incorrect, it is then pretended that there has not been good faith in the investigations.

It has been frequently stated to the British Legation, and I cannot abstain from repeating it now with the same loyalty and frankness used by my predecessors in office, that the Spanish Government does not think that the Slave Trade has been completely extinguished in the Island of Cuba. Unfortunately the attainment of this object is not depending on the Spanish Government's will; and when it is evidently seen that the

efforts of this Government are not always efficient enough to prevent contraband goods being imported into the Peninsula, to the great detriment of the interests of the revenue, how can it be pretended that the action of the authorities should always be sufficient in Cuba to prevent that other kind of contraband traffic which offers so strong an incentive to speculation and covetousness, and which is rendered still easier by the circumstances of the Island of Cuba and its extensive coasts ?

But the Spanish Government has at the same time offered to do everything in its power to persecute and extinguish the Slave Trade ; and being firmly determined to attain this object, it has dismissed or suspended from their functions officers of high rank, on the mere suspicion of their having had some connivance with that Traffic. Private houses and plantations have been forcibly searched, for the purpose of taking out of them Bozal negroes by main force ; several of the authors and accomplices of so unlawful a Traffic have been arrested ; and, finally, all denunciations made by Mr. Crawford, however incorrect or exaggerated, as they have generally turned out to be, have been attended to with the greatest efficiency and activity.

But all this, which has been and is being done with the best possible goodwill and the most firm decision, does not offer to us any security that it will satisfy the Government of Great Britain so long as that Government will not listen with some caution to the information which is addressed to it by those persons who take advantage, to make thereof their own profit, of the noble feelings which induce England to persecute everywhere the Traffic in Slaves ; and so long as it gives full credence to a functionary like Mr. Crawford, who has given such repeated proofs of his dislike towards everything which is Spanish, and of the want of prudence with which he gives rise to disagreeable discussions between the two Governments.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 438.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing copies of a letter which he addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, and of the answer which he received thereto, respecting the landing of 600 Africans on the Isle of Pines, and calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the discourteous tone of that answer, and to the contemptuous treatment to which he is generally exposed whenever he has occasion to denounce similar infractions of the Treaty of 1835 between Great Britain and Spain.

I have to instruct you to read to General Lersundi Mr. Crawford's despatch, and with reference to the complaints constantly made of that gentleman's want of courtesy, you will show General Lersundi Mr. Crawford's letter to the Captain-General, and you will ask his Excellency if it contains anything to warrant the insulting answer which Mr. Crawford received by direction of that functionary.

Her Majesty's Government are well aware that Mr. Crawford's vigilance in denouncing the Slave Trade has made him obnoxious to the Captain-General, and they deeply regret that there should exist so much cause for that vigilance, and that it should prove so utterly unavailing ; but in endeavouring to secure the execution of the Treaty of 1835, Mr. Crawford has not exceeded the strict limits of his duty, and if the Captain-General of Cuba were really sincere in his professed determination to put down the importation of negroes, and to prevent the equipment of vessels for that Traffic, he would receive with thanks, and not

* No. 561.

with discourtesy, the information furnished by Mr. Crawford; he would act upon it, and not invariably neglect it as he does.

But at all events, Her Majesty's Government are entitled to expect that the Spanish Government will take measures for protecting Mr. Crawford against the studied ill-treatment which he now invariably receives from the Captain-General.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 439.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 18, 1853.

WITH reference to Lord Howden's despatch of the 12th of May, and to the concluding paragraph of General Lersundi's letter inclosed therein, which stated that, whatever might be the endeavours which the Captain-General of Cuba might make in order to suppress the Slave Trade, Mr. Crawford's personal opinions would lead him to represent those endeavours in an unfavourable light, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, stating that the Captain-General of Cuba cannot bring forward any facts to justify this aspersion of his official character.

I have to instruct you to communicate to General Lersundi the substance of the inclosed despatch; and in refutation of the charge against Mr. Crawford, you will refer to the contents of his despatches of the 21st and 25th of June, and to the communication founded thereupon, which you were instructed by my despatch of the 23rd ultimo to make to General Lersundi respecting the improvement which Mr. Crawford reported in General Cañedo's administration of the Government of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 440.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 17.)

My Lord,

San Ildefonso, August 10, 1853.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 12th ultimo, upon the subject of the complaints of the Captain-General of Cuba, that Mr. Crawford gives unfounded information as to vessels fitting out for the Slave Trade, I addressed to General Lersundi, as directed in the above despatch, the note of which I herewith inclose a copy.

I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of his Excellency's answer to that communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 440.

Mr. Otway to General Lersundi.

Sir,

Madrid, July 17, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received from my Government a despatch, acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the note addressed to me by your Excellency on the 24th ultimo, complaining that Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, communicated to the Captain-General of Cuba in October 1852, some information relative to several vessels said to be fitting out in the ports of Cuba for the African Slave Trade, which information the Captain-General afterwards discovered to be unfounded.

I am directed to observe to your Excellency that on reference to

No. 563.

Mr. Crawford's despatches, the representation to which your Excellency's above-mentioned note refers was contained in a letter from Mr. Crawford to the Captain-General of the 9th July, 1852, and that your Excellency has attributed the date of October to that communication by mistake.

Her Majesty's Government have never received from the Havana any denial on the part of the Captain-General to the statements in question, and I have received instructions to transmit to your Excellency the information contained in the inclosed copies of despatches from the British Vice-Consul at Lagos, and from the British Consul at Fernando Po, showing that the "*Jasper*," one of the vessels denounced in Mr. Crawford's letter of the 9th July, 1852, and which is asserted in your Excellency's note to me of the 24th ultimo to be a legal trader, shipped in March last, at a place called Secco, in the Bight of Benin, a cargo of 300 African slaves, which have in all probability been already landed in Cuba.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 440.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, July 28, 1853.

I HAVE received your note, dated the 17th instant, in reply to the one which I had the honour to address to you on the 17th ultimo (and which I suppose is the note to which you attribute the date of the 24th), in which you acquaint me that the subject to which the said note refers was comprised in the communication addressed by Mr. Crawford to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba on the 9th July, 1852, and not in that which that functionary addressed to the said authority in October of the same year, which you say I have erroneously cited.

Some brief explanations will suffice, in my belief, to persuade you that there was no error on my part in referring to the communication of Mr. Crawford of the month of October in my above-mentioned note of the 17th June.

The chief object of my note was to apprize you of the efficient steps taken by the Captain-General in consequence of the information sent by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana, that the brig "*Cora*" was fitting out in Cayo Frances, to import into Cuba a cargo of Bozal negroes. From the scrupulous investigations, from the official inquiry drawn up on the subject, from the report given for the better enlightenment of the facts by the Courts of Justice of Puerto Principe, and from the orders given by the aforesaid tribunal, it appeared that the landing in question was false.

The inexactness of this denunciation became at the time a new motive of calling your attention to the facility with which Mr. Crawford gives credence to vague rumours of announcements of landing of slaves which are for the most part destitute of all foundation.

Mr. Crawford's communication of the 9th July, which you suppose is that to which this Department referred, is concerning five vessels which he pretended were fitting out in the ports of Cuba for the Slave Traffic.

To your note of the 2nd September, 1852, on this subject, this Department replied, on the 22nd of the same month, that the Captain-General would do all in his power to prevent the departure of such vessels as should be fitted out for the Slave Trade, and as a proof a copy was at that time transmitted to you of a communication from that authority, in which he stated that three of those suspicious vessels were seized by the Spanish authorities, and that a trial would be instituted in accordance with the laws.

Consequently, in my aforesaid note of the 17th June, the principal purport of which was to prove that the landing attributed to the "*Cora*" was untrue, I ought to have referred to the denunciation made by

CLASS B.

Mr. Crawford in October, and not to that which was made by him on the 9th of July of the same year, respecting the preparations which he supposed several vessels were making for the Slave Trade.

With regard to the subject incidentally alluded to by you in your note that the barque "*Jasper*," according to information which you had received, and of which you forwarded a copy to me, had sailed from the United States to the coast of Africa, where it appears she had embarked 300 negroes, with the probable intention, as you say, of importing them into Cuba, I have little to add to that which I took occasion to state in my aforesaid note of the 17th June, that is, that the result of the inquiries instituted by the Captain-General, in consequence of Mr. Crawford's denunciation, was that the "*Jasper*" was cleared for New York with goods of licit commerce. If from thence she sailed to the coast of Africa under American colours, it was not in our power, as you very well know, to prevent it in a country where our jurisdiction and vigilance do not extend.

But what the Government will do, as it does under date of to-day, is strenuously to recommend the Captain-General of Cuba, should the "*Jasper*" return to the island, to subject her to renewed and scrupulous investigations, with a view to ascertain whether the expedition referred to by you was effected; and should it be proved that she is engaged even in this indirect manner in the illicit negro commerce, that he should proceed with all severity against the vessel and her owner.

I reiterate to you on this occasion the assurance that the Government will persevere in its determination of putting down, at every sacrifice, that Traffic; because it wishes to fulfil loyally and in good faith the stipulations of the Treaty, and because it desires very cordially that this perpetual cause of difficulties between the two Governments may disappear, to which the excessive zeal of some British functionaries contributes in no small degree. But Her Majesty's Government also flatters itself that if sometimes, although seldom, the result does not correspond to its efforts, it has at all times been able to prove that it omits neither means nor sacrifice, even to the outstepping of the obligations imposed by the compact, to extirpate the Slave Trade in the Spanish dominions.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 441.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 24, 1853.

I ABSTAIN from entering into a refutation of the charges made against Mr. Crawford by the authorities of Cuba, because several of them have been met in my recent despatches, and because I am unwilling to increase irritation, or to disturb those friendly relations between the two countries which it is the anxious wish of Her Majesty's Government to maintain; but there are accusations, some of a trivial, and others of a grave character, against Mr. Crawford, which it is impossible for me to leave unnoticed.

Mr. Crawford has been strictly enjoined to observe the utmost courtesy in his communications with the Captain-General of Cuba, and respect for his authority, and he has promised to obey those instructions. Copies of his correspondence with the Captain-General are regularly transmitted to this office, and if Mr. Crawford's letters had contained any disrespectful expression, or if he had exceeded his duties, General Lersundi may be assured that such a departure from his instructions would have met with the reproof it deserved; but these offences do not appear to have been committed.

General Lersundi, however, says that, in order to provoke conflicts and to create difficulties, Her Majesty's Consuls in Cuba, and Mr. Crawford in particular, endeavour to arrogate to themselves diplomatic functions and privileges, requiring to be addressed in a style that apper-

tains to Ministers, and putting forward their pretensions in language the most disrespectful, which is that generally used by them.

Her Majesty's Government having no knowledge of such pretensions, nor of the documents in which they may have been urged, will be extremely obliged to General de Lersundi if he will furnish them with the copies that must be in his possession, and with any other evidence of disrespect on the part of Her Majesty's Consuls towards the Captain-General, in order that Her Majesty's Government may judge of the measures necessary to be taken.

Mr. Crawford is also charged with publishing in foreign newspapers reports the most unfavourable to the Captain-General, with the object of lowering his reputation and weakening the means upon which he reckons for the good government of the island; and it is further stated that Mr. Crawford has carried his audacity to the point of endeavouring to suborn respectable Spanish functionaries with the probable object of dishonouring them afterwards.

Now, these are accusations of a character so grave and important, that Her Majesty's Government are convinced they would not have been brought forward by General Lersundi unless he had in his hands complete and well substantiated evidence of their correctness, and they are equally convinced that he will not hesitate to place Her Majesty's Government in full possession of that evidence; and they ask it not alone with reference to Mr. Crawford, but for their own honour, as Her Majesty's Government cannot for one moment allow it to be supposed that they would retain in the public service an officer justly accused of undermining the authority of the Captain-General, or of degrading his country and his office by attempts to bribe the functionaries of Her Catholic Majesty.

They feel sure, however, that General Lersundi will admit the urgency of the request you are now instructed to make, and that he will furnish to you all the proofs we are entitled to demand with the least possible delay.

You will read this despatch to General Lersundi.

No. 442.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, inclosing a copy of a letter which he has addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the emancipados, Escolastica, Carmen, and Catalina, and the condition of the emancipated classes in general.

And I have to instruct you to inform General Lersundi that, although the just and liberal decision of the Spanish Government with respect to the emancipados was made known to Her Majesty's Government in the month of March last, no notice whatever appears to have been taken of it by the authorities in Cuba; and the state of this unfortunate class is as grievous as ever.

I am, &c.

Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 443.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, reporting the proceedings of a Spanish officer named Adolfo, who was sent by the

* No. 568.

† No. 566.

authorities of Havana to arrest the crew of a vessel called the "*Nueva Empresa*," which had landed a cargo of Africans at Cayo Cortez.

And I have to instruct you to inform General Lersundi of the good conduct and firmness shown by Lieutenant Adolfo in resisting the opposition and open violence of the slave-traders in the district of Pinardel Rio.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 444.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 25, 1853.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I addressed a note to General Lersundi, relative to the apparent non-fulfilment on the part of the Spanish Government, as communicated to me by Señor Bertran de Lis in his note of the 9th of September last, of the assurance that the Captain-General of the Havana had been directed to communicate to the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana, for the information referred to in the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, respecting the number of emancipated negroes who have received their letters of freedom at the Havana.

General Lersundi, in his reply, translation of which I have the honour to inclose, informs me that the Captain-General of Cuba, under date of the 8th of November last, had reported, with reference to the orders which had been addressed to him on this subject, that even though the Mixed Commission had not at that date, nor indeed had ever, asked him for these statements, he should obey the directions he had received.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 444.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 18, 1853.

IN reply to the note which you were pleased to address to me, under date of the 8th instant, relative to the returns of emancipated negroes referred to in Articles V and VI of the Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, I have the honour to state to you that the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba informed this Office, on the 8th of November, 1852, in reply to the instructions which had been sent to him on the subject, that, although the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana, had hitherto never asked from him any such returns, he would fulfil the orders given to him to that effect.

It is very possible that the subsequently-adopted measure of granting freedom to all emancipated negroes may have induced the aforesaid functionary to believe that the returns in question were no longer required, the Mixed Court of Justice perhaps concurring with him in such belief; or that this may be, perhaps, one of those questions originated by the excessive zeal of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana, for the purpose of giving importance to his position, or of raising fresh causes of molestation to the authorities of the island. Otherwise, it would certainly be a matter of astonishment that, when the Spanish Government has adopted so important a measure with regard to emancipated negroes,

without minding the difficulties and not inconsiderable sacrifices which the execution of such measure must necessarily occasion, Mr. Crawford should think that even this is insufficient to put a stop to his complaints.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 445.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 27, 1853.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, directing me to inform Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that General Cañedo appears, at length, to be endeavouring to suppress the Traffic in Slaves, which under his administration had reached such an alarming and almost unprecedented height, I have addressed a note to General Lersundi, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 445.

Mr. Otway to General Lersundi.

Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 9, 1853.

IT is my agreeable duty to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that his Excellency General Cañedo appears at length to be endeavouring to suppress the Slave Trade, which, under his Government, had reached such an alarming and almost unprecedented height.

Her Majesty's Government are convinced that this improvement in the administration of the Government of Cuba is only to be attributed to the more energetic instructions which have been sent out by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to the Captain-General of the island.

With the despatch upon which the present communication is founded, I received another one, upon the facts contained in which it was purposed to direct me to make a strong representation to your Excellency with regard to the increase of the Slave Trade in Cuba, and the consequent inevitable disturbance of the friendly relations between Great Britain and Spain; but under the circumstances mentioned to Her Majesty's Government in a despatch written at Havana towards the end of June last, and likewise in another despatch, reporting the imprisonment of Don Julian Zulueta, Her Majesty's Government have instructed me to suspend those remonstrances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 446.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 27, 1853.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I lost no time in addressing to General Lersundi the note, copy of which I have the honour to inclose, communicating to his Excellency the substance of Mr. Crawford's despatch to your Lordship, replying to the observations upon his report as to the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*," contained in Count Alcoy's note to Lord Howden of the 15th of March last.

I have the honour likewise to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translation of the answer which I have received from General Lersundi to my above-mentioned communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure I in No. 446.

Mr. Otway to General Lersundi.

Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 10, 1853.

ON the 4th of March last Count Alcoy addressed to Lord Howden a note, containing observations upon the report of Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana as to the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*."

By the direction of my Government, I have the honour to communicate to your Excellency the substance of Mr. Crawford's reply to the observations in question. This reply bears the date of the 28th of May, which your Excellency will not fail to observe is an earlier date than that of the despatches describing the more favourable state of things in the Island of Cuba in connection with the subject of the Slave Trade, to which it afforded me so much gratification to allude in the note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency yesterday.

Mr. Crawford, after acknowledging to the Earl of Clarendon the receipt of the observations in question, proceeds to say, respecting the fitting out for the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba of the "*Lady Suffolk*," as follows:

"The circumstances of this case are truly stated in my despatches. My information was obtained from the crew who brought the '*Lady Suffolk*' from New York to Mariel, went with her thence to Bahia Honda, assisted in taking in her armings, provisions, and slave-equipments, and who were put from on board such ship into the Spanish coasting steamer '*Sirena*,' after the said steamer had towed the slaver or pirate ten leagues from Bahia Honda to sea, and who were brought clandestinely into this port of Havana by the said '*Sirena*.'

"The Count Alcoy takes exception at the accusation of General Cañedo that, 'as long as it is not proved that the parties proceeded against were the principal parties of the crime prosecuted,' &c.

"It is well known that, in such cases, the real culprits keep, or are kept, out of danger; and so, in the case of the '*Lady Suffolk*,' Mr. Isasi, the party taken up and proceeded against, is a clerk only, and no principal in the transaction of the '*Lady Suffolk*.'

"I do not think that it is any part of my duty, as Her Majesty's Consul-General, to act the part of a public informer; nor do I consider that it was necessary, in this instance, to denounce to the Captain-General the principals interested in the '*Lady Suffolk*,' since everybody in Havana knows whose clerk the said Isasi is, and that his employer, Don Julian Zulueta, is one of the most notorious slave-dealers that have ever existed.

“The artillery, ammunition, and stores taken on board the ‘*Lady Suffolk*’ at Bahia Honda, were all sent from this port of Havana. Now is it reasonable to suppose that this could be done without the cognizance of those authorities, whose duty it surely was to have prevented it? I will venture to say that, for any other purpose than to fit out such an expedition by such powerful people, nothing of the kind would be allowed; indeed, I have not the slightest hesitation in asserting that it would not be done.

“I have not seen the ‘sumario,’ or process; consequently, it is impossible for me to say or prove whether any person against whom there were grounds of blame has escaped the rigour of the law; nor can I know, for the same reason, whether there were any persons denounced who have not been proceeded against: but not all Count Alcoy’s reasoning will, I am sure, for one moment serve to make anybody who knows how such proceedings are managed here, believe that any pains were taken to detect or punish those who were the principals in the affair of the ‘*Lady Suffolk*,’ or those whose duty it was to have put a stop to so disgraceful a proceeding.

“Your Lordship may, however, be assured that, so long as the Slave Trade is permitted to be carried on with impunity, our denunciations will always be qualified by the Spanish Government as offensive to the dignity of the Captain-General, and to those whose duty it ought to be to suppress the horrible Traffic.

“I am quite satisfied, also, that the authorities of the Island of Cuba will find advocates to screen them, however scandalous the breach of the Treaty may have been which they may have connived at.

“Count Alcoy concludes by observing, that recent examples must have convinced the British Government that the Captain General of Cuba omits neither effort nor fatigue to accomplish the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

“Whatever efforts and fatigue his Excellency General Cañedo may have made or undergone, I must observe to your Lordship, that they have been quite unavailing, for, most certainly, he has not been able to hinder one landing, that I know of; he has not detected or punished any of the parties who have so often and so successfully violated the existing Treaties; nor have his officers been successful in capturing the slaves after they have been landed, but, in very few instances, some of these have been captured by his acting upon my denouncements, and if he has shown any determination to put an end to the Traffic by punishing those under his command in the districts where landings of Bozal negroes have been effected, it has only been by the removal of some insignificant ‘Capitanes de Partidos,’ which has produced almost no good effects whatever, instead of striking terror into the whole host of the officials, by the punishment of the chiefs of the departments, whose duty it was to have taken care that the laws were not broken by those under their immediate orders.

“The task of the Captain-General, as the Count Alcoy observes, is a difficult one; still the Count may recollect that, for some time after he himself arrived here, as the Captain-General of Cuba, scarcely any slaves were introduced, and that this was owing to his firmness; but it is much to be lamented that he afterwards changed his policy.”

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 446.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 19, 1853.

I HAVE received the note dated the 10th instant, in which you are pleased to transcribe to me the fresh observations made by Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul-General at the Havana on the case of the “*Lady Suffolk*.”

As the aforesaid observations are in great part, in my opinion, a repetition of those already made on the subject by Mr. Crawford which were communicated by the British Legation to my predecessor, Count Alcoy, on the 28th of February last, and as the rest is nothing else than a declamation which has no determined object, I beg you will allow me to maintain all that which this office stated to Lord Howden in the note dated the 15th of May last, and which I think useless to repeat now, with regard to the unfounded arguments employed by Mr. Crawford in this matter, and respecting his pretension that the Government of which you are the representative should give a credence, which I would style as an excessive one, to the unproved charges he sets forth against Her Majesty's authorities in Cuba, in the most vague and indefinite terms.

Confining myself, however, to such observations from the British Consul as might appear to be a rejoinder to the note from this office, and which are substantially to the effect that Mr. Crawford does not deny that General Cañedo gives orders for the prosecution of the Slave Trade, that he punishes such functionaries as do not fulfil their duty on this matter, but that he pretends, at the same time, that the Captain-General's exertions produce no effect, since, as Mr. Crawford assures, the Slave Trade continues to be carried on; I will state to you that, even if these assertions were correct, which is not the case, since they are greatly exaggerated, all that they would prove is, that it is impossible to extinguish at one blow the illicit Traffic in Slaves, which offers so great an incentive to speculation and covetousness, and which is carried on in an island, the extensive coasts whereof are besides so favourable from their formation to that kind of contraband trade. The greatest part of the inhabitants of the island being interested in this Traffic, it must necessarily be always a difficult task not only to extinguish it completely, but also to ascertain the truth which so many persons have an interest in concealing. The British Legation, on several occasions, and recently Lord Clarendon, with a noble frankness, have acknowledged this to be the case.

But, because the aforesaid permanent obstacles render sometimes unsuccessful the Captain-General's efforts, it would be highly unjust not to acknowledge and appreciate the zeal and perseverance with which that superior functionary persecutes the Slave Trade by every means in his power, and still more unjust the pretension which appears to be set forth by Mr. Crawford that, in cases of Slave Trade, the laws should be suspended, and persons, perhaps innocent ones, should be maltreated.

This, as will not escape your good judgment, is altogether impossible, because such persons, when presented before the tribunals, would necessarily be set at liberty, since, as you are very probably aware, the judges in Spain cannot try a person on mere suspicion, nor on moral conviction, but only *ex alegata et probata*.

As, in your aforesaid note of the 10th instant, to which I am replying, you confine yourself to communicate to me, according to instructions from your Government, the substance of Mr. Crawford's last despatch on the above-mentioned subject, I consider that the plain and frank explanations contained in the present note will be sufficient, adding that I have given them to you as a testimony of deference towards yourself, and of regard towards your Government, and not because Mr. Crawford's above-mentioned communication at all required so long a reply.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

No. 447.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 31, 1853.

IN obedience to the orders contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant, I have read to General Lersundi Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 4th of July last, together with its inclosures, relative to the landing of 600 Africans on the Isle of Pines, and complaining of the discourteous

treatment to which he is now generally exposed whenever he has occasion to denounce similar infractions of the Treaty of 1835 between Great Britain and Spain.

General Lersundi said that he had already seen the letters which had passed between Mr. Crawford and the Captain-General alluded to in Mr. Crawford's despatch to your Lordship, and that neither in one nor the other could he discover any just ground for complaint or animadversion; that Mr. Crawford should, however, strictly confine himself, in his communications with the Captain-General, to a simple relation of facts, and not call upon him authoritatively to take any particular steps, or suggest any particular course of proceeding on the part of that functionary; that Mr. Crawford seemed constantly to lose sight of the fact that his functions and duties were purely and simply of a commercial nature, and as a commercial agent alone was he recognized and considered by the Spanish Government; and that whatever remarks or suggestions Her Majesty's Government might think proper or necessary to address to that of Her Most Catholic Majesty, they could and would only receive through the official and accredited organ of Her Majesty's Government at this Court; and, finally, that he would take an early opportunity, in a private communication, of desiring General Cañedo to treat Mr. Crawford with that courtesy and consideration due to his office and position.

I stated to General Lersundi it was your Lordship's opinion that Mr. Crawford, in his efforts to secure the execution of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835 had not exceeded the strict limits of his duty, and that, were the Captain-General really sincere in his professions of putting down the Traffic in Slaves, he would receive, in a very different spirit and manner, Mr. Crawford's communications.

His Excellency replied that he had nothing at present to add to what I have above had the honour of reporting to your Lordship on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 448.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Lindegren, Her Majesty's Consul in Porto Rico, stating that the Spanish mail-steamers conveyed in June and July last, from Porto Rico to Cuba, between 60 and 70 negroes, who were intended for sale at Havana.

I have to instruct you to state to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great regret that this Traffic has been resumed; and you will urge his Excellency to take steps in order that stringent instructions may be sent to the Captain-General of Porto Rico, prohibiting the transmission of slaves from that island to Cuba for sale.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 449.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1853.

WITH reference to Lord Howden's despatch of the 12th of May last, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, respecting the opposition and the legal difficulties which the Captain-General of Cuba has experienced in consequence of the orders which he had given directing the District Governors to enter any estates where there might be reason to suspect that newly-imported negroes were concealed.

* No. 661.

† No. 577.

You will communicate the contents of the inclosed despatch to General Lersundi, who will learn thereby that Mr. Crawford, who is accused of animosity towards the Captain-General, does justice to the efforts of that functionary when facts permit of his doing so.

You will at the same time invite the attention of General Lersundi to the state of the law which renders those efforts abortive, and you will earnestly recommend that the Spanish Government should amend the Penal Law of March 2, 1845, so that the Spanish authorities in Cuba may be enabled to pursue the newly-imported negroes to every place where it is likely that they may be concealed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 450.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch* from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, and of the correspondence therein mentioned, respecting some newly-landed negroes, whose emancipation had been officially communicated by the Captain-General of Cuba to the Mixed Commission at Havana.

You will observe that the Captain-General has refused to return any answer to an inquiry which I instructed Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to make with regard to the manner in which these emancipated negroes had been disposed of; and I have to call your attention to this correspondence, with reference to the recent communication which General Lersundi has made to you upon the subject of the emancipados in Cuba, and which is mentioned in your despatch of the 25th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 451.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st ultimo, and I have to instruct you to thank General Lersundi on the part of Her Majesty's Government for having undertaken to address a private communication to General Cañedo, directing him to treat Mr. Crawford with the courtesy and consideration which are due to his official character and position.

But with reference to General Lersundi's observation that Mr. Crawford's functions and duties are merely of a commercial nature, I have to desire that you will read to General Lersundi the agreement which was signed by Sir Henry Bulwer and Señor Martinez de la Rosa, on the 4th of November, 1845, with regard to the correspondence between Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana and the Captain-General of Cuba upon matters relating to the Slave Trade, and you will request General Lersundi to observe that Mr. Crawford has not exceeded the limits of his instructions founded upon that agreement.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 452.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 15.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, September 9, 1853.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith translations of a

* No. 576.

note and its inclosure, which I have received from General Lersundi, in reply to the one which I addressed to his Excellency on the 24th ultimo, communicating to him, by your Lordship's directions, copies of a correspondence which had passed between Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, and the Captain-General of Cuba, relative to his Excellency's refusal to allow two liberated African women to remain in Cuba.

Inclosure 1 in No. 452.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 26, 1853.

I HAVE received your note of the 24th instant, in which, on inclosing a correspondence which has passed between the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba and the British Consul at the Havana, you express, in the name of your Government, the regret with which the latter has learnt the language made use of by the aforesaid Spanish functionary on this occasion, which you say is not only discourteous with regard to the Consul, but also disrespectful towards the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

This note of yours has caused me the most profound regret, since it confirms what I have so frequently stated to you, both verbally and in writing, respecting my apprehensions as to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty giving too much credence to the almost always prejudiced assertions of a functionary whose conduct in the Island of Cuba is, unfortunately, highly calculated to embarrass the friendly relations which have from ancient times existed between Spain and England.

The English Government, on transmitting to me, with its usual noble frankness, Mr. Crawford's correspondence, has precisely furnished me with the means of proving, in a clear and evident manner, the justice of our repeated complaints against the injudicious conduct of Mr. Crawford; and has likewise afforded me the opportunity of corresponding, as in duty bound, to the frank behaviour of your Government, by transmitting to them, in my turn, with the request that it be returned to me when done with, the last communication, in original, which I have received from the Captain-General, together with the documents inclosed in it, relative to the negro woman Mary Anne Bethel. And I will now carry my loyalty even so far as to inclose to you at the same time, as I do herewith, a copy of the despatch addressed by this Office on the 17th instant to Señor Isturiz, relative to the same subject.

It appears from all the aforesaid documents, in a manner as patent as it is undeniable, that Mr. Crawford has abused the good faith of the Captain-General, by fraudulently keeping in his service for upwards of one year the negress Mary Anne Bethel, whom he had taken the engagement, as he himself confesses, of removing immediately out of the territory of the island, because such was the precise condition on which the aforesaid superior authority placed the negro woman in question at the disposal of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General; that, notwithstanding this emancipated negress being long since well known for her vicious and immoral conduct, to the point that her last masters had almost abandoned her, Mr. Crawford has protected her, by retaining her secretly either in his possession, or in that of one of his acquaintances, thus setting at defiance, if I may so express myself, the powerful reasons which the Government of the Queen, my Sovereign, has for not allowing any emancipated slave, of such character and circumstances as those of the negress Mary Anne, to remain in the island; and, finally, that Mr. Crawford, perceiving his dangerous position in this affair, has resorted to the expedient, which he has so much abused, of pretending to have been offended in his official character, and of raising conflicts with the Spanish authority, by intentionally mixing up his own Government in the dispute, with the view of thereby throwing the principal object of this troublesome affair into the

background, and thus avoiding that his want of justice and his censurable conduct should come forward.

If I were, on this occasion, to recall to your mind the long correspondence which has taken place with the British Legation on the subject of the negress Mary Anne, and to lay stress anew on the positive testimony which the Spanish Government gave, on the occasion in question, to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, of its constant wish of removing every motive of misunderstanding between the two Governments; if I were to call your attention to the fact that the friendly deference with which her letters of freedom were granted to the negress Mary Anne without this act—a purely gracious one on the part of Her Majesty—being founded upon any legal reasons, since the process which had been instituted on this matter was not at that time in the proper stage for a decision to be adopted thereupon, has only served to bring upon us fresh annoyances raised by Mr. Crawford; I would, perhaps, then be under the necessity of entering into observations which I prefer omitting, as an additional proof of my sincere wish of discarding from this matter everything which may give to it the character of a disagreeable controversy with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

Fortunately, in the present occasion, there is no question of landing of negroes, nor of denunciations of cases of this kind, respecting which any excess of zeal on the Consul's part might appear excusable; the question is relative to an act which belongs purely and exclusively to the Spanish authority, and on which no interference of any kind whatever can be allowed to foreign agents; namely, the perfect right which the Captain-General possesses, by virtue of the powers vested in him, of not allowing any emancipated slave whom he may consider to be a dangerous character, or whom he may have formally ordered to leave the colony, to remain in the island entrusted to his command, and for the good government of which he is responsible.

The question being so laid down, I cannot abstain from calling your attention to the gravity of this affair, since it is undoubtedly one of the most serious questions which can occur in the administration of a colony, in which, independently of other circumstances which it would be now superfluous to enumerate, slavery exists, the right of determining what emancipated slaves are to be allowed to remain in the colony; and since England leaves the Governors of her colonies at perfectly unrestrained liberty to admit or to refuse to foreigners to take their residence in the same, that nation must necessarily acknowledge that Spain must grant the same power to her Captains-General, and more especially with regard to free coloured people.

Establishing this principle as a general rule, and leaving aside the limitation of powers imposed on the English Consul at the Havana, by virtue of Conventions between the Governments of Spain and England, and overlooking also the especial circumstances of this case, the aforesaid English Consul ought never to have entered into an official correspondence on a subject so alien from his competency. I beg to state to you with perfect frankness that I can find no instance of a greater translimitation of powers on the part of a Consul than that which the British Consul has committed on the occasion in question by speaking in the name of his Government when writing to an authority dependent on the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, and on a subject as delicate as it is distant from his intervention. I can easily conceive that the English Government should have addressed Her Majesty's Government through your channel, for the purpose of recommending the residence in the Island of Cuba of some emancipated slave, founding this request on some special reasons. I can even conceive that Mr. Crawford should have himself made such a recommendation to General Cañedo, stating the interest which his Government took in the affair, because any of these two courses are perfectly consistent with the state of friendly relations which exist between the two countries, and because the English Government can justly consider itself authorized to make a request of this kind, or bearing upon any other feasible question, by the confidence which the goodwill of Her Majesty's Government must inspire it with. But it was not done so; and

Mr. Crawford preferred the course of addressing an official remonstrance, couched in so unusual a form that it could not but meet with a refusal on the part of the Captain-General, and even wound the dignity of this functionary by the fact of transmitting to him warnings from a foreign Government, for the purpose of thus having an opportunity of writing to the English Government a complaint like that contained in the Consul's despatch of the 2nd of July, and of throwing a veil over the fault committed in concealing the negress Mary Anne.

I entreat you to read with attention Mr. Crawford's aforesaid despatch, and you will perceive the care with which he endeavours to excite the sense of dignity of the English Government. He begins by supposing as an act of discourteousness what is merely the duty of the Captain-General, as to his refusing to receive any communications from the Consular agents, when bearing upon matters entirely out of their competency, and finishes by expressing his indignation at the disrespect which he supposes has been shown towards the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

The British Consul at the Havana affirms that he has given no cause for the Captain-General's being circumspect and severe with him. I beg to call to your recollection that from the moment of his arrival at the Island of Cuba Mr. Crawford began to quarrel with the authorities of the island, and that there has been not one single Captain-General who has not had very numerous motives of complaint against him, and that it is only owing to the noble feelings of the English Government, and to our own friendly condescension, that the British functionary in question has not given rise to serious differences between the two countries. As a proof of this truth, I might also recall to your mind that, so far back as 1845, it was already found necessary to put a stop to Mr. Crawford's transgressions and exaggerated pretensions, by means of the Convention of the 4th of November of the aforesaid year, signed by Don Francisco Martinez de la Rosa and Sir H. L. Bulwer.

If in the aforesaid Convention it is forbidden to the British Consul, as may be seen in the preamble, to assume diplomatic attributions which do not belong to him, how can he be allowed in the case in question to make official representations in behalf of persons who are no subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, and on account of interests which are not commercial ones, nor emanating from any Treaty? How can he pretend to describe as a want of respect towards the English Government a measure adopted by the Captain-General, the object of which is to enforce the fulfilment of the Convention concluded between Her Majesty's Government and the Representative of Great Britain at Madrid?

I request you to call the serious attention of the Earl of Clarendon to these observations; I beg you to point out to his Lordship the utter want of foundation of the complaint produced by Mr. Crawford, and the unfriendly spirit with which he endeavours to excite the resentment of the English Government by trying to impress on it the belief that the respect to which it is entitled has been disregarded, whilst the only thing which the Captain-General has done is to warn Mr. Crawford about the remarkable transgression of his powers which he has taken the liberty to commit; and, finally, I have to request that you will state to his Lordship that Her Majesty's Government cannot disapprove the manner in which the Captain-General of Cuba has conducted himself on the occasion in question, since there is in it neither any offence to the English Government, nor any intention of offending it; and that the only means of preventing the repetition of such disagreeable incidents is to compel Mr. Crawford to maintain himself within the orbit of his consular attributions, and to abstain from setting forth representations which do neither appertain to his competency, nor could be received without injuring the dignity of the high functionary who governs the Island of Cuba, in the name of the Queen, my august Sovereign.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) FRANCO. LERSUNDI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 452.

*Despatch addressed by Her Catholic Majesty's Government to
M. de Isturiz.*

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

San Ildefonso, August 17, 1853.

IN the despatch from this office, dated the 3rd of February, 1851, your Excellency was informed that Her Britannic Majesty's Minister had claimed the liberation of a negro woman named Mary Anne, who had been sold as a slave in the Havana, founding his demand on the argument that, according to an Act of the English Parliament, the aforesaid negress had ceased from belonging to her master, and become the property of the Crown of England, in consequence of her having been fraudulently exported from the Bahama Islands.

After a long and troublesome correspondence between this office and the British Legation upon this subject, the Queen, our Sovereign, being always desirous of removing every motive of disagreeable controversy with the English Government, by offering to it, as far as the circumstances of the Island of Cuba will permit, proofs of friendly deference, determined that the proper instructions should be issued to the Captain-General of that island, to the effect of letters of freedom being granted to the negress Mary Anne Bethel, and that her owner, Doña Aurora Rosé, should be indemnified for the value of the emancipated slave. But as this act was not founded on legal reasons, since the process which had been instituted upon the matter was not yet in the requisite stage for a decision being adopted thereupon; this office took special care of consigning, in the note which it addressed to the British Legation on the subject, that the freedom granted to the negress Mary Anne being a purely gracious concession, it ought never to be alleged in future as a precedent for similar claims.

The Captain-General of Cuba, in fulfilment of the aforesaid Royal decision, delivered into the aforesaid negress' own hands her letter of freedom on the 19th of January, 1852. That functionary knew, however, that this emancipated slave had long been a notorious character for her vicious conduct and her habitual drunkenness, and that her masters had almost abandoned her on account of her vices; and it therefore being contrary to all sound policy and to public morals to allow that the negress Mary Anne should continue to reside in the aforesaid island, where she was likely to give a bad example to people of her class, and to induce, with her excessively cunning character, other slaves to put forward claims similar to the one which has been the cause of her freedom; the Captain-General came to the resolution of placing the negress in question under the care of the British Consul-General, on the precise condition that he would cause her to leave the territory of the island within a very short time.

The aforesaid superior functionary being incapable of suspecting that Mr. Crawford, notwithstanding his usually irregular conduct, would not keep his promise on this occasion, demanded no security from him for the fulfilment of the same, and consequently the Captain-General was ever since, and till the 27th of February last, that is to say, upwards of a year after the negress Mary Anne having been consigned to the British Consul for her immediate removal from the island, under the persuasion that she was no longer in the colony.

Having so far made yourself acquainted with the particulars of this case, by the above statements, it will be easy for your Excellency to appreciate, under its true point of view, Mr. Crawford's further proceedings on this matter, as they appear from the accompanying copies of the correspondence which has passed between that functionary and the Captain-General on this subject. Your Excellency will see by these documents that the question bears now upon a fresh abuse on the part of the English Consul at the Havana, and a new proof of his want of good

faith, which he has almost adopted as a system; since it is really most extraordinary that the violent communications from Mr. Crawford, claiming the liberation of the negress Mary Anne; the correspondence which took place on the subject between this office and the British Legation; and, finally, the indemnification paid by the Spanish Government for the freedom of the aforesaid negress, should have ended in this negress fraudulently remaining in the service of the abovementioned Consul, until the fact came to the knowledge of the Captain-General, after the lapse of upwards of a year.

Your Excellency will also observe in Mr. Crawford's communications on this matter, the same hostile spirit which he generally shows in every one of his official representations; the same tendency towards the trans-limitation of his powers, without it being possible to make him understand his true position of a mere commercial agent; and the, from day to day, more disagreeable aspect of the differences which he seems to have made a point of raising and keeping alive, at any cost, with the superior authority of the Island of Cuba.

For all these reasons, it is the will of the Queen, our Sovereign, that your Excellency should call the serious attention of the British Government to the highly irregular conduct of Mr. Crawford, taking the first favourable opportunity to express to Lord Clarendon the profound regret we feel at seeing that the question of Slave Trade has been so much perverted that we see British functionaries, like the Consul at the Havana, turned into an element of continual disquietude and ill-feeling, and raising complications and conflicts with the authorities of Her Catholic Majesty in Cuba, in contravention of what is established by the Law of Nations, and of what is due to the independence and dignity of Spain.

I communicate the above to your Excellency by command of Her Majesty, for your guidance and fulfilment thereof.

God preserve, &c.

No. 453.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 16, 1853.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, I lost no time in placing myself in communication with General Lersundi on the subject of the non-fulfilment by the authorities in Cuba of the Royal Order granting their freedom to all emancipated negroes, and I have just received from his Excellency in acknowledgment the note, a translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

In the absence from Madrid of General Lersundi, I took an opportunity, a few days since, of speaking to the Under Secretary of State, Señor Riguelme, on the subject of your Lordship's despatch to me of the 8th instant, respecting the refusal of General Cañedo to give any information as to the manner in which 16 Bozal negroes had been disposed of.

Señor Riquelme assured me that he would not fail, as soon after the arrival of Señor Calderon de la Barca as possible, to draw his Excellency's attention to the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 453.

General Lersundi to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Ildefonso, September 12, 1853.

I VERY much regret not being able to give you at once the information which you request from me on the subject of the emancipated slaves; but, being desirous of complying with your wishes, and supposing that the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba will be now adopting the proper measures for the fulfilment of the orders issued by the Government of the Queen, my Sovereign, on the aforesaid matter, which measures he will only have reported to the proper Department, namely, the Colonial Office; a communication has been addressed to the latter, desiring it to report to this Department any information it may have received on the subject in question, and I will have the pleasure of communicating to you the result of this inquiry.

No. 454.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 24, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th of September, inclosing the answer of General Lersundi to the complaint which I instructed you in my despatch of the 16th of August to address to his Excellency relative to the discourteous conduct of the Captain-General of Cuba towards Mr. Crawford with regard to two liberated African women, whose continued residence in Cuba was prohibited by the Captain-General.

The ground of complaint in this case was, that when Mr. Crawford, in obedience to an express instruction from Her Majesty's Government, addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba a very civil and temperate remonstrance against his abrupt withdrawal of a concession which had been granted by his predecessor, who allowed the Bahama negress, Mary Anne Bethel, to remain in Cuba instead of being sent home, the Captain-General caused a letter to be written to Mr. Crawford telling him that if he addressed another such letter to the Captain-General it should be sent back to him.

I have to observe that General Lersundi's answer to your representation on this matter avoids the real question under discussion, which is, whether or not the Captain-General was borne out in treating a communication which was made under instructions from Her Majesty's Government with marked discourtesy and rudeness, and General Lersundi's endeavours to raise an accusation against Mr. Crawford for having, as his Excellency alleges, fraudulently and secretly retained Mary Anne Bethel in his service for more than a year, instead of sending her out of the island immediately after she was transferred to him for that purpose by Captain-General Concha.

General Lersundi also states that Mr. Crawford, in order to conceal his culpability in this affair, and to obtain the interference of Her Majesty's Government, has entered into official correspondence with the Captain-General upon a matter which he was incompetent to deal with, and has falsely represented that he has been offended by that functionary.

Now the fact is, that Mr. Crawford did not clandestinely keep Mary Anne Bethel in his service, but he applied to General Concha to allow her to remain in Cuba; and the General verbally consented to do so, on condition that she should be kept in Mr. Crawford's employment and should reside in his house; and the correspondence shows that General Cañedo now justifies himself for having ordered her to be arrested and to be sent away, on the ground that she had quitted the house of Mr. Crawford, who, however, explains that she had done so in order to get cured of an attack

of rheumatism. It is also to be observed that it was not Mr. Crawford but General Cañedo who commenced the correspondence on this subject.

I have to instruct you to call the attention of General Lersundi to the above observations; and in order to convince his Excellency that Mr. Crawford's letter to General Cañedo of the 25th of May was not, as General Lersundi seems to suppose, written without authority, and for the sole purpose of gratuitously provoking a quarrel, you will communicate to General Lersundi the inclosed copy of my despatch of April 10 to Mr. Crawford,* and you will say that, even if General Cañedo considered that the contents of Mr. Crawford's letter were not in conformity with the agreement of November 1845, he might have informed Mr. Crawford that this was his opinion, without having recourse to the uncivil and overbearing threat contained in the Secretary's letter of the 28th of June.

I return herewith the original papers which accompanied your despatch of September 9.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 455.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 5.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, September 23, 1853.

IN conformity with your Lordship's instructions I have read to Señor Calderon de la Barca your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo, relating to various accusations of a character more or less grave and important brought forward by the Spanish Government against Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, and I requested his Excellency to furnish me with all the proofs Her Majesty's Government were entitled to demand, with the least possible delay.

His Excellency at once admitted the justice and propriety of my request, and said that his opinion was, that considerable exaggeration existed in these charges made against Mr. Crawford. That there were, however, some proofs in his office, but they were incomplete, and that the moment he had time to properly organize and look into the business of his Department, he would give this matter his immediate attention. That the Captain-General should be called upon to produce forthwith the further evidence required; and that if he was unable to do so, it should be frankly acknowledged by the Spanish Government.

He concluded by saying, "I am an abolitionist, and you may tell Lord Clarendon from me that I will either give up my post as Minister of the Crown, or cause the Treaties with England, as regards the Slave Trade, to be faithfully and religiously carried out as far as lies in our power.

No. 456.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 5.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 23, 1853.

AGREEABLY to the orders contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 8th instant, I have thanked Señor Calderon de la Barca, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, for the assurance given me by General Lersundi, that he would address a private communication to General Cañedo to treat Mr. Crawford with the courtesy and consideration due to his official character and position.

M. Calderon de la Barca said, that he would renew these directions in the same shape and form, though he considered the recommendation

* No. 514.

unnecessary, as the Captain-General was only doing his duty in treating any agent of Her Majesty's Government with all due courtesy and consideration.

I then, as desired by your Lordship, read to his Excellency the agreement signed on the 4th November, 1845, by Sir H. Bulwer and M. Martinez de la Rosa, with respect to the forms to be used in official correspondence on matters relating to the Slave Trade, between Her Majesty's Consul-General and the Captain-General of Cuba, and requested him to observe that Mr. Crawford had not exceeded the limits of his instructions founded upon that agreement.

M. Calderon de la Barca replied, that he would cause inquiries to be made into the matter, and would speak to me on the subject again at some future period, as he had not yet had time to look through General Cañedo's correspondence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 457.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 10, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, reporting a conversation which you had had with Señor Calderon de la Barca, in which he expressed his firm determination to do all in his power to cause the Treaty engagements of Spain towards Great Britain, for the suppression of Slave Trade, to be faithfully observed; and I have to instruct you to express to Señor Calderon the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned this declaration on his part.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 458.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 14, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Captain-General of Cuba to a communication which was made to his Excellency by my direction, with reference to the promise made to Lord Howden by the Spanish Government, in March last, relative to the liberation of the emancipados in Cuba.

I have to instruct you to communicate the accompanying despatch and its inclosures to M. Calderon de la Barca, and to state to his Excellency that I will leave him to judge of the impression which the Captain-General's letter of the 27th of August, must have produced upon Her Majesty's Government.

M. Calderon is of course aware of the distinct promise made by Count Alcoy in his letter to Lord Howden of the 15th of March last, in which Count Alcoy stated that the Queen of Spain had been pleased to resolve that freedom should be granted to all the emancipated negroes now in Cuba, under the Treaty of 1817, upon the expiration of their respective terms of apprenticeship (consignacion), provided however, that all of them should be set free before the end of 1853; and further, with regard to the emancipated negroes belonging to the Treaty of 1835, that they should likewise obtain their liberty on the completion of their five years of apprenticeship.

You will state to M. Calderon, that I myself announced this promise in the House of Lords, and gave credit for it to the Spanish Government; and the only result has been, that the Captain-General tells Her Majesty's

* No. 583.

Consul-General that he has no right to make any inquiries upon the subject.

You will add, that Her Majesty's Government will not doubt that M. Calderon de la Barca was sincere in the assurances which he gave to you, as reported in your despatch of the 23rd of September; and they therefore request that his Excellency will at once inform them what measures he means to take in order to fulfil the promise of his predecessor, and to mark the sense of the Spanish Government upon the conduct of the Captain-General in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 459.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 14, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch,* and of its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, containing a correspondence which has passed between him and the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting the trial and conviction at Belize of a person named Anduze, who was found guilty of decoying native Indians from Yucatan, and of sending them to Havana to be dealt with as slaves.

You will learn by the letters from the Captain-General's Secretary to Mr. Crawford of the 8th and 20th of August, that the Captain-General maintains that the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty of 1835 between Great Britain and Spain does not apply to the crime of stealing, buying or selling white men or women for the purpose of reducing them to slavery; and I have to instruct you to state to M. Calderon de Barca that Her Majesty's Government of course do not suppose that such an interpretation of the Treaty can be sanctioned by the Spanish Government; but you will say that it is a proof of General Cañedo's readiness to encourage the Slave Trade in whatever quarter it may be carried on.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 460.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 14, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, reporting that 360 negroes were landed on the 12th of July near San Juan de los Remedios, in the Island of Cuba, and describing the disgraceful impunity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on in that island.

I have to instruct you to communicate Mr. Crawford's despatch to the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to request that this description of the Slave Trade in Cuba may be made known to the new Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 535.

† No. 536.

No. 461.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 15, 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 12th of July, informing you that I had referred to Mr. Crawford, for his observations thereupon, the letter from General Lersundi which accompanied your despatch of the 28th of June, I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, containing his answer to the statement of General Lersundi, that the information which Mr. Crawford is in the habit of communicating to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the landing of negroes in Cuba frequently turns out to be incorrect; and I have to instruct you to state the substance of Mr. Crawford's answer in a note which you will address to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 462.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a draft of a letter which you will address to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, reminding the Spanish Government of their existing obligations under Article II of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty of 1835, and pointing out the necessity which obviously exists for the alteration and amendment of the Spanish Royal Decree which was issued on the 2nd of March, 1845, for the punishment of persons engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 462.

Draft of a Letter to be addressed to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

Sir,

I HAVE received the orders of Her Majesty's Government to draw your Excellency's attention to the important engagements entered into by the 2nd Article of the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, between Great Britain and Spain.

By that Article Her Catholic Majesty engaged that, immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of the said Treaty, and from time to time afterwards, as it might become needful, Her Majesty would take the most effectual measures for preventing her subjects from being concerned in carrying on, in any way, the Trade in Slaves; and especially that, within two months after the said exchange, Her Majesty would promulgate throughout her dominions a penal law, inflicting a severe punishment on all those her subjects who should, under any pretext whatsoever, take any part whatever in the Traffic in Slaves.

Your Excellency is no doubt aware that nearly ten years elapsed before any measures were taken on the part of Spain to fulfil the above-mentioned obligation, and that for that purpose a Decree was at length issued by the Queen of Spain on the 2nd of March, 1845. But your Excellency will find, on reference to the records of the department over which you preside, that, immediately after the passing of that Law, and on several occasions since, Her Britannic Majesty's Government have been under the necessity of pointing out to the Government of Her Catholic

* No. 590.

Majesty, that the provisions of Article IX of the Law in question were expressed in such a manner as to have the effect that, if newly-landed Africans should be once introduced into an estate in Cuba, no matter how illegally, the proprietor of such estate could not be molested in their possession, and might violate the principal enactments of the Law with complete impunity.

Accordingly, the experience, not only of Her Majesty's Government, but also of the Governors of Cuba, during the last eight years, has amply proved that Her Majesty's Government were borne out in holding this opinion; and, in confirmation of that fact, I need only refer to the note which General Lersundi addressed to Lord Howden on the 7th of May last, stating that the Captain-General of Cuba, having exhausted every means which the law allowed him to use against the slave-dealers, and being desirous of accomplishing the complete extinction of the Slave Trade, had not hesitated to adopt an extreme measure, which was hardly warranted by the existing laws of Spain, and had authorized the District Governors of Cuba to enter and search any estates where there might be reason for suspecting that newly-imported negroes were concealed, and to deliver up any such negroes to the Captain-General.

These energetic measures produced so marked an effect in discouraging and checking the violators of the law, that I was instructed by Her Majesty's Government to express, as I did in my letter to General Lersundi of the 9th of August last, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had learnt that General Cañedo appeared at length to be endeavouring to suppress the Slave Trade, which under his Government had reached such an alarming and almost unprecedented height; and, under these circumstances, I was authorized to withhold a strong representation, which I had been previously ordered to address to the Spanish Government with regard to the increase of the Slave Trade in Cuba, and the disturbance of the friendly relations between Great Britain and Spain, which would be its inevitable consequence.

It is now my duty to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with sincere regret that these expectations as to the effectual repression of the Slave Trade in Cuba have not been realized, and that the Captain-General has ascertained that it is the opinion of the Court of Royal Audiencia that his Excellency's proceedings were illegal, and that that Court would order the restitution of any negroes which might be captured under the new instructions of the District Governors.

The failure of these measures recently adopted by the Captain-General of Cuba manifestly proves that Her Majesty's Government were fully justified in entertaining the opinions which they expressed in 1845, and which they have since frequently repeated to the Spanish Government, as to the effect which the concluding clause of Article IX of the Penal Law would have in rendering that law practically inoperative. And it is clear that so long as that or any similar provision for the protection of the Cuban planters shall remain in force, it cannot be said that the engagements which Spain contracted towards Great Britain by Article II of the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, are faithfully fulfilled.

Her Majesty's Government have therefore directed me to state to your Excellency that they feel convinced that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will now see, that unless the existing penal law respecting the Slave Trade is altered and amended, the Governors of Cuba and Porto Rico will never be without reason for failing in their attempts effectually to extinguish the Slave Trade.

The principal legislative enactments which Her Majesty's Government beg leave to suggest for the consideration of the Spanish Government are the following:

1. That the clause of the Penal Law of 1845 which I have pointed out, should be repealed.
2. That the proper officers of the Crown in Cuba and Porto Rico should have power to capture all newly-imported negro slaves wherever

they may be found, and to impose a fine for every such negro on the parties upon whose property they may be captured.

3. That all the slaves on the several plantations throughout the two islands should be registered, so that there may be no possibility of a dispute arising between the planters and the Government authorities, as to whether the slaves are or are not newly-imported negroes. It should also be provided that the authorities should be empowered at any time to search the estates, and to have the slaves mustered according to the registry.

4. The amount of the penalties, and the extent of the punishment to be inflicted upon all violators of the amended law, should be greatly increased.

Her Majesty's Government have desired me in conclusion to point out to your Excellency how often and seriously the good understanding between the Governments of Great Britain and of Spain has been disturbed by the painful discussions arising out of the failure of the Captain-General of Cuba to enforce the obligations of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty of 1835, and Her Majesty's Government feel persuaded that your Excellency will recommend to the impartial consideration of the Spanish Government the above proposals for an amendment of the Spanish Penal Law against Slave Trade, which appear to Her Majesty's Government to afford the most obvious means of relieving the two Courts from a constantly recurring cause of mistrust and embarrassment.

No. 463.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith two copies of the Report, together with the documents relating thereto, which have been presented to the House of Commons by the Select Committee which was appointed to inquire into the Treaties and Engagements between Great Britain, Spain, and Portugal, respecting the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to communicate one of the inclosed documents to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government cannot but regret that the Committee should, upon a review of the conduct of Spain in regard to the Slave Trade, have been obliged to come to the conclusion that she has not been faithful to her Treaties and Engagements with Great Britain for the suppression of that Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 464.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 22, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at Havana, inclosing copies of applications which have been addressed by Her Majesty's Consul-General, and by himself, to the Captain-General of Cuba with regard to the promise which Her Majesty's Government have received from the Government of Her Catholic Majesty as to the liberation of the emancipados in Cuba.

Mr. Backhouse also incloses copies of the two answers returned to those applications by the Captain-General, stating that this is a matter in which Her Majesty's Commissary Judge and Her Majesty's Consul-General have no business to interfere.

I have to instruct you to state the substance of the inclosed despatch to M. Calderon de la Barca, and to say that as the Captain-General of Cuba is fortunately about to be removed from his post, I forbear to add another to the numerous and utterly useless complaints that it has been the painful duty of Her Majesty's Government to prefer against this officer; but as the Spanish Government have been disposed throughout General Cañedo's career to defend his conduct, this case will show in what manner he has fulfilled the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, and carried out the orders of his own Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 465.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 2.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 27, 1853.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant,* I lost no time in calling Señor Calderon de la Barca's attention to the non-fulfilment of the distinct promise made by Count Alcoy in his note to Lord Howden of the 15th March last, to the effect that all the emancipated negroes now in Cuba under the Treaty of 1817 should receive their freedom upon the expiration of their respective terms of apprenticeship.

In the answer to my note from Señor Calderon de la Barca, translation of which I have the honour herewith to transmit, your Lordship will observe that his Excellency fully acknowledges the force and value of the promise made by Count Alcoy, and states that under date of the 18th instant the most peremptory instructions had been sent to the Captain-General of Cuba to carry into execution the decision of Her Catholic Majesty's Government in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 465.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

Sir

Madrid, October 25, 1853.

ALMOST simultaneously with your note of the 23rd instant, relative to the fact of the emancipated negroes not having as yet been liberated in the Island of Cuba, a communication from the General Colonial Office has been received at this Foreign Office, stating, in reply to an official letter from my predecessor, the reasons why the promise of Her Majesty's Government, to which you allude in your note, relative to the fate of the aforesaid emancipated negroes, had not been carried into effect.

It appears from the above-mentioned communication from the Colonial Office, that the fulfilment of the orders issued by the Government relative to this affair, has been delayed in consequence of several doubts as to the manner of carrying them into effect having occurred to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba; but that in order to prevent any further delay in the liberation of the emancipated negroes in question, the most peremptory instructions have been sent to the aforesaid functionary, under

* No. 458.

date of the 18th instant, directing him to endeavour to overcome any difficulties which may occur in this matter, and to carry into full effect what has been determined by Her Majesty's Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 466.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1853.

ON receipt of your despatch of the 8th of August last, I transmitted to Mr. Consul-General Crawford an extract containing that portion of General Lersundi's letter to you of the 25th of July, which related to a communication alleged to have been addressed to the authorities of Cienfuegos by a person named Quesseil, who represented himself to be the agent of Mr. Crawford.

I now inclose a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, stating that if the Captain-General of Cuba had addressed to him an inquiry respecting this matter he could have at once satisfied the Captain-General that he had no knowledge whatever of John Quesseil.

And I have to instruct you to embody the substance of Mr. Crawford's despatch in a note to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will see in this affair a proof of the lengths to which General Cañedo is carried by his animosity against Mr. Crawford.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 467.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th ultimo, respecting the case of certain Indians of Yucatan, who had been decoyed by a person named Anduze and carried to Cuba to be sold into slavery, I transmit to you, herewith, a copy of a further despatch† from Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting the difficulties interposed by the Captain-General in the way of M. Carvallo, the Mexican Consul at Havana, who is endeavouring to obtain their release. And I have to instruct you to communicate to the Spanish Government the substance of Mr. Crawford's despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 468.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, reporting that on the 14th or 15th of September, 260 African negroes were landed at the Ensenada del Carmelo, on the south side of Cuba, and were conveyed from thence to the sugar

* No. 602.

† No. 606.

‡ No. 604.

estate called "Bagaes," belonging to Don Manuel Pastor, who, Mr. Crawford states, is at present in Spain.

I have to instruct you to make known the facts of this landing to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will probably think it right and fitting that the Spanish Government should communicate thereupon with Don Manuel Pastor, and should inform Her Majesty's Government of the result.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 469.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting the circumstances under which 180 Bozal negroes were landed at a place called Ensenada de Cortes in Cuba, on the 15th of September last, and inclosing copies of his correspondence with the Cuban Government thereupon. And I have to instruct you to request that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will make the circumstances of this case fully known to the new Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 470.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 8.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 2, 1853.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 10th ultimo, directing me to express to Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the declaration made to me in the course of conversation with Señor Calderon de la Barca, that he would do all in his power to cause the Treaty engagements of Spain towards Great Britain to be faithfully observed, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a copy of the note which, in obedience to those instructions, I addressed to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

I have the honour to inclose likewise a translation of the note which I have just received from his Excellency in acknowledgment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 470.

Mr. Otway to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

Sir,

Madrid, October 23, 1853.

I TOOK the earliest opportunity of communicating to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs the very satisfactory assurances given me by your Excellency in a conversation which I had with you,

No. 605.

CLASS B.

shortly after your acceptance of your present office, as to your firm determination to do all in your power to cause the Treaty engagements of Spain towards Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade to be faithfully and religiously observed; and I do not think I can fulfil the instructions with which I have, in consequence, just been honoured by Lord Clarendon, in a manner more pleasing to his Lordship and gratifying to myself, than in forwarding to your Excellency the accompanying copy of the despatch to me in which they are contained.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 470.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, October 29, 1853.

WITH your note of the 23rd instant, I had the honour of receiving the copy which you were pleased to transmit to me, of a despatch addressed to you by Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in which his Lordship expresses his satisfaction at the assurances which I had the opportunity of giving to you in one of our last interviews, respecting the course which I intended to pursue on the question of the Slave Trade.

It is highly satisfactory to me that the Government of which you are the Representative should thus do justice to Her Majesty's Government; and I feel also a pleasure in expressing to you my thanks for the readiness with which you were pleased to transmit to Lord Clarendon the above-mentioned assurances, which, together with your aforesaid readiness, are a fresh testimony of the sincere wish by which the two Governments are animated of cultivating, as hitherto, their friendly relations.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 471.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Lindegren, Her Majesty's Consul in Porto Rico, inclosing a copy of a representation which he has addressed to the Captain-General of Porto Rico respecting the renewal of the practice of sending slaves from Porto Rico to Cuba for sale.

You will observe that the Captain-General has answered Mr. Lindegren by stating that this is a matter which must be decided by the Spanish Government; and I have therefore to instruct you to bring this affair under the notice of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to request that his Excellency will cause precise orders to be sent to the Governors of Porto Rico and of Cuba directing them to prohibit the practice in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 663.

No. 472.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 1.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 25, 1853.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your despatch of the 4th instant, I addressed a note to Señor Calderon de la Barca communicating the correspondence which had passed between the Captain-General of Cuba and Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, relative to a landing of 260 Bozal negroes at Ensenada del Carmelo, on the southern coast of Cuba, on or about the 14th or 15th of September last.

His Excellency in a note, translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose, informs me that orders have been sent to the Captain-General of Cuba to institute the necessary inquiry into the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 472.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, November 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of the correspondence which has passed between Mr. Crawford and General Cañedo, relative to a landing of 260 Bozal negroes, which, according to the statement of the British Consul at the Havana, took place at the Ensenada del Carmelo, on the southern coast of Cuba, on the 14th or 15th of September last,

I have the honour to state to you, in reply to your aforesaid note, that the proper instructions have been sent, under this day's date, to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, desiring him to ascertain the real truth which may exist in the fact which has given rise to Mr. Crawford's denunciation.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 473.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 1.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 25, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I have just received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to the communication which, in compliance with the orders conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, I addressed to his Excellency on the 10th instant, relative to a disembarkation of 180 Bozal negroes, reported by Mr. Crawford to have occurred at a place called the Ensenada de Cortes on the 18th of September last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 473.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, November 22, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your note, dated the 10th instant, in which, in reference to a communication from Mr. Crawford, you denounce the disembarkation of 180 negroes, which, according to Mr. Crawford's statements took place at the Ensenada de Cortes, in the Island of Cuba, on the 18th of September last.

I have the honour to state to you that the necessary information respecting the case in question has been requested, under this day's date, from General Pezuela, and that so soon as it reaches this office I will lose no time in communicating it to you.

I avail, &c

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 474.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 26, 1853.

IN fulfilment of the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th ultimo, I lost no time in addressing to Señor Calderon de la Barca a representation on the subject of the correspondence which had passed between Mr. Crawford and the Captain-General of Cuba relative to a person named Anduze, found guilty of decoying Yucatan Indians, and sending them to the Havana as slaves; I have now the honour to inclose herewith a translation of the reply to that representation which I have just received from his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 474.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, November 23, 1853.

I HAVE received your note dated the 24th ultimo, wherewith you were pleased to inclose copies of the communications addressed, by order of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Mr. Crawford, on the occasion of a project supposed to be entertained by an individual called Anduze, for transporting native Indians from Yucatan to the Havana, to be dealt with as slaves.

You observe, at the same time, that the Captain-General maintains, in the aforesaid communications, that the case in question is not comprised in the Treaty of 1835 between Spain and Great Britain for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves proceeding from Africa.

The question is, therefore, as far as I understand, relative to the isolated fact of some Indians having been exported from Yucatan and conveyed in a small vessel to the Mugerres Islands, therefrom to be trans-

ported, as you assert, to the Havana. Mr. Crawford, on this occasion, considered himself authorized to address representations on the subject to the Captain-General, interpreting, in his own way, the above-mentioned Treaty.

The aforesaid superior authority rejected the unfounded and constant pretension of the British Consul of overstepping the attributions to which he is confined by his character of commercial agent, and of interfering, diplomatically, in international matters, which neither Mr. Crawford nor General Cañedo himself, notwithstanding his high position, were, in any case, authorized to discuss.

Such are the principal points contained in your note. Her Majesty's Government, which has taken them into consideration, can find no sufficient reason for the supposition which has been hazarded, giving to the aforesaid facts and to the Treaty of 1835 an interpretation which Her Majesty's Government can never admit by the words that "it is a proof of General Cañedo's readiness to encourage the Slave Trade in whatever quarter it may be carried on."

Such an interpretation, and the aforesaid assertions offensive to the superior Spanish authority in Cuba, would render useless a discussion which, placed on that ground, might become a disagreeable one.

But, at the same time, I consider it my duty to state to you that Her Majesty's Government, having considered it useful for the Island of Cuba to import Indians from Yucatan as colonists, has come to an understanding on the subject with the Mexican Government, to which it would hasten to give satisfaction, if necessary, as well with regard to any fraudulent immigration of the aforesaid Indians, as respecting the existing internal regulations for that sort of colonists.

The Government of which you are the Representative is too equitable and enlightened not to perceive that if it has itself the legitimate right of importing into the British colonial possessions African negroes as colonists, establishing for their management such internal regulations as it has thought proper to adopt, without any foreign Government whatsoever having, even indirectly, pretended to interfere with an internal question of Great Britain; the Spanish Government has a not less perfect right to import into the Island of Cuba, either natives from Yucatan, Asiatics, or any other class of emigrants whom it may consider useful for the prosperity of the aforesaid Antille.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 475.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 1, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Lordship herewith translation of a note to Mr. Otway from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to the representations which he addressed to General Lersundi, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of September last, relative to the conveyance, in June and July last, from Porto Rico to Cuba, of some 60 or 70 negroes who were intended for sale at the Havana, and requesting that this traffic might be put an end to.

Your Lordship will observe the reasons put forward by the Spanish Government for declining to comply with this request.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 475.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Madrid, November 29, 1853.

THE Undersigned, Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has taken cognizance of the note of Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires dated the 13th September last, in which, with reference to the British Consul at Porto Rico, he states that a number of slaves have been transported from that island to that of Cuba for the purpose of selling them; and he requests that instructions should be sent to Her Majesty's authorities in that part of her dominions, directing them to prevent similar facts in future.

In consequence of similar representations made by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at a former period, Her Majesty's Government had the opportunity of demonstrating that as slavery exists in the Spanish Antilles, and as a slave is a property like any other one of which his owner can freely dispose, in the same manner that he has the right of transferring him from one plantation to another, he is also entitled to transport him from one island to the other in the Spanish Antilles; and, should ever the authorities attempt to prevent it in any way, they would commit an act contrary to the use of the sacred rights of property which the Government would be unable to uphold.

The internal Traffic of Slaves who have been legitimately acquired neither was, nor is, the object of the Treaties concluded in 1817 and 1835 for the abolition of the Traffic of African Bozal negroes; and in support of this doctrine and of the statement contained in the preceding paragraph, there are powerful reasons which Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires will perceive from a perusal of the notes of this office dated the 1st of June and 23rd of August, 1851, to which the Undersigned entirely refers, on replying to the above-mentioned note from Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 476.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by M. Calderon de la Barca to the note which you were instructed to address to his Excellency respecting the Yucatan Indians who had been kidnapped by a person residing at Belize, and sent to Cuba as slaves.

I have to instruct you to present a note to M. Calderon de la Barca, stating first, with regard to his Excellency's supposition that Mr. Crawford has transgressed the proper limits of his functions by making any representation to the Captain-General upon such a matter as this, that you have been directed again to refer the Spanish Government to the agreement which was signed by Sir Henry Bulwer and Señor Martinez de la Rosa, on the 4th of November, 1845, as to the communications to be addressed by the British Consul-General at Havana to the Captain-General of Cuba upon matters relating to the Slave Trade; and you will state that Mr. Crawford was fully borne out by the terms of that agreement, in addressing to General Cañedo the representation contained in his letter to the General, of the 14th of July last. For, by Article I of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, of the 28th of June, 1835, it was declared, on the part of Spain, that the Slave Trade was to be thenceforward totally and finally abolished in all parts of the world. And there is no stipulation in that Treaty which renders it, as M. Calderon seems

to suppose, applicable only to negroes, and to negroes exported from Africa.

With regard to M. Calderon's statement, that the British Government exercises the right of importing African negroes as colonists into the British colonies, you will observe to his Excellency that he must be well aware that negroes brought to British colonies are perfectly free; that they have all the rights of free labour, and that they can no more be reduced to the condition of slavery in a British colony than in Great Britain itself.

Her Majesty's Government will ask M. Calderon de la Barca whether he can conscientiously say that the Indians imported from Yucatan are intended to be free in Cuba, and if not, whether the cases are analogous. But if they are not to be free, and if the Spanish Government is not prepared to prove that those Indians are in the full and unrestricted enjoyment of their liberty in Cuba, then their importation into that island is a direct violation of Article I of the Treaty of 1835; and the persons who bring the Indians to Cuba, and the vessels in which they are brought, are liable to be dealt with, and will be dealt with, according to the provisions of that Treaty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 477.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1853.

I HAVE to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 15th of October to Mr. Otway, inclosing a draft of an official letter which he was to address to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging the adoption of a more stringent penal law against the Slave Trade in Cuba.

As I have not yet received the answer of the Spanish Government upon this matter, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, repeating the suggestions which he has already made respecting the proposed law; and I have to instruct your Lordship to mention the subject to M. Calderon de la Barca, and to point out to his Excellency that the amendments of the existing law which have been suggested by Mr. Crawford, would be of great assistance to Spanish authorities really desirous of acting upon the orders of the Spanish Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 478.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† from Mr. Crawford, together with an extract of a despatch‡ from Her Majesty's Commissary-Judge at the Havana, respecting the lists of the emancipados which ought to have been furnished to the Mixed Court of Justice by the Captain-General of Cuba, in conformity with Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of June 26, 1835. And with reference to the assurance contained in the note from Señor Bertran de Lis to Mr. Otway, of the 9th of September, 1852, I have to instruct your Lordship to inform the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that this promise has not been fulfilled.

Your Lordship will state, that the production of these lists will not become unnecessary because the Spanish Government is about to perform its engagement to liberate the emancipados before the expiration of this

* No. 616.

† No. 621.

‡ Class A, No. 31.

month; but it is now of more importance even than it was before, in order that it may be satisfactorily seen that the authorities of Cuba fully carry into effect the generous intentions communicated to Her Majesty's Government in the official letter which the Count de Alcoy addressed to your Lordship on the 15th of March last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 479.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1853.

WITH reference to Mr. Otway's despatch of the 5th of July last, relative to the case of the two sons of the deceased Jamaica negress Nancy, whose liberation from slavery has been claimed by Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, inclosing Mr. Forbes' reply to the observations upon this claim which are contained in General Lersundi's letter to Mr. Otway of the 29th of June last.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate to M. Calderon de la Barca the substance of Mr. Forbes' reply, and to state to his Excellency that as the balance of evidence is clearly in favour of the negress Nancy having been a British subject, Her Majesty's Government hope that no further opposition will be made by the Spanish Government to her sons being liberated from slavery.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 480.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch† and of its inclosure from Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting the activity with which the Slave Trade is now being carried on with the Island of Cuba; and I have to instruct your Lordship to make such use of this information as you may deem right and proper.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 481.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of despatches which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Barcelona, and from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba,‡ respecting a Spanish vessel called the "*Paquita*," which it appears has made more than one successful voyage in the Slave Trade, and is now probably at Santander.

I have to instruct your Lordship to take measures in order that the movements of this vessel, and the proceedings of her consignees in Spain, may be watched.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 620.

† No. 622.

‡ Nos. 506 and 616.

No. 482.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting a letter which Mr. Crawford addressed to his Excellency on the 8th ultimo, complaining that on one of the first days of November 600 or 700 negroes were landed on the north coast of the island, in an open and scandalous manner.

Your Lordship will make known this correspondence to the Spanish Government, and you will request that the present Captain-General may be instructed to abide by the agreement made between Sir Henry Bulwer and M. Martinez de la Rosa, in November 1845, as it is absolutely necessary that the British Consul-General at Havana should communicate with the chief authority in Cuba upon matters which affect not only the general interests of humanity, but the Treaty engagements between the two countries.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 483.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information and for communication to the Spanish Government, copies of two despatches† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that a schooner destined for the Slave Trade is being fitted in the port of Havana with the masts and sails which belonged to a slave-vessel condemned as prize to Her Majesty's ship "Vestal:" and that 300 fresh Africans were landed at the Ensenada de Cochinos in the middle of October.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 484.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 9, 1854.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 24, 1853

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca in answer to the notes which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatches of the 14th October and 4th November, Mr. Otway addressed to his Excellency on the 23rd October and 10th of November, relative to landings of Bozal negroes, denounced by Mr. Crawford as having taken place at the Ensenada de Cortes, at the Ensenada del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

* No. 624.

† Nos. 626 and 627.

Inclosure in No. 484.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, December 12, 1853.

THE Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has addressed to this First Secretary of State's Office two communications relative to the landings of Bozal negroes, which the British Consul stated had taken place at the Ensenada de Cortes, at the Ensenada del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios, and which have been the subject of the two notes from the British Legation, dated the 10th of November and the 23rd of October of this year.

From the aforesaid communications, it appears that the most efficient investigations have been made for the purpose of ascertaining the truth respecting the facts denounced by Mr. Crawford, persons of well-known capacity and accredited honesty having been commissioned to that effect that the most peremptory orders have been issued to the Governors of those districts where the landings were supposed to have taken place, instructing them to spare no exertion whatever for the purpose of obtaining positive data on the subject; that secret agents have also been sent out for the same purpose; and, finally, that the good faith on the part of one of the aforesaid Governors has been carried so far as to employ the agents of Mr. Crawford themselves, in order to elucidate the circumstances of the case.

All the above-mentioned steps, however, have been completely unsuccessful in obtaining any trace whatsoever of correctness respecting two of the denunciations above alluded to; and as regards the landing which was stated to have taken place at El Carmelo, only some rumours, but no data, existed of its having been carried into effect with such ability as to have succeeded in baffling the active vigilance of the authorities. The judicial proceedings on every one of the aforesaid cases are, however, still being carried on, and I will lose no time in communicating to your Lordship the result thereof so soon as it is made known to me; but in the meantime I cannot abstain from drawing your attention to the circumstance of the disembarkation at Los Remedios and at the Ensenada de Cortes having been found to be untrue, because it is a proof that, in the present instance, as on former occasions, Mr. Crawford has acted in virtue of incorrect information, on which, prompted by an exaggerated zeal, he has founded his numerous denunciations, which subsequently turn out to be devoid of foundation.

This conduct would be less objectionable if the British Consul should confine himself to communicating, in becoming language, to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba his more or less well-founded suspicions of disembarkation of slaves; but it becomes, indeed, most painful when he ventures to set forth accusations so unfounded as the one contained in Mr. Crawford's communication to the Captain-General, dated the 30th of September last, in the 3rd paragraph whereof he asserts that the vessel which was supposed to have effected the landing at the Ensenada de Cortes, "formed, with her half-burnt hulk, and those of two other slave-vessels, a most insulting memento of the disregard which was shown to the law." Such an assertion was utterly incorrect, since the Spanish vessels of war made a scrupulous search in those waters, as the Captain-General states, and found nothing which might confirm the statement of the British Consul.

There being, therefore, such frequent proofs of the total want of foundation in the accusations brought forward by Mr. Crawford against the authorities of the Island of Cuba, it appears still more unreasonable that he should use such intemperate language in regard to the aforesaid authorities as that contained in his communications to his Government, copies of which were inclosed in the notes from the British Legation to

which I am now replying; but as the accusations mentioned in the above-mentioned communications have been contradicted by facts, I consider it useless to make them the subject of a disagreeable discussion.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 485.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, January 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship translation of a note I have just received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to a desire expressed by your Lordship that an improvement should be made in the Spanish penal laws, as they relate to the Traffic in Slaves, together with a copy of my reply.

Inclosure 1 in No. 485.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 7, 1854.

MR. OTWAY'S note, dated the 21st of October last, and your Lordship's of the 28th ultimo, have been received in due time at this office, both of them being intended to request the amendment of the Penal Law relative to the Slave Trade in Cuba, because the British Government considers such Law to be inefficient.

In the former of the aforesaid notes, and as a proof of the necessity of the measure in question, Mr. Otway quoted the fact of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba having already acted, in the persecution of the Slave Trade, in conformity with the spirit of reform manifested by the English Government, since that functionary has authorized the search made in the interior of the estates of private individuals.

On this point your Lordship will allow me to observe, that the act of General Cañedo, alluded to in the aforesaid note, was consented to by Her Catholic Majesty's Government, notwithstanding its being beyond the powers vested in that functionary, because it only attended to its ardent wish of extinguishing the Slave Trade. Had the Spanish Government not borne in mind the noble zeal by which the aforesaid extreme measure was dictated, and the object it was intended to attain, it was not to be supposed that it would have approved of it; especially if it could have foreseen that it would be subsequently invoked as a precedent to establish the pretension of converting into a law what was only an exceptional case, the repetition of which ought necessarily to give rise to difficulties and conflicts of no inconsiderable gravity.

Your Lordship, and the enlightened Government of which you are the worthy Representative, cannot but acknowledge the great inconvenience which would result from any innovation which might be now introduced, and which might be the cause of molesting the owners of slaves in the quiet possession of those which they have legally acquired. But besides the reasons of expediency on this grave question, there is a still more powerful one, namely, that Her Majesty's Government is not empowered, according to the Constitution of the State, to carry into effect the amendment of the Penal Law in question. For this purpose the cooperation of the co-legislative bodies would be required; and your Lordship is aware that, when the 9th Article of the aforesaid Law was discussed in the Senate, it was peremptorily established that its object ought to be to

afford the greatest guarantees to the owners of slaves acquired previously to the Treaty of 1835, against the excesses on the part of the authorities. And if such was, at that time, the mind of the aforesaid legislative body, it is not to be expected that it would now consent to a reform, the tendency whereof is precisely to destroy the guarantees created by the aforesaid Article IX of the Penal Law, which was the result of an amendment to the original project of the Government, constitutionally presented and approved by the majority of the Senate.

These frank and loyal explanations, which I willingly give to your Lordship, and the assurance that the Spanish Government will spare no legal means whatsoever which may be in its power to carry into effect the extinction of the Slave Trade, will induce, I trust, the British Government to desist from soliciting the reform it wishes for, which, besides being, as I have just had the honour of stating to your Lordship, beyond the powers vested in the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, might be productive, if attempted to be carried into effect, of most serious consequences, in the present state of the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 485.

Lord Howden to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

Sir,

Madrid, January 10, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note, dated the 7th instant, in answer to the proposition made by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, for the consideration of that of Her Catholic Majesty, that the Law respecting the importation of negroes into Cuba should be amended, from it being proved to be absolutely ineffective as it stands.

I shall lose no time in transmitting this note home, for the consideration of my Government, and for whatever observations it may think proper to make upon it.

I shall limit my own observations to two, although I think they must already have presented themselves to your Excellency's mind:

Your Excellency says that it is a very grave matter to molest the inhabitants of the Island of Cuba in the possession of their slaves legally acquired.

To which I answer, that it is the desire of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, in virtue of a Treaty made between Spain and England, to molest, and to molest only, the inhabitants of Cuba in the possession of slaves illegally acquired.

Your Excellency says, with a Constitutional conviction which, as an Englishman, I readily acknowledge, that, in order to make any change in the laws of the country, it is necessary to have the cooperation of the Chambers.

I feel convinced that the present Government will adhere scrupulously to a declaration which will give the liveliest satisfaction to the friends of Constitutional Monarchy; but I trust your Excellency will acquit the English Government of any inconsistency in having made the proposition, from the circumstances that there are now never any Chambers in Spain to enact laws, and that the constant promulgation of Decrees, on subjects far less serious and binding than national faith, has not appeared, to many other Ministries, so painfully obnoxious as it most properly and meritoriously does to that of which your Excellency is so distinguished and so conscientious a member.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 486.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing a translation of the answer returned by Señor Calderon de la Barca to the representation of Her Majesty's Government, pointing out the defects and urging the amendment of the Spanish Penal Law against Slave Trade of the 2nd of March, 1845; and I have to state that I entirely approve of the reply which your Lordship made to Señor Calderon's note.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 487.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the Yucatan Indians who had been carried off to Cuba and sold as slaves by a man named Anduze, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting the state of the proceedings which have been taken in the Cuban law courts with the view of bringing to justice the persons in Cuba concerned in the abduction of these Mexican citizens.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 488.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 13, 1854.

IN reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Otway of 4th November last, respecting a landing of 260 African negroes reported by Mr. Consul-General Crawford to have been effected at the Ensenada del Carmelo, on the south side of Cuba, and their subsequent conveyance to the sugar estate called Bagaes, belonging to Don Manuel Pastor, who is now in Spain, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of the note and its inclosure, which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to the representation addressed to his Excellency upon this matter by Mr. Otway.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

* No. 630.

Inclosure 1 in No. 488.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 4, 1854.

IN consequence of the note from the British Legation, dated the 10th of November last, in which, with reference to communications from the British Consul at the Havana, it was stated that 260 Bozal negroes, who were supposed to have been landed at the Ensenada del Carmelo, had been conveyed to an estate belonging to Don Manuel Pastor; this individual, who is now at Madrid, was made acquainted with the statement mentioned in the aforesaid note, and he has addressed to the Colonial Office an official letter in reply, denying that the Bozal negroes in question had ever been conveyed to his above-mentioned estate, and alleging in his defence the reasons which your Lordship will perceive by perusing the inclosed copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 488.

The Count of Bagaes to the President of the Council of Ministers.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, December 14, 1853.

IN reply to the Royal order which your Excellency has been pleased to communicate to me on the 2nd instant, relative to the landing of 260 Bozal negroes at the Ensenada del Carmelo, in the Island of Cuba, and to their subsequent supposed conveyance to my estate called San José de los Bagaes—a case denounced to the Captain-General of the island and to its Government by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana, Mr. Crawford—I have to state that the fact of the aforesaid negroes having been introduced into my estate is not correct, and that as to their having been landed at the aforesaid Ensenada, which is unknown to me, as my estate, although situated on the south coast of the island, is only near to the spot called Fasagera, in the Ensenada de la Broa, I am perfectly ignorant of the fact. That part of the coast is extremely marshy, and although there is a ditch for the drainage of the soil, which has communication with the sea, neither does that ground belong to me, nor can I prevent the public from passing by the same. It is excessively painful to me that Mr. Crawford, without possessing the data and certainty which are required to bring forward an accusation of this kind, should have ventured to make a denunciation, so devoid of truth, against an absent person who takes no participation in that sort of business, and who is, moreover, withheld from engaging in it by his station in life, his absence from the island, and by his respect to the Government and the existing Treaties; being also deterred from such speculations by his personal interest, since being convinced, from experience, of what has taken place in other places and at different times, of the liability of negroes not accustomed to the climate to be attacked by cholera, and of the advantage of maintaining the numerous slaves of his estate in their excellent state which is publicly known, he does not feel inclined to put the existence of his estate in jeopardy, in the present state of Cuba, for the sake of a paltry profit, should there be any, and even if it were offered to him—an offer which has, however, never been made, and which would be rejected by his agents, who would be careful not to endanger the interests entrusted to them under the clearest instructions.

I have, therefore, the pleasure of stating to your Excellency that the

denunciation in question is utterly incorrect; that the buildings of my estate have not served as a place of concealment for the negroes in question, nor will they serve in future, and during my absence, because, although my agents will not overstep my instructions, I now recommend to them again to fulfil them with the greatest punctuality; although they cannot be held responsible for any landings which might take place in the vicinity of my estate, just as no inhabitant of a town can be made answerable for a crime which may be committed in the street where he lives; but, at all events, Mr. Crawford may rest assured that such landings will never take place with the assistance and connivance of my agents, and I hope, therefore, that, after he has been better informed, he will restore to my character, both in the eyes of his Government and of the Captain-General of Cuba, the respectability which is justly due to me.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL CONDE DE BAGAES.

No. 489.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 13, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 15th ultimo, respecting a Spanish vessel called the "*Paquita*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and supposed to be at Santander, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a letter which I have just received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at that port, in reply to my communication to him upon this subject, from which your Lordship will perceive that this vessel has not yet made its appearance there, though shortly expected.

I have also taken such steps with the Spanish Government as appeared to me to be necessary and expedient to have the movements of this vessel, and the proceedings of her consignees in Spain, well watched.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 489.

Vice-Consul Montalvan to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Santander, January 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 29th ultimo, to which I have not replied sooner, as all my endeavours to obtain information respecting the Spanish brig "*Paquita*" had been up to this morning fruitless. I have now the pleasure to communicate to your Lordship that I have just this moment ascertained that the said vessel had left Havana with a cargo of 1,600 boxes of sugar bound to this port, where she is consequently expected to arrive very soon.

I will then consider it my duty to lay before your Lordship what further information I may obtain concerning the future destination of the said brig, and in the meantime I have, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH M. MONTALVAN.

No. 490.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to the one which I addressed to his Excellency in pursuance of the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th ultimo, relative to the fitting out, in the port of Havana, of a slaver, with the masts and sails belonging to a condemned slave-vessel, and to the landing of 300 negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos in October last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 490.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's note of the 30th of December last, inclosing copies of two despatches which have been addressed to the Earl of Clarendon by the British Consul in Cuba, relative, the former to a schooner which, he says, is being fitted out at the port of Havana for the Slave Trade, and the latter to a landing of 300 Bozal negroes, which he supposes to have taken place at the Ensenada de Cochinos in the middle of October.

I have the honour to state to your Lordship, in reply, that the contents of your aforesaid note have been this day communicated to the Colonial Office, in order that the two aforesaid cases may be referred to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba for information, and so soon as this functionary's reply on the subject has been received I shall lose no time in communicating it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 491.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith copies of two despatches* and of their inclosures from Mr. Crawford, &c., from which your Lordship will learn the circumstances under which three British seamen, who formed part of the crew of a slave-vessel called the "*Jasper*," have been brought to the Havana for trial before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial.

Your Lordship will observe that the Captain-General refused to allow Mr. Crawford to appoint counsel for the defence of these men, asserting that it would be contrary to Spanish law to comply with Mr. Crawford's request.

I have, therefore, to instruct your Lordship to inquire of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty whether the Captain-General of Cuba was legally empowered to prevent Her Majesty's Consul-General from appointing counsel for the defence of these men before the Court of Audiencia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 492.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a copy of an Ordinance which was issued by the Captain-General of Cuba on the 20th ultimo, providing for the liberation of some of the emancipados in that island.

Her Majesty's Government observe with extreme regret that the terms of this Decree do not fulfil the promise made on the part of the Spanish Government by Count Alcoy in the note which he addressed to your Lordship on the 15th of March last, stating that freedom would be granted to all the negroes who were brought to Cuba in ships captured and condemned under the Treaty of 1817, and also to those adjudicated under the Treaty of 1835, who may have completed their five years of apprenticeship.

The first part of this promise is so far answered by the Ordinance of December 20, that freedom is nominally granted to the emancipados of a date previous to 1835, but even this concession is so fettered with restrictions that it will probably turn out to be a mere illusion; and the second part of the promise of March 1853 is, so far as this Ordinance goes, wholly disregarded.

Your Lordship will point out to M. Calderon de la Barca the incomplete and unsatisfactory manner in which that promise, solemnly made by the Spanish Government, has been carried out by the Captain-General of Cuba, and you will strongly urge that instructions may be sent to the Captain-General to issue a fresh Ordinance in accordance with the terms of Count Alcoy's note.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 493.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 29.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 23, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 13th instant, I mentioned having taken certain steps with Her Catholic Majesty's Government in order that the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, might be watched. I herewith have the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 493.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 13, 1854.

IN reply to your Lordship's note of the 4th instant, requesting that the movements of the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," now lying at anchor at Santander, and which, according to your Lordship's statements, is supposed to have been engaged in, and to be still destined for, the Slave Trade, should be watched by the proper authorities, I have the honour to state that the contents of your Lordship's aforesaid note have been this

* No. 638.

day transcribed to the Colonial Office, for the adoption of such measures as may be thought most expedient; and so soon as I receive an answer, I shall lose no time in communicating it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 494.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 29.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the inclosed extraordinary document, in which it pleases Her Catholic Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs, his Excellency Señor Don Angel Calderon de la Barca, valorously to vindicate for Spain an independence which I never attacked, and to allude to the Legislative attributions of the Cortes, with a sort of dignified and conscientious complacency, at a time not very felicitous, when Councils are held daily for the purpose of overturning the Constitution.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN

Inclosure in No. 494.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 20, 1854.

I HAVE received the note which your Lordship has done me the honour of addressing to me, under date of the 10th instant, acknowledging the receipt of my communication of the 7th instant, in which I stated to your Lordship the reasons which prevented Her Majesty's Government from acceding to the proposal of the Government of Great Britain, relative to the reform of the existing Penal Law against Slave Trade.

Before knowing whether the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will appreciate, as I expect it will, the above-mentioned reasons, your Lordship nevertheless considers yourself entitled to make two observations, which you declare to be on your own account.

The first of these observations is answered and explained by stating that my note clearly made reference, not to the reprobated Traffic of Slaves, but to the possession of those legitimately acquired.

In the second of your Lordship's aforesaid observations, you acknowledge on the one hand the force of the reasons wherewith I proved that the Government has no power to make by itself, and without the cooperation of the Cortes, the important reforms which are proposed to it; whilst, on the other hand, your Lordship ventures to make certain insinuations which the dignity of an independent Government cannot otherwise than repel.

Were it not for the consideration that I think it more becoming the decorum of Her Majesty's Government to abstain from entering into any discussion with your Lordship on this subject, it would be very easy for me to demonstrate how little consistent with each other are your two aforesaid observations; because if as an Englishman, your Lordship states that you applaud and admire the circumspection of a Government which refuses to make alterations in the laws, such a declaration is far from being in harmony with your insinuating to the same Government that it ought to modify the Penal Law in question by a Decree.

These and other observations which would occur to me as a private individual, in reply to those made by your Lordship, I would be unable to bring forward in the name of Her Majesty's Government, which, as I

have stated above, has a perfect right to have its prerogatives, as the Government of an independent nation, duly respected. But should I as a private individual find myself in the position of discussing such matters, I would endeavour to confine myself in my communications to the style and tone which the gravity of the subject in question requires.

I therefore request your Lordship to consider the present answer as a consequence of the necessity under which you have placed me of replying to your Lordship's communication, and to allow me to refer myself; and to recommend that we should both abide by what I stated in my aforesaid note of the 7th instant, which your Lordship will undoubtedly have already transmitted to your Government.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 495.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 6, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, reporting that you had taken steps to cause the movements of the suspicious Spanish vessel "*Paquita*" to be watched on her arrival at Santander, at which port she is shortly expected from Havana; and I have to inform your Lordship that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 496.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 30, 1854.

IN reference to my despatches of the 13th and 23rd instant, I have the honour to inclose copy of a further letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Santander, reporting the arrival in that port of the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," Francisco Segovia, master; and announcing that the departure of this vessel for the Havana has been advertised as to take place from the 20th to the 25th of February next.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 496.

Vice-Consul Montalvan to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Santander, January 26, 1854.

WITH reference to my letter of the 10th instant, I now beg to communicate to your Lordship that the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," Francisco Segovia, master, has arrived in this port with a cargo of sugar from Havana, after having touched and performed quarantine at Vigo.

I have further to inform your Lordship that the consignee of this vessel has advertised her departure for Havana, with a cargo of flour and passengers, from the 20th to the 25th of February next.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH M. MONTALVAN.

No. 497.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 27th ultimo, respecting the Decree which was issued by the Captain-General of Cuba on the 20th of December last, for the partial liberation of some of the emancipados in that island, I now transmit to you a copy of a further despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana on this subject.

I also transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, containing his report on the state of Slave Trade in Cuba during 1853; and inclosing, among other papers, a copy of a further Decree issued by the Captain-General of that island on the 1st of January last, containing regulations respecting the emancipados both under the Treaties of 1817 and 1835.

You will perceive that Mr. Crawford, in his inclosed despatch, draws especial attention to the evils arising from the non-fulfilment by the Government of Cuba of the stipulations of the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, according to the provisions of which the Mixed Commission Court should be periodically furnished with lists of all the emancipados existing in the island.

I have accordingly to instruct your Lordship again to point out to the Spanish Government the great importance of having a complete list of all the emancipados in Cuba furnished to the Mixed Commission Court at Havana, in order that the intentions of the two Governments with respect to their liberation may be carried out; and you will urge the Spanish Government to send the necessary instructions to the Marquis de Pezuela no longer to delay the fulfilment of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835 in that respect; and to make good the distinct assurance conveyed in the letter addressed to Mr. Otway by Señor Bertran de Lis on the 9th of September, 1852, stating that instructions to the above effect had been sent to the then Captain-General of Cuba. There is reason to hope that the present Captain-General is animated with a sincere desire to put down the Slave Trade, and I am therefore the more anxious that these instructions should be addressed to his Excellency.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 498.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 16, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in reply to the representation which I addressed to his Excellency, in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th of December last, relative to the fitting out in the port of the Havana of a slaver, with the masts and sails of a vessel condemned as a prize to Her Majesty's ship "Vestal."

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

* No. 643.

† Class A, No. 38.

Inclosure in No. 498.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my note of the 7th of January last, in which I stated to your Lordship that, under the same date, information had been requested from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, through the Colonial Office, respecting the fitting out of a schooner for the Slave Trade, which your Lordship stated was being carried on at the Havana, with the masts and sails of the schooner "*Venus*," which had been condemned as a prize, I have the honour of acquainting your Lordship with the particulars which have been just received from the aforesaid Captain-General on the subject in question.

It appears, from his Excellency's report, that the authorities of the port of the Havana having taken the most efficient steps for the purpose of ascertaining whether there was any truth in the fact which had been denounced, it was found out that the vessel in question was a schooner which had been built, with the proper permission, in the ship-yard belonging to Don Juan Critas, and that she was moored alongside the wharf, ready to receive her rigging; that she bore as yet no name, and that her dimensions were: 100 feet, length over all; from 22 to 23 feet wide; and from 12 to 13 feet perpendicular.

The Captain of the Port having searched the hold of the aforesaid vessel, found only some pigs of ballast to keep her upright, but nothing else which might induce to believe that she was destined for the Slave Trade; there being, moreover, the circumstance, that up to the aforesaid date, no offer had been made to purchase her.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 499.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 24.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 17, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, relative to the refusal of the Captain-General of Cuba to allow Mr. Consul-General Crawford to appoint counsel for the defence of three British seamen, who formed part of the crew of a slave-vessel called the "*Jasper*," I have the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in acknowledgment of the one which I addressed to his Excellency upon this question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 499.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 15, 1854.

IN reply to your Lordship's note of the 3rd instant, relative to three British seamen who, your Lordship states, have been conveyed to the Havana, to be tried before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, I have the honour to state that the contents of your Lordship's aforesaid note have been communicated, under this day's date, to the Colonial Office, for the

purpose of obtaining from the same the proper information respecting the fact alluded to by your Lordship; and so soon as I receive an answer, I will hasten to communicate it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 500.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, copies of two despatches* from Mr. Crawford, &c., inclosing copies of his correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba, relative to the landing of slaves in that island, and respecting the arrangements said to be in progress on the part of the Portuguese Brazilian Slave Trade Association, for commencing a considerable importation of slaves into Cuba, from the coast of Africa.

Your Lordship will say to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, how gratifying it is to Her Majesty's Government to have to offer thanks to the Spanish Government, instead of making complaints; and to find that the acts of the present Captain-General are in accordance with the promises of his Government.

Her Majesty's Government now venture to look forward to a state of improvement in Cuba, that will promote the cause of humanity, and will remove that constant source of discord which of late has menaced the friendly relations between the two countries.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 501.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. de Comyn.

Foreign Office, March 18, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to state to M. de Comyn, &c., that he has received from Mr. Backhouse, the British Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at Havana, copies of a correspondence which has passed between Mr. Backhouse and the Captain-General of Cuba relative to an application which, in conformity with Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of June 28, 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, the Undersigned had instructed Mr. Backhouse to make to the Marquis de la Pezuela for information respecting the number of emancipados who have been liberated under the Ordinance issued by his Excellency on the 1st of last January, and also respecting the number of those who, in conformity with Article II of that Ordinance, will still have to serve an apprenticeship.

It appears from the answer returned to Mr. Backhouse, by direction of the Captain-General on the 1st of February, that the Marquis de la Pezuela has declined to communicate the information in question to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, but has promised to transmit these lists to Her Catholic Majesty's Mission in London.

Under these circumstances the Undersigned has the honour to request that M. de Comyn will be so good as to furnish him with all the particulars which he may have received from the Marquis de la Pezuela respecting these emancipados, in order that Her Majesty's Government may be able to judge whether the Captain-General of Cuba has fully carried into effect the stipulations of the Annex to the Treaty of 1835 above referred to.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 502.

M. de Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 22.)

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, March 21, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Chargé d'Affaires of Her Catholic Majesty, has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the note which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., addressed to him on the 18th instant, and in reply he hastens to forward, in compliance with the request of his Excellency, a literal copy of the statement of emancipated negroes which he received a few days ago for that purpose from the Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, the result of communications which had taken place between that superior authority and the Judge Commissioner of Her Britannic Majesty in the Court of Mixed Commission established in the Havana.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JUAN S. COMYN.

 Inclosure in No. 502.

Statement of Emancipated Negroes captured by English Cruizers and by the Subaltern Authorities of this Island.

Resulting from captures made by English cruizers	..	..	..	..	8,764
Captured by the subaltern authorities of the island	..	..	..	..	2,479
					11,243
General total					
Given up to England, being out of those captures made by her cruizers as soon as they were declared emancipated by the Mixed Tribunal; these were carried to the Island of Trinidad, of the Windward Islands	..	..	..	..	978
Liberated up to the close of December 1840	..	..	..	..	147
Liberated up to the 30th day of November, 1853	..	..	..	..	2,063
Dead, run away, maroons in rebellion [cimarrones apalencados], lunatic, and inmates of almshouses	..	..	..	..	5,957
					9,145
Liberated, and at present hired out as labourers in conformity with the Ordinance published on the 1st of January last, because they wished to remain in the island.					2,098

Nota.—Among the 2063 liberated up to the 30th day of November, 1853, there are 600 with 124 children who were given up to English functionaries in this place, from the 30th September, 1844, to the 18th June, 1852, and were carried to Jamaica in the English Royal Mail Steamers.

Another.—Amongst those dead there is one whom Don José Maria Clairac, Accountant of Rs., stated to be dead, but who appears since to have been sold, in regard to which a criminal suit is instituted, and that officer is now removed from his office and in close imprisonment.

Another.—There is also one among the runaways who has presented himself, his place of abode was unknown since 1837.

Havana, February 6, 1854.

(Signed)

JOSE ESTEVAN,
Secretary to Government.

 No. 503.
Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 17, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, I addressed a note to Señor Calderon de la Barca, again pointing out the great importance of having a complete list of all the emancipados in Cuba furnished to the Mixed Commission Court at the Havana, and pressing for the fulfilment of the engagement conveyed to Mr. Otway in Señor Bertran de Lis' official communication of the 9th September, 1852.

Señor Calderon de la Barca, in his answer, translation of which

I have the honour to inclose herewith, states that the expediency of immediate compliance with my demand has been pointed out to the Direction-General of the Colonies.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 503.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, March 14, 1854.

THE Undersigned, First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour of stating to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary that he has communicated to the Colonial Office, for the adoption of the proper decision on the subject, his Lordship's note of the 21st of February last, with its inclosures, relative to the expediency of the Mixed Commission Court at the Havana being furnished, without loss of time, with a complete list of all the emancipados existing in the Island of Cuba.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Barcelona*.

No. 504.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Baker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith an extract of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, containing a description of two vessels which were captured in the Rio Pongas on the 23rd of April last by the boats of Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet," and which are said to have been fully equipped for the Slave Trade at Barcelona.

I have to instruct you to endeavour to obtain information respecting the time when those vessels left Barcelona, the names of the parties to whom they belonged, and the connexions of the supercargo mentioned in Mr. Campbell's despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 505.

Consul Baker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 10.)

My Lord,

Barcelona, September 5, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th ultimo, inclosing an extract of a despatch from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, in relation to two vessels reported to have been equipped for the Slave Trade at Barcelona, and captured on the 23rd April last in the River Pongas by the boats of Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet," and directing me to report the names of the parties to whom these vessels belonged, and the connexions of the supercargo mentioned in Mr. Consul Campbell's despatch.

I have spared no efforts in endeavouring to carry out your Lordship's instructions, but regret to state that I have been unable to obtain any information respecting these vessels. In making inquiries, I could not expect the assistance of any one in Barcelona, the greatest secrecy being observed, and every possible precaution adopted by parties engaged in this infamous Traffic to escape detection.

As there have been no clearances direct for Africa, the two vessels probably cleared out on a coasting voyage, and either from some other port in Spain took their departure for the coast of Africa, or pursued their voyage direct from Barcelona with only a coasting clearance. Even the names of vessels arriving at or clearing from this Custom-house for ports within the principality do not appear in the shipping registers, nor is any special record kept of such arrivals and departures. Had Mr. Consul Campbell mentioned the names of the vessels when captured, or even the name of the supercargo, which I suppose might have been obtained from the list of passengers kept on board the mail-packet "Forerunner," in which vessel he took his passage for Teneriffe, such information would

* No. 14.

have given a most valuable clue to have got at those details which are now desired.

My impression is that the two vessels captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet" could not, if they really belonged to Barcelona, have sailed since my appointment, because I have not failed to watch the different vessels in port, with the view of confidentially reporting to your Lordship such particulars as I could procure of any of suspicious character, and adapted for the Slave Trade. The two vessels referred to in Mr. Consul Campbell's despatch were exactly of the class to have attracted my notice.

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

No. 506.

Consul Baker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 10.)

My Lord,

Barcelona, September 5, 1853.

I DEEM it my duty to lose no time in reporting to your Lordship that I have this day received such intelligence concerning a Spanish vessel, sailed from this port yesterday, as induces me to suspect she may be intended for some slave expedition.

The vessel is a brig called the "*Paquita*," Francis Segovia master, with a crew of twenty men, measuring about 300 tons (Spanish), with very long lower masts, and short topmasts, which are painted white, and allowing sufficient space for royal yards, though she left Barcelona under only topgallant yards. She is painted black, with a narrow red streak, and has a fiddle head, with a gilt wreath. Her appearance on the water was that of a new vessel, although not so; she lays light on the water with a full cargo of wine, spirits, and oil on board, and her sides are distinguished for their narrow planking. She is reported to be an extraordinary fast sailer, having already been engaged in this iniquitous Traffic, and has contrived to escape twice from British men-of-war when in chase of her.

She has cleared from this port for the Havana, where her owners, Messrs. Sama, Brothers, reside, and I am led to believe that she will actually proceed to the Havana, deliver the present cargo, and then probably sail for the coast of Africa. The consignees here are Messrs. Torrents, Brothers, a rich firm, chiefly connected with the cotton trade.

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

No. 507.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Baker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 17, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 5th instant respecting the two vessels captured in the River Pongas, which are reported to have been equipped for the Slave Trade at Barcelona, I have to acquaint you that Consul Campbell has been directed to report, if he can, the name of the supercargo referred to in his despatch.

And with regard to the names of the vessels in question, I have to inform you that Mr. Campbell's despatch stated that those names had been studiously concealed. He added that the brigantine was condemned as the "*Paulina*," but that she had been also called the "*Pinar*" and the "*Anana*," and that the name of the schooner was quite unknown.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 508.

Lord Wodehouse to Consul Baker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 12, 1853.

WITH reference to the contents of your despatch of the 5th of September, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to inform you, that inquiry has been made of the African Steam-Packet Company, and of the captain of the "Forerunner," as to the name of the supercargo of the two slaving-vessels captured in the Rio Pongas, by Her Majesty's ship "Linnet," and who was known to have taken refuge in the "Forerunner," from Sierra Leone to Teneriffe, in May last; but that Lord Clarendon has been informed that 8 Spaniards were conveyed on that occasion between Sierra Leone and Teneriffe; and that as they were all deck passengers, their names were not entered on the list. It is, however, still possible that Mr. Campbell may ascertain the man's name from the African Company's agent at Sierra Leone.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WODEHOUSE.

No. 509.

Consul Baker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 28.)

My Lord,

Barcelona, December 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from the Foreign Office, of the 12th instant, communicating further information respecting the supercargo of the two slaving-vessels captured in the Rio Pongas, by Her Majesty's ship "Linnet."

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

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana*.

No. 510.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 10, 1853.

I REGRET that it is again my disagreeable duty to lay before your Lordship copy of a denouncement which I addressed to the Captain-General of this island, on the 8th instant, of a disembarkation of about 500 Bozal negroes, a few days previous to that date, effected on the coast between Sagua and Cardenas, the vessel having, it is said, been run on shore, and 97 of the unfortunate negroes drowned in consequence.

His Excellency, in acknowledging the receipt of my communication, admits that, three days before that date, he had heard of this violation, and had taken the necessary steps for investigation of the facts.

I have some reason to think that there has been a very curious circumstance connected with the reported drowning of these negroes; and as soon as I can get at the truth, I shall not fail to report it to your Lordship; in the meantime, what I have heard induces me to believe that the story of so lamentable a loss of life is altogether an invention of the parties interested in the adventure, for the purpose of covering a transaction of a most daring character, for the introduction of a part of their cargo of slaves at a place nearer to the seat of Government, and which has actually been done successfully.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure I in No. 510.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 8, 1853.

I HAVE been informed that a cargo of Bozal negroes has been landed a few days ago on the coast to the eastward of Cardenas; it is said that the vessel which brought them was run on shore, and that nearly 100 of these poor negroes were drowned; but that the remainder (upwards of 400), were safely landed. I shall esteem it a great favour that your Excellency should be pleased to inform me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the particulars of this most lamentable affair; and I shall be glad to learn, from official authority, that the loss of life has been overstated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 510.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 9, 1853.

I HAVE received the attentive communication your Honour addressed to me of yesterday's date, acquainting me that, a few days ago, there had been a disembarkation of Bozal negroes on the coast to the eastward of Cardenas, and that nearly 100 of them had perished by drowning.

It is three days since the rumour of this disembarkation reached my knowledge, the particulars of which I endeavoured, on the instant, to make out, putting for that purpose into operation the most efficacious measures, which I hope will produce a favourable result, if, as I have reason to believe, seeing that my suspicions are confirmed by your Honour's communication, to which I now answer, the transaction turns out to be true.

I thank your Honour exceedingly for your information; and I shall profit by the details you refer to, the better to carry out these investigations.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

VALENTIN CANEDO.

No. 511.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 12, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, whose redemption from slavery was effected with so much difficulty at the demand of Her Majesty's Government little more than a year ago, and who was permitted by the then Governor Captain-General, Don José de la Concha, to remain on this island, contrary to the dispositions sent from Madrid, upon the condition that she should be in my house and under my responsibility, having gone to a lodging to be cured of rheumatism in her knees, his Excellency General Cañedo has thought proper to order her removal, notwithstanding the remonstrance which I considered it was my duty to address to him on the poor creature's behalf.

I beg to lay this correspondence before your Lordship, and to state that I have paid Mary Anne's passage to Nassau by the steamer which leaves this to-day, *via* San Thomas, and the amount will, I hope, be allowed to me by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 511.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 4, 1853.

ON the 19th of January of the last year, 1852, Doña Aurora Rossi granted the paper of freedom to the negress Mariana, her slave, which document, in virtue of the Royal Order of the 14th November, was given to said negress, and immediately afterwards was placed by my predecessor, his Excellency General Don José de la Concha, under your Honour's care, with a request that in a short time she should be sent out of the island; and as this, although more than a year has transpired, has not been effected, I have desired that she should be taken up and deposited

for the said purpose, and in consequence of which your Honour will be pleased to inform me in what vessel, and on what day, her embarkation is to be effected, to give the necessary orders that the removal of said negress should be punctually fulfilled.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

VALENTIN CANEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 511.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 5, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, respecting the negress Mary Anne Bethel, whose free papers were delivered to her about a year ago, in the manner referred to by your Excellency, and I am well aware that it was a condition that said Mary Anne should be sent out of the island; but his Excellency the Captain-General, Don José de la Concha, in consideration that this poor woman had been so long absent from the Bahamas, from whence she came, that she would be a stranger there if she was sent back again, was pleased to accede to my request that she should be allowed to remain here, on the precise condition that she should be in my employment and reside at my house.

The said Mary Anne Bethel accordingly did remain in my house as washerwoman from the time of her liberation from slavery till a few weeks ago, when she was afflicted with rheumatism, and went to live in the house of one of her acquaintances to have herself cured, and to return to her place in my employment.

I therefore have to represent to your Excellency that it would be a great favour to allow this said Mary Anne to remain here, on the same conditions as your Excellency's predecessor was pleased to permit: to send her to the Island of Eleuthera, in the Bahamas, from whence she came so long ago, would be indeed to send her to a strange country, and I hope that I may reckon upon your Excellency's goodness to grant her this indulgence, and allow her to return to her situation in my house. But should your Excellency determine otherwise, I shall provide a passage for said Mary Anne by the Royal mail-steamer which will leave this port about the 11th instant, in obedience to your Excellency's disposition to which I now do myself the honour of replying.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 511.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

Havana, March 9, 1853.

WHEN this Superior Government gave account to Her Majesty informing her that the Royal Order of the 14th November, 1851, was fulfilled, respecting that as pure favour the paper of freedom was given to the negress Mary Anne Bethel, without this serving as a precedent to posterior claims of a similar nature, the Supreme Government of the nation made known that it was directed that said negress should leave the island.

There is not to be seen in the proceedings on the subject the concession, which your Honour indicates in your official letter of the 5th instant as obtained from my predecessor, his Excellency Don José de la Concha, that she should remain in it. It is sufficient for me that your Honour thus affirms it, to take this particular for certain; but as your Honour adds that it was under the precise condition to be in your Honour's service,

living in your house, the infraction that Mary Anne has committed in moving to a different house, leaves by itself without any effect the favour which was granted.

In this state of things it is absolutely impossible to attend, as I should wish, to the desires of your Honour, in open opposition with the resolution of which Her Majesty is informed, and therefore I cannot do less than insist that as briefly as possible she leaves this country.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

No. 512.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 12, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of a correspondence which I have had with General Cañedo relative to the emancipada Mamerta and her four children. The mother having received her free papers, the whole family was ordered away from the island, and the poor creature being desirous of remaining where she has been so long, rather than proceed to a strange country, where she does not even understand the language of the inhabitants, I requested the favour of her being allowed to remain with her family, assuring the Captain-General that she had always conducted herself in so creditable a manner that she could easily support herself and family. Your Lordship will perceive that my application has been refused, and consequently they proceed to Jamaica by the mail-steamer of this date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 512.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 4, 1853.

UNDER this date, I have directed that there should be deposited at your Honour's disposition, for their removal from this island, the emancipados Lugardo, No. 184 of the brigantine "*Orestes*," and Mamerta, No. 290 of the brigantine "*Firme*," with four children, named Petronila, Isabel, José, and Juana, who have received their freedom; and although the said Mamerta has another daughter called Leonarda, she has run away since the 29th of September, 1849, with regard to whom summary proceedings have been made in investigating her residence, and as yet nothing has been known respecting it; but the investigation continues for the purpose of finding her, which as soon as it is effected she will be placed at your Honour's disposition that she may join her said mother.

In this understanding your Honour will please inform me in what vessel and on what day the said emancipados are to be embarked, for the purpose of giving the necessary orders to that effect.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 512.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 5, 1853.

IN doing myself the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me that free papers had been issued to Lugardo, No. 184 of the brig "*Orestes*," and to

Mamerta, No. 290 of the brig "*Firme*," which two emancipados, with the four children of the latter, viz., Petronila, Isabel, José, and Juana, had been deposited by your Excellency's order to be sent away from the island (and at my disposition), for which purpose I should state to your Excellency by what vessel they are to be embarked.

I beg leave to state to your Excellency that the first opportunity which will present itself for the embarkation of those individuals will be the Royal mail-steamer "*Dee*," which I expect will sail from this port about the 11th instant.

But at the same time I would ask the favour of your Excellency to permit Mamerta and her children to remain in this island. I believe that her character is quite unexceptionable, and that she can easily find employment to maintain herself and her children in a creditable manner, having always behaved herself to the satisfaction of the masters to whom, as an emancipada, she has been assigned, and she is very desirous of being allowed to remain here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 512.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 9, 1853.

I AM extremely sorry not being able to accede to your Honour's request respecting Mamerta and her children remaining in this island.

The practice generally observed with this class of negroes, conformable to the instructions of the Supreme Government, does not allow me to make in this particular an exception, without very special cause, which does not occur in the present case.

And I say this to your Honour in answer to your official letter of the 5th instant.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

No. 513.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 9, 1853.

I HAVE received from Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, a copy of your letter to him of the 15th of December last, stating that you had addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba a representation which you trusted would produce the release of the sons of the Jamaica negress Nancy, now deceased, whose claim to be liberated was, it appears, brought before the Spanish authorities by Mr. Forbes in February 1849.

If you should not have received, before this despatch reaches you, a favourable answer to your application in behalf of these two negroes, I have to instruct you to represent their case again to the Captain-General, and to state the interest taken in this matter by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 514.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 10, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo, relating to the case of the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, who has been released from a long and unjust detention in slavery in the Island of Cuba, and who has been sent at your own expense to Nassau in the Island of New Providence; and I have also received your despatch of the same date, relating to the case of the emancipada Mamerta who, with her four children, has received free papers, and has been ordered to leave Cuba.

With reference to the applications which you made to Captain-General Cañedo to permit these persons to remain in Cuba, I have to instruct you to express to the Captain-General the regret of Her Majesty's Government at the decision which he took in these cases, and to say that Her Majesty's Government trust that a more lenient and conciliatory course will be pursued if it should in future be necessary for you to renew such applications upon good grounds.

With respect to the expense which you have incurred for the passage to Nassau of Mary Anne Bethel, I have to state to you that you are at liberty to charge the amount in the next bill which you may draw upon Her Majesty's Treasury for the expenses of the removal of emancipados from Cuba to British colonies.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 515.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 14, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of December, 1852, respecting the fitting out for Slave Trade in Cuba of the American vessel "*Lady Suffolk*;" I now transmit to you, for any observations which you may have to offer thereupon, a copy of a note* which has been addressed by Count Alcoy, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, on the subject of that vessel, in reply to a note which his Lordship addressed to Count Alcoy by my directions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 516.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 21, 1853.

I MOST respectfully beg your Lordship's reference to my despatch dated the 10th instant, in which I alluded to circumstances connected with the recent arrival of Bozal negroes at a place between Sagua and Cardenas, as having been of a very daring nature. I now beg leave to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of further correspondence with the Captain-General respecting said violation of the Treaty; and I have the honour of acquainting your Lordship that the slaver in question appears to have been in charge of a Portuguese; that after the vessel got ashore, there was much disorder, so that only some 200 of the slaves were saved by the said master or owner; and that, with the exception of those who were lost in the sea, nearly all the rest were stolen by the coasting-craft and fishing-vessels which were about the place of the wreck, and

* Inclosure in No. 407.

upwards of 100 of them were brought into this port by the fishing-smacks and other craft, from which they were safely landed, and have been sold through the public brokers in that line of business, which it would seem is hardly credible should have taken place, as it were, under the very eyes of the authorities; and must, I should suppose, completely satisfy your Lordship that the Captain-General's circular of the 3rd of December has been wholly disregarded, and has not at all been enforced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No 516.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 16, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 9th instant, in answer to my communication of the previous day's date, respecting a landing of Bozal negroes from a vessel which it was said had been run ashore on the coast of this island, to the eastward of Cardenas.

I have now the honour of stating to your Excellency that Her Britannic Majesty's cruizer "Buzzard" has visited the wreck of said slaver, which is (off the Medano) a short distance to the eastward of Cayo Verde; that the commander of the "Buzzard" found the wrecked vessel in possession of the Spanish authorities from Sagua la Grande; and that the bodies of 6 negroes had been found on board.

I have also learnt that the slaver in question was a brig, and that many of the Bozal negroes composing her cargo were saved by the coasting-schooners and fishing-vessels, or viveros, belonging to Havana; and it is said that upwards of 100 of said Bozals have been brought into and clandestinely landed in this port of Havana from the coasters or viveros, who took them from the wrecked slaver without any authority whatever.

Commander Dobbie, of Her Majesty's steamer "Buzzard," informs me that the slaver was wrecked on the 25th ultimo, and I understand the negroes brought into Havana were landed on or about a week or ten days afterwards.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 516.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 20, 1853.

I HAVE received your Honour's official letter of the 16th instant, in which you communicate to me various particulars relative to the vessel wrecked to the eastward of Cardenas, which is said to have brought Bozals; which details I have availed myself of, dictating, in consequence, the necessary measures for that purpose.

Which I say to your Excellency in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

No. 517.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, established under the Treaty with Spain of the 28th of June, 1835, arrived yesterday evening on board Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Medea."

As soon as it is convenient, I shall present the Judge to his Excellency the Captain-General, and he will, no doubt, assume the duties of his office as soon as the formalities have been gone through of his recognition by General Cañedo, and that he has been sworn in, which I presume, however, will not be until after the present Easter holidays.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 518.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord John Russell.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 24, 1853.

IT is again my most unpleasant duty to bring under your Lordship's notice another most glaring infraction of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the particulars of which are stated in the copy of my letter to his Excellency the Captain-General, which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship.

The vessel which brought these slaves is one of those alluded to in my despatch of the 26th of November last, when it was known that the Brigadier Pavia would be reinstated at Matanzas. This cargo has been landed at the same place nearly as that where the other was disembarked for which Pavia was suspended by General Concha; and the expedition belongs to the same parties in Matanzas.

I need, therefore, to make no further observation upon the glaring nature of this offence; but I feel myself called upon to repeat to your Lordship that the Slave Trade is most flourishing, and that in the course of a very short time many cargoes are expected, some of them almost hourly; and there can be no reasonable hope but that those to arrive will effect their introduction into the island as successfully, and with the same impunity of all parties concerned, as has for some time past been the case, the assurances of the Spanish Government, and General Cañedo's circulars, notwithstanding.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 518.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, March 23, 1853.*

I HAVE received information upon which I can rely, that, on Saturday the 12th instant, a slaver arrived from the coast of Africa, which brought 1,100 or 1,200 Bozal negroes, who were safely landed at or near to Cardenas, by launches sent from that place for the purpose, and that the

vessel which brought these slaves was taken to Cayo Piedra, where she was burnt after the landing of her cargo had been effected.

Besides the numbers above-mentioned, I understand there were 200 more Bozal negroes on board the slaver alluded to, when she left the coast of Africa; but that they having, on more than one occasion, attempted to rise and take the vessel, as many as the number last mentioned were killed in suppressing said mutinies.

The name of the ship I have not learnt, but the captain's name is Don Antonio Capó, and he was accompanied on the voyage by his brother Don Pedro Juan Capó. I have also been informed that the expedition belongs to a number of persons in Matanzas, by whom the vessel was fitted out about five months ago, and that the fact of her having been so fitted out and dispatched was, I understand, well known in Matanzas at the time of her departure for the slave coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 519.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 18, 1853

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of January last, inclosing your annual report on the state of Slave Trade in Cuba, I transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch* from Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to him by Count Alcoy, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to a note which I instructed his Lordship to address to Count Alcoy, founded on your despatch above mentioned. And I have to desire that you will address to me any observations which you may have to offer upon the inclosed note from Count Alcoy, and particularly as to the number of negroes which you state to have been landed in Cuba, in 1852.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 520.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 29, 1853.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship, a copy of further correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General respecting the recent landing of slaves, subject of my previous despatch of the 24th instant.

Your Lordship will observe that General Cañedo assumes that the number of the negroes landed upon this occasion was very much less than they were stated by me to his Excellency, but which I have good reason for asserting was not the fact. The vessel, barque rigged, measured upwards of 400 tons American, and if, as we know to have been the case, the felucca "*Colombia*" brought 150 Bozals to Cabañas, besides her crew of eleven persons, and measured twenty-nine tons only, I do not consider that there could be any difficulty in the slaver which came to Cardenas on the 12th instant, bringing 1,100 or 1,200, besides the 200 who were killed upon the voyage in the attempts which were made to rise upon the slave crew. But it seems there was an object in under-estimating the number of slaves of this expedition, as I shall explain to your Lordship.

The officer sent from this in combination with the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardenas and the Governor of Matanzas, proceeded to search for, and

* No. 408.

seize Bozal negroes upon the estates in those districts, as well as to arrest several parties who were implicated in this expedition; but after having caused great alarm and consternation to the slave-traders, those active measures were suddenly abandoned, and the parties who had been arrested were set at liberty, the authorities remaining with about 290 or 300 Bozal negroes who, it is supposed, will be declared emancipados, and as such, the original parties who were the owners of the slaver have, as I understand, hopes of getting them back, because of the general outcry which that numerous class of persons at once raised against the measures of the Captain-General, which they qualified as outrageous and illegal, citing the second paragraph of the Penal Law, Article IX, as prohibitory of the interference of the authorities in such cases.

My agent at Matanzas writes that the proceedings have been closed, and that it is shown upon them how that in consequence of the escape of Don Antonio Capó, the master of the slaver, nothing could be proved against the other parties; and that the 290 or 300 Bozals who were seized by the Captain-General's orders, constituted the whole number of slaves landed from the vessel in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 520.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 25, 1853.

RUMOURS of a new disembarkation in the neighbourhood of Cardenas having occurred on the 12th current reached my notice, and, without the loss of a moment, I dictated the necessary orders, in the execution of which not only is engaged the Lieutenant-Governor of that place, but the Governor of Matanzas and an officer of high character whom, for that purpose, I thought proper to commission; promising myself, from all of their efforts, the most favourable results.

To this date some Bozals have been captured, and various persons have been arrested on account of their complicity in this reprobated disembarkation; one of those whom I have ordered to be placed in security being Don Antonio Capó, indicated as having been the captain of the slaver.

But as your Honour, in the communications of the 23rd current, makes the cargo mount up to 1,100 or 1,200 negroes, I would state to you that the most probable data until now indicates a contingent of a much smaller figure. The number you state would have required a vessel of colossal dimensions for their transport; consequently, of very considerable value, such as it is not likely the outfitters would disregard destroying it, as has been done in this case.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 520.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 26, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 25th instant, and I beg leave to thank your Excellency for the communication which you have been pleased to make to me with

regard to the measures your Excellency has dictated for the capture of the Bozals and arrest of the parties interested in their introduction into this island, which I shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to Her Majesty's Government.

With regard to the number of slaves which I stated to your Excellency in my letter of the 23rd instant, your Excellency's means of information are certainly much better than mine, and perhaps the numbers landed from the slaver in question may not be so great as what I stated to your Excellency, according to what I had heard from a source which I considered sure. I am very glad to be informed by your Excellency that there were not so many in reality as I was led to believe; but as great numbers are crowded into very small vessels, and the vessel which was fitted out and sailed in October last under the command of Don Antonio Capó was by no means a small one, I am induced to think that the number of Bozal negroes recently landed by him must have been very large; and I was informed, at the time, that Capó expected to return with 1,200 or 1,400 slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 521.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 7, 1853.

I HASTEN to lay before your Lordship the copy of an official communication, dated the 5th instant, which I received yesterday from the Captain-General, requesting that I would furnish such information as I might have relative to the flight of Plassy Lawrence, her residence in my house here, and her actual place of residence; summary proceedings having been instituted thereon.

I have also the honour of transmitting to your Lordship copy of my reply to General Cañedo of this date, referring to Her Majesty's Government for information upon this subject.

Plassy Lawrence was a servant in my house for some few months previous to the 7th of March, 1851, when I delivered her at the office of the Colonial Secretary by desire of Captain-General Concha, and she was then placed in deposit, to abide the result of the investigation of her claim to be freed from slavery.

That investigation was proceeded with according to the slow process of such cases in this country, but it was at length concluded, and having been identified by a person brought here from Nevis for that purpose, the case might naturally have been considered as proved, and that, all the facts having been substantiated, she would have been considered as entitled to be restored to freedom, and have been delivered from slavery, to which she had been for so many years most cruelly and unjustly subjected, here and in Porto Rico; but it pleased the Spanish authorities to refer this matter to the Supreme Government at Madrid early in July last.

During all this long period, for nearly two years, was this poor creature held in suspense, and she at last sought protection on board Her Majesty's ship "Vestal," which was extended to her by Captain Hamilton, and she is now restored to her family at Nevis.

I am at a loss to understand the object of the Captain-General in addressing this communication to me, excepting it may be that it is intended to implicate this Consulate in Plassy Lawrence's escape; and it has come to my knowledge that a person, formerly in my employment as coachman, has been interrogated as to my having been to visit the said Plassy at the Casa de Beneficencia about the time she escaped on board the "Vestal;" to which the coachman was unable to declare, as he never had upon any occasion driven me to that place.

Under all the circumstances, I hope that your Lordship will approve the course I have adopted in answering this communication of General Cañedo's.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 521.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 5, 1853.

THE negress Maria del Carmen (*a*) Plassy Lawrence, having absconded from the Royal House of Beneficence, in which establishment she was placed in deposit, under the charge of the Sisters of Charity, respecting which the corresponding summary investigation is being gone into, I hope that your Honour will state to me all that you know as to the flight, the sojourn in your Honour's house, and the actual residence of the said negress.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 521.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 8, 1853.

I SHALL take the earliest opportunity of laying before Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, the Earl of Clarendon, your Excellency's official communication of the 5th instant, relative to the English negress Plassy Lawrence, belonging to the British Island of Nevis, who had for many years been improperly held and retained in slavery, here and at Porto Rico, and who, your Excellency states, has absconded from the place where she was deposited—the Royal House of Beneficence.

I would, therefore, very respectfully beg leave to refer to Her Majesty's Government for information upon the subject of your Excellency's letter, the receipt of which I have now the honour of acknowledging.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 522.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 9, 1853.

THE two men named Thomas who arrived here from Porto Rico by the Spanish brig "Union," having been produced in the Alcalde's Court this morning, I regret to report to your Lordship that neither of them was found to be the lad Charles Callwood, of Tortola, but another coloured man, who represents himself as belonging to Tortola, was found to have been sent as a slave in that vessel: his name is Ben Johnston.

I have therefore addressed a despatch to the Lieutenant-Governor of that island, embodying the evidence of said Ben Johnston, who says that he knew Charles Callwood when in Tortola, and saw him in prison at Aguadilla, in Porto Rico, shortly before he came here; and as I am inclined to think that Callwood is still in Porto Rico, and an order will be sent from hence to follow up the search for him there, I have suggested

that the Lieutenant-Governor of Tortola should engage Mr. Consul Lindegren to cooperate with the Spanish authorities at Aguadilla.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of said despatch, in which I have requested that the necessary investigation may be made at Tortola as to the case and statements of Ben Johnston, so that if corroborated, and sufficient grounds made out, I may be enabled to claim his liberation from slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 522.

Consul-General Crawford to the Lieutenant-Governor of Tortola.

Sir,

Havana, April 9, 1853.

IN following up the case of Charles Callwood, we have found the other two Thomases, one of whom it was supposed would turn out to be the boy Callwood, the object of our inquiries and of Mr. Dyett's efforts at Porto Rico and here last year.

I regret to state that our hopes have been disappointed; but one of those we have found states that he belonged to Tortola; that his name is Ben Johnston, the son of Ben and Jane of that name, who lived at "Joe's and Dick's;" that he is about twenty-eight years of age; that his father was free, and his mother a slave; that he was born before the Emancipation; that he belonged to a person called Captain Jim, who was a mulatto, and lived at the above-named cay at Tortola; that Captain Jim sent him to Aguadilla, in Porto Rico, and there sold him, first to Don Juan Sapio, by him to Don Jayme Mata, then to Don Juan Lopez, to Don Justo Morales, to Don José Carsi, to Don Pedro Duco, and by him to Don Pascual Lopez, who sold him to Don Francisco del Moral y Bucelon at this place.

This negro Ben Johnston says that he knew Charles Callwood at Tortola, and also saw him in the prison at Aguadilla, in Porto Rico, and that he was told by a negress called Mariana (probably Mariana Martin), at Aguadilla, that Charles Callwood had been sent back to Tortola. He is sure that Callwood did not come over in the vessel with him from Porto Rico, and has never seen him here, nor has he heard that he was sent from Porto Rico to this island.

As these proceedings took place this morning, it is very probable that they will not be sent forward to Porto Rico (by the Spanish authorities) by this packet, but they will most certainly go by the mail of the 10th proximo; and as by the declaration of Ben Johnston, it would appear that Charles Callwood is still a slave at Porto Rico, I would suggest the urgency of your moving Mr. Consul Lindegren to concert with the Spanish officers to prosecute the inquiries respecting him.

And with regard to Ben Johnston, I have to request that you will cause an investigation of the circumstances set forth in his declaration, with a view to ascertaining their bearing upon the right of this man to be claimed by me as improperly held in slavery, bearing in mind, that after the Registration Act, 1807, 46 Geo. III, cap. 52, the embarkation of any registered slave without the formalities prescribed in said Act would operate such slave's forfeiture to the Crown, and consequently his immediate freedom from slavery.

I need not point out, that whatever evidence you may be able to send for the purpose of claiming Ben Johnston must be of the most conclusive nature, and that it would be important to have the documents certified by the Spanish Consul residing at San Thomas, as well as that Ben's father, or some other person should be sent here for the purpose of identifying him in the Courts here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 523.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 11, 1853.

THE contract entered into last year by Messrs. Villoldo and Wardrop, of this city and of Glasgow, with the Government of Cuba, for bringing in 3,000 Chinese labourers, has until now been carried into effect as follows: By the arrival of the

Ships.	Tons.	Number of Labourers Embarked.	Number of Labourers Delivered.	Died.
Panama	522	803	480	475
Blenheim	808			
Gertrude	608	350	198	
Inchinan	565	338	335	3
		1,491	1,013	478

The first of these vessels arrived here with their crews and passengers infected, and there had died at sea as many as 289 of the Chinese. They were consequently put under quarantine. No arrangements had been made, either by the Government or by the parties interested, for such an emergency, and the consequence was, that the infection spread on board the ships: 136 more of the Chinese died in this harbour, and the disease (cholera chiefly) was not arrested until after the Lazaretto was built, 53 only having died there; making the total deaths after arrival here 189. The passengers by the first three ships were from Amoy, and the masters informed me that they were not at all healthy when they came on board. Each man had a portion of opium, which he smoked constantly, till it was consumed, and its effects were evidently most injurious, producing pulmonary complaints and dysentery, of which most of those perished who died at sea. Neither of these ships had any other than Chinese doctors, nor were they provided with efficient interpreters, so that the wants of the sufferers could not be made known; and for these two reasons more efficient assistance most probably was not administered on the voyage; and after the arrival of the vessels in quarantine at this place, although efficient medical assistance was immediately furnished, the most intelligent of the physicians has given me his opinion that the Chinese were allowed too much provisions at first, which had a most prejudicial effect upon them in the state they were at that time.

The last ship took in her passengers at Namoa, and they were decidedly of a better description; the three deaths which occurred were two cases of deliberate suicide by jumping overboard, and one of pulmonary consumption.

In general these labourers appear to be strong young men; they seem cheerful and contented, are well clothed, and the planters are content to receive them.

They have been apportioned in lots of ten to each subscribing proprietor, and those having ties, and desirous of being left together, have had their wishes attended to in the allotments. I have not seen any females amongst them.

Although the first of these ships arrived nearly four months ago the passengers were not out of their quarantine till very lately; so that it is

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impossible as yet to form any opinion as to how this important experiment will turn out, but I shall not fail from time to time to report to your Lordship upon the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 524.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* and its inclosures which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, stating that a Spanish brig called the "*Paquete Canario*," which was at Monte Video on the 7th of March last, was about to sail from that place for this country with a legal cargo; and that after discharging such cargo, she is to sail for Cuba in ballast, to be there fitted out for a slave-trading voyage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 525.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 11.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 21, 1853.

I MOST respectfully beg leave to refer your Lordship to my despatches of the 4th and 24th of November last year, respecting that suffering and ill-used class of persons, the emancipados.

I have now to state to your Lordship that up to the present date the Captain-General has not sent any lists to the Mixed Court, as stipulated in Articles V and VI of Annex D to the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835. Notwithstanding the instruction which M. Bertran de Lis informed Mr. Otway had been given to his Excellency General Cañedo to that effect, and knowing the disinclination there is on the part of the Marquis de Esteva, the Spanish Judge, to move in this business, I have availed of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, Mr. Backhouse, taking his place in the Mixed Court, to renew my efforts for obtaining justice towards these unhappy people.

I accordingly addressed the Court on the 13th instant, requesting to be furnished with the lists and detailed information with regard to the emancipados, which I was instructed to obtain and transmit to Her Majesty's Government in a despatch from the Earl of Malmesbury, dated 21st of April, 1852. A copy of my letter to the Mixed Court just alluded to, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship, and I am in hopes that in consequence thereof the Court will be induced to remind the Captain-General of this obligation, which has hitherto been neglected by the Spanish authorities.

And I humbly entreat your Lordship will pardon the importunity of my again urging the cause of these emancipados, who have only the hope of relief through Her Majesty's Government to sustain them through all their toils and sufferings.

The Spanish Government, being pledged to their entire liberation, and that they should all have received their free papers previous to the 1st of January, 1847, can have no excuse whatever for delaying this act of common justice, and I venture to express my confident expectation that by your Lordship's interference it will be accomplished, and that proper

compensation will be made for the six years' labour (since 1847), to which they have been so unjustly subjected.

In any arrangements which may be entered into for the emancipation of these poor people, I would respectfully suggest that great care must be taken to guard against deception, so as that we get all the emancipados and their progeny away and out of slavery; for which purpose it would be indispensable that Her Majesty's functionaries be authorized to investigate the circumstances of each and every one, so that none of them be retained in bondage, which otherwise most assuredly would be the case.

I rejoice that it has been in my power to do something for these ill-used and abused emancipados, and I trust that the time is now not far distant when the humane efforts and protection of Her Majesty's Government will be crowned with success, towards which it will be my glory to have contributed in the execution of my duties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 525.

Consul-General Crawford to the Judges of the Mixed Commission Court.

Havana, April 13, 1853.

HAVING some time ago received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs instructions to obtain and transmit to Her Majesty's Government the most detailed and accurate information as to the condition and number of the survivors of the emancipados, who were declared free by the Mixed Commission established here under the Treaty of 1817, and who were delivered up to the authorities of Cuba to be employed as servants or free labourers; and Her Majesty's Government having transmitted to me, in a despatch dated the 1st of October last, the copy of a note which Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, had received from M. Bertran de Lis, Her Catholic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the effect that the Captain-General of Cuba had been instructed to communicate to the Mixed Court the information which is mentioned in Articles V and VI of Annex D to the Treaty of June 28, 1835; in the performance of my duty under the instructions referred to, I did myself the honour (on the 3rd November last) of communicating to his Excellency the Captain-General the despatch alluded to, and the disposition of Her Catholic Majesty's Government in observance of the stipulations of Articles V and VI of Annex D to the Treaty of 1835.

I also did myself the honour of addressing a similar official communication to the Mixed Court, with reference to that disposition of the Spanish Government, requesting that as soon as possible after the lists of these emancipados had been furnished, according to the stipulations of the Treaty, I should be favoured with copies, for the enabling me to comply with the instructions which have been repeatedly given with regard to that unfortunate class, for whose condition and entire liberation from slavery Her Majesty's Government has never ceased to express the most earnest solicitude.

I have therefore to request that the Court will be pleased to order copies of the lists of said emancipados, together with the fullest and most accurate information respecting their number and condition, and that of their families, to be delivered to me for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 526.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 11.)

(Extract.)

Havana, April 21, 1853.

I HAVE the pleasure of informing your Lordship that Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Buzzard" brought into this port, on the 17th instant, the Spanish brigantine "*Casualidad*," for adjudication, having detained said vessel at the western end of the old Bahama channel for being concerned in the Slave Trade, with about thirty large water-casks and some beams for a slave-deck, the places for receiving said beams being ready prepared and numbered.

This vessel I understand is the "*Cora*," subject of my despatch dated the 17th of May, last year, and her arrival with a cargo of slaves was duly denounced by me to the Captain-General, as being at Cayo Frances in the old Bahama channel, on the 2nd of June.

It appears that she then landed her Bozals with safety, but was afterwards seized by the Government officers, having her slaver fittings on board, and being confiscated, she was recently sold under a decree of the Marine Court of San Juan de los Remedios, from which port she was proceeding, cleared for Cardenas, but most probably to a place called "Los Perros," to fit out for the coast of Africa; and it is supposed that she belongs to the same parties who were concerned in her last expedition, viz., the Portuguese Botelho, José Joaquim Carrea, Robirosa, and Castro of Trinidad de Cuba.

I have been informed that there are many vessels fitting out for the coast of Africa; that the slave-traders never worked with greater activity; and that most of the stout negroes of the last importations have brought 600 dollars each, a price which offers great encouragement for new expeditions; they daily look for several slavers, especially the celebrated Captain Viñas, in the "*Lady Suffolk*," with a very large cargo.

No. 527.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Becroft, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, reporting that an American barque, named the "*Jasper*," had sailed with a cargo of slaves shipped between Cape St. Paul's and Popoe, on the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 528.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who states that the Captain-General of Cuba has authorized the District Governors of that island to enter any estates where there may be reason for suspecting that newly-imported negroes are concealed, and to deliver up such negroes to the Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 63.

† No. 416.

No. 529.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 26, 1853.

I MOST respectfully beg leave to refer to my despatch of the 7th instant and its inclosures.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of further correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island, who again wrote to me on the 22nd current, repeating the inquiries with regard to the negress Plassy Lawrence, belonging to Nevis, who escaped from the place where she was deposited in this city, and found protection on board Her Majesty's ship "Vestal" in the month of December last.

It appears that proceedings had been instituted by these authorities to discover the missing negress, and it is stated in this last official letter, that they had taken the declarations of Henry Lindon, page, and Bernard Pita, the porter or doorkeeper, two of my servants, as to the said negress having been at my house about the time of her disappearance.

This interference with my servants I was not at all aware of until after the receipt of this last letter from the Captain-General, and I think it proper to notice the circumstance to your Lordship as demonstrative of the total want of courtesy and consideration towards me, which is displayed by the practice of such inquisitorial proceedings.

I beg leave also to solicit your Lordship's attention to the proposal made by the Captain-General's assessor, that as it is most likely Plassy Lawrence has returned to Nevis, from whence she came, the necessary steps may be taken to ask that she may be sent back here, to await the supreme resolution of Her Majesty the Queen of Spain.

Under these circumstances, I thought it most advisable to state in my answer to his Excellency what I knew respecting the said Plassy Lawrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

 Inclosure I in No. 529.
The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 22, 1853.

WITH reference to your Honour's official letter of the 8th, in answer to mine of the 5th instant, relative to the negress Maria del Carmen (*a*) Plassy Lawrence, the First Alcalde of this capital has given me his opinion as follows:

"Most Excellent Sir,—The communication which the English Consul has addressed to your Excellency on the 8th instant, does not answer entirely to that which was addressed to him on the 5th, that he should state to this Superior Government what he knows and is before him as to the flight, residence in the house of said gentleman, and actual place of residence of the negress Maria del Carmen (*a*) Plassy Lawrence; and this no doubt is because that in the said communication of the 5th it was not explicitly stated to the Consul, that in the "sumaria" (proceedings) raised by this Government investigating said flight, it appears that Maria del Carmen was in the house of the Consul after her evasion from the depôt where she was placed. It arises therefrom, that this should be said to the Consul, with copy of this opinion and of the preceding one of the 31st ultimo, that he should be so good as to furnish the information asked of him, thereupon reporting to Her Majesty immediately, and without detriment to what has occurred, in the manner proposed in the before-mentioned previous opinion of the 31st, and thus your Excellency may proceed, unless availing of some more correct advice."

And having conformed to the said opinion, I insert to you the opinion of the 31st of March last past, which is referred to:

“Most Excellent Sir,—From the summary proceedings which have been instituted to inquire as to the origin and circumstances of the flight of the negress Maria del Carmen (*a*) Plassy Lawrence, who was placed in deposit at the Royal House of Beneficence in charge of the Sisters of Charity, it results that the negress disappeared since the first days of the month of December last, on one of which a gentleman had been speaking with the same negress, who said negress said was the English Consul, according to the declaration of Don Leonardo Galvez, the (driver or) mayoral of the depôt, of which he did not give opportune notice to the Reverend Mother Superior, who was absent at the Isle of Pines, of which circumstance no doubt that Maria del Carmen took advantage to leave the house. A few days thereafter she was seen at the Consul’s own house by the huckster Don Sebastian Delgado, who occasionally sold her articles of his line, and that she was so in effect at the house of his Honour. Don Henry Linden, page, and Don Bernardo Pita, the porter, who were serving the Consul in the month of December, give concurrent testimony.

“It arises out of this that a report be asked of the Consul himself that he may be pleased to state to this Supreme Government what he knows and appears relative to the flight, having been in his house, and actual residence of the negress Maria del Carmen (*a*) Placide, or Plassy Lawrence, or Lorenza.

“And it being most probable that she may have proceeded to Nevis, from whence she came, it will be necessary besides to address an opportune communication to Her Majesty’s Consul in said island, inserting the opinion of the 31st January of the year last past, and a certificate of the case having been referred to Her Majesty for her Sovereign resolution, with a view to carry out the most efficacious measures for the discovery of the negress referred to, and that if found the state of this affair may be represented to the local authority, asking that the negress may be sent back to this place until the Supreme resolution which is expected may have come down, acquainting your Excellency, and sending the proceedings gone into. As to all which an account shall immediately be given to Her Majesty, with a copy of all that has been done since the 1st of July last, when the principal and primitive proceedings were sent up.”

Which I transmit to your Honour for explanation upon the opinions expressed.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

MARIANO CARRILLO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 529.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 26, 1853.

TO your Excellency’s communication of the 5th, in acknowledging the receipt thereof on the 8th instant, I did myself the honour of referring your Excellency to Her Majesty’s Government, because the whole of the proceedings with regard to the important case of the English negress Plassy Lawrence had been reported by me to Her Majesty’s Secretary of State simultaneously with your Excellency’s reference of this affair for Her Catholic Majesty’s decision.

I have now the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency’s letter of the 22nd current, repeating the inquiries expressed in the former official communication respecting said Plassy Lawrence; and I have to state, that having sought the protection to which as a British subject she was entitled, on board one of Her Majesty’s ships, she has been restored to her family at Nevis.

I have further to state, in reply to your Excellency’s inquiry, that during the long period since the 7th March, 1851, when Plassy Lawrence was delivered at the Government Secretary’s Office, and placed in deposit by the superior disposition of his Excellency the Captain-General, she has been very often at this office, for the purpose of inquiring as to the pro-

gress of the investigation for her liberation from slavery, but that since the said date of March 1851, she has not resided in my house.

I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying this correspondence before Her Majesty's Government, and I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 530.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

(Extract.)

Havana, April 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th ultimo, transmitting for my information and for any observations which I may have to make thereon, copies of three despatches which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Representative at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a note, founded upon my despatch of the 25th of September last, which was addressed to the Spanish Government on the 7th of November last; and copies of two notes received in reply thereto, the first dated the 17th of November, 1852, from M. Bertran de Lis, and the second dated the 14th of February, from the Count of Alcoy.

With regard to the first of these notes, I have to observe that M. Bertran de Lis does not attempt to deny the complaint so justly made by Her Majesty's Government, founded upon my despatch of the 25th of September last year, which exposed the violation of the Treaty, by the disembarkation of 390 slaves at Punta Rio Zarza, on the southern coast of this island.

The whole argument of the Spanish Minister in that note, is reduced to an attempt at recrimination, founded upon the supposition that the British officers and authorities favour the contraband trade, which the Spaniards have found to be carried on from Gibraltar.

This, my Lord, is no new idea of M. Bertran de Lis; it has been discussed at length by General Cañedo and myself, several months ago, and I met his Excellency's observations by pointing out the uselessness of preventive measures to obstruct the irresistible avenues of commerce under the protective system of Spain with regard to her manufactures, since all the rest of the world had found by experience, that the consumers would seek for that which suited them at the cheapest rate, and if a cotton handkerchief cost 3 reals at Barcelona, and one, in every respect as good, could be got for half the money at no great distance, the Spanish Government ought not to think it extraordinary that smugglers went to Gibraltar, where the British manufacturers found it for their advantage to keep a stock of their merchandise which their Spanish neighbours go and purchase. I especially pressed upon General Cañedo's notice the fact, that our manufactures deposited at Gibraltar, found their way into Spain in spite of protection and their preventive laws, but that the smugglers were the Spaniards themselves, and that it was considered by most people who had given the subject a dispassionate consideration, that it was time for the Spanish Government to get rid of all the expense and vexation of the antiquated system of protection, and enter into Commercial Treaties with other nations. It is needless to state to your Lordship, that the result of this conversation was not by any means convincing to General Cañedo, but that he, like M. Bertran de Lis, continues of the opinion that Spain has much to complain of in our constituting and maintaining Gibraltar as a port of deposit.

But that the negroes mentioned in my despatch of September last, referred to by your Lordship, were landed at Rio Zarza there is no doubt whatever, notwithstanding the bold assertion to the contrary which is contained in Count Alcoy's note to Lord Howden of the 14th of February last.

Count Alcoy is, however, rather confused in his note, the copy of which is now before me; for both in his Excellency's and the previous note of M. Bertran de Lis, it is admitted that the Spanish Ministry had received

some information as to the violation of the Treaty which I complained of, and which took place about the 12th of September, at Rio Zarza. I am disposed to think that the denial of that infraction of the Treaty is not intended, but that the denial has reference to the other case which occurred at the same place, on the south side of the island, and was duly denounced by me on the 23rd of December last. Of this I now propose doing myself the honour to submit some observations to your Lordship.

My denouncement certainly alluded to 38 negroes (part of those brought in December to the Rio Zarza) who were to be sent from Trinidad by the steamer "*Isabel*," to Cienfuegos, and that steamer was to sail from Trinidad, three days after the date of my letter of the 23rd of December to the Captain-General. Now it was quite easy for his Excellency to send, as he did, a commission to Cienfuegos to await the arrival of the steamer "*Isabel*" from Trinidad.

I did not omit to write by the same opportunity, which was the ordinary mail by railway to Batabano, from thence, per steamer, and Mr. Fowler received my letter in time to watch the "*Isabel*."

The result as reported to me by the said Vice-Consul, of date the 26th of December, was as follows :

"The steamer '*Isabel*,' arrived this morning at about 11 o'clock, and it happened that I was upon the wharf when she came up, but did not notice any negroes on board. My son passed on board immediately afterwards to look for letters, and since the receipt of your letter, which I did not receive till this afternoon, I have made inquiry of him and caused the same to be made of certain of the passengers who came down in the boat, and am quite convinced that the negroes you refer to did not come down in her."

Mr. Vice-Consul Fowler, however, again writes to me on the 30th of December, and says:

"Referring to my letter of the 26th, I have now to inform you that I have continued my inquiries about the movements of the '*Isabel*,' and have understood from a waterman who served her on her last trip here, that there were 10 negroes concealed on board, who were taken out here and sent by a lighter to the estate Constancia. This I have no doubt is true, although the waterman referred to is a drinking man; there are rumours about, which more or less confirm his statement. It appears there were two commissioners here from Havana, waiting the arrival of the '*Isabel*,' who went on board but found nothing. It is currently reported about town that the trip before the last the '*Isabel*' brought down about 60 negroes, belonging to two individuals of this place, which have been disposed of; this I believe to be true."

In these letters of Mr. Vice-Consul Fowler, notwithstanding the active measures of his Excellency the Captain-General, we have the complete confirmation of all I stated in my denouncement of the audacious infraction last practised at Rio Zarza; since it is proved that not only negroes did come on the 26th of December from Trinidad to Cienfuegos, on board the coasting steamer "*Isabel*," but that, very recently before that date, 60 Bozals were brought to and disposed of at Cienfuegos, showing, as I stated, the connivance of the authorities.

And with regard to the inquiries set on foot by the Captain-General's orders at Trinidad, and the examination of parties there resulting in the denial of the fact that any disembarkation of Bozals had taken place as denounced by me, that such result should be alleged by the Spanish Government does not surprise me, since it is quite notorious that, in every instance, the consequence of appointing Commissioners, or of deputing a Judge of the Royal Audiencia, as has been done upon various occasions, has been, that no one is examined who is at all likely to know anything about the matter, or that those who do know, either will not come forward, or will not disclose what they know concerning occurrences of such a nature.

Your Lordship may be assured that the information upon which I act is such as that there is no room for doubt as to the fact itself; there may be occasionally some little difference in the details, but even with regard to them I am correct, and as to the numbers landed, I am always rather within than at the extreme figure.

There is one circumstance, however, which must be apparent to your Lordship; and it is this, that no Commission of Inquiry in cases of slave-trading has ever resulted in the conviction of the offenders! On the contrary, we know, by the experience of numerous instances, that whenever a Commission is had recourse to, there is something to be covered, and that the proceedings always terminate in such a way as to admit of arrangement by the slave-traders.

No doubt this was done at Trinidad, as it is currently said and believed was the case more recently at Matanzas and Cardenas, where a Commissioner was sent to investigate the circumstances of the infraction last month effected by Capó. The lamentable circumstances in all these quibbles and efforts to disguise the truth is, that so many Bozal negroes as are charged in our denouncements to the Captain-General are feloniously introduced and sold as slaves in this Island of Cuba.

I cannot suppose that Her Majesty's Government, under these circumstances, ought to receive from that of Spain, as an earnest of the loyal intentions of the Captain-General to put an end to Slave Trade, the insignificant destitutions of the "Capitanes Pedaneos" of a few districts where the Slave Trade has the most notoriously been connived at.

I have, within the last week, noticed that the "capitanias" of some of the places where the negroes were landed between Cardenas and Matanzas are vacant. In due time it is not improbable that the destitution of those will be shown up as an additional proof of the good faith of General Cañedo; but Her Majesty's Government may be certain that other captains will be found, and be appointed to those vacant districts, equally as subservient to the purposes of the Governors of Matanzas and Cardenas as those who have been displaced, and so the Slave Trade will be carried on.

Upon the occasion of the violation of the Treaty—subject of my despatch of the 24th ultimo—an officer of the rank of a Brigadier-General was dispatched by the Captain-General, who, with the Governor of Matanzas and the Lieutenant-Governor of Cardenas, was to investigate the circumstances of the disembarkation of 1,000 Bozal negroes from a vessel which made her appearance in the Bay of Cardenas, and without molestation, or the slightest hindrance of the authorities, safely landed the number indicated in my denouncement, nay more.

The negroes, after they were landed, had to be driven a very considerable distance to the estates of the parties interested, but they met with no hindrance from the constituted authorities. Although such is the demoralizing nature of this detestable Traffic, a good many of the slaves were carried off by parties of armed men, who forcibly took them away from the main body of the unfortunate victims when on the way from the place of landing to the estate of Murua. The vessel, after the disembarkation had been effected, was burnt at Cayo Piedras, and the fire was of course seen by the authorities from the coast in its neighbourhood.

The Commission was, however, unable to prove anything that was true. Don Antonio Capó and his brother (probably having had a timely hint) were not to be found. The master of the slaver and his brother, who had been on the voyage, were the two material witnesses.* The surgeon and all the crew of the slaver had also disappeared; but the Commission proceeded to arrest some four or five persons who, it is well known, were interested, and the owners of the expedition; they took some 290 or 300 of the Bozals from one or more of the estates to which they had been taken after the landing, against which latter proceeding there was immediately a tremendous hue and cry as to its being contrary to the IXth Article of the Titulo II of the Penal Law. Now, what has been the result of the Commission in this last instance? All we know of a certainty is, that all parties implicated who were arrested have been set at liberty; the 290 or 300 negroes captured, it is made to appear on the proceedings, constituted the whole number brought by the slaver in question; and up to this time, as far as I know, the said captured negroes have not been declared emancipados.

* Capó, the Master, his brother and the Surgeon, and some of the crew, would have been the principal evidences, indeed the only ones.

There are some curious stories in circulation with regard to the manner in which the slaves were obtained by M. Capó at the Mozambique; it is stated that they were principally stolen from some part of Caffraria, and some of those who were taken are undoubtedly Caffres.

Notwithstanding the much-vaunted active measures of General Cañedo which, at first, filled the slave-traders with consternation and alarm, their inert conclusion seems to have had the effect of reassuring them, and appears to have given an impulse to their exertions, so that several vessels are being fitted out in the United States to be dispatched for the coast of Africa, as your Lordship will perceive by the notice which I have the honour of transmitting herewith, the date corresponding to such renewed confidence on the part of the slave-traders; for although their expenses are naturally greater because of the difficulties they have to contend with, still as they reckon, with tolerable certainty, upon overcoming those difficulties, the increased value of the slaves leaves an ample margin for such persons to engage extensively in the detestable Traffic, and your Lordship may depend upon it that, so long as it is as profitable as it is at present, and connived at by the Spanish authorities in the way it is, nothing short of the strongest measures will ever put an end to it. A short calculation shows:

That 1000 negroes sold at 35 ounces,		
or \$595, produces	- - - -	\$595,000
Cost at 2 ounces, or \$34 each	- -	34,000
Ship, destroyed and provisions	- -	66,000
Gratifications of all kinds 9 ounces		
each, or \$153 -	- - - -	153,000
		253,000
Profit	- - -	342,000

It is said that there were about 200 more Bozals on board the slaver which lately came to Cardenas, who were killed in more than one attempt at insurrection on the voyage, and supposing this is true, and the cost of 68,000 dollars of said 200 human beings lost to the interested, would of course lessen the profits upon the whole to that extent. Still there would remain the enormous sum of 274,000 dollars of clear profit. I therefore see no prospect of the trade being abandoned, and your Lordship will perhaps look at the magnitude of the "gratifications" as a very cogent reason for its being carried on and connived at—a reason far stronger than that of the expediency of winking at the introduction of negroes from Africa in the political view of the question, as assumed by General Tacon, and advocated by the Spanish Government.

Inclosure in No. 530.

Extract from the New York "Daily Times" of April 22, 1853.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—We learn from a credible source that three Portuguese captains, and one Catalan merchant, arrived from Cuba by the "Cherokee" and "Black Warrior" steamers, and are now in this city, making arrangements for dispatching vessels to the coast of Africa to engage in the Slave Trade, between that coast and Cuba. They have already contracted for three clippers, to be built at Baltimore, and are making other preparations in this city.

It is known that there are now in this city several mercantile houses extensively engaged in the Slave Trade, and that half-a-dozen vessels have recently left this and other American ports for the African coast. These vessels clear for some Cuban port, where they never arrive; and being provided with false papers, and sailing under the American flag, they succeed in reaching the coast, obtaining cargoes of slaves, and landing them in Cuba, with the connivance and complicity of the Spanish authorities.

No. 531.

Consul General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 28, 1853.

ALTHOUGH I cannot positively vouch for the exactness of the information which is contained in the slips from a New York paper which I have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship, much of what is stated in these letters from Matanzas is certainly true and corresponds with what I have received from other sources upon which I can rely, and had acted upon previous to my seeing the newspaper alluded to—the “Daily Times.”

I also do myself the honour of transmitting herewith a notice upon the subject of the Slave Trade in Cuba, which I think may be interesting to your Lordship, and has reference to a work lately published in Paris by Don N. Tenasa, which, I understand, contains valuable statistics as to the importations of slaves from Africa in contravention of the existing Treaties. I regret to be obliged to state to your Lordship that the practice of the slave-traders of bringing males only has, for the last five years, been resumed, and that consequently there are very many estates here without any females in their dotation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 531.

*Extract from the New York “Daily Times” of April , 1853.**Matanzas, Sunday, April 10, 1853.*

THE Ministers and public prints of Great Britain exclaim against the repeated infractions of the Treaties with Spain, for the abolition of the abominable Traffic in African Slaves, which has cost England so many sacrifices. The intelligence of the age and popular civilization are equally indignant. Yet expeditions are constantly leaving the ports of Spain to procure cargoes of negroes, to be finally landed on the Cuban coast. Considerations of religion, national honour, the obligation of the most solemn pacts, and of pity for suffering humanity, are equally unavailing. Every year a large body of slaves is landed, in spite of the utmost vigilance of the British cruizers; and hardly a week goes by, without our hearing of some successful feat of the kind.

That which was accomplished on the 17th ultimo presents some circumstances especially worthy of note:

The vessel, commanded by Don Antonio Capo, appeared off the port of Cardenas, and demanded a pilot and the assistance of the authorities. Both were furnished; and, in consequence, 800 or 1,000 negroes, brought from the coast of Caffraria, were landed at the place called Las Guacimas without molestation. The ship was then run on shore on the west side of the Caya de Piedras, and there burned; and yet a fire so large, and in a place so unusual, failed entirely to attract the attention of the marine officials of the port. The crew of the vessel consisted of a brother of the captain, the surgeon, Don N. Giberga, and seventy sailors.

Information was at once dispatched to the proprietors in Matanzas, who at once hastened to the spot like so many prowling wolves.

The distribution was not made without jealousy and disputes. The claim of Don José Antonio Murua, who put in in right of his wife, Tomasa Gomez, was made to include, through the thoughtful charity of that lady, 16 or 20 of those that had been most seriously wounded; for during the voyage the negroes having risen several times against their captors, many of them were flung into the sea. some were stabbed, and some shot;

so that about 200 perished, while many who did not are cruelly mutilated.

The parties implicated in the offence are Bernabe Aguirre, José Baro, Manuel Aguabella, Fidel Zuasnarbar, and José Antonio Aramabe, with their associates, for whom Sta. Lucia de Zuasnarbar, and others, are securities.

The condition of the wretched, maltreated Africans, when brought through our streets, was enough to move the pity of any heart. No true man would envy the dollars earned by the transaction; the price of unheard-of cruelty and inhumanity.

The English Consul made a demand upon the Captain-General for the execution of the laws upon the criminals, supporting it with full details of the charge, including the names of the parties, their several shares, &c.

More than 200 of the Africans are here, including the maimed ones, assigned to Don José Antonio Murua, who are at the hospital.

The Brigadier Morales Rada was sent to this city by the Captain-General as a Commissioner to examine the case. He forthwith caused the several armadores, or owners of the ship, to be arrested. I send you some of their names: Dr. Aguabella; Antonio Murua, an attorney, who recently married the widow of Vega y Caceres, and so became a party interested; Aramabe, an ironfounder; N. Aguirre, a merchant; Bartolome Caranas, an apothecary; and Don Francisco Vinageras, brother of the Alcalde, and the only creole implicated. Each of these was interested to the extent of 12,000 dollars, and was held to bail, notwithstanding the law prohibits bail in criminal cases, to answer the charge. Don José Baro, another partner, succeeded in eluding the officers.

The examination brought out the atrocity of the affair in the strongest light. Capo directed his course to a Portuguese (negro) colony, on the coast of Caffraria, and, finding that they had no negroes to sell, he determined to fill his ship without being at the expense of a purchase. He therefore took every possible means to ingratiate himself with the inhabitants, and secure their confidence, awaiting an opportunity for a *coup de main*. When the time struck him as favourable, the whole population was bidden to a splendid feast on board ship, and plied with drugged rum until the great mass of them were completely stupified with their potations. Orders were then signalled to the crew to make all sail, and when the unfortunate wretches recovered their senses, they found themselves out of sight of shore, and those of their company who had been more moderate in their cups already secured in irons. Naturally enough they attempted, the first thing, to release themselves by rising on their kidnappers; but they possessed no weapons, while the crew was large, and armed at all points; so that, notwithstanding repeated efforts to liberate themselves, they were uniformly over-mastered. These encounters were murderous. Large numbers were thrown overboard, or cut to pieces with knife and sabre, so that the loss of life during the trip was at least 200 persons. Of those who survived, and whom the agents of Government have received since the landing, 100 are at this moment in our hospital undergoing surgical treatment for sabre-cuts, stabs, and other wounds of greater or less severity, received from the kidnapping ruffians who captured them. Many of the negroes are Portuguese, and all of them are intelligent, and above the ordinary level of native Africans.

The Government inquiry, as was to be anticipated, has ended in additional fraud and corruption. Neither Capo, his brother, Dr. Giberga, who acted as surgeon of his vessel, nor any of the crew, has been arrested. The investigation was confined to the partners, some of whose names I have given you, and after dragging along for some time, was suddenly hushed up. The defendants agreed to compromise for their crime, by delivering 300 of the negroes to the Government, each culprit contributing to the amount according to his interest in the venture, accompanied, as it was, with pecuniary considerations.

The bribe was irresistible. The bargain was at once closed. Pavia, Governor of Matanzas, Marcotegui, and Morales Rada, the three Commissioners, ratifying it on behalf of General Cañedo; and as the affair was

completed at the Coliseum, the bargain is called the "Treaty of the Coliseum" out of doors.

The parties to this infamous transaction walk the streets in insolent impunity, secure from all the consequences of their crime. And why? To use the language of a distinguished Government official, incautiously dropped soon after the arrest, the prosecution would not be allowed to go to any great length, because the parties inculpated were Spaniards—that is, not creoles.

And this is the result of the Consul's interference! It only made the Insular Government a larger participant in the profits of the iniquity than if the whole thing had been permitted to go unheeded. Some few of the negroes were released, and the rest allowed to pass into the mass of hopeless negro servitude.

Inclosure 2 in No. 531.

Extract from the New York "Daily News" of April , 1853.

CUBA may be regarded as representing the condition of things where the slave population is still kept up by importations. The Slave Trade between Cuba and Africa has been very slightly affected by the several Conventions for its extinction. It has only been rendered more hazardous. The negroes have been males; because males are better able to bear the terrors of the transit, prolonged and heightened as they were by the necessity of avoiding the English cruizers; and because the planters have preferred them, as field hands, to women, who were found, in other respects, expensive and troublesome. The prospect of the importations ceasing was too indefinite to excite apprehensions of the stock perishing from this short-sighted policy. It was only in 1834, when the remonstrances, threats, and redoubled vigilance of England gave the alarm, that the demand for females became active, and the dealers were induced to proportion their shipments more wisely. But there has been no sensible falling off in the number and bulk of the cargoes. The slave population, according to the census of the island, taken in 1819, amounted to 195,145. The return made no separate returns for the two sexes. The census of 1841 did so, however, showing the number of males to be 281,250; of females, 155,245; in all, 436,495. Now there is every reason to believe, that previous to 1834, the proportion of male to female slaves was as ten to one. It was notorious that whole plantations, employing 200 or 300 hands, had not one woman on them. The partiality to the males was general. There is no doubt that the gain of 241,350, which is noted between 1819 and 1841, is entirely the fruit of the African Trade. Nor is this all. With such disparity between the sexes, the increase could not begin to replace the annual mortality. Señor Tenaza, an intelligent Cuban, who has just published a tract on the subject at Paris, estimates the actual importations into the island at 431,925 in the twenty-one years ending in 1841, or about 20,000 per annum.

No. 532.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st ultimo; and gratifying it is to me, that your Lordship has done me the honour to consider the explanation given in my despatch of the 26th of February, in answer to Lord John Russell's confidential despatch of the 27th of January last, as quite satisfactory.

I shall certainly act in every respect towards General Cañedo, so as not to give occasion for quarrel, or for pretexts for the evasion of Treaty obligations.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 533.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 7, 1853.

I HAVE to express my regret so soon again to announce another violation of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade, which I denounced in a letter to his Excellency the Captain-General on the 4th, copy of which, and of the General's answer, dated the 6th instant, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship.

I have written for more exact and circumstantial information to Sagua la Grande and San Juan de los Remedios, than I have been able to obtain here, with regard to this infraction. The post is longer in its course to both these places than it is to others accessible by railway; and so it may be some days before I can receive the particulars.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 533.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, May 4, 1853.*

UNDERSTANDING that it is currently reported in this city, that a cargo of Bozal negroes, consisting of about 800, had very recently been landed on the coast of this island, somewhere between Sagua la Grande and San Juan de los Remedios, I hasten to make this communication to your Excellency, and at the same time to state that I have not as yet been able to obtain further particulars, except that it is said the authorities (as I have been told) of San Juan de los Remedios, as soon as they were informed of the disembarkation, used their utmost endeavours to capture the vessel, but that they did not succeed in doing so.

Your Excellency will no doubt give the necessary orders to inquire as to the facts of the transaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 533.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 6, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has directed me to say to your Honour, as I do, that he has received and has informed himself of the contents of the official letter which your Honour addressed to him, dated the 4th current, relative to your knowledge of a rumour that recently a disembarkation of negroes (Bozals), consisting of some 800, was effected at a place between Sagua la Grande and San Juan de los Remedios, the particulars of which, if you receive them opportunely, he will be obliged by your communicating.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DE BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 534.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 1, 1853.

I HAVE to acquaint you, that I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid a confidential despatch, stating that the Brazilian Minister at that Court has informed him that Antonio Augusto Botelho,

and Rodrigo José de Abreu, two very wealthy Brazilians, are supposed to have gone to Havana, in order to establish themselves there as slave-traders on a large scale.

I have to instruct you to inquire whether this information is correct, and to report to me any particulars which you may be able to ascertain with regard to these persons.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 535.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 30, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of April last, containing your explanation concerning certain reports respecting the state of Slave Trade in Cuba, which you made to Her Majesty's Government, and the accuracy of which was impugned by the Captain-General of Cuba; and I now transmit to you, for your confidential information, a copy of a note* founded upon your above-mentioned despatch, which I have transmitted to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, to be presented to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, from which you will perceive that Her Majesty's Government are quite satisfied that the reports alluded to, which you made to them, are essentially founded in fact.

No. 536.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 28, 1853.

IN obedience to the instruction conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch dated the 9th ultimo, the receipt of which I now have the honour to acknowledge, I addressed his Excellency the Captain-General of this date upon the subject of the negress Nancy's children.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of General Cañedo's last letter to me respecting this family, and also copy of my letter to his Excellency of this date just alluded to, in which I have pointed out the effect of the Act of Parliament (46 Geo. III, cap. 52) which operated Nancy's freedom at the moment of her being embarked at Jamaica, contrary to the provisions thereof, and have explained to the Captain-General that said Nancy having so become free, there cannot be any person who has a legal title of ownership to the (now deceased) mother, and consequently can have no right whatever, as regards her children, to retain them in slavery.

I must however candidly state my apprehensions upon this subject that no remonstrances on our part will be listened to, so as to produce the effect of liberating Nancy's children.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 536.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 8, 1853.

IN consequence of what I stated to your Honour on the 21st December last, in answer to your official letter of the 16th, relative to the claim which the Consul of England in Cuba made to his Excellency the General-Governor of that district of the negress Nancy and her children, as British

* Inclosure in No. 423.

subjects, the proceedings have been sent to me, and, in conformity with the opinion given to me by the Alcalde Mayor, Don Lorenzo del Busto, to whom it was referred, it is not possible for me to accede to your Honour's solicitude inasmuch as the said negress and her children are concerned.

Nor does the Legislative Act invoked by your Honour and the said Consul of Cuba reach the dominions of the Queen my august Sovereign, to whom I report the case for her superior resolution.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 536.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, May 28, 1853.

THE case of the negress Nancy and her family at St. Jago de Cuba, subject of the representation which I had the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 14th December last, and your Excellency's official answer of the 8th March last, having been under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government; I am instructed by the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, again to represent the case of the unfortunate Nancy (who is now deceased) and her family, and to state to your Excellency the interest taken in the matter by Her Majesty's Government ever since it was brought before the authorities of Her Catholic Majesty by Mr. Consul Forbes in 1849. And referring to your Excellency's letter of the 8th of March, wherein the Legislative Act under which Nancy became a British subject is assumed by the assessor of this Government as not reaching in its operation the dominions of Spain, I beg leave to observe, that it is not sought by Her Majesty's Government in any way to propose the operation of that British Act of Parliament in any foreign country; but its operation is undoubted, must be insisted upon within the limits of the British dominions, and said Nancy's freedom having been caused by the operation of the said Act of Parliament within the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty previous to her having been brought to Cuba, she was to all intents and purposes a free British subject, and as such, by no means whatever could she be legally sold or held as a slave in this island, or anywhere else.

This plain statement of the case it is hoped will satisfy your Excellency that there is no person whatever who can have any legal title of ownership in the mother (now deceased), and consequently can have no right as regards her children to retain them in slavery.

In obedience to the direction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, therefore, I again have the honour of stating the interest taken in this matter by Her Majesty's Government, and of expressing a hope that your Excellency will order the release of Nancy's children from the state of slavery in which they are improperly held in this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 537.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th ultimo, transmitting for any observations which I might have to make thereon a copy of a note which was addressed by the Count Alcoy, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, with reference to my despatch of the

1st December last, respecting the fitting out for Slave Trade in this island of the "*Lady Suffolk*."

The circumstances of this case are truly stated in my despatches; my information was obtained from the crew who brought the "*Lady Suffolk*" from New York to Mariel, went with her thence to Bahia Honda; assisted in taking in her armings, provisions, and slaver equipments, and who were put from on board said ship into the Spanish coasting steamer "*Sirena*," after said steamer had towed the slaver, or pirate, ten leagues from Bahia Honda to sea, and who were brought clandestinely into this port of Havana by the said "*Sirena*."

The Count Alcoy takes exception at the accusation of General Cañedo, that as long as it is not proved that the parties proceeded against were the principal parties of the crime prosecuted, &c.

It is well known that in such cases the real culprits keep, and are kept, out of danger; and so in the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*," M. Ysasi, the party taken up and proceeded against, is a clerk only and no principal in the transaction of the "*Lady Suffolk*."

The artillery, ammunition, and stores taken on board the "*Lady Suffolk*" at Bahia Honda, were all sent from this port of Havana. Now, is it reasonable to suppose that this could be done without the connivance of those authorities whose duty it surely was to have prevented it? I will venture to say that, for any other purpose than to fit out such an expedition by such powerful people, nothing of the kind would be allowed; indeed, I have not the slightest hesitation in asserting that it could not be done.

I have not seen the sumario or process, consequently it is quite impossible for me to say, or prove, whether any person against whom there were grounds of blame, has escaped the rigour of the law; nor can I know, for the same reason, whether there were any persons denounced who have not been proceeded against; but not all the sophistry of Count Alcoy's reasoning will, I am sure, for one moment serve to make anybody who knows how such proceedings are managed here, believe that any pains were taken to detect or punish those who were the principals in the affair of the "*Lady Suffolk*," nor those whose duty it was to have put a stop to so disgraceful a proceeding.

Your Lordship may, however, be assured that so long as the Slave Trade is permitted to be carried on with impunity by the Spanish authorities, our denunciations will always be qualified by the Spanish Government as offensive to the dignity of the Captain-General, and those authorities whose duty it ought to be to suppress instead of encourage the horrible Traffic.

Count Alcoy concludes by observing, that "recent examples must have convinced the British Government that the Captain-General of Cuba omits neither effort nor fatigue to accomplish the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves."

Whatever efforts and fatigue his Excellency General Cañedo may have made and undergone, I must observe to your Lordship, have been quite unavailing, for most certainly he has not been able to hinder one landing that I know of; he has not detected, or punished any of the parties who have so often and so successfully violated the existing Treaties; nor have his officers been successful in capturing the slaves after they had been landed, but in very few instances—some of these have been by his acting upon my denouncements; and if he has shown any determination to put an end to the Traffic, by punishing those under his command in the districts where landings of Bozal negroes have been effected, it has only been by the removal of some insignificant "capitanes de partidos," which have produced almost no good effects whatever, instead of striking terror into the whole host of the officials by the punishment of the chiefs of the departments, whose duty it was to have taken care that the laws were not broken by those under their immediate orders.

No. 538.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the inclosed copy of a letter which, in obedience to your Lordship's despatch dated the 10th ultimo, I have addressed to the Captain-General, expressing the regret felt by Her Majesty's Government at the decision which was taken by his Excellency in the cases of the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, Mamerta and her children, and that Her Majesty's Government trust that a more lenient and conciliatory course will be pursued, if in future it should be necessary for me to renew such applications upon good grounds.

I have not, however, been favoured by his Excellency with any acknowledgment of my said letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 538.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, May 25, 1853.

HAVING laid before Her Majesty's Government the correspondence which took place between your Excellency and myself in March last, relative to the Bahama free negress Mary Anne Bethel, and the emancipated woman Mamerta and her four children, showing that your Excellency refused to grant the application which I deemed it my duty to make on their behalf, requesting that they might be permitted to remain on this island, where they had been for so many years; I have been instructed by the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Secretary of State, to express to your Excellency the regret of Her Majesty's Government at the decision which was taken by your Excellency in these cases, and that Her Majesty's Government trust that a more lenient and conciliatory course will be pursued, if in future it should be necessary for me to renew such applications upon good grounds.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 539.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 28, 1853.

HAVING made inquiries at San Juan de los Remedios and Sagua la Grande, the result of which made me conclude that the rumour was unfounded which was in circulation here, and which gave rise to my letter of the 4th to the Captain-General, copy of which I did myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 7th instant, I lost no time in acquainting his Excellency of such conclusion, and I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of the correspondence which I have had with General Cañedo upon this subject, by which it appears that his inquiries had been productive of a like result to that which my communication to his Excellency of the 21st instant had anticipated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 539.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, May 21, 1853.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's of the 6th instant, in acknowledgment of a communication which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency, bringing under your notice a rumour which was prevalent in this city, relative to a landing of about 800 negroes, which it was said had been effected on the coast of this island between Sagua la Grande and San Juan de los Remedios; and your Excellency having expressed a wish to receive any further information which I might acquire upon the subject, I now beg leave to state that the result of the inquiries which I have made at Sagua and Los Remedios induces me to conclude that the rumour alluded to was false, and that no such landing took place on this occasion.

But I would request the favour of your Excellency to inform me whether any information of the said rumour has come to your Excellency's knowledge from other sources.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 539.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 23, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 21st instant; and in sight thereof orders me to say to your Honour in answer, as I now do, that he is informed of the manifestation your Honour makes, that the information was false which your Honour made known to him of date the 4th instant, relative to a rumour of a disembarkation of 800 Bozal negroes between Sagua and Remedios; and with that purpose he has also desired me to say to your Honour that, according to the steps which upon that subject were taken, it appears that the said news was unfounded.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DE BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 540.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 18th ultimo, inclosing copy of a despatch from Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, with copy of a note addressed to him by Count Alcoy, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to a note which Lord Howden was instructed by your Lordship to address to Count Alcoy, founded on my despatch of the 4th of January last.

In obedience to your Lordship's desire that I should address to your Lordship any observations which I may have to offer upon Count Alcoy's note, and particularly as to the number of negroes which I stated to have been landed in this island in the year 1852;

The list upon which Count Alcoy's observations are made, and which was laid before him by Lord Howden, enumerated twelve vessels which had landed their cargoes during the year 1852, and stated the number of slaves as having been 5,143, to which was added the usually-estimated "one-third" more for those probably landed, but respecting whom no information had been attainable by the British functionaries.

This has been the custom of Her Majesty's Commissioners in drawing up their reports, which, however, your Lordship will easily perceive, may

sometimes overrate the actual numbers of negroes which are introduced, and at other times may be a proportion less than the reality; and with regard to the importations of Bozal negroes into this island last year, I am disposed to think that the proportion of one-third for those with respect to whose introduction we had no certain information, would be excessive, but to what extent, it would be extremely difficult for me to hazard an opinion. That numbers of slaves are introduced of whom we never hear, there can be little doubt; and perhaps, could the truth be got at, the proportion of one-third, which Her Majesty's Commissioners adopted, may not, upon many occasions, have been equal to the numbers of Bozals imported, respecting whom no sort of information had reached them.

The Count Alcoy has taken the trouble to draw up, draftwise, the list of violations for 1852, and has made his observations upon many of them, but upon many others his Excellency has not favoured us with any remarks.

I shall take the cases as they occur upon the list, and submit to your Lordship my observations upon each. The first is the Brazilian polacca, of which cargo 96 were captured by the authorities at Trinidad, and afterwards those 96 were attempted to be accounted for by them as having all perished in the hospitals; but the firmness of the Captain-General Don José de la Concha brought them out safe and sound. The number of 500 for this lot was founded upon a very moderate estimate of the capacity of the vessel, which was found derelict in the waters of Santa Cruz, and brought into port. It is quite notorious at Trinidad that this vessel brought a full cargo of slaves, and that the 96 which were captured were the last which were being brought ashore from her in an open launch.

The landing at the Ensenada de los Cochinos was denounced upon information received from Brazil, but I have reason to think that those 500 were landed immediately to the westward of the Casilda, or port of Trinidad, and were received by Castro, the agent of the Brazilian Company.

The landing at Camarioca of 800, for which Brigadier Pavia, the Governor of Matanzas, was suspended, appears to be admitted by Count Alcoy.

The next cargo is that of 640 landed at Sierra Morena, and is referred to in my despatch of the 25th of February last year; and although it is stated by the Count Alcoy that nothing was made out by the investigation which was ordered by General Don José de la Concha, the fact of the disembarkation is undoubted.

The next cargo on the list is that of the brigantine "*Cora*" at Cayo Frances in the time of the present Captain-General. This vessel was denounced by me on the 2nd of June, upon the most undoubted information, and probably in time to have had her captured with the negroes on board, had a war-steamer been sent off at once from this arsenal, but it was not so ordered. The slaves, 350 in number, were safely landed; and afterwards the brigantine was taken, with her equipments on board, and was carried to San Juan de los Remedios, where she was at last sold under a decree of the Marine Court. She is now in this harbour, under the name of the "*Casualidad*," detained by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Buzzard*," for having on board certain articles prohibited in the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, on her voyage from Cayo Frances to Los Peritos (although said to be bound to Cardenas), to fit out upon another slaving expedition.

There are several cargoes upon the list, viz., 540, 400, and 600, which were landed at Ortigosa and Cabañas, or in that jurisdiction. As to none of these, has it been convenient for the Count Alcoy to hazard any observations. But my information came from a most undoubted source; it was from a poor man, who was afterwards found out and persecuted—poor Don Laureano Thomes; he was a schoolmaster in the district of Bahia Honda; some of his letters were intercepted; he was thrown into prison upon a false charge of some offence against the Government; and he presented himself at this office about three weeks ago in a state of utter destitution, after seven months' incarceration, begging the favour of my

assisting him to get to Mexico, where he said he had some relatives, as his prospects here had been ruined; and I paid his passage to Vera Cruz by the mail steamer which left this on the 24th instant (20 dollars), and gave him in money \$21:2 more to assist him to the city, being 41½ dollars out of my own resources, as I felt that his ruin by these people had been owing to his having furnished me the information upon which I acted as regarding these cargoes.

The 150 Bozals between Mariel and Cabañas were seen by my informant, and the circumstances are fully set forth in my despatch of the 20th of November last. I see that the Count Alcoy states that this landing did not take place, but that there was another, of 60 only, of whom 25 were captured. Now the truth is, that none of the 150 landed were captured, but that the 25 seized by the authorities were part of one of the cargoes denounced by me as having been landed at Ortigosa, the whole of which might have been captured if the officer who was sent from hence upon that service had not let the parties interested know that he was on his way from this place, and so gave time for the concealment of all the rest of the negroes.

No. 541.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 3, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship copy of correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General relative to a landing of 600 Bozal negroes, which has been effected about a week ago on the coast of this island in the old Bahama Channel district, as his Excellency informs me, of San Juan de los Remedios. I understand that a magistrate and other officials have been sent to investigate the circumstances, but I have not heard that there was any opposition made by the local authorities at the time of the disembarkation, so that this cargo has been safely introduced, and most probably the investigation will end in nothing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 541.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 1, 1853.

I HAVE received information upon which I think I can rely, that three or four days ago a vessel, which was afterwards burnt, landed 600 slaves on the coast to windward of Cardenas.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 541.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 3, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General has informed himself of your Honour's letter of yesterday's date, acquainting him that, according to information, a landing of 600 Bozals had been effected on the coast to windward of Cardenas, directing me to say to you in answer that he has dictated all the necessary measures upon that subject.

His Excellency believes that this landing has not taken place, according to his information, on the coast of Cardenas, but on that of San Juan de los Remedios, where he has already given anticipated and efficacious dispositions.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 542.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 4, 1853.

I HAVE again the disagreeable duty of reporting to your Lordship that a cargo of Bozal negroes has been landed on the south coast, to the north-west of the Isle of Pines, at a place called Bailen.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Captain-General upon this subject; and although I have not received an acknowledgment of the receipt of this denouncement, I can anticipate the result to your Lordship, as I have perhaps better information of the whole case than General Cañedo.

It appears that his Excellency, having heard of the disembarkation, despatched Don José Maria Espada, a colonel of his confidence, to the spot, with orders to investigate the circumstances, and I have the fullest information of the whole of the proceedings, which have ended in Colonel Espada's returning to this city with the "expediente" or proceedings closed, and showing that no such landing of Bozal negroes took place at all!

As this history is rather a curious one, and as it may serve as a pattern, so to speak, of a good many more, and show your Lordship how such matters are managed here, I shall trust to your Lordship's indulgence in extending this despatch to possibly an unusual length.

The negroes, 280 in number, were landed at Bailen from a ship, and the disembarkation was conducted under the direction of Don Manuel Calvo, the Agent Director of the new company of steamers which run from Batabano to Bailen, and that of Don Pio Dias, who conducted them to his farm called El Valle, in the district of Guane, distant three leagues from the landing-place. They were then divided into lots, 48 to Don José Hernandez Alvares, 20 to Don Francisco Sener and Don Andres Acosta, 20 to Don José Maria Hernandez, 20 to Don Carlos de la Oliva, 44 to Don Ventura Pequeño, a large lot to Don Pio Dias, and the rest in smaller parcels. They were immediately sold and disposed of.

The lot purchased by Don Ventura Paqueño having been sent in two parties of 30 and 14 each, were intercepted by the Capitan de Partido, Don Pedro Ustoa, who participated his intention of capturing them to the Lieutenant-Governor at Pinar de Rio, but received orders, and had to desist!

The Captain Commandant of San Juan y Martines, Don José Mateo, would also have captured them, but he was told that they (the whole of the negroes) were already incorporated at the farm El Valle, and in this instance the 9th Article of the second titulo of the Penal Law operated to prohibit that officer's interference.

The negroes were seen on the road by Don José Balbás, the Corporal of the Rondas, and why he did not act is not known.

The Lieutenant Acting Captain of Guane, Don José Perea, went to El Valle with a considerable escort: he suffered his authority to be insulted by Don Pio Dias. He has since found it convenient not only to abstain from complaining of this act, but he it is who has managed the whole "expediente"; he procured the witnesses who have sworn falsely, and the result to which I have alluded upon the whole affair.

With respect to the vessel in which these slaves were brought, it was intended that she should have gone to the Isle of Pines to purify, and thence proceed to Havana; but she grounded on a bank about a mile from the landing-place at Bailen, and they had to set her on fire. She burnt, however, so slowly, that she was nearly two days in consuming, and was seen on fire from all parts of the neighbouring coast . . .

. . . it is said, received a valuable consideration for his silence upon the occasion, and there is reason to suspect that complete arrangements have been made in that quarter for introducing two cargoes of about 500 slaves each, which are expected almost immediately to arrive under Brazilian colours.

It will depend upon the nature of the Captain-General's answer to my letter denouncing this violation of the Treaty, whether I may or may not deem it advisable to communicate to him the full information which I have had the honour of submitting to your Lordship in this despatch.

P.S.—I have received the Captain-General's answer of this date since I wrote the foregoing, and I have the honour of transmitting a translation herewith to your Lordship.

Inclosure 1 in No. 542.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 2, 1853.

THE 280 Bozal negroes recently landed on the south coast at Bailen, were, as I have been informed, taken to the hacienda called El Valle, which is situated about three leagues from the landing-place, and were divided into lots, and sold to various persons.

I have also learnt that those interested had information of the prompt measures which were dictated by your Excellency on this occasion; so that most probably your Excellency's good intentions will be frustrated, as the Bozals have all been hidden or sent away from the places to which they had been taken by those who brought them, or who were concerned in the adventure.

The ship from which this cargo was landed was set on fire where she lay, close to Bailen, and the burning of her hull, &c. (which lasted the greater part of two days) was seen from all the neighbourhood. And it did not fail to excite the astonishment of everybody that such transactions should take place under the eyes of the Sub-delegado de la Marinha, as well as that 280 Bozal negroes should be allowed to pass from the landing-place to the hacienda El Valle, without the interference of the Lieutenant-Governor.

I have also received information that two more vessels are almost immediately expected with Bozal negroes, which are to be landed anywhere that may be found most convenient between the Isla de Pinos and the coast of this island from Batabano to the westward.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 542.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 4, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the day before yesterday, and has desired me to say to you, that with regard to the circumstance of which you inform him that at the farm called El Valle, 280 Bozal negroes were taken, who had been landed on the south coast at Bailen, already several days ago that news had reached him, and his orders were already given for the investigation of the said infraction, which he has repeated most positively for the punishment of the guilty; having circulated also the most severe orders to all the subaltern authorities of this island for the persecution of that so reprobated Traffic.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 543.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 6, 1853.

NOT having been favoured with any acknowledgment or reply to the letter which, on the 13th of April, I addressed to the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, requesting to be furnished with copies of the lists of the emancipados which the Captain-General was directed by the Spanish Government to send in to that tribunal, in conformity to Articles V and VI of Annex D to the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, I deemed it my duty to remind the Court of the necessity of my being enabled, by having a copy of said lists, to comply with the instructions of Her Majesty's Government.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Marquis de Esteva and to Mr. Backhouse, the Judges of the Mixed Court, dated the 28th ultimo, and of the answer which I have received, dated the 2nd instant, by which your Lordship will perceive that, until now, the Captain-General has not sent the lists which are stipulated by the Treaty to be furnished to the Mixed Court, notwithstanding the assurance which was given to Her Majesty's Representative at Madrid by the Spanish Government, that General Cañedo had been directed to deliver the said lists of emancipados.

As M. Bertran de Lis' note to Mr. Otway is dated so long ago as the 9th of September last year, and I took care to notify the Captain-General thereof on the 3rd of November, your Lordship may be able to form an estimate of what dependence is to be placed upon the assurances of the Spanish Government upon anything that has reference to slavery or the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 543.
Consul-General Crawford to the Judges of the Mixed Commission Court.

Havana, May 28, 1853.

ON the 13th ultimo I did myself the honour of addressing you, requesting that the Court would be pleased to order copies of the lists of the emancipados which it is provided, by Articles V and VI of Annex D to the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, of the 28th of June, 1835, are to be furnished to the Mixed Court by his Excellency the Captain-General, which lists I had hoped would contain the most detailed and accurate information as to the numbers and condition of the survivors of the emancipados and their families, which I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Secretary of State to obtain and transmit to Her Majesty's Government.

Not having been honoured with any reply to that communication, I now beg leave to refer to its important contents, and to express a hope to be favoured with the information, which is required for Her Majesty's Government, as soon as it may conveniently be possible.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

 Inclosure 2 in No. 543.
The Judges of the Mixed Commission Court to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 2, 1853.

THIS Mixed Court of Justice not having yet received from his Excellency the Captain-General the lists of emancipados alluded to in your Honour's communication of the 4th of November last year, and the

two letters reminding the Court thereof, dated 13th April and 28th ultimo, and this Court not being informed by the Supreme Government of Her Catholic Majesty that orders had been given to his Excellency to furnish such lists, it is not possible to answer your Honour in any other way than to make this manifestation, although somewhat delayed, owing to the hope which, duly confiding in what your Honour had stated relative to these affairs, that from one day to another, these data would have been obtained from the superior Government.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS DE ESTEVA.
G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 544.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 2.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 9, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of Cuba, relative to the landing of the "*Lady Suffolk's*" cargo of negroes, consisting of nearly 1,200, which it was currently reported had been effected successfully between Mariel and Bahia Honda; but his Excellency informs me that on that part of the coast the only thing which has been discovered, until the 7th instant, is a brig-schooner, which, at the time of her capture, had been abandoned by her crew.

The "*Lady Suffolk*" is a large ship; consequently the abandoned vessel to which the Captain-General refers must be another. With regard to the negroes, which no doubt was landed from the "*Bergantin Soleta*," his Excellency is silent altogether; and your Lordship will no doubt observe, that the caution conveyed at the beginning of the Secretary's note is prohibitory of my asking questions, or of my making any observations whatever upon these most glaring and frequently-repeated violations of the Treaty, beyond the bare denouncement of the fact in my communications to General Cañedo; and as the Captains-General never themselves allude to any information which they may have received, I am left to discover, as I best can, all the other circumstances connected with the appearance of the derelict, "*Bergantin Soleta*," off the coast to the westward, between Mariel and Bahia Honda.

In the meantime the rumours are repeated; and I have no doubt of the fact of the "*Lady Suffolk's*" cargo of 1,250 (it is said) having been run at some place or other, but where, I have not yet been able to make out.

I have ascertained, however, the disembarkation, subject of my despatch of the 3rd instant, was effected at Cayo Frances, from a ship which arrived there under American colours, on the 24th ultimo; that the negroes were 684 in number; that they were taken out of the ship by two lighters sent by the Sub-delegado de la Marinha, Don Hipolito Escobal, which launches are called the "*Antonio*" and the "*Fina*." Said lighters or launches landed the negroes, and passed Cay Barien about half-past 7 on the morning of the 25th, and landed the slaves at a place called Péneo, near the estate Fina Guayabo. They were conveyed during the night of the 25th to the town of San Juan de los Remedios, and lodged in Calle San Salvador and Calle de Valma, from whence they were taken in lots to the estates in the interior, under the custody of armed men. A certain Don S. Alberni (qy. a person in office?) sent away the local officers from the place where the disembarkation was to take place, and kept them out of the way until that operation had been accomplished.

The ship was afterwards burnt, and my informant says that Don . . . who saw that at 11 o'clock at night they were taking the provisions and materials out of the ship previous to her being set on fire, and reported the circumstances to the Lieutenant-Governor, was reprehended by that authority.

CLASS B.

Such, my Lord, is the state of things in this island. His Excellency, as I reported in my former despatch respecting this violation, has sent a magistrate and other officials to investigate the circumstances, but I have no doubt whatever that the result will be similar to that of the recent case which occurred at Bailen, detailed in my despatch of the 4th instant, and really, if General Cañedo is sincere in his endeavours to suppress the Traffic, his good intentions, as your Lordship will see by the history which I have been enabled to lay before your Lordship, have been completely frustrated by the local authorities, and the want of tact (if it be no worse) of those who have been commissioned by his Excellency upon these investigations.

There is not one instance of the officers doing their duty, either by preventing the landing of slaves, or by their capturing them and those who are concerned in the transaction after they have been landed; so that there is no prevention whatever of slave-trading, nor ever has been, since whatever happens the negroes are always landed, and slavery is kept up by the supplies brought from Africa: for even if all which are brought in were to be seized by the Spanish authorities, their being declared to be emancipados would only be to place them in a worse condition than they would have been as slaves.

From all quarters of the island, there are rumours of the landing of Bozal negroes. The Brazilian Company is driving a brisk trade in connection with its agents on the south side of the island, and the Cays which lay off the coast of Cuba almost everywhere, are so dangerous to those who are unacquainted, whilst that circumstance is especially favourable to those who know the passages between and inside of them, that in my opinion, even if Cuba were beset by our cruisers, we should not be able to put down the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 544.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, June 5, 1853.

I REGRET exceedingly that it is my very disagreeable duty to notice to your Excellency the alarming frequency of the introductions of slaves at various places in the island, and that it is said and believed that between 1,100 and 1,200 Bozal negroes have very lately been landed on the coast to the westward of Mariel, or between that place and Bahia Honda, supposed to have been brought by the celebrated ship the "*Lady Suffolk*," commanded by Don Eugenio Viñas. And I request that your Excellency will do me the favour of letting me know, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the particulars of this violation of the law which may have come to your Excellency's knowledge.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 544.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 7, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 5th current, and orders me to say to you that, although in your Excellency there does not reside the authority, with regard to the introduction of Bozal negroes into this island, for anything

else than, according to your information, to denounce those who have been so introduced, or who are about to be so, and although every observation in such cases is altogether unnecessary towards his authority, whose zeal and vigour in the repression of this immoral Traffic is of public notoriety, he ought to acquaint you in answer to your said letter, that all his information to this date, is different from your Excellency's with regard to the rumours you allude to, of the recent introduction of 1,100 or 1,200 Bozal negroes on the coast, to the westward of Mariel, or between that port and Bahia Honda, brought as your Excellency indicated by the celebrated barque "*Lady Suffolk*," commanded by Don Eugenio Viñas.

That I am to repeat to you that his information, obtained from special agents of his entire confidence, and the proceedings, which he has before him, which were gone into respecting this disembarkation, gives him until now the assurance that it is false, at any rate upon that coast, where there has only been found a brig schooner, which at the time of her capture was found to be abandoned by her crew; and that if from the renewed inquiries which from this time are to be carried on, he is made to know anything to the contrary, his duties will be fulfilled as always; hoping that under these circumstances your Honour will let him know without delay, the proofs which you may receive which contribute to clear up this matter, in the supposition that his energy to oblige the fulfilment of the existing Treaties, is on a par with the lively interest he feels in that the inexactitude perhaps of the informations multiply cases, the exact knowledge of which he cannot have left in doubt, reporting consequently to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty your Honour's letter already mentioned and his answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 545.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1853.

WITH reference to the several representations which you have recently made to Her Majesty's Government, relative to the revival of the Slave Trade of Cuba, I herewith transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch and of its inclosures which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, and a copy of the answer which I have returned thereto.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 546.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for any observations which you may have to make thereupon, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter from General Lersundi, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who states that the information which you are in the habit of communicating to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting the landing of negroes in Cuba, frequently turns out to be incorrect.

I inclose also a copy of a despatch‡ which I have addressed to Mr. Otway upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 424 and 427.

† No. 425.

‡ No. 429.

No. 547.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 18, 1853.

I HAD hoped that there might have been a cessation of the outfits and preparations for carrying on the Slave Trade; but it seems as if the successful introduction of Bozal negroes, of which we have had so much reason to complain of late, had stimulated the slave-traders to renewed exertions.

I have, under these circumstances, to report to your Lordship, that Captain Dominguez, of the "*Cubano*" coasting-steamer, who was concerned in the disembarkation of Bozal negroes recently at Bailen, on the south coast of this island, has sailed from the Isle of Pines for the coast of Africa, to bring a cargo which is all ready to load there.

The schooner he went in, name unknown;

The schooner "*Pajaro Verde*" sailed from this port on the 14th instant;

The schooner "*Euphemia*," 145 tons, bought by a trader from this place, sailed from Key West for the coast of Cuba to take in her fittings;

And a Catalan, whose name is Don Juan Col, left this a few days ago for the United States, to buy and equip a vessel for the coast of Africa, to bring slaves to this island.

The cholera has been ravaging some of the estates in the centre of cultivation inland, and as there is a certain sale for as many new negroes as arrive, at prices varying from 460 to 600 dollars, added to the facility of introduction which has of late been experienced everywhere along the coasts of this island where the slavers have come to, there is the strongest inducement to embark capital in expeditions which yield such enormous profits.

There are Spanish cruizers all about the coasts and cays, so that it is almost impossible the slave-traders could all escape being seen by them; notwithstanding this, they all get in safely, and they know quite well that, wherever they please to land, the local authority will be found quite ready to accept the advantageous offers which the slavers are always prepared to make, and so the unfortunate negroes are most certainly landed, and the profits of the voyage are secured.

I think it necessary to observe to your Lordship that the peculiar formation of the Island of Cuba, surrounded as it is almost by reefs, cays, and shoals, which lay at considerable distances away from the mainland of the island,—between which reefs, cays, and shoals there are passages, safe enough, perhaps, for those who, like the slavers, are well acquainted with their intricacies, or have experienced pilots awaiting them, but which it would be the height of imprudence for our cruizers to attempt,—renders the prevention of slavery exceedingly difficult, however vigilant the officers may be who are employed on this service; and your Lordship will easily understand that service on such a coast, to be effective, must, in a great measure, be carried on in the boats of the squadron at great risk and exposure in such a climate. And then arises another question, which will certainly be raised by the Spanish authorities, as to our interference in their waters, or within their jurisdiction, since they are even disposed to dispute our right to board or detain any of their coasters—a right which, if they could be exempted from, would enable them to carry on the Slave Trade with complete impunity, for it is well known that there are numerous slavers, such as the "*Venus*" and the "*Carlotta*," both condemned here in the Mixed Court, which use the coasters' flag, whether it be to sail direct to the slave-coast, or to carry slaver-equipments to other vessels, as was done by the two coasting-schooners and the coasting-steamer "*Sirena*," which carried the water, armament, master, and crew to the "*Lady Suffolk*." Besides which, the coasting-schooners and steamers are employed constantly in assisting the slavers to land their cargoes all around the island.

But it is upon the responsibility of the Governor and Captain-General that the greatest stress should be laid, because we know by experience that, whenever his Excellency is determined that it should be so, not one cargo of slaves can be introduced into Cuba.

No. 548.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 20, 1853.

IN my despatch dated the 9th instant, I did myself the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a correspondence which I had had with the Captain-General of this island, respecting a cargo of Bozal negroes said to have been landed from the ship "*Lady Suffolk*," and it appeared by General Cañedo's answer to my communication upon that subject, that the information I had received was incorrect as to the place mentioned, for that the only circumstance which had occurred in that direction was the finding of a brigantine near Mariel, which had been abandoned by her crew.

I have since learnt that said brigantine had, previous to her being abandoned, effected the safe landing of her cargo of 300 Bozal negroes.

Additional information having reached me respecting the disembarkation at Bailen (subject of my despatch of the 4th instant), and finding that his Excellency's good intentions in that quarter had been frustrated by the combinations of the slavers and the Government officers at Pinar del Rio, I thought it proper to address a private note to General Cañedo, copy of which I have now the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship. The information which it contains, if acted upon by his Excellency, will certainly lead to the discovery of the whole facts of this case, and to the detection of the parties concerned, as well as the connivance of most of the Spanish officers of that district, from the Lieutenant-Governor down to the corporals of the rounds, and the Sub-delegate of the Marine on the sea coast.

I took occasion, at the same time, to communicate to the Captain-General some of the circumstances of the case at San Juan de los Remedios, which are mentioned in my despatch to your Lordship of the 9th instant.

As yet I have not been favoured with any acknowledgment or reply to that confidential letter, which I hope may have answered the purpose for which it was intended.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship copy of a letter which it was my disagreeable duty to address to the Captain-General on the 15th instant, in consequence of my having ascertained the disembarkation of 1,283 Bozal negroes from on board the "*Lady Suffolk*," at Ensenada de la Zapata, in the district of Cienfuegos, and also that of 640 in the same district from a vessel, name unknown, about the same time.

Mr. Fowler, the British Vice-Consul, is engaged in endeavouring to learn all the particulars of the last-mentioned case.

With regard to the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*," (or by whatever name that vessel is now known,) I am enabled to state to your Lordship that the commander, Don Eugenio Viñas, having received information, about the middle or a few days later last month, at Cayo Frances near San Juan de los Remedios, in the old Bahama channel, to the effect that Her Majesty's steamers "*Buzzard*" and "*Medea*" were cruising thereabouts, it was determined to change the course of the slaver and to proceed to the opposite side of the island; of this determination the owner, Don Julian Zulueta, had immediate information, and it is said that he proceeded to Cienfuegos, and made satisfactory arrangements there with the Lieutenant-Governor, which were fully carried out.

The "*Lady Suffolk*" came to La Zapata, and there, in the Ensenada de los Cochinos, safely landed her cargo. Of these, 650 were taken for

account of Don Julian Zulueta and Don Pedro Forçade, across the country to Managuises, where the former has the estate called the Alamo; 40 were stolen by the country people, who have them safe at their places about the point where they were landed; and the rest, about 570, were distributed between the Messrs. Abreus, the Cabrerias, and the Licenciado Don Gregorio Dias de Villegas, the Regidor of Cienfuegos, and taken to the estates called Santa Rosa, Dolores, or La Josefa, and to another new estate which is being made by the Regidor's son, in the district of Cumanayagua; the estates of the Abreus being between Cienfuegos and Santa Clara, which latter place is about midway between the north and south sides of the island.

There is no doubt a considerable anxiety manifested by General Cañedo to detect the guilty parties in these last violations of the law and of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade. If these manifestations have been sincere, it is lamentable to observe with what facility his Excellency's intentions have been frustrated, and his orders evaded or disobeyed, whilst the semblance of good faith and strict obedience have been kept up by those appointed to carry out his dispositions; but deceptions such as those which I have shown to be in practice, cannot long escape detection, and I shall be much pleased to see some examples made of those who have been engaged in such infamy—their punishment will be the surest proof of the Captain-General's honourable intentions.

Inclosure 1 in No. 548.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 14, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of placing within your Excellency's knowledge the following facts respecting the affair of the disembarkation of Bozals at Bailen on the south coast.

That the purchasers were Don Francisco Gener, Don José Maria Hernandez, and Don Andres Acosta, residing at San Juan, Don José Hernandez Alvarez of Pinar del Rio, Don Carlos de Oliva of Guane, Don Pio Dias, and his brothers Don Gregorio and Don Gil, the sons of Don Pio. Gonzales and Rafael, Don Fernando Gonzales, residing at Las Lucas, and Don Lorenzo Garcia at Llanada.

Being aware of the efforts and measures taken by your Excellency, and of what has been put in practice by the authors of this act with the intention of frustrating, if they can, your Excellency's dispositions, I hope that you will be pleased to permit the following information, if your Excellency judges it to be convenient. To call up to declare: the corporal of the rounds at Pinar de Rio, Don Manoel Quintana Alvarez, who fell in with a large party of Bozals who were being conducted by Don Juan Ventura Pegueno; Don Marcalo Cuartin, who wanted to purchase a lot of them at El Valle, and could not agree for them; Don Manoel Hidalgo, who knows where some of them whom he has seen are hidden away; Don José Veles and Don Benito Herrera, who drew a bill for 6,000 dollars in this business; the Capitanes Pedaneos of Pinar del Rio, Don Pedro Ustoa of San Juan, Don José Mateo, as well as him of Guane, Don Angel Palacios. Interrogate them and they will disclose to your Excellency the facts of all these acts. At the same time order the arrest of all the purchasers, and separately arrest Don José Perez Mendez, the Captain of Guane.

The prices these negroes obtained have been from thirty ounces up to thirty-five each.

As to the disembarkation which took place on the 24th or 25th of last month at San Juan de los Remedios, it consisted of 684, effected in the launches or lighters the "*Antonia*" and the "*Fina*," belonging to the Sub-delegate of the Marine, Don Hipolito Escobal; it was done near the

estate called the "Fina Guayabo," from whence the negroes were conveyed to the town during the night in cars to the streets San Salvador and Valma, from whence they were distributed to estates in the interior.

The local officers (pedaneos) at the place of the disembarkation were sent off and taken in another direction by Don S. Alberin, and Don José Maria Gil was reprehended by the authority for having reported that he had seen the provisions and materials removing from the slaver vessel before she was set on fire.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 548.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, June 15, 1853.

I HAVE delayed doing myself the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 7th instant, in the hope of my being able to state to your Excellency something certain as to the landing of the cargo of the "*Lady Suffolk*" slaver, which vessel was under the command of the notorious Don Eugenio Viñas, and I believe there is no doubt whatever that upwards of 1,200 Bozal negroes have been disembarked from said ship, the "*Lady Suffolk*," last month on the south side of the island between Cienfuegos and Batabanó, 300 of them I learn were sold in and about Villa Clara for about twenty-seven ounces* each. I have also learnt that these negroes, after their disembarkation, were conveyed from the south side to estates in the interior, and that a great number of them were taken to those near Managuises, and that many died on the road.

I have also information that previous to the landing of the cargo of the "*Lady Suffolk*" (or by whatever other name that ship may now be known), another vessel landed about 640 also on the south side of the island in the district of Cienfuegos; and I have also to acquaint your Excellency that Señor Dominguez, who was captain of the steamer "*Cubano*" (which steamer carried to the Isle of Pines 40 of the Bozals who were recently landed at Bailen), said Dominguez has sailed from the south coast in a schooner bound to the coast of Africa, for the purpose of bringing to this Island of Cuba a number of Bozals which were ready, but which could not be brought over by the ship which was burnt at Bailen after landing the cargo at that place.

All of which information I have the honour of submitting to your Excellency for such purpose as may be deemed expedient.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 549.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that 235 negroes, those who were captured, some of them from the estates where they were taken after they were landed from the Spanish brig "*Arabia*," subject of my despatches of the 24th and of the 29th of March last, have been declared emancipados by his Excellency the Captain-General.

It may, therefore, be inferred that the principle inculcated by Article IX, tit. 2, of the Spanish Penal Law may be departed from in cases like that of the slaver referred to, which was under the command of Capó;

* An ounce is about one guinea and a half.

but I have not heard of any proceedings being followed out against the parties who were arrested upon that occasion as being interested in that expedition, nor against the Governors of Matanzas or of Cardenas, for allowing so very scandalous an infraction of the Treaty to be committed in sight of the residence of the latter; the victims being taken to places in both districts in so public a manner as to make it almost impossible such an act could be unnoticed, unless there had been a criminal connivance of the local authorities.

I have also the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that the brig "*Imperatriz*," which I did myself the honour of reporting in my despatch of the 15th of May, 1852, had been seized at Los Falcones in consequence of my denouncement to Captain-General Don José de la Concha upwards of fifteen months ago, has been condemned and sold for 715 dollars at Sagua la Grande as having been engaged in the Slave Trade and ordered to be broken up. But as the "*Cora*," which was seized under similar circumstances, was condemned and sold, ought also to have been broken up, and was afterwards met with at sea by Her Majesty's steamer "*Buzzard*," with some of her original slaver fittings on board, under the name of the "*Casualidad*," and sent in for adjudication of the Mixed Court at this place, so it would not surprise me to hear that the brig "*Imperatriz*," under some other name, had made another successful voyage to the coast of Africa: therefore, I have thought it necessary to request my agent at Sagua to watch the "*Imperatriz*," and report to me if it is attempted to fit her out, or to send her to sea.

I have also to report to your Lordship that the notorious slaver Don Julian Zulueta was arrested last night at 11 o'clock, and is now confined in the Fort Cabañas, opposite the city. As Zulueta's arrest is supposed to be owing to his being connected with the Slave Trade, and especially as being the principal owner of the "*Lady Suffolk*," the whole gang of the slave-traders have been thrown into the greatest state of alarm and consternation.

I must presume that his Excellency the Captain-General did not imprison a man of M. Zulueta's wealth and consequence in this community, without good and sufficient grounds, and if the prosecution against him is followed out in such a manner as to leave no room for any suspicion of arrangement to defeat the ends of justice, General Cañedo will have given the strongest possible proof that there is a determination to cause the obligations of Spain under the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade to be faithfully observed in future.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 550.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 10th ultimo, and inclosures, relative to the Spanish brig "*Paquete Canario*," which was at Monte Video on the 7th of March last, then about to sail with a lawful cargo for England, and intended, after having landed her said cargo, to be dispatched for Cuba in ballast, from whence she was to be employed as a slaver.

I have, in consequence of your Lordship's despatch, addressed a communication to his Excellency the Captain-General, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith; and I have no doubt that the proper orders will be issued to watch the "*Paquete Canario*," and frustrate the intention of her owner, Don José Maria Sumar, should he persist in sending her to the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 550.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 23, 1853.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Excellency that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, transmitting the copy of a despatch which was addressed to his Lordship on the 16th of March last by the British Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, stating that the Spanish brig "*Paquete Canario*," which was then, on the 7th of March last, at Monte Video, and about to sail from thence for England, was intended, after having discharged her legal cargo there, to be dispatched to this Island of Cuba for the purpose of taking in fittings and equipments, and then proceed to the coast of Africa on a slave-trading voyage.

As a period about sufficient for the "*Paquete Canario*" to have made the voyage from Monte Video to England, and from thence to this island, has elapsed, the said vessel may soon be expected to arrive at some port or place in this island to fit out on her slaving expedition.

I consider it my duty to address this communication to your Excellency, and would respectfully suggest that such orders as may be deemed expedient should be issued to detect and capture the "*Paquete Canario*," should it be attempted to equip her for the Slave Trade anywhere within your Excellency's jurisdiction in this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 551.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 24, 1853.

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th ultimo, and its inclosure, which I have the honour to acknowledge, I addressed a communication to his Excellency the Captain-General, a copy of which I have now the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship.

The American barque "*Jasper*," the subject of Mr. Consul Beecroft's despatch, left this port once before her last voyage, and proceeded to the coast of Africa, under the command of the master, Samuel Young, named in that despatch.

Upon that occasion she had on board three British seamen, and some others, Americans.

Upon her arrival she did not find the slave-traders, her real owners, to whom she was to be transferred by Captain Young, at Sierra Leone, and she proceeded to almost every trading place on the coast.

It was, I think, at Little Popoe that the Spanish owners were taken on board. Twice the planks for a slave-deck were taken in, but the Englishmen and Americans would not allow any slaves to be embarked, so that the cargo, which was intended to pay for the negroes, was ultimately bartered for palm oil, and with part of a cargo thereof the "*Jasper*" returned to this port on the 10th of December, 1851, after an absence of eleven months.

The Spanish owners came over in her from Africa, and every effort was made by them to take her over from Captain Young; but difficulties were raised which could not be overcome, and so the "*Jasper*" sailed for New York on the 20th of August last.

There was great doubt whether she was really bound to the port of New York for which she cleared, as I had information that she was to be transferred to the Spaniards at Key West.

CLASS B.

The "*Jasper*," however, encountered a heavy gale of wind. She was so much damaged that she had to put into Key West; and, owing to the said damages, she had also to go on to New York, where, upon her arrival, she was subjected to a process, in consequence of the declarations of the American seamen who had been on board her the previous voyage to the coast of Africa, but from which process it seems she had got clear, no doubt for want of proof that she had been engaged in the Slave Trade, and, as was to be expected, she proceeded again to the coast.

As the vessel, the name of which I have not been able to ascertain, that recently landed 680 Bozals at San Juan de los Remedios, was a ship or barque of about the size of the "*Jasper*," capable of stowing the above-mentioned number of slaves (the "*Jasper*" being 306 tons per register), I have an idea that she it was which was burnt at Cayo Frances after the landing was effected, and I have communicated my suspicion to the Captain-General, considering that it might aid in the investigation of the circumstances which, by his Excellency's order, is now going on at San Juan de los Remedios, to discover and punish the parties who were engaged in that violation of the Law and of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 551.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 23, 1853.

HER Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, has transmitted to me the copy of a despatch which he had received from Her Majesty's Consul, dated Fernando Po, the 6th of April last, giving information that an American barque the "*Jasper*" had succeeded in getting clear with a cargo of slaves shipped at some place between Cape San Paulo and Popoe.

The vessel alluded to sailed from this port for New York, and from thence must have gone to the coast of Africa, where she had been on a former occasion, when she sailed from this port of Havana;* but upon this occasion the English and American sailors who were on board of her would not allow the captain to take any slaves on board, and she returned here with part of a cargo of palm-oil, and brought as passengers her real owners, although the vessel was under the American flag.

The English sailors upon their arrival at that time made their declarations at this office as to their having successfully opposed the taking on board of slaves, and the Consul of the United States here would not permit the transfer of the "*Jasper*" to the Spanish owners who, as I before have stated, came from the coast of Africa as passengers to this port. And the Consul of the United States considered the case of the "*Jasper*" so suspicious altogether that she did not obtain her clearance for New York until the 20th of August last.

It would appear, however, that notwithstanding all these precautions this vessel has made a slaving voyage to the coast of Africa, and I have some reason to think that she brought her cargo to this island, always under American colours.

Knowing the efficacious measures which have been adopted by your Excellency to discover the authors of the violation of the law and of the Treaty which took place at San Juan de los Remedios on the 24th and 25th of May last, I hope that your Excellency will agree with me in opinion that, probably, that expedition was the "*Jasper's*," the more so, as a vessel of her measurement, 306 tons, would bring over about the

* The barque "*Jasper*," from Minhachica, Africa, to the consignment of Don L. Garcia, arrived at Havana on the 10th December, 1851.

same number of slaves as, it is said, were landed at San Juan. I therefore hasten to lay this information before your Excellency, as it may facilitate the investigations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 552.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 25, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th ultimo, transmitting for my information copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the Captain-General of Cuba had authorized the District-Governors of this island to enter any estates where there may be reason for suspecting that newly imported negroes are concealed, and to deliver up such negroes to the Captain-General.

I have carefully perused and considered General Lersundi's note to Lord Howden, and I have the greatest satisfaction in stating to your Lordship that there is, within the last month or so, a manifest difference in the measures adopted by the Government of this island to check the alarming extent of the Slave Trade.

I have repeatedly adverted to the effect which was produced by that Article in the Penal Law which was calculated to foment the detestable Traffic, by the prohibition which it expresses to the authorities following Bozal negroes upon the estates in this island, and which operated to make the slave-trader believe, that if he could only get the slaves upon any estate, after they were landed, his purpose was accomplished, and his profits secure.

That this ought never to have been the interpretation of the law, every person, not a slave-trader or a slave-dealer, will easily admit; but that the wording of the clause is truly a protection to the extent which the slavers thought it can hardly be denied, and so it is hinted at by the Spanish Secretary of State in the note now before me, where he says to Lord Howden—"Your Excellency cannot fail to know that this proceeding might be qualified as but little in conformity to the established laws."

I therefore quite agree with General Lersundi, that General Cañedo's determination to give to the law the proper interpretation which he has now done, and which it appears has met with the approbation of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, is indeed a proof of his Excellency's loyal intentions to suppress the Traffic in Slaves; and I venture to suggest to your Lordship, that the Spanish Government would render this measure complete and thoroughly effective were they to follow it up by the registration of slaves all over the island, so that whenever it becomes necessary for the Governors of Districts, under the Captain-General's orders, to follow Bozal negroes on to any of the estates, the owners of such estates might have the protection of their register for the *bonâ fide* slaves belonging to the property, by which means also all disputes would be avoided and put an end to, as it would only be necessary to muster the hands according to the registry.

I have seen, with the deepest regret, the observations in which his Excellency General Lersundi has thought proper to indulge as expressive of "General Cañedo's apprehensions and regrets that, notwithstanding all his efforts, Her Majesty's Government never can appreciate the sincerity of his conduct, owing to the mistaken reports which in every case they will receive from Mr. Crawford, who, because of his personal opinions, finds nothing acceptable in whatever is done by the Spanish authorities of the Antilles, and that, there is reason to believe, he will represent their acts in the most unfavourable colour possible."

I beg to assure your Lordship that I have no opinions, or feelings,

towards General Cañedo, but those in which I can with propriety indulge I have never misrepresented his Excellency's conduct, nor that of the Spanish officers of the Antilles; and that I am quite ready and anxious for any opportunity I may have of reporting to Her Majesty's Government their efforts to suppress the Slave Trade.

I must, however, be allowed to state to your Lordship, in my own defence, upon such grave charges as those which have been imagined against me, and given utterance to, in the official note of the Spanish Minister, that I have never, until just at present, been satisfied that the obligations of Spain, under the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, have been observed as they ought to have been, or that the Penal Law of Spain has been enforced to punish those who engaged in the detestable Traffic; but that, on the contrary, there were too many cases where slaves were introduced openly, and with impunity, by parties who could easily have been detected and punished, had the Spanish authorities pleased to do so. In short, my Lord, without feeling of any kind, excepting that of disgust and despair at the continuance, and ultimately, at the increase of the Slave Trade, I have but done my duty in reporting to Her Majesty's Government the numerous cases which have occurred during the eleven years I have had the honour to be Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, being all that time under the firm belief that it depends upon the Captain-General, supported in that determination by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, to put an end to the Traffic. I rejoice to see that there is now an undoubted disposition to carry out the surest means of doing so, which, as I have said in another part of this despatch, would be perfected by the registration of the slaves throughout the island, and a perseverance in the measures recently adopted by General Cañedo for seizing all the Bozal negroes imported wherever they may be found.

I am happy to acquaint your Lordship that his Excellency is following out his measures, and that some hundreds of Bozals have been brought in to the depôt within the last few days, besides which, the arrest and imprisonment of some persons of note, wealth, and estate, supposed to be charged with carrying on the Slave Trade, are proofs that General Cañedo is in earnest, and that he will be supported by the Government of Spain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. J. CRAWFORD.

No. 553.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 27, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the inclosed copy of a letter which I considered it my duty to address to the Captain-General of this island, in consequence of your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, the receipt of which I beg leave to acknowledge.

The inquiries which I have made so far have not been productive of any information relative to the parties alluded to in the despatch to which I have the honour of replying; but whenever M. Botelho or M. Abreu arrives, it is probable that I shall hear of them, and I am in hopes that General Cañedo may be induced to have them looked after, so that their engaging in the Slave Trade may be at once detected.

Don Antonio Augusto Botelho had been here for some time previous to the denouncement of the slaver brigantine "*Cora*," subject of the letters which on the 18th of April and 2nd of June last year I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General. Soon after that date I learnt that Botelho had sailed for the coast of Africa, *viâ* the Cape Verde Islands.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship copies of my letters to General Cañedo, referred to in the foregoing paragraph, which I now find were omitted to be transmitted at the time, and I have to explain that the

"*Cora*," having landed her cargo of slaves, was afterwards seized, and was ultimately sold under a decree of the Marine Court at San Juan de los Remedios, but as she was not broken up, she put to sea under the new name of the "*Casualidad*," was fallen in with and detained by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Buzzard*," and sent into this port for adjudication by the Mixed Court in April last, some of her original slave fittings and water casks in considerable numbers having been found on board her at the time she was boarded by Commander Dobbie.

M. Botelho consequently has his business pretty well arranged, and no doubt will be in full operation soon after his arrival upon this occasion.

M. Abreu is no doubt the same who was expected in this island last year, but I could not ascertain that either he or Don José Gonzalves Marveira, mentioned in my despatch of the 19th of May last year, had ever arrived.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 553.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 1st instant, informing me that Don Antonio Augusto Botelho and Don Rodrigo José Abreu, two wealthy Brazilians, had gone from Brazil in order to establish themselves at this place (or probably elsewhere in this island) as slave-traders on a very large scale.

Don Antonio Augusto Botelho, one of the parties alluded to in the Earl of Clarendon's despatch, has already been in this island, and is the same who is mentioned in a communication which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 2nd of June last year; and I also adverted to that person's acts and connections in my previous communications of the 18th and 20th April, 1852, when he was acting for a Brazilian Company of slave-traders who had establishments at Trinidad, at Los Perros, on the north side, and in this city.

The same Botelho received a cargo of Bozal negroes in June 1852 by the brigantine "*Cora*," after which he left the island; and it now appears that he went to Brazil, whither, having made arrangements to carry on the Slave Trade on a large scale, he is now returning, accompanied with Don Rodrigo José Abreu, which information I hasten to communicate to your Excellency for such purposes as may be deemed expedient, in the fullest confidence that your Excellency will adopt the most efficacious measures for preventing the said Botelho and Abreu from carrying on the Slave Trade within your Excellency's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 553.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 18, 1852.

I BEG leave to lay before your Excellency the copy of a letter which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Brazil, dated the 10th of January last, stating that several vessels had been sent from a port in this island in the month of October last, for the purpose of procuring slaves in Benguella, and that four vessels had completed successful voyages from the coast of Africa, having landed 2,100 slaves in this island; adding, that the speculator in these cargoes is a Portuguese named Antonio Augusto Botelho, who was driven out of Brazil for being engaged

in the Slave Trade, and that the said Botelho's agent, who received the slaves, is a Spanish resident at Havana, called Don Pedro Riberosa.

Her Majesty's Government having received information that the Brazilian slave-traders, in consequence of the active measures adopted and carried out with vigour and good faith by that Government, could not continue the Traffic to their own country, had resolved to carry it on with this island, I addressed a communication to that effect on the 31st of October last to your Excellency's predecessor, and the authorities on the south side of the island, acting upon the stringent orders of his Excellency, captured in the middle of the said month of October last, a Brazilian polacca, which no doubt had previously landed slaves on the coast near Santa Cruz, where she was fallen in with.

But it appears that the vigilance of the officers had not been effectual to prevent the introduction of the large number of Bozal negroes mentioned in Mr. Southern's letter to Viscount Palmerston, which the Portuguese Botelho sent to his agent Don Ramon Riberosa, residing in this city.

Experience has shown that the greatest cunning is practised by the slave-traders to evade detection, and that no expense is spared to effect this introduction of the miserable objects of their avarice here and at Porto Rico, for which purpose they have been known to make the most degrading propositions to the officers of Her Most Catholic Majesty, in the hope of being allowed to land their cargoes from the slave coast of Africa and the Brazils.

I would most respectfully represent to your Excellency, that the fulfilment of the purpose of the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade devolve upon your Excellency. It depends entirely upon your Excellency to hinder the introduction of slaves into this island, and I beg to express my entire confidence and hope that the most energetic measures will be adopted for that purpose.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 554.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 28, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th ultimo, and I have to inform you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to express to the Spanish Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received your statement that since the beginning of June there had been a manifest difference in the character of the measures adopted by the Government of Cuba in order to check the excessive increase of the Slave Trade.

And with reference to your reply to the observations made upon your conduct and opinions by General Lersundi in his letter to Lord Howden of the 7th of May last, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government are quite satisfied with the manner in which your onerous and painful duties have been performed.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 555.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 20th and 24th June, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the letters which you addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the disembarkation of the four cargoes referred to in those despatches.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 556.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 2, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith translation of the answer which the Captain-General has at last thought proper to give to my letter of the 28th of May last, copy of which I did myself the honour of laying before your Lordship in mine of the same date, which letter I addressed to his Excellency in consequence of your Lordship's despatch dated the 9th of April, relative to the Jamaica negress Nancy's children at Santiago de Cuba.

Your Lordship will perceive that General Cañedo now refers Her Majesty's Government to that of Madrid, where, he says, it has been reported; and it will not escape the notice of your Lordship that all the time which will be necessary for the negotiation of this affair must be passed, by the unfortunate objects of the solicitude of Her Majesty's Government, in the state of slavery to which they are unjustly subjected in this island, which prolonged state of suffering would have been spared them had the Spanish authorities been pleased to come to a humane decision, without appealing to the Supreme Government.

Your Lordship's instructions upon this pressing subject will, no doubt, obtain the freedom of the deceased woman's family.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 556.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 28, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official note of the 28th of May last, respecting the deceased negress Nancy and her children; and he desires me say, in answer, that this affair depends upon the resolution (decision) of Her Majesty's Government, to whom he has reported it, and to whom that of Her Britannic Majesty should apply, through the medium of their Representative in Madrid.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 557.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 2, 1853.

I HASTEN to lay before your Lordship the inclosed translation of a letter from the Captain-General, in answer to the communication which, in obedience to the instruction which I had the honour of receiving in your Lordship's despatch of the 10th of April, I addressed to General Cañedo on the 25th of May last, "expressive of the regret felt by Her Majesty's Government at the decision which was taken by his Excellency in the cases of the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, Mamerta, and her children," a copy of which communication I had the honour of submitting to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 28th of May.

Inclosure in No. 557.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 28, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has informed himself of your Honour's official letter dated the 25th of May last, transmitting him the instructions which your Honour received from your Government, in consequence of the negress Mary Anne Bethel, and Mamerta the emancipada, having been sent away from this island. His Excellency, in consequence, orders me to say to you, that the Government of Her Majesty, his august Sovereign, being the medium for affairs of this nature, he will much regret to see himself under the disagreeable necessity of returning the originals of your official letters, if your Honour persists in addressing yourself to his authority with similar analogous writings.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 558.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 2, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a translation of the answer I have received from the Captain-General to the letter which I addressed to his Excellency on the 23rd ultimo, relative to the Spanish brig "*Paquete Canario*," subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 10th of May last.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 558.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General-Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 28, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's letter of the 23rd current, informing him that the "*Paquete Canario*" may very soon arrive at some port or place of this island from Monte Video and England, for the purpose of fitting out for the coast of Africa, in search of negroes. His Excellency, in view thereof, desires me to say to your Honour that he will avail of said information for what may correspond in consequence.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 559.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 2, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship General Cañedo's letter (in translation) dated the 28th ultimo, in acknowledgment of a communication which I addressed to his Excellency on the 23rd, relative to the American barque "*Jasper*," subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May last.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 559.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 28, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's letter of the 23rd current, and orders me to answer that he is duly informed of the information given with reference to the American barque "*Jasper*," which your Honour infers may have been the vessel which landed Bozals at San Juan de los Remedios.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 560.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a translation of a letter from the Captain-General of Cuba, in acknowledgment of a communication which I addressed to his Excellency, respecting the Brazilian slave-traders Don Antonio Augusto Botelho and Don Rodrigo José Abreu, subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 1st ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 560.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 27, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 23rd instant, acquainting him that the Portuguese Don Antonio Augusto Botelho and Don Rodrigo José Abreu, Brazilian merchants, had left their country with the idea of establishing themselves in this capital, or some other place in the island, as dealers in negroes upon a great scale. His Excellency in consequence directs me to say to you in answer that he has made note of and will avail himself opportunely of said information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 561.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 4, 1853.

IT is again my disagreeable duty to inform your Lordship that another cargo of slaves has been landed at the Isle of Pines, consisting of 600.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Captain-General, dated the 30th ultimo, denouncing this violation of the Treaty, and of his Excellency's answer of the 1st instant, the discourteous nature of which I certainly do not consider has been provoked by the language or other circumstances of my letter.

CLASS B.

I hope that your Lordship will permit me to represent that my position is exceedingly disagreeable, and to express the hope that in carrying out the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, I may be upheld and supported by your Lordship.

British interference, and that only, keeps the Slave Trade within the bounds even of its present extensive scale of operation. My duties, consequently, are unceasing for its suppression; and during the period (since April 1842) that I have had the honour of holding this appointment, I have experienced nothing but reluctance on the part of those who have filled the office of Captain-General, for although one or two of them may have taken measures to check the importations of Bozal negroes, the opinions of every one of them have been, that Spain ought never to have entered into the engagements she did with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade; moreover, the policy of Captain-General Tacon, who assumed that the importation of slaves was necessary as a means for binding the inhabitants to the Government, has been adopted by the Government of the mother-country, and has been acted upon more or less by all his successors in the Government of Cuba, so that, like the present Captain-General, they have all come out impressed with the necessity of keeping up, at least, the number of slaves on the island.

They, therefore, have found our interference for the observance of the existing Treaties most irksome, and they have assumed in their official intercourse with me, Her Majesty's Government's acknowledged agent for the observance of those Treaties, a tone and style in their official correspondence, which, although often complained of, they still continue, and which but ill accords with the laxity of their practice in the fulfilment of their solemn engagements.

I have found that they constantly have limited my interference to the simple denouncement of the fact. They have never furnished me, for Her Majesty's Government, with any information whatever, such as we had a right to expect in every instance; and whenever I have pressed beyond the mere denouncement of the violations as they occurred, I have been met with the most discourteous refusals, and have been told that I am not authorized to address any observations whatever to their Excellencies relative to the constantly-repeated infractions of the (ill-observed) Treaties.

There is, my Lord, in this policy a well-devised means of, in the first instance, preventing all investigation on the spot; and, in the second place, subjecting Her Majesty's Government to receive the explanations which are sent by these authorities to the Spanish Government, instead of at once arriving at the truth, without the unavoidable delay of several months attending the transmission of the Captain-General's reports and communication of the results through Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, by which time the case has been forgotten here, and all proceedings which might have become necessary thereon, too late to be in any way effectual.

In this way, kept in ignorance of whatever measures the Captains-General may have adopted for carrying out the suppression of the Slave Trade, we are in a great measure left to our conjectures as to how such measures are carried into effect. We see that the importations of slaves continue; that the Slave Trade has within the last year been very greatly on the increase; that it is now most flourishing; and that whatever, or wherever expeditions present themselves on the coast of Cuba, the slaves are landed; they are introduced into the island; and whether they are seized afterwards by the Spanish authorities or not, the fact is undeniable. They are introduced without opposition. The ship is either destroyed by the crew at the place of landing, or departs to fit out again for the coast of Africa, to bring over another cargo of the miserable victims of avarice to these shores.

Why is it, I would ask, that the whole expedition is not laid hold of by the Spanish officers? Why is it, that even if the negroes are suddenly put on shore, they are not all seized? and, Why is it, that the vessels bringing such negroes are not captured either before or after landing their cargoes? Let the Captains-General answer.

The vigilance of the Spanish officers and authorities of the Island of

Cuba, is matter of history. The arrival of both the expeditions under Narciso Lopez, was known at this capital from a distance (in both instances) of about seventy miles, in an incredibly short time. The largest of those expeditions did not consist of 500 men, and yet 1,000 or more negroes may come to and land, almost anywhere, as we have seen within the last twelve months; and after their landing, may be driven to long distances through the country in extensive gangs, without interruption?

I humbly submit to your Lordship, that such a state of things could not exist without connivance of the authorities; and I certainly may not be considered too bold in asserting that it depends upon the chief authority of the island to put an end to such abuses. Whenever he does so in good earnest, obliging the local authorities to do their duty, by seizing all negroes landed, by capturing the vessels and boats, and arresting the masters, crews, agents, and all persons concerned with such expeditions, the Slave Trade will be suppressed. Until the Captains-General do so act energetically and in earnest, the Slave Trade will be carried on as it is, and always has been, notwithstanding the existing Treaties.

At distant points and places, it is that some of the violations take place; and from such places it is difficult for me to obtain correct information.

At the same time I would humbly bring under your Lordship's notice, the tone and style of the Captain-General's official answers to my communications. His Excellency has complained of want of personal respect, on my part, of which I have never been guilty, and regret that he should be under such a misconception; but as I do not feel that I ought to be subjected to a repetition of such reproof as General Cañedo has indulged in, and expressed by the Secretary under his Excellency's authority, in the inclosure subject of this despatch, I must claim your Lordship's high protection; and I trust that some understanding will be come to with the Spanish Government, warranting me to ask for all reasonable explanation and information as to every infraction of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade, and which Her Majesty's Government has a right to expect from these authorities.

Inclosure 1 in No. 561.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 30, 1853.

I HAVE received information that a brig slaver, having on board 600 Bozals, was run ashore some few days ago on the Isle of Pines; that most of these negroes, who were taken off the brig by two schooners belonging to the coast in that district, have been sold, but that some 150 of them were not disposed of, and were on the Isle of Pines the day before yesterday. This expedition is no doubt one of the two which I announced to your Excellency in my communication of the 2nd instant.

I have also received information that two more cargoes of slaves are expected almost immediately at or near to Trinidad.

I hasten to give to your Excellency this information in the assurance that the same inflexible determination which has been displayed by your Excellency to put an end to the detestable Traffic will be pursued to detect and punish the authors of this violation of the law, at the Isle of Pines, and that your Excellency's most efficacious orders will be issued in advance of the other expeditions expected at Trinidad.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 561.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 1, 1853.

HIS Excellency has informed himself of your Honour's letter of yesterday's date, in which you give him diverse information respecting the disembarkation of Bozal negroes which you state had been effected recently at the Isle of Pines, as well as those which you have as to the possibility of other two landings taking place within a short time about Trinidad. His Excellency appreciates these informations, although they are not new to him, as regards the first of said particulars, and he will appreciate all others which conduce to impede this Traffic; but at the same time he wishes me to say to your Honour in answer, as I do, that for the last time he warns you to avoid in all your letters of this kind, either excitations or qualifications of any nature whatever, because his Excellency has no necessity for them, nor can he allow them from a person who, like your Honour, has no authority to make them.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,

Political Secretary.

No. 562.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 4, 1853.

IT having come to my knowledge that three of the sailors who belonged to the ship which landed 280 Bozal negroes at Bailen, which circumstance I reported to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 4th ultimo, had proceeded in a launch towards Cape San Antonio, and were there captured and sent to this place, at the disposition of the Captain-General; I deemed it my duty to apprise his Excellency thereof, so as that he should, if he thought proper, avail himself of their evidence in the investigation which I understand is still going on respecting that violation of the law and of the Treaty.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to General Cañedo, and also a translation of his Excellency's letter acknowledging the receipt of the information I have alluded to.

I am now enabled to report to your Lordship, that the men who arrived here on the 2nd instant, are now prisoners in the common gaol, and that they are Americans, who belonged to the ship which landed the negroes from Africa at Bailen. That ship was the "*Jasper*," in which they sailed from New York for the coast of Africa in December last; she was there transferred to the Spanish owners, and took in the Bozal negroes which were brought to the Ensenada de Cortez, where the ship was burnt, after the slaves had been landed. We shall see whether anything is done by means of these witnesses to convict the parties concerned in this expedition.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 562.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, June 30, 1853.

CONSIDERING that it is my duty to aid and assist your Excellency's measures for the detection and punishment of all violators of the law and of the Treaties for abolition of the Slave Trade, and knowing the active

endeavours of your Excellency to ascertain the particulars of the case which occurred a few weeks ago at Bailen, Ensenada de Cortez, and also being aware of the difficulties which your Excellency experiences in almost every instance of investigation of the acts of the slave-traders, and that perhaps the good intentions of your Excellency have been thwarted in the district of Pinar del Rio, with more than the usual cunning and combination of all concerned in the affair of Bailen; I have to acquaint your Excellency that three of the sailors (Americans) who belonged to the ship from which the slaves were landed, deserted from said ship, took a boat from the hacienda Grifa, in which they went to Cape San Antonio, where they were captured by Don George Garcia and Don Francisco Pitaluga, matriculados of the Spanish merchant marine, and by whom they were delivered to Her Catholic Majesty's schooner "Habanera," and on board her they have most probably been brought to this port of Havana, to be placed at your Excellency's disposition, so that if these American sailors are here, their evidence will be available in discovery of the truth.

I understand that the ship which was burnt off Bailen, was aground on the shoal called the Viril, where the bottom of said vessel, which was consumed to the water's edge, may still be found, if your Excellency will order the Golfo de Cortez to be examined. I regret that I have not at this moment one of Her Majesty's ships, or I would have sent her on this service to have discovered the hulk of the burnt slaver where it now lays.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 562.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 1, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of yesterday, and orders me to say to you in answer, as I do, that he has informed himself of the particulars which your Honour makes known to him, as to the negroes at Bailen and the capture of three American sailors belonging to the same, which was effected at Cape San Antonio.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 563.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 5, 1853.

I HAVE given full consideration to that part of his Excellency the Spanish Minister's note, dated the 7th of May, transmitted to your Lordship by Lord Howden in his despatch of the 12th, copy of which formed the inclosure of your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of May last, which I had the honour of acknowledging to your Lordship in my despatch of the 25th ultimo, where General Lersundi takes occasion to adopt and state to Lord Howden the unfounded aspersions of my official character which it appears have been written by General Cañedo to the Spanish Government, accusing me of making "false reports in every case," owing to which General Lersundi says, that "General Cañedo is apprehensive and regrets that, notwithstanding all his efforts, Her Majesty's Government never can appreciate the sincerity of his conduct," and goes on to state that this is "because of my personal opinions," that "I find nothing

acceptable, whatever is done by the Spanish authorities of the Antilles," and "will represent their acts in the most unfavourable colour possible."

I have given no reason for this aspersion of my character by General Cañedo, which has been adopted by the Spanish Government in General Lersundi's note. My representations of the acts of the Spanish authorities are all before your Lordship; and as they most certainly do not warrant the charges assumed in the official communications of the Spaniards, I beg leave to give to them the most positive contradiction in this despatch, feeling that I ought not to allow such aspersions to take root by passing them by unnoticed; and I most respectfully submit to your Lordship that Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid should be authorized to undeceive and set right the Spanish Government as to the reports which I transmit officially with regard to the acts of their authorities in the Antilles.

The statements which I find it my duty from time to time to lay before Her Majesty's Government are all of them thoroughly well founded; they may differ perhaps materially from the representations transmitted by these authorities to the Spanish Government, and they are, I have no doubt, not at all agreeable to be adduced in the complaints of Her Majesty's Government, but they are not the less true, and devoid of all misrepresentation.

One instance will suffice to prove the exactness of what I have said in the foregoing paragraph, and it is this:

That in the observations which were made upon the list of slaves landed in Cuba during the year 1852, it was sought by the Count Alcoy to deny that any were disembarked at Ortigosa. I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of an official edict, cut from the "Diario" newspaper, calling upon the authors of a violation of the law committed at Ortigosa to present themselves in the Court of the Royal Audiencia to answer for the landing of 700 Bozal negroes, effected at that place on the 18th of December. As this edict is dated the 7th ultimo, it is needless to add that the parties have not been found. My denouncement of this violation stated the number at 600, but it appears now officially that there were 700. I have to crave your Lordship's indulgence for the inaccuracy, but it proves that there was no exaggeration; and with this I beg leave most confidently to place my vindication in your Lordship's hands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 564.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 9, 1853.

BY an American schooner from New Orleans, which arrived here yesterday, I received a newspaper, the "Daily Picayune," of the 29th ultimo, from which I have cut the slip which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, containing a letter from Yucatan, relative to the "*Lady Suffolk*," which vessel, under Mexican colours, and the name of the "*Mary Ann*," has, it appears, arrived at Campeachy, or rather at Laguna de Terminos, where she was recognised by a description of her which was published, it seems, some time ago in the "New York Herald."

It also appears, according to a short note which I received this morning from Mr. Consul Giffard, dated Vera Cruz, the 5th instant, that Her Majesty's brig "Daring" had gone to Laguna to look after the slaver "*Lady Suffolk*" (a) "*Mariana*," but that she had returned to Vera Cruz without the commander's having been able to examine the suspicious vessel alluded to, not having been allowed to land because of the prevalence of cholera at Vera Cruz, from whence the "Daring" proceeded.

I shall not omit to address the Captain-General respecting the affair, so as that it may lead to an investigation of the origin of the Mexican papers under which this slaver or pirate has been navigating.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 564.

Extract from the "Daily Picayune" of June 29, 1853.

Laguna de Terminos, Yucatan, June 14.

THE curiosity of the inhabitants of our little place was not a little excited on the 30th ultimo, by the arrival at our port of a finely-modelled, apparently new, clipper-built, full-rigged ship, painted all black. She came in under Mexican colours, which was, as you may imagine, another matter of surprise to our people.

As soon as the Captain of the Port's boat came ashore from the customary visit, the vessel was said to be the Mexican ship "*Mariana*," Captain Juan Gutierrez, of the burthen of about 500 tons American, though she entered here only 410 tons Mexican measurement. She came from Cienfuegos (Cuba), had eight days passage, a crew of about thirty men, and about 300 pipes of water as ballast. She came consigned to a very respectable house here, and brought a letter of credit to a considerable amount.

It was soon suspected that she had been on a slaving expedition, and after some of her crew (who were mostly all Spaniards) had been discharged, some of them publicly gave out that the vessel had been on the coast of Mozambique (East Africa), where she had taken in above 1,300 negroes, 200 of whom had died on the passage, and the remaining 1,100 had been discharged at or near Cienfuegos a short time before the vessel's arrival here.

She had been chased by an English cruizer off the Cape of Good Hope. The vessel is now under seizure of this custom-house for some want of formality in her ships' papers. The crew have almost all been paid off, and most of them have already left for Campeachy and other points.

The vessel's figure-head represents the goddess Fame, with wings on her back, and a speaking trumpet in one hand, a wreath in the other.

She answers the description given of the "*Lady Suffolk*" in the "*New York Herald*" of the 6th of December last, and is no doubt the same vessel under another name. She was built by Messrs. Adams, Gray and Son, and, some six months' ago, taken down to Mariel and Bahia Honda by Mr. Gray himself. She will probably remain here at least one month more. From Cienfuegos she came here with a sea-letter given by the Mexican Consul there.

The foregoing are the simple reports current here, though you may meet with more exaggerated accounts referring to the subject.

No. 565.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 2, 1853.

IN my despatch dated the 4th ultimo, I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship that three American sailors had been brought to town, and lodged in the public gaol here, who were on board of the slaver "*Jasper*," which landed a cargo of Bozal negroes about three months ago at Bailen, in the Ensenada de Cortez, district of Pinar del Rio.

I am enabled to lay before your Lordship a printed copy of these men's statement, which has appeared in the American papers, and which

I have ascertained is really what they have declared to the United States' Consul.

In my despatch dated the 4th of June last, I first did myself the honour of bringing this case under your Lordship's notice; and I furnished some details with regard to how the affair had been managed, and the intentions of the Captain-General had been thwarted by the connivance of the Spanish local authorities, and their combinations with the slave-traders. But what will your Lordship say when I now assert, upon the most undoubted authority, that a second, a third—even a fourth—Commission, has returned from Pinar del Rio, and that there has not been proof of any Bozal negroes having been landed in that district! Nor could these Commissioners discover the burnt hull of the slave vessel, which everybody in the district knows perfectly well is lying on the shoal called the Viril, where the "*Jasper*" grounded, from whence she could not be got afloat, and where she was set on fire and burnt to the water's edge in sight of the people from the shore.

The appearance, therefore, of the three American sailors, was as serious as it was embarrassing; but neither here does the matter stop.

About three weeks ago, I received intelligence that there were six more of the "*Jasper's*" crew hidden at one of the cays in the Ensenada de Cortez, and that, as the slave-traders could not get them away, they were in great danger, either of dying by starvation, if the parties discontinued sending them their provisions, or of being assassinated, in order to get rid at the same time of their maintenance and of their evidence should they be discovered by the authorities.

Three of these, namely, Charles Robinson, William Hersey, and John Radcliffe, being British subjects, I lost no time in addressing his Excellency the Captain-General, requesting him to cause them to be rescued from their perilous situation.

The other three being Americans, I wrote to the United States' Consul, acquainting him of the circumstance, so as that, if he thought proper, he might apply to the Captain-General on their behalf, or perhaps induce the commander of the American sloop-of-war "*Albany*," then in this harbour, to proceed to their rescue.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship copies of this correspondence, in which General Cañedo assures me, on the 16th, through the Colonial Secretary, that he had given the necessary orders for the safety of the three British subjects; but as I have not heard the result, I thought it my duty again to urge this important affair, and have accordingly again brought the subject under his Excellency's notice, the more so, as I have heard that a trick has been played with regard to the measures dictated for the relief of these poor men, the Captain-General's order having been intercepted in the district where the men are, and its proper execution being therefore rendered extremely doubtful.

Your Lordship will however observe, in my following despatch of the same date, that an officer, who was commissioned to Cayo Cortez upon other business, has discovered the rest of the hull of the "*Jasper*," and I have great hopes that this will lead to that of the whole history of this most extraordinary transaction, which, if fully investigated, should lead to the dismissal of a great number of the officials.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 565.

Extract from the "New York Herald" of July 18, 1853.

ARRIVAL OF THE "BLACK WARRIOR."—The news which we to-day publish from Cuba and Mexico will be found to be of a very important and interesting nature. It comprises the statement of the three American sailors now imprisoned in the Moro under the charge of having formed part of the crew of the slaving barque "*Jasper*," which, after landing its cargo on the island, was set on fire. The statement is addressed to the

Secretary of State, who, we have no doubt, will take proper measures to secure justice to these our citizens. Parks, one of those whose names are subscribed to the document, is from Palmyra, Wayne county, in this State. Atkins is a native of this city, and Freeborn is a native of Philadelphia. It is impossible to say what has become of the other Americans who were among the crew, namely, William Radcliff, William Hussey, second mate, the boy Coles, and the cook, a black man, named Robinson. Our Havana correspondent suggests that most probably the first three were murdered to be got rid of, and that the negro was sold among the slaves. This is by no means a violent or irrational conclusion. The shipping-master with whom these sailors shipped in this city were Messrs. Clarke and Dean. The captain is now, we understand, in New York or Brooklyn, and might, perhaps, corroborate in some measure the truth of the sailors' story. The slaver "*Lady Suffolk*" is at length in safe hands. We published a letter in last Monday's "*Herald*," giving the whole particulars of the seizure of this notorious vessel, and now our Cuban intelligence comes to verify our previous announcement. In addition to the particulars of Mexican and Havana news, we give the translation of an article from the "*Diario de la Marina*," in which wholesome counsel is given to the slave-holding States of the South. The whole of what we give from Mexico and Cuba to-day will be found particularly interesting.

THE SLAVER "LADY SUFFOLK."—STATEMENT OF THE THREE AMERICAN SAILORS OF THE "*JASPER*."—The following appeal and statement of the three young American sailors now in custody in Havana, under the charge of having been engaged in a slaving expedition, has been sent to us by them for publication. It is directed to the Honourable Mr. Marcy, Secretary of State.

Sir,

Havana Prison, July 8, 1853.

We wish to give you a true and brief account concerning by what means we became placed in our present situation, hoping that when you have the full particulars you can do something for us. We left New York on the 12th of December last, in the barque "*Jasper*," bound, as we were told in the shipping-office, to Sierra Leone. Before leaving New York, as we were getting under weigh, we took on board two gentlemen, as passengers for the above-named place. There were also on board at the time two men who, we understood, or were made to believe at the time, to be the supercargo and his uncle. We were at sea two days or more before we knew them to be Spanish; still we were altogether ignorant of any deceit being practised upon us. Everything went well until we arrived at the coast of Africa, at a place called Elmina. Some of the crew asked the mate the reason of our not going to the place they told us in New York; and he said that, as far as he could understand, the supercargo had changed his mind, and intended to go farther down the coast; so we thought nothing of it. The supercargo went on shore at that place, and the next day we discharged some of her cargo, which was rum. In two or three days we got under weigh, and went farther down, to Cape Coast, at which place the captain and mate quarrelled, which ended in the mate's being discharged at that place. The second mate then did the mate's duty, and one of the men forward was picked out for second mate. We took some elephants' tusks on board at Cape Coast, and 100 bales of tobacco. We got under weigh at that place, and the captain seemed to be very kind to us all at once, since the mate had left. The men used to grumble at the living we had. The captain congratulated himself and us for having removed the cause of the discontent among the crew. He said that he had been going to sea seventeen years, and not in one instance had the crew to get discontented. He said that we were able, good men, and that he intended to set her rigging up, and get her cabin fixed up before she arrived at New York again. All this was done to blind us as to their intentions, but we did not once think of such a thing. The next place we went was called Littlemina; the supercargo went on shore at this place, and was ashore eight days. In the meantime an English steam-frigate boarded us, the captain overhauled us, and went away.

CLASS B.

Our captain told us that he had bargained with the captain of the frigate for some white duck for clothes for us, as we were short of clothes; and he said that in three or four days we were to go down to where she was or would be at anchor. We took on board a great many ducks, and several hogs and kids, and all the water-casks were filled. We asked the reason they filled them all at once, and they said that farther down the coast water was brackish and not fit to drink.

The next day the supercargo came on board, and we got under weigh to go down to where the English frigate lay. We were under sail two days, when we dropped into a place we do not know the name of; but we understood it was to take the supercargo's uncle on board. We discharged there four or five pipes of rum, and the tobacco that we took farther up the coast. This place was Spanish, for they hoisted the Spanish flag. About 10 o'clock we put the hatches on, as they said there was no more rum going ashore that day. About 11 o'clock we saw about thirty or forty canoes shove off from the shore. We thought they were coming for cargo. We were glad to see them coming, as we thought the faster the cargo was discharged the sooner we would get to the United States again. The man that was acting second mate asked if the men should take the hatches off, and get up some more rum, as the canoes were coming; and the supercargo said no, they were not coming to the ship, they were going down the coast to catch fish he supposed. At 12 o'clock, as soon as the crew had got through their dinner, the captain gave orders to get the ship under weigh. We hove the anchor up. The second mate asked the captain if they should cast the anchor, and he said no, they would be at anchor before night, and it would not be worth while. The supercargo had the helm. We run, as we supposed, about twenty or thirty miles down the coast, when we saw all these canoes again, hauled up on the beach; and as soon as we came in close enough, they hauled their canoes down into the water. We were at a loss what to think of it. We asked one of the Spaniards what they were going to do, and he said he did not know. We had let go the anchor, and were clewing up the sails, when the captain called the second mate into the cabin. He was not in the cabin long when the cabin-boy came forward and said there was something up. I heard the captain tell the second mate he had sold the ship, and was going to pay all the men off, with three months' extra pay. By this time the negroes were coming on board; and before we were all paid they had the cabin nearly full of negroes. We were altogether taken unawares. We knew not what to do, or what was the best to do. The captain said, "Be men; — it, don't act like children." There were four Spaniards or Portuguese that came off in one of the canoes that were taking the negroes on board while we were being paid off. We told the captain we wished to go on shore; and he told us there was not an American or English Consul within 500 miles of us, and if we went on shore he could not protect us. He said that it would cost him 500 dollars to get to the States. At the time he was paying us off, he said to us, "You see what is up—I have sold my vessel—I have made a losing voyage; and I have to get home the best way I can—they are bound to take you home as passengers." One of the men called to a canoe that had discharged their negroes, and the Spanish captain motioned for the canoe not to come alongside, so we had no possibility of going ashore had we attempted to. The Spanish captain, or the supercargo, told us he was now captain of the vessel, and we might as well go to working the vessel. There were seven Spaniards, all told; and they had all the fire-arms in their possession; they were also armed with knives; and we had no other resource than to go to working the vessel. There were 350 negroes on board. We were compelled to do duty at the point of their knives. The captain told us he would pay us 50 dollars a-month when we got to Cuba.

Continuation of the Sailors' Story.

The same night the negroes came on board the cable was slipped and we stood out to sea. The greater part of the time was spent in

getting things fixed for the negroes; the galley-stove was altered, and the partition that separates the cabin from the store-rooms each side were cut away so that the negroes (women) could occupy the whole space. Twice we refused to work the ship, and twice we were forced, at the point of their knives, to go to work again. When we came close to the coast of Cuba, they began to be more civil to us. We made the land to the westward of Jamaica, on the south side of Cuba. We were fifty-six days on the passage. We saw several sail of vessels as we neared the West Indies, but always kept away from them. The second mate was more severe on us than the rest of them; he always carried a long knife in his belt; in one instance he caught one of the men by the throat and would have stabbed him had not the man clinched him; the rest of the crew hearing the noise, they ran to his assistance; in the meantime he dropped his knife, which one of the men picked up and gave to him; the man that picked up the knife was a Portuguese. Radcliff struck the Portuguese with his fist, and just at that time the captain and mate came forward with their pistols cocked, and forced us to return to our duty.

Five days after that we made the land, and run in as close as we could, and let go the anchor; a man came off in a boat and told the captain he was at the wrong place. We got under weigh, and stood along the land to the westward for about twelve miles, and let go the anchor again; the mate went ashore and was informed that was not the place. We made sail again, and stood along till daylight, when the vessel run ashore, about one mile from the beach. The captain ordered the boats to be launched, and by that time three or four boats came off from the shore; they landed the negroes in about one hour. We then tried to get the vessel off, but could not. The next day we were occupied in getting her off, but to no purpose; we set down topgallant yards and masts; then the mate and a couple of men went down into the hold and started some of the water-casks; then we pumped her out and let her stand a little. At dark there was about twelve people from the shore beside a pilot. At high water she swung off, and she ran about 300 yards, when she run aground again; they then let down her larboard-bow anchor to the stern of a large sailboat, but they had not pulled but about ten feet when they let go of the anchor. We do not know whether it was done on purpose or not, but we were told to get our clothes and go ashore, as they were going to set the ship on fire. We got into the longboat, the Portuguese also, and the mate, and we went along the coast about twelve or fifteen miles; a large Spanish sailboat towed us to the place; there were two or three fishing-huts on the beach, which were all we could see. We stopped here about ten days, when we were told that a schooner would take us to Havana; there was no schooner came for us. At this time Radcliff was nearly dead with the dysentery, and William Hussy, that had shipped as second mate, could scarcely walk with a swelled leg; he is an old man, of sixty or seventy years of age. We proposed to Robinson and the rest to take the longboat, but Robinson said he would not leave Radcliff while he was so sick. We were fifteen days on shore; when on that night we took the longboat, and put water into her, and a small bag of corn, and some honey in a jar; the boy and the cook were afraid the longboat would stand no sea, and they did not know on what part of the island they were. We bid the rest of the men good-bye and we left them; we told them we expected to be picked up before we were out long. We were two days from the place when we put into the land for water and provisions. We went on shore; we asked the name of the place; they told us it was Cape Antonio. They gave us some potatoes, and while we were getting some water they sent for the soldiers, who asked us where we were from; and we told them from Jamaica. They asked us where we intended to go; we told them to Key West or to the American Consul in Havana. They then sent two soldiers and a pilot in the boat, and conveyed us on board the Spanish man-of-war schooner "*Habanera*," where they questioned us again as to where we were from. We were afraid to tell them the truth for fear they would put us in prison, and never let any one know anything about us; and we told them that we came from Jamaica, and that we had

run away from a vessel at that place; two of us told that we left the "Duke of Wellington," the other told he left the "Oriole." The commandant ordered us to be put in irons, and a sentry placed over us. We asked if they would not present us to the American Consul; they said yes, but it was necessary to wait for orders from Havana. They kept us on board thirty-five days, when we were transferred to Havana in a small schooner, and put on board of the steamer "Ulloa," where they kept us eight days. From thence we were removed to where we now are.

We have had no opportunity to write before; we were put into the gaol. We have written nothing but the plain truth, which, if the rest of the crew can be found, they will testify to the same. We told some of the men that if we were picked up, or got to any place where there was an American Consul, we would tell him as to their whereabouts, and how they came there. We do not know what became of the rest of the crew after we left them; there was no prospect of getting away from the island. When we left, when we bid Radcliff good-bye, he said he would not live over two or three days; he was then so weak he could not walk. We were deceived and drawn blindly into a trade which we neither gave our heart nor hand to.

Yours with respect,

(Signed)

WILLIAM FREEBURN.
WILLIAM ATKINS.
HARVEY C. PARKS.

To Gov. Marcy, Secretary of State, Washington.

Inclosure 2 in No. 565.

Consul-General Crawford to Consul Robertson.

Sir,

Havana, July 13, 1853.

I HASTEN to inclose to you the copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General of this island, relative to three British subjects and three American citizens, who were sailors on board the barque "*Jasper*" when she sailed from New York in December last, for the coast of Africa, under the belief that she was bound upon a lawful voyage. You are already aware, I believe, that said barque "*Jasper*" was transferred to Spanish slavers at the coast of Africa, and that the crew who embarked in her at New York had no alternative but to remain on board and come on in the barque, although they saw she had become a slaver.

It now appears that, besides the three who are in the prison here, there are six more, as I have said above, who are kept in hidings at Cayo Cortez, Ensenada de Cortez, near Bailen on the south side of this island. At present they are provided for by the slave-traders down there, but they are exposed to starvation whenever it pleases these worthies to discontinue sending them supplies, and they have no means of getting away.

I have stated to his Excellency the regret which I feel at not having here a British man-of-war to send to the rescue of these men, and I hope that, as a ship-of-war of the United States has come in to-day, it may be consistent with the commanding officer's other duties, to proceed to the Ensenada de Cortez as soon as possible.

I would suggest the expediency, if it be possible, that one or all the American sailors who are in prison belonging to the "*Jasper*," should be allowed to go in the United States' ship, if she proceeds upon this important service, in order to point out the place where they left their companions, so as to make sure of their being relieved.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 565.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 13, 1853.

BESIDES the three American sailors who were detained at Cape San Antonio, and sent here by the commander of Her Catholic Majesty's schooner "Habanera," I understand there are six others who belonged to the slaver, which was formerly the American barque "*Jasper*," that landed her cargo of Bozal negroes near Bailen on the south coast some weeks ago.

Amongst these six men who came in said slaver, there are three British subjects, viz., Charles Robinson, a native of Canada, William Hersey, a native of Nova Scotia, and John Radcliffe, an Englishman.

The other three, viz., John William Leo, George Hunt, a coloured man, and William Hussey, are Americans belonging to the United States.

These six men were alive at Cayo Cortez on the 6th instant, and were in a state of the greatest desperation, as I am informed; in the first place, because they had been deceived by the American master of the "*Jasper*," whose name was Edmund Townsend, inasmuch as that they embarked at New York under the belief that they were going to Africa upon a lawful voyage, and when they found that the said master transferred the ship to become a slaver, and they wished to leave her, they were told that it would be impossible for them to go on shore on the coast of Africa, as they would either be starved or be killed by the natives; and in the second place, they were deceived by the slaver captain, who promised them that as soon as they arrived at the coast of Cuba they would be provided with a conveyance either to Havana or the United States, which promise has not been performed. They are consequently apprehensive for their personal safety, and it becomes a matter of humanity to have them placed in security, since, at present, they are existing without the cognizance of the constituted authorities, are provided for by the parties who were concerned in the violation of the law, and may be left to starve where they are concealed, whenever said parties please to send them provisions no longer.

Inclosure 4 in No. 565.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 16, 1853.

HIS Excellency has received your Honour's official letter of the 13th current, acquainting him that there are six individuals, Englishmen and Americans, at Cayo Cortez, belonging to the crew of the vessel which effected a landing of Bozals at Bailen, and which was afterwards burnt in the Ensenada de Cortez. In answer, he orders me to say to your Honour that he has made note thereof, and has already given the convenient orders to the end that, if your Honour's information is true, the said individuals may be taken away, and brought to this capital, as this Government reckons upon superabundant means and resources for that purpose.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 5 in No. 565.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, August 2, 1853.*

YOUR Excellency having been pleased to inform me on the 16th ultimo, that orders had been issued to take the men who were at Cayo Cortez from their perilous situation described in the communication which

I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 13th of the same month; three of said men being, as I understand, British subjects, who were against their will engaged in the Slave Trade on board the barque "*Jasper*," which vessel was burnt at the shoal called the Viril after her cargo of Bozal negroes had been landed;

I request the favour of your Excellency's informing me whether said men have been rescued and placed in security, and if they have been brought to Havana, whether I can have access to them, for the purpose of interrogating them as to their having been on board the slaver alluded to, so as to enable me to form an opinion as to the extent of their criminality, having been informed that they charge the American master of the "*Jasper*" with entrapping them, so as that after that vessel's transfer to the slave-owners at the coast of Africa, they found it impossible to get away from the ship, and therefore were forced to come to the Ensenada de Cortez, where the negroes were landed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 566.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 2, 1853.

ON the 26th ultimo twenty persons arrived here under guard from the Ensenada de Cortez, being the crew of the Spanish schooner "*Nueva Empresa*," which vessel arrived at Cayo Cortez and was burnt after having successfully landed her cargo of Bozal negroes, with the connivance of the local authorities; and so well had the combinations been made in this case that it is not yet known how many slaves she brought from Ayuda, the place she sailed from on the coast of Africa. I have reason, however, to believe that her cargo consisted of about 400, and that the "*Nueva Empresa*" was under the command of a person called Dominguez, who some months ago sailed for the coast of Africa from the Isle of Pines.

A lieutenant in the Spanish army, whose name is Adolfo, was entrusted with the service of capturing the slave crew, consisting, as I have said, of twenty persons, which he effected, the master, Dominguez, having got away previously to Havana; and in looking for the man, Lieutenant Adolfo, as I have been informed, not only discovered the scorched remains of the schooner, but also those of the burnt "*Jasper*," which could not be found by either of the four Commissioners who had been sent to investigate the affair of the larger vessel.

M. Adolfo was opposed by all the slave-traders in the district of Pinar del Rio; his guard was assaulted by armed men, who would have rescued the prisoners but for his firmness; and the slavers so far succeeded, as I am informed, in tampering with the second mate and boatswain, as to get them to declare upon their examination at Pinar del Rio that they had come from Ayuda, it is true, but that, having been anticipated by another vessel which took in the slaves intended for the "*Nueva Empresa*," they had returned without any Bozals, and had had the misfortune to lose their vessel upon one of the numerous reefs which surround the landing-places in the Ensenada de Cortez; but my correspondent adds, that the *contramestre* (boatswain) made that declaration at Pinar del Rio after he had been told that it would not avail him to turn evidence in the matter, which he had agreed to do, and probably still may be induced to do, if the promise of pardon held out to him by Lieutenant Adolfo is repeated by higher authority here, especially now that the men are beyond the influence of the gang of slave-traders and officials who, under Lieutenant-Governor Pantaleon Lopez Ayllon (now suspended for his misdeeds), have got that district into a most alarming state of disorder.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 567.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 2, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I considered it my duty to address to the Captain-General on the 14th ultimo, in consequence of a despatch which I received from Mr. Wodehouse, Her Majesty's Superintendent of British Honduras, inclosing, for my information, the copy of a letter which he had addressed to Sir George Seymour, the Vice-Admiral Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the West Indies, relative to certain acts of slave-trading committed on the coast of Yucatan, where an extensive system of man-stealing had, it appears, been carrying on by a person called J. B. Anduze, in combination with Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, of this city, the viveros, or fishing-smacks, of the latter, being sent to Islas Mugerres, at the north-east corner of the peninsula of Yucatan, to receive on board and bring here the unfortunate Indians who had previously been entrapped by Anduze at Spiritu Sancto and Ascension.

The result of the inquiries I have since made upon this subject induces the belief that some 160 or 170 Indians have been kidnapped in this manner and are here dealt with as slaves, having no fixed agreement as to wages, clothing, or period of service, whilst they are subjected to the operation of the dominical rule like negro slaves.

I have not been favoured with any answer from General Cañedo, nor have I heard that he has taken any steps in consequence of my letter for the liberation of the captive Indians; but I have heard that Don Francisco Marty y Torrens has been very busy, obliging these poor Indians to sign, or put their marks to, papers in the Spanish and Maya idioms, purporting to be agreements for periods of service under certain conditions, which agreements, under the circumstances, cannot in any way be considered as valid.

M. Marty y Torrens has himself confessed to me that those Indians, brought in his vessels from Yucatan, were serving him without any agreements whatever; that he had obtained them through the agency of M. J. B. Anduze; but that he was not aware of their having been kidnapped, as no doubt was the case.

I have had some conversation upon this subject with M. Carvallo, the Mexican Consul. I have given him full information, and he has applied to the Mexican Government, expecting to receive instructions to claim the liberation of all the Indians so entrapped.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

P.S.—By the next mail I propose to forward a copy of the correspondence to Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 567.
Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, July 14, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Excellency the inclosed extract of a despatch which was addressed on the 10th ultimo by Her Majesty's Superintendent at British Honduras to Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the West Indies, setting forth how the Slave Trade is being carried on by parties named in said despatch, who are resident at this place, by means of an agent, who has been arrested at Belize; which agent, it appears, was engaged in kidnapping Indians at certain places in Yucatan, and sending them on here to Havana, to be dealt with as slaves; and especially that a Spanish vessel, called the "*Alerta*," did, on or about the 25th May last, take on board at the Islas Mugerres (which lay off the north-east corner of

the Peninsula of Yucatan) thirty Indians (men), who had been enticed on board the vessel called the "*Jenny Lind*," on the pretence of trading, but who were seized by J. B. Anduze (now a prisoner for that offence at Belize), transferred at Isla Mugerres from the "*Jenny Lind*" to the "*Alerta*," and they were brought by the last-named vessel to this port of Havana, to the consignment of a person called Francisco M. Torrens, and are no doubt held by him in his service under the piratical circumstances which are set forth in his Excellency Mr. Superintendent Wodehouse's despatch.

Your Excellency will no doubt dictate such measures as may be best calculated to effect the liberation of these kidnapped Indians and the punishment of the parties here who have been concerned in these most infamous transactions, which I understand have been carried to a great extent. Your Excellency will certainly put an end to them, and cause the Indians to be sent back to Yucatan, with such compensation as may be justly awarded them, at the cost of the parties who have been engaged in such unholy traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 567.

The Superintendent of British Honduras to Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour.

*Government House, Belize, British Honduras,
June 10, 1853.*

(Extract.)

A STATEMENT was made to me by a person in this place to the effect that he had just returned from a voyage as one of the crew of a small vessel called the "*Jenny Lind*," which had sailed from this port in the early part of last month, chartered by J. B. Anduze, a party whom I have caused to be arrested. That they had proceeded to Spiritu Sancto and Ascencion, on the coast of Yucatan, had there enticed a number of Indians on board, under pretence of trading with them, and had carried them off to the neighbourhood of Isla Mugerres, at the north-east end of Yucatan, where they were immediately transferred to a Spanish vessel, which sailed with them from Havana, where they were to be held as slaves.

As I was of opinion that the accused had rendered himself liable to prosecution under the 10th section of the Act 5th and 6th George IV, cap. 113, for the abolition of the Slave Trade, I at once ordered his arrest; he was committed to prison, and on his being searched, there was found upon him a letter from a person in Havana, stating the exact price he would give for men, women, &c., as well as a copy of the reply made by the prisoner, advising the shipment of the Indians on the 25th of last month.

The name of the correspondent at Havana is Francisco M. Torrens; the name of his vessel is stated to be the "*Alerta*," and he offers the following terms:

	Dollars.
For every male of from 16 to 20 years	25
For every male between 16 and 12 years	17
For every child under 12 years	8
For every woman of from 16 to 20 years	17
For every girl below 16 years	8

on condition that they shall be sound, and without any addition.

In reply, the prisoner notifies the shipment of the Indians, requests that two of the number (specially indicated) may be sent back, to be employed in entrapping others, and gives a list of the goods which he wishes to receive on the return of the vessel from Havana to Isla Mugerres.

In a postscript he says that he has sent thirty-three men and three girls, but there seems reason to believe that after that was written a change took place in his arrangements; thirty men only were sent to Havana, and the others were left as slaves at the Isla Mugerres.

No. 568.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 3, 1853.

THE distressing situation of that much-abused class, the emancipados, was again brought under the notice of the Captain-General on the 19th ultimo, in a letter which I addressed to his Excellency, copy of which I have now the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship.

The case of Escolastica has been subject of two former representations; that of Carmen is but one of many, who, like her and Escolastica, and their children, are unjustly subjected to the most cruel servitude.

The last I have noticed is the case of Catalina, the daughter of an emancipada deceased, over whom dominion is exercised and pretended to be established, although it is as clear as the sun at noonday that she must be as free as those who figure as her masters.

This day I have learnt that poor Catalina has been taken from M. Dias' house, by order of the Captain-General, and she will most likely be placed in deposit, until it can be legally decided what her true condition is—a process which, from the experience I have had in the cases of Mary Anne Bethel and Plassy Lawrence, will take up a year, if not two, during which period the girl will be as it were in prison, and obliged to work hard.

I would most respectfully bring the emancipados under your Lordship's consideration, that they may obtain that justice to which they are entitled, and which has been so long withheld from them and their children.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

P.S.—I find that I have omitted to mention that I have not received any answer to the communication to the Captain-General referred to in this despatch.

 Inclosure in No. 568.
Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, July 19, 1853.

I DID myself the honour of addressing your Excellency on the 28th May last, for the purpose of bringing under your Excellency's notice the case of the emancipada Escolastica Perez and her children, respecting whom I found it my duty to write to your Excellency on the 22nd May last year.

I regret that this poor woman, who ought to have had her free papers six years and a half ago, is still obliged to serve and be treated as a slave by Don José Musquiz, to whom she has been assigned, and who it seems exerts the power of a master over her children, which he most certainly has no right to do.

I should have considered the subject of these communications which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency of so much urgency and importance as to have merited a reply; but as my representations respecting Escolastica Perez and her children, as well as respecting the whole of that class who are entitled to be free, but who are retained in servitude, contrary to the solemn engagement of Spain, appear to have escaped your Excellency's notice, I would again respectfully remind your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government has never ceased to feel the liveliest interest in these emancipados, and will insist upon the fulfilment of the solemn assurance respecting them which was given by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty in July 1842, notwithstanding that the period for their having all been liberated has been so long exceeded.

There are numerous cases of the unjust retention of these poor people in servitude daily brought forward, and I would particularize one or two (in proof of the extreme hardship of their condition), in the most confident hope that your Excellency will at once resolve to accomplish this great

CLASS B.

act of humanity, and declare the whole of the emancipados comprehended in the solemn assurance of the Spanish Government, to be free.

A negress whose name is Carmen, captured in 1835 by Her Majesty's ship "Arachne," on board the Spanish schooner "*Ioven Reyna*," is assigned to Don Rafael Valdez. Carmen has two children, the oldest being a girl, now ten years of age. Not only is the mother obliged to serve, but the children, who are as free as M. Valdez, are obliged to serve in his family without pay; and the woman Carmen is subject to the most cruel treatment.

Escolastica, in consequence of M. Musquiz having heard that she had attempted to represent her case to your Excellency at a public audience, was sent off to a coffee estate, and I understand that Carmen is now threatened to be dealt with in the same way by M. Valdez.

But I would interest your Excellency very especially with regard to a young mulatta Catalina Francisca, who is daughter to the emancipada Maria Encarnacion, deceased six or seven years since.

The mother, Maria Encarnacion, died in the Hospital de Paula. She has been assigned to Donna Juana Cabrera, who resided either in the parish of Espirito Sancto, or at Guanabacoa, but is deceased.

This Catalina, it appears by her "fé de bautismo" in the church of Spirito Sancto, dated 5th March, 1836, was born in February of that year: she is consequently upwards of seventeen years of age. Her sponsors at her baptism appear to have been Don José Dominguez and Donna Merced Mora.

The said Catalina being the child of an emancipada, your Excellency is well aware cannot be otherwise than free; but strange to say, she is dealt with as if she were a slave! A certain Don José Belasco, who resides in the Calle de los Angeles, claims to have dominion over the said Catalina, as being albacea of the deceased, Don Francisco Engracia, to whom it seems she was assigned at her mother's death; and I have been informed that notwithstanding the said Catalina had appointed her curador, in the exercise of her rights, and who had notified to Don Tomas Dias, in whose house she now is, not to pay her wages to said Belasco, who can have no right whatever to receive anything belonging to Catalina, she being free, and of age to appoint her guardians, yet the said Belasco has obliged Dias to deposit the girl's wages in the Tribunal of the First Alcalde Mayor, and M. Zembrana, with that rectitude and justice for which he is so conspicuous, will no doubt report this circumstance to your Excellency, which will be sufficient to direct your Excellency's attention to the instant rectification of such abuse, and the protection of the so-much-injured Catalina, declaring her to be free.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 569.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of May, relative to the case of the negress Nancy and her two sons, whose liberation has been claimed by Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, I have to acquaint you that I have received from Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, a copy of a letter from General Lersundi, the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stating that Her Majesty's Government have failed to prove that Nancy came from Jamaica, and that on the contrary the certificate of the Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, which Mr. Forbes communicated to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba on the 15th of March, 1849, shows that the records kept in the Colonial Secretary's office do not supply any information respecting the said negress, either as conveyed or manumitted by Mr. John Clarke or by any one else, or as registered as a slave by him or any one else.

General Lersundi also observes that the declaration of John Boileau Sorapure as to his knowledge of Nancy, and of the circumstance of her removal from Jamaica, is unsupported by other corroborative testimony,

and that no evidence whatever has been produced as to the uninterrupted series of masters to whom the negress Nancy may have belonged after her transfer from her first master, who is supposed to have brought her from Jamaica; and further, that the identity of her two sons has not been proved.

No. 570.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th ultimo, calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the tone and style of the answers returned by the Captain-General of Cuba to your communications with regard to the Slave Trade, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, instructing him to make a representation to the Spanish Government upon the subject of your despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 571.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd instant, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the steps taken by you in consequence of the information sent to you by the Superintendent of Honduras, as to the proceedings of a person named J. B. Anduze, who had kidnapped thirty natives of Yucatan, and sent them to Cuba to be dealt with as slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 572.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th ultimo, referring to General Lersundi's statement that you are not disposed to do justice to any endeavours that General Cañedo might make for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and I have to acquaint you that your contradiction of this assertion will be made fully known to the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 573.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith an extract of a note† which Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid has received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling his attention to the language used in a communication which was addressed to the authorities of Cienfuegos by a person named John Quesseil, who represented himself to be your agent.

I have to desire that you will transmit to me any observations which you may have to make with regard to the inclosed extract, and you will explain how it happened that you delegated any authority to a man who seems to have been ill-fitted for the business upon which he was employed, and who, by his intemperate and unbecoming language, has given the Spanish Government a cause of complaint against you for having employed such a person.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 436.

† Inclosure in No. 437.

No. 574.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Captain-General's Secretary to the letter which, by my direction, you addressed to his Excellency on the 25th of May, respecting his refusal to allow the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, and the emancipada Mamerta, to remain in Cuba.

And I have to inform you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to remonstrate with the Spanish Government against the discourteous language used in the Political Secretary's letter to you of the 28th of June.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 575.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th of June, transmitting for my confidential information a copy of a note founded upon my despatch of the 28th of April last, which your Lordship had transmitted to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, to be presented to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is exceedingly gratifying to me, that the explanations I was able to give as to the reports upon the state of the Slave Trade, the accuracy of which had been impugned by the Captain-General, have been such as to satisfy Her Majesty's Government that the reports which I have had the honour of submitting, are essentially founded in fact.

No. 576.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 4, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which, on the 23rd ultimo, I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General, in consequence of a request from Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, founded upon your Lordship's despatch with reference to the Captain-General's communication addressed to the Mixed Court, dated the 7th of May last, relative to the capture of 16 Bozal negroes on the shores of Cayo Verde, and their having been declared to be emancipados; instructing Mr. Backhouse to ascertain and report to your Lordship the manner in which, and the places where, those negroes have been allocated, and the names of the persons to whom they may have been assigned.

I stated distinctly to his Excellency that, in consequence of that instruction, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge had requested me to communicate to him your Lordship's despatch, and to request that he would furnish me with the information required, in order that it might be transmitted to Her Majesty's Government.

Your Lordship will perceive, by Secretary Del Busto's answer of the 27th, that the Captain-General does not deem it convenient to give any sort of information as to the particulars embraced in my letter, regarding the 16 Bozal negroes of Sagua la Grande.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 576.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, July 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Excellency the copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, inclosing the copy of a despatch which he had received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, in which, with reference to your Excellency's communication of the 7th of May last, addressed to the Mixed Court, relative to the capture of 16 Bozal negroes on the shoals of Cayo Verde, and their having been declared emancipados.

His Lordship has instructed Mr. Backhouse "to ascertain and report to him the manner in which, and the places where, these negroes have been allocated, and the names of the persons to whom they may have been assigned;" and, in consequence of that instruction, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge has requested me to communicate to your Excellency Lord Clarendon's despatch, and to request that your Excellency will furnish me with the information required, in order that it may be transmitted to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 576.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 27, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General does not deem it convenient to give your Honour any sort of information as to the particulars embraced in your letter of the 23rd instant, regarding the 16 Bozal negroes of Sagua la Grande and he charges me to manifest this to your Honour in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 577.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 9, 1853.

THE communication which was made officially by the Spanish Government to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, copy of which your Lordship did me the honour of transmitting to me in a despatch dated the 24th of May last, stating that the Captain-General of Cuba had authorized the District Governors of this island to enter any estates where there may be reason for suspecting that newly-imported negroes are concealed, and to deliver up such negroes to the Captain-General, I must say, never inspired much confidence as to its efficacy, because it did not expressly state to Her Majesty's Government, however clearly it was implied in the communication referred to, that General Cañedo's measure had been approved by the Spanish Government. It always wanted the sanction of the law, or rather it was a measure which, being directly contrary to the law, required that law to be repealed, in order to its being carried into effect.

The outcry against General Cañedo, when he captured the negroes upon several estates belonging to the expedition of Capó, and those more recently imported by the "*Lady Suffolk*," was therefore very great, and

it is understood has placed his Excellency in the disagreeable position of not being able to follow out proceedings in the Royal Audiencia with regard to the persons implicated in the Slave Trade, because it is well known that the opinion of that tribunal is, that his Excellency's proceedings were illegal, and that that Court would order the restitution of the captured negroes.

In this way, your Lordship will easily perceive that it is necessary to have the Penal Law altered; and until that has been done, I think it very improbable that the Captain-General will follow recently-imported negroes to take them from the estates, however clear the proofs may be, that they have been illegally imported. How urgently important is it then that the Penal Law should be remodelled, expressly to authorize the capture of all newly-imported negro slaves, wherever they may be found, attaching a fine for each, to the parties upon whose property they may be at the time of capture, and greatly increasing the penalties and punishments of all who are engaged in the Slave Trade.

With regard to the arrest of Don Julian Zulueta, which I reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 21st of June. After his having been in Fort Cabañas since that time, until four or five days ago, he has been permitted to return to his own house (still, as I understand, under arrest), upon the plea of ill health.

At the time of Zulueta's arrest, which took place just after he had effected the landing of the large cargo of slaves brought by his vessel the "*Lady Suffolk*," it was believed that he had been accused of being engaged in slave-trading, and that he would be arraigned in the Royal Audiencia for that crime.

I am now enabled to state to your Lordship, that there has been no information lodged against M. Zulueta; that his arrest was merely a gubernative measure; that he was taxed by General Cañedo with having made use of his Excellency's name to cover some transactions of slave-trading in the country; and that upon his being so accused, he had been wanting in due respect to his Excellency: but no formal proceedings have been taken against him; and the Captain-General having submitted M. Zulueta's case of offence to the law officers of the Government, their opinions have been against his Excellency, and have declared that Zulueta's arrest has been quite illegal, the more so as that he, being one of the Consuls of the Tribunal of Commerce, ought to have enjoyed immunity in this city.

These circumstances to which I have just alluded, added to the almost impossibility in which the Captain-General finds himself to obtain truthful information, either by Commissioners specially employed, or otherwise, respecting infractions of the Treaties, by the introduction of negro slaves in any part of the island, however morally convinced he may be, or however notorious may be the circumstances of such violation, render his Excellency's position most embarrassing.

No. 578.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 9, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, with regard to the statements contained in your despatch of the 9th ultimo, as to the embarrassment which the Captain-General has experienced in carrying out his orders directing that newly-imported negroes should be pursued to the estates in the Island of Cuba where they may be concealed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 579.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 15, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information and guidance, the accompanying copy of a confidential despatch* from Mr. Baker, Her Majesty's Consul at Barcelona, in which he states that a vessel, suspected to be destined for the Slave Trade, has sailed from that port for the Havana.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 580.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 20, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, stating that there has been an increased activity lately in the shipment of cargoes from that port for the coast of Africa, and that he understands that those shipments are intended to be employed in the Cuba Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 581.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 22, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Catherine's, in Brazil, respecting the fitting out of slavers at Monte Video, and reporting that four slavers, which had sailed from St. Catherine's for the coast of Africa in 1851, had returned to Cuba with cargoes of slaves, which they safely landed in that island.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No: 582.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 22, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter§ which has been received at this department from the Admiralty, addressed by Lieutenant Jolliffe, of Her Majesty's ship "Myrmidon," to Rear-Admiral Bruce, reporting that he had captured, off Kilongo, on the 31st of May last, a vessel named the "*Maria*," without papers or colours, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, which was supposed to have sailed from some port in the neighbourhood of the Havana.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 505.

† No. 176.
§ Class A, Inclosure in No. 125.

‡ No. 212.

No. 583.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 27, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the translation of a letter which I have received from the Mixed Court at this place, being the result of my efforts to obtain and transmit full information respecting the emancipados, in obedience to the instruction which was given to me in Mr. Addington's despatch dated the 1st of October, 1852.

I respectfully beg leave to refer your Lordship to my despatches of the 4th and 24th of November last year, upon this most important subject, wherein I ventured to express my opinion as to the difficulty there would be in getting the Spanish Judge of the Mixed Court to act in this matter ; and this opinion, it appears, has been fully verified.

I understand that Mr. Backhouse has had the greatest difficulty in getting the Marquis de Esteva to move, and that, with this unsatisfactory answer of the Captain-General to the application which the Court at last addressed to his Excellency for the lists which ought to have been furnished periodically to that tribunal, the Spanish Judge refuses to apply for the said lists, and Her Majesty's Commissary Judge has had no alternative but to refer the point for your Lordship's decision.

Your Lordship will not fail to notice that the Captain-General has seized hold of the wording of the Mixed Court's application, and that his Excellency's answer is expressed in conformity, as if the lists applied for had been for Her Majesty's Consul-General ; but it has to be borne in mind that General Cañedo perfectly well knew what was the nature of the Court's application for the said lists, and that Her Majesty's functionaries were following up the orders which the Spanish Government assured Mr. Otway had been sent, instructing him to furnish to the Mixed Court the information which is mentioned in Articles V and VI of Annex (B) to the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835.

As connected with the same subject, I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island, in consequence of a letter which I received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, requesting me to transmit to his Excellency, in obedience to a despatch which had been addressed to him by your Lordship, the copy of a note which was addressed by his Excellency the Count Alcoy to Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, on the 15th of March last, informing his Lordship what steps had been taken, in accordance with a promise which the Spanish Government had already made, that all the captured negroes who were entitled, by virtue of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain of 1817 and 1835, to claim emancipation, should, with certain exceptions, receive their freedom before the end of the present year of 1853 ; and to state to his Excellency, at the same time, that Her Majesty's Government maintain that Escolastica and her children ought to be included in the class of emancipados whose liberation has been promised to Her Majesty's Government by that of Her Catholic Majesty.

Although the Captain-General desired the Political Secretary, Don Lorenzo del Busto, to acknowledge the receipt of this communication, which it was clearly expressed to his Excellency had been addressed to him in consequence of your Lordship's express instruction to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, that acknowledgment is accompanied by the usual discourteous observation as to my not being authorized to address such communications to his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 583.

The Judges of the Mixed Court of Justice to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 2, 1853.

IN answer to the communication which this Mixed Court of Justice addressed to his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General on the 12th of July last past, as to your Honour's request to be furnished with a copy of the general returns which are referred to in the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex (C) to the Treaty of 1835, relative to the existence (numbers remaining) of the negroes who have been emancipated, their deaths, improvement of their condition, &c.,—as said statements do not exist in this before-mentioned tribunal,—his Excellency says to us, under date the 23rd of the same month, as follows :

“Most Excellent Sir,—I have received the official letter of the Court, dated the 12th instant, soliciting, for the Consul-General of England, and at his petition, a copy of the statements relative to the remaining emancipated negroes ; and qualifying as officious the act of said functionary, in whom there exists no authority whatever to have made the request, I say so to the Court in answer.”

And which we translate to your Honour, in consequence of its having been so resolved in the Court which was held yesterday.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS DE ESTEVA.
G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 583.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at Havana to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, August 24, 1853.

I HAVE received a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, respecting the case of an emancipada named Escolastica, and her children, in whose behalf you have made an application to the Captain-General, and who have been transferred from Havana to the interior of this island.

In obedience to instructions contained in Lord Clarendon's despatch, I have to request that you will address a note to his Excellency the Captain-General, transmitting to him a copy of the inclosed letter, addressed by the Count de Alcoy to Lord Howden on the 15th of March last, informing him what steps had been taken in accordance with a promise which the Spanish Government had already made,—that all the captured negroes who were entitled, by virtue of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain of 1817 and 1835, to claim emancipation, should, with certain exceptions, receive their freedom before the end of the present year of 1853 ; and that you will at the same time state to his Excellency that Her Britannic Majesty's Government maintain that Escolastica and her children ought to be included in the class of emancipados whose liberation has been promised to Her Majesty's Government by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 583.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, August 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to you herewith a copy of a letter which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General, in consequence of your despatch of the 24th; and I also inclose to you a copy of Mr. Secretary Del Busto's answer, which is dated the 27th instant.

The object of serving the notice upon his Excellency, with regard to the liberation of the emancipados generally, as promised by the Spanish Government in Count Alcoy's note to Lord Howden of the 15th of March last, you will observe has been fully accomplished; as well as the special notification respecting Escolastica and her children, notwithstanding the gratuitous observations which General Cañedo directed the Political Secretary to make in the concluding paragraph of his answer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 583.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, August 24, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Excellency the copy of a letter of this day's date, which Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, has addressed to me, in consequence of instructions which he has received from Her Majesty's Government with reference to the correspondence which I have found it my duty to address to your Excellency respecting the emancipada Escolastica and her children.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge requests me to transmit to your Excellency the inclosed copy of a note which was addressed by his Excellency the Count Alcoy to Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, on the 15th of March last, informing him what steps had been taken in accordance with a promise which the Spanish Government had already made, that all the captured negroes who were entitled, by virtue of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain of 1817 and 1835, to claim emancipation, should, with certain exceptions, receive their freedom before the end of this present year of 1853.

And I am at the same time to state to your Excellency that Her Britannic Majesty's Government maintain that Escolastica and her children ought to be included in the class of emancipados whose liberation has been promised to Her Majesty's Government by that of Her Catholic Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 583.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 27, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 25th current, inclosing to him copy of a letter addressed to you by Her Britannic Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed Court of Justice respecting emancipated negroes.

His Excellency, in consequence thereof, orders me to say to you, that

as your Honour has no faculties [authority] for interference in that description of business [in such matters], it is painful to him not to be able to give you any answer whatever upon this subject.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 584.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 28, 1853.

I DID myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 9th ultimo, that the notorious slaver the "*Lady Suffolk*," after having landed her cargo of Bozal negroes at La Zapata in the Ensenada de Cochinos, in May last, proceeded to Laguna de Terminos in Yucatan, where, under Mexican colours, she had entered as the "*Mariana*," and I stated to your Lordship that I should see to the investigation of the circumstances under which she obtained papers as a Mexican vessel.

Her Majesty's brig "*Daring*," not having been admitted to pratique at Laguna, because of the cholera prevailing at Vera Cruz, Commander Napier was unable to obtain any information the first time he went upon that service; but having obtained, by the active exertions of Her Majesty's Minister, the ready acquiescence of the Mexican Government, for the visiting of vessels suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade, even in the ports of that Republic, as well as orders for the Captain of the Port and the Collector of the Customs at Laguna, to co-operate with and afford him all the assistance in their power, the Commander returned in the "*Daring*" to that place on his way to this port and Jamaica, and although even the second time, he was not admitted to "*libre practica*," he saw the ship in question, was satisfied by her appearance that she completely answered the description of the "*Lady Suffolk*," and he brought copies of her Mexican papers, as the "*Mariana*," under which she had navigated to Laguna, and reported from Cienfuegos. Commander Napier also brought me a copy of the ship's "*rol*," or articles of the crew and of the list of stores, &c., which was given to the custom-house officer upon her arrival.

I lost no time in calling upon the Consul of the United States, and in inquiring whether such documents as are stated upon the Mexican papers of the "*Mariana*," had emanated from that office.

Having received from the Acting-Consul an assurance that there was no record of any such letter or official document, or authority to sell the ship "*Mary*," as are stated to be deposited in the Mexican Consulate, proceeding from that of the United States, ever having been issued by Mr. Consul Sharkey, who was in office here at the date of the papers granted by the Mexican Consul; I then called upon the latter, and soon found that no such documents proceeding from the American Consulate were to be found in the Mexican office, but that the copies of the papers of the "*Mariana*," which were brought from Laguna by Commander Napier, were exact, and word for word compared with the record, which was left by M. Viró, and delivered to the present Consul, Don Ramon Carvallo, when he took possession of the Mexican Consulate on the 17th of May last.

Having personally ascertained the nature of the fraud committed at the Mexican Consulate, I then addressed a letter to Acting Consul Robertson, of the Consulate of the United States, copy of which and of his answer I have the honour of transmitting herewith.

I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship, a copy of that which I addressed to M. Carvallo, the Mexican Consul, and his answer thereto; and I inclose herewith to your Lordship, copies of the papers which were fraudulently, as I have described, issued to the "*Lady Suffolk*,"

purporting to have been furnished to the American ship "*Mary*" of Boston, William Smith, master, on the 13th of May last, under the pretence that said master was duly authorized by the owner of the said ship "*Mary*," Mr. Henry West, of Boston, to sell her to Don Juan Gutierrez, a Mexican citizen, acting for Don José Ruiz, also a Mexican, and resident of that Republic. The said ship "*Mary*" having by the means above set forth become Mexican, is described as being of the burden or measurement of 416 tons, and to have been at that time lying in the port of Cienfuegos.

I lost no time in forwarding to Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, authenticated copies of all these documents, *via* New Orleans, and I took the pains to have application made at Cienfuegos, to the Capitan del Puerto, and to the American Consul, in order to ascertain whether any such ship or vessel as the "*Mary*" of Boston, William Smith, master, of 416 tons measurement, was in May last, or at any other time during this year, in that port.

The result of those inquiries having been, that the Captain of the Port and the American Consul have both certified that no such ship has been at the port of Sagua or Cienfuegos, during this year, I forwarded the original documents to Mr. Doyle, and have now the honour of transmitting copies to your Lordship along with this despatch.

But I regret most exceedingly that, subsequently, I have been informed the "*Lady Suffolk*" had got away from Laguna, so that the proofs which I have been able to adduce will only serve as the grounds for investigating the conduct of the party responsible for the issuing of the papers under the glaring circumstances which have resulted from my inquiries respecting this extraordinary affair.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship, a copy of my letter to Mr. Doyle which accompanied the certificates from Cienfuegos, in which I have adverted to the date of the false papers, and that of the arrival here from Mexico of M. Viró, the Consul for that Republic, who having obtained the appointment of Minister to Spain, transferred the archives to Don Ramon Carvallo; and I have noticed to Mr. Doyle, that M. Soler (Viró's nephew), who as Acting Consul signed the false papers, is a mere boy, and could not have been authorized to act between the date of the incumbent's return to his post and the transfer of the archives, unless he did so upon the Consul's responsibility.

Inclosure 1 in No. 584.

Consul-General Crawford to Consul Robertson.

Sir,

Havana, July 27, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your perusal, requesting that they may be returned to me afterwards, copies of the papers which it appears were issued from the Mexican Consulate at this place for a ship to be put under that flag on the 13th of May last.

The ship referred to was a slaver, and which was formerly the American vessel the "*Lady Suffolk*," whose history I need not go into, because it is already known in your Consulate: but I may add to your information respecting said ship, that after she had ceased to carry the American flag, she went to Africa, and from thence brought a cargo of negro slaves, which were landed at a place to the westward of Cienfuegos on the south of this island in that jurisdiction, with connivance of the Spanish authorities, as there is reason to believe.

As the ship referred to (formerly the "*Lady Suffolk*") had no papers under which to navigate, it seems that a scheme was got up to obtain for her the Mexican flag, and you will see by the documents which I am now enabled to lay before you that it is stated therein that they were issued upon the certificates and papers which are referred to as having been presented at the Mexican Consulate on the 13th of May last, *viz.*, an official letter addressed by the United States' Consul to the Consul for

Mexico (who subscribed the sea letters of the ship referred to), requesting that a bill of sale might be extended for said vessel, and also that William Smith, as the attorney of Mr. Henry West of Boston, owner of the American ship "*Mary*," then (on the 13th of May last) said to be lying in the harbour of Cienfuegos, of the burden of 410 tons, &c., and was competently authorized to sell the said ship "*Mary*" to Don Juan Gutierrez, who became the purchaser, &c.

Now, as I have some reason to think that there has been a great fraud in this whole matter, and as there can be little doubt that the papers which were so obtained at the Mexican Consulate in this city were to cover, if possible, a ship which had been just before that date engaged in the Slave Trade—no such ship as the American ship "*Mary*," William Smith master, having been then or at any time in the harbour of Cienfuegos; and that the ship which carried the Mexican papers, so fraudulently obtained, was in reality the slaver formerly the "*Lady Suffolk*," which, under the assumed name of the "*Mariana*," arrived at Laguna de Terminos in Yucatan about the 30th of May last, where she has been detained by the Mexican authorities; I have to request that you will do me the favour of informing me officially whether there is any record in the United States' Consulate now under your charge of the transactions stated upon the papers issued to the "*Mariana*" as having originated by authority of the then Consul Sharkey; whether there is any knowledge or record of the ship "*Mary*," William Smith master, having been, about the 13th of May last, at Cienfuegos, and that said master, as attorney duly authorized by Henry West of Boston, owner of said vessel, was certified by Mr. Consul Sharkey to the Mexican Consul as entitled to sell said American ship "*Mary*."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 584.

Consul Robertson to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, July 28, 1853.

YOUR communication of the 27th instant, with the accompanying documents from the Mexican Consulate here, have been received, and their contents duly noted. In answer to your queries respecting a letter or any other authority from Judge Sharkey, the late Consul, authorizing the transfer of the ship "*Mary*," William Smith master, I have to say that I have carefully examined the records of this office, and find no mention made of such a ship or anything attending to or having reference to her, or any of the parties named in the papers emanating from the office of the Mexican Consul at Havana.

From the examination of these papers, the whole transaction, it would seem, was begun and ended in a fraud. For if the Mexican Consul had produced to him a communication from Consul Sharkey, it must have been a forged document; but even so, it appears to me that the document ought to be on record in the Mexican Consul's archives. For how could the Mexican Consul have given a register and mentioned that he had that document in his possession unless he had it, or unless he made a false statement in the documents issued by him, and which I perceive are all signed by Joaquin Soler "en ausencia del Señor Consul?"

I am, &c.

(Signed) WM. H. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 584.

*Consul-General Crawford to Señor Carvallo.**Havana, July 27, 1853.*

DO me the favour to certify whether these papers are exact copies, word for word, of certain documents which, on the 13th of May last, were issued at the Mexican Consulate at that time under the charge of Don Joaquin Soler, acting for the Consul effective, who was Don Buenaventura Viró, which documents were granted to the ship "*Mariana*," previously the "*Mary*," which afterwards went on a voyage from Cienfuegos to Laguna de Terminos, the circumstances being set forth in the documents which I have now the honour of inclosing to you.

Said ship you already know officially has been detained by the officers and Mexican authorities at Laguna de Terminos in consequence of certain informalities and suspicion of having been engaged in Slave Trade, and this renders it necessary to clear up all doubts as to her having been furnished with papers as a Mexican vessel.

I therefore hope that you will be pleased to grant me certified copies of the documents referred to in said ship's papers, viz., of the official letter which it is said on the 13th May last had been received at the Mexican Consulate from that of the United States in this city, to draw up and execute the bill of sale of said property.

Also an official certified copy of the competent authorization of the American Consul which, it is said, Mr. William Smith presented as attorney of Henry West of Boston, merchant, to sell the said ship "*Mary*" to the Mexican Captain Don Juan Gutierrez, as attorney for Don Juan Ruiz.

Which two writings, indispensable for the habilitation of said ship, are no doubt deposited (as it is stated on the ship's papers) in the archives of the Consulate, now so worthily confided to your charge, and there ought not to be any objection to my being furnished with copies of said documents, in order that they might be recognized by the Acting-Consul of the United States, and afterwards transmitted, all complete, to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary near the Supreme Government of the Mexican Republic for such purposes as may be convenient.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 584.

Señor Carvallo to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Colleague and Friend,

Havana, July 28, 1853.

CORRESPONDING to your attentive letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour of returning to you the documents of which you sent me copies, duly legalized, since they are textually inscribed under date the 13th of May last, in the protocol of this Consulate under my charge from pages 44 to 47 inclusive. I do not do so as regards the "patente" and "rol," as there is no record of these, and I cannot gratify you by sending the certified copies which you were pleased to ask of me, of the official letter addressed to this Consulate by that of the United States in this city, nor of the competent authority which the American Consul gave to Mr. Smith as attorney for Mr. Henry West, merchant of Boston, to sell the

ship "*Mary*," moored in Cienfuegos, to Captain Don Juan Gutierrez, attorney for Don Juan Ruiz; because I have not hitherto been able to find them in the archives of this Consulate, which has been under my charge since the 17th of said month of May last only.

See, my dear colleague, if there is anything else in which I can serve you, and in the mean time accept the assurance of my particular esteem.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) RAMON CARVALLO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 584.

Papers referred to in Consul-General Crawford's letter to Señor Carvalho.

(Translation.)

Consulate of Mexico, at Havana.

ON the 13th of the month of May, 1853, personally appeared before me, M. Juan Gutierrez, a Mexican citizen, acting for and in the name of M. José Ruiz, also a Mexican citizen and resident, and said:—

That having acquired, in the name of his principal, the property of the American ship "*Mary*," anchored in the port of Cienfuegos, as appears from an instrument in writing, transmitted on this day by the Consul of the United States of America to the undersigned Mexican Consul, &c., he was desirous that he should obtain the necessary papers duly authenticating his right and title.

Now, therefore, in presence of M. Juan Gutierrez, acting for and in the name of M. José Ruiz, and Mr. William Smith, Captain, first purchaser and second vendor of the American ship "*Mary*," the following articles were agreed upon before me and the witnesses whose names are hereinafter signed.

Captain Smith, by virtue of the full power which he holds from Mr. Henry West, merchant, of the city of Boston, and by virtue of competent authorization from his Consul in this Consulate, sells to the Mexican captain, M. Juan Gutierrez, agent of M. José Ruiz, the American ship "*Mary*," anchored in the bay of Cienfuegos, with her masts, tackle, sails, anchors, chains, running rigging, smaller crafts, and other appurtenances, according to the inventory now presented by the said captain.

The ship aforesaid measures 410 tons, and her dimensions are 120 feet keel, 130 extreme length, 17 feet hold, and 32 extreme breadth.

Captain Smith sells the aforesaid ship for the sum of 16,000 dollars, for which sum he acknowledges receipt in full, he having it now in his possession, and which said sum he acknowledges to have been paid to his complete satisfaction; and he therefore renounces all the rights which he had in and to the said ship, and he grants to the said purchaser, M. Juan Gutierrez, the fullest and completest acknowledgment of payment that may be conducive to his security, by virtue of which he abandons, divests, yields, and fully gives up the right of property which he has in the aforesaid vessel, the ship "*Mary*;" he grants, releases, and quit-claims the same, with all active, real, and personal, useful, mixed, direct, and executory, to the aforesaid purchaser, M. Juan Gutierrez, acting as the lawful attorney of M. José Ruiz, of Mexico, that he may hold the said vessel, and sell, alienate, and otherwise dispose of the same at his free will and choice, as his own property, acquired with a just and lawful title.

M. Juan Gutierrez, acting as the representative of M. José Ruiz, accepts the said sale, and therefore acknowledges that he has received the aforesaid ship, with all her apparel and other appurtenances set forth in the inventory.

In testimony whereof the foregoing was duly read to Captain Smith, through an interpreter, M. Fernando Ruiz, and he declared the same to be correct, and that the contents of this instrument were true and certain;

whereupon both parties hereto signed, in the presence of Ramon Diaz, Cipriano Muñoz, and Fernando Elias.

(Signed)

JUAN GUTIERREZ.
WILLIAM SMITH.
FERNANDO RUIZ.
CIPRIANO MUNOZA.
FERNANDO ELIAS.

Before me,

(Signed)

JOAQUIN SOLER.

The foregoing is a faithful copy of the original instrument entered in the 44th page of Book (A) of the Records of this Consulate, under my charge. In testimony whereof, and in order that the same may fully appear when necessary, I have signed these presents, on this 30th day of the month of May, 1853.

The Consul being absent,

(Signed)

JOAQUIN SOLER.

Consulate of Mexico, at Havana.

By virtue of the petition presented to this Consulate by M. Juan Gutierrez, captain of the ship "*Mariana*," requesting that there be granted to the vessel under his command letters of naturalization, she being the property of M. José Ruiz, a subject and native citizen of the Republic, as appears from the instrument of sale made at this Consulate, under date May 13th instant, M. Valentin Conigo, a merchant of this place, personally appeared on this 13th day of May, 1853, and before me, Consul, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed, said, that in order to comply with the laws, he bound his present, past, and future property, giving two-thirds the amount of the security of two-thirds of the purchase-money of the ship "*Mariana*," he being consequently responsible to that amount for the improper use that might be made of the provisional patent of naturalization, solicited by Captain Juan Gutierrez, in order to allow his sailing with the said vessel under the Mexican flag.

In testimony whereof he signs these presents at the city of Havana, at the office of the Mexican Consulate, on the day abovementioned in presence of the witnesses Ramon Diaz, Cipriano Muñoz, and Fernando Elias.

(Signed)

RAMON DIAZ.
CIPRIANO MUNOZA.
FERNANDO ELIAS.

Before me,

(Signed)

JOAQUIN SOLER.

The foregoing document is a true copy of the original instrument, to be found on the 47th page of Book (A) of Records of this Mexican Consulate, and under my charge. In testimony whereof, and in order that the same may fully appear when necessary, I have, upon request, given these presents on this 13th day of May, 1853.

The Consul being absent,

(Signed)

JOAQUIN SOLER.

Consulate of Mexico, at Havana.

The Mexican Consul at Havana declares that M. Juan Gutierrez, a Mexican subject, by profession a seaman, and the authorized agent of M. José Ruiz, a merchant of Mexico, has, duly and in conformity to the laws of the Republic, proven that he has acquired for his principal the property of the ship called the "*Mariana*," and that, desiring that she should carry the national flag, he requested that I should confer upon him the requisite letters of naturalization and patent of naturalization: Now I declare that the aforesaid vessel, the ship "*Mariana*," of the burthen of 410 tons, and of the following dimensions, keel net 120 feet, extreme length 130, extreme breadth 32, hold 17, has a right to navigate under the Mexican flag,

and consequently I grant the present passport to the said Juan Gutierrez, merchant-captain, in order that, with the said ship "*Mariana*," he may leave the port of Cienfuegos, where she is now anchored, and proceed to the Laguna de Terminos, for which voyage only this present provisional patent shall be valid, it being incumbent upon him there to present himself to the competent authorities, that they may deliver to him the necessary national patent.

Therefore, I do beg and entreat of all the civil, military, and naval officers and functionaries, the commanders of vessels of war, or other officers, both national and foreign, unto whom these presents may come, to consider the said vessel as Mexican, and consequently not to place any impediment in the way of her pursuing her voyage, but, on the contrary, to facilitate the same, tending her aid and succour, should the same be asked of them.

This present provisional patent, valid for this voyage only, has been given at the office of the Mexican Consul, at the city of Havana, the 13th day of May, 1853.

The Consul being absent,

(Signed)

JOAQUIN SOLER.

Consulate of Mexico, at Havana.

Provisional list of the crew of the national ship "*Mariana*," 410 tons burthen, and belonging to M. Juan Ruiz, a merchant of Mexico, Juan Gutierrez, master, anchored in the port of Cienfuegos, to set sail on a voyage to the Laguna de Terminos, with the hands whose names are hereinafter set forth.

Rank.	Names.	Country.	Matriculated at.
Captain and Mate ..	Juan Gutierrez ..	Cadiz ..	Barcelona.
Second Mate ..	Franco. Sust ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Boatswain ..	Carlos Roig ..	Barcelona ..	Alicante.
Cook ..	Pedro Gutierrez..	Malaga..	Cadiz.
Sailor ..	José Gill ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Ditto ..	Pedro Sanz ..	Barcelona ..	Ditto.
Ditto ..	Juan Suarez ..	Malaga..	Barcelona.
Ditto ..	Antonio Roch ..	Valencia ..	Cadiz.
Ditto ..	Eduardo Perez ..	Santander ..	Santander.
Ditto ..	Francisco Soler ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Ditto ..	Miguel Rosi ..	Italia ..	Parma.
Ditto ..	Sebasn. Lino ..	Barcelona ..	Cadiz.
Ditto ..	José Grema ..	Ditto ..	Barcelona.
Ditto ..	Cipriano Pacheco..	Cadiz ..	Ditto.
Ditto ..	Gregorio Paz ..	Ditto ..	Cadiz.
Ditto ..	Fernando Garcia ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Apprentice ..	Anto. Pardo ..	San Sebastian ..	Malaga.
Ditto ..	Joaqn. Mila ..	Almeira ..	Ditto.
Ditto ..	Ramon Ros ..	Barcelona ..	Barcelona.
Page ..	Dionisio Mora ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.

I grant leave unto the said captain, with his vessel and crew aforesaid, to set sail for the Puerto de Laguna, to which place only this provisional roll will be used by him, and he shall there provide himself with all the papers required by our laws.

Said captain has declared that he has on board the following passengers:—Don José Anto. Mestres, Don Rufino Salamanca, Don Felipe Dominguez, Don Juan Navarro, Don Manuel Mesloso, Don Palacio Alvarez.

Given at Havana this 13th day of May, 1853.

Consul being absent,

(Signed) JOAQUIN SOLER.

Manifest of the balance of provisions taken in by captain of the Mexican ship "*Mariana*," bound from the port of Cienfuegos to Laguna de Terminos.

14 barrels beef.	20 bags barley, damaged.
8 " pork.	2 " salt pork.
5 " biscuit.	2 " coffee.
3 " lard.	3 kegs butter.
8 " vinegar.	2 " olives.
3 " mackerel.	2 " salt fish.
5 " brandy.	4 packages smoked meat.
5 " biscuit, damaged.	$\frac{1}{2}$ bag almonds.
1 " beer.	8 garrafons wine.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " salt.	10 bottles wine (Muscatel).
$\frac{1}{2}$ " flour, damaged.	16 dozen cherry brandy.
1 box sugar.	6 " syrup.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " cheese.	2 jars olive oil.
1 " tea.	10 boxes of sweetmeats.
4 " cod, damaged.	6 " small, medicine.
3 " cider.	4 " large, do.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " Rhenish wine.	2 " do., do.
3 bags red beans.	6 bales mats.
3 " white beans.	300 water-casks.
3 " rice.	25 muskets.
2 barrels fresh biscuit.	ballast.

Laguna de Terminos, May 31, 1853.

(Signed)

JUAN GUTIERREZ.

Here follows M. Consul Carvalho's certificate dated the 28th of July, 1853, to the effect that all these documents are true copies of the originals in the office of the Mexican Consulate.

Inclosure 6 in No. 584.

Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Havana, July 28, 1853.

HER Majesty's brig-sloop "*Daring*" arrived here on the 26th instant from Vera Cruz, last from Laguna de Terminos, where Commander Napier was not admitted to pratique, but he was able to have interviews with the Captain of the Port and the Collector of the Customs, as well as with Mr. Vice-Consul Shields, relative to the ship "*Mariana*" (a) "*Lady Suffolk*," which vessel fourteen days ago was still under detention of the Mexican authorities at Laguna.

Commander Napier explained the nature of the Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico to the local authorities, showing them that they were justified in detaining the "*Mariana*" for many reasons, she having had on board no less than 300 water-casks, 90 bags of millet, and other materials only used by slaves, besides the informality of her papers, copies of which the Commander obtained and laid before me.

Upon a careful examination of said papers, which it appears were

issued on the 13th of May last by Acting-Consul Soler, of the Mexican Consulate in this city, I discovered that it is set forth in them that they were granted upon official communications which had been addressed by the Consul of the United States to that of Mexico, which are referred to, and are stated to be in the archives of the latter Consulate.

I lost no time in inquiring as to the reality of said documents referred to in the "*Mariana's*" papers, and I have ascertained not only that none such ever emanated from the Consulate of the United States, but that there are no such documents existing in the archives of Mexico! So that the whole of these papers belonging to the "*Mariana*" have been fraudulently obtained and issued in a manner which must call for the fullest investigation of the Mexican Government to detect and punish the actors in this transaction.

The papers are signed as having been despatched by Acting-Consul Soler on the "13th of May," and it is remarkable that the Consul (Don Buenaventura Viró) was here at the time, having returned from Mexico on the 9th of that month—Soler being quite a young man, and Viró's nephew.

In consequence of these discoveries I have requested certified copies of the papers of the "*Mariana*" from the Mexican Consulate, and I have applied to that of the United States for official information as to the documents which, it is stated upon the "*Mariana's*" papers, were presented in the former as having emanated from the latter Consulate, and formed the basis of the whole scandalous transaction.

Should I receive these certificates from the two Consulates in time, I shall transmit copies to you by this opportunity of the United States' mail-steamer *viâ* Mobile, for transmission through New Orleans to Vera Cruz, but if not, I shall send them by some sure opportunity, and I propose requesting Commander Napier to return to Laguna forthwith, carrying these proofs for the condemnation of the "*Mariana*" (a) "*Lady Suffolk*," which vessel I should suppose the Mexican authorities will immediately order to Vera Cruz for adjudication.

P.S.—Finding that it would interfere with Commander Napier's to return with the "*Daring*" to the Gulf of Mexico at present, and that he must proceed to Port Royal, Jamaica, I have determined to send the originally certified documents in the case of the "*Mariana*" (a) "*Lady Suffolk*," *viâ* Mobile and New Orleans, inclosed to you herewith, but left open for Mr. Consul Giffard to communicate them to the authorities of the Mexican Marine at Vera Cruz, so that a Mexican man-of-war may immediately be despatched to Laguna to bring the detained vessel to Vera Cruz for adjudication; and I transmit along with said documents a despatch from M. Carvallo, the present Mexican Consul, to the Secretary of State upon this same subject.

In the hope that all this will be sufficient to condemn the detained ship, and requesting to have the earliest advice of the action assumed by the Mexican authorities upon the receipt of these proofs, I have only to press the necessity of the vessel being brought from Laguna to Vera Cruz without a moment's delay, as Commander Napier does not consider that she is secure at Laguna.

I find upon reading over these papers that I have omitted to notice that the purchaser of the ship, Juan Gutierrez, who is described as a Mexican captain in the papers, is put on the "rol" as "capitan y piloto," native of Cadiz and of the Matricula of Barcelona! a Mexican citizen truly.

Query.—Is there such a person as Ruiz in Mexico, who gave his power of attorney to Don Juan Gutierrez to buy the "*Mary*?" I fancy not.

Inclosure 7 in No. 584.

Acting Vice-Consul Fowler to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Cienfuegos, August 9, 1853.

MY father having forwarded me a note relative to obtaining certificates concerning the American barque "*Mary*," I now beg to inclose these documents, which I trust will be satisfactory.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE M. FOWLER.

Inclosure 8 in No. 584.

Certificate.

*Consular Agency of the United States of America,
Cienfuegos, August 6, 1853.*

I DO hereby certify that no American vessel or ship answering to the following description has arrived at this port during the present year, namely:—Ship "*Mary*," William Smith master, of the burden per register of 410 tons.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature and seal of office, day and year above mentioned.

(Signed)

GEORGE M. FOWLER,
Consular Agent U. S.

Inclosure 9 in No. 584.

Certificate.

(Translation.)

DON JOSEPH MARIA ANTRAN, Gentleman of the Royal and Military Order of San Hermenegildo, Captain in the Navy and of the port of Sagua (Cienfuegos), in the Island of Cuba, &c.

I certify that the American ship "*Mary*," of 410 tons, Captain William Smith, has not entered this port in all the present year; and for the purposes it may be required, and at the petition of Messrs. Fowler and Prosper, merchants, of this place, I have granted the present certificate.

Cienfuegos, August 9, 1853.

(Signed)

JOSE M. ANTRAN.

Inclosure 10 in No. 584.

Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Doyle.

Sir

Havana, August 23, 1853.

I DID myself the honour of transmitting to you, *via* New Orleans, certain documents which were calculated to prove the fraud which it would appear had been concocted and put into practice at the Mexican Consulate in this city, with regard to the papers furnished to the notorious slaver the "*Lady Suffolk*."

I have now to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 2nd instant and its inclosures, showing the readiness with which the Mexican Government acceded to your request, permitting the search of vessels suspected of having been engaged in the Slave Trade in the ports of the Republic.

Regretting as I do that the "*Lady Suffolk*" has escaped, I transmit

herewith two more papers which may have been considered as wanting to complete the proofs as to the proceeding of the Mexican Consul in this business, being the certificates of the American Consul and the Captain of the Port of Cienfuegos, to the effect that no such vessel as the "*Mary*," of Boston, William Smith master, was at any time this year in that port.

The false papers issued for the slaver you will observe were signed by Soler as Acting Consul, but M. Viró, the Consul, was here at the time Soler, his nephew, is a mere boy, and Viró no doubt was the responsible party: he arrived here on the 9th of May from Mexico. The false papers are dated the 13th, and he delivered over the office archives, &c., to my respectable friend M. Carvallo on the 17th of that month, previous to his departure for Spain *viâ* the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 585.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 29, 1853.

I DID myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd instant such circumstances as had come to my knowledge respecting the kidnapping of Indians at certain places in Yucatan, for the purpose of bringing them to this island to be dealt with as slaves, and I also transmitted to your Lordship the copy of a letter which I considered it my duty to address to the Captain-General of Cuba, to which at that time I had not been favoured with any reply.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship the further correspondence which has passed with his Excellency upon this subject, and I hope that Her Majesty's Government will approve of my having so clearly expressed to General Cañedo what I conceive to be the meaning of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as expressed in Articles I and II of that of 1835, knowing that some years ago the question was seriously discussed here in the councils of the Government, whether slaves from any other place than the coast of Africa could be brought to this island without such slaves coming under the provisions of the existing Treaties? and as the preponderance of opinion was that the Treaties have reference to negro slaves coming from the coast of Africa only, I ventured at once to express myself against that interpretation of the Treaty which is hinted at by Mr. Secretary Del Busto in his note of the 8th instant, wherein he says, that "I am neither directly nor indirectly authorized to move in cases like the present, which has nothing to do with the Treaties for repression of the Trade in Negroes." The object of the discussion to which I have alluded was that of bringing negroes from Brazil with passports; and it was the opinion of the Junta de Fomento, in the time of Captain-General O'Donnell, that in that manner any number of slaves could be introduced without such introductions coming under the restrictions of the Treaties with Great Britain.

I therefore considered it my duty at once to record a protest against any such interpretation of the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835; and this it seems has given so much offence to the dignity of the Captain-General, that it is to be made the subject of another complaint against me to the Spanish Government, which intimation of his Excellency's displeasure is accompanied by the threat of returning my letters if I presumed to write again upon such a subject. I hope that, under such circumstances, I may not have incurred your Lordship's blame for having subsequently addressed General Canedo to acquaint him of the trial and conviction of the confederates of the party here resident who received and retained in slavery the unfortunate victims which Anduze and his associate entrapped, and sent to him, in pursuance of their most unholy practices.

I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that the Mexican

Consul, M. Ramon Carvallo, is most earnestly engaged in the prosecution of this business, and will insist upon the restitution of the kidnapped Indians; for which purpose I have afforded him all the assistance and information in my power.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship copies of our correspondence, and I have to state to your Lordship that I have communicated to M. Carvallo Mr. Superintendent Wodehouse's last despatch, with a list of the names of the Indians which is annexed thereto.

I also beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of my letter to Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico upon this important subject, which I considered would enable Mr. Doyle to interest that Government to push the matter by more positive instructions to demand the restitution of the Indians, and authorize the Consul to send them back to Yucatan.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 585.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 8, 1853.

YOUR Honour's official letter of the 14th of July last, with the extract of a letter from Her Britannic Majesty's Superintendent in Honduras, announcing the arrest at Belize of an agent who it is said was engaged in collecting Indians of Yucatan to send them to this port, for the purpose of being treated as slaves, has been received by his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, who has charged me to say to your Honour, as I do, that you are to confine yourself entirely in your official operations to that strictly marked out to your Honour by the limited attributions of your character of commercial agent in your capacity of Consul; since neither directly nor indirectly is your Honour authorized to bring up anything like this present, which has nothing to do with the Treaties for suppression of the Traffic in Negroes, which your Honour it seems wishes so to interpret, when none of their Articles can be applied to the present case.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 2 in No. 585.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, August 11, 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated the 8th instant, which the Political Secretary of this island, Don Lorenzo del Busto, states he has been authorized by your Excellency to address to me, in answer to an official communication which I considered it my duty to make to your Excellency on the 14th ultimo, inclosing an extract from a despatch which Her Majesty's Superintendent at Belize, British Honduras, had addressed to the British Admiral on the West India and North American station, relative to the kidnapping of Indians on the coast of Yucatan, for the purpose of sending them to Havana, to be dealt with as slaves.

I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying this correspondence before Her Majesty's Government.

But in the meantime I feel myself called upon, in the execution of the important duties confided to me by my Government, to protest, as I hereby do most firmly but respectfully protest, against the principle inculcated by your Excellency in Mr. Secretary Del Busto's letter now before me, which involves the erroneous conclusion that the recent most atrocious cases of man-stealing which have been perpetrated by two Spaniards, Don

J. B. Anduze (who is now a prisoner for that offence at Belize), and his associate, Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, of this city, do not come within the provisions of the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, for the total abolition of the Slave Trade.

I would respectfully refer your Excellency to that Treaty, the first Articles of which are quite conclusive upon this subject.

ART. I. The Slave Trade is hereby again declared, on the part of Spain, to be henceforward totally and finally abolished in all parts of the world.

II. Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, during the minority of her daughter, Doña Isabel the Second, hereby engages that immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty, and from time to time afterwards, as it may become needful, Her Majesty will take the most effectual measures for preventing the subjects of Her Catholic Majesty from being concerned, and her flag from being used in any way in carrying on the Trade in Slaves; and especially that within two months from the ratification she will promulgate throughout the dominions of Her Catholic Majesty a penal law, inflicting a severe punishment on all those Her Catholic Majesty's subjects who shall under any pretence whatever take any part in the Traffic in Slaves, &c.

Your Excellency will perceive from the text of the existing Treaty which I have just quoted that it is the Slave Trade in all parts of the world which is declared to be abolished, and that that Treaty cannot be construed as being limited to, or as having reference only to the Traffic in Negro Slaves, as the Secretary, by direction of your Excellency, insinuates in the observations which have been indulged in with regard to my representation of such acts of slave-trading.

It is my duty to denounce to your Excellency every species of infraction of the existing Treaties for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and I have to express the deep regret I feel that it should ever have become necessary for me to denounce so horrible an instance as that which gave occasion for my letter to your Excellency of the 14th ultimo.

According to the instructions which I hold from Her Majesty's Government, I most respectfully but seriously remonstrate with your Excellency upon the subject of that violation of the Treaty, and I cannot but express my conviction that a very great responsibility will result if such an offence and outrage is suffered to pass unnoticed.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 585.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

Translation.)

Havana, August 20, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's official letter of the 11th instant, in which your Honour improperly interprets the Treaties for the repression of the illicit Trade in Negroes from the coast of Africa. Referring to what I stated to your Honour, by his Excellency's orders, on the 8th of the same, in consequence of your letter of the 14th July last, relative to some Indians from Yucatan who, according to the extract of the letter which accompanied your Honour's said letter from the Superintendent of Belize, were stolen by a certain Anduze, and conveyed in a small vessel called the "*Jenny Lind*," to the neighbourhood of the Islas Mugerres; to be transmitted to this island. His Excellency in consequence orders me to say to your Honour, in answer, that he repels with all the dignity which belongs to him, the crooked interpretation and protest contained in your Honour's said official letter, adding that, besides applying in complaint to the Government of

Her Majesty the Queen our Lady, if upon any occasion your Honour repeats letters upon questions which, like the present, are without your limited sphere, they will be returned to your Honour.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 4 in No. 585.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, August 25, 1853.

I HAVE received Mr. Secretary Del Busto's letter of the 20th instant, which he has addressed to me by your Excellency's orders, in answer to my official communication of the 11th, and I regret that your Excellency's reading of the Treaty of the 28th June, 1835, should be so different from what appears to me to be its text and meaning.

I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying this correspondence before Her Majesty's Government, but it will be due to myself that I, in the first instance, disclaim all or even the most remote intention of offending your Excellency's dignity by my letter of the 11th instant.

And with regard to the offence committed by Don J. B. Anduze, the person accused at Belize, British Honduras, of having been engaged in the kidnapping of Indians at the coast of Yucatan, and sending them here to be dealt with as slaves, I have now the honour of laying before your Excellency the inclosed copy of a despatch from Mr. Wodehouse, Her Majesty's Superintendent of that Settlement, acquainting me that said Anduze and another, his associate in that crime, had been tried, convicted, and condemned, by the Grand Court, the one to four, and the other to three years' hard labour.

Your Excellency will find annexed to Mr. Wodehouse's despatch a list* of the names of some of the Indians who, it appeared at the trial of Anduze, had been sent to Havana.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 585.

The Superintendent of British Honduras to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Government House, Belize, July 15, 1853.

WITH reference to my letter of the 11th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the person named J. B. Anduze and another were lately tried here by the Grand Court, for an offence against the 10th section of the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, were convicted and sentenced, the one to four and the other to three years' hard labour.

It appeared on the trial that thirty Indians were on this occasion sent to Francisco Marty y Torrens, who is said to have a very extensive fishery establishment, something in the nature of a monopoly, at or near Havana. His vessels trade constantly with Yucatan and the neighbouring islands, and there seems to be little doubt that the persons in charge of them take every opportunity of carrying off to Cuba any Indians that may come into their power, for whom they are paid fixed sums by their employer.

I annex a list of the names of some of those sent, in order that you may be enabled to make inquiries respecting them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. S. WODEHOUSE.

* 12 men and 1 woman.

P.S.—I have just received from the Commandant of Bacala (the nearest authority of Yucatan) his thanks for the steps taken in this matter.

Names of Indians.

Manuel Yam.	José Pat.
Juan Pacheco.	José M. Toma.
José Cozi.	Manl. Jesus Mora.
Thomas Balam.	Gregorio Paz.
Francisco Yat.	Thomas Toma.
Estevan Paz.	Dolores Balam.
A. Palomo Yam.	

Inclosure 6 in No. 585.

Señor Carvallo to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Friend and Colleague,

Havana, August 13, 1853.

HAVING established before his Excellency the Captain-General of this island, the proper claims for having placed at my disposition the Indians who have been clandestinely abstracted from Yucatan, and conveyed to this city in the fishing-smack "*Alert*," belonging to Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, in consequence of the verbal information which your Honour was pleased to communicate to me respecting such a scandalous act; it is necessary, in order to prove the justice of my assertions, to apply to your Honour that you would be pleased to favour me with all the data in support of this just claim, which I am moving on behalf of these unfortunates, and in aid of the superior dispositions of my Government.

And gladly I avail of this opportunity to anticipate to your Honour my thanks for your condescension, and at the same time the assurances of my highest esteem.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) RAMON CARVALLO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 585.

Consul-General Crawford to Señor Carvallo.

Sir,

Havana, August 13, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to you, according to your request, a copy of an official letter* which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General of this island on the 14th ultimo, transcribing to his Excellency an extract from a despatch which Her Majesty's Superintendent at Belize, British Honduras, addressed to Sir George Seymour, Vice-Admiral Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the West Indies, relative to a most atrocious act of kidnapping Indians on the coast of Yucatan, who were carried to the Islas Mugerés, and there transferred to the Spanish vessel "*Alerta*," to be brought to Havana, where these unfortunate people are placed and held in slavery.

The agent employed for this nefarious purpose by Don Francisco Marty y Torrens of this city, it appears was Don J. B. Anduze or Ancluse, who you will observe has been arrested at Belize, and the letters of his associate were found upon his person.

I have no doubt that you will take such measures as will secure the release of these unfortunate victims, and will cause them to be returned

* Inclosure 1 in No. 567.

to their native land, from whence they have been abducted in so unheard-of a manner; and for this purpose I shall be most happy to afford you my hearty cooperation.

With the expression of my greatest personal esteem,
I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 8 in No. 585.

Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Havana, August 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith copies of correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island, and with M. Carvalho, the Mexican Consul, relative to the trade which has been carried on by a certain M. J. B. Anduze, and Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, in human beings from the coast of Yucatan.

You will observe that General Cañedo, in his correspondence, had assumed a position objecting to my interference, the erroneousness of which it became my duty to point out to his Excellency, and I deemed it necessary to protest against such a principle, because it is not the first time that these authorities have tried to pass their reading of the Treaty as having reference to the Slave Trade in negroes from Africa only; and it has even been tried to interpret the Treaty of the 28th June, 1835, as not reaching to prevent the introduction of slaves from Brazil, or from any where else than direct from Africa. I also inclose to you the copy of a despatch dated the 15th ultimo, which I received yesterday from Mr. Wodehouse, Her Majesty's Superintendent at Belize, Honduras, acquainting me of the trial and conviction of Anduze and another, his confederate, in the crime of man-stealing, Anduze being condemned to four years' hard labour—a result which cannot fail to be satisfactory to his Excellency the President of the Republic; and you will observe that by the great vigilance of the British authorities at Belize, a list is subjoined to Mr. Wodehouse's despatch, of the names of 13 of the Indians who are known to have been abducted, which will enable the Mexican Government specifically to demand their restoration.

A copy of Mr. Wodehouse's despatch and list of the Indians, I have furnished to Mr. Consul Carvalho, who, I have reason to believe, is using every endeavour to obtain the release of these unfortunate people, but I have not heard that any measures have been adopted by the Spanish authorities with regard to the offender Marty y Torrens.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 586.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 29, 1853.

IT is my disagreeable duty to report to your Lordship that 360 Bozal negroes were landed near to San Juan de los Remedios on the 12th ultimo.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General respecting this violation of the Spanish law and of the Treaties for suppression of the Slave Trade.

His Excellency, your Lordship will observe, admits that he had previous information of this landing; indeed it could not well be otherwise, as the Lieutenant-Governor would hardly have gone through the form of sending the military after the slaves (which he did not do, by-the-bye, for several days after they had been landed) without reporting the circumstance to head-quarters.

My information, however, states that the officer who commanded the detachment might have captured the whole expedition at the house of Bergara, the person who received them, and who is a notorious agent of the slave-traders in that district, but for the usual persuasive golden reasons in such cases usually abounding.

My denouncement of this infraction, and my having ventured to qualify it as a violation of the law and of the Treaty, has, however, again brought upon me the warning from the Captain-General, which it is by no means agreeable to receive.

The Slave Trade flourishes; every slave that is brought to the coasts of Cuba is landed; the Spanish officers are bribed; the slave-traders interested commit their offences, and repeat them, with the most complete impunity; Commissions sent by the chief authority of the island to investigate such offences are baffled or corrupted; the masters and crews are not punished; the vessels are allowed to escape, or are destroyed by the slavers in the face of the authorities, who never capture the slaves, nor seize the vessels; and when any of the men fall into the hands of justice (the masters and officers always escape), there is never any evidence to convict them upon their trial.

Whilst such a state of things exists (and it has existed until now, and will for ever unless honourable men should be found to administer the laws) it is hopeless to expect anything else than the utter disregard of all good faith, with studied combination to evade and set at naught the solemn obligations which would be binding upon any other people.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 586.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, August 21, 1853.

IT has come to my knowledge that, on the 12th ultimo, a disembarkation of Bozal negroes was effected near to San Juan de los Remedios.

These 360 slaves were landed from the anchorage of Yagualay, and were carried from Frances (Cayo) in the launches "*La Abuela*," of which Don Francisco Casillanes is patron, and the "*Chispa*," Don Hipolito Escobar, patron, and they were landed at the wharf of Carrera, in the stores of Messrs. Carretela and Bergara. Besides the crews of the two launches above mentioned, the parties were assisted by the workmen from the estate of Santa Catalina, and the negroes were received and taken to an estate belonging to Don José Bergara, which is situated about a mile from the landing-place.

My informant states that, a few days after these negroes had been in the possession of Bergara, the Lieutenant-Governor sent a piquet of lancers and some infantry in pursuit of them, but that Bergara had succeeded in satisfying the officer in command of the said troops, and had been able to get the negroes out of the way, so that the Lieutenant-Governor's efforts to capture them had been unavailing, and Bergara afterwards disposed of them to Don José Consuegra, of Sancti Spiritus, and to Don Manuel Abreu, of Sierra Morena.

Your Excellency has no doubt received the full particulars of this violation of the law and of the existing Treaties, but I consider it my duty to state to your Excellency what I have learnt with regard to so very scandalous an affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 586.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 25, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 21st instant, relative to a disembarkation of 360 Bozal negroes which took place on the 12th (should have been the 12th ultimo), near to San Juan de los Remedios, as your Honour states.

His Excellency commissions me to state to your Honour that he has informed himself of and appreciates this information, although, from previous information, he had taken measures. It remains for him solely to say to you once more that, not recognizing in your Consular character faculties nor authority of any kind to qualify these actions, but solely to denounce them, he repels that which your Honour has permitted yourself to use, for that reason.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 587.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 29, 1853.

THE efforts which I have made—I regret to say, without success—to rescue the three British subjects, Charles Robinson, William Hersey, and John Radcliffe, mentioned in my despatch of the 2nd instant, who were sailors on board the slaver "*Jasper*," from their precarious situation at the cays, in the Ensenada de Cortez, will be best shown by the further correspondence I have had with the Captain-General, copy of which I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship.

General Cañedo at first informs me that the men in question had embarked for this port on board of a molasses vessel from Caimito, which was passing the place where they were on or about the 15th to the 20th of July.

Satisfied with that information, I waited till the 10th instant, when, finding that more than twice the time usually taken to navigate from the Ensenada de Cortez to this port had elapsed without my having been able to gain any intelligence of the men's arrival here, I again wrote to the Captain-General, and the Secretary, by his Excellency's orders, answered on the 18th, that what had been said to me on the 3rd was all that had been obtained by the careful search at Cayo de Cortez, which had been made by superior order.

I had, however, in the meantime, received information upon which I could rely, which induced me to think that the men were not sent away from the cays at the time his Excellency was informed they had been embarked, and although I knew from the nature of the circumstances which had come to my knowledge, that the particulars could not be agreeable to him, I found myself compelled, by my apprehensions for the men's lives, to state to General Cañedo what I had learnt, and which had given rise to my suspicions that the three British and three American sailors were still at the cays on the 23rd of July, when a boat with provisions, from the mainland of the island, going to the cays, in which was a letter respecting these very men, was intercepted by the Spanish officer, Lieu-

tenant Don Carlos Adolfo, who was casually at the place upon other service, and to that officer I did not hesitate to refer for corroboration of the facts which had come to my knowledge, and which had created very great anxiety for the safety of the men, which has not been lessened by his Excellency's answer.

Your Lordship will observe that the Captain-General does not deny the information which I found it necessary to detail to him. He does not re-assert that the men had been sent from the cays, where they are known to have been; nor does he say that he had given any other orders for their rescue from their perilous situation, where they are at the mercy of the slave-traders and others, whose interest it is to prevent them from falling into the hands of this Government, well knowing that they would be so many evidences of the criminality of all concerned in the affair of the "*Jasper*" and her cargo of slaves: respecting which it must be borne in mind that no less than four special Commissions had failed to obtain any proofs, but that on the contrary, by all that I have been able to learn of the various "expedientes," the Commissioners have not been able to discover that any such vessel as the "*Jasper*" ever came to the Ensenada de Cortez, and that the proceedings have been ineffectual to prove that any landing of Bozal negroes took place at Bailen, although the circumstances are known to all the inhabitants, and were as public and open to be seen as the sun at noon-day.

Such is the state of things in this island, that no one could be found to declare the truth; whilst at the same time there are three American sailors in the common gaol of this city, who came in the "*Jasper*," and made the voyage round from New York to the coast of Africa, and thence to the Ensenada de Cortez on board her; which three Americans declare that they were forced to remain in the "*Jasper*," after she took in her slaves, and had no alternative but to come with her to this island, where the slaves were landed; and that there were six others, viz., three British and three American sailors with them on board the "*Jasper*," who remained at the cays, when they made their escape in a boat, were captured at Cape San Antonio by the Spaniards, at a place where they went on shore for water, and were sent here as prisoners to stand their trial.

That the sailors subject of my representations to the Captain-General were actually at the cays, there can be no doubt, since his Excellency, in his letter of the 3rd, informs me they had embarked in a molasses vessel for this port, where it is certain that they have never arrived.

It is therefore most unsatisfactory that the Captain-General should not have adopted more energetic measures for the discovery of those unfortunate persons, and perhaps this would warrant the conclusion, either that this Government was not desirous of doing so, or that there is not authority sufficient in the district of Pinar del Rio to capture men belonging to the "*Jasper*," whom it is the object of the slave-dealers to conceal.

Inclosure 1 in No. 587.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 3, 1853.

CAYO CORTEZ having been searched, according to the orders expedited by his Excellency, they did not find the six English and North-American sailors who had been there, as indicated by your Honour in your official letter of the 13th of June (should be July) last, because that said individuals, according to the informations taken, embarked in a vessel loaded with molasses from Caimito, which passed by that place bound to this port about the 15th and the 20th of the said month of July last.

Which, by order of his Excellency, I say to your Honour, for your information, and in answer to your letter of yesterday upon this subject.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 2 in No. 587.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, August 10, 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge to your Excellency the receipt of Secretary Del Busto's letter of the 3rd instant, in answer to the communication which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency the day previous, respecting the British and American sailors who belonged to the slaver "*Jasper*," and who were hidden at one of the cays in the Ensenada de Cortez, which British and American sailors the Secretary states, he has been authorized by your Excellency to inform me, were embarked about the 15th to the 20th ultimo, by a vessel laden with molasses from Caimito, which passed by the cays bound to this port.

Having no means, but through your Excellency, of knowing when these sailors arrived here, or where your Excellency may have ordered them to be confined during their trial, I request that your Excellency will be pleased to inform me where they are, and to give orders that I may be permitted to have access to the three British subjects, C. Robinson, Wm. Hersey, and J. Radcliffe, for the purpose mentioned in my letter to your Excellency of the 2nd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 587.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 18, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has desired me to say to your Honour, with reference to your official letter of the 12th instant, that the information which, by his order, I communicated to you on the 3rd, respecting the English and American sailors which your Honour stated were at Cayo Cortez, is all which was obtained by the careful search [or examination] of the cay and bay of that name, which was made by superior order.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 4 in No. 587.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, August 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging to your Excellency the receipt of Mr. Secretary Del Busto's letter of the 18th, in answer to mine (addressed to your Excellency) dated the 10th instant, respecting the six

sailors who belonged to the slaver "*Jasper*," three of whom are British subjects.

I regret to be obliged to state to your Excellency, that I cannot suppose the uncertainty which is apparent with regard to these men's fate will be at all satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government; and I trust that your Excellency will allow me to express the well-founded suspicion which there is that your Excellency's orders for their discovery have been baulked by the parties in the district of Pinar del Rio, who have an interest in keeping back the evidence which these unfortunate six men would afford of their criminality.

Your Excellency was informed that about the 15th to the 20th ultimo the six sailors in question had been embarked for this port from the Ensenada de Cortez, on board a molasses vessel from Caimito, which passed that way.

I have reason to think that that information given to your Excellency was wholly devoid of foundation: first, because, had the men left the Ensenada de Cortez at the time mentioned, they must long ago have arrived here; and, secondly, because I have information that, on or about the 22nd to the 24th ultimo, the said sailors were still hidden at one of the cays.

I beg leave to refer your Excellency to that able and intelligent officer Don Carlos Adolfo, to whom was confided the service of the capture of the crew of the Spanish slave-schooner the "*Nueva Empresa*."

That officer, whilst engaged upon the service I have just mentioned, intercepted a boat which was carrying provisions from the shore to the cays, for those very men who, your Excellency was informed, had been sent away some days previously; and he also intercepted a letter from Don Luis Pimienta, of the hacienda Grifa, to his nephew Don Pio Dias, the latter being then at the cays. In that letter Pimienta desires Dias to take the men away as soon as possible, because he (Pimienta) had information that they were in danger of being captured by your Excellency's orders.

The officer Don Carlos Adolfo having inclosed the intercepted letter to the Lieutenant-Governor, his messenger was intercepted by armed men on his way to Pinar del Rio, and brought back, after a detention of some hours, to the place where Lieutenant Don Carlos Adolfo was; and that officer was obliged, by threats and superior numbers, to allow the letter from Pimienta to Dias, which had been intercepted in the provision-boat, to be taken out of his despatch to the Lieutenant-Governor, and another letter, with writing of quite a different nature, to be substituted; which new letter, written on the spot by a person called Don Gil Dias, was inclosed in the despatch from Don Carlos Adolfo to the Lieutenant-Governor, and then forwarded to Pinar del Rio.

Under these circumstances, I appeal to your Excellency for the protection of the sailors in question, especially as regards the British subjects Robinson, Hersey, and Radcliffe, whose situation I cannot but consider as being extremely perilous in the hands of such lawless parties as, it appears, are the inhabitants of that part of the district of Pinar del Rio who are concerned in the Slave Trade.

It would be presumption on my part were I to suggest to your Excellency how these unfortunate sailors of the "*Jasper*" are to be rescued, having no doubt whatever that your Excellency will dictate the most efficacious and energetic measures for that purpose, and assuring your Excellency that the information which I have upon this subject may be most implicitly relied upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 587.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 25, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's official letter of the 22nd current, relative to three sailors, which your Honour says are British subjects belonging to the slaver "*Jasper*," who, being at Cayo Cortez, are said to have been embarked on board a molasses vessel from Caimito. In answer, I make known to your Honour, by his order, that, having said to you that the Royal Audiencia has taken cognizance of this affair, there is nothing to add, if it is not to repel the qualification of "depraved," which your Honour allows yourself to make as to the inhabitants of the jurisdiction of Pinar del Rio, whose conduct has to be appreciated by the authorities and competent tribunals, and never by foreign agents, to whom such a proceeding in no case belongs.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,

Political Secretary.

No. 588.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 30, 1853.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship the copy of a letter which, on the 21st instant, I addressed to the Captain-General respecting another landing of 400 Bozal negroes brought by the Spanish schooner "*Nueva Empresa*," Dominguez, master, which vessel arrived at the Ensenada de Cortez, grounded on the same shoal where the burnt remains of the "*Jasper*" may be found, and was there set fire to by the slavers after the landing of the negroes.

The master Dominguez came up to this city, as well as the chief mate, but the rest of the crew were captured at the cays; and it was upon this service Lieutenant Don Carlos Adolfo was when he intercepted the boat with provisions, and the letter respecting the sailors belonging to the "*Jasper*," referred to in my previous despatch of yesterday's date.

The captured crew of the "*Nueva Empresa*" were sent up to this city, and it appears, by what the Captain-General says in the answer which I received from the Political Secretary, are undergoing their trials before the Royal Audiencia. They will probably be sentenced to the punishment prescribed by the Penal Law; but the master and all the others concerned in the "*Nueva Empresa*" have effected their purpose with impunity, and are, no doubt, ready, if not actually again engaged in another expedition to the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 588.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, August 21, 1853.*

IT has been reported to me that the Spanish schooner "*Nueva Empresa*," Dominguez, master, arrived at the Ensenada de Cortez a few days previous to the 24th ultimo, and was set fire to at a place within a few hundred yards of where the slaver "*Jasper*" was burnt a few weeks previously; the said schooner the "*Nueva Empresa*" having landed 400 Bozal negroes from the coast of Africa. And as I understand that the

crew (the master excepted) have all been captured and brought prisoners to this city to await their trial, I request that your Excellency will be pleased to inform me whether the information which I have received is correct, and also whether it is true that the "contramestre" of said schooner had offered to turn evidence for Government in case that hopes were held out to him that he should be recommended to the mercy of Her Catholic Majesty, upon the conviction of his associates.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 588.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 25, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's official letter of the 23rd (should be the 21st) instant, relative to a schooner called the "*Nueva Empresa*," which your Honour says landed 400 Bozal negroes, a few weeks previous to the slaver "*Jasper*," and respecting various seafaring persons who were apprehended at Cayo Cortez.

In answer, he orders me to say to you that this affair is under the cognizance of the Royal Audiencia, and in the present state of the process it is not possible for him to give you the information you desire.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 589.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 6th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a despatch and its inclosures, which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, and a copy of your Lordship's answer thereto.

I have seen with the greatest possible satisfaction the assurances of good intentions which are contained in the manifestations of the Spanish Government, as to the persecution of those engaged in a traffic so illegal and immoral, and as M. Vasquez Queipo's note to the Secretary of State refers to the previous communications which had passed relative to the disembarkation of slaves, and reiterates General Cañedo's announced determination to do everything in his power to put down the Slave Trade, I would respectfully submit to your Lordship the urgency there is that the Spanish Government should proceed to alter the Penal Law, doing away with that clause which goes to protect the owners of estates from the capture of recently-landed negroes, if once they are upon their premises, and also to suggest that it would be expedient, for the protection of the planters, that the Spanish Government should, at the same time, pass a law for the registration of the slaves throughout the island, so that there might be no possibility of disputing as to the recently-introduced or Bozal negroes, and the registered slaves upon the estates, which at any time may be subjected to the search of the Government officers, in virtue of the authority recently assumed by General Cañedo, sanctioned by the Government of Spain; but which, as I have already done myself the honour of explaining to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 9th instant, being entirely contrary to the provision expressed in the last paragraph

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of Titulo 2 of Article IX of the Law of the 5th of March, 1845, commonly called the Penal Law, under the Treaty with Great Britain for suppression of the Slave Trade, is a proceeding which is considered by the Royal Audiencia as illegal, placing the Captain-General in a most unpleasant and embarrassed position.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 590.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 16th ultimo, transmitting, for any observations which I may have to make thereon, the copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing copy of a letter from General Lersundi, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who states that the information which I am in the habit of communicating to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the landing of negroes frequently turns out to be incorrect, and also transmitting to me a copy of your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Otway upon this matter.

I have been considerably surprised at General Lersundi's note of the 24th of June, inclosure of Mr. Otway's despatch to your Lordship.

The Spanish Secretary of State could hardly have taken up the subject of attempting to discredit my denouncements to the Captain-General of Cuba more unfortunately than he has done, founding his assertions with regard to my alleged inaccuracy, no doubt, upon the statements of General Cañedo.

The first case alluded to is that of the "*Cora*." Her arrival was denounced by me on the 2nd of June, 1852, as having arrived at Cayo Frances with a cargo of Bozal negroes about four days previously, and I stated that the celebrated Portuguese slave-trader Don Antonio Augusto Botelho figured in the transaction in connection with the establishment of Don José Joaquim Carrera at Los Perros.

The slaves were landed safely and with impunity from the "*Cora*," and on the 9th of July afterwards I denounced her as having landed the cargo which I had alluded to on the 2nd of the previous month, and I informed his Excellency that the said vessel had again been fitted out at Los Perros, and was ready to sail upon another slaving voyage.

It was not long afterwards that I learnt the "*Cora*" had been taken to San Juan de los Remedios, which is the town of which Cayo Frances forms the port, and she was subsequently condemned and sold by the Court at this place, as I have understood, because of the slave-fittings which were found on board her.

The "*Cora*" is the same brig which, under the name of the "*Casualidad*," was detained, after she had been so sold by the Marine Court, having been fallen in with by Her Majesty's steamer "*Buzzard*," with evident remainders of the slaver-fittings on board, although these were not found sufficient to condemn her in the Mixed Court at this place; it being remarkable that the same Don José Joaquim Carrera, mentioned as the owner of the establishment at Los Perros, where so many of the slavers sent from this island are known to have completed their slaver equipments, was the person who appeared as the owner, to defend the "*Casualidad*" upon the trial here.

The next case is that of the "*Paquete Canario*," and your Lordship is aware of the character of that vessel by the denouncements which have been made of her by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, as being on the 7th of March last at Monte Video, about to sail for England, and that after having discharged her lawful cargo there, she was coming to this island to be employed in the Slave Trade.

When this vessel sailed before from this island, it is not at all unlikely that she cleared in ballast for the Cape Verde Islands, and General Lersundi stating this as a proof of the legality of her proceedings only shows how little outward appearances are to be trusted, since the very fact of a vessel sailing to the Canary Islands "in ballast" is enough to create suspicion; and if the truth could be known, the "*Paquete Canario*" upon that occasion probably carried her ballast in leaguers, which were no doubt also of great use to her upon her subsequent passage to the coast of Brazils.

Respecting the sloop "*Reforma*," I have no subsequent information, but as regards the "*Jasper*" I am able to give all the details.

That vessel sailed on the 22nd August, 1852, from this port, where, from the antecedents of her character, she had been closely watched both by me and by the American Consul. I had every reason to believe, notwithstanding that she cleared for New York and took a passenger for that place, that she would land the passenger at Cay West, and proceed to take in her slaver-fittings at some of the cays off the coast of this island to the eastward of Cardenas, and would thence proceed to the coast of Africa. On her way to Cay West, however, the "*Jasper*" was dismasted and otherwise very much damaged, so that she was temporarily repaired at the cay, and obliged to go in reality to New York.

From that port the "*Jasper*" sailed to the coast of Africa, as has been fully reported to your Lordship. She brought from thence a cargo of Bozal negroes to the Ensenada de Cortez. The slaves were landed with safety, and until now with complete impunity of all those concerned, in a transaction the fullest details of which I could if necessary furnish, and which satisfy me of the connivance of the Sub-delegado of the Marine, who was cognizant of the arrival of the expedition, and was aware of the landing of the slaves and of the burning of the ship which had grounded on the shoal called the Viril. The connivance of the Lieutenant-Governor of the district of Pinar del Rio and of numerous other of the Spanish officers, as well as of four successive commissions specially appointed by his Excellency the Captain-General, and sent into the aforesaid district to inquire into the circumstances, but none of which have, so far as I have been informed, succeeded in obtaining legal proofs either of the arrival of the "*Jasper*," or the disembarkation of her cargo of Bozal negroes—facts known to almost every inhabitant of the district; but such is the state of things in this island, that no sort of judicial evidence has been obtained by these efforts of the Captain-General; and yet, strange to tell, there are now in this gaol three American sailors who were on board the "*Jasper*" on her voyage round from New York to the coast of Africa, and thence to the Ensenada de Cortez.

In conclusion, I beg to assure your Lordship, that difficult as it is for me to obtain information respecting the operations of the slave-traders, I am most exceedingly careful of acting upon anything which I think may be incorrect; and only in one instance, viz., on the 4th of May last, when I denounced the disembarkation of 800 slaves at a place between Sagua and San Juan de los Remedios, and the result of my inquiries being that my information was unfounded, I so stated it to be in an official letter which I addressed to General Cañedo on the 21st idem: that instance I admit.

No. 591.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 1, 1853.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 28th of July, and with regard to the state of the Slave Trade, I have now the honour of stating to your Lordship that since it has become generally known that the Audiencia would view as illegal the Captain-General's persisting in following newly-landed negroes, and capturing them upon the estates, in defiance of Article IX of the Penal Law, the panic which had seized the slave-traders has almost entirely subsided; and I am very apprehensive that if there is not an alteration of the law alluded to, and full authority given to the Captain-General to follow and capture, wherever they may be, all newly-imported slaves, the efforts of his Excellency to put down the Traffic will be in vain; and I beg leave very respectfully to bring under your Lordship's notice the good effects which would result from a registration of all the slaves at present in the Island of Cuba, as a measure which, whilst it protected the planters in the possession of the slaves which they now have, would facilitate the action of the authorities in detecting those which may in future be illegally introduced.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 592.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 1, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 1st ultimo, acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government approve the letters which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the disembarkation of four cargoes of negroes, referred to in my despatches of the 20th and 24th of July last.

It is particularly gratifying to me thus to receive your Lordship's high approbation of the performance of the important duties confided to me at this place, and I beg leave to assure your Lordship that I shall not be deterred by the discourtesy of General Cañedo from performing those duties conscientiously and to the best of my ability, although I must appeal to your Lordship for protection from the insulting manner in which my official communications are constantly responded to by the Captain-General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 593.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 7, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I addressed to General Cañedo on the 31st ultimo, acquainting his Excellency that I had received information from Cadiz, by the Spanish mail-steamer which arrived at this port on the 29th, that a barque called the "*Republic*," two brigs, and two schooners, had been purchased at and had been dispatched from New York for the coast of Africa, and were intended to bring Bozal negroes to this island; the parties who are

interested in the last four mentioned of these expeditions being Manuel José de Costa Lima Vianna, a Portuguese, who sent the vessels from New York; Manuel Basilio da Cunha Reis, who will dispatch the cargoes of slaves from Africa; and Don Salvador de Castro, of Trinidad, in this island, the agent here in Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 593.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, August 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that by the mail-steamer from Cadiz, which arrived in this port on the 29th instant, I have received information that a ship or barque called the "*Republic*," which was purchased and fitted out for the Slave Trade, sailed from New York some months ago for the coast of Africa, may very soon be expected on the coast of this island with a cargo of Bozal negroes, which are intended to be landed near to Trinidad on the south side of this island.

I have also received information that two brigs and two schooners were purchased and dispatched from New York in the months of June and July last for Ambriz and Cabenda on the coast of Africa, for the purpose of bringing negro slaves to this island; that the probable places where said vessels will attempt to land their cargoes are the neighbourhood of Trinidad, Bahia de Cadiz, Ortigosa, or Ensenada de Broa; that the parties who are interested in these last expeditions are Portuguese, called Manuel José da Costa Lima Vianna, who is in New York, and Manuel Basilio da Cunha Reis, who will dispatch the cargoes from the coast of Africa, and that the agent in this island, who is to receive these cargoes expected by the barque "*Republic*," the two brigs and the two schooners, is a certain Don Salvador de Castro; which information I hasten to communicate to your Excellency for such purposes as may be deemed expedient to frustrate the intentions of the slave-traders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 593.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 6, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has informed himself of the official letter your Honour addressed to him on the 31st of last August, communicating to him the notice which your Honour says you received by the mail-steamer from Cadiz, which arrived in this port the 29th of said August, as to a ship or barque called the "*Republic*," two brigs, and two schooners, having been purchased and got ready for the Slave Trade at New York, from whence they sailed with the intention of landing upon the coast of this island the slaves they bring; and by order of his Excellency I say so to your Honour in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 594.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 10, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th of July last, in which you complain of the discourtesy of Captain-General Cañedo's behaviour towards you, I have to inform you that I instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to address a representation upon the subject to the Spanish Government; and I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Otway, stating that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had promised him to issue private instructions to the Captain-General of Cuba to treat you with the consideration and courtesy due to your official position.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 595.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 17.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 16, 1853.

THE brig "*General Pierce*," under American colours, arrived here from Santiago de Cuba on the 23rd of June last, and sailed from this port on the 11th of July, having been cleared out in ballast for Pensacola, said brig reported as being 237 tons per register.

This vessel was denounced to me as suspicious by Mr. Consul Forbes, and in consequence I had closely watched her while she was in this port; but there was nothing observable to confirm the surmises of Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago. On the contrary, she was advertised here for freight or charter, was not engaged, and finally sailed for Pensacola as above-mentioned.

It however came to my knowledge, the day before yesterday, that the "*General Pierce*" has proceeded to the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade; but whether her slaving fittings were taken on board at Pensacola, or at some other place, I have been unable to learn.

The parties concerned in this expedition are, as I understand, the nephews of Don Joaquim Gomez; and the "*General Pierce*" is very probably one of the vessels in which Don Rodrigo José Abreu has an interest, Gomez's nephews being his agents here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 596.

Lord Wodehouse to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 21, 1853.

YOUR despatch of the 9th of August states the circumstances under which Don Julian Zulueta was released from the imprisonment to which he was subjected in June last; and with reference to this affair I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to request that you will inform him whether it is true, as reported in the English newspapers, that a public dinner was given to M. Zulueta upon his liberation from prison.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WODEHOUSE.

No. 597.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir.

Foreign Office, October 24, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of August; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the active measures which you took, in order to expose the fraudulent means by which the owners of the notorious slaver "*Lady Suffolk*" were enabled to procure Mexican papers for that vessel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 598.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 24.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th ultimo, along with which your Lordship has been pleased to transmit a copy of a despatch which you had addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, instructing him to make a representation to the Spanish Government upon the subject of my despatch of the 4th of July last, respecting the tone and style of the answers returned by the Captain-General of Cuba to the communications which in the performance of my duty I had addressed to him with regard to the Slave Trade.

I beg to express to your Lordship the sense of gratitude which I feel for the protection thus extended to me; and hope that your Lordship's remonstrance will prove effectual and prevent a repetition of such offences, for which no occasion has been given.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 599.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 25, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of August, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the trial and conviction at Belize of a person named Anduze, who was found guilty of decoying native Indians from Yucatan, and of sending them to Havana to be dealt with as slaves; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having pointed out to the Captain-General that he was not at all borne out in assuming that the Treaty of June 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, only relates to the Trade in Negroes imported from the coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN. (Consular)—Havana.

No. 600.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 29th of August, I have to inform you that I approve of your having applied to the Captain-General of Cuba to afford you the means of having access to the three British subjects who belonged to the "*Jasper*," and who were supposed to be concealed in the Ensenada de Cortez; and I have to acquaint you that I have sent a copy of that despatch to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and have moved their Lordships to direct that an officer commanding one of Her Majesty's ships of war on the West India station may be ordered to concert with you the best means of rescuing and disposing of the three British subjects in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 601.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 27, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a letter which you addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting five slave-vessels which had sailed from New York for the coast of Africa, with the intention of conveying thence cargoes of slaves to Cuba; and I have to inform you that I approve the representation which you have made to the Captain-General upon this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 602.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 27.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th ultimo, transmitting an extract of a note which Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid had received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling his attention to the language used in a communication which was addressed to the authorities of Cienfuegos, by a person named John Quesseil, who represented himself to be my agent.

I have the honour of stating, in obedience to your Lordship's desire that I should transmit to your Lordship any observations which I might have to make with regard to the said extract, that the first intelligence I ever had of the existence of such a person as John Quesseil, either at Cienfuegos or elsewhere, I received by reading your Lordship's despatch now before me.

Mr. James Hart Fowler being the British Vice-Consul at Cienfuegos, who has been duly recognized by his Excellency the Captain-General, my communications with that place are with him exclusively, and I have had every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which he has performed his duties.

I most assuredly never would for a moment have thought of appointing an agent there, or elsewhere, but in accordance with my instructions, and having the previous approbation of your Lordship, as well as the sanction of the Captain-General, as prescribed in such cases.

Having given this assurance to your Lordship, that whatever, or

whoever, this John Quesseil may be, as a zealous abolitionist, which has precipitated him into great imprudence with these authorities, he is no delegate of mine, and therefore the explanations called for by your Lordship become unnecessary; but I consider it as due to my own character, that I should respectfully bring under your Lordship's consideration the vexatious nature of this complaint of the Spanish Minister.

Had the Captain-General thought proper to address an inquiry to me respecting this John Quesseil's impertinence, at the time of his interference, I should very easily have satisfied his Excellency that that person was assuming a position wholly unauthorized, and that I had no knowledge of him whatever.

General Cañedo, however, whatever his motives may have been, preferred to elevate the circumstance, in the nature of a complaint to his Government, upon which complaint the Spanish Minister has acted in the same spirit, and has availed himself of the occasion to charge me with "arrogating to myself every sort of authority for interference in questions as to negroes; and besides, of assuming that I have a right, against the established laws, to delegate my powers to other agents, and of such a description as Quesseil appears to be."

I humbly venture to express my confident expectation that your Lordship will not allow these charges, wholly gratuitous, of the Spanish Minister, to pass unnoticed.

I have been most careful, upon every occasion, to restrict my interference in matters concerning the Slave Trade to the boundary of my instructions; even in so doing I have had to submit to receive from the Captains-General of Cuba the most discourteous treatment in their official correspondence, but I have been encouraged under such disgusts by the constant approbation which I have had the honour of receiving from Her Majesty's Government, and that Government will certainly not allow that my official character shall be vilified, as it has been, by the Spanish Minister, in the note of which an extract has been transmitted to me by your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 603.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 27.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a translation of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting a landing of 600 Bozal negroes which it has been reported to me took place on the south side of this island, and, according to one of my informants, at the Ensenada de Broa, in the early part of this month; and with respect to information which I received of the sending, by the railroad from this place, in parts, of a crew intended for a slaver vessel which was about to be dispatched from some place on the south side of this island for the coast of Africa, and which I conjectured might be the same from which the 600 Bozal negroes had previously been disembarked.

We have in these occurrences the most incontestable proofs that the Slave Trade, so far from being checked, is being carried on with the utmost confidence and apparent success.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 603.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, September 24, 1853.*

I HAVE received information that, about the early part of this month, a cargo, consisting of 600 Bozal negroes, were disembarked at a place on the south side of this island.

One of my informants states that this landing was effected at the Ensenada de Broa, but I have been unable to learn any further particulars.

I have, however, received intelligence that yesterday five men were dispatched by the railroad cars to Batabano, or to some other place on the south coast (the station Los Palos of the said railroad being, as I understand, the nearest to the Ensenada de Broa); that on the previous day some more men were sent by the same conveyance; and that, on Monday next, the remainder of the men necessary for completing the crew of a slaver, which is ready to sail, are to be sent by the same railroad to the place where the same slaver vessel is now lying.

The parties who are engaged in this transaction are, I understand, the Pratico-Mayor, Don Antonio el Sebillano, who is employed to procure and send off the men for this expedition by Don Francisco Repoll ó Quinco el Rebiroso.

I am induced to suppose that these men are being sent to equip the same slaver which is reported to have landed the Bozals alluded to in the first part of this letter.

And I hasten to communicate this intelligence to your Excellency, for such purposes as your Excellency may think necessary under the circumstances.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 603.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 25, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of this day, acquainting him that you had been informed that a cargo of 600 Bozal negroes had been disembarked at the Ensenada de Broa, respecting which you had found it impossible to find out any other particulars, although you say that you have information that, at the same place, a slaver is getting ready which your Honour supposes to be the same which effected the landing.

In answer, his Excellency desires me to say to you that the very contents of your Honour's letter induces him to think that the information given to you is inexact, and he is confirmed in that opinion by the fact that although the jurisdiction of Guines is a point in such immediate contact with this capital, he has not heard even the slightest rumour upon this subject, but that, notwithstanding, he has issued the strictest orders that, with the greatest activity, the affair be inquired into, and to proceed in the case if it turns out to be true.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 3 in No. 603.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, September 26, 1853.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging to your Excellency the receipt Mr. Secretary Del Busto's letter of yesterday's date, in answer to my communication of the previous day's date, in which I reported to your Excellency the information which I have received respecting a cargo consisting of 600 Bozal negroes which had been landed somewhere on the south side of this island, and stating to your Excellency that I had not been able to obtain the particulars, but that one of my informants had asserted that this disembarkation had been effected at the Ensenada de Broa.

Your Excellency having much surer means of obtaining information, and the Secretary having stated in the answer now before me that my notice as to the disembarkation of the said Bozals at the Ensenada de Broa is incorrect, I must presume that the landing referred to was effected at some other place.

But one of the objects of my official letter to your Excellency was, to bring under your notice the fact that a slaver is about to be dispatched from some part of the south coast of this island, part of the crew having been sent from hence by the railroad; and I was in hopes that, as the remainder of the said slaver's crew were to be sent off this morning from the railroad station, your Excellency would be enabled to discover, either by interrogating the party indicated as being employed to dispatch the said slaver's crew, who would no doubt be at the terminus, or, if your Excellency should so order it, that an agent of the police should accompany the said crew to their destination on the coast, by which means the slaver might be detected, and so have ascertained whether or not my suspicions are well founded, that it is the same vessel from which the 600 Bozals had already been landed that is now about to depart upon another voyage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 604.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 27.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 30, 1853.

I HAVE the disagreeable duty of reporting to your Lordship another violation of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade which has been successfully accomplished at the Ensenada del Carmelo, on the south side of this island, where 260 slaves were landed on the 14th or 15th instant.

These Bozals were taken to the sugar estate of Don Manuel Pastor, called Bagaes, the owner, at present in Spain, having lately been created Conde of that title; and I understand that the Slave Trade was formerly, in the time of Captain-General the Count of Alcoy, carried on at Bagaes to a great extent, and that there is for that purpose every convenience, a canal or ditch having been cut from the estate to the sea-shore, by which the slaves are brought up in boats or canoes.

As the agent for this cargo was Rubiroso, who appears to be the agent for the Portuguese or Brazilian Company of slavers, I should suppose that this was one of their expeditions; but I have not been able to obtain any certain information respecting the vessel or the colours she sails under.

Your Lordship will not fail to observe that this operation has been accomplished with complete success and impunity, notwithstanding the boasted vigilance of the Captain-General, and that, as all the slaves have been sold and resold in small parcels, there is but little hope of any good resulting from the measures which the Secretary informs me have now been adopted by his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD

Inclosure 1 in No. 604.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, September 27, 1853.

I HAVE received information upon which I think I can fully rely; and in consequence I have the disagreeable duty of reporting to your Excellency that, about the middle of this month, 260 Bozal negroes were landed at the Ensenada del Carmelo, and taken from thence to the sugar-estate Bagaes. My informant states that the party interested is called Rubiroso; that these negroes were sold by him to some persons called Montez y Fresnada, who resold them to others, and that the prices were 21 to 27 ounces for feeble and inferior, and 32 to 37 ounces for the strong and able-bodied.

I have not been able to find out the name of the vessel; but your Excellency will have no difficulty in obtaining all the necessary information which may not already have come to your knowledge respecting this transaction, which appears to have been so successfully accomplished.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 604.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 29, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 27th current, informing him that about the middle of this month 260 Bozal negroes were landed at the Ensenada del Carmelo; and his Excellency having immediately given the necessary orders, that if this act is true, it shall be proceeded against in a corresponding manner, I am to say so to you by his Excellency's order in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 605.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 27.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 1, 1853.

I CERTAINLY did not expect that I should so soon again have had to report to your Lordship another most flagrant violation of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade.

One hundred and eighty Bozal negroes were landed on the 15th instant from on board of a schooner at the Ensenada de Cortez, and were taken to the estate called the Grifa, from whence they have been sold publicly. The vessel was burnt at the Cayos de Cortez, after the disembarkation of the negroes had been effected, as was the case with the "*Jasper*" and the "*Nueva Empresa*," and the three hulks of those slavers are to be seen lying very near to each other—a sad memento of the disregard of the law and of the authorities under the Captain-General's orders, which leaves room for inferences hardly mistakeable, and which proves, in the fullest manner, the want of good faith of the Spanish authorities, and that there is no intention whatever of putting an end to the

Slave Trade, all their protestations and professions to that effect being utterly worthless; for we have, in this instance, the third offence which has been committed at the same place with impunity since May last; so that my informants might well write to me, "that this third violation proves the contempt with which the superior authority of the island is treated, and the connivance of the officers and other employés of the Government." And he adds, "that the department of Guane (where these most scandalous abuses have been committed) is being converted into an arsenal for burnt slavers; that nobody there pays any respect to superior orders, which are all ridiculed; and that that part of the coast is being transformed into a school for pirates, who will, some day or other, be afflictive of humanity."

Under these circumstances, I hope that your Lordship will approve of the rather strong expressions which I have made use of in my letter of yesterday's date to the Captain-General, which I have the honour of laying before your Lordship; and also that I should have in that letter designated by name the guilty parties who have been concerned in all the three transactions, which have been accomplished with impunity in the same district since May last.

The Lieutenant-Governor is described upon this occasion to have been ignorant of what was going on; that he is an easy man, who does not inquire much about anything, but is managed by his assessor or legal adviser, who is known to be accessible, and has given proofs of venality upon former occasions. But this fact of the new Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar de Rio not being implicated, although it makes him less reprehensible, does not excuse him for not having detected and punished all the other parties concerned.

Inclosure 1 in No. 605.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, September 30, 1853.

I REGRET exceedingly that it should again have become my disagreeable duty to complain to your Excellency, and, in obedience to the instructions which I have from Her Majesty's Government, to remonstrate seriously against such repeated importations of Bozal negroes into this island, contrary to the provisions of the existing Treaties for suppression of the Slave Trade.

On Thursday, the 15th instant, a schooner, whose name I have not ascertained, arrived at the Cayos de Cortez, in the Ensenada of that name, with 180 Bozal negroes, and immediately proceeded to land them.

These negroes were forthwith taken to the hacienda Grifa, belonging to Don Luis Pimienta, from whence they have been selling quite publicly by the consignee of the cargo, Don Pio Dias. The schooner, which it appears belonged to a merchant whose name is Calvo, was burnt in the same manner as the two former slave-vessels at the Cayos; and the three burnt hulks may now be found near to each other, the group forming a most insulting memento of the disregard which has been shown to the law in these instances.

The crew of the schooner which brought these slaves, I am enabled to inform your Excellency, were embarked on Saturday, the 17th instant, on board of the coasting steamer "*Concha*," and were brought to Batabanó, accompanied by a person known at Punta de Cartas, where the crew embarked on board the "*Concha*," as the Baron Pimienta, a son of Don Luis, who came for the purpose of receiving a large sum of money, which he got and took back with him from said Calvo, and which sum of money, stated to have been about 200 ounces in gold, it is said was distributed by Don Pio Dias in "gratifications."

Such, your Excellency, is the information which I have received of this transaction from a sure source, and I hasten to place it within your Excellency's knowledge, for such purposes as may be deemed expedient.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 605.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 1, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's letter of yesterday, acquainting him that on the 15th current (should be ultimo) a schooner arrived at Cayo Cortez with 180 Bozal negroes, which she landed as your Honour states.

His Excellency orders me to say to you, in answer, that, without delay, he has given orders to proceed in the matter for the proofs of this act, in the persecution and punishment of which he will occupy himself without resting.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 606.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th ultimo, acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government approve the steps taken by me in consequence of the information sent to me by the Superintendent of Honduras as to the proceedings of a person named J. B. Anduze, who had kidnapped thirty natives of Yucatan, and sent them to this island to be dealt with as slaves.

M. Carvallo, the Mexican Consul, by orders received from his Government, is following up this affair, but he has been met with the old pretence of the Captains-General in objection to his interference as Consul. General Cañedo desired that he would withdraw the communication upon the subject of these abducted Indians, which he was instructed to address to his Excellency; but M. Carvallo refused to do so, and I understand the Captain-General's objections to the Consul's interference were then made in writing, which have been transmitted to the Mexican Government.

In the meantime some forty or fifty of these unfortunates have been taken from Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, and have been placed in deposit by the Spanish authorities, and M. Carvallo informs me that he will not allow the matter to rest until he has obtained their liberation.

I have reported these circumstances to Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, who wrote to me that that Government had expressed the greatest interest in this matter; so that I have no doubt of M. Carvallo's being supported in his praiseworthy endeavours.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 607.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I received from Her Majesty's Consul in the Bight of Biafra, containing intelligence respecting the proceedings of a slave schooner under Spanish colours in the River Brass between the 17th and 28th of July last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 608.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 1, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, stating that about the end of the month of May last a barque called the "*Manuelita*," American built, but hoisting Spanish colours, shipped 654 slaves in the neighbourhood of Aghwey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 609.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 1, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a report‡ which I have received, through Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, from the British Vice-Consul at Terceira respecting a Portuguese vessel called the "*Laura*," which had arrived at that island from Madeira, ostensibly with the intention of carrying colonists to Brazil, but suspected to be in reality intended for the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 610.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 1, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of September last, replying to the charge brought against you by the Spanish Government, on the ground that a person named John Quesseil, who represented himself to be your agent at Cienfuegos, had made use of improper language in addressing the authorities of that place.

I have in reply to inform you that your explanation is quite satisfactory, and that I shall instruct Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to point out to the Spanish Government that the accusation made against you by the Captain-General of Cuba respecting this matter was entirely unfounded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 66.

† No. 25.

‡ Inclosure 4 in No. 319.

No. 611.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1853.

I HAVE to inform you that I instructed Mr. Otway, &c., to call the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the non-fulfilment of the promise made to Lord Howden by Count Alcoy to the effect that all the emancipated negroes now in Cuba, under the Treaty of 1817, should receive their freedom on the expiration of their respective terms of apprenticeship; and I transmit to you a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Otway, inclosing a translation of a note from Señor Calderon de la Barca, stating that most peremptory orders have been sent to the Captain-General, directing him to carry out at once the decision of the Spanish Government that these persons should be liberated, and I have to instruct you to report to me whether these orders are obeyed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 612.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 8, 1853.

A PERSON whose name is Don José Lopez Ranjel, and who informed me that he resides in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, presented himself at this office, stating that he could and was anxious to give information respecting some Bozal negroes who were hidden somewhere in the neighbourhood of where he is settled; and said Lopez Ranjel having also informed me that preparations were being made at a place a short distance westward of Bahia Honda for the reception of a cargo of slaves, which is expected to arrive, I accompanied said person to the residence of the Captain-General (at present at the Molinos) out of town, and having acquainted his Excellency of the circumstances, Don José Lopez Ranjel was called upon, when he stated that a number of the Bozals who were landed at Ortigosa, in December last, are concealed on some farms (ranchos), and that if his Excellency would be pleased to order them to be taken by the Capitan Pedaneo of San Cristobal, he, Lopez, would conduct the officer to where said Bozals would be found.

His Excellency appeared to think that the period since December last, was rather long, and proceeded to interrogate the man Lopez as to the sort of place where said Bozals might be, with a view to ascertain whether they were upon any plantation, and Lopez having answered that they are upon the plantations of persons whom he named, the Captain-General then said that he could not interfere.

I thereupon alluded to the other information which this Don José Lopez Ranjel had volunteered, with regard to the preparations made for the cargo of slaves expected, and having adhered to the statement which he had previously made to me, his Excellency said that, if he gave notice immediately upon the arrival of said expected expedition to the nearest authority, so as that his information should lead to the capture of the negroes and the parties concerned in their introduction, he, the Captain-General, would pay him a very handsome gratification, and his Excellency thereupon proceeded to take notes and give instructions to the said Don José Lopez Ranjel, who remained at the Molinos, and, as my

* No. 465.

presence was not required, I returned to this office; but as I have not seen Lopez since, I am not aware of the nature of the instructions which he may have received.

My reception by the Captain-General upon this occasion was by no means cordial, and his Excellency's manner was distant and repulsive; he received me standing, and I was not invited to sit down.

From this interview your Lordship will be enabled to notice that it is not General Cañedo's intention to follow and capture any more Bozal negroes upon the plantations, and also that slaves were landed at Ortigosa in December last, which there was a disposition on the part of the Spanish Government to deny.

But I must state, and I have much pleasure in doing so to your Lordship, that his Excellency showed himself as being most anxious to avail himself of the proffered assistance of this Don José Lopez Ranjel, for the purpose of capturing the expedition of slaves which is expected, in which I most sincerely hope he may be successful.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 613.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, stating that he has reason to suspect that slave-trading speculations are being carried on from that port, in conjunction with the slave-dealers of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 614.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps which you took in order to bring to the knowledge of the Captain-General of Cuba the information communicated to you by Don José Lopez Ranjel, respecting the concealment of some Bozal negroes, and as to other Slave Trade operations in the neighbourhood of Bahia Honda.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 177.

No. 615.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 9th ultimo, transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, with regard to the statements contained in my despatch dated the 9th of August, as to the embarrassment which the Captain-General has experienced in carrying out his orders, directing that newly-imported negroes should be pursued to the estates in this island where they may be concealed.

It is most desirable that the Spanish Government should be pressed upon the subject of your Lordship's despatch, so that the amendment of the Law of March 1845 be made as soon as possible, so as to warrant the authorities in following and capturing the newly-imported negroes; but to render that measure thoroughly effective, and especially for the protection of the owners of slaves already in the island, it seems to me indispensably necessary that a law should be passed for a general registry, which should be kept up, and which would operate to prevent all disputes in cases of search for Bozals, in the event of recent importations; for until there has been a general registry of the slaves, there is a means of passing the newly-imported for the Ladino slaves, which would be made use of to baffle the measures of the very best intentioned authority to put an end to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 616.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 29, 1853.

IN doing myself the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th ultimo, transmitting for my information and guidance a copy of a despatch from Mr. Baker, Her Majesty's Consul at Barcelona, I have to state to your Lordship that the vessel referred to, the "*Paquita*," Francis Segovia, master, arrived in this port on the 8th instant, and has cleared out a few days ago, with a cargo of sugar for Santander.

Mr. Consul Baker's suspicions were doubtless occasioned by the fact that this vessel has made at least one successful voyage in the Slave Trade, under the direction or the ownership of Don Julian Zulueta, to whom she was consigned on the present occasion, at this place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 617.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 1, 1853.

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th September, and its inclosures, which I do myself the honour to acknowledge, I made a communication to the Captain-General, acquainting his Excellency of

the preparations for carrying on the Slave Trade upon an extensive scale, which had been reported to your Lordship by Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia; and I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my said communication, and of his Excellency's answer thereto.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 617.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, October 27, 1853.

I HAVE received a despatch, dated the 20th ultimo, from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, transmitting to me a copy of a despatch which his Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, stating that there had been an increased activity lately in the shipment of cargoes from that port to the coast of Africa, and that he understands that those shipments are intended to be employed in the Cuba Slave Trade.

The British Consul states, in his despatch to the Earl of Clarendon, that the slave-dealers of Bahia, undeceived at last as to the danger of continuing their nefarious practices on that coast, have turned their attention to the Cuba slave-markets; and therefore it was that in the short period between the 13th of July and the 18th of August last four vessels had sailed, and five more were loading with cargoes to be employed in the Traffic for Slaves at the coast of Africa from Bahia. And I hasten to communicate this information to your Excellency, for such purposes as may be deemed necessary in anticipation of such expeditions.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 617.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 31, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General has seen your Honour's official letter of the 27th instant, acquainting him of the activity which there has been of late in the shipment of cargoes from Bahia in the Brazils, for the coast of Africa, which are intended to be invested in the Slave Trade to this island; and in consequence he has ordered me to state to your Honour that he has informed himself of your said communication.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 618.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 1, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 22nd September, transmitting copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Catherine's respecting the fitting out of

slavers at Monte Video, and reporting that four vessels which had sailed from St. Catherine's for the west coast of Africa in 1851, had returned to Cuba with cargoes of slaves, which they safely landed in this island.

I deemed it my duty to report the circumstance to the Captain-General, noticing especially the fact stated by Mr. Consul Callander with regard to the suspicious schooner "*Pepa*," which was off St. Catherine's on the 29th of August last; and I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to General Cañedo, and also that of his Excellency's acknowledgment thereof.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 618.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, October 27, 1853.

THE Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has transmitted to me the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Catherine's in Brazil, dated the 5th of August last, in which that functionary reports to his Lordship that four slavers which had sailed from St. Catherine's for the coast of Africa in 1851, had returned, having safely landed their cargoes in this island.

The Consul was unable to ascertain the names of those slavers, but one of them was commanded by an individual named Sumares; he also reports a schooner called the "*Pepa*," as being off St. Catherine's under suspicious circumstances, supposed to proceed to the coast of Africa on the 29th of August, to bring a cargo of slaves to this island, which I consider it my duty to communicate to your Excellency for such purposes as by your Excellency may be deemed expedient with regard to the "*Pepa*."

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 618.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 31, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has informed himself of your Honour's official letter of the 27th instant, respecting four slavers which sailed from St. Catherine's in Brazil, for the coast of Africa, in the year 1851, and are said to have come with cargoes to this island, the names of which vessels it had not been possible to ascertain; and also respecting another schooner called the "*Pepa*," which was in sight from St. Catherine's; and in consequence his Excellency orders me to say to your Honour, in answer, that he is so informed.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 619.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 1, 1853.

HAVING addressed a communication to the Captain-General upon the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd September, which I now have the honour of acknowledging, I beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of that communication, as well as a copy of his Excellency's answer thereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 619.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, October 28, 1853.*

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon has communicated to me, in a despatch dated the 22nd ultimo, the capture by Her Majesty's cruizer the "Myrmidon," on the 31st of May last, off Kilongo, of the schooner "Maria," fully equipped for the Slave Trade, which vessel was without papers or colours on board; but the master, Juan Dias, a Spaniard, formerly kept a factory on the coast of Africa, and the mate, who gave his name as an Austrian, was known to be from Havana, having been taken formerly by the "Bonetta," off Cape Mount in 1848, and recently off the coast of this island by Her Majesty's ship "Vestal."

This schooner, the "Maria" (but this most probably was not her real name), had sailed, about seventy-four days previous to the date of her capture, from a port or place on the coast of this island, about sixty miles from Havana, and was bound to Kilongo or Point Banda, where her cargo of slaves was ready to be put on board.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 619.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 31, 1853

HIS Excellency received your Honour's official letter of the 28th current, acquainting him of the capture of the schooner "Maria," equipped for the Traffic in Slaves, and in consequence he has desired me to say to your Honour that he has informed himself of your official letter referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 620.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 2, 1853.

HAVING transmitted a copy of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of August to Mr. Consul Forbes for his observations upon the Spanish Government's opinion respecting the children of the deceased negress

Nancy's claim to their freedom, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship that functionary's remarks, which, it must be evident, are written with great force; and as it appears that after the death of the old lady, Madame Touson's reputed mother, Mademoiselle Bonne Castain, the negress Nancy was claimed by the Juez de Difuntos, there seems a strong probability that neither Madame Touson (who by that time had gone away from Santiago de Cuba), nor Mademoiselle Bonne Castain, with whom Nancy remained up to the time of the latter's death, considered her otherwise than as being free; to which may be added the circumstance that said Nancy was not subsequently claimed, as I understand she never has been, by the heirs or representatives of Madame Touson, nor by the representatives, legally constituted, of Mademoiselle Bonne Castain.

There may be a doubt as to the condition of Nancy when she came from Jamaica, but there is certainly no proof that she was a slave; and it is to be hoped that the poor deceased woman's children will be allowed the benefit of that doubt and the presumption, which is so strong, that the mother had been freed previous to her leaving Jamaica, since she has not been found inscribed in the Slave Registry there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 620.

Consul Forbes to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, October 22, 1853.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a communication received by you from the Earl of Clarendon in reference to the case of the lately deceased negress Nancy and of her children, whose right to freedom is at present a question between the British and Spanish Governments.

From the contents of that despatch I learn that General Lersundi, the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was of opinion—

That Her Majesty's Government have failed to prove that Nancy came from Jamaica;

That the certificate of the Colonial Secretary of Jamaica shows, that the records kept in that office do not supply any information respecting the said negress, either as conveyed or manumitted by Mr. John Clark or any other party, or of her being registered as a slave by him or any one else;

That the declaration of John Boileau Sorapure, as to his knowledge of Nancy and of the circumstances of her removal from Jamaica, is unsupported by other corroborative testimony, and that no evidence whatever has been produced as to the uninterrupted series of masters to whom the negress Nancy may have belonged after her transfer from the first master, who is supposed to have brought her away from Jamaica;

And lastly, that the identity of her two sons has not been proved.

In reply to the above objections I have to remark:

1st. That I have proved by the voluntary declaration of John Boileau Sorapure that he knew Nancy from a child, in the house of his half sister, Louise Defouret, after Madame Touson, who was resident in Kingston, Jamaica, before the members of that family, accompanied by Nancy, came over to this island, which he states they did in October of the year 1825, in the sloop "Rosé."

By the same affidavit I have also proved that he visited the family in this city in the year 1831, on which occasion he again saw the negress Nancy.

The fact of the family having arrived here from Jamaica, and resided in this city for many years, being a notorious fact, I consider that evidence of Sorapure, in regard to Nancy having accompanied them, must be received as trustworthy till controverted.

On opening this case I requested Governor MacCrohon to cause

search to be made for the passports of the parties who came passengers in the sloop "Rose," with a view to ascertain the condition of Nancy, but to that request I received no reply.

2nd. I regard the non-inscription of Nancy in the Slave Register of Kingston as coinciding well with the impression entertained by the negress herself, who, on appearing before me, stated her belief that when shipped from Jamaica she was entered on the passports as free. As such a document is absolutely necessary to parties visiting this island, one of two things would appear to have been the case,—either Nancy was free when she embarked, or the Spanish Consul in Kingston committed an illegal act by granting a passport to the said family, when they left Kingston, accompanied by the said negress in a state of slavery, in direct violation of the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, whereby such abduction of slaves from that island was prohibited.

3rd. As previously stated, I repeat that if the declaration of John Boileau Sorapure has not been corroborated, it has at least not been refuted in any way, and therefore, as far as it goes, is worthy of all credit.

The observation, that no evidence whatever has been produced as to the uninterrupted series of masters to whom the negress Nancy may have belonged after her transfer from the first master, I have taken the liberty to underline, as appearing to me of no importance, seeing that the negress Nancy never changed masters, having remained in the house of Madame Touson's reputed mother, Mademoiselle Bonne Castain (with whom Madame Touson left her in retiring to France), till the old lady died, when she was claimed by the Juez de Difuntos.

Lastly, with regard to the identity of Nancy's children, no such proof as is now exacted was required in the case of the negress Betsey and her family.

In my letter to Governor Mac Crohon of the 12th February, 1849, I stated that Nancy's two first children, Juan and José, had been sold at the time of Madame Touson's departure, Juan to Don Salvador Benitez and José to Don Francisco Pedro.

These data the Spanish Government may consider as insufficient to trace the present proprietors of these negroes if they have changed hands (of which I am not cognizant), but any one resident in this country, aware of the severity of the fines exacted when regular sales of negroes are not passed and the duties paid on their changing masters, must admit, that with the above indication the said slaves could ere now have been easily traced by the local authorities had a search been instituted in the notaries' offices, or even by inquiry of the parties named.

The same remarks apply to their baptismal registers. Should the said negroes be traced by bill of sale to have belonged to Madame Touson, and be proved by their baptismal certificates to have been the sons of a negress Nancy, her slave, the proofs of the case would be complete; but however easy I may fancy the establishment of this evidence, had I access to the archives of these offices referred to, you must be aware that such cooperation is a duty devolving, in equity, on the Spanish authorities and not on me.

If any obstacles are advanced by the Spanish Government to such a scrutiny, then, indeed, must the case be looked on as concluded, for Madame Touson having left the island, and her husband and reputed mother, as well as the negress Nancy, being dead, I have no means of adducing further proofs in favour of the latter's children to freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

No. 621.

Consul-General Crauford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 3, 1835.

HER Majesty's Commissary Judge has transmitted to me, by direction of your Lordship, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter which had been addressed to him by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the lists of the emancipados which ought to have been furnished by the Captain-General of Cuba to the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, in conformity with Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835.

In the note of the 18th of August last, which General Lersundi addressed to Mr. Otway, I observe that his Excellency states, that, on the 8th November last year, the Captain-General had said, in reply to the instructions which had been sent to him on the subject, that although the Mixed Court of Justice had never asked for the lists in question, he would fulfil the orders given him to that effect; and General Lersundi goes on to say, It is very possible that the subsequently adopted measure of giving liberty [granting their freedom] to all the emancipados may have induced the aforesaid functionary to believe that these returns were no longer required, the Mixed Court concurring with him, perhaps, in that belief; or that this may be perhaps one of the questions originated by the excessive zeal of Her Majesty's Consul at the Havana for the purpose of giving importance to his position, or for raising fresh causes of molestation to the authorities of the island.

It is the fact that the lists which, according to Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, ought all along to have been furnished to the Mixed Court, have never up to this date, since the Captain-General Valdez's time, been forthcoming, but on the contrary have been withheld, by which means (which it would seem was devised by Captain-General O'Donnell, and has been acted upon by all his successors) it has become impossible for Her Majesty's functionaries to keep an account of those emancipados who from time to time have received their free papers, excepting those who have been freed and sent away; neither has there at any time been a registry, or lists of the deaths of emancipados, nor of the children born to them, &c., sent to the Mixed Court, as the Governors or Captains-General, according to Article VI, are bound to deliver every six months.

Where then is the excuse which General Lersundi would propose in echo of General Cañedo's observation, that these lists had not been asked for by the Mixed Court? when it is clearly prescribed by the Treaty that they were bound to deliver them half-yearly, for it is not said that the Mixed Court is to apply for them, as the Captain-General would insinuate, but quite the contrary; it is his bounden duty to deliver them to the Court.

I would respectfully remark upon General Lersundi's idea, that the subsequently adopted measure of granting freedom to all emancipated negroes, might have induced the Captain-General to believe that the returns in question were no longer required, that it is just because of that measure that the returns are more than ever become indispensable for the carrying it into just and proper effect; and that at whatever time these lists, or registers, are obtained, they must be subjected to a most rigorous scrutiny, or else the great measure of granting freedom to the emancipated negroes, which I understand has been negotiated with the Spanish Government to be carried into effect previous to the end of this year, will most likely be but a very partial relief to that suffering and much-to-be-pitied class.

But little time now remains for the thorough examination of the register, which, it is to be presumed will not be much longer withheld; but the necessity for Her Majesty's Government being thoroughly satis-

fied that none of the emancipados who are surviving have been substituted for slaves who died, the emancipado being returned as deceased—a trick which there is but too much reason to believe has very often been practised here—must be self-evident to every one that is acquainted with the corrupt practices of the slavers, and of all connected with them in this island.

General Lersundi's conjecture with regard to my interference in this important matter, is too contemptible to be worthy of any observation; but he, or any other Minister of the Spanish Government, may be satisfied that I shall not be deterred, by either their threats or their sneers, from doing my duty, and upon every occasion acting up to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, without any regard to my position, which is certainly none of the most agreeable because of the numerous complaints which I have found it my duty to make, whilst I shall be equally ready to perform the far more agreeable duty, if it is in my power, of reporting a better observance of the Treaties than we have hitherto experienced on the part of the Spanish authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 622.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 9, 1853.

THE activity of the Slave Trade which is at present carrying on in almost every direction around the island, calls for the most immediate attention.

I have from time to time had occasion to notice to your Lordship that the slave-traders were not in any way deterred from their enterprises, since they had satisfied themselves that the Captain-General and other authorities would not be borne out in the measure of following recently imported negroes on to the plantations, and of capturing them.

Besides the extensive preparations given rise to by that circumstance, the numerous communications which I have received from the department presided over by your Lordship, and from other sources, had prepared me to expect numerous expeditions of negroes, and I had notified his Excellency the Captain-General thereof, so that he might order his dispositions accordingly.

It appears that some of these slavers have already arrived and have safely landed their cargoes; and this being the case there is no reason to expect that the others expected will be less successful, or that there will be any difference on the part of the authorities whose duty it should be to prevent such glaring violations of the law and of the existing Treaties.

I beg leave to transmit herewith a note of the communications which I have recently addressed to the Captain-General, to which I have not as yet received any answers, the copies of which correspondence I shall in due time do myself the honour of laying before your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 622.

Memorandum of the Communications addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba by Consul-General Crawford, to which answers have not yet been received.

November.—INQUIRING result of two suspicious vessels which were seen from the port of Batabano on Sunday, the 30th of October, supposed to be slavers; and also respecting another slaver, which it was reported had landed her cargo of Bozal negroes a few days previously inside the Isle of Pines.

CLASS B.

7th. Acquainting the Captain-General that several vessels with slaves were momentarily expected to the eastward of Cardenas, which slaves were to be landed by boats or launches, all ready prepared, from the neighbouring coast in the old Bahama Channel; and also notifying his Excellency that these expeditions, which were supposed to be by Portuguese or Brazilians in connection with parties in this island, were to be followed by others in all this month and December.

Ditto. That a slaver was ready to sail, fitted out at Santa Cruz, on the south side of this island, bound to the coast of Africa.

8th. That a slaver, barque-rigged, said to have brought 600 or 700 Bozals, had landed her cargo, about the 1st instant, to the eastward of Cardenas, by means of boats or launches sent from the coast of this island, in the most glaring and scandalous manner, which could hardly have escaped the notice of the local authorities.

Ditto. That the slaver from Santa Cruz was the Venezuelan brig "*Cottorra*," which vessel had altered her rig at that port into a schooner, and had there fitted in all respects for the Slave Trade; that she sailed on the 31st ultimo under a false clearance for Curaçoa, as if she had had a cargo of cedar wood, aguardiente, &c., and complaining of the want of vigilance of the Captain of the Port and of the Tide-Surveyor, in allowing her to fit out and sail in the manner described.

No. 623.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 19, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the correspondence, referred to in my last despatch, which I have had with the Captain-General, in which there is nothing very particular to bring under your Lordship's notice, excepting that with regard to his Excellency's answer to my letter of the 2nd instant, respecting two suspicious vessels which were seen from Batabano.

It is remarkable that, if these vessels really were, as his Excellency states them to have been, British fishing-vessels from the Cayman Islands, they should not have been detained by the schooner "*Constancia*," which, he says, was dispatched by the local authorities for the purpose of ascertaining the character of the said suspicious vessels.

His Excellency also contradicts the information I had received with regard to the disembarkation of a cargo of slaves at a place inside of the Isle of Pines; but your Lordship will not fail to observe that my denouncement has either been imperfectly translated or misunderstood, because the denial on the part of the Captain-General is with reference to any landing having been effected at the Isle of Pines, which is not at all what I said to his Excellency in my letter referred to.

I therefore consider that the information which I received and acted upon was perfectly true, although certainly the slaves were not landed on the Isle of Pines, but upon the mainland of Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **JOS. T. CRAWFORD.**

Inclosure 1 in No. 623.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba

Havana, November 2, 1853.

IT having come to my knowledge that two suspicious vessels were seen from Batabano on Sunday last, the 30th ultimo, which were supposed to be slavers about to land their cargoes; and it having been reported at that place that a cargo of slaves had been landed somewhere inside of the

Isle of Pines previous to the date above mentioned ; the precise date, or the place where such disembarkation of Bozals was effected, I have not been able to learn : I hasten to make this communication to your Excellency, and I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to inform me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, of such intelligence as may have reached your Excellency upon this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 623.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 14, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 2nd current, about two suspicious vessels which they saw from Batabano on Sunday, the 30th of last month, which were supposed to have been slavers intending to land their cargoes ; and also with reference to the rumours as to a landing of slaves at Isle of Pines, the date and place where it was effected it had not been possible to find out, as you say ; asking, for these reasons, for information upon the subject.

In answer, his Excellency orders me to state to you that he does not recognize any faculty in your Highness to ask for information from his authority ; but that, notwithstanding, in the present case he will say, that the report or rumour you allude to in your letter as to a disembarkation at the Isle of Pines is imaginary, and that the suspicious vessels to which you refer as having been examined by the schooner "Constancia," which was commissioned by the local authorities as soon as they were seen, turned out to be English vessels, which had improperly come into those waters to follow the fishing of turtle ; respecting which measures have been taken, so that, if the vessels of Her Majesty's nation, or of any others, infringe, as these have now done, the existing orders, they shall be detained immediately.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 3 in No. 623.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 7, 1853.

IT has been denounced to me that several expeditions of slaves are expected to arrive immediately at places in the Old Bahama Channel, and that these Bozal negroes are to be disembarked by launches sent for the purpose from Sierra Morena, which intelligence I beg leave to communicate to your Excellency for such purposes as you may deem advisable for intercepting the said expeditions.

I am also informed that the slavers exported are probably Portuguese or Brazilians in connection with parties here, and that there are others to follow which ought to arrive during this and the next month of December.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 623.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 8, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of yesterday, denouncing to him that various expeditions of slaves are expected in the Old Bahama Channel, and that these slavers are probably Portuguese or Brazilians.

His Excellency desires me to say to your Honour in answer, as I do, that he has informed himself of the expressed denouncement.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 5 in No. 623.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 7, 1853.

I HASTEN to acquaint your Excellency that I have this day received intelligence from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, dated the 29th ultimo, stating that he had learnt from an undoubted source, that at that date there was a vessel lying at Santa Cruz, on the south side of this island, taking in her fittings for the coast of Africa, intended for a slaving voyage.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 6 in No. 623.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 8, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of yesterday, acquainting him that the English Consul in Cuba states that it has come to his knowledge that on the 29th of the last month, there was a vessel in the port of Santa Cruz taking in materials for the coast of Africa with intention to make a voyage as a slaver, and in answer he desires me to say, as I do, that he has made a note thereof.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 7 in No. 623.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, November 8, 1853.*

THE vessel which I referred to in my letter to your Excellency of the 7th instant, as having been got ready and about to sail from Santa Cruz, as a slaver to the coast of Africa, was a brig under Venezuelan colours called the "*Cottorra*," which entered at that port about five weeks ago.

At Santa Cruz she altered her rig to that of a schooner, took in her fittings as a slaver, and sailed on the last days of last month, with a false clearance for Curaçoa, with cedar, guano, and aguardiente, so that the Captain of the Port and Comandante de Resguardo of Santa Cruz could have paid but little attention to the circumstance, that a slaver was fitted out and was allowed to depart from that port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 8 in No. 623.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 10, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has seen by the official letter of your Honour of the 8th, referring to your former of the 7th, about a Venezuelan brig called the "*Cottorra*," saying that she was fitted out at Santa Cruz for the coast of Africa, but had been falsely cleared for Curaçoa with a cargo of cedar, guano, and aguardiente; he orders me to inform your Honour of the receipt of said official letter, as I do by these presents.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 624.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 19, 1853.

THE correspondence with the Captain-General, which I did myself the honour of announcing to your Lordship in my despatch of the 9th instant, upon the subject of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which took place at a place in the Old Bahama Channel to the eastward of Cardenas, on one of the first days of this month, has been somewhat extended, owing to the manner in which it has pleased his Excellency to receive and consider as offensive to the Spanish nation, my observations upon the scandalous nature of the infraction of the law and of the Treaty.

I now do myself the honour of laying before your Lordship the whole of that disagreeable correspondence, and I would specially bring under your consideration the very discourteous tone and expressions which General Cañedo has authorised the Political Secretary to make use of, in disrespect and disregard to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, by which, I was careful to state to his Excellency, I must be guided in remonstrating with the Captains-General upon the so-constantly-repeated violations of the existing Treaties.

I would upon this new occasion of a repetition of such discourtesy, most respectfully submit to your Lordship that my letter to the Captain-General of the 8th instant does not contain any expressions offensive to the Spanish nation, or to his Excellency's authority, and that it is time for the Spanish Government to be made aware that I am authorized by Her Majesty's Government so to address myself to the Captains-General of Cuba, with regard to these so-often-repeated disembarkations of slaves, which to excuse themselves they have said they cannot, but which in reality they will not, prevent; for it must be at a very remote place indeed upon the coast of this island (such a place as slavers never come to) that negroes could be landed without the immediate knowledge of the local authorities, and it cannot but be considered as most remarkable that there is no record of a slaver's ever having had to turn back with her cargo to the coast of Africa.

Every expedition which has presented itself has been landed. How few of the slaves have been captured by the Spanish authorities! and up to the present time, since the passing of the Penal Law, notwithstanding the frequency of its having been violated, there has not been one instance of the detection of those concerned in, or conniving at, such transactions, with exception of some few of the sailors who were on board; for the masters who have successfully landed their cargoes, the supercargoes, the owners, and the outfitters, as well as those who connived at the disembarkations, and who were bribed to their disgrace, have always gone unpunished.

It is reported that some of the Bozals of the expedition, subject of this despatch, have been captured by the Captain-General's officers, and that they have, in number upwards of 100, been brought here to Havana; as I have not been able to obtain any satisfactory information, and they have not been as yet declared emancipados, I merely allude to the rumour as likely to be true: but I am by no means of opinion that these unfortunates will be benefited by the change of their condition from slaves to emancipados. As the latter they will certainly be worse treated, and they may groan on, till the end of their existence, in a state which I have described as far worse than slavery, unless there is a change in the measures of the Spanish Government with regard to that suffering and ill-used class.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 624.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 8, 1853.

IT is again my disagreeable duty to complain to your Excellency that on one of the first days of this present month, a large vessel, said to be barque-rigged, landed about 600 or 700 Bozal negroes on the north coast of this island to the eastward of Cardenas, which violation of the law and of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade, was, as I understand, effected with the most complete success and impunity of the parties concerned.

As the disembarkation of so large a number of slaves by boats and launches sent from the shore, must have attracted the attention of the most common observer, taking into consideration especially, that the place where this scandalous transaction took place is much frequented, I cannot but express my surprise that it could have been accomplished without the knowledge of the local authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 624.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 10, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's official letter of the 8th instant, relative to a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which your Excellency says was effected to the eastward of Cardenas from a vessel rigged as a barque.

In answer he orders me to say to your Honour that, owing to a vague rumour which came under his notice respecting this affair, he immediately gave the convenient orders necessary for the corresponding investigation, previous to the receipt of your Honour's official letter.

He has likewise desired me to state to your Honour, that he repels the injurious qualification in which your Honour has allowed yourself to indulge in your letter referred to, wanting in due respect to his authority, and to the decorum recommended in the agreement of the 4th of November, 1845, upon this subject; making known to you, for that reason, that if the communications which your Honour addresses to him in future, are not couched with courtesy and in the spirit marked by the agreement referred to, his Excellency will be under the unavoidable necessity of returning the "originals" as the only answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 3 in No. 624.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, November 11, 1853.*

I HAVE to acknowledge to your Excellency the receipt of an answer signed by Mr. Secretary Del Busto, to my letter of the 8th instant, respecting a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which was recently effected to the eastward of Cardenas, and I shall have much pleasure in reporting to Her Majesty's Government that your Excellency had already received information of the circumstance, and had, previous to the receipt of my official communication, ordered measures to be adopted therein.

I have carefully read over my letter to your Excellency of the 8th instant, upon the subject of this violation of the law and of the Treaty, and I have not been able to discover in it the slightest expression derogatory to, or wanting in respect to, your Excellency's authority, nor inconsistent with the agreement of the 4th of November, 1845.

I am therefore disposed to think that not only upon this occasion but upon others, my official communications may have been so translated as to give to them a meaning which they by no means had or were intended to convey, and the more so am I satisfied that this must be the case, because it has upon every occasion been my study to avoid the semblance of discourtesy. At the same time I would respectfully state to your Excellency, that in the performance of my duties I must be guided by the instructions which I have from Her Majesty's Government, and remonstrate with your Excellency upon the so-frequently-repeated introductions of slaves from Africa into this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 624.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 17, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's official letter in answer to his Excellency's letter occasioned by your Honour's writing of the 8th current, respecting a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which your Honour says was recently effected to the eastward of Cardenas.

In consequence, his Excellency has desired me to intimate to your Honour, that this Government has faithful and capable interpreters, whose translations, therefore, are entitled to full faith; that the opinions which constantly and studiously you allow yourself to use in your position of Consul, have been, are, and always will be repelled by this Government with energetic decision; the instructions which you may have from your Government being held as nothing, because it does not concern it (this Government) to look to them: and it cannot ever cease to look upon as offensive and disrespectful towards the Spanish nation, the most insignificant phrase officially made use of by that Consulate, revealing pretensions to pass the limited sphere of commercial agent corresponding thereto, nor that you may consider yourself endowed, with regard to the Slave Trade, with any other authority than to give such correct information as may conduce to the fulfilment of the existing Treaties.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 5 in No. 624.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, November 19, 1853.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Del Busto's letter of the 17th instant, addressed to me by your Excellency's authority, and which has reference to my communications addressed to your Excellency of the 8th and 11th instant, respecting a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which recently took place on the coast of this island, to the eastward of Cardenas, in the Old Bahama Channel; and I shall take the earliest opportunity of laying before Her Majesty's Government the whole of the correspondence which I have had with your Excellency upon that subject.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 625.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 21, 1853.

THE three British subjects, William Hersey, Charles Robinson, and John Radcliffe, who were reported to me as having been on board the slaver "*Jasper*" as seamen, and who are referred to in my despatches of the 2nd and 29th of August, having ultimately escaped from amongst the slave-traders at the Ensenada de Cortez, were brought to this port on the 22nd ultimo on board a drogher, to which they made signals of distress from some place near the Colorado Reef—consequently having

crossed the island from south to north, a circumstance which proves the facilities afforded by the authorities to those who have an object in concealing the truth with regard to slave-trading.

Not only the three British subjects I have named, but three more who are Americans, were thus brought to Havana, and they were placed as prisoners, by the Admiral-in-chief of the Marine, on board the ponton "Villavicencia."

Upon the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Brisk" at this port, I accompanied Commander Seymour to the Secretary's office, and there could obtain no other information than that the said six prisoners were still on board the ponton, and at the disposition of the General of Marine.

I consequently applied to him for leave to Commander Seymour to visit them, and he reported to me that the three sailors, Hersey, Robinson, and Radcliffe, were of the number, and had claimed British protection.

Knowing also from the Acting-Consul of the United States that the three American sailors belonging to the "*Jasper*," who were first brought here, were being dealt with in the process against them, not as having belonged to a vessel employed in the Slave Trade, but as persons who had, upon their being arrested, made false declarations as to their origin, for which the Fiscal had asked that they should be subjected to four years' punishment in the chain-gang; I applied for the delivery of said three British subjects to Commander Seymour, as shipwrecked seamen, which they had reported themselves to be; knowing also that from the 22nd of October to the 9th instant their declarations had not been taken, and that until the date of my application they had not been placed for trial at the disposition of the Royal Audiencia, as they ought to have been, for having belonged to the slaver "*Jasper*."

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of the correspondence which I have had with the General of Marine and the Captain-General upon this subject, and I hope that your Lordship will approve of my employing counsel for these British subjects' defence, by which means I propose that the whole case of the violation of the Treaty by the "*Jasper*" shall be brought under the notice of the Royal Audiencia, and conduce to the discovery of the truth of that most disgraceful affair, respecting which I have the fullest information, and which may probably be used upon the men's trial.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure I in No. 625.

Consul-General Crawford to the General of Marine.

Havana, November 8, 1853.

THE commander of Her Britannic Majesty's sloop "Brisk" has just seen the sailors who say they have been shipwrecked, and who are on board the hulk or advanced vessel.

Amongst them the Commandant, Mr. Seymour, has recognized the following, viz., John Radcliffe, William Hersey, and Charles Robinson, as subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, and who have claimed his protection; and as the "Brisk" sails to-morrow morning I have to beg of your Excellency the favour of ordering the commandant of the aforesaid hulk to deliver to the officer charged with that service by Captain Seymour the said English sailors.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 625.

The Secretary to the General of Marine to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 9, 1853.

THE individuals referred to in your Honour's communication of yesterday, whose delivery you ask for, as having proved themselves to be British subjects, and who are actually deposited on board the ponton "Villavicencia," I have placed at the disposition of his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General on the 22nd of last month, as Americans belonging to the ship of the United States "*Jasper*," wrecked upon the Colorados, having given notice of the fact to the Consul of said Republic in this place; therefore your Honour may address yourself to said First Authority, who will resolve what he considers opportune upon the subject.

I say so to your Honour in answer to your communication, for such purposes as may be consequent.

God preserve, &c.

For the Admiral, being indisposed,

(Signed)

CHRISTOBAL MALLER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 625.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 9, 1853.

HAVING been informed of the circumstance that there are on board the ponton in this port, some foreign sailors, who say that they have been shipwrecked, and that amongst them there are some of my countrymen, I solicited leave from his Excellency the Commandant-General of Marine, for the commander of Her Majesty's corvette now in this harbour to go on board of said ponton for the purpose of informing himself of the circumstances.

Commander Seymour has seen the sailors referred to, and has found amongst them three individuals who are English, and who claim his protection, viz., John Radcliffe, Wm. Hersey, and Charles Robinson. After that, yesterday afternoon, I solicited the delivery of said Englishmen from his Excellency the General of Marine, copy of which I have now the honour of inclosing herewith to your Excellency.

His Excellency being indisposed, answered by his Secretary that he could not do anything in this business without your Excellency's authority, as will be proved by the letter of said Secretary, which I inclose (requesting that it may be returned); and under all these circumstances I apply to your Excellency, requesting that your Excellency will be pleased to order the three individuals, Radcliffe, Hersey, and Robinson, to be put at the disposition of the captain or commander of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Brisk*," and be delivered to the officer designated by said commander, to receive them on board the ponton, respectfully calling to your Excellency's attention the urgency of this business, from the circumstance that said steamer of Her Britannic Majesty intends going to sea this very day at mid-day.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 625.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 9, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of to-day, relative to the six sailors on board of the ponton in this port, and that the commander Mr. Seymour told your Honour that he saw amongst them three of his nation, whose delivery your Honour solicits.

In answer, his Excellency desires me to say to your Honour, as I do: that the said six sailors are the same to whom your Honour referred in an official letter of the 13th of July last, stating that they belonged to the African vessel called the corvette "*Jasper*," which landed a cargo of Bozal negroes near to Bailen, and who were on Cayo Cortez, respecting whom the information was obtained which could be had, and resulting therefrom that they were supposed to have embarked in a molasses vessel coming to this port.

Under these circumstances, as the proceedings respecting so scandalous an act as that which was perpetrated by the "*Jasper*," to whose crew the three individuals claimed by your Honour, as well as the other three their companions, belonged, I place them, of this date, at the disposition of the said superior tribunal for such purposes as may be convenient for said proceedings.

At the same time I return to your Honour, as asked for, the letter you inclosed from the adjutant of his Excellency the General of Marine, making known at the same time, by his Excellency's order, that your Honour will desist in future from addressing yourself to any authority of the island upon matters of this nature, or of anything analogous, excepting to his Excellency the Governor Captain-General.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

Inclosure 5 in No. 625.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 11, 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge to your Excellency the receipt of Mr. Secretary Busto's letter of the 9th instant, in answer to my request of the same date, for the delivery to Commander Seymour, of Her Majesty's ship "*Brisk*," of Charles Robinson, W. Hersey, and John Radcliffe, three British subjects, who were on board the ponton; and I observe that the said persons have, since the date of the answer now before me, been placed for trial at the disposition of the Royal Audiencia as having belonged to the slaver "*Jasper*," being the same individuals respecting whom I had occasion to address your Excellency as having been hidden upon one of the cays at Ensenada de Cortez by the slave-traders, whose cunning had baffled your Excellency's officers, who sought to discover them; and it is somewhat curious (if what these men state to Commander Seymour is true), that they travelled across the island, and were taken from the shore of the north side by the vessel in which they were brought as prisoners to this port.

I think it necessary to explain to your Excellency, that my object in applying for the delivery of these men to the commander of one of Her Majesty's ships-of-war was, that they might be dealt with according to their deserts; for the part they took in the unlawful expedition of the "*Jasper*;" and if it should be found that the British jurisdiction was incompetent, they should have been subjected to trial in the United States,

under which flag, the offence, I understand, was committed; but as your Excellency has determined to proceed against them here, it will be my duty to appoint counsel for their defence when the proper time comes for that purpose, and when the whole of the "scandalous" affair of the "*Jasper*," (as your Excellency most properly designates that violation,) comes before the Royal Audiencia.

And with regard to your Excellency's admonitory observations upon my conduct in this business, I have to state, that previous to my application to his Excellency the Commandant-General of Marine for leave to see the British subjects in question, I went to the Political Secretary's office, and was there informed that they were under detention of the General of Marine; and under those circumstances I had no hesitation in applying to his Excellency as I did, for permission to the Commander of the "*Brisk*" to see the prisoners, and ascertain whether in reality they were entitled to British protection.

With all due respect to your Excellency's authority, I beg leave to observe, therefore, that there has been no occasion whatever for the observations which your Excellency has been pleased to authorize, and consequently that they are altogether uncalled for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 626.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith inclosed to your Lordship, the copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 12th instant, denouncing a schooner which is lying at this port, and which is said to be coppered with the same copper, has the same masts, and carries the same sails as the "*Venus*," which was condemned as a prize to Her Majesty's frigate "*Vestal*;" the schooner which I have so denounced, being owned by the same parties, and intended to be called the "*Segunda Venus*."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 626.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 12, 1853.

I HAVE information that a schooner is at present laying at Tallapiedra, in this harbour, nearly ready for sea, and intended to sail in a few days to be employed in the Slave Trade.

Said vessel is I understand coppered with the same copper, and has the same masts, spars, rigging, and sails which belonged to the "*Venus*," condemned and broken up under sentence of the Mixed Court at this place a few months ago, and it may be for that reason, or because the schooner now fitting out belongs to the same parties, that she has taken, or is to have, the name of the "*Segunda Venus*."

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 627.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 21, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the inclosed copy of a letter which it was my disagreeable duty to address to the Captain-General on the 12th instant, complaining of another violation of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which took place about the middle of last month at the Ensenada de Cochinos, where upwards of 300 Bozal negroes were landed.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Cienfuegos, some time after the disembarkation had been effected, proceeded in that direction and somewhere about the Ensenada apprehended two countrymen and fourteen Bozal negroes whom he supposed had to do with, and that the negroes belonged to the cargo in question; but there are so many Bozal negroes to be met with in almost every direction, that it is extremely difficult to ascertain to which of the numerous expeditions they may have belonged.

I understand that several cargoes have been run and are continually arriving, all of which are safely landed at whatever places they may come to, and that it is only after the fact that the vigilance of the Government officers is manifested, when the slaves are safely bestowed upon the estates, where it is against the law to follow them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 627.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, November 12, 1853.*

I HAVE received information from the Acting British Vice-Consul of Cienfuegos that a cargo of Bozal negroes, consisting of upwards of 300, was landed at the Ensenada de los Cochinos about the middle of last month.

I have also been informed that a cargo of slaves from Africa was landed four or five days ago at some place to the westward of this port, on the north side of the island, probably the expedition of which I had the honour of verbally notifying your Excellency on the 8th ultimo, but I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of Bozals disembarked upon this occasion.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 628.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st ultimo, stating that the three British seamen who belonged to the slave-vessel "*Jasper*" have arrived at the Havana, and reporting the steps which you have taken with regard to their identification, and in order to provide for their being tried by the tribunal of Royal Audiencia; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings in this affair.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 629.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

(Extract.)

Havana, November 26, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 10th ultimo, transmitting to me the copy of a despatch from Mr. Otway, stating that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had promised him to issue private instructions to the Captain-General of Cuba to treat me with the consideration and courtesy due to my official position. The instructions promised by the Spanish Minister ought to have been received by General Cañedo upwards of a month ago, supposing them to have been sent by the mail from Spain of October which arrived on the 26th of that month, and your Lordship will observe that they have been productive of no change whatever in his Excellency's tone or official treatment towards me; since in my despatch of the 19th instant, I found myself again under the disagreeable necessity of complaining of the Captain-General's disrespect and disregard of the instructions of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of my duties as Her Majesty's Consul-General, notwithstanding that I had been careful to state in the communications which I addressed to his Excellency that I was acting according to such instructions.

No. 630.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th ultimo, in which your Lordship was pleased to acquaint me that Her Majesty's Government approve of my having pointed out to the Captain-General of Cuba that he was not at all borne out in assuming that the Treaty of June 1835, between Great Britain and Spain, only relates to the Trade in Negroes imported from the coast of Africa, which interpretation of the said Treaty his Excellency seemed to inculcate in his correspondence with me, which I did myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship with my despatch of the 28th of August last, upon the subject of the trial and conviction at Belize, British Honduras, of a person named Anduze, who was found guilty of decoying native Indians from Yucatan, and sending them here to be dealt with as slaves.

The satisfaction which I have experienced in receiving so flattering an expression of your Lordship's high approbation, is, I regret to feel obliged to state, most sadly contrasted with the apparent determination of these authorities to pass over the criminal participation of Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, the said Anduze's partner in these man-stealing transactions, and the little probability there seems to be that the efforts of the Mexican Government will be effectual to obtain the liberation of the kidnapped Indians, and their restoration to their families in Yucatan.

The proceedings have, I understand, been transferred from the Royal Audiencia to the Auditoria de la Marina. M. Marty y Torrens having the grade of captain in the Spanish navy, claimed his privilege of trial in the Marine Court; but the Royal Audiencia, strangely enough (as it seems to

me) at the time of transferring the case to the other tribunal, ordered the 39 Indians who had been placed in deposit, to be returned to Marty, and there, I believe, the matter will be allowed to rest.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 631.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, approving of my having applied to the Captain-General for access to three British subjects who belonged to the "*Jasper*," and who were supposed to be concealed in the Ensenada de Cortez, and acquainting me that your Lordship had sent a copy of my despatch of the 29th August to the Lords of the Admiralty, and had moved their Lordships to direct that an officer commanding one of Her Majesty's ships of war on the West India station, might be ordered to concert with me the best means of rescuing and disposing of the three British subjects in question.

In the furtherance of this service, Her Majesty's screw steamer-sloop "*Brisk*," Commander Seymour, was despatched by the Commodore from Port Royal, Jamaica, and your Lordship will have seen by my despatch of the 21st ultimo and inclosures, that the said three British mariners who were on board the "*Jasper*," had already been brought to this port, and that they had been handed over to the Royal Audiencia Pretorial for trial, upon my making application for their delivery to Commander Seymour.

In that despatch I submitted to your Lordship's approval the appointment of counsel for these men's defence, with a view also of bringing before the Court the entire case of the violation of Treaty by the "*Jasper*," which might conduce to the discovery of the whole truth of that most disgraceful affair, in which the parties concerned have been screened by no less than four special commissions appointed by the Captain-General, and neither the Government officers who connived at, nor the slavers who were engaged in the transaction have been punished; for although the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio has been suspended for the part which he enacted, and it is beyond a doubt that he received 6,000 dollars for his share, like Brigadier Pavia at Matanzas he will surely be reinstated, because of the great difficulty there always will be in proving such charges in the tribunal here.

I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a translation of the Secretary's answer by direction of General Cañedo to my request to be allowed to appoint counsel for the defence of these men, his Excellency desiring the Secretary to acquaint me that he could not allow me to do so, but that the Royal Audiencia would in due time name a defender on their behalf. I can therefore only watch the proceedings, and do the best I can with the counsel which the Court may think proper to appoint, provided he has the courage to bring forward all the information which I have it in my power to furnish relative to the whole transaction; but I doubt exceedingly if any lawyer so selected by the Court, would be allowed to introduce matter in the defence of these British subjects which might implicate many of the authorities, and lead to the detection and punishment of all the parties concerned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 631.

*The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.**Havana, November 23, 1853.*

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 11th instant, in answer to that which, by his order, I addressed to you on the 9th, referring to the English sailors of the crew of the barque "*Jasper*," which landed Bozal negroes at Bailen; and having informed himself of what your Honour states, he orders me to say to you that it is not allowed to permit you to name the counsel to which your Honour alludes for the defence of the sailors, for that the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, which has the jurisdiction in their trial as prisoners of the reprobated traffic of Africa, to whose sentence they are subject, will have provided in their case, according to the laws of the kingdom, the nomination of a defender for said individuals.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,

Political Secretary.

No. 632.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 27th ultimo, conveying to me your Lordship's high approval of my having addressed a letter to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting five slave-vessels which had sailed from New York for the coast of Africa, with the intention of conveying slaves from thence to this island.

In a port of such extent as that of New York it would be matter of great difficulty for Her Majesty's Consul to obtain information of such vessels being equipped and dispatched for carrying on the Slave Trade, the more so, as very probably they do not clear out for the coast of Africa; but, as the island of Cuba is now pretty well watched by Her Majesty's cruizers, I am of opinion that most of the slavers will be purchased and fit out and sail from the ports of the United States. I have even heard it whispered here, that some steamers may be bought, or built, on purpose for the Slave Trade, and I therefore most respectfully venture to suggest to your Lordship that the attention of the Government of the United States should be requested to this matter, and to the prevention of slaver fittings being put on board of any vessels purchased by Portuguese, Spaniards, or Brazilians, and that Her Majesty's Consular officers should also give their attention to this matter, and especially to the circumstances of the purchase of, or contracting for the building of steamers by Spaniards, Brazilians, or Portuguese within their respective stations.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 633.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul in the Bight of Biafra, containing intelligence as to the proceedings of a

slave schooner, under Spanish colours, in the River Brass, between the 17th and 28th of July last; and also your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, transmitting a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, stating, that about the end of the month of May last a barque, called the "*Manuelita*," American built, but hoisting Spanish colours, shipped 654 slaves in the neighbourhood of Aghwey; and also that dated the 1st instant, which transmits information which your Lordship had received through Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon from the British Vice-Consul at Terceira, respecting a Portuguese vessel called the "*Laura*," which had arrived at that island from Madeira, ostensibly with the intention of carrying colonists to Brazil, but suspected to be in reality intended for the Slave Trade.

I shall address the Captain-General upon the several subjects of these despatches of your Lordship, but I propose deferring the matter until after the arrival of his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela, the new Governor, who is daily expected by the Spanish mail-steamer from Cadiz, now over due.

The schooner alluded to in the inclosure of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, as well as the barque which took in 654 slaves the end of May last, referred to in Mr. Campbell's despatch from Lagos, inclosure in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, must have long since disposed of their cargoes; and if they came to the coast of Cuba they have no doubt been successfully landed.

As respects the "*Laura*," subject of your Lordship's second despatch of the 1st instant, I hope that the information which has been given by the British Vice-Consul of Terceira will be available towards her capture, as she can hardly have made the voyage to Africa and have brought her cargo of slaves here by this time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 634.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 1, 1853.

IN obedience to your Lordship's direction, which I received in a despatch from Lord Wodehouse, dated the 21st of October last, the receipt of which I now beg leave to acknowledge, I have the honour of stating to your Lordship, with reference to M. Julian Zulueta's release from prison, the circumstances of which I reported to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 9th of August, that it has not come to my knowledge that a public dinner was given to M. Zulueta upon his liberation from the fortress of Cabañas, to which place he had been committed.

I have inquired whether any such demonstration has taken place, and I can assure your Lordship the statement in the English papers to that effect is totally untrue.

I have reason to believe that M. Zulueta, since he was allowed to return to his own house, upon the plea of impaired health, has been relieved from the judicial restraint under which he was, and moves about where and when he pleases. I have not, however, been able to ascertain that he has been formally put at liberty; and I had certain information, very recently, that his case, which was pending before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, at Puerto Principe, had not been decided, because of the complicity of other parties, which rendered it expedient to delay the sentence, and that it was not likely to be promulgated during the Government of General Cañedo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 635.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 14, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatches of August 29, September 30, and October 1, of last year, reporting that landings of Bozal negroes had been effected on the coast of Cuba at San Juan de los Remedios, at the Ensenada de Cortez, and at the Ensenada del Carmelo, I transmit to you herewith a copy of the answer* returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to two notes which, in pursuance of my directions, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid addressed to M. Calderon de la Barca on the 23rd of October and on the 10th of November, respecting these landings of Bozal negroes.

I have to desire that you will make further inquiry into these three cases, and that you will report the result to me. And with reference to the statement in Señor Calderon's note, that some Spanish vessels of war had made a careful search, but had not been able to discover any trace of the half-burnt hulk of the slaver out of which you reported that the negroes had been landed at the Ensenada de Cortez, and which, in your letter to the Captain-General, you characterized as exhibiting "a most insulting memento of the disregard shown to the law," I have to desire that you will state whether, when you wrote to the Captain-General, you knew that the remains of the burnt vessel were visible.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 636.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 2, 1853.

I RESPECTFULLY refer to my despatch of the 21st ultimo, relative to a disembarkation of slaves which took place shortly before that time at the Ensenada de los Cochinos; and another which I denounced to the Captain-General as having been effected on the north side of the island, at a place to the westward of Havana.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of the answer which I have received from the Secretary by his Excellency's orders, admitting the exactness of my information with regard to the first of these denouncements, and stating that no information had been received respecting the other violation; but assuring them that, at any rate, the disembarkation was not that which I had verbally denounced to his Excellency on the 8th of October, which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 8th of October.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 636.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 23, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General received your Honour's official letter of the 12th instant, respecting a disembarkation of Bozal negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos; and another, which is said to have taken place, according to what you have been informed, at a place to the westward of this port on the north of the island.

In reply, he orders me to say to your Honour that, with regard to the

* Inclosure in No. 484.

first, various Bozals had been captured belonging to that island; and energetic measures analogous thereto had been adopted previous to the receipt of your said letter, although the number is not certain; and as regards the second case, no intelligence has come to his knowledge, feeling himself authorized at any rate to say to you that your suspicions as to this supposed disembarkation being that which was verbally denounced to him on the 8th of October last are devoid of all foundation.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

LORENZO DEL BUSTO,
Political Secretary.

No. 637.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 10, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that his Excellency Lieutenant-General the Marquis de la Pezuela arrived here on the 2nd instant, and on the 3rd he took upon himself the Presidency of the Royal Audiencias, Government and Captain-Generalship of this island, relieving Lieutenant-General Don Valentin Cañedo of his command.

I had an audience of his Excellency on the 4th, to pay my respects and offer to him my congratulations upon his safe arrival, and his having assumed the duties of his Government, when I experienced a perfectly cordial reception.

I regret to state that a smart attack of fever, from which I am now recovering, has prevented my having had any other interview with the new Governor, so that I have not had any general conversation with his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 638.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 17, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 20, 1853.

I AVAIL myself of the earliest opportunity to acquaint your Lordship that this day an official article appeared in the "Gazette," of which I have the honour herewith to transmit a copy of your Lordship, the anniversary of the birth of the heir-apparent to the Throne of Spain having been selected for the manumission of certain of the emancipados; and I proceed to embody in this despatch a translation of the proclamation, or order, which has been addressed to the President of the Commission for the branch of emancipados, his Excellency the Conde de Cañongo.

"Most Excellent Sir,

"In obedience to the sovereign will of Her Majesty, and in celebration of this happy day which records the birth of the august heir direct to the Throne of St. Ferdinand, I have disposed to declare the freedom of the emancipados of longest standing who remain in deposit, and who belong to the various prizes which were made previous to the year 1835. But because of the bad use which the greater part of them may make of their freedom, for want of capacity, which might oblige the Government to limit that freedom in another form, withdrawing with one hand, and placing with the other in the correctional establishments as vagrants, those whom, under the generous and Christian impulses of charity and philanthropy, they had freed, I have resolved, in order that this concession may be carried into effect with due order and arrangement, and without injury to the interests of any kind (without prejudice to my judgment upon such

cases of doubt which may occur to this respectable Commission), to dictate, for the present, the following rules which shall serve as the basis in similar cases which in future present themselves :

"The emancipado declared free, as long as he remains in the island, is under the care and tutelage of the paternal authority of the Government, whose permission he may reckon upon for his establishment and domicile.

"It shall be optional for him to continue to serve the master (patrone) to whom he is now subject, or to change, if another presents himself more to his liking.

"The master shall maintain him, and make good to him wages, which shall not be less than 6 dollars a-month for males, and 4 dollars for females; this contract shall be made for periods of one year only, which may be renewed with consent of both parties, with the knowledge of the authorities and under their protection.

"Parties (patrones) who have a right over the labour of negroes who were assigned to them, shall be indemnified by this Commission, which shall take care under my direction to do so immediately. For this purpose and for the maintenance of the fund of the emancipados, each of those freed shall leave in deposit such part of his wages as the Commission thinks absolutely necessary to meet this and the other charges which fall upon it, but this retention shall never exceed the third part of their established wages.

"The punishments which the masters (patrones) of these freed emancipados may impose upon them, shall not be others than those established in the regulations for the free labourers who are employed on rural properties.

"I expect that this Commission, assisted in whatever it requires by the Secretary of my Government, will carry out with the greatest exactness the dispositions herein contained, thus giving a new proof of the zeal which distinguishes its members in the service of their Queen and country.

"God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

"THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

"*Havana, December 23, 1853.*"

Of course it is impossible to have any idea how this measure will work, nor whether it will be effectual to free all the emancipados captured up to 1835.

The working it out, your Lordship will observe, is entrusted to the Spanish Commission which was established here by General Don José de la Concha. The measure does not include any emancipados who are less than of eighteen years' standing; and indeed, as the expression in the Decree is "*hasta el año de 1835,*" I am disposed to think that those of that year are not included in the limited benefit which is conferred by this measure; and I am apprehensive that altogether it is not such as was anticipated by your Lordship, or that which Her Majesty's Government had a right to expect.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 639.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 8th ultimo; acquainting me that the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had been called by Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, under your Lordship's instruction, to the non-fulfilment of the promise made to Lord Howden by Count

Alcoy, to the effect that all the emancipated negroes now in Cuba, under the Treaty of 1817, should receive their freedom on the expiration of their apprenticeship; and transmitting to me a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Mr. Otway, inclosing translation of a note from M. Calderon de la Barca, stating, that most peremptory orders had been sent to the Captain-General, directing him to carry out at once the decision of the Spanish Government that these persons should be liberated.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction to report whether those orders are obeyed, I have to state to your Lordship, that on the 20th instant an order was published in the "Gazette," a copy of which I did myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship with my despatch dated the same day, in which despatch a translation is embodied.

According to that Decree the emancipados captured up to 1835 (not inclusive) are to receive their free papers, but they are to remain "under the care and tutelage of the paternal authority of the Government."

By the conditions to which they are subjected, your Lordship will perceive that these persons who are so liberated, cannot be considered as free to act for themselves; and that a portion of their earnings is to be taken from them (it may be as much as one-third) for the keeping up of a fund to be called that of the emancipados, &c.

But the worst feature of this measure in my opinion is, that Her Majesty's functionaries have no intervention in its working, so that the emancipado has no protectors recognized by the Spanish Government, and already Her Majesty's Judge and myself have had our offices beset with them, complaining that they are not fairly dealt with.

Of these, a case* has been selected by Mr. Backhouse, who has addressed an official letter to me respecting him, copy of which I have sent to the Captain-General, and the result I hope to be able to report upon the correspondence which I shall have the honour of laying before your Lordship, herewith inclosed.

Neither to me, nor, so far as I am aware, to the Mixed Court, has any official communication been addressed by the Captain-General regarding this measure, and from that circumstance I am apprehensive that our intervention may be objected to.

The want of the lists or registers, stipulated for by the Treaty of 1835, which, notwithstanding the assurances of the Spanish Government, and the orders sent to the Captain-General, have never been furnished, is now become a matter of very serious consideration; since without them, even if the effectual protection which they are sure to need, were permitted, these ill-used people are exposed to the practice of the greatest iniquities to retain them in slavery.

I would by no means, my Lord, be understood to reflect upon the honest intentions of his Excellency the Captain-General, nor of his Excellency the Count Cañongo, who is the President of the "Comision de los Emancipados," whose character is irreproachable; but I must beg leave to impress upon your Lordship that the emancipado must have efficient protection to secure for him the freedom to which he is entitled, which Her Majesty's Government has at last obtained for him, and that if we are to be his protectors, the information which has been so unwarrantably withheld, must no longer be refused by the Spanish Government here under such pretexts as have hitherto been put forward—as that of Her Majesty's Consul-General not being entitled to ask; nor Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, unless he is acting in concert with his Spanish colleague, who, they know full well, will not join Mr. Backhouse in calling upon the Captain-General for the lists or register of the emancipados according to Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835. Because it is not expressed that the Mixed Court is authorized to apply for said registers, the Spanish Judge objects to address the Captain-General upon the subject, and the latter has neglected to comply with that stipulation of the Treaty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* That of a poor man who was captured in the year 1829, on board the slaver "*Firme*."

Inclosure 1 in No. 639.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, December 27, 1853.

I HAVE to state to you that I have lately been called upon by a negro, who stated that he was an emancipado, and wished for liberty.

He said his name was Marcelino Urutia; his nation he described by calling himself "Mina."

He said he was captured a long time ago in the Spanish brig "*Firme*," during the Captain-Generalship of General Vives, and that the vessel was brought in to the Havana with all the negroes on board.

I have to observe that the "*Firme*" was captured near St. Kitt's, by His Britannic Majesty's ship "Grasshopper," in November 1828, and was brought in and condemned by the Mixed Court early in December in the same year. Marcelino said that his first owner, Donna Maria de Jesus Urutia, under whom he learnt a trade, which he has ever since followed, that of cigar-maker, delivered him up to General Tacon; that he was then assigned to Don Maximo Mora, owner of a sugar estate in this island, called Dolores; that he was again delivered up to the Government the day after General Concha left the Havana, which was in April 1852; and that he was then assigned to his present owner, Don Miguel Cabello, who holds a situation in the Political Secretary's office. Marcelino says he works at present in the cigar manufactory of Don José Maria Montero.

Marcelino states that within the last few days he made an endeavour to make his case known, and to have it properly dealt with, but that his present owner, Don Miguel Cabello, told him he had a year longer to serve.

I have to request that you will lay this case before his Excellency the Captain-General, in order that it may be properly investigated and justly dealt with, which it could not be, if, supposing Marcelino's statement to be correct, he were detained a year longer in servitude.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 639.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 29, 1853.

I BEG leave to lay before your Excellency the copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, respecting an emancipado who was captured on board the "*Firme*," and who ought to be included amongst those to whom your Excellency has conceded papers of freedom, under the decree of the 20th instant; but it appears that in this case the person to whom said emancipado was assigned attempts to retain him in servitude, alleging that he has still a year longer to complete his term.

The injustice attempted to be practised towards this unfortunate person seems to be so manifest, that Mr. Backhouse considers it his duty to bring the circumstance as soon as possible under the superior knowledge of your Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 639.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Havana, January 2, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General cannot now admit claims on behalf of the emancipated negroes who have been declared free by an Ordinance of the 1st of this current year, because in that the rights of each of them are established and the mode of claiming them. I shall notwithstanding tell you that the negro of whom you treat shall be freely engaged with his present master, or any other, to work for his wages, and that we are at present engaged in carrying out these dispositions as speedily as possible, but it is not possible to contract, as your Honour must be aware, many hundreds of men in four days, who are scattered all over the island; and for your Honour's government the Judge of the Mixed Court may make himself easy that what the authority has directed has to be carried into effect, without any remedy whatever, and that the most philanthropic man cannot surpass our actual General in benevolent ideas towards these poor people.

With this object, I repeat, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 640.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3, 1854.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 28, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, transmitting a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, stating that he has reason to suspect that slave-trading speculations are being carried on from that port, in conjunction with the slave-dealers in this island.

I shall make a corresponding communication to the Captain-General upon this subject, and bring under his Excellency's attention the places where, so far as I have been able to learn, these joint expeditions are likely to present themselves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 641.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1854.

ON receipt of your despatch of the 30th of September last, I instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to suggest to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that he should communicate with Don Manuel Pastor, with reference to your report that on the 14th or 15th of September, 260 African negroes were landed at the Ensenada del Carmelo, and were conveyed from thence to the sugar estate called Bagaes, belonging to Don Manuel.

I now inclose a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Lord Howden, transmitting a copy of the answer which the Count de Bagaes has addressed to the Spanish Government, denying the statement that

* No. 488.

these negroes were received on his estate, and in calling your special attention to the denial, I have to instruct you to report to me such observations as you may have to make thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 642.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a translation of a Decree, dated the 1st instant, which has been issued by his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, declaring all the emancipados to be free; those who have not been five years in the hands of the Government to be considered as apprentices, and at the expiry of that period to be free, like the others who have been in a state of probation for a longer period.

The Board alluded to in the Decree has been established, and is in the execution of its duties; great numbers of the emancipados have been sent in, and up to this date I understand they amount to some thousands. The rate of wages fixed by the Board, and approved by the Government, is 8 dollars for men, 6 dollars for women per month for those freed, and 6 dollars for males, 4 dollars for females per month for those who are freed apprentices, and in proportion for those of this latter class who are minors.

The operations of the Board are, I understand, most vigilantly watched by the Government, and the placing of these freed people is being proceeded with in the most expeditious and pressing manner; so that I have every reason to hope they will all, or nearly all of them, be earning wages for themselves within a very few weeks.

It is to be regretted that this great and beneficent measure had not been carried out in sections of the emancipados, because the freeing of so many all at once has caused a considerable sensation here, which would in a great measure have been avoided had they begun six months ago with those longest in captivity.

I shall do myself the honour from time to time of reporting to your Lordship upon this important subject, in which, so far, it appears that his Excellency the Captain-General takes a most lively interest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 642.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Political Secretary's Office.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has been pleased to order the following to be published in the Government "Gazette:"

Ordinance of the Emancipados.

ART. I. The negroes known by the names of the emancipados are free, all of them; those who have been five years in the power of the authorities, and who have attained sixteen years of age, shall obtain their letters of freedom, and those who remain in the island shall dispose of their wages, to which they have a right, without other deduction than that which is for the deposit of a part, which shall not be more than one-fourth.

II. Those who have not been five years shall differ from the others only in that they cannot dispose of the fruit of their labour, which is to be under administration during their apprenticeship.

III. A Commission named by the Governor-General, of which the syndics of the City Council shall absolutely form a part, shall administer these funds, and take care of the emancipados, in the manner which is established by this Ordinance, and which shall be called "The Board for protection of Emancipated Negroes."

IV. As soon as the Government decrees the manumission of emancipados who are out of their apprenticeship, their patrones (masters) who have them shall be called upon, through the medium of the "Gazette," to present them within the improrogable term of five days, if they are in this city, or of fifteen if out of it, with the understanding that those who do not do so shall incur a fine of 50 to 100 dollars, which fine shall be recovered summarily and exclusively, without regard to a heavier penalty, and that they be sent for at the charge of the defaulters, as to whom experience has shown the most lamentable abuses, which the authorities are determined to extirpate at all hazards.

V. The freed person shall engage himself, under the intervention of the Government, with a patron (master) for the period of one year, with the conditions and in the manner which the following form of contract expresses:

I, _____ a freed emancipado, of
 nation, number _____ belonging to the vessel
 declare that I have freely and spontaneously contracted with the Govern-
 ment for the term of _____ years to work at what I may be ordered in
 the customary hours of the day, subjecting myself to the person to whom
 this contract may be transferred (with my consent), and to his repre-
 sentatives for carrying on the work, whom I shall obey and respect, as
 they may compel me thereto in a lawful manner, according to what is
 prescribed in the ordinance of colonists. There shall be made good to me
 for my labour _____ hard dollars per month, from which a fourth part
 shall be discounted, which the Government will retain to cover the charges
 of this branch; they shall feed me, and give me two changes of clothing
 a-year; curing me, and attending to me in sickness, without obliging me
 to work till I am entirely well, deducting my wages for the days lost from
 that cause; nor can they oblige me to work on Sundays or holidays with
 double cross; for these I may use to my own benefit. In faith of which I
 execute this contract before the President and Secretary of the Protection
 Board of Emancipados, who in the name of the Government signs it,
 I signing it with a ✕, not knowing how to write.

Havana,

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The President,

Secretary.

This contract is transferred in the name of the Government in favour
 of _____ who signs it in proof that he has accepted
 it, and remains bound to fulfil it religiously, or, in the contrary event, he
 will be compelled to do so by the means indicated in the regulation of the
 colonists.

Havana,

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The President,

Secretary.

VI. The patron (master) shall deliver to the liberated emancipado his
 pay monthly and into deposit, the fourth part annually in advance.

VII. In order that the consignations should have the most beneficial
 effect towards the contracted and the most convenient choice of the
 patrones (masters), all applications soliciting liberated emancipados shall
 be addressed to the Government, who will pass them to the Board, by
 whom they will be returned, reporting whatever may be just for the
 concession or denial of the applications.

CLASS B.

VIII. If any of the assigned emancipados desire for any reason to change their patron (master or employer), the Board will hear their complaint; and if they find it just, they will communicate it to the Government for such measures as may be convenient; the Board will also be the organ of all claims to the authority, applying, through the same, in all cases analogous, what is prescribed in the Ordinance of the Colonists.

IX. If the patrones (masters or employers) wish to continue the freed person contracted for another period equal to the other, and he (the freed person) is agreeable thereto, it may be carried into effect by an annotation at the foot of the previous contract, but with the intervention of the nearest authority, who will give information thereof to the Government, and the Government will advise the Board for their information.

X. The emancipated apprentices shall be contracted for in the same form, but their settlement in the capital or in the neighbourhood is to be preferred, so that they may be at hand to the Board of Protection, or their wages shall be paid quarterly in advance.

XI. There shall be a treasurer for the care of these funds, and for that of all others which may be collected, who shall be a gentleman member of this beneficent Board, named by the Government, and proposed by the Board, as shall likewise be the President and Secretary.

XII. There shall also be an Administrator of the Depôt, who shall be a member of the Board, who shall have a salary proportioned to his trouble, assigned to him by the Government upon the proposition of the Board.

XIII. If any other employé should be indispensable, the Board will likewise propose it, bearing in mind how economical and simple should be the management of the poor's funds.

XIV. The Administrator of the Depôt will send in to the Board twice a week a classified statement of the entries and outgoings of the emancipados; but this is not to hinder them from giving information to the President of whatever thing of an extraordinary nature occurs at the depôt.

XV. Said administrator shall remain at the depôt with the greatest assiduity possible, and shall permit all those who present themselves with a written order from the President to visit and review those deposited.

XVI. For the indemnifications which the Board may have approved in justice to the patrons in any of the cases which are occasioned by the fulfilment (observance) of these rules, the Government Secretary shall expedite the corresponding order, authorized by the Governor-General; and without this requisite neither these nor any other payment shall be made.

XVII. The Board shall every month name a member who shall go and visit the emancipados remaining at the depôt; he shall inform himself personally as to those who, by reason of their advanced age, diseases, bad conduct, or other cause, have not gone out, and shall give an account to the Board, in order that they may suggest to the Government such measure as they may find convenient.

XVIII. The amount of wages to be earned either by those freed or by the apprentices shall always be the same amongst those of each class. The Board will fix that every year, taking into account the higher or lower rate for working hands; and with regard to the minors, they will always proceed preferring the beneficial protection which these unfortunates require to other interests.

XIX. The whole of the surplus which the wisdom of the Board may by their economy get together shall be applied positively for their benefit in particular, or for that of the emancipados in general of all classes, after covering the expenses incurred.

Havana, January 1, 1854.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

No. 643.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship translation of a correspondence I have had with the Captain-General respecting a cargo of slaves which it was reported to me, by Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago de Cuba, had been landed somewhere in the district of Cienfuegos.

His Excellency, however, had better information, and having called on Acting Vice-Consul Fowler to account for his not having reported this infraction, it turned out that the Captain-General had been rightly informed, as the disembarkation took place in the district of Trinidad, at a place called San Juan.

I have, however, every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which my denouncement was received and acted upon by the Marquis de la Pezuela; Mr. Fowler having reported to me that by his Excellency's order the Lieutenant-Governor of Cienfuegos proceeded to investigate the circumstances, and it was in consequence of his proceeding thereupon that the Acting Vice-Consul was enabled to inform me correctly as to the place where this cargo had been landed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 643.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 17, 1853.

I BEG to inclose herewith to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, respecting a disembarkation of 600 Bozal negroes from the coast of Africa, which was effected near Cienfuegos from on board a vessel under Spanish colours, commanded by Don Jaime Pol, a person who, the Consul states, has made more than one successful voyage in that unlawful Traffic.

This cargo, it is said, was intended to have been landed in the Province of Cuba, but the slaver was induced to change her course from having learnt that a British cruizer had been seen off the Morro. The negroes were disembarked with the greatest secrecy, and the vessel is said to have been afterwards destroyed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 643.

Consul Forbes to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Santiago de Cuba, December 7, 1853.

I BEG to report for your information a late landing near Cienfuegos, in this island, of about 600 negroes from the coast of Africa, brought by a vessel under Spanish colours, commanded by Don Jaime Pol, a person

who has made more than one successful voyage in that unlawful Traffic.

The cargo in question is reported to have been intended for this province, but a vessel of war (probably Her Majesty's brig "Espiègle") having been sighted off the Morro, the slaver bore down to leeward, and having disembarked the negroes with the greatest secrecy, the vessel was afterwards destroyed.

I am given to understand that this expedition was got up in and despatched from Havana.

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

Inclosure 3 in No. 643.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 18, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General requests me to say to your Honour, as I do, that he has just received your communication of yesterday, relative to a disembarkation of African Bozal negroes near to Cienfuegos.

His Excellency had already on the 10th confidential information of this matter, although the place of landing was said to have been in the district of Trinidad, and in consequence he had that same day sent the necessary orders to the Lieutenant-Governor of the said place for the investigation of this affair, and the apprehension of the Bozals and others who may be culpable.

And finally that of this date he has given the like instructions to the Lieutenant-Governor of Cienfuegos, if it should be that it was in that district, and not in that of Trinidad, that, as had been said to him, the said disembarkation took place.

In fulfilling what his Excellency desires, I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 644.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 5, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela having been pleased to grant their papers of freedom to the emancipada Escolastica and to the emancipado Demetrio, with the condition that they and the former's children should be sent out of the island, I thought it proper to ask that they should be allowed to remain, if they wished to do so, and accordingly addressed the Captain-General, pointing out the hardship to which they would be subjected if sent to a British island, which would be to them a foreign country, where they are unacquainted with the people, their customs, and language.

I have the honour and satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that his Excellency at once acceded to my request, as is shown by the correspondence, copy of which I have the pleasure of inclosing herewith to your Lordship; and as I have not heard anything either of Escolastica and her children, or of Demetrio, since their liberation, I presume they have been quite content to remain here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 644.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 20, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General, upon the solemn occasion of the day (viz., the anniversary of the birth of the heir-apparent to the Throne of Spain), and in obedience to the orders of Her Majesty to give letters of freedom to various emancipados, amongst whom are those named Demetrio, No. 295 of the brigantine "*Negríto*," and Escolastica, No. 77 of the "*Intrepido*," with her children, who are to leave the island; I say so to your Honour to the end that you will be pleased to state the day and the vessel by which they are to embark, in order to give the necessary orders for that purpose. In the meantime they are to remain at the depôt of the Royal Board of Trade.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 644.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, December 21, 1853.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging to your Excellency the receipt of Mr. Secretary Estevan's communication of yesterday's date, acquainting me that your Excellency had, in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of the heir-apparent to the Throne of San Fernando, granted free papers to various emancipados, and amongst others to Demetrio, No. 295 of the brigantine "*Negríto*," and Escolastica, No. 77 of the "*Intrepido*," and her children, who are to be sent out of the island.

The earliest opportunity for the embarkation of these freed persons will be that of the British mail-steamer which should leave this port on the 9th proximo.

But I would respectfully entreat your Excellency that if they should be desirous of remaining here, and there is nothing objectionable in their characters to give rise to the expediency of their being sent away, they may be spared the mortification and suffering of being sent to another country, where they are unacquainted with the people, their customs, and the language, by their being permitted to remain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 644.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 24, 1853.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your letter of the 21st instant, requesting that the freed emancipados Demetrio No. 95, and Escolastica No. 77, with her sons, who have been ordered to leave Cuba, may be allowed to remain; and I am directed by his Excellency to inform you that having taken into consideration your application in favour of the said emancipados, he has been pleased to suspend his decision respecting them, and to allow them to remain in the island upon the same conditions as the other persons of the same class who have obtained certificates of freedom.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 645.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a copy of a circular* dated the 23rd of December last, which has been addressed by his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela, Captain-General of this island, to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, denouncing the Traffic in Slaves, and inculcating the exact observance of the Treaties with Great Britain of 1817 and 1835; accompanied by an Ordinance which is established and ordered to be observed for the service of the estates and rural properties by those who contract with the Captain-General Superintendent of the island, for the introduction of colonists or free labourers, Spaniards, Indians, Yucatecos, or Chinese, under the rules, regulations, and discipline which this circular and ordinance establish, and which supersedes the former Ordinance so much complained of, which was issued by Captain-General the Count Alcoy, subjecting the free labourers to the dominical law and corporal punishment of their masters or employers.

As all the contracts which had been entered into with parties who, being secured a certain sum by the Junta de Fomento or Board of Trade, engaged to bring Chinese labourers, are annulled by this Ordinance, it is a matter of speculation now for those who may adventure, or who may be able to make arrangements with planters or others for certain numbers; the responsibility of the Government is no longer pledged, although the introduction of colonists must be subject to its superintendence.

There is much that is exceptionable in these regulations, especially the number of passengers (four to the ton) which are allowed to be embarked on board vessels employed in such transport; but I am under the firm belief that few or none will ever be brought, unless the Ordinance is modified anew, and some encouragement held out by the Government to induce speculators to adventure in such a hazardous undertaking; besides, Spaniards will not be found, nor Yucatecos: Indians (coolies) and Chinese indeed they may get; but the voyage is too long and the charges too immense for the speculation being gone into without something certain being guaranteed by the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 646.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island, to whom I addressed a letter embodying the information which your Lordship did me the honour of communicating, and which had been received by your Lordship from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio Janeiro, Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and from other Consular officers, all corroborative of extensive arrangements for carrying on the Slave Trade in conjunction with parties in this island. I had also occasion to address his Excellency respecting several disembarkations of slaves which have recently been effected at Trinidad and at Sagua, or in those districts.

I have much satisfaction in bringing this correspondence under your Lordship's notice, as a most unqualified assurance has in it been given of the determination of the Marquis de la Pezuela, by every means in his power, to put an end to the detestable Traffic; and your Lordship will not fail to observe that his Excellency had received with thankfulness the

* Class A, Inclosure 5 in No. 58.

circumstantial information which I was enabled to furnish from your Lordship's despatches, and had at once issued orders to seek for the parties named as being the agents of the Portuguese Brazilian Slave Trade Association, for the purpose of expelling them the island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure I in No. 646.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Extract.)

Havana, January 11, 1854.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Excellency that I have received despatches from the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, transmitting copies of despatches which his Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Ministers and Consuls at various places relative to the preparations which have been made for carrying on the Slave Trade upon an extensive scale, principally by a Brazilian-Portuguese company, in conjunction with parties resident in this Island of Cuba.

Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio Janeiro states that several vessels which were reported to have gone to the River Plata to fit out, have done so with the intention of proceeding from the coast of Africa with slaves to Cuba; and that he had been informed that a Roman vessel, the "*Maria*," which had acted in a similar manner in the month of March last, proceeded to the coast of Africa, and subsequently had succeeded in landing a cargo of slaves on this island. And Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires acquaints Lord Clarendon that the same information which he had received had reached the Brazilian Government, whose intention it was to employ the means they possess in keeping the Slave Trade under.

A suspicious vessel, called the "*Maria Isabel*," was at Rio, and another (formerly the "*Valoroso*," now the "*Eduardo*") had sailed under Sardinian colours on the 9th of October, with a cargo for England, from whence, as she belongs to a notorious slaver, Don Tomas de la Costa Ramos, it is conjectured she may proceed to the coast of Africa, to bring slaves here.

Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia de todos los Santos, of date October 1st, confirms, to the Earl of Clarendon, his former despatch with regard to the illegal speculations which were going forward from that port, in conjunction with slave-traders in the Island of Cuba; and he states that he is the more convinced of this suspicion because the old slave-dealers, who appeared to have given up all transactions with the coast of Africa ever since the rigorous proceedings instituted by their Government against the Traffic, are the very parties who are now again coming forward as the greatest shippers to the coast.

Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, has addressed Lord Clarendon upon the subject of the activity of the slave-traders in connection with the Island of Cuba.

Lord Clarendon has also received despatches from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, on the coast of Africa; and from Mr. Reed, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Terceira, upon the same subject.

With so much corroborative information, there can be no doubt that a vast combination is at work to introduce slaves into this island, in defiance of the law and of the existing Treaties for suppression of that detestable Traffic. Considering that it is my duty to cooperate with your Excellency, and to aid, as much as it may be in my power to do, the notorious and proclaimed determination by every means in your power to put an end to the Slave Trade; I have the honour of laying this information before your Excellency, for such purposes as may be convenient for the prevention of the illegal purposes of the Brazilian-Portuguese Slave Trade Association, and other similar enterprises which may have been undertaken; and I avail of the opportunity to express to your Excellency

that I have the fullest confidence the measures which your Excellency may adopt will be completely effectual to suppress the Slave Trade in this island, which for some time past has been carried on to a most lamentable extent.

Inclosure 2 in No. 646.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, January 12, 1854.

I HAVE heard with much regret that, besides the cargo of Bozal negroes, subject of the letter which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 17th ultimo, as having been landed in the district of Cienfuegos, but who were introduced, as your Excellency was pleased to inform me, in that of Trinidad, another landing of slaves has taken place in the same district, but at a different place, and two more near Sagua, on the north coast.

I have also received information that two cargoes of slaves are expected to arrive at or near Cay Barrien. And I shall be much obliged to your Excellency for such information as may have been received with regard to the cases to which I have alluded.

The wreck of a vessel, brig-rigged, and of about 270 or 300 tons, supposed to have been one of the slavers which landed their cargoes at Sagua, is, I understand, to be seen at Cayo Verde; and if this conjecture is true, she must have brought a considerable number, probably not less than 700 or 800 negroes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 646.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 17, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General desires me to say to your Honour, as I do, that he has received your communications of the 11th and 12th of the present month, and has informed himself of their contents. He is thankful for the circumstantial information which your Honour has given him with regard to unlawful designs for the introduction of slaves into this island, with the other information expressed. Finally, that, determined as his Excellency is to persecute this detestable Traffic, besides the other measures which may be convenient, he sends this day to all the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of the island, positive orders to discover the agents your Honour indicates, in order to expel them as soon as they have been found.

With this object, I repeat, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 647.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

(Extract.)

Havana, January 28, 1854.

THE determination of his Excellency the Captain-General, by every means in his power, to put down the Slave Trade, which was published in the "Gazette" dated the 23rd ultimo, as referred to in my despatch dated the 7th instant, does not seem to have the good effect which might have been anticipated, for it has been reported to me that there are numerous

expeditions to the coast of Africa dispatched and preparing with the intention of returning to this island with slaves.

Amongst these is a large brig of 549 tons, which entered this port from Barcelona, but which has been sold to parties very notorious slave-traders. Her name, which was the "*Destino*," has been changed to that of the "*Lindo*;" she has been newly coppered, is said to have on board a number of guns of large size, and is cleared out from hence in ballast for Mobile, there (as it is given out) to load cotton for Barcelona.

I have brought this case of the "*Destino*" alias "*Lindo*" under the notice of the Marquis de la Pezuela, but I am apprehensive that my denouncement will not be effectual to impede her voyage, as it is not to be supposed that anything will be found on board that would justify her seizure, and so it is more than probable she will proceed to some certain place after she sails from Havana, and there take in her slaver equipments.

Your Lordship will have seen in the Marquis Pezuela's proclamation alluded to that his Excellency considers himself bound to the observance of the Penal Law of the 4th of March, 1845; and I understand that, as by that law the slaves, if once upon any estate, cannot be seized, it is the hope of getting them landed and on to the estates, which has induced the slave-traders again to launch so many adventures.

I would, therefore, respectfully request your Lordship's influence to obtain an alteration of the Penal Law, so as that it should not operate as an inducement to the slave-traders by enabling them to avail themselves of its defective clauses and carry on the detestable Traffic with impunity.

I would impress the necessity there is for making the Penal Law effectual to restrain the slave-traders. The authorities must be enabled to follow and seize Bozal negroes wherever they may be, and to render that fully adequate and at the same time operate as a protection to the planters, a general registration of the slaves would be indispensable, as well as that to intimidate and deter the masters and crews from engaging in the Slave Trade it should be declared piracy, and that all and every one found on board of slavers should be dealt with as pirates.

No. 648.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing copies of your despatches of the 4th and 7th ultimo, and expressing the gratification with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the praiseworthy determination of the Marquis de Pezuela to put a stop to the Slave Trade between the African coast and the Island of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 649.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th ultimo, reporting that the Captain-General of Cuba had acceded to your request that the emancipados Demetrio and Escolastica might be allowed to remain in the Island

* No. 500.

of Cuba with their children; and I have to instruct you to express to the Marquis de la Pezuela the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at his Excellency's ready acquiescence in your request.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 650.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

(Extract.)

Havana, February 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of correspondence which has passed with the Captain-General upon the subject of recent importations of Bozal negroes from Africa which have been landed in the district of Trinidad.

Having received information from a person well known to me, who had it from a friend who had himself seen the recently imported negroes upon the estate, that no less than 640 of these unfortunate human beings were accumulated upon "Las Cucharas," an estate in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, belonging to Don Mariano Borrel, who is a most notorious slave-trader; I lost no time in denouncing the fact to the Captain-General, and I addressed my communication to his Excellency in Spanish for the purpose of avoiding the probability of its being known at Trinidad, which experience had taught me had happened when my denouncements of slave-trading acts demanding the prompt action of the authorities, required to pass through the public offices for translation.

The Captain-General may or may not have acted upon my letter; but I have had the satisfaction of receiving from Acting Vice-Consul Fowler of Cienfuegos, the confirmation of the information upon which I acted, inasmuch as he acquaints me that a large cargo of slaves had been landed in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, the latter days of last month, and Commander Napier writes me his chagrin at having missed some cargoes which had been landed at or near the Rio Zarza (which is where Las Cucharas estate is situated) during the temporary absence of the "Daring," whilst cruising more to the westward.

I consider it my duty to state to your Lordship that the Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad is the same Colonel or Brigadier Pantaleon de Ayllon, who when Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio was so deeply implicated in the affair of the "*Jasper*," and other landings of slaves at the Ensenada de Cortez in that jurisdiction, for which he was suspended, subjected to trial before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, but acquitted notwithstanding that the Fiscal, as I understand, asked for his conviction, and he was immediately appointed by General Cañedo to Trinidad, which is a far more extensive field for such propensities, and my opinion of him appears to be fully borne out by what has been going on at his new place of residence. I shall, however, very probably have it in my power to lay before your Lordship an extract of the proceedings upon the trial of Colonel Don Antonio Pantaleon Lopez de Ayllon, which will better enable your Lordship to form an opinion as to the extraordinary circumstance of appointing that officer to a command like that of Trinidad, after what had occurred during his government in the district of Pinar del Rio.

Inclosure 1 in No. 650.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, February 1, 1854.

I HAVE received intelligence that, about four days ago, there were 640 Bozal negroes (who recently had been landed) upon the estate called Las Cucharas, belonging to Don Mariano Borrel, in the jurisdiction of

Trinidad; and that said Don Mariano Borrel, who is well known as a notorious slave-trader, was in great difficulty, because those who surrounded the said estate demanded five ounces (85 dollars) for each of said Bozals, to permit them to pass into the district of Sancti Spiritus, and three ounces (51 dollars each) to allow them to pass into Trinidad.

I have reason to believe that this information is true, and I hasten to communicate it to your Excellency, feeling assured that, without the loss of a moment, the abuses which are being practised in that district will be corrected as regards the introduction of slaves.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 650.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, February 2, 1854.

I HAVE received a denouncement which your Honour was pleased to make to me in your communication of yesterday, which is not only one of these common advices which your Honour is in the habit of making, in virtue of the authority given to you therefor by my Government according to the existing Treaties, but contains, besides, inculpatations and references which it is necessary your Honour should designate, telling me who are those persons who exact five ounces for allowing each of the 640 newly arrived Bozal negroes to pass from the estate of Don Mariano Borrel to Trinidad, and three to pass into Sancti Spiritus, as well as from whom and in what form it is that your Honour received this information; so that I may be able, if it is true, to proceed to punish so grave a crime in public functionaries with all the necessary energy, but whose honour and reputation in the contrary event are under the safeguard of the Government.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 650.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, February 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's official letter of yesterday, in which, with reference to my communication of the 1st current, you are pleased to say to me that it is necessary to designate "who the persons are who exact money to allow recently arrived Bozal negroes to pass from the Cucharas estate of Don Mariano Borrel, as well as that I should state from whom and in what form it is that I have received this information."

In reply I must state to your Excellency, and I hope that your Excellency will understand, that because of the nature of such informations it would be very inconvenient to disclose the authors. In this case, however, I can assure your Excellency that I believe it is quite true, in so far as that the negroes recently imported were, at the date indicated, upon the estate mentioned in the district of Trinidad.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 651.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 8, 1854.

I RESPECTFULLY beg leave to refer your Lordship to my previous despatch dated the 28th ultimo, in which I did myself the honour of acquainting your Lordship that, having brought under the notice of the Captain-General the arrival of Don Antonio Severino de Avellar in this city, his Excellency had had him arrested, &c., and I stated that I felt assured his passport had been given to him.

I have now the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship, that I have received a communication from the Political Secretary, by direction of the Marquis de la Pezuela, informing me that his Excellency intimated to Don Antonio Severino de Avellar, as well as to Don Joaquin Gaspard de Motta, that they could not remain in the island, and they accordingly departed for New York on the 1st instant, on board the steamer "Black Warrior," preferring, as the Secretary observes, to go voluntarily rather than be expelled by special order of this Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 652.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 19th of December last, acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government approve of my proceedings in the affair of the three sailors, British subjects, who were on board the slaver "*Jasper*," and who are now prisoners under trial before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial in this city.

I understand that a M. Costales, a lawyer, has been appointed for their defence, and that he has accepted the nomination of the tribunal. I shall consequently see that that advocate has the necessary instructions, and I shall not fail to report the result. In the meantime I understand that the other six sailors belonging to the "*Jasper*," who are Americans, have been tried, and that the fiscal asks for their condemnation to four years' punishment in the slave gangs, to which very strenuous objections have been lodged by the Consul on the part of the Government of the United States, because these men aver that they were on board the "*Jasper*" in good faith, considering the ship as being on a lawful voyage when they were surprised by the slaves being put on board; that they refused to do duty as soon as they knew the real character of the vessel; but that they could not get away from her, and were forced to come in her to the place where the negroes were landed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 653.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 16, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo; and I have in reply to inform you, that I have learnt with great satisfaction the proceedings of the Marquis de la Pezuela, in expelling from the island of Cuba the two Brazilians, Antonio Severino de Avellar and Gaspard de Motta, who had arrived at Havana as agents for the Portuguese-Brazilian Slave-Trading Company.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 654.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, copies of a note* and of its inclosure, which I have received from M. Comyn, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, in reply to my request that he would communicate to me the particulars respecting the emancipados which, as Mr. Backhouse informed me, had been sent to the Spanish Legation in London by the Captain-General of Cuba.

I have to instruct you to proceed, in conjunction with Mr. Backhouse, to compare the details of the Captain-General's statement, with such information as may be in his and your possession with regard to the emancipados; and you will then transmit to me a joint report thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 655.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, copies of a despatch† and its inclosures, from Mr. Howard, &c., containing information respecting the preparations making by the slave-traders at Loanda to ship cargoes of slaves for the Brazils and for the Island of Cuba.

You will communicate this information to the Captain-General of Cuba, in order that his Excellency may take such measures as he may deem expedient and fitting, for the purpose of counteracting in Cuba the criminal projects of these slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 656

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 22, 1854.

THE large Spanish brig called the "*Destino*," alluded to in my despatch dated the 28th ultimo, having sailed from this port for New Orleans, and not having received any acknowledgment from the Captain-General of the denouncement of that vessel which I addressed to his Excellency on the 20th ultimo, I deemed it my duty to write Her Majesty's

* No. 502.

† No. 162.

Consul for Louisiana, requesting him to watch the "*Destino's*" motions, and acquaint me of her arrival at New Orleans. I also wrote to Her Majesty's Consul in Alabama upon the same subject.

I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Captain-General respecting the "*Destino,*" and I have the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the said vessel arrived at New Orleans on the 8th instant; that she was under Mr. Consul Mure's observation, and that he states to me the opinion which he had formed respecting her, that "from her peculiar build he should doubt the probability of her loading for Barcelona."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 656.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, January 20, 1854.

IT has been denounced to me that the Spanish brig "*Destino,*" which arrived in this harbour on the 27th ultimo, from Barcelona, has been sold here to parties who intend to employ her in the Slave Trade; and that said vessel has been newly coppered at the Barradero in the Royal Arsenal, from whence she was launched a day or two ago, is now ready for sea, and is to be dispatched at the public offices here in ballast for Mobile or New Orleans, under the pretence that she will at one or other port take in a cargo of cotton for Barcelona. It has also been denounced to me, that the said brig's name has been changed; that she will clear out under her newly-assumed name from this custom-house, and that amongst her ballast on board, there are several pieces of artillery. I observe, by the entries of vessels at this port, on the date above-mentioned, that the "*Destino*" is a vessel of 549 tons; and as it must be known at the proper offices whether she has been sold and her name altered, I have deemed it my duty to communicate to your Excellency the purport of the denouncement which has been made as to said vessels being intended for the Slave Trade, for such purposes as your Excellency may direct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 657.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 23, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th instant, and its inclosure, respecting a number of Bozal negroes which had been landed near Trinidad, at the south side of this island, I have the satisfaction of stating to your Lordship that, although I have not been honoured with any further communication from the Captain-General upon the subject, I have learnt that the Governor of Trinidad, and several others of the public officers of that district, have been superseded, and are now in this city, subjected to trial for their conduct; and that the Lieutenant-Governor of Sancti Spiritus is also here under similar circumstances of investigation as to his conduct in regard to the recent introduction of slaves, of which I had to complain, as reported to your Lordship.

Brigadier Morales de Rada has been appointed Governor of Trinidad, and Colonel Don Juan Leiva to the command at Sancti Spiritus. I have known both these officers for several years, and I consider that the Captain-

General has made a very proper selection for these appointments at places of so much importance, where the Slave Trade, for years past, has been carried on to a very great extent and with the most complete impunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 658.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the case of man-stealing which was detected at Belize, Honduras, and which ended in the conviction and punishment of the man Anduze at that place, has been so far brought to a close here as that 21 of the Indians who were kidnapped and brought away from Yucatan by the fishing-vessels of Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, of this city, Anduze's accomplice in the crime, have been restored to their homes and families, their passages having been provided, at Marty's expense, by the Mexican Consul; and that it has been proved to the satisfaction of the said functionary that 6 more had been sent back by Marty y Torrens: 3 preferred to remain here under contract as free labourers, 5 died, and 1 had embarked for Spain as a servant; thus accounting for 36 who had been entrapped and carried off, all of them, I believe, from the port of Ascension.

It appears, also, by the official communication which his Excellency the Captain-General addressed to the Mexican Consul upon the occasion of the restoration of these people, a copy of which I am enabled, by the politeness of M. Carvallo, to inclose herewith to your Lordship, that the proceedings against the guilty actors in this affair are still being carried on in the competent tribunals.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 658.

The Captain-General of Cuba to M. Carvallo.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 5, 1854.

THE inquiry gone into by this Government respecting the 36 Mistis and Indians of Yucatan, who were said to have been furtively taken from their country, and brought to this place in the fishing-smacks of Don Francisco Marty, to his consignment, having been concluded, the 21 who remain were asked whether they wished to continue here under contract, or return home, and, having stated that they preferred the latter, I have this day given the necessary orders that the said Marty shall, at his own cost, by his own vessels, or by any other convenient mode which offers, send them to their country, making known to your Honour that of those who are wanting to complete the 36 said Indians, 6 were sent back by the said Marty, 3 are contracted in the country with parties in a good condition, 5 have died, and 1 is in the Peninsula, where he went as a servant on pay; the process in the competent tribunals being continued notwithstanding against the guilty parties.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

No. 659.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that Radcliffe, Hersey, and Robinson, the three British subjects who were on board the slaver "*Jasper*," have been put at liberty, as well as the other six American sailors who were their companions on board the said vessel.

The defence of the Englishmen was entrusted to M. Costales, a lawyer of considerable eminence and ability. I have this day seen his paper, and I think that his arguments were conclusive, and must have weighed with the Court in the sentence, for the Advocate did not scruple to set forth the monstrosity of condemning these men to four years of the chain gang upon their own confession that they had been on board the "*Jasper*," and that she had brought some 300 slaves from Africa who were landed on this island, but that they had been there against their will, being deceived by Townshend, the master, with whom they shipped at New York, thinking that they were going upon a lawful voyage, and only knowing the contrary when they found the ship swarming with the negroes who were put on board, and discovered that the master had deserted them; whilst, as M. Costales states to the Court in their defence, it had been found to be impossible for these authorities to prove, otherwise than by these men's declarations, that any slaves had been landed from the "*Jasper*," and they had acquitted the Lieutenant-Governor and the Captain of the district where the disembarkation of the negroes actually did take place.

The Advocate recommends my applying for a judicial copy of the whole of the proceedings with regard to this case of the "*Jasper*," and the trial of the sailors, as he says there is much to be seen in it as to how the whole affair was carried on so that there were no convictions under the process, and I have requested him to ascertain the expense which would be incurred, previous to asking for such copy.

In the meantime, I have required a copy of the definitive sentence upon the sailors, which I shall not fail to lay before your Lordship, and the whole proceedings will most probably be the subject of another despatch, if their nature should appear to me to be of so much interest as M. Costales describes them to be.

It is worthy of noticing to your Lordship that the sentence of the Court has been promulgated, and the men set at liberty, without any official notification thereof to me, and I understand that no official communication has been received by the Consul of the United States upon the subject, but that the six Americans and the three Englishmen went, of their own accord, on board the United States' steamer "*Fulton*," at present lying in the harbour, as soon as they were liberated from the prison.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 660.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 7, 1854.

I BEG leave to inclose herewith to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 25th ultimo, denouncing a landing of Bozal negroes, which it was reported to me had been effected near Punta de Tejas, on the north coast of this island, consisting of 380 or 400, and that the vessel in which they came was a brig, polacca-rigged, but that I had not been able to learn anything further.

Subsequently I have been informed that that disembarkation took place to the eastward of Punta de Tejas, and that the slaves were taken

to Sagua, but I have not received any acknowledgment as yet from the Captain-General upon this subject.

With reference to my despatch on this subject dated the 23rd ultimo, and my previous despatch of the 5th ultimo, I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that the Marquis de la Pezuela this morning informed me, in conversation, that he had just received the agreeable news of the capture of 600 Bozal negroes near Trinidad, in the direction of Rio Zarza; and this afforded me the opportunity of congratulating his Excellency upon the efficacy of his appointments at Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus, to which I adverted in my despatch first alluded to, and I indulge the hope that the slavers can no longer count, as for a long time they have done, upon landing their cargoes with impunity in those districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 660.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, February 25, 1854.

IT having been reported to me that a cargo, consisting of 380 or 400 Bozal negroes, was landed very recently at or near Punta de Tejas, on the north coast of this island, I take the earliest opportunity of communicating the circumstance to your Excellency, well knowing the anxiety there is on the part of this Government to put an end to the detestable Traffic. This disembarkation was effected from on board a polacca-rigged brig, some six or eight days ago, but any further particulars of the case I have been unable to learn.

I also consider it my duty to acquaint your Excellency that I have received letters from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, by which it appears that Don Jaime Pol, who had lately landed a cargo of slaves on the south side (probably that which was effected in the district of Sancti Spiritus about a month ago) was, on the 15th instant, at St. Jago, and was said to be about to engage in a new adventure to the slave coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Porto Rico.*

No. 661.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 1.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, August 8, 1853.

IN the despatches which I had the honour of addressing to Viscount Palmerston dated March 14 and May 8, 1851, I stated that a considerable number of slaves had been purchased at Porto Rico and forwarded to Havana. In the last, however, of these despatches, I reported that a duty of 75 dollars per head had been imposed upon their exportation, which would, I trusted, have put a stop to this Traffic; and this has been the case until very lately, when, although the duty has not been taken off, they have commenced again to purchase and send slaves to the Havana, about 15 or 16 having been sent by the Spanish mail-steamer in June, and about 50 in that at the end of July last, the passage charged for each being only 6 dollars. The slaves sent are both male and female, grown-up persons and young children, and I am told that they are principally intended for servants at the Havana, where they will give heavy prices for good ones; and I have no doubt that more will go by the next steamer, as I see an advertisement for the purchase of slaves for servants at the Havana, from whence these orders for them originate.

I have thought it my duty to mention this that your Lordship may be aware of this Trade having commenced again, though nothing, I feel sure, can be done on the part of your Lordship to prevent it, as Viscount Palmerston, upon receipt of my despatch of the 14th March, with his usual anxiety to put a stop to the Slave Trade, which in this case is scarcely less inhuman than that from the coast of Africa, made strong remonstrances to the Spanish Government against it, as I see by the Slave Trade Papers presented to Parliament in 1852, but his representations were not attended with any success; and the only hope appears to be that self-interest may prompt the inhabitants to endeavour to prevent these exportations, which are so injurious to the island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 662.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 9, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, stating that the Spanish mail-steamers conveyed in June and July last from Porto Rico to Cuba between 60 and 70 negroes, who were intended for sale at Havana.

I have to instruct you to remonstrate with the Captain-General of Porto Rico, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, against this renewal of the Traffic in Slaves between the two islands.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 663.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 19.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, October 24, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th ultimo; and, agreeably to your Lordship's directions, I addressed a remonstrance to his Excellency the Captain-General of Porto Rico, relative to the exportation of slaves from this island to Cuba, an answer to which I received on the 21st instant, but not containing anything decisive; and as I am to hear from his Excellency as to what may be determined upon in the affair, I shall acquaint your Lordship with the result as soon as it is communicated to me.

Inclosed I have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of my letter of remonstrance, and a translation of the answer from his Excellency.

I beg further to add that since my last communication to your Lordship the two following monthly Spanish steamers took away between 60 and 70 slaves for Cuba, but that which left on the 21st instant did not take any; some were intended to have been sent, but the steamer stayed here for so short a period that the shippers had not time to take out the requisite passports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

 Inclosure I in No. 663.
Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, October 7, 1853.

IN compliance with my instructions from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, it has been my duty to report to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that several exportations of slaves have been effected from this island for Cuba, by means of the Spanish correos; and I have in answer thereto received instructions from Her Majesty's Government to remonstrate with your Excellency upon the subject.

I therefore take the liberty of respectfully representing to your Excellency, that these shipments are certainly contrary to the Treaties between the two Governments; for, although I am aware that the Government of Spain reserved to itself the power of removing slaves from one Spanish colony to another, yet, as the Traffic in Slaves is, by Article I of the Treaty of 1835, agreed to be totally and finally abolished in all parts of the world, this can only be meant to give the owners of estates the power of removing their slaves from one island to another, and not to encourage such a Traffic as is now carried on by slave-dealers, who are purchasing slaves in different parts of this island, to sell again in Cuba at a profit; a trade very little less inhuman than that carried on from Africa; for, as the Captains-General in this island have so honourably respected the Treaties with Great Britain during my residence here, no slaves have been imported for several years; and consequently all those who have been carried away, men, women, and children, must more or less have had their connections from which they have thus been separated.

It is not for me to offer an opinion whether this may be prejudicial to the island or not; but your Excellency has already given such proofs of anxiety to promote its prosperity, that you would doubtless be a much better judge upon the subject than myself. I take the liberty, however, of adverting to this, as such apprehensions arose when exportations of this sort took place in 1851, as induced the Intendant, in accordance with the representation made to him, to impose such a duty as was supposed would put a stop to it, which, for the time being, had the desired effect. The prices in Cuba must, however, now be higher; for although

these duties still remain in force, speculations of this kind are again resumed, and exportations recommenced.

Under these circumstances, I hope that your Excellency will be so good as to take the case into consideration, and prohibit any further Traffic of this nature; or if your Excellency should not have such power, you will perhaps be so good as to consult with the Intendent about levying such a further tax upon the exportation of slaves as will render it profitless, and thus put a stop to it; and I can assure your Excellency, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will feel much gratified upon my being able to inform them that the representations which they have desired me to make, have been acceded to by your Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 663.

The Captain-General of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, October 20, 1853.

BY the official letter you addressed me on the 7th instant, by order of your Government, and which having passed through the hands of the interpreter, was returned to me on the 14th instant, translated into the Spanish language, I am informed of all the observations which you are instructed to make upon the exportation of slaves from this colony under my command, to that of Cuba; and in answer thereto, I have to inform you that the solution of the question depends upon my Government, who have already been informed of it by my predecessors, as well as by myself; and as the nature of it is difficult, and requires consideration, I shall inform you opportunely as to what may be determined upon respecting it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FERNANDO DE NORZAGARAY.

No. 664.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, January 4, 1854.

I HAD the honour to address your Lordship on the 24th of October last, inclosing copies of my remonstrance to the Governor of Porto Rico, relative to the exportation of slaves from hence to Havana, and of his Excellency's answer, since which I have not heard anything further from his Excellency upon the subject. If, however, he made any communication to the Spanish Government in consequence of my remonstrance against these shipments, he may, I suppose, soon have an answer.

In my despatch above adverted to, I informed your Lordship that the last steamer had not taken any slaves, but a sailing-vessel which left shortly afterwards, took between 20 and 30; since which time but few have been sent, the two last monthly steamers taking only, the first 10, and the second 11 slaves. So I hope that these shipments will not be carried to any extent. As a proof, however, that the representations which have been made upon the subject were not without just reason, one slave whom they were going to ship from the prison where he had been placed for security, resisting and attempting to defend himself, was killed in the affray with the soldiers and police; and two others jumped into cisterns, with which every house is provided, from which they were both saved; but before one of them would allow himself to be taken out, he obtained a promise from the syndic, or protector of slaves, that he should not be shipped for Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*St. Jago de Cuba.*

No. 665.

Consul Forbes to Lord John Russell.—(Received May 19.)

My Lord,

St. Jago de Cuba, March 26, 1853.

ON the 31st December last, when I had the honour of transmitting to Her Majesty's Government the continuation of my correspondence with the Governor of this Province, regarding the claim to freedom of the negress "Nancy" and family, I stated that copies of the same had been forwarded to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, who had brought the case to the notice of his Excellency the Captain-General of the island.

It now becomes my duty to inclose for your Lordship's information, translation of a despatch addressed by Captain-General Cañedo to Consul-General Crawford on the 8th current, by which your Lordship will observe that his Excellency has settled the question by refusing to acknowledge the claim, "as neither the said negress nor her children are identified, nor does the legislation, whose fulfilment is asked for by the Consul-General and the aforesaid Consul of Cuba, extend to the dominions of Her Majesty."

If this decision is founded, as I believe it to be, upon the instruction from Spain which was given last year in the case of the Bahama negress Mary Anne Bethel, that it was the last which would be given into, it still appears to me unjust and inapplicable to the present claim, which was commenced by me on behalf of the negress Nancy and her children, of whose identity I had full and convincing proof, three and a half years ago, namely, in October 1849.

I consider, my Lord, that the children of the poor woman Nancy, lately deceased, are as fully entitled to their liberty as were Betsy and her family, both cases having been pending here at the same time, and the evidence adduced by me in favour of each plea being as incontestable in the one case as in the other.

As regards further claims to freedom of unfortunate kidnapped coloured persons, the instruction from Her Catholic Majesty's Government, on which the Captain-General's decision in the present case is believed to be founded, cannot but be matter of regret to me, as it would seem to exclude them from all hope, however clearly their cases might be made out.

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

Inclosure in No. 665.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 8, 1853.

IN consequence of what I stated to you on the 21st of last December, in reply to your letter of the 16th of the same month, relative to the reclamation which the English Consul in Cuba made from his Excellency the Governor there, of the negress Nancy and her children as British subjects, the antecedents in this matter have been remitted to me, and in conformity with what I have consulted with the Alcalde Mayor, Don Lorenzo del Busto, to whom I passed them, it is impossible for me to accede to your request, as neither the said negress nor her children are identified, nor does the Legislaton, whose fulfilment is asked for by you and the aforesaid Consul of Cuba, extend to the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen, my august Sovereign, to whom I give advice for her superior resolution.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) VALENTIN CANEDO.

No. 666.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Forbes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 9, 1853.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 31st of December, 1852, respecting the sons of the Jamaica negress Nancy, now deceased, whose claim to be liberated was, it appears, brought by you before the Spanish authorities in Cuba in February 1849, I herewith transmit to you, for your information, copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana upon the subject in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 667.

Consul Forbes to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 1.)

My Lord,

St. Jago de Cuba, July 1, 1853.

SINCE I addressed your Lordship on the 26th March last, regarding the case of the children of the lately deceased negress Nancy, I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated 9th of April of the present year, inclosing for my information a copy of a communication addressed by your Lordship under the same date to Her Majesty's Consul-General in Havana.

By my last advices from Mr. Crawford, the Captain-General had not yet answered the representation which, in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, he had lately made to his Excellency in the above case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

* No. 513.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Teneriffe.*

No. 668.

Acting-Consul Edwards to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 14.)

My Lord,

Canary Islands, Teneriffe, June 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the arrival to-day here from Sierra Leone of Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," Commander Christian, having on board a Spanish subject who was taken at Sierra Leone for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

Having communicated to the Civil Governor the Commander's desire that this prisoner should be delivered over officially to him, he was given up this day by Commander Christian, and conveyed to the town gaol, from whence he will be forwarded to Grand Canary, to be tried by the competent tribunal in that island.

I will be careful to report upon the future proceedings in this case.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN HOWARD EDWARDS.

TRIPOLI.

No. 669.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, March 14, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, a return of the Slave Trade of Mourzouk for the year 1852.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure in No. 669.

RETURN of Slaves arrived in the city of Mourzouk during the year 1852.

Where from.	Number of Males.	Number of Females.	Total.	Mortality on the journey.	Mortality in the city.	Average value.
Bornou	769	1150	1919	15 per 100	6 per 100	£ 23,024
Haussa	150	191	341	7 per 100	4 per 100	4,058
Ghat	100	98	198	..	2 per 100	2,324
						£29,406

Remarks.—Average of a Male 10*l.* 10*s.*, Female 13*l.*

All the slaves were conducted to Tripoli, Bengazi, and Egypt.

The mortality is generally caused from ill-usage, fatigue, and small-pox.

On the Bornou Road the mortality is greater, as the slave-dealers are very inhuman; they only provide for every ten slaves one camel-load of provisions, which obliges them to precipitate their journey.

Each slave, male or female, is chained by the neck, and has a hand bound to the chain with a leather thong, and is compelled to carry on his head a bundle weighing 20 pounds.

The slaves from Haussa suffer less, as the Touricks, who conduct them, travel only five hours per day, and allow every four slaves a camel-load of provisions. They do not carry any weight on their heads.

*British Vice-Consulate,
Mourzouk, December 31, 1852.*

(Signed) G. B. GAGLIUFFI.

No. 670.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, May 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the arrival here, on the morning of the 8th instant, of the Ottoman steam-frigate "*Saidi Saiki*" from the Levant, with drafts for the different corps composing the military division of this Regency.

Some days after her arrival it was proclaimed by the Government criers in the bazaars and other places of public resort, that the "*Saidi Saiki*" would convey negro slaves to Constantinople at the rate of 5 maboobs (17s. 6d.) per head.

This glaring infraction of the general order of the 13th of November, 1850, transmitted at the representations of Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, by the Grand Vizier to the Capudan Pasha, prohibiting the transport of slaves by the ships of the Ottoman Navy, occurred to me could only have arisen from the ignorance of the Turkish authorities here, of the existence of the order in question.

My suspicions proved to be well-founded, for on expressing myself to that effect, in as delicate a manner as possible, to his Excellency the Governor-General, Moustafa Nourree Pasha, he thanked me in the most courteous terms for the steps I had taken, and immediately caused the slaves already on board to be relanded, and the embarkation of any more to be suspended.

I am happy to have it in my power to record this ready adherence to those enlightened views of humanity which Her Majesty's Government have so sedulously sought to inculcate upon the Sublime Porte; views which if rigorously carried out, must tend to materially fetter the Traffic in Slaves in the Ottoman dominions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 671.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Herman.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 11, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of May, reporting that the Governor-General of Tripoli had, on your representation, prevented an embarkation of slaves on board the Turkish steam-frigate "*Saidi Saiki*," for conveyance to Constantinople; and I have to express to you my approval of your conduct, and to instruct you to convey to the Governor-General the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for his ready attention to your representation upon this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 672.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, July 26, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant. In conformity with its instructions I immediately conveyed to his Excellency the Governor-General Mustafa Nourree Pasha, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for his ready attention to the representation which I had made relative to the slaves on board the steam-frigate "*Saidi Saiki*," when his Excellency expressed his high sense of the flattering and commendatory message of which I was the bearer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 673.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, January 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the annual slave returns of this Consulate and the Vice-Consulates of Bengazi, Derna and Morzouk.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 673.

RETURN of Slaves, Male and Female (the sex not being specified in the Custom-House Books), exported from the Port of Tripoli during the year 1853.

1852	-	-	-	-	1,007
1853	-	-	-	-	858
					149
Decrease	-	-	-	-	149

Tripoli, January 15, 1854.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 673.

RETURN of the Number of Negroes Exported from Bengazi during the Year 1853.

The total number of negroes exported during the year to Constantinople, the Cannea, and ports of the Levant - - - - - 300

N.B.—40 negroes out of that number went to Alexandria in Egypt.
Bengazi, January 2, 1854.

(Signed) F. H. S. WERRY,
Vice-Consul.

N.B.—The number of negroes exported from Bengazi during the year

1852 was	-	-	-	-	1,001
1853	-	-	-	-	300
					701
Decrease	-	-	-	-	701

Inclosure 3 in No. 673.

RITORNO del Commercio degli Schiavi in Derna durante l'Anno 1853.

Data.	Qualita del Legno.	Nome.	Capitano.	Nazione.	Destinazione.	Maschi.	Feminine.	Totale.
1853 Dec. 18	Suma ..	Misghuda	Barca..	Ottomane	Canea ..	10	..	10
							Totale No.	10

No Return for 1852 was received from Derna.

(Signed) ANT. AQUILINE,
Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 673.

QUADRO dei Schiavi arrivati in questa Città nel 1853.

Numero Totale.	Provenienza.	Gennero.	Numero.	Valore Medio.	Mortalità in viaggio.	Mortalità in città.	Osservazioni.
142	Da Gaat ..	Maschi ..	82	£ 728			La mortalità non era molto in viaggio, qui però fù più degli altri anni, e la maggior parte malattia verminose.
		Feminine..	60	780			
553	Haussa ..	Maschi ..	320	2,880	5%	3%	
		Feminine..	233	3,029	5%	3%	
1,914	Bornou ..	Maschi ..	1,110	9,990	8%	6%	
		Feminine..	804	10,452	8%	6%	
2,609				17,859			

Tutti i schiavi sono condotti a Tripoli, Bengazi, ed Egitto. Il traffico aumenta ogni anno causante le facilità che il Governo Ottomano fa per incoraggiarlo : tre anni sono il trafficante doveva pagare piastr. 200 di dritto per ogni individuo, all' arrivo in Tripoli ; in oggi paga in Constantinopoli solo piastr. 150 quando è condotto in quella capitale, e se viene venduto in Tripoli per uso locale la dogana è diminuita a piacere del doganiere ; se poi la vendita succede prima d'arrivare in Tripoli, allora paga qui solo piastr. 80, sino a 100, queste facilità fanno aumentare il valore ; e perciò preferiscono condurre schiavi più tosto che merci le quali sono soggette a diversi dritti abusivi : per esempio, l'avorio quando arriva dall' interno paga qui da 4 al 6 per cento, in Tripoli, poi, come prodotto 9 per cento ed il 3 per cento, li altri prodotti pagano qui 12 per cento ed in Tripoli altri 9 per cento e 3 per cento, e questo quando ha la fortuna di poter disporre della mercanzia.

Vice-Consolato Britannico,
Mourzouk, Dicembre 31, 1853.

(Firmato) G. B. GAGLIUFFI,
Vice-Consule.

(Translation.)

ALL the slaves are taken to Tripoli, Bengazi, and Egypt. The trade increases every year, owing to the facilities for its maintenance afforded by the Ottoman Government. Three years ago the trader was obliged to pay on the arrival of each slave at Tripoli a duty of 200 piastres ; at present he pays at Constantinople, when the slave is taken to that capital, only 150 piastres ; and if the slave is sold at Tripoli for local use, the duty is diminished at the pleasure of the Officer of Customs ; but if the sale takes place before arriving at Tripoli, then the dealer pays here only from 80 to 100 piastres. These facilities cause an increase of profit ; and therefore they prefer bringing slaves rather than merchandize, which is subject to various abusive duties : for example, ivory on arriving from the interior pays here from 4 to 6 per cent., but at Tripoli it pays as produce 9 per cent., with the additional 3 per cent. ; other produce pays here 12 per cent., and at Tripoli a further 9 per cent. and the additional 3 per cent., that is, if the trader is fortunate enough to dispose of the merchandize.

British Consulate, Mourzouk,
December 31, 1853.

(Signed) G. B. GAGLIUFFI,
Vice-Consul.

TURKEY.

No. 674.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 11, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Tripoli, reporting that the Governor-General of that province had, on his representation, prevented an embarkation of slaves from taking place on board the Turkish steam-frigate "*Saidi Saiki*," for conveyance to Constantinople. I also transmit to your Excellency a copy of my reply† to Consul Herman.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 675.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ from Her Majesty's Consul in Albania, reporting the steps taken by him in order to obtain the liberation of three Nubians who had been brought from Candia to Prevesa to be sold as slaves. I have to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have learnt by this despatch, with extreme concern, not only that these slave-markets in Candia and Prevesa still exist, but also that the Ottoman Government so far give a direct sanction to the Slave Trade as to have a tariff of duties on the importation of white and black slaves.

Her Majesty's Government believe that the Sultan cannot be aware of a state of things so repugnant to his just and humane character; but they hope that it will be effectually remedied without loss of time.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 669.

† No. 670.

‡ No. 678.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Jerusalem.*

No. 676.

Consul Finn to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 27.)

My Lord,

Jerusalem, December 6, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 26th of October a Moslem named Hadj Ahmad came to my office with his slave, named Besheer (alias John), in order to emancipate him. He brought with him also a Christian named Moossa Khushrum, as witness of the transaction.

He stated his reason to be, that his father (lately deceased) had charged him to release the slave, but that having lately, through poverty, attempted to transgress his father's injunction by selling him, and the slave resisting that proceeding by proclaiming the fact in the bazaar to all passers-by, persisting also in retaining the Christian religion, his (Ahmad's) conscience rebuked him, and he had come accordingly to effect the manumission.

The slave was a young Abyssinian.

A document in Arabic, ready prepared, and signed by witnesses, was deposited among my archives as a record, and I sent the youth to his Lordship, our Bishop, who advised him to repair to the Abyssinian convent. This he did. He has since had some employment among our Protestant community, but has, I believe, absconded from the city, after committing some acts of incurring debts in the names of his employers.

I have the honour to add, that however mild may be the character of slavery in Oriental countries, I take every opportunity of inveighing against it, and also of warning benevolent Europeans against purchasing slaves, in order to emancipate them, and retain them as hired servants. Several of our Prussian friends, however, have practised this mode of obtaining domestic service.

There is no regular market station for slaves in Jerusalem; but a good many such unfortunate people are brought here from Egypt, through Gaza, consigned to some individual resident, who disposes of them by hawking them from house to house.

Slave-service is light in this country, where the habits of daily life are exceedingly simple, and never employed in rural labour. I know of several instances in which a slave of a house is far better educated, and as well fed and clothed as his master, riding the best horses, and carrying arms. Yet there are cases of cruelty to be heard of in abundance among the Moslems.

It is only since the beginning of the Egyptian occupation of this country that Christians have been allowed to purchase slaves.

The native Christian clergy never attempt to discourage slave-trade or slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. FINN.

No. 677.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Finn.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 31, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th instant, reporting the circumstance under which a Moslem named Hadj Ahhmad had brought to your Consulate a slave named Besheer, whom he set free in your presence, and giving an account of slavery as it exists in Palestine; and I have to acquaint you in reply that I approve of your having deposited among the archives of your Consulate the document by which Besheer gained his freedom, and also of the course which you afterwards pursued respecting him.

You will continue to use your best endeavours to discourage slavery in the Turkish dominions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Prevesa*.

No. 678.

Consul Saunders to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 22.)

(Extract.)

Prevesa, August 5, 1853.

WITH reference to Viscount Palmerston's despatches of the 4th and 5th of April, 1851, approving my proceedings with respect to eleven Arab slaves who had been brought from Candia to Prevesa for sale, and authorizing me to purchase their freedom at prime cost (said to be from 10*l.* to 12*l.* a-head), placing them in employments, so as to enable them to earn their livelihood, I have the honour to bring under your Lordship's consideration the following particulars of the steps taken in the matter, and the ultimate result thereof.

On the receipt of the instructions aforesaid, I lost no time in submitting to Her Majesty's Ambassador, as by the inclosed copy, the expediency of obtaining a vizirial order, in accordance with the favourable dispositions manifested by the Pasha, requiring the conditional engagements entered into by the purchasers of the slaves, as therein set forth, to be enforced, leaving it to be settled between the Pasha and the British Consulate what compensation should be given to the Albanian owner.

It would seem, however, that some difficulty was experienced in this respect, the Porte having privately intimated to the Pasha that he would do well to abstain from all further interference in the matter. The importer of the slaves was consequently allowed to depart, and the purchasers released from all further responsibility.

Encouraged by this result, and with the hope of repairing, by the profits of a further venture, the losses entailed on this occasion, the same individual again proceeded to Candia, and succeeded in importing from thence unobserved another cargo of slaves; and more recently having returned to the same nefarious mart, he attempted a minor speculation of the same nature, limited on this occasion to three Nubians and other merchandize.

Having renewed my representations to the local Governor, urging the illegality of this Traffic, the Turkish law recognizing only as slaves those actually taken in open warfare, and requiring absolute demonstration as to time, place, identity, &c., which facts parties are never in a condition to establish by proper documentary evidence; laying also particular stress upon the violation of territory, so repeatedly committed in traversing the Ionian waters under the protection of Great Britain for such illicit Traffic, characterized as piracy by all the civilized nations of the world; on the freedom virtually acquired by slaves under such circumstances, as well as on the fraud committed in describing as simple passengers, for the purpose of eluding detection in Ionian ports, parties exported as merchandize through the custom-house, and furnished with regular permits as such; I eventually succeeded in causing the dealer to be severely reprimanded for his conduct, in obtaining a formal declaration, couched in the most forcible terms, that neither his companions nor himself would ever again engage in any such transactions; and in securing possession of the slaves themselves, paying only a small gratuity of 2,000 piastres (about 18*l.*) in the whole, being infinitely less than prime cost; all parties remaining perfectly satisfied, and the slaves being sent to Corfu, where they were immediately taken into service by different families.

A certified copy and translation of the declaration aforesaid is herewith submitted, the original being consigned to me, and a registered copy being retained by the Governor in his official archives; and, while on the one hand there may be reason to hope that others will in like manner be induced to refrain from any further speculations of this nature, I venture on the other to suggest the propriety of subjecting Turkish vessels to some restrictions on traversing the Ionian waters, unless the Porte shall see fit to put a stop to this Traffic altogether, in accordance with the benevolent manifestations made by the Sultan himself on a former occasion.

I would here beg to observe, that however much it may have been argued that the position of the slave in the Turkish dominions is essentially different from that which obtains in other countries, that the highest offices of the State are accessible to persons of this condition, and that in point of fact they are rather benefited than otherwise by the change thus forced upon them; it may be readily conceived that where-soever the right of property in a slave is subject to no control, and can be legally exercised to an unlimited extent, such a condition must always be open to the most perilous contingencies, as numerous instances serve to attest; and can hardly be palliated by purely exceptional circumstances, wherein the mass can in nowise be held to participate.

I think it right, at the same time, to acquaint your Lordship, that notwithstanding the ostensible abolition of slave-markets, and the technical objections to this Traffic already adverted to, the trade in black and white slaves is so far sanctioned, that the customs' duties payable thereon are distinctly set forth in a special tariff, purporting to regulate the *ad valorem* duties on articles the produce of the soil, and manufacture of the Ottoman empire, not comprised in the tariffs of friendly Powers;" while, in close connection with a multifarious series of "skins" of various animals, the following items appear in degrading assimilation:

Slaves.	White.	Black.
	Piastres.	Piastres.
Tariff valuation	6,500	1,784
16 per cent. deducted, as by British Tariff of 1850*	5,460	1,500
Internal Duty of 9 per cent. ..	491 $\frac{1}{8}$	135
Export Duty of 3 per cent. . .	163 $\frac{3}{8}$	45
Total Duties	655 $\frac{5}{8}$	180

N.B.—The difference in the valuation between the White and the Black may serve as a criterion to indicate the relative prospects of each.

Inclosure 1 in No. 678.

Consul Saunders to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

Prevesa, May 10, 1854.

Sir,
WITH reference to my former reports upon the subject of the 11 Arab slaves brought here from Candia for sale, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency copies of two despatches which have been

* Extract from Tariff settled between Great Britain and Turkey on the 31st October, 1850:

"For articles of exportation 16 per cent. will be deducted from the current price, after which will be levied upon their value so reduced, 9 per cent. of internal duty and 3 per cent. of export duty."

addressed to me by Viscount Palmerston, whereby I am authorized to purchase their freedom at prime cost.

It may not be unreasonable to suppose that, although the Albanian owner was prepared to accept such conditions at that time, with the prospect before him of possibly losing; and being, moreover, under *quasi* arrest at the time, yet, having since incurred additional expenses for the transport and maintenance of the slaves, he may not be contented now, with that which he would have been too happy to receive then. I entertain, however, sanguine hopes of being able to secure the freedom of the slaves within the latitude which has been so liberally conceded for this purpose.

A further difficulty, however, presents itself in the nature of the obligation entered into with Ismail Pasha, by the parties who may have purchased any of these slaves, namely, to abide by whatever orders the Government might see fit to issue, as explained in my former despatch; so that it may be expected that such purchasers, having the opportunity of buying at a low rate under the conditions imposed, will scarcely be prepared to give up the slaves to the Pasha, unless such consignment be expressly enjoined by the Government.

I would therefore beg to submit to your Excellency the expediency of obtaining a Vizirial order to this effect, leaving it to be settled between Ismail Pasha and the British Consulate what compensation shall be given to the Albanian owner; and should it be found convenient to embody in such letter any expressions condemnatory of his proceedings, and intimating that the compensation awarded on this occasion is to be calculated upon the basis of the prime cost, as nearly as may be, I need hardly add that the impression produced will be most beneficial, and the solution considerably facilitated thereby.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SIDNEY SMITH SAUNDERS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 678.

Declaration.

To the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty in Epirus and Albania.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Effendi,

Prevesa, May 1⁵/₇, 1853.

MERCIFUL and just, benevolent and beneficent, to all who appeal to your clemency: we, your humble servants, beseech you, by the Almighty's compassion, the longevity of the mighty Queen Victoria, and the precious lives of your beloved children and self, to have pity upon us, miserable fathers of poor families, that we may not lose the money which we expended for the Arab girls, being indebted for this with our houses in pledge; and as soon as we go to our villages our creditors will constrain us to sell them. Moreover, we owe the captain of the vessel which brought us here 2,256 piastres, and he has deputed an agent to recover this amount.

In consideration of all these misfortunes, we entreat you, most merciful Effendi, to pardon the crime we have committed through our ignorance and evil destiny, and not permit us to lose the amount expended; but to have compassion upon us, whereof you are the type, as all proclaim; and we pledge ourselves to you from the present time, and during all the rest of our lives, that we shall never be heard to have carried on this Trade again. We therefore pledge ourselves all three, each for all, inseparably, that if at any time either of us should be known or heard to have taken part in this inhuman Traffic, we should be arrested, wheresoever it may be, and severely punished, in accordance with the humane and just British law. This, therefore, will have the force of a promissory note, that we may be liable to condemnation in the event of our transgressing the fore-

going engagement; and in attestation thereof, being illiterate, we have requested the undersigned trustworthy witnesses to subscribe our names, imprinting the marks of our fingers according to custom.

(Signed)

For the illiterate Ali Moutzo Teham, of the village of Verva, district of Filiates, I, Giorgio Athanasino Micali, subscribe as requested.

For the illiterate Omer Romantain, of the district of Filiates, village of Verva, I, Dionisius Vrioni, sign as requested; and he imprints the mark of his finger.

For the illiterate Hadji Youssouf Veizi, of the district of Filiates, village of Verva, I, Giorgio Kondojeanni, subscribe; and he imprints the mark of his finger.

No. 679.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Saunders.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 27, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of August, reporting the steps taken by you in order to obtain the liberation of the 3 Nubians who had been brought from Candia to Prevesa to be sold as slaves; and I have the satisfaction to inform you that I entirely approve your proceedings in this matter.

I have to authorize you to reimburse yourself for the expenditure of 2,000 piastres which you incurred on this occasion, by drawing a bill on me at thirty days' sight for a sum equal, in English money, to the above amount.

You will give me due notice of the drawing of this bill, and you will transmit to me a receipt for the sum so expended.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

UNITED STATES.

No. 680.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 4.)

My Lord,

Washington, March 19, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of February of this year, relative to the praiseworthy efforts of the United States' Commodore Lavalette for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to the employment of American vessels by the slave-dealers in Brazil and Cuba.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of the note which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I have addressed on the above subjects to the Secretary of the United States, and likewise a copy of Mr. Marcy's reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 680.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, March 16, 1853.

IN compliance with an instruction which I have received from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which had been received at the Foreign Office from Mr. Rendall, Her Majesty's Consul in the Cape Verd Islands, reporting the circumstances under which Commodore Lavalette, of the United States' squadron, detained at Porto Praia and sent to the United States two American schooners from New York, named the "*Advance*" and the "*Rachel P. Brown*," which were fitted out for the Slave Trade; and I am instructed to inform you, Sir, that Her Majesty's Government have observed with great satisfaction the vigilance, promptitude, and firmness shown by Commodore Lavalette in causing these vessels to be seized and sent home, and in removing from his situation Mr. Perote, who, it appears, opposed the seizure, and tried to screen the captains of those vessels.

I am also desired to say, that Her Majesty's Government trust that the Government of the United States will afford all the support in their power to Commodore Lavalette, and to any other officers of the United States' navy who may exert themselves in a similar manner in order to prevent the vessels and the flag of the United States from being abused for the purpose of covering the nefarious devices of the slave-dealers.

With reference to this matter I am directed to communicate to you the inclosed copy of a despatch† from Mr. Southern, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, by which you will learn that the employment of United States' vessels forms a prominent part of the schemes now in progress for the renewal of the Brazilian Slave Trade.

I am also instructed to inform you that the despatches of Her Majesty's

* See Class B, presented 1853, No. 196.

† Ibid., No. 93.

Consul-General in Cuba show that the vessels and flag of the United States are now frequently used by the slave-dealers of Cuba, who are carrying on their operations more extensively and vigorously than they have for some years past.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 680.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Washington, March 18, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 16th instant, with which, by direction of your Government, you transmit to this department a copy of a despatch from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Cape Verd Islands, reporting the circumstances under which Commodore Lavalette, of the United States' squadron, detained and sent to the United States two American schooners from New York, named the "*Advance*" and the "*Rachel P. Brown*," which were fitted out for the Slave Trade; and express the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the conduct of Commodore Lavalette on the occasion referred to, and its confidence that the Government of the United States will afford all the support in its power to him and to other officers of the United States' navy from being abased for the purpose of covering the nefarious devices of the slave-dealers.

You also transmit the copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, relative to the employment of United States' vessels in the schemes now in progress for the renewal of the Brazilian Slave Trade, and state that, from information received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, it appears that the vessels and the flag of the United States are also now frequently used by the slave-dealers of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

No. 681.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 10.)

My Lord,

Washington, April 24, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a note which I addressed to the Secretary of State of the United States on the 19th instant, on the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of March, informing me that you had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, dated the 14th of February, reporting that a United States' brig, name unknown, under the command of a person named José Maria Suma, had sailed about the middle of the month of January last from Monte Video for the coast of Africa, fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

I also inclose a copy of the answer which I have received from Mr. Marcy to that communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 681.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, April 19, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government has received a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that a United States' brig, name unknown, under the command of a person named José Maria Suma, had sailed about the middle of the month of January last from Monte Video for the coast of Africa, fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 681.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Washington, April 20, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 19th instant, in which you bring to the knowledge of this Government the fact that a United States' brig, under the command of one José Maria Suma, sailed about the middle of January last from Monte Video for the coast of Africa, equipped for the Slave Trade.

In reply, I have the honour to thank you for the information, and to state that it will at once be communicated to the Navy Department.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

No. 682.

Mr. Ingersoll to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 11.)

*Legation of the United States,
45, Portland Place, May 11, 1853.*

My Lord,

I AM instructed to lose no time in bringing to the notice of your Lordship the circumstances which are detailed in the inclosed papers.

It appears that on the 31st of March the ship "*Harriet*" of Bath, Maine, an American merchant-vessel, on a direct voyage from Savannah bound to Havana, was twice fired at by a war-steamer of Her Majesty, and being forcibly brought to, the ship and papers were examined, and she was detained about an hour and a-half. It also appears that on the 7th of April the ship "*Clara Ann*," of Bath, Maine, another American merchant-vessel, on her voyage from New York to Havana, was fired at by Her Majesty's war-steamer "*Buzzard*," at first with blank shot and afterwards with ball; after being forcibly brought to, she was boarded and detained from twenty to thirty minutes.

The particulars of both transactions are fully set forth in the inclosed statements under oath, which were duly made before the Consul of the United States at Havana.

While the professed object of these proceedings is sufficiently disclosed in the replies given by the boarding officers, there does not appear to have been any cause or justification for the exercise of them. The vessels were in their regular course; they were under no circumstances of suspicion; and nothing appears to have been imputed to them which could have excited jealousy or distrust. The Government of the United States will not be supposed to object to any lawful measures which Her Majesty's Government may adopt for the purpose of preventing the landing of Africans in Cuba and Porto Rico. It is understood that stringent

instructions have been recently given to the Naval Commander in the West Indies, to accomplish the faithful observance of the Treaty with Spain on the subject of the Slave Trade. The Government of the United States cannot, however, consent that the vessels belonging to its citizens, which are engaged in legitimate intercourse with Cuba, shall be fired at, arrested, and searched on the high seas, in order that the obligations of Spain may be more effectually fulfilled. It is expected that in carrying the Treaty stipulations into effect, the commerce of the United States will not be subjected to any molestation.

In bringing the subject immediately to the notice of your Lordship, which I have the honour now to do, I beg leave to express a hope that the execution of the orders of the Lords of the Admiralty, in the quarter in question, may have been entrusted to prudent officers; and that those orders themselves caution them against any abuse of their authority. Even if this just hope should have been anticipated by Her Majesty's Government, it is acknowledged that honest errors may sometimes be committed by the commanders of cruising vessels; yet it is well known that acts of the kind now complained of, arising by possibility from mistaken motives, if in themselves without apparent pretext or any justification, will in our country be invariably imputed to a disregard, on the part of the officers, of the rights of the flag of the United States. This will create an irritation on the public mind which might endanger the peaceful relations of the two countries. It becomes my duty, therefore, to urge upon your Lordship the necessity of adopting every precaution calculated to prevent a recurrence of these complaints.

I am instructed to say that in regard to the case of the "*Harriet*," where the ship's papers were demanded and examined, and a long detention took place, the President expects that a report will be required from the officers who are charged with the acts complained of, and that if when received, it shall not materially conflict with the statement of Captain Otis, those officers will be made sensible of Her Majesty's displeasure. Your Lordship will readily perceive the reasonableness of this expectation, from the friendship as well as the justice of Her Majesty's Government. As the case has been presented to the Department at Washington, neither the position nor the course of the "*Harriet*," at the time she was arrested, afforded the slightest ground for suspicion that she was a vessel having Africans on board intended to be landed in Cuba. She was overtaken in that thoroughfare, for both the coasting and foreign trade, of the United States, which is always so thronged with their vessels that it may not be an exaggeration to say that the flag is visible there every day in the year. While circumspection is everywhere necessary in executing such orders as have been referred to, it is particularly required in the waters between East Florida and Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. INGERSOLL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 682.

Certificate.

Consulate of the United States of America, Havana.

ON this 7th day of April, A.D. 1853, personally came and appeared James Otis, master of the ship "*Harriet*," of Bath (Maine), and made the following statement, which he would have made the day the said ship was entered in the Consulate of the United States, but he, said master, saw that the Consul was busy investigating a case against some sailors.
To wit:

"On the 31st day of March last, being about thirty miles to the westward of the Double-headed Shot Keys, early in the morning, I saw a steamer and a hermaphrodite brig about seven or eight miles to the northward of me. The steamer was running different courses, but after a short time she commenced to steer about the same course that I was. After an

hour or an hour and a half I saw that she made sail. An hour after that she fired a shot, which I saw strike in the water right in the range of us. I then ordered our colours set, but before the colours were up she fired again. We then took in sail, and hove to. After the steamer got to within about a mile of us we saw that she had English colours flying. She then soon came up and hailed us, and asked us where we were from, and where we were bound? I told them we were from Savannah, bound to Havana. Some officer on board then said he was going to send a boat on board of us. I told him I did not care what he sent. Soon afterwards the boat came with two officers in her. I was in my cabin: the mate came in and said the officers wanted to see me. I went out, and they said that they wanted to take a look around the vessel. I told them they had taken the liberty to stop me on my way, and I supposed they would do as they had a mind to. I asked them if anything new had taken place that they were cruising, stopping a vessel on her lawful voyage. They said they were cruising to see that their Treaty was not infringed. After they had searched the vessel all around the house forward, and looking down the hatches, they asked me for the ship's papers. I allowed them to see them, but observed that I did not know of any right they had to demand them. Afterwards one of the officers went down between decks; and lastly went into their boats and left us. I was detained about one hour and a half.

(Signed) "JAMES OTIS."

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said master,
(Signed) W. L. SHARKEY,
Consul of the United States.

I, William L. Sharkey, Consul of the United States of America for the city of Havana and the dependencies thereof, do hereby certify that the copy of a sworn statement written on this and two preceding pages of this sheet of paper*, is a true and correct copy of the original in record in this Consulate.

In testimony, &c., this 7th of April, A.D. 1853.

(Signed) W. L. SHARKEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 682.

Certificate.

Consulate of the United States of America, Havana.

ON the 9th day of April, A.D. 1853, personally came and appeared at the office of William L. Sharkey, Consul of the United States for the port and city of Havana, F. T. Hatch, master of the ship "*Clara Ann*," of Bath (Maine), who made the following statement; to wit:

"When we were off the Pan of Matanzas, bound to Havana, distant about thirty miles, at daylight on last Thursday, 7th instant, we saw a steamer chasing us. The steamer fired a blank shot. I was not on deck at the time, but heard it, and immediately went out on deck, and found the American jack flying at our peak, hoisted by order of the mate. I immediately had the jack hauled down, and the American ensign set. The steamer continued in our wake for half an hour, and hauled off on the quarter, and fired a shot which struck the water about ten feet from the gangway, and skipped and landed under the bow. My colours had been flying for about half an hour before the second shot was fired. We hove to, and a boat with a lieutenant and ten men boarded the ship. The lieutenant inquired where we were from, where bound, and what cargo, and said he was in pursuit of slavers; and upon being told

* *Sic in orig.*

they left the ship. We were detained from twenty to thirty minutes. It was a British war-steamer called the 'Buzzard.'

(Signed) "F. T. HATCH."

Sworn to and subscribed, on the day and year above written, before me,

(Signed) W. L. SHARKEY.

On this 9th day of April, 1853, personally came and appeared Rufus H. Wood, of New York, now in Havana, who made the following statement; To wit:

"That he came as a passenger on board the American ship '*Clara Ann*,' from New York. When the ship was off the Pan of Matanzas, distant about thirty or thirty-five miles, on the morning of the 7th instant, about daylight, we saw a British war-steamer astern in chase of us. She fired a gun. The captain and myself were down below, and immediately went up. We found the American jack flying at our peak by order of the mate. The captain immediately ordered the jack hauled down, and the American ensign run up. After continuing on our way for about half an hour, with the American ensign constantly flying, the British steamer fired another shot, which struck about ten feet from the gangway, and passed under the bow, the spray from which came on deck. We immediately hove to, when the steamer came under our lee, and sent on board of us a cutter with ten men and an officer. The latter came on deck, and asked Captain Hatch where he was from, where bound, and what cargo he had on board? Upon being informed he bade us good morning, and left. The officer had stated that he was in search of slavers. I believe the steamer was the 'Buzzard.' The '*Clara Ann*' was detained from twenty to thirty minutes.

(Signed) "RUFUS H. WOOD."

Sworn to and subscribed, on the day of the date aforesaid, before me,
(Signed) W. L. SHARKEY.

I, William L. Sharkey, Consul of the United States of America, for the city of Havana and the dependencies thereof, do hereby certify that the copy of two sworn statements written on this sheet of paper,* is a true and correct copy of the originals of record in this office.

In testimony, &c., this 11th of April, A.D. 1853.

(Signed) W. L. SHARKEY.

No. 683.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 13, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† which has been received at this office from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, stating that two American vessels, the brig "*Silenus*," and schooner "*General de Kalb*," had succeeded at the beginning of the present year in carrying away from Ambriz and from a point called Cabeça de Cobra, upwards of 900 negro slaves.

I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed despatch to the Secretary of State of the United States, and to call his serious attention to its contents, and you will say that Her Majesty's Government feel convinced that the Government of the United States will use every effort

* *Sic in orig.*

† Class A, No. 57.

in order to prevent the revival of the African Slave Trade, for which criminal purpose there is reason to believe that United States' vessels are now extensively employed by the slave-dealers of Cuba and Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 684.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ingersoll.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 14, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, stating that the American ship "*Harriet*," whilst on a voyage from Savannah to the Havana was, on the 31st of March last, fired at by a British war steamer, and forcibly detained for an hour and a half; and also that the American ship "*Clara Ann*," bound from New York to the Havana, was, on the 7th ultimo, fired at, and forcibly detained between twenty and thirty minutes, by Her Majesty's ship "*Buzzard*."

I beg to inform you, that Her Majesty's Government will cause immediate inquiry to be made with regard to the occurrences mentioned in your letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 685.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ingersoll.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 27, 1853.

WITH reference to my letter of the 14th instant, informing you that Her Majesty's Government would cause immediate inquiry to be made as to the circumstances under which two American merchant-vessels, named the "*Harriet*" and the "*Clara Ann*," had been detained by British war-steamers, as stated in your letter to me of the 11th instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that the Lords of the Admiralty have received from Sir George Seymour, the Vice-Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies, a despatch reporting the circumstances which induced Commander Campbell, the officer in command of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Devastation*," to detain the United States' ship "*Harriet*," on the 31st of March last, and stating that the Vice-Admiral had disapproved Commander Campbell's conduct upon that occasion.

I transmit herewith copies of Sir George Seymour's above-mentioned despatch, and of its inclosures, and also a copy of a letter which Commander Dobbie of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Buzzard*," addressed to the British Consul-General at Havana on the 18th of April last, explaining his reasons for having on the 7th of that month stopped and boarded the United States' ship "*Clara Ann*."

You will learn from Sir George Seymour's despatch, that he has already notified to Commander Campbell of the "*Devastation*," that in bringing to and in boarding the "*Harriet*," especially after she had shown her colours, he had not carefully observed the instructions with regard to those points which have been issued to Her Majesty's ships on the American station.

And I have also to inform you, that the Lords of the Admiralty will direct Sir George Seymour to express to the officers who have thus departed from their instructions, the displeasure of the Board of Admiralty.

I have to add, that the Vice-Admiral will, moreover, be specially

CLASS B.

directed to call the attention of the commanding officers under his orders, to the caution which it is necessary to observe towards vessels engaged in lawful traffic under the flag of a friendly nation, even though that flag is too frequently used to cover the Slave Trade, which is declared by the law of the United States to be piracy.

Her Majesty's Government are sincerely anxious that the British officers employed in the irksome duty of cruising for the suppression of the Slave Trade should avoid every just cause of offence to the Government of the United States, and should treat the flag of that country with the greatest respect; but Her Majesty's Government cannot but feel that the neglect of American merchantmen to show their colours, exposes those officers to much embarrassment and difficulty in properly performing that duty.

The Board of Admiralty has suggested, with reference to this frequently recurring cause of misunderstanding, that unnecessary irritation would be prevented, and that the peaceful relations of the two countries would be effectually preserved, if the national colours were invariably hoisted when British and American ships happen to meet; and I take this opportunity of requesting that you will have the goodness to recommend the above suggestion to the consideration of the United States' Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 685.

Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Cumberland," at Bermuda, April 25, 1853.

I BEG to report that on the arrival of the "Devastation," yesterday, from the Havana, I received from Commander Campbell a copy of a statement which he had thought necessary to draw up in consequence of the master of the American ship "*Harriet*," of Bath, United States, having deposed before his Consul at the Havana that Commander Campbell had exercised a right of search against that ship—a transcript whereof is herewith forwarded, as well as copies of two statements made by the officers of the "Devastation."

It appears by Commander Campbell's statement that this was not the case; but I consider that officer's conduct was ill-judged in firing shot and shell to induce the "*Harriet*," by their sound, to bring to, even with the knowledge that neither could reach the vessel, and in having, on subsequently going on board to verify the fact of her nationality, omitted to comply with the instructions which prescribe the mode of conduct when boarding American ships.

These difficulties doubtless originate in the desire of the American masters to show their independence, by not hoisting their flag, but it does not render it less incumbent on the commanders of Her Majesty's ships to carry out punctually the directions for the use of ships employed for the suppression of Slave Trade; and I send orders to-day, in stringent terms on this subject, to the senior naval officer at the Havana, with injunctions to confine this use of shot to unmistakable cases, where they may be required to overcome opposition when other means have failed.

I have written to Mr. Crampton, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, as it may be desirable that he should be apprized of my having inculcated increased caution in reference to these circumstances. I inclose a copy of my letter for their Lordships' information, and I also add a précis of the evidence taken by me from the officers of the "Devastation."

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR.

P.S.—*April 26.* I inclose a copy of a letter I have just received from Commander Campbell. I shall be glad if the additional reasons he has given for his conduct prove satisfactory to their Lordships.

Inclosure 2 in No. 685.

Commander Campbell to Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour.

Sir,

"Devastation," Bermuda, April 25, 1853.

REFERRING to my having, on the morning of the 31st ultimo, visited the United States' ship "*Harriet*," of Bath, I have the honour to state that, under the instructions for the guidance of officers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, 5th section, I considered it my duty so to visit the vessel in question, suspecting that she was not a United States' vessel for the following reasons.

The "*Harriet*" did not for three hours hoist any colours, although chased all the time by this sloop.

She altered course and made sail during that time, and was light in draught, such as a slaver might be expected to be on completion of her voyage, and having consumed her provisions and water. In addition to this she was ship-rigged, which the "*Lady Suffolk*," a notorious slaver, expected daily, also is.

Even when she did hoist her colours, after which not a gun was fired, I was still suspicious from knowing that the vessel which landed slaves near Matanzas on the 15th ultimo, did so under the United States' flag.

With respect to the instructions, under the same section, as to going ahead and dropping a boat alongside, I had no opportunity of doing it, as the vessel hove to without being desired to do so, although the "*Devastation*" was at a great distance.

This may have been in consequence of the firing, but I considered it my duty to see the colours of every vessel, not judging that any nationality could be claimed or admitted till a course rendered imperative by ancient custom, at least, among civilized nations, had been complied with.

With respect to the unusual course adopted by me on this occasion of firing shell, I did so in consequence of the distance of the ship, thinking in my anxiety to examine several other vessels then in sight that the second report made by the shell bursting would be heard better than the report of the gun, and if so, might induce the chase to show her colours sooner, while the rate she was going at was obliging me to keep up a great pressure of steam and to expend much coal in consequence.

That I might be sure the visit was conducted with as much mildness as possible, I went myself, and had Mr. Harris, midshipman, with me, whose statement as to the willingness of the master to show me his ship proves that at that time at least there was no bad feeling on his part.

In the instructions to the senior officer on the coast of Africa, section 6, pages 16 and 17, officers commanding Her Majesty's cruizers are instructed to co-operate with the officers commanding United States' vessels of war in examining suspected vessels under the United States' flag. No such vessels of war being on the coast of Cuba, I deemed myself authorized to visit in this case, because British officers are directed to leave the United States' officer first to visit vessels under the flag of his country, only "provided that in so doing no such delay is incurred as may enable her to escape altogether unvisited."

I have, &c.

(Signed) COLIN G. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 685.

Mr. Harris to Commander Campbell.

Sir,

"Devastation," Bermuda, April 25, 1853.

I BEG to state that having gone on board the United States' ship "*Harriet*," of Bath, with you, on the morning of the 31st ultimo, I heard you ask for the captain, who was then in his cabin, and on his coming out you asked to look at his papers, and at the same time remarked that if he had first hoisted his colours you would not have chased him; you then, on

the captain's invitation, went into the cabin and looked at the papers, and I filled up the boarding-book.

On coming out of the cabin I observed that the hatches were all off fore and aft, and you remarked to the captain that his ship was a very fine one, and that you would like out of curiosity to see the lower deck, upon which he invited you to walk down; and on your saying that if he had the least objection you would not do so, he again invited you to go down, and went down with you.

I was astonished to hear that any complaint had been made, because I remembered your remarking to me on leaving the vessel how civil the captain had been.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. T. A. HARRIS,
Midshipman.

Inclosure 4 in No. 685.

Messrs. Chetwynd and Way to Commander Campbell.

Sir,

“*Devastation*,” *Bermuda*, April 25, 1853.

IN compliance with your order, we beg to state the circumstances which came under our notice during the chase of the American ship “*Harriet*,” of Bath, on the 31st ultimo.

At the time the first shot was fired the “*Devastation*” was about six miles from chase. On seeing that she took no notice of it, or the second, you remarked that she might, if a shell was fired at long range, hear the report of it on its bursting, as you were desirous of examining the other vessels then in sight; she was at this time about five miles distant.

The “*Harriet*” had no colours flying for three hours after the chase commenced, and when she did hoist them, hove to without being desired to do so.

No gun was fired after chase showed her colours; and no gun was fired which could range half the distance of the ship in question.

We have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. CHETWYND, *Lieutenant.*
JOHN WAY, *Master.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 685.

Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

“*Cumberland*,” at *Bermuda*, April 25, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I received orders on the 21st instant, from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to report on the circumstances under which an English frigate was alleged to have fired at the American barque “*Martha Anne*,” off the coast of Cuba, in February last.

As the “*Vestal*” was the only frigate in that quarter, I have no doubt she is the ship referred to, and not being cognizant of the facts of the case, I have called upon her captain to report them fully for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have this day also, with regret, been acquainted that the master of the American ship “*Harriet*” has made a deposition before the United States' Consul at the Havana, that the commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop “*Devastation*” had searched his vessel on the 31st March, off Cuba.

Commander Campbell denies this assertion; and I understand that his statement of the transaction has been forwarded by Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, for your information.

I possess only a partial knowledge of these transactions, having only the statement of one party in each case; I am not, therefore, at present, in a position to pronounce definitively on the conduct of the officers com-

manding these vessels, but I think it is right you should be informed that a full inquiry will be made into the circumstances complained of.

The "Vestal" and "Devastation" were sent to the coast of Cuba in consequence of the great increase of the African Slave Trade in that island, in direct contravention of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain. I shall again enforce upon the commanders so employed the strictest observance of their instructions, which point out distinctly that Great Britain claims no right in the suppression of that Traffic except that possessed by the Law of Nations, or by virtue of special Treaty; and I shall also inculcate the caution which is necessary towards all foreign vessels, and especially on a coast like the western part of Cuba, by which so large an amount of trade is carried on.

I understand that the Spanish slaving-vessels have lately made that part of the island their object, from an expectation that the number of vessels constantly passing would prevent their being distinguished; and the knowledge of British officers that ships built in the United States have been sold to Spanish subjects for the Slave Trade, has increased their desire to ascertain the character of vessels which created suspicion of being those expected in Cuba, when they showed no colours.

In case of your being in communication with the Government of the United States on this subject, I wish to observe to you that the instructions drawn up for the direction of Her Majesty's ships have strict regard to the Treaties which may exist with Great Britain, and it becomes, therefore, of additional importance to the general interests that the custom which has prevailed since the earlier times of navigation, that all vessels, whether belonging to the State or merchants, should in passing show their colours, should be encouraged by their Governments.

The display of the ensign is the first evidence of a vessel's nationality, and must tend to ensure the regard which is due to the State to which she may belong.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 685.

Evidence taken from the Officers of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Devastation," relative to a Deposition made by the Master of the American ship "Harriet," that his ship had been searched by the Commander of the "Devastation."

Bermuda, April 25, 1853.

LIEUTENANT THE HON. H. W. CHETWYND, senior lieutenant, stated that at 6 A.M. on the 31st of March, a large light ship was observed running, about four points on the starboard bow, the "Devastation" steaming lightly to windward. Steered to cut her off, when the chase up towards the land, which was generally considered suspicious.

At 8:15, being then about six miles off, the "Devastation" fired a blank cartridge and afterwards shot and two shells, though the vessel was about five miles off, the captain saying that he thought the shells on bursting, at long range, might carry on the sound, and make the chase hoist her colours. After chasing for three hours the vessel hoisted American colours, being then about four miles and a-half distant, and hove to. Captain Campbell, on closing, went on board the stranger, which proved to be the ship "Harriet," of Bath, United States.

Mr. John Way, master, stated that he estimated the distance of the chase to be six miles when the shells were fired; that her not hoisting any colours, and hauling off, seemed suspicious and like a slaver; that she was four miles off when she hoisted her colours; that Captain Campbell said he thought firing shells would attract attention, and that the gunner was particularly ordered not to point the guns in the direction of the ship, although at such a long distance.

Mr. William Parker, gunner, stated, that he was officer of the forenoon watch on the 31st of March; and that at 8 A.M. the "Devastation" was six miles from the "Harriet;" that when he was ordered to fire

a gun he received directions to fire well clear of the chase, whether with shot or shell; that he cut the fuzees to 2,000 yards, and gave 8° of elevation; that when the last shot was fired the vessel could not have been less than five miles off; thinks the shells may have frightened the master of the vessel and made him heave to; considers it impossible, at the distance, that either shot or shell could have reached the vessel.

Mr. W. F. Harris, midshipman, stated, that he was midshipman of morning watch; that the captain ordered him to accompany him when he boarded the "*Harriet*;" that the master of the vessel was in his cabin when they got on board; but that he came on deck when requested; that Captain Campbell asked him for his papers, and said that if he had hoisted his colours he should not have chased him. The American captain said he had only heard one shot, and did not know it was meant for him; that they all three walked down into the cabin, where the papers were produced, and that he, Mr. Harris, filled up the boarding book, and there was no altercation whatever. On coming on deck Captain Campbell observed to the American captain that he had a very fine ship, and he should like to look round her decks if the captain had no objection; the captain said he had none, and accompanied him to the deck below. The "*Harriet*" was from Savannah in ballast, bound to the Havana, and returned again in ballast to Savannah.

(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR,
Vice-Admiral.

Inclosure 7 in No. 685.

Commander Dobbie to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

"*Buzzard*," at Havana, April 18, 1853.

HAVING learnt that the United States' Consul has forwarded to his Government the declaration of the master of the American merchant-ship "*Clara Ann*," I have to request that you will place before Her Majesty's Government, and our Minister at Washington, the following statement of the facts of this case:

The morning of the 7th April, before daylight, I chased a barque, which proved eventually to be the "*Clara Ann*." At the first dawn of day I hoisted colours, and she in return showed what was taken on board for a Spanish flag; she afterwards hauled that down, and half-hoisted what appeared to be a black flag, and again replaced that by the United States' ensign. Under these suspicious circumstances I fired first a blank cartridge, and then a shot, past her, to indicate my intention of boarding her, on which she hove to.

A lieutenant went on board; and seeing at once that she was an American merchant-vessel, stated that his hoisting a Spanish flag was the cause for stopping him.

Her captain turned to the mate, and was told they had hoisted their distinguishing flag, red, with her name in yellow letters, and then the United States' union, which we took for the black flag.

The boat only remained alongside to receive this explanation, and left the ship to pursue her course.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. H. DOBBIE.

No. 686.

Mr. Ingersoll to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

My Lord,

Legation of the United States,
45, Portland Place, May 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 27th instant, and to express my just sense of the frankness and candour with which the sentiments of the Vice-Admiral and the

Lords of the Admiralty have been stated upon the occasion of the detention of the American merchant-ship "*Harriet*" on the 31st of March last. I will not delay to convey to my Government the views of the different officers as they are exhibited in the papers of which copies are inclosed to me by your Lordship. It will give me pleasure to commend to the favourable consideration of the Government of the United States the suggestion of the Board of Admiralty "that unnecessary irritation would be prevented, and that the peaceful relations of the two countries would be effectually preserved, if the national colours were invariably hoisted when British and American ships happen to meet."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. INGERSOLL.

No. 687.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Washington, May 30, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, I have this day addressed to the Secretary of State of the United States relative to the fact of 900 negro slaves having lately been carried off from the coast of Africa by the brig "*Silenus*" and the schooner "*General de Kalb*," both under the flag of the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 687.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, May 30, 1853.

IN obedience to an instruction which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which had been received in London from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, stating that two American vessels, the brig "*Silenus*" and the schooner "*General de Kalb*," had succeeded, in the beginning of the present year, in carrying away from Ambriz and from a point called Cabeça de Cobra upwards of 900 negro slaves; and I am likewise directed by the Earl of Clarendon to call your serious attention to its contents, and to say that Her Majesty's Government feel convinced that the Government of the United States will use every effort in order to prevent the revival of the African Slave Trade, for which criminal purpose there is reason to believe that United States' vessels are now extensively employed by the slave-dealers of Cuba and Brazil.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 688.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ingersoll.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 15, 1853.

WITH reference to your letter of the 17th of March last, calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to a letter which had been published in the "*New York Herald*" relative to an attack said to have been

* Class A, No. 57.

made by a British frigate upon the United States' barque "*Martha Anna*," I have now the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter which has been received at the Board of Admiralty from Captain Hamilton of Her Majesty's ship "*Vestal*," the frigate referred to in your letter.

I inclose also a copy of a standing order issued by Captain Hamilton to the officers under his command for their guidance in regard to American vessels met by the "*Vestal*."

I trust that the contents of these papers will be satisfactory to the Government of the United States, and will show how much exaggeration there was in the letter which the master of the "*Martha Anna*" addressed to the "*New York Herald*;" and I beg leave to remark that the circumstances of this case afford fresh testimony in support of the concluding observations of my letter to you of the 27th ultimo, in which I pointed out that it appeared to Her Majesty's Government that if the merchant vessels of the United States would show their national colours according to usual custom, much inconvenience and irritation would be avoided.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 688.

Captain Hamilton to Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour.

Sir,

"*Vestal*," at *Halifax*, May 19, 1853.

IN answer to your letter of the 21st ultimo, inclosing one from the United States' Minister in London touching a statement in an American newspaper that a British frigate fired into an American barque off the port of Matanzas, and requiring me to report thereon, I have the honour to state as follows :

At the time mentioned by the American captain I was cruising off the Cuban coast, in the neighbourhood of Matanzas, having reason to suspect that the celebrated barque "*Lady Suffolk*," built in America, under other or no colours, was to land her slaves in that neighbourhood; my boats were away watching the particular spots where alone she could run her slaves. I perceived a barque running for the coast; made sail in chase. On closing her she would not shew any colours; several persons were on the poop of the barque looking at us, and persisting in showing no colours; I ordered a musket to be fired off in the air, still making no demonstration of moving; I ordered another musket to be fired over her, which was done, and I saw the musket pointed in a way that could endanger no one.

On this he immediately hoisted American colours, and I hailed to know why he had not let me know his nationality before. He answered "Well, I guess we were eating our supper." Nothing more occurred, and I stood away again for my cruising ground.

I might mention that the same newspaper, the "*Weekly Herald*" of New York, now in my possession, mentions that the barque "*Lady Suffolk*" has landed 600 slaves near the port of Matanzas.

The American captain commences by saying that he saw at an early hour a frigate standing after him; a musket was fired a-head next; that they were down at supper, to which I and my officers can solemnly declare that the master and all were and had been all along looking at us from the poop. He next states that the ball went through his sail, but on his joking afterwards with my officers about it at the Havana, talking of the dance he had led us; and on their asking him to show where he was hit, he pointed to the foretop-gallant-yard, and showed a mark which proved to be the chafe of the rigging. He never made any complaint to me, and the American Consul at Havana remarked to me that he ought to have shown his colours. The captain then states that all my men were at the guns; but the guns were not loaded, nor were the tompions taken out, much less were the guns pointed; the men were assembled on the fore-castle, skylarking, and dancing to the fiddle, which the American ought to have seen; next he states that if he had not hoisted his colours, I should

doubtless have blown him out of the water. I would remark to these statements that the ground of my firing at an American ship is at once cut from under them, as they must allow, and have themselves allowed, that I fired to oblige them to show their nationality, and having ascertained and remonstrated with them for not doing so before went away.

It is my duty to observe that there is a sort of false pride which makes most of the American merchant ships dislike showing their colours to a British man-of-war, and which they are aware considerably perplexes us in cruising for slavers; and the captain of the American barque above alluded to boasted much in Havana of his exploit, which was greatly applauded there.

(Signed) C. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 688.

Standing Order relative to Americans, issued on the Coast of Cuba, when cruising there.

Memo.

"Vestal," Havana, January 21, 1853.

TO prevent any possible mistake or misunderstanding in case of falling in with American vessels, it is my order that no American vessel is on any account to be boarded, searched, or detained; and even in sending to them for papers and letters which they so kindly forward to us, you should only allow a boat to go alongside, after such American ship has come to an anchor, thus putting aside any possible doubts as to our detaining them.

(Signed) C. B. HAMILTON, Captain.

To the Officers of H.M.S. "Vestal."

No. 689.

Mr. Ingersoll to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 16.)

Legation of the United States,

My Lord,

45, Portland Place, June 16, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 15th instant, written with reference to mine of the 17th of March last, and transmitting to me the copy of a letter which has been received at the Board of Admiralty from Captain Hamilton, of Her Majesty's ship "Vestal," and also the copy of a standing order issued by Captain Hamilton to the officers under his command, for their guidance in regard to American vessels met by the "Vestal." These papers will at the earliest moment be made known to my Government.

I have already brought to the notice of my Government the suggestions contained in your Lordship's letter of the 27th ultimo, relative to the advantage that would arise if the merchant vessels of the United States would show their colours according to usual custom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. INGERSOLL.

No. 690.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 16, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you, herewith, a copy of a despatch* and of its inclosure, which Her Majesty's Government have received from Rear-Admiral Bruce, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the west coast of Africa station, calling attention to the embarrassments

* Class A, No. 114.

to which Her Majesty's naval officers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade are subjected, owing to the practice which has recently been renewed by masters and supercargoes of United States' vessels, of selling their ships on the coast of Africa to be employed as slavers.

I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to the United States' Government, and to press upon them the necessity of increasing their naval force on the west coast of Africa, in order to prevent this desecration of the American flag.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 691.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 19.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 5, 1853.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 13th ultimo, and to my despatch to your Lordship of the 30th ultimo, relative to the carrying off of 900 negro slaves from the coast of Africa by the American vessels "*Silenus*" and "*General de Kalb*," I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of the reply which I have received from the United States' Government to the note which I addressed to it in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions. In this note the Secretary of State states, that Her Majesty's Government does no more than justice to the United States in believing that they will use their best endeavours to prevent the abuse of their flag for slave-trading purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 691.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Washington, May 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 30th instant, inviting my serious attention to the contents of an inclosed copy of a despatch from Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, in which it stated that two American vessels, the brig "*Silenus*," and the schooner "*General de Kalb*," had recently succeeded in carrying away from Ambriz and a point called Cabeça de Cobra, upwards of 900 negro slaves. You likewise add, that Her Majesty's Government feel convinced that the Government of the United States will use every effort to prevent the revival of the African Slave Trade, for which purpose there is reason to believe that United States' vessels are now extensively employed by the slave-dealers of Cuba and Brazil.

In reply, I have the honour to state that Her Majesty's Government does no more than justice to the United States, in believing that they will use their best endeavours to prevent the abuse of their flag for slave-trading purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

No. 692.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 28, 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I herewith transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter, and of its inclosure, which have been received at this office from the Admiralty,

relative to the complaint of Mr. Ingersoll, as to the United States' merchant-vessels "*Harriet*" and "*Clara Ann*" having been visited by Her Majesty's ships "*Buzzard*" and "*Devastation*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 692.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Admiralty, June 20, 1853.

WITH reference to former correspondence, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, dated the 7th instant, relative to the United States' vessels "*Harriet*" and "*Clara Ann*" having been detained off the coast of Cuba; also a copy of the order given by the Vice-Admiral on the 6th of May last, to Her Majesty's cruisers, to avoid the use of shot in bringing vessels to, except on unmistakable occasions, whilst employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 692.

Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Cumberland," Halifax, June 7, 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo, with its inclosures, relating to the cases of the American vessels "*Harriet*" and "*Clara Ann*," and have expressed, as therein directed, to Commanders Dobbie and Campbell the displeasure of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty at their examination of these vessels not having been made in the manner prescribed by their instructions.

In reference to their Lordships' directions that I should specially call the attention of the commanding officers of the cruisers under my orders, to the caution which it is necessary to observe towards vessels engaged in lawful traffic on the coast of Cuba, I inclose herewith a copy of an order I sent to Commodore McQuhae on the 6th of May, directing them to avoid the use of shot, except on unmistakable occasions, while employed on that coast,—which I hope will meet their Lordships' views.

I have already called their Lordships' attention to the difficulties under which officers have been placed in endeavouring to reconcile the strict execution of their orders to use every effort to arrest the Slave Trade in that island, with the regard due to foreign commercial vessels, when the same flag frequently covers both the nefarious and the innocent purpose, and the American masters engaged in the latter are remiss in showing their national ensign.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 692.

Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour to Commander McQuhae.

Sir,

"Cumberland," Bermuda, May 6, 1853.

HAVING had occasion to observe that shot have been fired to bring-to merchant-ships by some of Her Majesty's ships on the coast of Cuba, when their character might have been ascertained without resorting

to such coercive measures, which are particularly objectionable in time of peace, on a coast by which an extensive commerce is continually passing, I have to desire you will call upon the respective commanding officers of Her Majesty's ships under your command to pay the utmost attention to the instructions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the guidance of officers employed on the suppression of Slave Trade, and to direct them to reserve the use of shot for unmistakable occasions, when the honour of their flag, or the necessity of using force in carrying out an authorized object in strict conformity with those instructions, may require the armament of the ships they command to be applied to overcome opposition when all other means have failed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR.

No. 693.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

My Lord,

Washington, July 3, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of June 16; and I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a note which I have addressed to the Secretary of State of the United States, calling his attention to the practice which has recently been renewed by masters and supercargoes of United States' vessels, of selling their ships on the coast of Africa to be employed as slavers; and pressing upon the attention of the United States' Government the necessity of increasing their naval force on the west coast of Africa, in order to prevent this desecration of the American flag.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 693.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, July 1, 1853.

IN obedience to an instruction which I have received from the Earl of Clarendon, &c., I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* and of its inclosure which Her Majesty's Government have received from Rear-Admiral Bruce, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the west coast of Africa station, calling attention to the embarrassment to which Her Majesty's naval officers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade are subjected, owing to the practice which has recently been renewed by masters and supercargoes of United States' vessels, of selling their ships on the coast of Africa to be employed as slavers. And I am further instructed, in communicating these papers, to press upon the Government of the United States the necessity of increasing their naval force on the west coast of Africa, in order to prevent this desecration of the American flag.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 694.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, inclosing an extract from a Brazilian newspaper, which states

* Class A, No. 114.

† No. 94.

that Mr. Schenk, the United States Minister in Brazil, has proposed to his Government the adoption of certain measures for the more effectual prevention of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 695.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1853.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, respecting the employment of an American barque called the "*Jasper*," in the conveyance of slaves from the west coast of Africa to Cuba.

I inclose also a copy of the despatch† from Her Majesty's Consul in the Bight of Biafra, which is therein referred to.

And I have to instruct you to transmit copies of these papers to the Secretary of State of the United States, in order that he may, if he should think fit, cause them to be communicated to the naval commanders of the United States who are charged with the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 696.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 5.)

My Lord,

Washington, August 22, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's two despatches of the 3rd and 4th instant, and to transmit to you herewith a copy of a note which, in obedience to the instruction contained in your despatch of the 9th, I have addressed to the Secretary of State of the United States, relative to the employment of the American barque "*Jasper*" in the conveyance of slaves from the west coast of Africa to Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 696.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, August 19, 1853.

IN compliance with an instruction from the Earl of Clarendon I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Crawford, &c., respecting the employment of an American barque called the "*Jasper*" in the conveyance of slaves from the west coast of Africa to Cuba; likewise, a copy of the despatch† from Her Majesty's Consul in the Bight of Biafra which is therein referred to, in order that you may, if you should think fit, cause them to be communicated to the naval commanders of the United States who are charged with the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

* No. 551.

† No. 63.

No. 697.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a report,* dated the 30th of June last, on the state of Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa which has been received at the Admiralty from Commander Keane, of Her Majesty's ship "Grecian," in which that officer alludes to the suspicious movements of certain vessels sailing under American colours in the Mozambique channel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 698.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch† from Mr. Crawford, &c., stating his grounds for thinking that slave-vessels intended for the African and Cuban Slave Trade will henceforward be chiefly fitted out in United States' ports.

I have to instruct you to request the United States' Government to give special directions to the American Customs' officers not to allow any slave-fittings to be put on board of vessels purchased in American ports by Portuguese, Spaniards, or Brazilians. And I have further to instruct you to call the attention of Her Majesty's Consuls to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 699.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch‡ from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda; and also a copy of a letter§ addressed by Rear-Admiral Bruce to the Board of Admiralty, respecting the capture of the American slaver "*H. N. Gambril*," by the American frigate "*Constitution*."

I have to instruct you to express to the United States' Government the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the capture of this slaver; and with reference to what is stated in the inclosed papers as to the number of slave-vessels sailing under American colours, and as to the manner in which the "*H. N. Gambril*," when chased by the "*Constitution*," hoisted the British ensign, I have to instruct you to call the attention of the American Secretary of State to the abuse thus made of the United States' and British flags; and to say that Her Majesty's Government consider that it would be very desirable that some measure should be adopted for putting a stop to this disgraceful practice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, Inclosure 1 in No. 145.

† Class A, No. 88.

‡ No. 632.

§ Ibid., No. 140.

No. 700.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.**Foreign Office, March 7, 1854.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, in which they state that it will be very difficult to suppress the Slave Trade in the neighbourhood of Ambriz, as long as the flag of the United States continues to be used to cover the speculations of the slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 701.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 8.)

My Lord,

Washington, February 19, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of the note in which I have communicated to the Government of the United States the apprehension entertained by Her Majesty's Government that slave-vessels intended for the African and Cuban Slave Trade may, henceforward, be chiefly fitted out in the ports of the United States, and have requested them to give directions to their custom-house authorities to exercise particular vigilance in preventing any slave-fittings being put on board vessels purchased by Portuguese, Spaniards, or Brazilians, in the ports of the United States.

I have also the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a circular despatch in which I have called the particular attention of Her Majesty's Consuls in this country to this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 701.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, February 16, 1854.

THE strict watch which has been kept by Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Cuba, together with other circumstances, of which Her Majesty's Government have lately been informed, have led them to conclude that henceforth attempts will be made more frequently to fit out in the ports of the United States vessels intended for the conveyance of slaves from Africa to that island.

I have consequently been instructed to call the attention of the United States' Government to this matter, and to suggest, more especially as a means of defeating the designs of slave-traders, that directions should be given to the custom-house officers of the United States to exercise particular vigilance in preventing any slave fittings from being put on board vessels purchased by Portuguese, Spaniards, or Brazilians.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 701.

Mr. Crampton to Her Majesty's Consuls in the United States.

Sir,

Washington, February 17, 1854.

INTELLIGENCE having reached Her Majesty's Government, which leads them to apprehend that slave-vessels intended for the African and Cuban Slave Trade may henceforward be chiefly fitted out in the ports of the United States, I have been instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to request the Government of the United States to give special directions to their custom-house officers not to allow any slave-fittings to be put on board of vessels purchased in American ports by Portuguese, Spaniards, or Brazilians. At the same time I have been directed to call your particular attention to this matter; and I have to request that you will transmit to me such information as may come to your knowledge on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 702.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 10, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the letter which you wrote to the Secretary of State of the United States, and the circular which you addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in the ports of that country, respecting the equipment in American ports of vessels intended for the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 703.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 21.)

My Lord,

Washington, March 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an extract from the "National Intelligencer" newspaper, containing the copy of a resolution introduced into the Louisiana Legislature, in regard to a supposed intention on the part of Spain to "Africanize" Cuba by the emancipation of the slaves.

In connection with this subject, I have also the honour to inclose an article from the "Washington Sentinel," a paper which supports the present Administration, in which an attempt is made to revive the absurd rumour which for some time prevailed in regard to a supposed agreement between Great Britain and Spain for "Africanizing" Cuba, by a reference to a passage in a speech delivered by your Lordship in the House of Lords on the 31st of January last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 703.

Extract from the "National Intelligencer" of February 28, 1854.

THE following resolution was introduced into the Louisiana House of Representatives on Tuesday of last week, and after some discussion referred to the Committee on Federal Relations:

Resolved, That the late news from Havana gives evidence of the intention of Spain to "Africanize" the Island of Cuba by the emancipation of their slaves; and, believing the people of Louisiana have a deep interest in preventing it, we, as representatives coming directly from the people, express our disapprobation of the tolerance shown by the present Federal Administration by its non-interference.

No. 704.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th instant, inclosing an extract from the "Washington Sentinel," and a copy of a resolution which has been introduced into the Louisiana Legislature relative to a supposed intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government to establish an African empire in the Antilles.

You will state to Mr. Marcy, and in any other quarters that you may think advisable, that Her Majesty's Government give the most unqualified contradiction to the absurd rumour that such an intention ever has been, or ever will be, entertained by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*New York.*

No. 705.

Consul Barclay to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received July 11.*)

My Lord,

New York, June 23, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th February last, with the copy of a despatch and of its inclosures from Sir Richard Pakenham therein mentioned, respecting a vessel, the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," suspected to be employed in the Slave Trade, although chartered to carry a legal cargo from Lisbon to New York.

This vessel, a brig, arrived here under Brazilian colours several weeks ago, having a legal cargo of wine and cork-wood; and, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I have kept a watch on her proceedings.

Her burthen is estimated at about 350 tons; she came consigned to J. A. Machado, a Portuguese; her commander is Manuel Dias Pinheiro, a Galician by birth; the second mate is a Spaniard, an old slaver. Since her arrival here new and squarer yards have been put on her, and her other spars have been replaced with larger; a narrow white streak has been painted on her bow. She has been taking staves on board, said to be for Lisbon. The recent change, to enable her to carry more canvas, leads to the suspicion that after discharging her cargo of staves at Lisbon she may proceed on a slave-voyage. She is now ready to go to sea. Nothing has been observed to take place about her here directly indicating the intention of a slave-voyage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANTH. BARCLAY.
